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EDO NSW EBULLETIN – 19 May 2017: Number 1006

The EDO NSW eBulletin is a free weekly bulletin that includes news, events, public notices and opportunities for public comment listed in our online resource [Have Your Say](#).

EDO News & Events	Court & Compliance	Law Reform & Policy Watch
Have Your Say Alerts	Community News	Support EDO NSW

EDO NSW News and Events

Help heroes like Wendy

You've probably heard that our client Wendy Bowman was awarded the internationally prestigious Goldman Environmental Prize. We've represented Wendy since 2009 in her fight to save her local environment from the impact of a massive open cut coal mine.

Wendy is just one of the thousands of people we help every year across Australia and the Pacific. Your support will help us continue to provide legal representation to heroes like Wendy.

[Please make a tax-deductible donation to our Environmental Defence Fund.](#)

Since losing all our Federal Government funding in 2013, we have relied on the support of donors to continue our vital work. Thank you for helping us defend the environment through law

[Read more about Wendy and our work »](#)

In April we were thrilled to learn that our client Wendy Bowman was one of only six heroes internationally to be awarded the 2017 Goldman Environmental Prize, recognising significant achievements in protecting the environment and community.

Wendy, 83, has been battling the effects of coal mining on her Hunter Valley community since the 1980s, when her farm and those around her were destroyed.



Wendy Bowman with EDO NSW Solicitor Belinda Rayment. *Image: Dean Sewell*

Biodiversity reforms – free community seminar

The NSW Government has released a range of draft regulations and instruments in support of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* and the *Local Land Services Amendment Act 2016*, passed last year.

We'll be presenting a free community seminar on the reforms. Come along to hear from EDO NSW lawyers about this next stage of the reforms.

When: Thursday 1 June 2017, 12:30-1:30pm

Where: McCabes Lawyers, 19 Martin Pl, Level 38, MLC Centre, Sydney

[RSVP now »](#)

We will provide an analysis of the draft documents during the submission period and make a formal detailed submission. Keep an eye on future eBulletins for more information.

[Read more about the reforms at our website »](#)

Santos's CSG project in the Pilliga: have your say

The community has a limited time to comment on the massive 7,000 page Environmental Impact Statement for Santos's proposed coal seam gas field near Narrabri, Northern NSW.

Submissions must be in by Monday 22 May 2017. We made presentations at community workshops in Boggabri, Narrabri and Sydney. You can [view a PDF of the presentation slides at our website](#).

[Read more »](#)

Join us in thanking our volunteers

If you've ever called us for legal help or accessed our vast array of legal information, chances are you've used the services of one of our many volunteers.

For National Volunteer week 2017, we'd like to introduce you to [Jasmine and Kit](#), two of our talented, committed volunteers.

If you're passionate about protecting our environment and think you can contribute to our work, we'd like to hear from you. Find out more about [volunteering at EDO NSW](#).

[Read more »](#)



Jasmine and Kit in the EDO NSW office

More tables now available for our 2017 Gala Dinner

Thanks to everyone who has bought tickets to our [2017 Gala Dinner](#).

We've had a great response, and have been able to extend the number of tables to meet demand. So it's not too late to [book your ticket or table](#).

Our MCs, legendary comedy duo Roy & HG, and celebrity auctioneer Cecily Hardy will provide a fabulous night of entertainment. Hear from keynote speaker the Hon. Margaret Beazley AO, watch Dr Karl Kruszelnicki AM, and listen to the stories of some of the communities we've worked with to protect the environment through law.

When: Thursday 15 June 2017, 6:30-10pm

Where: Ivy Ballroom, Level 1, 320 George Street, Sydney (entrance at the end of Palings Lane)

There will be fine food and drink, live music, and a charity auction where you'll have the chance to bid on exciting items, including things that money can't buy.

We'd love you to be there. Don't miss out!

[Book your tickets now »](#)

Court and Compliance Watch

Farmer fined for illegally clearing native vegetation

The NSW Land and Environment Court has fined a Queensland-based farmer \$157,000 plus \$185,000 costs for six offences involving the clearing of native vegetation in the Moree area.

Expert evidence was presented that the clearing had resulted in habitat loss for a number of threatened species, as well as fragmentation of habitat.

[Read more »](#)

Law Reform and Policy Watch

Recent EDO submissions and reports

- [Australia's Climate Change Policy Review](#), EDOs of Australia submission
- [Inquiry into National Water Reform](#), EDOs of Australia submission
- [Inquiry into the rehabilitation of mining and resources projects as it relates to Commonwealth responsibilities](#), EDOs of Australia submission
- [Draft State Environmental Planning Policy \(Education Establishments and Child Care Facilities\) 2017](#), EDO NSW submission
- [State Environmental Planning Policy \(Infrastructure\) Amendment \(Review\) 2016](#), EDO NSW submission
- [Greater Sydney Commission's draft *Towards Our Greater Sydney 2056*](#), EDO NSW submission
- [NSW Marine Estate Threat and Risk Assessment Draft Report](#), EDO NSW submission
- [Surface Water Status and Issues Papers for the Barwon-Darling and Namoi catchments](#), EDO NSW submissions
- [Reducing emissions from the transport sector](#), EDOs of Australia submission

Read all of our law reform submissions and briefing papers [on our website](#).

New legislation introduced to Parliament

Australian Parliament

- *No new relevant bills have been introduced into Parliament since the last eBulletin*

NSW Parliament

- *No new relevant bills have been introduced into Parliament since the last eBulletin*

Local Environmental Plan tracking

- [The Hills Shire](#) – Rezoning of land on Old Northern Rd, Dural, to medium density residential.
- [Lismore](#) – Rezoning land at Palmers Rd, McLeans Ridges, to permit a residential subdivision.
- [Warren](#) – Rezoning land at Sewage Treatment Plant, Mabel St, and land at Bundemar Rd, to large lot residential.

- [Woollahra](#) – Amendment to permit office premises for St Vincent’s Private Hospital, Boundary Street, Paddington.
- [Coffs Harbour](#) – Rezoning for mixed use development, Pacific St, Corindi Beach.
- [Inner West](#) – Rezoning of land from light industrial to residential, New Canterbury Rd, Lewisham.

To access the LEP tracking system, visit the Department of Planning and Environment [website](#). Read more about LEPs in our [Fact Sheets](#). Visit your [local council’s website](#) to see if there are any planning proposals or LEP changes open for public comment.

Have Your Say Alerts – Opportunities to Comment

This eBulletin provides alerts for opportunities to comment on changes to law and policy, and activities that may impact the environment in your area. For a comprehensive list of current opportunities to have your say on a range of environment and planning matters, visit our [Have Your Say site](#).

This online resource [also helps the community to effectively engage](#) with decision-makers and [request a workshop](#) for your community. We are always trying to improve our community resources and are currently seeking feedback on the effectiveness of Have Your Say. You can help us out by [checking out the site](#) and [completing a short three-question survey](#).

Consultations

- **Draft Vegetation Policy**

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment is calling for public submissions on a draft *State Environmental Planning Policy (Vegetation)* (SEPP).

The proposed SEPP applies the new biodiversity offset scheme to all clearing of native vegetation that exceeds the offset thresholds in urban areas and environmental conservation zones that do not require development consent. This is part of the regulatory regime that is being developed after the 2016 biodiversity legislation review. [Read more about these reforms at our website](#).

Submissions are invited until Wednesday 21 June 2017.

[Read more and have your say »](#)

- **Current and future impacts of climate change on housing, buildings and infrastructure**

The Australian Senate Environment and Communications References Committee is calling for public submissions on the current and future impacts of climate change on housing, buildings and infrastructure,

No deadline for submissions has been set yet.

[Read more and have your say »](#)

- **Review of Complying Development in Greenfield Areas**

The NSW Department of Planning & Environment is inviting public submissions on a proposed new Greenfield Housing Code, which will aim to speed up greenfield land releases.

The Department has released a background paper for comment on a review of complying development in greenfield areas.

Submissions are invited until Friday 16 June 2017.

[Read more and have your say »](#)

- **Draft Recovery plan for the Boggomoss snail**

The Australian Department of the Environment and Energy is inviting comment on a draft recovery plan for the Boggomoss snail (*Adclarkia dawsonensis*).

The Critically Endangered species, also known as the Dawson River snail, is found only in the Dawson River catchment, in the Brigalow Belt Bioregion of Queensland.

Submissions are invited until Sunday 28 May 2017.

[Read more and have your say »](#)

- **Draft Recovery Plan for Clay pans of the Swan Coastal Plain**

The Australian Department of the Environment and Energy is inviting comment on a draft National Recovery Plan for the clay pans of the Swan Coastal Plain, WA. This ecological community is listed as Critically Endangered.

Submissions are invited until Friday 1 September 2017.

[Read more and have your say »](#)

- **Draft National Recovery Plan for the Macquarie Perch**

The Australian Department of the Environment and Energy is inviting comment on a draft National Recovery Plan for the Macquarie Perch (*Macquaria australasica*).

The Macquarie Perch is a moderate sized, large eyed, secretive freshwater fish native to the cooler middle-upper reaches of the Murray-Darling Basin. It is listed as Endangered.

Submissions are invited until Friday 1 September 2017.

[Read more and have your say »](#)

- **North West Land Use and Infrastructure Implementation Plan**

The NSW Department of Planning & Environment is calling for submissions on a Land Use and Infrastructure Implementation Plan for the North West Priority Growth Area. The area includes the suburbs of Riverstone, Vineyard, Schofields, Rouse Hill, Kellyville, Marsden Park and Colebee.

Submissions are invited until Tuesday 20 June 2017.

[Read more and have your say »](#)

- **Darling Alluvium Water Resource Plan**

The NSW Department of Industry – Water is inviting feedback on a Status and Issues Papers for the Darling Alluvium (GW7) system.

This is one of 22 plans required to be developed for NSW. The paper for each region defines the status of water resources and lists existing known water issues for consideration.

Submissions are invited until Friday 23 June 2017.

[Read more and have your say »](#)

- **Intersecting Streams Water Resource Plan**

The NSW Department of Industry – Water is inviting feedback on a Status and Issues Papers for the Intersecting Streams (SW13) system.

This is one of 22 plans required to be developed for NSW. The paper for each region defines the status of water resources and lists existing known water issues for consideration.

Submissions are invited until Friday 23 June 2017.

[Read more and have your say »](#)

- **Place Management NSW Regulation**

Property NSW is inviting public submissions on a proposed Place Management NSW Regulation 2017. The Regulation replaces the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority Regulation 2011, which will be repealed in September this year.

The Regulation relates to the protection and management of the public areas of the foreshore area managed by Place Management NSW (formerly the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority).

Submissions are invited until Friday 2 June 2017.

[Read more and have your say »](#)

- **Roads and transport consultations**
 - [Forster](#) – Pedestrian refuges, Head and MacIntosh streets – Submissions invited until Friday 19 May 2017.

- **Threatened Species and Endangered Ecological Community Listings**
 - *No new listings have been placed on exhibition since the last eBulletin.*

For a full listing of threatened species and endangered ecological community listings currently open for public comment, visit the [NSW Office of Environment and Heritage website](#) and the [Australian Department of the Environment website](#).

- **Fisheries assessments**
 - *No new assessments have been placed on exhibition since the last eBulletin.*

For a full listing of fisheries assessments currently open for public comment, visit the [NSW Department of Primary Industries website](#) and the [Australian Department of the Environment website](#).

Major Project proposals: Invitation to comment

- [Barangaroo](#) – Public domain works for public spaces, including walkways, seating, eating areas and WiFi – Submissions invited until Friday 19 June 2017.
- [Singleton](#) – Modification to Concept Plan for Nords Wharf Residential Development (Southern Estates) – Submissions invited until Thursday 15 June 2017.
- [Wollondilly](#) – Developer monetary contribution, Rumker Street, Picton – Submissions invited until Monday 12 June 2017.

For a full listing of major project proposals currently open for public comment, visit the Department of Planning and Environment's [website](#). To learn more about the planning process for major projects, read our [Fact Sheet](#) on State Significant Development and State Significant Infrastructure.

EPBC Referrals: Invitation to comment

- [Warragamba, NSW](#) – Raising of Warragamba Dam by 14 metres – Submissions invited until Wednesday 31 May 2017.
- [Albany, WA](#) – Upgrade to Albany Heritage Park Trail Network – Submissions invited until Wednesday 31 May 2017.
- [Curra, QLD](#) – Upgrade and realignment to 26 km of the Bruce Highway – Submissions invited until Tuesday 30 May 2017.
- [Yarra Glen, VIC](#) – Maroondah Aqueduct decommissioning – Submissions invited until Monday 29 May 2017.
- [Lamington National Park, QLD](#) – O'Reilly's Green Mountains Camping Ground Redevelopment – Submissions invited until Monday 29 May 2017.
- [Adelaide, SA](#) – Redevelopment of the Adelaide Festival Centre Plaza – Submissions invited until Monday 29 May 2017.
- [Chinchilla, QLD](#) – Development of Chinchilla Solar Farm – Submissions invited until Friday 26 May 2017.
- [Busselton, WA](#) – Vasse diversion drain upgrade – Submissions invited until Friday 26 May 2017.
- [Toondah Harbour, QLD](#) – Mixed use development including dredging of Toondah Harbour and reclamation of areas within Moreton Bay – Submissions invited until Thursday 25 May 2017.

Referrals under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) can be viewed on the Australian Environment Department's [website](#). To learn more, read our [Fact Sheet on the EPBC Act](#).

Plans of Management: Invitation to comment

- **New England National Park, Baalijin Nature Reserve and Jobs Mountain Nature Reserve**

The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) is seeking public submissions on a draft plan of management for New England National Park, Baalijin Nature Reserve and Jobs Mountain Nature Reserve.

The parks are located on the edge of the Great Escarpment, about 70 kilometres east of Armidale and 45 kilometres south-west of Coffs Harbour.

Submissions are invited until Monday 28 August 2017.

[Read more and have your say »](#)

The full listing of plans of management for protected areas can be viewed on the [Office of Environment and Heritage website](#). To learn more about the Plans of Management, see our [Fact Sheet on Protected Areas](#).

New Coal and Petroleum Exploration Licence Applications

- *No new coal or petroleum exploration licence applications have been listed since the last eBulletin.*

To view current coal and petroleum (including CSG) exploration licence applications and approvals, visit the Minerals and Petroleum [website](#). The [NSW Government Gazette](#) also contains a list of all exploration and mining lease applications and determinations. Public comment can be made on coal and petroleum (including CSG) exploration licence applications on the Minerals and Petroleum [website](#). To learn more, read the EDO NSW publication [Mining Law in NSW: A guide for the community](#).

Community News

New this week

Research Symposium: Reshaping Justice

The Law and Justice Foundation of NSW is presenting a research symposium Reshaping Justice: Client-centred service delivery, technology and innovation.

The symposium will examine current issues facing the sector and how evidence-based research can be used to shape legal services that are responsive to client needs and interests. The keynote speaker is Professor Dame Hazel Genn QC.

When: Tuesday 20 June 2017, 9:30am-6:30pm

Where: New South Wales Parliament House Theatrette, 6 Macquarie Street, Sydney

[Read more »](#)

Australian Environment Review May 2017

The May edition of the Australian Environment Review (volume 32 no. 2) contains a case note on our Barangaroo case for Millers Point Fund Inc., as well as articles on the NSW Government's current planning reforms and the review of the national electricity market.

[Read more »](#)

Key roles at environment and planning agencies

A number of key positions are currently being advertised at NSW environment and planning agencies:

- Department of Planning and Environment: [Precinct Manager – Land Release; Manager, Energy Networks Transition; Executive Director, Energy Delivery & Coordination](#); and [Senior Precinct Planner](#).

- Office of Environment and Heritage: [Senior Team Leader – Planning](#); [Senior Team Leader - Ecosystems and Threatened Species](#); and [Executive Director, Park Operations](#).

[More NSW environment positions »](#)

From last week

Global Trends in Climate Change Legislation and Litigation: 2017 update

This London School of Economics report summarises key trends in climate change legislation and litigation. It is the sixth stock-take in a series of global climate legislation studies that dates back to 2010. The 2017 edition covers legislative activities in 164 countries, and for the first time includes analyses of climate change litigation.

[Read more »](#)

Threatened Species Recovery Fund: applications open

The National Landcare Programme is inviting community groups around Australia to apply for funding under the Threatened Species Recovery Fund. The Fund provides between \$20,000 and \$250,000 to help communities actively protect threatened species. Funding is distributed to eligible groups through a competitive funding round.

Applications need to be in by Thursday 15 June 2017.

[Read more »](#)

EIANZ 2017 Annual Conference: call for papers

The Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) 2017 Annual Conference will be held in Wellington, New Zealand, in October 2017.

The theme for the conference is Tu Kaha: Stand Tall, Fronting up with wicked solutions. EIANZ is calling for abstracts on one of the conference streams to be submitted by Friday 26 May 2017.

[Read more »](#)

Essay prize on environmental law

The topic for this year's Australian Academy of Law's Annual Essay Prize is *How well do Australian legal institutions respond to climate change? How could that response be improved?*

The \$10,000 prize is open to anyone who is studying or has studied legal subjects at a tertiary level, or who is working or has worked in a law-based occupation.

If you're interested in entering, you need to submit an expression of interest by Friday 30 June 2017. Essays need to be submitted by Thursday 31 August 2017.

[Read more »](#)

Forum on Northern Rivers contaminated land and waste

EIANZ is presenting a one day forum on contaminated land and waste. There will be a number of keynote speakers from both government and industry.

When: Wednesday 21 June 2017, 8:00am-5:00pm

Where: Ballina, NSW

Cost: EIANZ Members \$125; non-members \$250

[Read more »](#)

Bushfire Conference: Fire, Fauna and Ferals

The NSW Nature Conservation Council's 11th biennial bushfire conference will explore how fire management can support ecological values across the landscape, from our backyards through to the bushland interface and beyond.

A conference field day will be held on Thursday 1 June, will visit North Head to see restoration and regeneration projects in action.

When: Tuesday 30 to Wednesday 31 May 2017

Where: Teachers Federation Conference Centre, 37 Reservoir Street, Surry Hills, Sydney

[Read more »](#)

2017 Regional Environment Conference

The Nature Conservation Council's 2017 Regional Environment Conference will be held in Lithgow. The conference is a chance for conservationists to network, learn new skills, and plan for community action.

On the second day of the conference, participants will go on a field trip to Maiyingu Marragu, Cox's River and Wolgan Valley.

Jemilah Hallinan, our Outreach Director – Community Programs, will take part in a panel session on mining impacts on nature in the Central West and present a workshop on the new Biodiversity Conservation Act.

When: Saturday 3 June to Sunday 4 June 2017

Where: Uniting Church Lithgow, 43 Bridge Street, Lithgow

[Read more »](#)

Support EDO NSW

Help us help community heroes

Every day, our dynamic public interest environmental law experts help communities in Australia and across the Pacific protect our environment through law. Those communities need us, and we need you!

Please make your end of financial year tax-deductible donation to our [Environmental Defence Fund](#)..

Other ways you can help us defend the environment

You can have an even greater impact by becoming a [Friend of the EDO](#). Our regular donors are an invaluable source of funding and help us ensure we are ready to respond when the community needs our help.

Visit [our website](#) for even more ways to support our work.

Environmental Defender

Read more about how your support can help protect the environment in the latest edition of our supporter newsletter, [Environmental Defender](#).

EDO NSW has been providing critical legal support to NSW communities for 30 years. We are the only legal centre in NSW specialising in public interest environmental issues.

[Subscribe to this weekly eBulletin](#)