

Friends of Grasslands - special bulletin

Supporting native grassy ecosystems

2023, SB Issue 1 18 January 2023



Invitation to launch of Biodiversity Network Paper a tenure-blind framework for cohesive nature conservation across the ACT.

5 - 7pm, Mon 13 Feb, <u>Pavilion</u>, <u>Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture</u>. Register <u>here</u>. (optional walk from 5:00pm; panel discussion from 5:30pm onwards)

The ACT, like the rest of Australia, is battling an extinction crisis. Approximately 6.2% of Canberra's mature trees have been removed in the past five years; our beloved faunal emblem, the Gang-gang Cockatoo is endangered; and our natural areas are at increasing risk of development and degradation.

To combat biodiversity loss across the Territory, the Conservation Council's Biodiversity Working Group and Friends of Grasslands have co-authored a paper that outlines a key part of the solution to protecting and enhancing the ACT's remaining natural places: The Biodiversity Network. You can read the full paper here.

Using existing planning structures, the Biodiversity Network will formalise conservation and management of biodiversity on all public and leased land. It aims to protect all sites with conservation value across the Territory through a combination of conservation, restoration and reconnection; all the while maintaining other compatible land uses.

Join us on the evening of 13 February to launch the Biodiversity Network Paper and take the opportunity to chat with a diverse panel about:

- How and why protection of biodiversity is currently failing across the ACT;
- The benefits of the Biodiversity Network;

 How the Biodiversity Network can be implemented in the ACT, and the opportunity presented by the current Planning Reform.

You are also encouraged to join us prior to the panel discussion for a short walk at the nearby grasslands to see a tangible example of how the Biodiversity Network can be applied to leased areas.

It would be appreciated if you could register online so that we can confirm numbers.

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