

News from

Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment

May 2007



Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment: Public Workshop, Tuesday May 29 from 7-9pm

What's the most important issue to you - the destruction of bushland for housing? Siltation and pollution of the waterway? The threat from bushfires?

Warringah & Pittwater Councils are preparing plans for the restoration of the Lagoon catchment. Your opinion can impact on how the recently announced \$1.9 million and other grants will be spent. Make sure you attend this vital upcoming meeting, organised by Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment Inc, to be held in The Tramshed at Narrabeen on May 29. In this follow up to our February Forum, results from a community survey currently in the field, will also be revealed and discussed.

To read more about the issues impacting the lagoon catchment and to participate in the survey, go to: www.narrabeenlagoon.org.au

Phone Ian Hehir on 0412 460 565 to register for the workshop. Entry is free and refreshments will be served. A \$5 donation to cover costs would be appreciated.



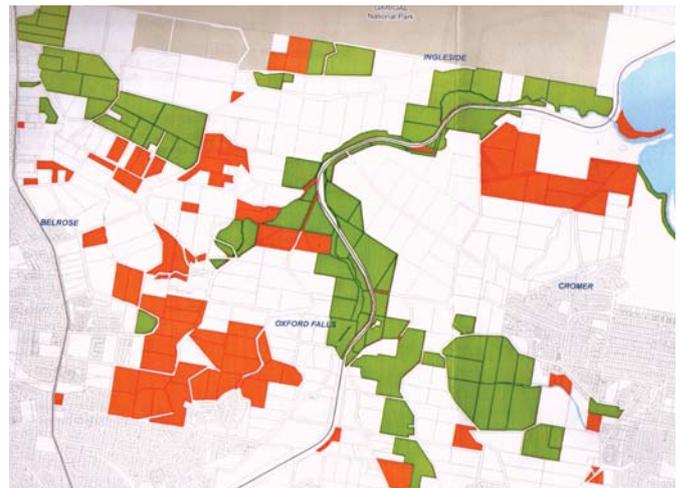
Kayakers pick their way along a weed infested Middle Creek

Work Plans for Nareen & Mullet Creeks

Nareen, Mullet and Middle Creeks will be the major beneficiaries of the \$1.9 million grant announced in February. Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment along with local residents recently attended workshops concerning Mullet and Nareen Creeks at which management issues were discussed prior to finalising remediation plans.

Oxford Falls Crown Reserve under threat

169 hectares in the Oxford Fall Crown Reserve remains "in limbo" following the failure of retiring Minister for the Environment Bob Debus to declare the area environmentally protected. A land use study has been commissioned by the Department of Lands, which we understand is about the carrying capacity in terms of the buildings that could be constructed on these lands if they were sold. Portions of the land are near the Academy of Sport and Governor Phillip Lookout in Beacon Hill. The entire Reserve falls within the catchment area of the Narrabeen Lagoon.



Located between the western end of Narrabeen Lagoon and Belrose, the orange areas need protection from the threat of development.

305 hectares of the Oxford Falls Crown Reserve have been given a "preferred use" of "environmental protection" by the Department. This falls short of the 446 hectares promised by the Minister in April 2005 when he said, "I am pleased to announce today that 72 percent of this land, or 446 hectares, will be conserved forever for environmental protection and community purposes." He also said "The remaining 169 hectares, or 26% of the study area, will be subjected to a detailed high level conservation and environmental investigation before any final land use decisions are made. This will of course involve extensive consultation with Warringah Council and the local community."

There has been no consultation with the local community.

Our understanding is that the promised high level conservation and environmental investigation has yet to begin. Is this housing development by stealth? If this concerns you as much as it does us, please write to the following ministers, asking them to ensure the entire 520 hectares of the Oxford Falls Crown Reserve, including the 169 hectares currently in limbo, are permanently protected from development.

Write to: The Hon P. Koperberg MP, Minister for the Environment, Level 25, Governor Macquarie Tower, 59-61 Goulburn St, Sydney 2000 and The Hon T. Kelly MP, Minister for Lands, Level 34, Governor Macquarie Tower, 1 Farrer Place, Sydney 2000.



Conny Harris with Robyn Hargrave at WIRES Northern Beaches centre.

Roadkill Mitigation

Conny Harris and Jacqui Marlow continue their steady research work on where animals are being killed and how many use the existing culverts under Wakehurst Parkway (where Middle Creek flows back and forth under the road).

The working group established to focus on roadkill mitigation has been meeting regularly and is working on solutions. An experimental set of fences is being built between the two culverts along the Parkway to steer animals into them. You can help by slowing down from dusk to dawn. If you find an injured native animal, contact Sydney Metropolitan Wildlife at night and WIRES during the day.

Important Plans for your comment

Submissions are due May 28 for:

Regional Multiple Purpose Trails Strategy and Warringah's Bushland Policy. Check "comments" section of the council's website:

www.warringah.nsw.gov.au

Constraints Map

The Minister for Planning has asked Warringah Council to prepare a map that details the environmental constraints to development within the B2 area of the LEP - all of which is in the catchment of Narrabeen Lagoon. We have met with Council staff and made comment on your behalf to assist in this process.

We Need Your Support! Join Friends of the Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment

To: Judith Bennett, Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment, P.O. Box 845 Narrabeen NSW 2101

YES! I enclose \$20 (unwaged \$10).
Please enrol me as a member.

I also wish to make a tax deductible donation of: \$250 \$100 \$50
 other amount – \$

Total payment: \$

Your cheque should be made payable to Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment Inc All applications for membership in 2007 subject to the approval of the committee.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

It will be most helpful to have your email address as we are increasingly using emails to communicate with members

Phone: _____

Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment is supported by
National Parks Association



National Parks Association
www.npansw.org.au/narrabeen
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