

BELLINGEN RIVERWATCH: OUR RIVER, OUR FUTURE

'MEET THE SCIENTISTS'

Thursday 26 October 2017, 3:00 – 4:30pm

You are invited to **'Meet the Scientists'** involved in Bellingen Riverwatch. The team specialise in various fields, relating to monitoring river health and saving threatened species, including the Bellingen River Snapping Turtle. This is a great opportunity to ask any questions, learn more about their work and why they do what they do.

For more information and to register, see www.ozgreen.org/bellingenriverwatch_calendar.



Peter Serov is an **Environmental Scientist, Water Wetlands and Coastal Science with the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage**. Peter is an Aquatic Ecologist and Invertebrate Taxonomist who has worked in a range of environments for over thirty years. He specialises in the identification of aquatic macroinvertebrates and stygofauna (groundwater fauna) with a particular interest in the ecological condition assessments and management of Aquatic Ecosystems.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



Ricky Spencer is the head of **WildLab** and Associate Professor of Ecology at **Western Sydney University**. Ricky has spent more than fifteen years actively working on vertebrate pests. His major current projects include an ARC Linkage Project on the 'Turtle Crisis' in the Murray River, as well as developing optimal strategies to recover the Bellingen River Snapping Turtle. Ricky is also the manager and developer of TurtleSAT and WomSAT, two community mapping Citizen Science projects.

FIND OUT MORE: www.TurtleSAT.org.au or Google TurtleSAT App



Kristen Petrov is a PhD student at **Western Sydney University** and is studying the decline and ecology of the Bellingen River Snapping turtle.

Kristen's current research focuses on the remaining Bellingen River turtle population, its overlap in diet and habitat with the non-native short-necked turtle, and the susceptibility of freshwater turtles to disease.



Alicia Scanlon is a fauna ecologist specialising in bats. She has worked locally as a consultant for **Eco Logical Australia** for the past ten years, on projects as diverse as residential subdivisions, management plans for Council reserves, fauna inventories of National Parks estate, road and rail upgrades including the Pacific Highway and monitoring of biodiversity on offset lands for the mining sector. Her work often takes her away from Bellingen and she has conducted fauna surveys along the East Coast of Australia.



Gerry McGilvray is the project coordinator of the **Bellingher River Snapping Turtle Saving Our Species Project** and coordinates other threatened species projects for the Office of Environment and Heritage.

Gerry has a Bachelor of Science (Environmental Systems) and has worked in a variety of environmental management areas in the government and privates sector for over fifteen years including waste management and vegetation management.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



Phil Pisanu is an ecologist who has worked in Queensland, South Australia and New South Wales in research, conservation management and policy roles. Phil is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the programs of **North Coast Local Land Services**, which are focused on restoring terrestrial ecosystems and threatened species. Phil has been working with scientists and managers in the Border Ranges on Eastern Bristlebird recovery and will commence a vegetation monitoring project in the Jaliigirr Biodiversity Corridor in the next couple of months.



Geetha Ortac, Scientist – Citizen Science, is responsible for designing citizen science projects to support the Saving our Species program delivered by the **NSW Office of Environment and Heritage**. Her interest is to develop citizen science projects that deliver scientific outcomes supporting threatened species management.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



Ingrid Garland is currently Director of a small consultancy – **EnviroComm Connections**, delivering services to clients on community engagement, citizen science, NSW Waterwatch and administrative projects in the natural resource management and agricultural sector in NSW.

FIND OUT MORE: www.instagram.com/envirocommconnections
www.nswwaterwatch.org.au | www.envirocommconnections.com.au

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[REGISTER HERE](#)

Bellingher Riverwatch is an innovative **citizen science program**, which creates opportunities for scientists and community to work together to **monitor the health of the Bellingher and Kalang Rivers**.

For more information on ‘Bellingher Riverwatch – Our Rivers, Our Future’, contact Jane Grant, Bellingher Riverwatch Coordinator e ozgreen@ozgreen.org.au p 02 6655 2180.

www.ozgreen.org/bellingher_riverwatch

Bellingher Riverwatch has been developed and implemented by the **NSW Office of Environment & Heritage**, **Saving Our Species** program and **OzGREEN** in partnership with **Bellingher Shire Council**, **NSW Waterwatch**, **Western Sydney University**, **Taronga Zoo Sydney**, **Bellingher Landcare**, **Earthwatch Institute**, **Eco Logical Australia**, **North Coast Local Land Services** and **Jaliigirr Biodiversity Alliance**.