

Cores, Corridors and Koalas

Crookwell, 14 June, 2024



The annual forum is sponsored as part of Cores, Corridors and Koalas - a partnership between the Great Eastern Ranges and WWF-Australia to restore and connect critical habitat for forest-dependant wildlife.



K2W Link acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands on which we meet today. We recognise First Nations continuing connection to land, sea and community and we pay our respects to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all.



PROGRAM

9-10:00AM	AGM	
10:00 - 11:30AM	Arrivals	
	Acknowledgement of Country	
	Introduction to K2W Link	Mary Bonet and Clare McCabe
SESSION 1: KEYNOTE SPEAKER & PANEL		
Environmental Markets and Nature Repair		David Lindenmayer
Regenerating Landscapes Panel Discussion		Belinda, Sharon & Andrew
11.30AM - 11:45AM	<i>Morning break</i>	
11:45AM-12:45PM	SESSION 2: CREATING A THRIVING LANDSCAPE	
Introduction to Great Eastern Ranges		Gary Howling
Introduction to Cores, Corridors and Koalas		Joel Little
Goulburn Mulwaree Sustainability Hub		Bob Philipson
12:45-1:30PM	<i>Lunch</i>	
1:30-2:30PM	SESSION 3: GLIDERS & KOALAS	
Topic: Arboreal mammal surveys at Jenolan and Wombeyan		Peter Smith and Judy Smith
Topic: Koalas in the Eurobodalla		Keith Joliffe
Topic: Koala monitoring and sound recording		Divya Labrooy
2:45PM-3:00PM	<i>Afternoon break</i>	
3PM-4PM	SESSION 4: CONNECTIONS	
Topic: Central West Birdlife Australia & Landcare		Jayden Gunn
Topic: Murrindyarr Aboriginal Corporation		Teena Riley
Topic: Saving our Species in the K2W Link		Damon Oliver



ABOUT K2W LINK INC

K2W supports wildlife conservation in a natural highway following the line of the Abercrombie River between the Blue Mountains and Wyangala. We work on projects with local communities, landholders and organisations to conserve gliders and their habitat. Since 2012, we have been working to protect our wildlife and natural resources by creating connections across the landscape. Read more at k2wglideways.org.au



ABOUT GREAT EASTERN RANGES

Since 2007, the Great Eastern Ranges initiative has been bringing people together across eastern Australia to connect, protect and regenerate nature and provide dynamic solutions to our climate, biodiversity and wellbeing challenges. We take a collaborative approach, partnering with over 250 environmental

non-profits, Landcare and community groups, government agencies, First Nations organisations and research partners. Through our partnerships, we support community-led projects that meet local needs and build capacity, while filling the gaps in science, knowledge, resources and collaboration needed to link these efforts across multiple landscapes to create positive impact at the regional and continental scale. See how at www.ger.org.au



ABOUT WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE-AUSTRALIA

WWF is one of the world's largest and most respected independent conservation organisations, with more than 5 million supporters and a global network active in over 100 countries. WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the earth's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by conserving the world's biological diversity, ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable, and promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption. Visit www.wwf.org.au for the latest news and media resources.



MASTER OF CEREMONIES - MICK CALLAN

Mick is the director and principal terrestrial ecologist of Habitat Innovation and Management and is recognised as one of Australia's leading experts in hollow-dependent fauna. He is also one half of the technical design team who have developed Habitat Modular Nest Boxes. Mick has worked in private consulting, as well as with both state and local government agencies, and has a history of implementing award winning environmental projects including: 'Racing to Save the Mount Panorama Woodlands' and 'Protecting and Connecting Bathurst Copper Butterfly Habitat'. Mick completed a Bachelor of Science (Honours) through Charles Sturt University, researching tree hollows and artificial habitat solutions for hollow obligate species which complement his Forestry, Management, and Ornithology credentials.



ENVIRONMENTAL MARKETS & NATURE REPAIR

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: DAVID LINDENMAYER

Professor David Lindenmayer is a world-leading expert in forest ecology and resource management, conservation science, and biodiversity conservation at the Australian National University's Fenner School of Environment and Society, AO FAA. His research focuses on the adoption of nature conservation practices in agricultural production areas, developing ways to improve integration of native forest harvesting and biodiversity

conservation, new approaches to enhance biodiversity conservation in plantations, and improved fire management practices in Australia. He currently runs 5 large-scale, long-term research programs in south-eastern Australia, primarily associated with developing ways to conserve biodiversity in farmland, wood production forests, plantations, and reserves. Professor Lindenmayer has recently published an important book - *The Forest Wars: The ugly truth about what's happening in our tall forests*. This book lifts the lid on the destruction of native forests by government corporations and logging industry that is making bushfires worse, killing wildlife and costing taxpayers millions, for the sake of exported woodchips.

Session 1: Regenerating Landscapes Panel Discussion



Belinda Kelly from Rugby Station

The Kelly family has been running a profitable sheep and cattle farm for 6 generations. They are committed to sustainable practices and have seen a significant increase in topsoil health through improved land management. They also maintain best practice animal health and have been fortunate to receive government grants to support their conservation efforts.



Sharon Fulcher from Two Rivers Catchment Reserve

The Two Rivers Catchment Reserve is a 537-hectare wildlife sanctuary in Ballyroe. It protects a variety of native flora and fauna, including vulnerable and endangered species like the gang-gang cockatoo, Macquarie perch, and Booroolong frog. The property encompasses woodlands, forests, grasslands, and riverine areas. Future plans involve regenerating native vegetation and controlling invasive species.



Andrew Wood from Forestvale Farm

Located in the Wiarborough Valley, with the Blue Mountains National Park, Mares Forest National Park and Wombeyan Caves at its doorstep. Forestvale Farm is a working farm and accommodation stay. Andrew and Nadine are regenerating the landscape while also diversifying their income.



SESSION 2: Creating a Thriving Landscape

- Topic: Introduction to the Great Eastern Ranges with Gary Howling



Gary is CEO of the Great Eastern Ranges, with a long involvement in connectivity conservation and wildlife migration ecology. He has vast knowledge and experience in Australia's temperate woodlands, regional vegetation plans, and public policy on biodiversity conservation and natural resource management. Gary is a leader in specialist connectivity conservation and was instrumental in initiating a series of large-scale spatial analyses that highlighted the importance of maintaining networks of interconnected habitats that support ecological and human well-being.

- Topic: Introduction to WWF- Australia: Cores, Corridors and Koalas with Joel Little



Joel is a Certified Environmental Practitioner with over 20 years' experience in environmental assessment, management and conservation, including 15 years in local government and 10 years in wildlife conservation. At GER, Joel supports regional partners across Southeastern Australia from Victoria to the Queensland border to achieve their own conservation connectivity goals as part of the broader Great Eastern Ranges landscape.

- Topic: Goulburn Mulwaree Sustainability Hub with Bob Philipson

Bob Philipson, founder of the Community Sustainability Hub for Goulburn Mulwaree will present on the Sustainability Hub's programs which are designed to bring the community together and give it agency to respond readily to changing climate and economic conditions. The three key considerations of the Hub are the health of the environment, economy and community.

Session 3: Gliders & Koalas

- Topic: Thermal drone monitoring and motion sensors at the Eurobodalla Koala Project



Dr Keith Joliffe, volunteer coordinator of the Eurobodalla Koala Project (retiring; soon to be replaced by Candace Wirth), has worked with the not-for-profit environmental group since 2011 with the goal of reviving the local low-density wild koala population. Current activity, funded by the Commonwealth's Saving Our Koalas Community Grants Program, comprises drone and audio surveys for koala presence/absence, a GIS koala habitat modelling update and a tree planting program on private properties.

- Topic: Koala Karaoke and audio monitoring with Local Land Services



Divya LaBrooy is working on the Koala Karaoke audio monitoring project to detect koala presence in the Southern Tablelands and Highlands. Audio monitoring for koalas is conducted with a small audio monitor that records the sound of the male koalas who are 'singing' (or bellowing) to attract a mate during the breeding season, which runs from around Oct to Jan in the region.

- Topic: Results from 2024 arboreal mammal surveys at Jenolan and Wombeyan



Dr Peter Smith and Dr Judy Smith have been consultant ecologists since 1985. They have carried out many surveys and studies on both fauna and flora. Most of their work has been in NSW, including studies on alpine flora and fauna, marine mammals, coastal and inland waterbirds, arid zone birds and many studies on the fauna and flora of eucalypt forests and woodlands. Studies further afield have included a survey of floodplain vegetation along the length of the River Murray, and studies for indigenous communities in Torres Strait and the Kimberleys. They have had a long interest in gliders and other arboreal mammals, dating back to when they were involved in fauna studies for the Australian Museum and NSW National Parks

and Wildlife Service before establishing their consulting business.

Since 2015, they have been studying arboreal mammals in the Blue Mountains and Southern Tablelands, particularly in relation to the impact on Greater Gliders of climate change and the severe drought, heatwaves and Black Summer bushfires of 2019-20.

Session 4: Connections

- Topic: Glossy black cockatoos and conservation around the Mid-Lachlan region



Jayden Gunn - Central NSW Woodland Bird Project Coordinator BirdLife Australia - Intrepid Landcare Board Member - is a passionate educator, wildlife photographer and conservationist. He has been involved in Landcare in the Mid-Lachlan region for over a decade. Throughout his career, Jayden has supported regional vertebrate pest animal management initiatives across the NSW Central Tablelands, championed mental health at national conferences and supported the design and implementation of the first NextGen Landcare conference in 2022. Jayden is currently engaged in a landscape-scale woodland bird conservation and research

project with BirdLife Australia which aims to identify and address issues with woodland birds across the agricultural landscapes of Central West and Central Tablelands of NSW. Jayden is particularly fascinated by Australia's black cockatoo species, specifically the Glossy black cockatoo—*Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami*—and has devoted much of the last decade to researching and conserving this species across its distribution range.

- Topic: Murrindiyarr Aboriginal Corporation



Teena Riley from Murrindiyarr Aboriginal Corporation.

- Topic: Saving Our Species in the K2W Link



Dr Damon Oliver is the Senior Team Leader of the South East Ecosystems and Threatened Species team, which is based in Queanbeyan. His team works on about 50 threatened plants, animals, and ecological communities, including several key projects within the K2W area.

MORE INFORMATION

Venue

Crookwell Hotel function room, 101 Goulburn Street, Crookwell. The venue's entrance is via Goulburn Street, and the function room is through the Bistro.

Parking

The Crookwell Hotel is located at 101 Goulburn Street, Crookwell. Parking is available on Goulburn Street or in the hotel car park via Spring Street. Another car park is across the road via Spring Street.

Accessibility

Please inform K2W of your requirements when booking.

Tickets

This is a free event with morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea provided at the venue.

Registrations are via Humanitix <https://events.humanitix.com/cores-corridors-and-koalas-k2w-link-annual-forum>

Or scan QR code



For any enquiries, please contact K2W Link project coordinator Mary Bonet: mary@k2wglidways.org.au or Clare McCabe: clare.scoutcommunications@gmail.com

