

June-July 2016



Junior Landcare Day at Mt Surprise

Mt Surprise and Distance-Ed children were recently treated to a morning of garden fun at Mt Surprise school, organised through **Erica Blumson's** Junior Landcare project.

After a discussion on Biodiversity and bush walk with wildlife officer **Michael Anthony**, students made plant presses, looked at soil biology, Gouldian finches, seed sorting, propagated seeds and revamped the no dig garden. (photo: **Erica Blumson**)

Funding secured

The Queensland Government confirmed their investment of \$600,000 to our programs in the 2016-17 financial year.

This brings our total budget for the year to \$2.2M which is a bit more than we

had expected. Additional grants may be secured during the year to help increase the level of project activity we can deliver into the region.

We are actively seeking additional opportunities to attract funding to NRM projects and welcome enquiries. See contacts at bottom.

Staffing news

We are very pleased to congratulate **Allan Holmes** on his appointment to the Executive Coordinator position. Allan brings a wealth of experience and commitment to the role. As our senior staff member he will be responsible for all operational matters. He is dividing his time between the Mareeba and Georgetown offices.

We are also pleased to welcome **Peter Harrison** to the role of Intensive Ag Coordinator, filling the duties that Trevor Parker formerly covered. Peter is a highly-qualified project specialist with GIS skills and an extensive background in land systems and technical analysis. We're privileged to have Peter join the team and look forward to introducing him around the region.

Our long-serving Extensive Mapping and Regional Accounts officer, **Niilo Gobious** has been offered a 12 month position with the [Spatial Hub](#). The Hub, which was initiated by **Mike Digby** and others at Northern Gulf, has been roaring forward in the past year and they need Niilo's talent in the modelling and interpretation roles. We're happy to confirm that Niilo remains a Northern Gulf employee and look forward to his return after his adventure with the Spatial Hub. Niilo will start at Spatial Hub first of August.

Sarah Rizvi, our amazing Planning Officer, has wrapped up her work to launch the NRM Plan, and has taken her family to the UK for three months rest and rejuvenation. We'll welcome Sarah back at the end of October and showcase her team's work at the AGM in November.

Finally, we're happy to wish **Natalie Waller** all the best as she will shortly commence maternity leave for her first baby, expected in August.



General Meeting & Biodiversity Book Launch

Join us for a short General Meeting followed by lunch and a presentation on Biodiversity in the Northern Gulf region.

Our highly-regarded biodiversity team will be discussing their work and launching two new resources for the community. A book and identification "deck" will be available for review. The book provides basic identification and threat abatement for each species which occurs on the Cape York and Northern Gulf Nature Refuge properties that Northern Gulf have been working with over the past several years.

Lunch provided

RSVP to Vickie Mylrea, projects@northerngulf.com.au (07 4062 1330)

Mareeba Wetlands from 09:15 - Thurs, 28 July

Reminder: Use the Online Proxy for Voting

We have one important resolution for Members to vote on at the General Meeting (28 July). Please make your vote count.

[ONLINE PROXY FORM](#)

NRM Alliance launched

Directors have endorsed a charter for the North Queensland NRM Alliance. The Alliance will join Northern Gulf with Terrain and Cape York NRM to **share resources** and **advocate for improved outcomes** across our three regions.

Details of how the Alliance will function are still being developed. Northern Gulf and Terrain have started the process with an agreement to share financial management capability. This will deliver a much higher quality of reporting at a fraction of the cost we were previously paying.



Sector Directors

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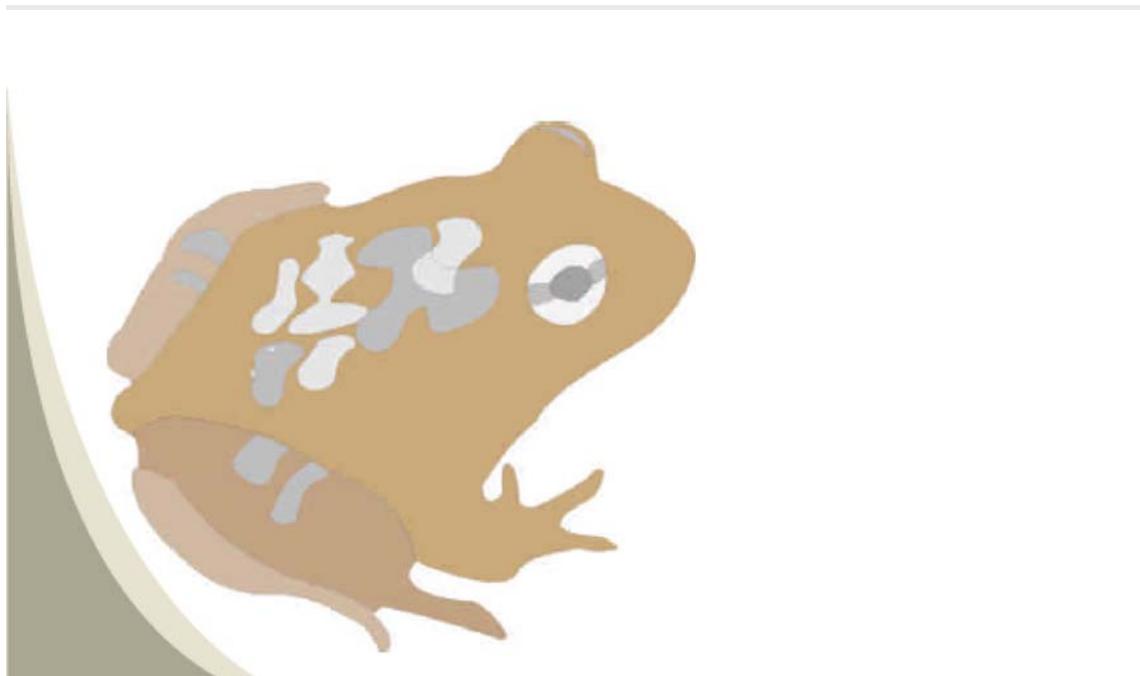
(temp vacant), John Brisbin, 0407 471 565, chair@northerngulf.com.au

Vice Chair

Riki Gunn, 0427 476 500, vicechair@northerngulf.com.au

Chair

John Brisbin, 0407 471 565, chair@northerngulf.com.au



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