

Exciting news

The peer reviewed paper
Citizen science program shows urban areas have lower occurrence of frog species, but not accelerated declines (Westgate et al) **has been finally accepted and we are awaiting its publication any day now!! To read it, just go to PLOS ONE and search for the article!! Once it is up please contribute the link through your networks as it is YOUR publication as much as every other volunteer!!**

World famous in Canberra!

You might have seen articles about Frogwatch in recent editions of the Canberra Times and The Chronicle, reporting about our Census training event at the Jerrabomberra Wetlands and the Tadpole Kits for Schools Program!! Great to see that Frogwatch is gaining traction and that our profile has risen immensely over the past few months. Like Phoenix out of the (unfunded) ashes ...

Recent CENSUS TRAINING EVENTS

This year we had truly amazing settings for our training events: Jerrabomberra Wetlands, Mulligans Flat NR and the Riverview area around the Strathnairn Gallery. Plenty new volunteers were attracted to those areas and everyone involved enjoyed experiencing the different landscapes while listening for frogs. The booking system through Eventbrite was well received, massively reduced admin time and will definitely become a feature of future FW events.

A big thank you to our event sponsors that made it all possible: The ACT Government, The Riverview Group, and The Woodlands and Wetlands Trust.

The ACT and Region Frogwatch is kindly supported by:



The Bio-Indicator Study

Wow- another huge project of 2015 which FW could not have done without the help of many volunteers, especially Nick Bakker and Brendan Eysers. Scrutinizing riparian condition at over 30 wetlands in just 2 days is no small fry- even for a team of 4 (thanks Danswell). But closely monitoring the frog populations at these wetlands through nightly eavesdropping in addition to that really is pushing it... What can I say? We did it all with great humour, quite a bit of coffee and less sleep. Next step will be the fascinating data analysis (thanks Danswell), some fishing for fish (Gambusia) and some more data analysis (thanks Danswell). How very exciting to be part of all this!!

This project has been kindly funded by the ACT Government, Upper Murrumbidgee Waterwatch Program.

Climate Change Project

It has been a massive effort of many, but all good things must come to an end. After many many weeks of monitoring it is now the time to finish this program. We have documented the onset of breeding for 7 species and will soon be busy analysing the results- once all information has been submitted to the NEW DATA PORTAL!!!

Here we go: Sharon, Emma, Will, Amanda, Bryan, Anne, Sascha, David, Jamie, Mark, Martin, Sean, Brendan, Clare, Steve, Corin, Hannah, Tristan, Alex, Brett, Chris, Simon, Maria, Wendy and Steve and everyone else that I might have forgotten!! Looking forward to your many data entries and recordings- Happy typing!

This project was kindly funded through the ACT Government, Climate Change Directorate.

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The Riverview Group



Nick Bakker - he came, saw and conquered!!! Unfortunately, he has also left again.... Working hard can be heaps fun when you have people like Nick around. Sorting maps, getting the project logistics right, guiding us through Canberra's back roads and peak hour traffic, doing 12 hour habitat assessments followed by hours of frog surveys, entering tons of data, organising the catering for training events and helping to run them, were only the "tip of the tasks iceberg" tackled by Nick- always with a smile on his face and a joke to share. He is back in Tassie now teaching (and dreaming of frogs for sure!!) Well done!!



A quick word about FW Education

October has also seen over 120 Tadpole kits being handed over to schools across the ACT and the neighbouring NSW region. They went to Preschools, Primary schools, Secondary schools and Colleges, where they will be cared for and enjoyed by hundreds of students till the end of Term 4. Hopefully by then most of the taddies will have morphed into frogs, ready to be released at their birth pond. Our principal tadpole dispatcher Mary Webb and her deputy dispatcher Rory Taylor have done a sterling job in getting everything ready and bringing smiles and excitement to hundreds of students and teachers in the Capital region. Quote from a teacher: *If we cannot have tadpoles this year there will be a riot at school!*

The Tadpole Kits for Schools program has been kindly supported by Rotary Belconnen, ACT Herpetological Association and the NSW Trust.

Frogwatch would like to acknowledge its main partners:

The ACT Government, including Environment and Planning, Climate Change and the Upper Murrumbidgee Waterwatch

The Riverview Group

Woodlands and Wetlands Trust

ACT Herpetological Association

Rotary Belconnen

NSW Trust

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FOR YOUR DIARIES



I will be overseas from the 2nd till the 23rd of November- this should give you plenty time to inundate me with data entries and unverified recordings!! HAHA..Honestly- please put the new portal to the test!! I am going to check my emails intermittently but if you have any pressing issues please contact the office under 62783309 or landcare@ginninderralandcare.org.au or projects@ginninderralandcare.org.au.



Join the Friends of Mulligans Flat for an indigenous heritage walk. Ngunawal custodian, Wally Bell, will guide our interpretive walk in the Sanctuary. This is an opportunity to learn about the ancient pathways of the Ngunawal people, bush foods and resources and care of the grassy woodland landscape.

MEET AT THE MULLIGANS FLAT WOOLSHED at 10am

SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER 10.00am-12.30pm

BYO: DRINKING WATER, WEAR STURDY SHOES & A HAT

Bring a picnic and enjoy a cuppa with us at the woolshed afterwards

Please RSVP to Kathy, Friends of Mulligans Flat kathy.eyles@anu.edu.au 0407 899 698



Ginninderra Catchment Christmas Party



Please come and join us on the evening of **Monday the 7th of December**, at the Kippax Tennis Club (Crn. Southern Cross Drive and Moyes Crescent) to celebrate your contributions to the GCG and to the FW Program!! This year has been massive for FW and we have lots of good reasons to lift our glasses and raise a few toasts. Once we have a definite kick off time I will send out a RSVP link. Hope to see you all there as Frogwatchers are the bestest ☺!!

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