Welcome to the Crown Reserve Management Newsletter. This newsletter is a new way of sharing the latest news and upcoming events, as well as showcasing some of the achievements and opportunities for Crown reserve managers.

We are fortunate in NSW to have an extensive network of Crown land reserved and dedicated for public use and benefit. With approximately 35,000 reserves covering 1.3 million hectares, the extent and diversity of the services and activities offered is astounding—286 showgrounds and racecourses, 1,155 community centres, 89 surf clubs, 213 caravan parks, 79 aged care facilities and 18 state parks to name a few. The services offered on Crown reserves would not be possible without the dedication and involvement of local councils, professional boards, community organisations and individual community minded volunteers.

This is going to be a busy year for Crown reserve management. We will be contacting you about new legislation changes, education and training opportunities, as well as updating and revising the trust handbook to better support your role as reserve managers.

As managers within the Crown network, you play a vital role in working with local communities and stakeholders, ensuring the best outcomes and opportunities for the public use and enjoyment of Crown reserves. The Department of Industry - Lands & Water values the contribution of reserve trust managers in caring for and managing this valuable community asset. It’s a partnership that has stood the test of time and we want to strengthen and build on this relationship to better manage and protect Crown reserves for the people of NSW. We thank you for your continued dedication and commitment.

Public Reserves Management Fund Program

Applications for the 2018—19 Public Reserves Management Fund Program (PRMFP) is now open and will close Friday 9 March 2018.

The PRMFP provides financial support for the development, maintenance and improvement of public reserves. Reserve managers can apply for grants and loans to support a wide variety of activities including repair and maintenance projects, pest and weed control, new recreational infrastructure and environmental initiatives.

Here is a snapshot of some previously funded projects.

- **Uralla Community Hall—$6,270 for urgent repairs**
  Using emergency funding from the 2015—16 PRMFP, the Uralla Men’s Shed was able to undertake the urgent repairs necessary to maintain the hall.

- **Byron Youth Activity Centre—$139,466 for urgent repairs and building upgrade**
  The repairs and upgrades to the centre building and amphitheater means the Byron Youth Service was able to continue to provide support and programs for young people and their families.

- **NSW Crown Holiday Parks Trust—$102,061 for purchase of tourist boat**
  Launched in 2016, the boat provides a service for recreational users of the Burrinjuck Waters reserve.

For more information on the PRMFP including details on how to apply visit www.crownland.nsw.gov.au
Reserve manager showcase—Regional Achievement and Community Awards

The NSW/ACT Regional Achievement and Community Awards celebrate the individuals and businesses doing great things within rural and regional communities.

The department sponsors two categories:
• Crown reserve trust corporate manager’s award
• Crown reserve trust community manager’s award.

In 2017 the department announced a further two-year sponsorship for these awards. Nominations for the 2018 awards will open mid-year and all reserve trusts are encouraged to apply. Further information can be found at awardsaustralia.com.

The winners of the 2017 awards are:

• Crown reserve trust corporate manager's award—Tilligerry Habitat Association
  The association manages a nine hectare flora and fauna reserve with a range of scenic forest, scrub and wetland environments. Adopting the mission ‘conservation, rehabilitation, education and community’, the members and volunteers work with local Aboriginal groups, holding cultural burns for seed regeneration as well as re-planting the reserve to provide valuable native animal habitat.

  Picture: Representative of the Tilligerry Habitat Association with Minister for Lands & Forestry Paul Toole.

• Crown reserve trust community manager's award—Ulladulla Native Flora and Fauna Reserve Trust
  Overseeing 16 hectares of reserve, the six volunteers work to protect the habitat for 200 identified flora species and birds including the threatened glossy black cockatoo. The volunteers have established a limited mobility track and initiated an integrated communication strategy including information brochures, media, public events and guided walks.

  Picture: Representatives of the Ulladulla Native Flora and Fauna Reserve Trust with Minister for Lands & Forestry Paul Toole.

Latest news
New Crown land legislation

The Crown Land Management Act 2016 (CLM Act) will come into full effect in 2018. The new legislation implements reforms identified through the comprehensive review of Crown land management and follows over four years of engagement with the community on the future of Crown land.

Improving the governance and oversight of Crown reserves was a key theme of the review and the new legislation provides a number of improvements including the introduction of a community engagement strategy, appointment instruments and Ministerial rules to guide the management of Crown reserves.

Training and resources are being developed to explain the changes and support the transition to the new CLM Act.

Here are some fast facts on the new legislation:
• current appointed reserve trust managers will continue in this role when the new legislation commences.
• Reserve trust managers will be called Crown land managers.
• the CLM Act will commence in 2018 at a date to be confirmed.
• the CLM Act includes a community engagement strategy to facilitate and support greater community involvement in the management and decision-making process for Crown land.

Updates and more information on the new legislation will be available via the department website, newsletters and emails. A schedule of information sessions is also planned.

You can find out more about the Crown Lands Management Act 2016 by visiting www.crownland.nsw.gov.au

Share your story

Sharing stories is a great way to learn from each other and recognise the hard work and dedication of reserve managers.

If you would like to share your story, please send a one page word document (including any photos) to reserves@crownland.nsw.gov.au

Updating your contact details

It is important that we have your most up-to-date contact details. To update your official reserve trust contact details, log into the Crown Reserve Reporting System (CRRS) or call 1300 886 235.

If you would like to unsubscribe to this newsletter please send an email to reserves@crownland.nsw.gov.au

For more information

Department of Industry—Lands & Water
www.crownland.nsw.gov.au
Email: reserves@crownland.nsw.gov.au
Call the department on: 1300 886 235