



*In celebration of Canberra Ornithologists Group's 50th anniversary*

## **Landscapes for Birds – conserving and enhancing their habitats**

**Program - Saturday 5 July 2014**

**1.30 pm - Welcome and introduction:** Alison Russell-French, President, Canberra Ornithologists Group

**Opening Remarks:** Mick Gentleman, Member Legislative Assembly (ACT)

1.45pm Dr Veronica Doerr    **The Landscape Revolution Needs YOU**

2.15 Dr Adrian Manning    **Integrating Research and Restoration: the Mulligans Flat – Goorooyarroo Woodland Experiment**

2.45 Chris Davey    **A citizen science survey of the Gang-gang Cockatoo**

**3.10 Afternoon Tea break**

3.30 Rainer Rehwinkel    **Kosciuszko to Coast – a Landscape Connectivity Partnership**

4.00 Nicki Taws    **Doing it for the birds: Revegetation as habitat**

4.30 Finish

### **Summaries of Presentations**

#### **The Landscape Revolution Needs YOU!**

**Presenter:** Dr Veronica Doerr, Senior Research Scientist, CSIRO Ecosystem Sciences

Our ideas about how and where to protect biodiversity have undergone a major revolution, with an emphasis now on the contributions made by every part of our landscapes, not just nature reserves. Veronica will talk about this revolution and why it means that every one of us can contribute to conserving Australia's incredible birds.

## **Integrating Research and Restoration: the Mulligans Flat – Goorooyaroo Woodland Experiment**

**Presenter:** Dr Adrian Manning, Associate Professor, Fenner School of Environment & Society, Australian National University

Adrian will talk about the Mulligans Flat – Goorooyaroo Woodland Experiment, which aims to find ways to improve box-gum grassy woodlands for biodiversity. He will place this discussion within the context of the broader long-term vision for two of Canberra’s favourite woodland reserves.

## **A citizen science survey of the Gang-gang Cockatoo (*Callocephalon fimbriatum*) within the ACT and local region**

**Presenter:** Chris Davey, Canberra Ornithologists Group

In 2014 the Canberra Ornithologists Group is celebrating 50 years of activity within the ACT and amongst its other activities is a ‘Bird of the Year’ project. The project has been developed to involve the general public and to advance knowledge on a particular species or groups of species that are significant within the ACT. The Gang-gang Cockatoo is of special interest to the ACT and is a species that many birding visitors would like to see. The Gang-gang is the ACT emblem and is the logo of the ACT Parks and Conservation Service and the Canberra Ornithologists Group. Despite this, little is known about the detailed ecology of the Gang-gang within the ACT and region, in particular, abundance, drivers that affect movement patterns, frequency or success of breeding events, seasonal food preferences or distribution. The presentation will discuss how the survey is being run, how the public can contribute and some results so far.

## **Kosciuszko to Coast – a Landscape Connectivity Partnership**

**Presenter:** Rainer Rehwinkel, Senior Threatened Species Officer, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, and Chair of the K2C Executive Committee

K2C is a partnership of government and non-government agencies all working together on landscape connectivity under the broader Great Eastern Ranges initiative. K2C’s tagline “Landholders - Links – Landscapes” neatly encapsulates what the core themes are. K2C’s key objective is to increase the resilience, extent and connectedness of target ecosystems and linkages across the K2C region, through working with the community, landholders and indigenous locals. The key focus areas are grasslands, woodlands, wetlands and valley floor watercourses, small bush birds, arboreal mammals and threatened forest vegetation communities. In recent years there have been several successful bird-focussed projects, which Rainer will describe. Rainer will briefly discuss OEH’s recently introduced “Saving Our Species” program.

## **Doing it for the birds: Revegetation as habitat**

**Presenter:** Nicki Taws, Project Manager, Greening Australia, ACT

For more than 30 years Greening Australia has been working with the community to manage and re-establish native vegetation across the ACT and southern NSW. More recently we have begun to understand the value of this revegetation as habitat for birds. Nicki Taws will discuss the findings of Greening Australia’s Birdwatch monitoring project and how the results are being incorporated into current revegetation activities.