



SYDNEY COASTAL COUNCILS GROUP INC.
councils caring for the coastal environment

Urban ecology seminars

9/10 November 2016

Program



Australian Government



**SYDNEY COASTAL
COUNCILS GROUP**

*These seminars are supported
by Sydney Coastal Councils
Group through funding from
the Australian Government.*

Background



Photo: [Seabamirum](#) (CC BY 2.0)

SCCG

Established in 1989, the Sydney Coastal Councils Group (SCCG) is a co-operative organisation that advances sustainable management of Sydney's urban coastal environment. We comprise 11 Member Councils which represent over 1.3 million Sydneysiders. Collectively we cover an area of 1,284km² adjacent to Sydney's coastal and estuarine areas, encompassing the waterways of Broken Bay, Pittwater, Port Jackson, Middle and North Harbours, the lower Lane Cove River, Botany Bay, the lower Georges and Cooks Rivers and Port Hacking.

The Salty Program

Sydney's Salty Communities is a three-year grant program funded by the Australian Government, focusing on research, capacity-building and on-ground rehabilitation for biodiversity and carbon storage in 'salt-influenced ecosystems' across Sydney's coastal and urban waterways. Local and regional projects and workshops have catalysed the development of key relationships, a primary legacy of the Salty program.

The Climate Ready Tool

As part of the Salty Program, SCCG partnered with CSIRO to deliver the [Climate Ready Tool](#). The tool is designed to help councils and other natural resource managers to understand the long-term implications of climate change on the biodiversity of their areas, to overcome barriers to adaptation decisions and to plan near-term biodiversity conservation initiatives that allow for future adaptation to climate change scenarios. Wednesday's workshop will build on this work.

Current events

Ongoing amalgamations represent a timely opportunity to review approaches to core business for those natural resource managers. These seminars offer the latest thinking and practice on urban ecology. They aim to strengthen the community of practice emerging from the Sydney's Salty Communities program around urban biodiversity management.

Urban ecology seminars: local solutions to regional biodiversity issues

This event series is offered by the Sydney Coastal Councils Group to officers working across the Salty Program area. The seminars will present a valuable opportunity to engage with latest thinking and research as well as strengthen connections with a network of colleagues and researchers in the field.



The Coal Loader, Waverton.

Objectives of the seminars

Biodiversity & climate change in an urban landscape

Participants will:

1. be aware of an emerging approach for incorporating climate adaptation into biodiversity conservation;
2. gain experience using with key concepts underpinning the new approach in interactive case-studies; and
3. become familiar with the climate-ready biodiversity tool developed, by CSIRO and SCCG, to help councils in planning and project development.

Communicating about weeds in an urban landscape

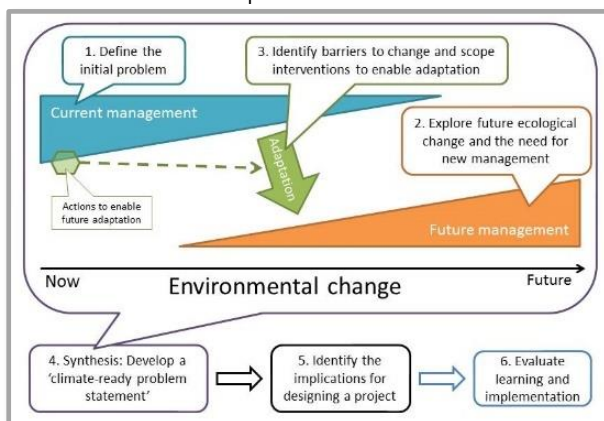
Participants will:

1. be introduced to different ways of framing the issue of weeds and of communicating powerfully with the public on the topic
2. develop the knowledge and tools to engage the public effectively through a weed management campaign

Connectivity & biodiversity in an urban landscape

Participants will:

1. be informed about the latest science around habitat fragmentation, isolation and connectivity, particularly within an urban context;
2. explore strategies and actions to address the problems associated with habitat fragmentation and isolation, including thinking about long term goals and objectives for these critical habitats; and
3. learn from case studies and projects examining habitat mapping and connectivity planning and leading strategies to manage biodiversity in urban landscapes.



WEDNESDAY 9 November 2016

WORKSHOP: Biodiversity & climate change in an urban landscape

Date & Time:	12:30pm – 4:30pm, Wednesday 9 th November 2016
Location:	Coal Loader, Waverton NSW 2060

Mr Paul Ryan – Director, Australian Resilience Centre
Dr Michael Dunlop – Enabling Adaptation Pathways, CSIRO
Lunch will be provided.

This half-day workshop is aimed at program managers and project officers seeking to incorporate climate adaptation into biodiversity conservation. The workshop will provide a hands-on opportunity to work with biodiversity conservation case studies from the Sydney region. It will build on work developed around the Climate Ready Tool, but does not require prior engagement with that tool.

THURSDAY 10 November 2016

WORKSHOP: Communicating about weeds in an urban landscape

Date & Time:	9:00am – 1:00pm, Thursday 10 th November 2016
Location:	Coal Loader, Waverton NSW 2060

Eleanor Glenn, Common Cause – Using values and frames to motivate change
Helen Christensen, IAP² – Public participation matters
Lunch will be provided.

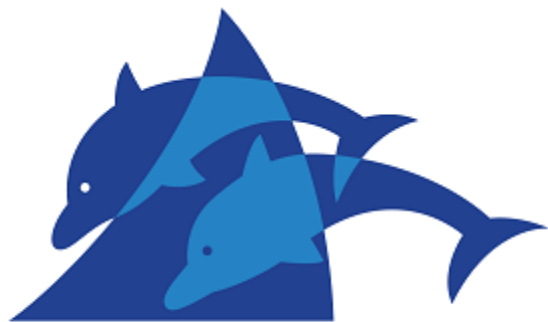
This half-day workshop is aimed at project officers and communications team members interested in developing more effective ways of engaging the public around invasive weeds. The workshop will look at strategies and practices to design and implement engagement activities, including framing the issue, understanding values, language and the do's and don'ts of engagement.

WORKSHOP: Connectivity & biodiversity in an urban landscape

Date & Time:	12:30pm – 4:30pm, Thursday 10 th November 2016
Location:	Coal Loader, Waverton NSW 2060

A/Prof Sarah Bekessy, Design and Social Context, RMIT – The critical role of every-day-nature for the future of cities
Lunch will be provided.

Managing biodiversity in urban remnants is one of the most challenging conservation problems we face in our region. Maintaining populations of flora and fauna in small isolated remnants within the urban landscape, where edge effects and invasive species, disrupted disturbance regimes, loss of gene flow and decline in ecosystem processes such as pollination all contribute to the decline in ecosystem health and long term viability. This half-day workshop will look at the latest science around managing biodiversity in the urban context, look at strategies for managing urban biodiversity and examine practical case studies and projects attempting to address these issues.



SYDNEY COASTAL COUNCILS GROUP

Sydney Coastal Councils Group Inc.
councils caring for the coastal environment

Town Hall House, 456 Kent Street
GPO Box 1591, SYDNEY NSW 2001
t: +61 2 9246 7791 | f: +61 2 9265 9660
e: info@sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au