

# NRM UPDATE



## For NSW Local Government

4 NOVEMBER 2015  
ISSUE 100

ASBESTOS  
AWARENESS MONTH  
PAGE 01

TSR REVIEW  
PAGE 02

LOCAL LAND  
SERVICES STRATEGIC  
PLAN  
PAGE 03

EVENTS  
PAGE 03

The Natural Resource Management (NRM) Update provides council elected representatives and staff with information across the broad spectrum of Natural Resource Management policy and programs.

### LGNSW news

#### Finalists for Excellence in the Environment Awards announced

Local Government continues to demonstrate innovation in environmental management and sustainability. This year the Awards attracted 80 entries from a range of councils across NSW. [Finalists](#) have now been announced.

The Awards will be presented on 1 December 2015 at Dockside, Cockle Bay Sydney commencing with an Environment Awards Finalists Forum which provides an opportunity to hear about the innovation and creativity across NSW councils in managing and protecting the environment.

The Forum will be held from 9.30am – 12:15pm prior to the Award presentation lunch commencing at 12:30pm. Any interested council or individual is invited to attend the Finalists Forum. The [program](#) is now available and tickets are available at a cost of \$55 per person (including GST).

#### Green Globe Awards recognise the Roadside Vegetation Implementation Project

The achievements of NSW Council's funded through the Environmental Trust's Roadside Vegetation Implementation Project (RVIP) were recognised at the 2015 Green Globe Awards.

The Minister for the Environment, the Hon Mark Speakman MP announced the winners, with the RVIP awarded a Highly Commended in the Natural Environment category.

The **Natural Environment category** was a clean sweep for Local Government with the following results:

**Highly Commended:** Lake Macquarie City Council - *Ecosystem Enhancement Project*

**Winner:** Greater Taree City Council and the Water Research Laboratory UNSW - *Big Swamp Recovery: Evidence Supporting Innovation*

Congratulations to all involved. Visit the [Green Globe website](#) for more information on the winners.



#### November is Asbestos Awareness Month

Asbestos Awareness Month is held nationally throughout November. Councils wanting to participate can use media kits and digital resources.

Councils have used Asbestos Awareness Month to:

- Launch their asbestos policy
- Promote their asbestos programs to the community
- Highlight the problem of illegal dumping of asbestos by unscrupulous individuals.



Register by visiting the Asbestos Awareness Month page on [www.asbestosawareness.com.au](http://www.asbestosawareness.com.au) and clicking 'participate'.



---

## Local Government

### **Court decision on retaining hollow-bearing dead trees as habitat**

Holroyd Council had a win in the Land and Environment Court recently in relation to retaining hollow-bearing dead trees as habitat. The [judgment](#) establishes useful case law.

---

## NSW Government

### **Crown Lands Report**

The NSW Government has released their [Response to Crown Lands Legislation White Paper, Summary of Issues and Government Response, October 2015](#).

The report includes clarification that there will be no forced transfer of land to councils, an assurance that the Act will explicitly recognise the need to integrate environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic considerations in decision-making about Crown land, and a commitment to reduce red tape.

See [LGNSW media release](#) for more information.

### **State-wide review of pest animal management**

The Natural Resources Commission is undertaking a review of pest animal management in NSW across all land tenures for environmental, economic and social benefits. As a part of its review, the Commission has released an [issues paper](#) that identifies the priority issues and opportunities for pest animal management in NSW.

Feedback on the issues paper will assist the Commission in developing a draft recommendations report (in early 2016). The Commission will also undertake public consultation on the draft report, and regional tours will take place throughout the review to gather information on on-ground issues. A final report, including outcomes of public consultation, will be provided by the end of June 2016.

LGNSW is interested to hear councils' views on this issue. Please forward any comments to Susy Cenedese, Strategy Manager, [susy.cenedese@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:susy.cenedese@lgnsw.org.au) by 20 November.

### **Invitation to join Flying-fox Land Managers' Network**

OEH is establishing a network for land managers across NSW dealing with flying-fox camp management. The network will share knowledge, experience, ideas, research, skills and lessons learnt in managing flying-fox camps. It will also serve as a support base, discussion forum and resource hub for land managers with flying-fox camps including contentious camps. Council staff involved in flying-fox issues are a key target audience for this discussion group. Other members may include: state agencies, public authorities, NRM groups and Local Land Services. To join the network please contact: [mike.roache@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mike.roache@environment.nsw.gov.au).

---

## Australian Government

The Department of the Environment has released its [Referral guideline](#) for management actions in grey-headed and spectacled flying-fox camps.

This guideline provides greater certainty to proponents on whether or not they need to seek approval for management actions at camps of the grey-headed and spectacled flying-fox. It provides guidance on mitigation measures that should be used to avoid significant impacts on these species and hence the need for referral under the EPBC Act. This guideline has been developed in collaboration with state and local government agencies across the range of the two flying-fox species, species experts and the general public. It aligns with state government legislation and policies to maximise regulatory streamlining while upholding strong environmental standards.



Australian Government  
Department of the Environment

---

## Local Land Services

### **Consultation period on travelling stock reserves extended**

Local Land Services has extended the consultation period for the draft [State NSW Travelling Stock Reserve \(TSR\) Planning Framework](#) until 4 December 2015. Councils may forward their comment for inclusion in a LGNSW response if provided to [kirsty.mcintyre@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:kirsty.mcintyre@lgnsw.org.au) by 23 November 2015.



## Local Land Services Strategic Plan

### State Plan for LLS 2015 -2025

Local Land Services has prepared a [Draft State Strategic Plan](#) which sets directions for the next ten years. Comments are being received until 22 November 2015. LGNSW will prepare a response on behalf of NSW councils. Please provide comments to [kirsty.mcintyre@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:kirsty.mcintyre@lgnsw.org.au) by 13 November.

Regional plans are also available for comment for each of the LLS regions: [South East](#), [Riverina](#), [Murray](#), [Central Tablelands](#), [Central West](#), [Western](#), [Greater Sydney](#), [Hunter](#), [North Coast](#), [Northern Tablelands](#) and [North West](#).

## NSW Environmental Trust

### Stakeholder engagement survey

The NSW Environmental Trust offers about \$100 million a year in grants for environmental projects across NSW. The Trust is looking at ways to improve the way they communicate their funding opportunities.

Feedback is sought from NSW Councils. Councils interested in participating are asked to complete a [15 minute survey](#).

This information will then be used to improve the way the Trust works with its applicants and grantees. The

### SUBSCRIPTION

To subscribe to this e-mail update, send a message to: [nrm\\_localgovt-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:nrm_localgovt-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Members can unsubscribe at any stage via: [nrm\\_localgovt-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:nrm_localgovt-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com)

information provided to the Trust will not be associated with individual names or organisations. Survey closes on Friday 13 November 2015. For any further questions please contact the NSW Environmental Trust on 02 8837 6372.

## Climate Change

### Australian attitudes to climate change and adaptation report

The [report](#) presents the findings of a longitudinal survey of Australians from 2010 to 2014. Conducted annually in July and August of each year, the CSIRO surveyed a total of 17,493 Australians. The surveys form part of a research program investigating the ways in which Australians think about climate change, and the activities they are undertaking to mitigate or adapt to its impacts.

## Events and Training

[24th NSW Coastal Conference, 2015](#) 10-13 November 2015, Forster, NSW. Hosted by Great Lakes Council. The theme of the conference is *Great Expectations - pathways for learning and delivery*

[56th Annual Floodplain Management Australia Conference](#), 17-20 May 2016, Nowra

### MORE INFORMATION

**Kirsty McIntyre**  
Senior Policy Officer – NRM  
Local Government NSW  
E [kirsty.mcintyre@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:kirsty.mcintyre@lgnsw.org.au)  
P 9242 4055

**Denise Anderson**  
Senior Policy Officer – Environment  
Local Government NSW  
E [denise.anderson@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:denise.anderson@lgnsw.org.au)  
P 92424056