



There are some pretty heavy threats facing nature right now - from habitat destruction and pollution through to attempts to weaken environmental regulations.

I know it can feel pretty overwhelming at times. That's why you'll always find big or small actions to take, articles to read and events to attend in *Paperbark*.

By the time you scroll to the end, I hope you feel informed, empowered and connected.

As a valued part of our network, please take a moment to become an NQCC member if you haven't taken the plunge yet!

As a member, you:

- Shape our future through member surveys (next one coming soon!)
- Vote on motions at our (very fun) General Meetings
- Help us to demonstrate our power when we speak on behalf of North Queensland's environment

Signing up is easy, secure and affordable - pay what you can!

With so much *bad* going on in the world, even by just taking **one good action** today, you'll be part of a shifting tide. Thanks for whatever you do!

- Crystal, NQCC Coordinator



BECOME A MEMBER

In this edition:

- Nature & Climate
 - National Tree Day
 - Volunteer Training: **Tues 4 Aug**
 - Bluewater Garden Fair: **Sat 15 Aug**

- Speak up for Koalas
- Oppose this Destructive Bill
- Bioregional Planning submission
- H5 Bird Flu information
- Landcare through the lens
- Reef & Water
 - UNESCO draft decision assessment
 - Coral Sea Marine Park review
 - Cleveland Bay Sea Dumping consultation
 - Green + Blue Drinks: **Tues 11 Aug**
 - Bohle River survey: **Sun 2 Aug**
 - Reef Conversations: **Tues 18 Aug**
- Youth Advocacy
 - Advocacy Workshops
 - Youth Survey
 - Screening Invitation: **Wed 5 Aug**
- Jobs Board
 - CDTLI Nursery Manager Role
 - Coastal Stewardship Connection Officer

NATURE & CLIMATE



National Tree Day

Thank you to Monita, Maddie, Cindy, Ann and David for volunteering with us for National Tree Day in Mount Louisa!

Planting and sustaining new trees in the dry season has its challenges, but worth it for the community connection and the chance to support a local landscape in need.

Planting is important, but so is protecting what we've got. That's why we're advocating for local governments to adopt Greening Strategies. Plantings should be strategic for wellbeing and wildlife, and our significant trees and corridors should be protected.

ENDORSE GREENING FOR SHADE

Volunteer Training



Do you love getting out in nature? Attend this online training to find out how you can contribute to the grassroots campaign to [Protect Beautiful Queensland!](#)

Join online to learn:

- how to build support for nature protection through on-ground conversations
- which local areas could stand to benefit from greater protection
- how to get started as a Protect Beautiful Qld volunteer!

Volunteering Webinar
6-7pm Tuesday 4 August
Online (register for the link)

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Bluewater Fair



We are taking our [Greening for Shade campaign](#) to the [Bluewater Gardening Fair & Flower Show!](#)

Help us connect with the community through friendly, curious conversations about where and how we'd like to green Townsville. Every conversation helps build support for a cooler, greener, more liveable future!

Help for an hour or stay for the duration - we'd love to have you! Simply reply to this email with your availability.

Greening Market Stall
8am-2.30pm Saturday 15 August
14 Forestry Rd, Bluewater QLD 4818



Voice for Koalas

NQ Wildlife Care has put out a call to action to help protect local koalas.

"As NQ continues to grow, protecting koalas means protecting habitat and ensuring wildlife can move safely through our communities."

Please write to your local councillor or MP and ask them to:

- Protect habitat and corridors
- Create safe wildlife crossings
- Install wildlife warning signage
- Reduce speed limits where needed
- Improve environmental planning

SHARE THEIR POST



Oppose the Bill

The Queensland Government is considering a Bill that would weaken environmental protections, reduce community consultation, and give the state government powers to fast-track major projects. **It's the last thing we need in a biodiversity crisis.**

Make your voice heard by **writing to your local MP** and urging them to oppose this Bill!

All of our talking points can be found via the link below.

HELP KILL THE BILL!



Plans for Nature

NQCC has lodged a submission on the **Draft Gulf Plains Bioregional Guidance Plan**, welcoming it as a positive step while recommending improvements to ensure it delivers meaningful protection for North Queensland's landscapes, ecosystems and biodiversity.

Our submission focuses on strengthening safeguards for irreplaceable natural values, ecological connectivity, First Nations rights, transparency and the application of the precautionary principle.

[LEARN MORE](#)



H5 Bird Flu

Like many of you, we've been following this closely.

At this stage, there have been no detections of the disease in native birds or poultry in Qld, and there is no evidence of large-scale animal deaths.

If you see sick or dead wild birds or wildlife, remember:

- Avoid contact.
- Record what you observe.
- Report it immediately to the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888

[ACCESS MORE INFO & ADVICE](#)



Through the Lens

To celebrate Landcare Week, you are invited to share a photo that captures what Landcare means to you. Whether it's restoring bushland, caring for waterways, creating wildlife habitat or connecting with community, every story helps showcase the many ways people are caring for nature.

Plus, one lucky entrant will win \$1,000 for their landcare or community environmental group! Entries close **31 August**.

[SUBMIT A PHOTO](#)

REEF & WATER



Under Scrutiny

UNESCO's draft decision not to list the Great Barrier Reef as "in danger" comes with a clear warning: Australia must do more to protect the Reef.

While climate change remains its greatest threat, a recent report identifies deforestation as the major unresolved source of sediment impacting Reef water quality. Protecting the Reef means tackling these systemic threats.

[READ MORE](#)



Coral Sea Review

The Coral Sea Marine Park has been in place for 10 years and is currently being reviewed. This is a great opportunity to improve protection for our incredible marine life!

NQCC is a proud member of Save Our Marine Life - and they've put together all the information you need to learn more and make an impact! Please visit [their website](#) to learn more, and follow the link below to send a letter!

SUPPORT CORAL SEA SANCTUARIES

Sea Dumping



The Port of Townsville is seeking community feedback on an application for a new sea dumping permit.

A new permit is required to allow the continued placement of maintenance dredged material at the existing area in Cleveland Bay.

Info sessions will be held in early August, and you can have your say via an online feedback form until **Tuesday 25 August**.

LEARN MORE & HAVE YOUR SAY



Green Drinks

It's time to learn about the health of our local waterways!

The [Healthy Waters Partnership for the Dry Tropics](#) brings together community, government, and science for the health of our rivers, wetlands, and inshore marine areas.

As a proud member of the Partnership, we're excited to host this event and share the findings of the latest *Waterways Report Card*.

Green Drinks Networking Event
6-8pm Tues 11 August
Grill'd South Townsville

RSVP HERE



Bohle Survey

Join a MangroveWatch Survey of the Bohle and explore North Queensland's incredible mangrove by boat. Cruise the estuary, record the mangrove shoreline, and collect valuable data that helps monitor the health of these important coastal ecosystems.

No experience is necessary - everyone is welcome!

Mangrove Survey
9am-1.30pm Sunday 2 August
Stoney Ck / Bohle River Boat Ramp

REGISTER HERE

Reef Conversation



Join **Reef Ecologic** for a webinar with Dr Mark Read, a wildlife biologist and protected area manager working with The Reef Authority.

He will be discussing the Great Barrier Reef Green Turtle Research Program, as well as conservation, management and sustainable use of species and habitats within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Webinar

11am Tuesday 18 August
Online

[REGISTER HERE](#)

YOUTH ADVOCACY



Advocacy Workshops

Over the past few weeks, we've partnered with Parents for Climate, St Joseph's Mundingburra and CANOE Projects to connect with young people about the environmental issues that matter most to them.

The issues we've heard have ranged from plastics and light pollution, through to food waste, fast fashion, global warming and the wide-ranging impacts of AI data centres.

We've been so impressed by their knowledge, confidence and care!

READ MORE



Youth Survey

We want to give young people who couldn't attend a workshop the opportunity to have their voices heard.

If you're a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle or other caregiver, please support a young person aged **9–16** to complete this short survey and share their ideas.

The responses will help inform our future advocacy with local government leaders and decision-makers, ensuring young people's concerns are heard.

ACCESS THE SURVEY



Film Screening

In partnership with Parents for Climate - Townsville & Surrounds and St Joseph's Mundingburra, we're proud to present a free, family-friendly screening of Damon Gameau's [Future Council](#).

We'll be sharing some of the insights we've learned from some local youth, and using this event to empower them to hold decision-makers accountable.

Community Screening Night
5.30-8pm Wed 5 August
St Joseph's Mundingburra

RSVP HERE

LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for work?

Coastal Stewardship Connection Officer
Magnetic Island Community Development Association

[Read more and apply!](#)

Nursery Manager
Coastal Dry Tropics Landcare Inc.

[Learn more and apply!](#)

FURTHER READING

**Batteries 'cheaper' than gas plants as data centres
fuel turbine costs**

ABC NEWS

READ

Great Barrier Reef microbiome mapped

Guardian

READ

Did You Know...?

It has never been easier to leave NQCC a gift in your will. This simple step can be undertaken any time, and will give you peace of mind that your passion for conserving nature will be a part of your legacy.

Even a small gift can be transformational for an organisation like ours. Learn more on our website, and reach out if you'd like to chat.

LEARN MORE

Do you have something you'd like to see in our next edition of *Paperbark*? Reply to this email with all the details!

We work on the lands of the Wulgurukaba and Bindal Peoples, and acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of all North Queensland nations. First Nations sovereignty was never ceded. North Queensland always was and always will be Aboriginal land.

North Queensland Conservation Council · 114 Boundary St, Railway Estate, QLD
4810, Australia

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