



Opening of Tarengo East TSR Travelling Stock and Emergency Management Facility

A new stockyard facility has been officially opened on a travelling stock reserve (TSR) at Boorowa, which can be used for travelling stock, as well as emergency situations.

The new facility is on the Tarengo East TSR, in the South East Local Land Services region. The location was chosen as it is near the boundary of the South East and Riverina Local Land Services regions, on a B-Double route and close to the intersection of multiple main roads.

The reserve is used by travelling stock entering or leaving the South East, and occasionally, Riverina Local Land Services regions.

The facility may also be used to contain stock during an emergency, such as a truck rollover, bushfire, flood, or in the event of a national livestock standstill.

The yards have a 150 head cattle capacity, with surrounding holding pens increasing the capacity overall to 700 head.

The official opening was used as an opportunity to refresh Local Land Services staff on farm biosecurity protocols, what to do when entering and exiting a suspect premises and emergency animal disease signs/sample collection.

The event was attended by South East and Riverina Local Land Services staff and the official opening conducted by South East Local Land Services board member and local landholder George Merriman.

Riverina Local Land Services TSR staff also provided input to the design and building of the yards.

For more information on the new facility contact the Yass Local Land Services office by calling 02 6118 7700.

Contents

Opening of Tarengo East TSR Travelling Stock and Emergency Management Facility	1
NCC's 13th biennial Bushfire Conference	2
TSRs off limits for camping	2
Volunteer group trying to reduce number of koalas killed on roads	3
Book review: From one small seed – a forest is born	3
Working Together Works: From conflict to cooperation in the Cascade Mountains, USA	4
Improving the design of road ecology research	5



NCC's 13th biennial Bushfire Conference



Managing Bushfire Together:

Applying science, skills and stories



The Nature Conservation Council of NSW (NCC)'s 13th biennial Bushfire Conference has been announced for the 24th and 25th May 2023, at the NSW Teachers Federation Conference Centre in Surry Hills, Sydney, with an additional Sydney field day taking place on the 26th.

The theme for this year's conference is "Managing Bushfire Together: Applying science, skills and stories".

The event will have some hybrid (both online and in-person) capacity, although in-person attendance is encouraged in order to enjoy offerings such as the conference dinner and poster session.

Abstract submissions are now open for those who are interested in presenting at the event, as either a speaker or during the poster session. We encourage anyone to come forward with a story to tell, whether in the form of an academic paper or simply a story about their experience with bushfire and bushfire management. Furthermore, conference sponsorship opportunities for businesses, agencies and organisations are also available.

Please visit https://www.nature.org.au/bushfire_conference_2023 for more information on these opportunities, or save the page for when discounted early-bird tickets become available in February.

TSRs off limits for camping

Restrictions on camping are in place to protect TSRs and the important role they play in moving livestock, the grazing industry, biodiversity conservation and Aboriginal culture.

All TSRs are clearly signposted, but if you're not sure whether you're on a TSR, you can contact your nearest Local Land Services office to find out.

Volunteer group trying to reduce number of koalas killed on roads

In South Australia, one volunteer group has taken it upon themselves to reduce the number of koalas killed on roads. The volunteer group, 1300 KOALAZ, has rescued over 300 koalas. It estimates that over 90% of koalas hit by cars do not survive. More koalas are hit during breeding season. The group is using virtual fencing, warning koalas not to cross the roads. South Australia has no wildlife fencing, underpasses or overpasses.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-01-18/volunteer-group-trying-to-reduce-number-of-koalas/101869958>



Book review: From one small seed – a forest is born

For a nature lover, opening this splendid book for the first time is quite an exciting experience! Neville Bonney, the great teacher and communicator, has spent a lifetime of learning and teaching us about our environment, its destruction, and methods for its repair.

The best known of his more than 20 books is “What Seed is that?”, written three decades ago and revised in 2003.

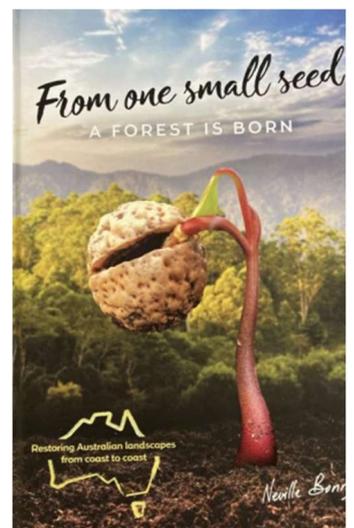
The focus of “From one small seed - a forest is born” (FOSS) is restoration of Australian landscapes. Under one cover it gathers together information such as saving remnant vegetation, revegetation and greening, the management of native vegetation by fire by First Nations people, the rate of regeneration of various species after bushfire, the rapid and indiscriminate clearing of native vegetation for agriculture after World War 2, and the subsequent loss of habitat and threatened extinction of species.

This elegant book is a “must have” for all native plant lovers and those dedicated workers in the field of revegetation and greening of the Australian environment.

Book review by Richard Willing

Book is available at

<https://www.openbookhowden.com.au/product/from-one-small-seed-a-forest-is-born-copy/>



Working Together Works: From conflict to cooperation in the Cascade Mountains, USA



The longest road in the United States is Interstate 90 – I-90 – a highway which traverses the entire continent from Seattle in Washington to Boston in Massachusetts, just over 4,860 kilometres (3,000 miles) in length. Just out of Seattle, at the western end, the highway crosses through the rugged central section of the Cascade Mountains. This spectacular range retains some of the largest tracts of wilderness in the US, and is home to iconic species including bears, cougar, elk, wolf and wolverine. Many of these animals move large distances through the mountains and have to cross the numerous roads that are found throughout the region. These crossings are always risky for both animals and motorists, but none more so than a section of the I-90 in the middle of the central Cascades known as the Snoqualmie Pass.

The Washington State Department of Transport (WSDOT) developed a major plan to upgrade the highway in the mid-1990s, which included substantially widening the road and adding additional lanes. At the same time, a diverse group of environmental, conservation and recreation organizations had come together over a shared conviction about the importance of this area for wildlife. This group, the Cascade Conservation Partnership, had been steadily acquiring small parcels of land on either side of the highway in order to provide connectivity across the landscape.

Today, bears and cougars, deer and elk, wolves and even wolverines, cross the I-90 regularly, barely aware of the steady lines of traffic beneath them. A little further west, the highway has been raised above the land, providing a vast viaduct for animals to move under the road. This section of the I-90 is one of the most permeable roads in the country now.

Read the story of conflict then cooperation between government agencies and community groups that ended up with a great environmental outcome.

Go to <https://transportecology.info/case-studies/i90-wildlife-crossing-usa>

Improving the design of road ecology research



By Christopher Johnson, Griffith University

The focus of our research was on birdlife. Birds have long been regarded as being less affected by roads compared to other groups of wildlife. Indeed, most research attention in road ecology has overwhelmingly been on mammals, especially larger mammal species such as predators and ungulates. Birds are, however, highly susceptible to the impacts of roads, although this impact is less conspicuous.

We performed a systematic quantitative literature review to synthesise and articulate the latest research (2016-2021) to see how the research field responded to previous findings.

Overall, the recent literature supported the proposition that roads significantly impact birds. This conclusion arises from changes in habitat quality, as well as the presence of associated road infrastructure. Our proposed framework to improve road ecology research addresses the recurrent problems identified in this review by offering a uniform and standardised approach to evaluating road impacts on wildlife generally, not just birds.

This framework could improve the reliability of road ecology research outputs, that in turn may enhance their application in the real world. Likewise, the framework will enable transport planners and engineers to implement and undertake a targeted evaluation of transport infrastructure, especially wildlife crossing structures, that yields high-quality data for use in future road projects. Find out more at:

<https://transportecology.info/research/road-ecology-research>