

5th NATIONAL MALLEEFOWL FORUM

12th – 15th September 2014
Taronga Western Plains Zoo, Dubbo, New South Wales

PROGRAM

Friday 12th September

4.00 – 7.00pm Registration, Savannah Room, Taronga Western Plains Zoo

5.30 – 6.30pm Pre-forum drinks & nibbles, Savannah Room, Taronga Western Plains Zoo

Saturday 13th September

8.00am Registration

Chair: Blair Parsons, Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team

9.00am ***Welcome to the 5th National Malleefowl Forum***

Sharon Gillam, Chair, National Malleefowl Recovery Team; SA Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources

9.10am ***Welcome to Country***

Uncle John Hill on behalf of the local Tubba-Gah Aboriginal Community

9.15am ***Tribute to Ann Stokie***

Sally Cail on behalf of the National Malleefowl Recovery Team

9.25am ***Introduction to the National Forum***

Joe Benshemesh, Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team

9.45am ***Performance Evaluation of the National Recovery Plan for Malleefowl and Resolutions from Renmark***

Tim Burnard, National Malleefowl Recovery Program Coordinator; Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team

10.00am ***Update from the National Malleefowl Recovery Program Coordinator***

Tim Burnard

10.07am **State by state round-up of conservation actions since Renmark**

Report from the North Central Malleefowl Preservation Group WA

Sally Cail, North Central Malleefowl Preservation Group; Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team

10.15am Morning Tea

10.40am ***Malleefowl Preservation Group WA Report – Establishing new directions***

John DeJose, CEO Malleefowl Preservation Group; Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team

Malleefowl conservation activities in NSW 2012 – 2014

Melanie Bannerman, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, National Parks and Wildlife Service; Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team

Malleefowl conservation in SA: activities from 2012 – 2014

Sharon Gillam, SA Department of Environment, Water & Natural Resources; Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team

Malleefowl conservation action in Victoria 2011 – 2014

Peter Stokie, Victorian Malleefowl Recovery Group; Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team

11.12am Questions for state-wide presenters

Chair: Dr Michael Bode, Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team

11.20am ***Saving Our Species - Malleefowl Iconic Species Project***

Marc Irvin, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage

11.40am ***Western Australia Malleefowl Network Update***

Blair Parsons, Outback Ecology; Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team

12.00pm Questions

12.10pm ***Reproductive outputs of two comparable regions of the SA Murray–Darling Basin – Results and learnings for recovery***

Chris Hedger, Natural Resources SA Murray-Darling; Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team

12.30pm Lunch

Poster Presentations

Mallee fires in the South Australian Murray–Darling Basin – Losses, learnings and linings

Chris Hedger and Jared Pippas, SA Department of Environment, Water & Natural Resources

Is road kill the greatest threat to Malleefowl survival in bushland remnants?

Gordon McNeill, North Central Malleefowl Preservation Group

Emergency Summit for threatened mallee birds

Janelle Thomas, Birdlife Australia

1.30pm ***An investigation of potential landscape links to enhance Malleefowl conservation in northwest Victoria***

Geoffrey G. Allen, Ogyris Pty Ltd

1.50pm ***How mining offsets can provide support towards meeting National Recovery Plan objectives***

Stephanie Mitchell, Iluka Resources

2.00pm Questions

2.10pm ***A proposed release of Malleefowl at Taronga Western Plains Zoo: for discussion***

Paul Andrew, Taronga Western Plains Zoo

2.30pm Questions / Discussion

Chair: Professor Stephen Davies, Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team

- 2.40pm ***Conservation Genetics of Malleefowl Part 1: Phylogeography and population genetics***
Taneal Cope, PhD candidate, Melbourne University
- 3.00pm ***Conservation Genetics of Malleefowl Part 2: Mating systems and relatedness of mound siblings***
Taneal Cope, PhD candidate, Melbourne University
- 3.20pm Afternoon tea
- 3.40pm ***Conservation Genetics of Malleefowl Part 3: Landscape genetics of Malleefowl***
Taneal Cope, PhD candidate, Melbourne University
- 4.00pm Questions
- 4.10pm ***A brief history of Megapodes through time***
Guest Speaker: Dr Walter Boles, Australian Museum
- 4.45pm Questions
- 4.55pm ***Close of presentations and directions for Data Handlers gathering and Forum Dinner***
Melanie Bannerman, Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team
- 5.15pm ***Data Handlers gathering – Zoo Friends Room***
Joe Benshemesh, Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team
- 7.00pm ***Forum Dinner, Savannah Room, Taronga Western Plains Zoo***
- How Australian Birds got their English names***
Guest Speaker: Ian Fraser
- Presentations and Thankyou to Guest Speakers and Chairs***
Melanie Bannerman, Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team

Sunday 14th September

Chair: Professor Stephen Davies, Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team

- 9.00am ***Welcome to Day 2***
Sharon Gillam, Chair National Malleefowl Recovery Team
- 9.10am ***Update on the National Malleefowl Monitoring Database: recent developments and new gear***
Joe Benshemesh, La Trobe University; Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team
- 9.25am ***Malleefowl (Nganamara) as a flagship species for Indigenous land management in the Great Victoria Desert of WA***
Adam Pennington, Natural Resources Alinytjara Wilurara and Pila Nguru Aboriginal Corporation
- 9.45am ***Progress towards a method of monitoring Malleefowl in the Maralinga Tjarutja Lands, South Australia***
Joe Benshemesh, La Trobe University; Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team
- 10.05am ***The use of LiDAR to determine the presence of Malleefowl mounds***
Vi Saffer and Travis Peake, Umwelt Pty Ltd

- 10.25am Morning tea
- 10.45am ***Motion-sensitive cameras for monitoring a range of animals in Malleefowl monitoring sites***
Joe Benshemesh, La Trobe University and Peter Stokie, Victorian Malleefowl Recovery Group; Members National Malleefowl Recovery Team
- 11.05am ***Using high definition aerial photography to search for Malleefowl mounds***
Julia Sparks, Aerometrex Pty Ltd
- 11.25am ***Comparison of three survey techniques for locating Malleefowl mounds***
John Read, Ecological Horizons
- 11.55am Questions
- Chair: Sharon Gillam, Chair National Malleefowl Recovery Team**
- 12.05pm ***The Mallee Hawkeye Project: assessing most suitable habitat for threatened mallee birds using predictive fire history mapping***
Jemima Connell, La Trobe University
- 12.35pm Questions
- 12.45pm Lunch
- Poster Presentations**
- Thinking outside the jerry can***
John DeJose, Malleefowl Preservation Group
- Malleefowl at Monarto Zoo***
Vaughan Wilson, Monarto Zoo and Mal Norman, Adelaide Zoo
- Malleefowl mound building: Effects on fire behaviour and habitat***
Amy Smith, La Trobe University
- 1.35pm ***Do we need better questions?***
John DeJose, Malleefowl Preservation Group; Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team
- 1.50pm Questions
- 2.00pm ***Applying adaptive management techniques to ongoing management of the mallee***
Dr Cindy Hauser, Melbourne University; Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team
- 2.15pm ***Analysing the effects of ongoing and historical fox control on Malleefowl population viability***
Dr Cindy Hauser, Melbourne University; Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team
- 2.30pm ***Camera trapping analysis of mallee wildlife***
Rosanna van Hespem, Melbourne University
- 2.40pm ***What's going on in the mallee? Constructing competing models of mallee ecosystem dynamics and using expert knowledge to decide between them***
Dr Michael Bode, Melbourne University; Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team
- 3.00pm Questions

Chair: Peter Stokie, Chair National Malleefowl Recovery Team

- 3.10pm ***A brief history of Malleefowl conservation and monitoring efforts in the Goonoo forest***
Alison Towerton, University of Sydney
- 3.30pm Afternoon tea
- 3.50pm ***Malleefowl activity at nesting sites increase fox and other feral animal visitation rates***
Dr Milton Lewis, Central Tablelands Local Land Services; Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team
- 4.05pm ***Feral Goat removal to restore habitat quality within Malleefowl nesting areas in the western rangelands of New South Wales***
Dr Milton Lewis, Central Tablelands Local Land Services; Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team
- 4.20pm Questions
- 4.30pm ***Forum Wrap-up – how it all fits together***
Dr Joe Benshemesh, Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team
- 4.50pm ***Official Close***
Sharon Gillam, Chair National Malleefowl Recovery Team
- 5.00pm ***Directions for National Malleefowl Recovery Team Meeting and Field Trips***
Melanie Bannerman, Member National Malleefowl Recovery Team
- 5.15pm ***National Malleefowl Recovery Team Meeting – Zoo Friends Room***
Sharon Gillam, Chair National Malleefowl Recovery Team

Monday 15th September

Field Trips

- 7.00am – 12.00pm **Goonoo National Park bird watching and wildflowers**
Meet at Dubbo Visitor Centre carpark 6.30am
- 7.00am – 6.30pm **Pilliga Discovery Tour**
Meet at Dubbo Visitor Centre carpark 6.30am
- 9.00am – 11.30am **Behind the Scenes Tour, Taronga Western Plains Zoo**
Meet at Savannah Room, TWPZ 8.45am
- 2.30pm – 5.00pm **Behind the Scenes Tour, Taronga Western Plains Zoo**
Meet at Savannah Room, TWPZ 2.15pm