

Nature Conservation Council of NSW
Annual Conference 2026 - Nature 2026: The State of Play

Program

Saturday Oct 31

8.30 – 9.00	Registration, Tea and Coffee, Meet and Mingle
9.00 – 9.10	Welcome to Country – <i>Aunty Rhonda Dixon-Grovenor</i>
9.10 – 9.20	Chair's Address and Launch of Impact Report – <i>Carolyn Loton</i>
9.20 – 9.30	Treasurer's Report – <i>Luke Austin</i>
9.30 – 10.15	Conference Motions

10.15 – 10.45am | Morning Tea

10.45 – 12.00	Conference Motions (continued)
12.00 – 12.25	<i>The Hon Penny Sharpe MLC</i> , NSW Environment Minister
12.25 – 12.30	CEO Update – <i>Jacqui Mumford</i>
12.30 – 12.40	<i>Sue Higginson MLC</i> , NSW Greens Environment Spokesperson
12.40 – 12.50	<i>Felicity Wilson MP</i> , NSW Shadow Environment Minister

12.50 – 1.40pm | Lunch

1.40 – 2.50	Keynote panel: <i>Expanding the State of Play</i>
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This panel will feature innovators in the NSW environment and climate movement, highlighting a range of emerging issues related to, and inseparable from, environmentalism and conservation.

- *Sasha Titchkosky* from Lane Cove Responsible Planning on the recent win over Goodman Project Mars data centre and why the threat remains
- *Jem Punthakey* from Better Renting on why the climate movement is campaigning for energy efficient rental properties
- *Henry Coleman* from Local Futures on localisation: what it is and how it could help us to protect nature, act on climate and build community resilience and prosperity

2.50 – 3.20pm | Afternoon Tea

3.20 – 4.20	Workshops
1.	Where to next for the Murray-Darling Basin? – <i>Mel Gray and Matt Floro</i>
2.	Winning for the climate this election, from coal mining to efficient, healthy homes – <i>Brad Smith and Eve Altman</i>
3.	Gearing up for the NSW Election – <i>Ed Mortimer</i>
4.	Online workshop - Countering Anti-Nature Sentiment - <i>Erin Farley, Nature Media Centre</i>
4.20 – 4.50	Open space for member group updates
4.50 – 5.00	Conference Close and Wrap-up

From 5.15pm | Networking drinks and optional Conference Dinner
The Republic Hotel, 69-73 Pitt St, Sydney - 300m walk from venue