



# MONARO LANDSCAPE CONNECTIVITY

MLC Project Newsletter

June 2012

## Welcome to the first edition of our Monaro Landscape Connectivity project newsletter!

Our newsletters will tell you what has been happening in the Monaro Landscape Connectivity (MLC) project recently, and what opportunities are coming up in the next few months. If you are interested in finding out more about anything mentioned in this newsletter, please don't hesitate to contact the MLC team (contact details are at the bottom of the next page). Please also feel free to pass this newsletter on to anyone you think may be interested in the project.

The MLC Project Team

### What's been happening?

#### Captains Flat workshop

We held our first land manager workshop at Captains Flat on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April. We were very lucky to be able to hold the workshop at the beautiful "Koomooloo", thanks to the generosity of Alistair and Ainslie MacGibbon.

The workshop allowed our group of local land managers to learn about how they can best manage native vegetation on their properties, get an introduction to some fascinating indigenous land management practices, and find out about the range of support and incentives that are available to land managers. We then rolled out the property maps and photographs, and got to work planning some on-ground activities with each land manager, according to their property needs and objectives.

It was a really interactive workshop, with lots of ideas springing around from participants and the MLC team alike. We're looking forward to the next stage - individual property visits with each of the workshop attendees, to really get into the project!



*Our first land manager workshop was at Koomooloo, Captains Flat*

### What's coming up?

#### Land manager workshops

We plan to hold our next land manager workshops in the Cooma region in late June, and the Michelago region in July. If you live in these areas and would be interested in attending, please contact Lauren van Dyke to register your interest: 0411 402 978 or [facilitator@k2c.org.au](mailto:facilitator@k2c.org.au).

#### Site visits in the Captains Flat region

Following our successful land manager workshop at Captains Flat, we will now be conducting site visits to the properties of those in the region who would like to continue to the next stage of the project. If you live in the region but missed the workshop, you can still be involved in this stage of the project - just contact Felicity Collins to register your interest: (02) 64 524 150 or [felicity.collins@cma.nsw.gov.au](mailto:felicity.collins@cma.nsw.gov.au).

#### Production of digital PlaceStories

In conjunction with our site visits, we are putting together a series of PlaceStories. These are digital stories, created using photos and voice recordings, to tell a short story about people and their property. People can talk about their property and its native vegetation, what they are currently doing or would like to do to manage it, and any other stories they may have to tell! If you would be interested in being involved in a PlaceStory, please contact Nicole Maher: 0487 953 776 or [nmaher@murrumbidgeelandcare.asn.au](mailto:nmaher@murrumbidgeelandcare.asn.au).



CARING FOR OUR COUNTRY



Catchment Management Authority Murrumbidgee



MURRUMBIDGEE Landcare INCORPORATED



# MONARO LANDSCAPE CONNECTIVITY

MLC Project Newsletter

June 2012

## Managing native vegetation

Each newsletter, we'll give you a little tip to help you best manage your native vegetation. This newsletter we learn about the importance of maintaining standing and fallen timber on your property, in balance with cool patch burning. Please be aware that this is only a brief summary, and you should always consult with your advisors for more detailed information specific to your property.



*Rod Mason demonstrates a small, cool grass fire*

### Balance the maintenance of standing and fallen timber with cool mosaic burns

Did you know that standing (both dead and alive) and fallen timber can be essential habitat for many native plants and animals? Standing trees, even dead trees, can contain tree hollows that provide important nesting habitat too. Fallen logs and leaf litter also provide essential foraging and nesting habitats, while many flora species depend on the micro-climate of logs for their germination.

While it's important to maintain timber on your property for habitat, traditional Indigenous management techniques of cool burning in small (mosaic) areas can help enhance native vegetation, and encourage food sources for some animals. Such burning was widely practiced across land in this area for many thousands of years, and can be a valuable land management technique when properly understood and applied.

Through the MLC project, we will be helping to teach land managers about how best to balance maintenance of timber with strategic cool mosaic burns. Used effectively, this balance can be a fantastic management tool to sustain and regenerate native vegetation patches across the Monaro landscape.

## The MLC project

The MLC project aims to improve the condition, extent and connectivity of patches of native vegetation across the Monaro region, in the Murrumbidgee catchment. Interested land managers can:

- Come along to a land manager workshop, to learn about native vegetation and how best to manage it on your property,
- Receive a property management plan, with tips and suggestions specific to the management of native vegetation on your property,
- Be involved in the application of Indigenous land management practices on your property,
- Participate in recording details of your project using the digital PlaceStories program, and
- Apply for incentive funding, through an agreement with the Murrumbidgee CMA, to undertake activities such as fencing, strategic planting of native flora, and control of exotic plants.

For more information, including eligibility and other details, please contact the project team.

The MLC project is funded through the Australian Government's 'Caring For Our Country' program, and is being delivered through a partnership between Kosciuszko to Coast, Murrumbidgee Landcare Inc, and the Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authority.

### Would you like more information?

If you have any questions about the MLC project, or would like to express your interest in becoming involved, please contact Felicity Collins - Catchment Officer, Murrumbidgee CMA:

Ph: (02) 62 454 150

Email: [felicity.collins@cma.nsw.gov.au](mailto:felicity.collins@cma.nsw.gov.au)