



LAND FOR WILDLIFE

South East Queensland

10th
Anniversary
EDITION

Newsletter of the Land for Wildlife Program South East Queensland

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Cutting the Cake (left to right) is The Hon. Andrew McNamara, Minister for Sustainability, Climate Change and Innovation; Gordon French, Chairperson of SEQ Catchments; Professor John Sprent, inaugural Land for Wildlife member and Cr. John Brent, Deputy Chair of the Council of Mayors.



A Spotted-tailed Quoll, Queensland's largest native carnivore, was on show at the Land for Wildlife Launch. Quolls need large tracts of undisturbed forests to survive and are now threatened in SEQ. Given that the survival of quolls largely depend on private landholders to protect native vegetation, it was fitting that this iconic animal was present at the Land for Wildlife celebrations.



Cr. John Brent (left) and Cr. Margaret de Wit (right) presented a piece of collaborative artwork to Prof. John Sprent in recognition of his commitment to the Land for Wildlife program. Prof. Sprent kindly hosted both the Launch of Land for Wildlife in 1998 and the celebration in August 2008.

Celebrating 10 years

On 20 August 2008, the Queensland Land for Wildlife program celebrated its 10th anniversary. A celebration was held at Prof. John Sprent's Land for Wildlife property in Moggill, Brisbane. The Hon. Andrew McNamara officially launched the Land for Wildlife 10th anniversary Commemorative Publication (shown right) and marked the start of Queensland's first Land for Wildlife Open Property Scheme.

Over 120 people attended the Launch with numerous dignitaries, project partners and many Land for Wildlife members. The first 50 Land for Wildlife members in Queensland were invited to the Launch in recognition of their commitment to nature conservation over the past 10 years.



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editorial

Spring in South East Queensland is delightful with blue skies, gentle temperatures, abundant wildlife and sparkling beaches. No wonder people from all over Australia are moving here. But dare I ask, how much infrastructure and development can ecological systems in SEQ withstand before they decline and the very values that people have moved here to enjoy are diminished?

Certain species have already disappeared from our landscape. These declines happen gradually and often pass unnoticed to most. Recent conferences have discussed this 'extinction debt' process that is used to describe these gradual losses. We are living with species and ecosystems that have already gone past their tipping-point. We see remaining individuals in the environment, but fragmentation and loss of habitat has led to reduced food and breeding resources required to sustain healthy populations. Within a few years or decades, these species will no longer be found in our backyards, bushland areas or neighbouring reserves. Combined with the enormous ecological shifts that are predicted from climate change, environmental conferences these days can be very sobering affairs.

During September, I was fortunate to visit 17 of the 27 properties that were part of Queensland's first Land for Wildlife Open Property Scheme. I was inspired by the

way in which Land for Wildlife members are tackling difficult ecological issues in practical and profound ways. I wish to thank every landholder who generously welcomed visitors to their property and to those of you who travelled short and long-distances to participate. I welcome any feedback about the Open Property Scheme that may help us improve them for the future. Pages 13-15 of this newsletter showcase three Open Properties.

The rest of this newsletter provides information, statistics and maps to help mark the 10th anniversary of Land for Wildlife in SEQ. Over 120 people shared goodwill and a sense of achievement at the Land for Wildlife Launch on 20th August. I hope some of the photographs shown in this newsletter convey the convivial atmosphere and spirit of nature conservation that characterised the Launch and Land for Wildlife in general.

I would like to acknowledge some of those who have significantly contributed to the planning, coordination and delivery of Land for Wildlife in SEQ. Eleven years ago, Sonia Culley, Leo Ryan and Ian Hislop, co-authored a funding application from a collective of Local Governments in SEQ that resulted in Land for Wildlife commencing in Queensland. In mid-1998, Darryl Larsen, Coral Rowston and Cath Moran were appointed as the first Land for Wildlife Extension Officers with Richard Rawlings

starting soon afterwards. Darryl Larsen continues to be a valued Land for Wildlife Officer with Richard Rawlings retiring only last year.

Other Land for Wildlife Extension Officers who have made, and in some cases continue to make, long-term contributions to the SEQ Land for Wildlife program include Lauren Appleby, Stephanie Reif, Dave Burrows, Nick Clancy, Darryl Porche, Terry Banks and Sandy Robertson. Malcolm Petrie was employed initially as the SEQ Regional Coordinator for 2 years with Craig Middleton taking over the role in 2000. I was fortunate to secure the position in 2004 and continue to enjoy my role today. Numerous other people have worked with Land for Wildlife in SEQ and I apologise for any omissions.

I hope you derived benefit from the 10th anniversary celebrations and are inspired to continue your nature conservation work and to help turn the tide on our extinction debts.

Enjoy this anniversary edition, and as always, I welcome any comments or contributions.

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Lexie Webster, 5582 8344

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Logan City Council

Rachel Booth, 5540 5340

Moreton Bay Regional Council

Amanda Sargeant, 5433 2472
Lyndall Rosevear, 3480 6529

Redland City Council

Gavin Hammermeister, 3820 1102

Scenic Rim Regional Council

Keith McCosh, 5540 5436

Somerset Regional Council

Martin Bennett, 0428 198 353
Michelle Ledwith, 5422 0516

Sunshine Coast Regional Council

Nick Clancy, 5439 6433
Alan Wynn, 5439 6477
Josh Birse, 5441 8002
Amanda Ozolins, 5441 8414
Dave Burrows, 5449 5202

Toowoomba Regional Council

Veronica Newbury, 4688 6572
Kym Campbell, 4698 1155

Forward all letters to:

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Land for Wildlife Newsletter
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George Street QLD 4003

Landholder Registrations, Land for Wildlife SEQ - 01/09/2008

Registered Properties	Working Towards Registration	Total Area Retained	Total Area under Restoration
2324	498	43,835 ha	2,584 ha

10th anniversary launch



“Those Land for Wildlife members who want to permanently protect their land can do so through the Queensland Government’s Nature Refuge program or with a Council VCA” The Hon Andrew McNamara.

EPA’s Nature Refuge program complements Land for Wildlife and other private land conservation schemes.



“Queensland’s Land for Wildlife program is a collaborative success story between all three tiers of government, non-government organisations and private landholders” Rod Douglas, President of Greening Australia Queensland.

Greening Australia Qld provide statewide coordination of Land for Wildlife in Queensland.



“Every Local Government in South East Queensland now delivers the Land for Wildlife program” Cr John Brent, Deputy Chair, Council of Mayors.

Local Governments in SEQ locally coordinate and deliver Land for Wildlife to landholders.



“Whether you manage a small block on the suburban fringe or a large grazing property, Land for Wildlife can offer you support” Gordon French, Chairperson of SEQ Catchments.

SEQ Catchments and other Regional NRM Bodies provide regional coordination for Land for Wildlife in Queensland.



“Land for Wildlife Officers are a wealth of knowledge and have helped me to better manage my property for conservation”

Alan Franks, Land for Wildlife member.



Rod Douglas, The Hon. Andrew McNamara and Gordon French share a wildlife moment with a Carpet Python at the Launch.

10th anniversary launch



The first 50 Land for Wildlife members in Queensland (registered in 1998) were invited to the Launch and were rewarded with a copy of Queensland Museum's Wildlife of Greater Brisbane book. The Queensland Museum generously offered these books at a reduced price.



Land for Wildlife Officer, Alan Wynn (left), and Land for Wildlife members Neil and Gillian MacLeod enjoy a sculpture created by artist Madonna Barraclough.



(Left) Prof John Sprent proudly shows the collaborative artwork presented to him. The artwork shows 4 miniature pieces of art created by local artists. Top to bottom, the miniatures are:

Madonna Barraclough, *Hands creating a tree*, graphite & pastel, 2008. Madonna uses recurring motifs such as the circle, the sole of a foot and a curving connecting line to express her concerns with loss of habitat and human disconnectedness with nature.

Emily Burgess, *Life*, embossed woodblock engraving, 2008. Emily's ongoing artistic practice seeks to offer threatened wildlife a means of communication with humans.

Berit Kruger-Johnsen, *Native birds*, paper-cut etching, 2008. Berit uses installation and collages of prints on recycled paper to create a hybrid world that binds the artist and viewer in a construction of their environment.

Annika Forsberg, *Into the forest*, graphite and pencil, 2008. Annika's paintings discuss human experience of the natural environment by layering landscapes, microcosms, wildlife and human representations.

Circle Our World exhibition will showcase artwork from the above four artists at the Queensland College of Art Project Gallery, Brisbane from 3-10 November 2008.



Wildlife on display at the Launch - a Tawny Frogmouth and Southern Anglemouthed Dragon thanks to Geckoes Wildlife Presentations.

land for wildlife 10 years



Land for Wildlife Membership

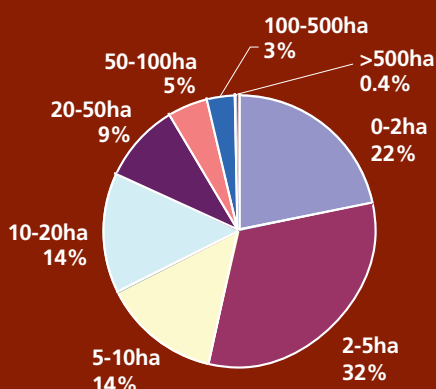
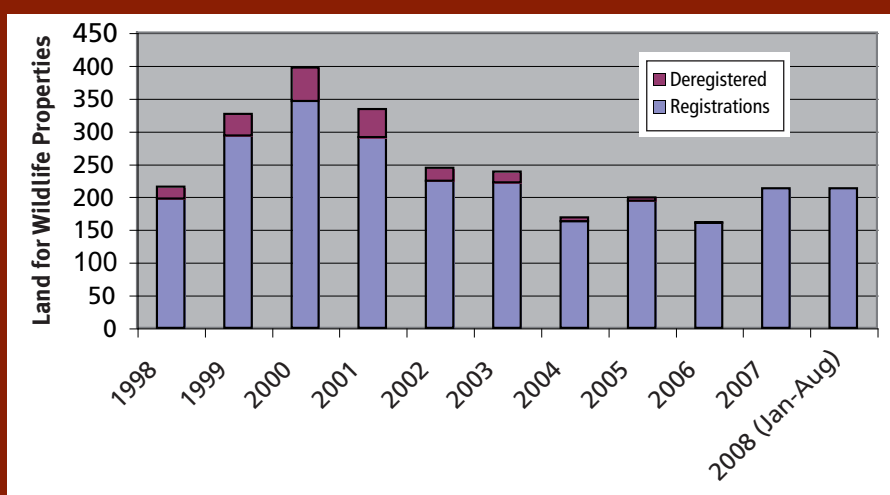
This table shows the steady cumulative increase in Land for Wildlife registrations (including those properties that are Working Towards Registration) over the past ten years in South East Queensland.

As of September 2008, there were 2,324 properties Registered and 498 Working Towards Registration.

Land for Wildlife Deregistrations

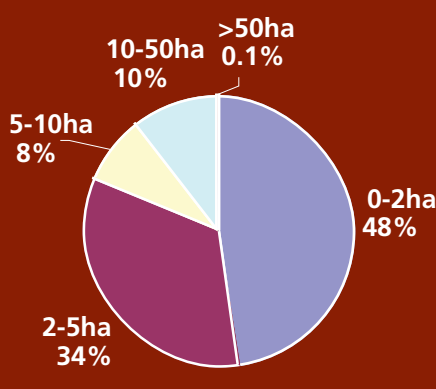
This table shows the number of Land for Wildlife properties that have since left the program in SEQ. Most deregistrations are due to property sales. After ten years, only 7.6% of Registered properties have left the program (191 properties) with 13.1% of Working Towards registrations becoming deregistered (84 properties).

The combined deregistration rate of 8.7% of all Land for Wildlife members in SEQ after 10 years shows that the clear majority of Land for Wildlife members join the program for long-term benefits. Many members try to pass on their properties at the time of sale to other like-minded owners who will continue to look after the nature conservation values.



Size of Land for Wildlife properties (Registered)

Over half (54%) of all properties registered with Land for Wildlife in SEQ are less than 5 hectares in size. The median size of all Registered Land for Wildlife properties in SEQ is 4.4 hectares.



Size of Land for Wildlife properties (Working Towards)

Over 81% of all properties listed as Working Towards Registration with the Land for Wildlife program in SEQ are less than 2 hectares in size. The median size of all Working Towards Land for Wildlife properties in SEQ is 2 hectares.

These two pie charts reflect the heavily urbanised and fragmented landscape that is found in South East Queensland. Despite the fragmentation, SEQ is still one of the most biodiverse regions in Australia.

Private landholders hold the key to the protection of many threatened species and ecosystems in SEQ. Few (if any) protection mechanisms offer long-term protection to isolated fragments or small patches of native vegetation. Often, Land for Wildlife is the only program available to provide advice and support to landholders managing small patches of vegetation despite their ecological importance for some species.

10th anniversary launch



"We are about to face more challenges such as the drought and climate change"
**Don Sands (left) and Greg Siepen,
Land for Wildlife Officer, Brisbane City Council**



"My favourite animal is a kangaroo"
Isaac and Nathan Kirby



"We are very excited to have, over the past 10 years, recruited all our neighbours into the Land for Wildlife scheme"
John and Rosemary Jeffreys



Eunice and Ted Prickett



"10 years older and 10 years wiser"
Craig Hosmer and Daryl Reinke



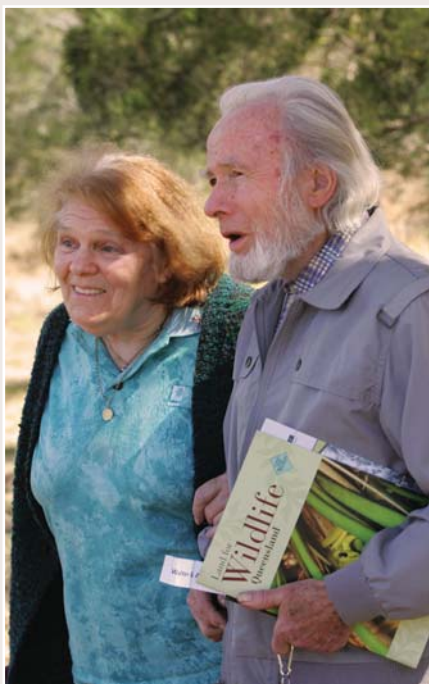
"We are proud to be the first community group to be declared a Nature Refuge. We have proved you don't have to just be a private landowner. We have learnt to fence and drive tractors. This property has meant we are always learning"

Marilyn Spletter, Carol Allberry and Karen McLean, Moggill Koala Hospital Association

Profiled here are some Land for Wildlife members and supporters who attended the 10th anniversary Launch on 20 August 2008.



Patricia and James Ledwith



“Very proud to have been one of the first Land for Wildlife properties and the first Conservation Agreement in Maroochy”

Anneliese and Wally Gogel



“I was here at the Launch 10 years ago”

Geoff Edwards



“Don’t take on too much...don’t over stretch yourself. Pulling out weeds, planting and watching the animals return keeps you young”

Joan and John Dillon

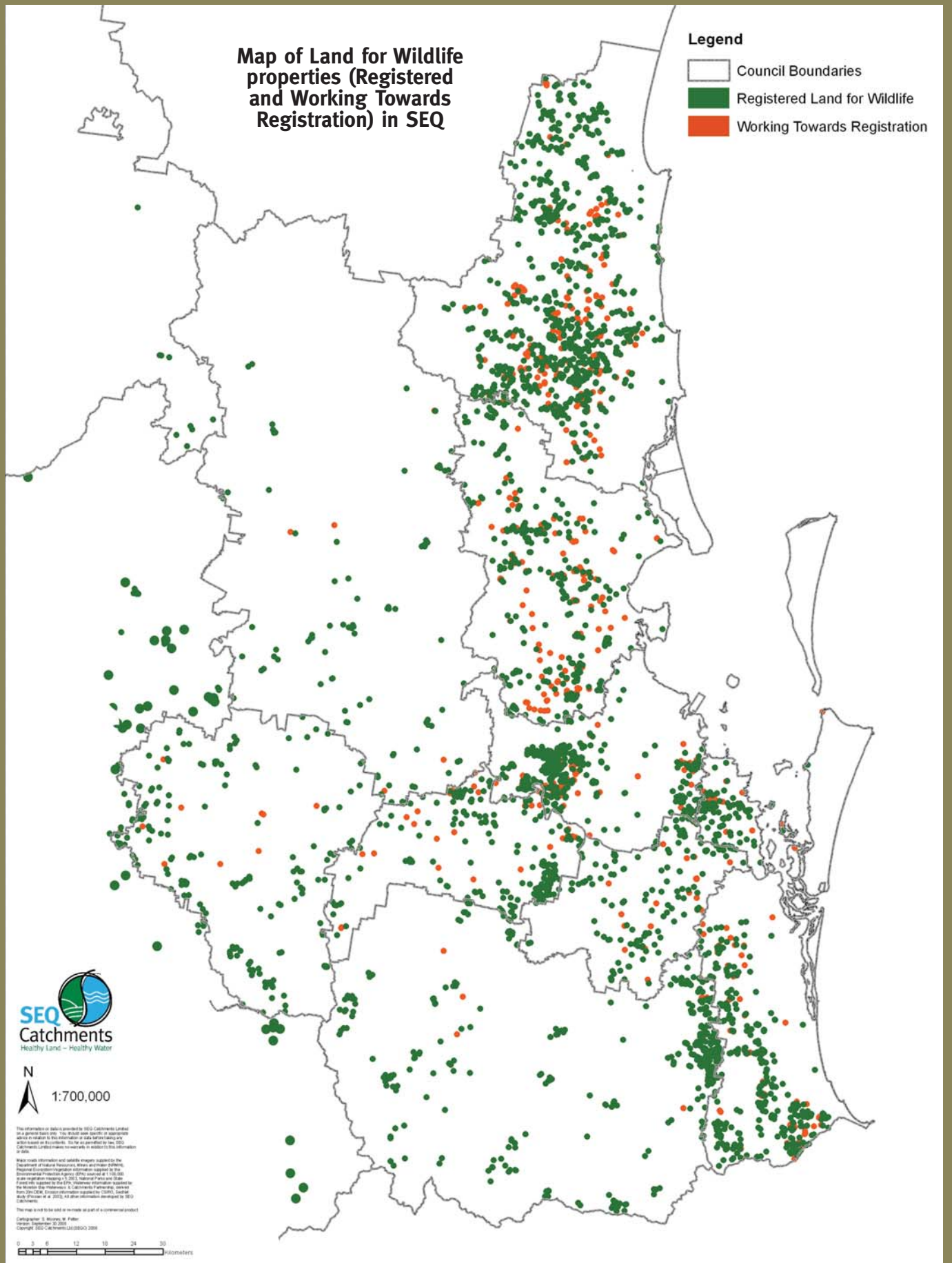


“Through our property we aim to pass on a passion for the environment to the children”

Richard Dent and Jill Morris



John Smith (left) with Richard Rawlings, former Land for Wildlife Officer, Brisbane City Council.

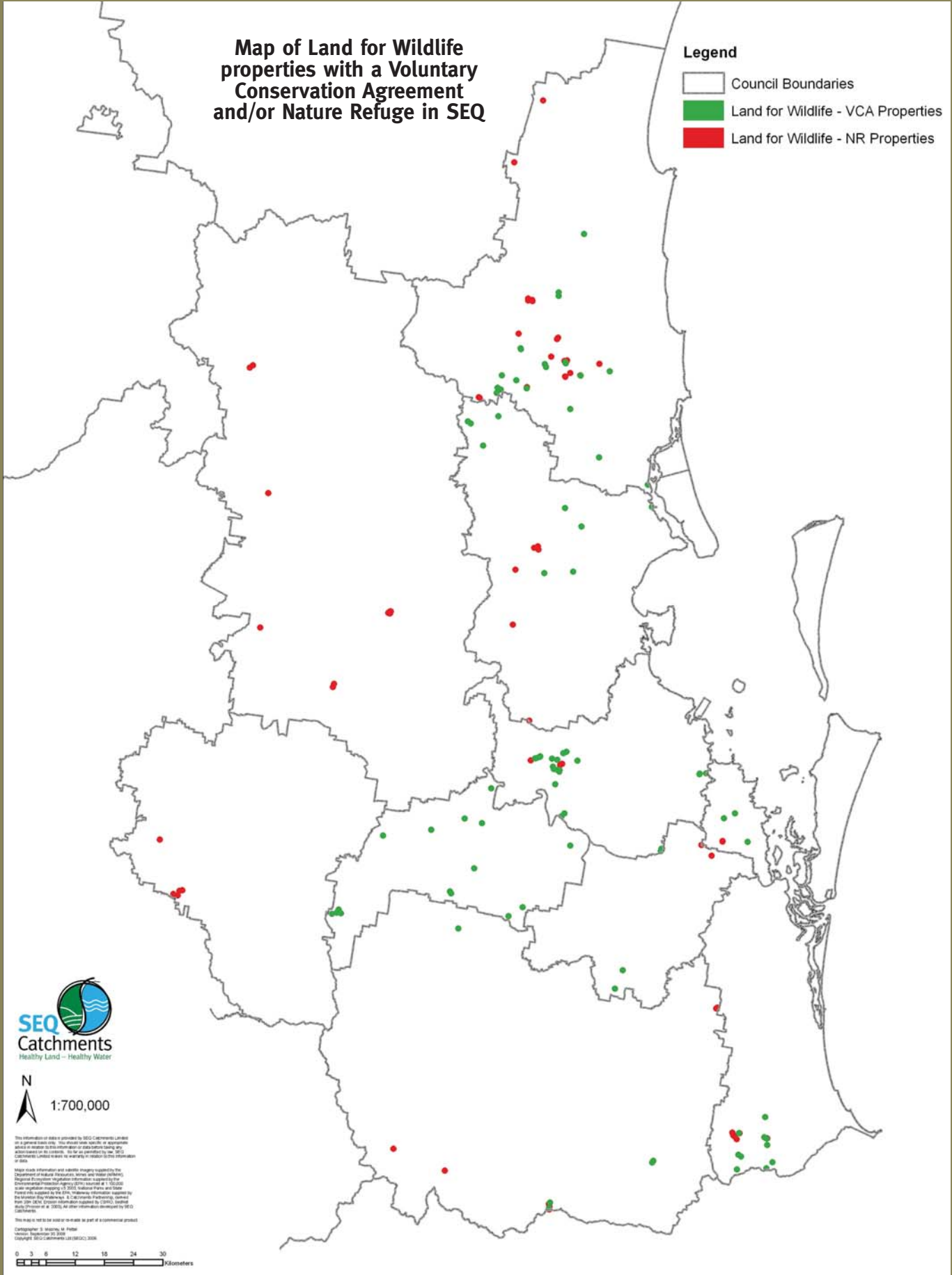


This map shows all Land for Wildlife properties in SEQ as of September 2008. Each dot represent a parcel (Lot) of land that is Registered (green dots) or Working Towards Registration (orange dot) with the Land for Wildlife program. One Land for Wildlife registration may consist of several Lots such as Canungra Army Training Centre cluster of dots on the eastern edge of Scenic Rim Regional Council. Clusters of Land for Wildlife properties include the western suburbs of Brisbane, Mount Cotton/Sheldon in Redlands, Currumbin/Tallebudgera Valley in the Gold Coast hinterland and Eudlo/Maleny/Mooloolah region on the Sunshine Coast.

Map of Land for Wildlife properties with a Voluntary Conservation Agreement and/or Nature Refuge in SEQ

Legend

-  Council Boundaries
-  Land for Wildlife - VCA Properties
-  Land for Wildlife - NR Properties



N
1:700,000

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0 3 6 12 18 24 30 Kilometers

This map shows Land for Wildlife properties that also have entered into a Voluntary Conservation Agreement (green dots) or a Nature Refuge (red dots) in SEQ as of July 2008. Voluntary Conservation Agreements (VCAs) are managed through Local Governments and Nature Refuge agreements are managed by the Environmental Protection Agency. All Nature Refuges and some VCAs are binding on title of the property. Most VCAs offer rate rebates or other financial incentives.



land for wildlife 10 years

Endangered Ecosystems & Land for Wildlife

Land for Wildlife properties provide a valuable home for threatened species and ecosystems.

According to GIS analysis of Land for Wildlife properties, **there are 4,493 hectares of Endangered Regional Ecosystems and 9,891 hectares of Of-concern Regional Ecosystems occurring on Land for Wildlife properties in SEQ.**

In addition, there are 19,978 hectares of Regional Ecosystems mapped as Not-of-concern, but still of important conservation value in the fragmented landscape of SEQ.

A patch of Swamp Tea-Tree (Melaleuca irbyana) Forest listed as Endangered under the Queensland Nature Conservation Act. It is listed as Regional Ecosystem (RE) 12.9/10.11. Many Endangered and Of-Concern REs occur on Land for Wildlife properties. Photo by Ipswich City Council



Habitats & Land for Wildlife

Most Land for Wildlife members live on their properties so not all of the property is managed for nature conservation. Across all Land for Wildlife properties in SEQ (totalling 70,769ha), the average land area set aside for conservation is 66%.

Collectively, there are 43,835 hectares of retained habitat and 2,584 hectares of habitat under restoration on Land for Wildlife properties in SEQ.

Retained habitat is defined as native vegetation that provides good quality habitat for native animals and has been managed primarily for nature conservation for a minimum of 5 years. Habitat under restoration is a portion of the property under active revegetation or natural regeneration that has not yet reached the status of retained habitat.

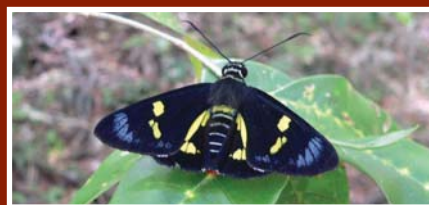
Industry, Education & Land for Wildlife

Land for Wildlife properties have a wide range of uses that are complemented by nature conservation assets. Of the 2,822 Land for Wildlife properties (includes Registered and Working Towards Registration) **as of September 2008, there are 53 community groups, 61 schools, 16 recreational / environmental education centres, 61 businesses (eg. wineries, eco-tourism), 5 religious centres and 2 Indigenous-owned properties in the Land for Wildlife program in SEQ.** Grazing and other primary production activities are not included in these figures. Community Groups working on Council land can apply for Land for Wildlife registration in some Council areas.

Small Patches, Clusters & Land for Wildlife

As the pie charts on page 5 show, Land for Wildlife properties in SEQ are mostly under 5 hectares in size. Individually, some of these smaller patches of native vegetation are incredibly important at protecting smaller species such as invertebrates and naturally-occurring isolated or disjunct plant and fungi communities that require small areas to reproduce and survive.

The practical conservation advice and community capacity building offered through the Land for Wildlife program is important in fragmented landscapes like SEQ. As clusters of Land for Wildlife properties start to develop (as shown in the map on page 8) nature conservation benefits on a landscape scale emerge which offer refuge for larger vertebrates, plant communities and other organisms requiring large connected tracts of native vegetation to survive.



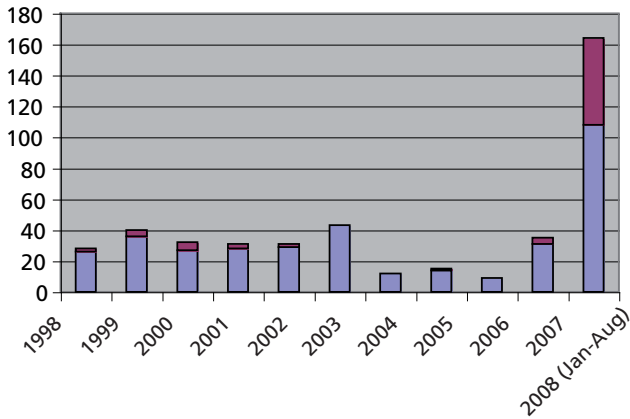
An orchid, Regent Skipper, fungi and dragonfly are some of the types of plants, animals and fungi whose survival may depend on the conservation of small patches of vegetation. Photos by Deborah Metters, Darryl Larsen and Sarah Castle.

- Working Towards Registration
- Registrations

Land for Wildlife Membership per Local Government

These graphs show a mixture of trends in annual membership rates of the Land for Wildlife program from four Local Government regions in South East Queensland.

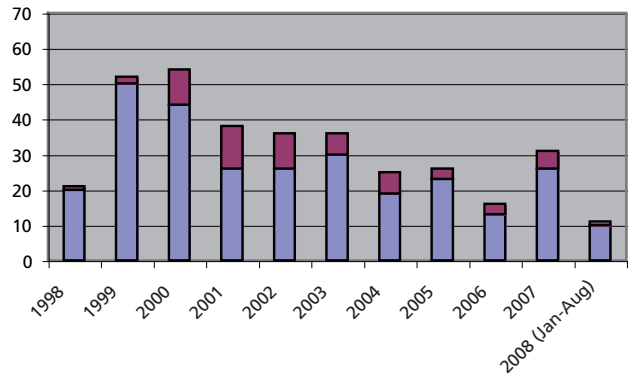
Brisbane



Recent Membership Boom

Brisbane City Council outstripped all previous membership rates in 2008 as they engaged widely with landholders to help meet the native vegetation targets set by the Lord Mayor.

Gold Coast

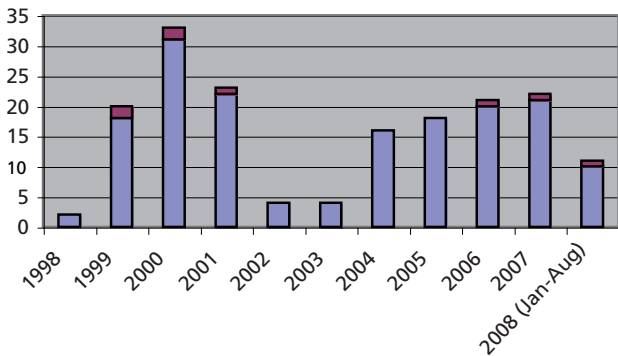


Plateauing Demand

Gold Coast Land for Wildlife membership is consistent with the majority of Council regions across SEQ. This chart reflects an initial boom in registrations in the first three years of the program's introduction with a subsequent plateauing of membership rates.

Councils with such a trend are keen to recruit new members whilst at the same time balancing recruitment alongside support towards existing members through property revisits, management planning assistance and high quality technical advice.

Scenic Rim

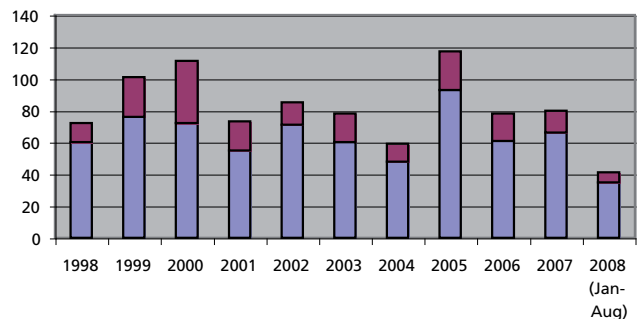


Increasing Demand

Land for Wildlife registrations in the Scenic Rim Regional Council area have been steadily increasing since 2004. The initial flurry of members in the former Boonah Shire in 2000 unfortunately ended soon afterwards. Council amalgamations this year saw the allocation of a Land for Wildlife Officer for the Boonah region to the delight of many local Land for Wildlife members and interested landholders.

With Council amalgamations, Scenic Rim Regional Council handed-over many Land for Wildlife members in the Jimboomba region to Logan City Council. Scenic Rim is expected to continue as a growth region for Land for Wildlife over the coming years.

Sunshine Coast



Consistently High Demand

The Sunshine Coast hinterland has always been a high demand region for the Land for Wildlife program. Sunshine Coast Regional Council currently employs five Land for Wildlife Officers to try to meet this demand while providing support (such as regular property revisits) and incentives to the consistently expanding membership.

land for wildlife coordination



The SEQ Land for Wildlife Steering Committee

(backrow left to right) Keith McCosh, Scenic Rim Regional Council; Rachel Booth, Logan City Council; Amanda Ozolins, Sunshine Coast Regional Council, Central; Alan Wynn, Sunshine Coast Regional Council, South; Dave Burrows, Sunshine Coast Regional Council, North; Darryl Larsen, Gold Coast City Council; Gavin Hammermeister, Redland City Council; Shannon Mooney,

SEQ Catchments (Chairperson); Lyndall Rosevear, Moreton Bay Regional Council; Nick Clancy, Sunshine Coast Regional Council, South (Deputy Chairperson).

(frontrow left to right) Martin Bennett, Lockyer Valley Regional Council; Greg Siepen, Brisbane City Council; Susan Finlay, Brisbane City Council; Deborah Metters, SEQ Catchments.

(not shown) Peter Copping, Ipswich City Council; Amanda Sargeant, Moreton Bay Regional Council; Josh Birse, Sunshine Coast Regional Council; Pam Malyszek, Greening Australia Qld; Darren McPherson, SEQ Catchments; Veronica Newbury, Toowoomba Regional Council.

Land for Wildlife Extension Officers are the backbone of the Land for Wildlife program. Without their local knowledge and ecological skills, the program would be little more than a sign on a gate.

The term 'extension' has traditionally been used by government agencies that provide property-specific information and advice to landholders engaged in agricultural and pastoral activities. Extension Officers would take the latest research and developments in agricultural science out to landholders to help them apply this knowledge to their own properties.

Times have changed and now many property owners consider nature conservation to be an important, or

even the main objective of property management. So now, through programs like Land for Wildlife, we have a new breed of Extension Officer whose role is to advise landholders on a range of issues relating to conservation management.

Perhaps this is also an indication of a growing community acceptance that nature conservation is a legitimate land use and that landholders wishing to conserve bushland on their properties should be supported by up-to-date and personalised advice by experienced extension staff.

In 1998 there were four Land for Wildlife Extension Officers in SEQ, now there are 22 officers covering all 11 Local

Government regions in SEQ. Nature conservation on private land has become core business in many of these Local Governments, recognising the wider environmental and community benefits gained from such land management.

Each Local Government that delivers Land for Wildlife has a place on the SEQ Land for Wildlife Steering Committee as well as SEQ Catchments as regional coordinators and Greening Australia Queensland as state coordinators. The steering committee meets 6-7 times per year to set directions, meet challenges and ensure program consistency and good communication between all agencies.



open property scheme

Glen Shailer's property, Shailer Park

Profiled on pages 13-15 are three properties whose owners welcomed other Land for Wildlife members to visit as part of the Open Property Scheme, 6-7 September 2008.



Glen Shailer shared stories from his 90 years of living in the Mount Cotton area. Behind him is his custard apple orchard. Freshly picked manilla bananas (in foreground) were a treat for visitors. Glen's obvious passion for sustainable land management was inspiring.



Glen's daughter Lynette shows photos of the property. Glen's parents bought the property in 1875 and ringbarked most of it to open it up for dairying. However, a lack of soil trace elements meant that dairy cattle could not survive. Bananas instead became the main revenue until the 1960s.



Jenny Davis, Redland City Council Wildlife Officer, points out a 'chimney tree'. These trees are hollow in the centre and can act as a maternity camp for hundreds of microbats during breeding season. Chimney trees are also prone to staying alight for weeks after a fire causing the tree to die and embers to reignite more fires.



Gavin Hammermeister, Land for Wildlife Extension Officer, Redland City Council with Glen Shailer.



Glen saw the aftermath of the 1935 wildfires and learnt that open Scribbly Gum forests (shown here) need regular small fires to maintain their open woodland form and to control woody weeds such as lantana. Glen burns sections of his property annually and also thins out some timber to facilitate tall, straight tree growth.



open property

Coreen Schnitzerling's property, Kin Kin



Coreen Schnitzerling aims to revegetate all the creeklines on her property. She is pictured here standing in front of 4 year old revegetation. This Open Property occurred on National Threatened Species Day and visitors were treated to seeing several threatened plant species.



Numerous Camphor Laurels, like the one shown in the background, have been successfully killed using the frilling technique. Camphor, lantana and durata used to choke the riparian areas on Coreen's property. Dead weed trees are now left to provide wildlife habitat.



Some revegetation on Coreen's property. Note the use of sedges, shrubs and trees in the plantings.



Botanist, Ann Moran, points out some identifying characteristics of plants on Coreen's property.



Signs on the main road frontage to Coreen's property shows her involvement in a local rainforest recovery project.



Seed capsules of the threatened tree, Southern Penda (*Xanthostemon oppositifolius*) on Coreen's property.



open property

Alan & Stacey Frank's property, Cambroon



Alan Franks holds up a cross-section of an old hollow from a tree that had been felled for road widening. Such hollows take hundreds of years to form and provide shelter and homes for wildlife for hundreds of years. Nesting boxes by contrast only last for about 10 years. Alan and Stacey Franks own and operate Hollow Log Homes - a company that makes and installs nest boxes for a range of wildlife.



Land for Wildlife Extension Officers, Nick Clancy (centre) and Alan Wynn (right) discuss the importance of common plants and animals in healthy ecosystems. Here they are talking about edge colonising species such as native raspberries (photo below) and bracken fern. These rambling shrubby plants provide habitat for small birds, mammals and reptiles, and offer a micro-climate for native trees and shrubs to establish.



It was ironic to focus on common species at this Open Property given that National Threatened Species Day was the following day. However, Nick Clancy noted that in fact National Threatened Species Day (Sept 7th) commemorates the day that the world's last captive thylacine (Tasmanian Tiger) died in Hobart Zoo in 1936. The Tassie Tiger had once been so common in Tasmania, that it was shot for a bounty of £1.

As Alan Franks noted, the Common Brushtail Possum, an animal that most of us in SEQ would consider abundant, has in fact been displaced from half of its original home range across Australia since non-indigenous settlement.

Visitors at this Open Property were treated to a wonderful sight of 10 Glossy Black Cockatoos, a listed threatened species, flying and calling overhead.



Some nest boxes were on display at Alan and Stacey's property as well as footage taken from inside nest boxes of their occupants - possums, gliders, Wood Ducks, Pale-headed Rosellas, pythons and Boobook Owls.

The image to the right shows a nest box designed to accommodate micro-bats. As dusk approached during the Open Property visit, numerous micro-bats flew overhead displaying their fast manoeuvrable flight patterns.

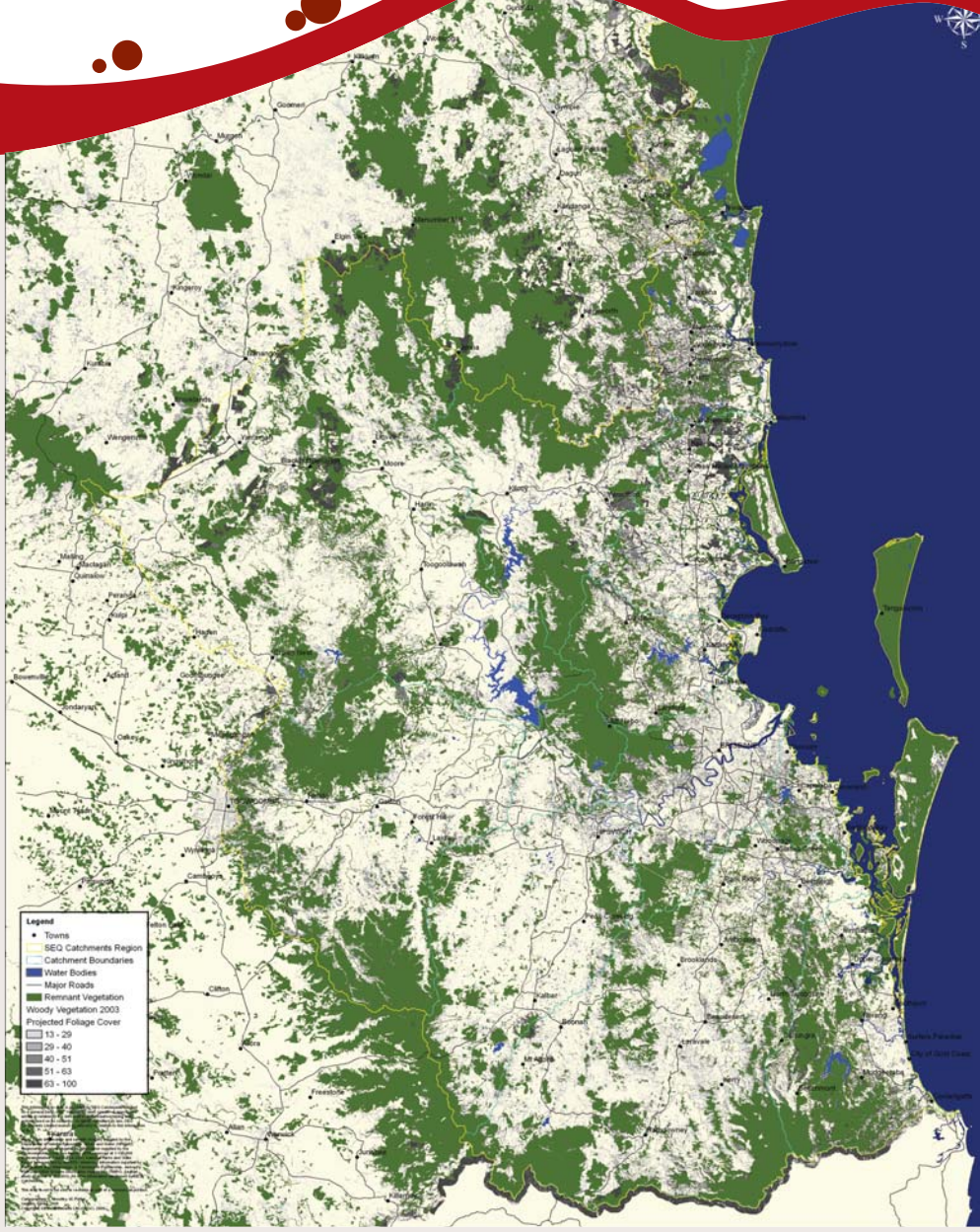




Land for Wildlife South East Queensland Regional Coordination is proudly managed by SEQ Catchments (the accredited regional body for Natural Resource Management in South East Queensland) and supported by the Australian Government.



Thanks to the Gambling Community Benefit Fund for providing generous support to the Queensland Land for Wildlife program's 10th anniversary Commemorative Publication and Open Property Scheme.



Remnant Vegetation in SEQ

This map shows the extent of remnant (shown in green) and woody vegetation (grey) across SEQ and has been used to help inform the SEQ Natural Resource Management Plan. The SEQ NRM Plan provides benchmarks which tell us the extent or condition of a natural asset and provides a point of reference by which that asset can be measured.

For example, in 2001, 35% (or 818,912 hectares) of SEQ contained remnant vegetation. Most of this remnant vegetation is located in upland areas with lowland remnants comprised of small patches and fragmented vegetation. The SEQ NRM Plan's target is that this 35% amount is either maintained or increased by 2031. With 3,451 hectares of remnant vegetation cleared during 2001-03, a change in clearing rates is required to meet this target.

It is widely agreed that 30% remnant vegetation cover is needed to maintain a healthy level of species and ecosystem function. While the whole of SEQ is just above this figure, species and ecosystems in fragmented lowland areas are under threat. In these areas, woody vegetation (eg. regrowth) help provide habitat and refuge for wildlife.

Opinions expressed by contributors to the Land for Wildlife newsletter are not necessarily those of the Land for Wildlife program nor any of the supporting agencies.

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Land for Wildlife South East Queensland is proudly delivered and locally coordinated by the following 11 Local Governments:

