

Hi lovely Frogwatchers!!

Hope you are all in great spirits on this gorgeous winter day!!

Lots is happening in the office and outside:

Who wants to hear a *Neobatrachus sudelli* (spotted burrowing frog) as much as I do??



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This is the time to get out at night, as Will Osborne- our Super Duper FrogExpert heard 6 of them calling last night when doing his weekly surveys for the Climate Change project!!!

Here is Wills advice: *Frogwatchers should keep a watch (listen) for this species over next few weeks if the wet conditions continue. Many paddocks are pretty wet now and with slightly warmer ground temperatures these burrowing frogs have started breeding. The call is a distinctive, soft, repeated series of clucking or soft popping sounds - each note is repeated fairly rapidly about 15 times (can vary a lot). The call carries a very long way and can be heard even when you are many hundreds of metres away from the pond.*

Hearing these secretive frogs is a treat!! What a good incentive to go out one of these nights to do a survey!!

What else can you expect to hear at the moment:

Our weekly surveys have now started to pick up *Crinia parinsignifera* at most sites, calling more strongly in large choruses. During the last few days, the first *Limnodynastis tasmaniensis* could be heard at many ponds. In a few weeks (sooner if it gets warm) *Uperoleia* will start and it is important we also catch the start of that calling season as well. Then last of all, when night-time temperatures are more consistently above 10 degrees, *Lit peroni* will start.

To summarize: keep a keen ear up at night for *C.signifera* (at most dams also calling during the day), *C. parinsignifera*, *Litoria verauxii*, *Limnodynastis tasmaniensis* and most of all for *N. sudelli*.

The Bio-indicator study

Things are shaping up nicely for this exciting project. Danswell Starrs (ACT Government, Waterwatch Program) has been working hard to develop a habitat assessment tool with frogs in mind. It was put to the test last week in a field trial- and worked a treat!! The big vegetation monitoring marathon is planned for early October, just in time for this year's Frogwatch Census. Please help us with the frog monitoring for all sites involved in this project (List below)

This year's census

is coming fast and furious!! Looks like we might have a few new exciting spots for our training events. We will definitely run a field trip at Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve and at the Jerrabomberra Wetlands. Seminars at the same spots, or nearby. As soon as dates are booked in, we will let you know!! You can also check out webpage for any updates!!



And no- the new data entry portal is still not finished, but we are almost there!!

What else?

Frogwatch has three new volunteers, set to help me with office work, education programs and the everyday jazz. A big welcome for Mary, Rory and Brad. And a very warm "welcome back" to June- as she has returned from yet another awesome bike adventure overseas. And while I am at it: Thanks you so very much for every single kid donation towards the Frogwatch Program!! A portion of it will be used to purchase two reflective magnetic car signs. This will make parking in odd spots somewhere in the dark in the middle of no-where a little bit more safe for me!!

Other interesting activities

Spring is upon us, here are just a few suggestions:

4.-6.09, 9.00am to 4.30pm Jamison Plaza Parkcare display

Parkcare friends in Belconnen suburbs of Canberra will showcase the beauty and diversity of the bush in the Bush Capital from 4 to 6 September 2015. The annual display involves seven volunteer groups and is staffed from 9am to 4.30pm, Friday to Sunday in Jamison Plaza shopping centre. You will see photos of the beautiful valley selected for the nation's capital, cryptic wildflowers, eucalypt forest, box-gum woodlands and endangered grasslands. Our enthusiastic volunteers will provide brochures, field guides, guided walks and interpretive signs to uncover bushland secrets. Groups involved include Friends of Aranda Bushland, Black Mountain, Bruce Ridge, Mount Painter, The Pinnacle, Grasslands, and Canberra Indian Myna Action Group.

This event is supported by Jamison Plaza management and ACT Parks & Conservation Service.

Sat 19 Sept - Carp loves 20 degrees! Special carp & feral fish activity with Upper Murrumbidgee Demonstration Reach's facilitator Antia Brademan, demo of Feral Fish Scan,

and chance to see the new carp trap and get involved in ongoing research- Keen?? Meet at 9.30am @ the Jerrabomberra Wetlands office. RSVP to friendsofjerrawetlands@gmail.com.

Sunday 4 October 10am & 1.30pm Orchids walks on Black Mountain

Join Tony Wood and Jean Egan to discover some of the spring flowering native terrestrial orchids, and to learn something of this fascinating group of plants. Some off-track walking involved so wear sturdy shoes. Bring a hand lens if you have one.

Numbers are limited to 15 for each walk so early booking is essential. For more information and to book ring Tony on 6254 1795. The afternoon walk is a repeat of the morning walk.

2015 Feral Photos competition.

While out and about , enjoying fresh air and good company you might come across a feral pest, or two. If you happen to snap a photo then and there, why not entering it into the free Feral Photos competition?? It closes 30th of September. For more information go online www.pestsmart.org.au/feral-photos/

Bio indicator site list

Site code	Location description	Latitude	Longitude
FGC009	Jarramlee Pond	35.2031	149.014
FMC220	Mt Majura dam, lower dam, via Jukes St	35.2412	149.1688
DGP001	Dunlop grasslands dam	-35.185	149.0332
MFL005	Mulligans flat dam 5	35.1638	149.1578
NAD034	National Arboretum dam, near cork oak lot 34	-35.284	149.0814
FMC200	Mt Majura dam, bottom dam via McKenzie St	-35.251	149.1745
MFL007	Mulligans flat dam 7	35.1636	149.1638
FMC210	Mt Majura dam, top dam via McKenzie St	35.2506	149.1769
FRA200	Edlington St pond, Fraser	35.1873	149.0434
CBR004	Culum Brae site 4	35.3555	149.137
FMW010	David St wetland	35.2633	149.1239
FBM100	Glenloch interchange dam	35.2833	149.0871
FAD100	Fadden Hills silt pond	-35.398	149.117
CMC100	Cooleman ridge old dam	-35.357	149.0263
COO100	Cooleman Ridge north-west dam	35.3501	149.0226
MCW002	McKellar Wetland North constructed 2004	-35.213	149.0821
BSW001	Banksia St Wetland	35.2576	149.118
JER500	Kellys swamp, Jerra wetlands	-35.316	149.1605
FGD040	Aranda bushland dam	35.2772	149.0823
FGD020	O'Connor ridge dam	35.2456	149.1123
MCW001	McKellar Wetland South constructed 2000	-35.216	149.0826
ARA100	Aranda Paddock dam, at William hovell drive	35.2764	149.0779
FMW020	Dryandra St Wetland	-35.258	149.1086
MFL016	Mulligans flat dam 16	35.1666	149.1789

RED100	Rd Hill Nature Park	35.34246	149.1177
FER100	Fernhill technology park pond, (Bruce ponds)	35.2397	149.0908
MIT100	Gungahlin cemetery, Mitchell	-35.213	149.1314
ANU012	ANU site 12. Constructed dam at Dickson Rd	-35.281	149.112
CMC750	Fisher dam, Fisher	35.3699	149.0565

This is it for now

Hope you enjoy the last 7 days of winter!!

More soon

regards

Anke Maria