



GER Connections: December 2023

Dear

As another year flashes by, we are reflecting on the power of community-led efforts and how every contribution, no matter how small, plays a role in helping to achieve the vision of the GER initiative. We are also celebrating the steps that are being taken towards creating a nature-positive future here and around the globe, and the groundswell of support that is growing for connectivity conservation.

In the final edition of our enewsletter for 2023, you can read about our new partner working to create stepping stones of habitat across dairy farms in the Bega, learn why we are calling for a national roadmap to accelerate restoration and some of the research and educational programs taking place in the corridor.

Our staff are taking a well-earned break with the GER office closing down from 20 December to 2 January. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our partners, members, supporters and donors for sustaining our work along with the many landholders, traditional custodians and communities who contribute to the GER initiative.



2023 Impact Report

We are pleased to release our 2023 Impact Report which provides a snapshot of what our team, partners and local communities are accomplishing for nature, people and planet across eastern Australia.

[View our 2023 Impact Report](#)



New partnership working with farmers to support wildlife and boost biodiversity in the Bega Valley

Local organisations and government agencies in NSW's Bega Valley are working with farmers to assist wildlife by regenerating and reconnecting sparse and fragmented habitats. Bega Cheese, and the Regional Circularity Cooperative are being funded through the Great Eastern Ranges partnership with WIRES to boost biodiversity and connectivity in the valley. The Bega supports a diverse range of wildlife species and serves as an important movement pathway for wildlife. The project aims to establish 12,000 trees and shrubs to create 'stepping stones' of habitat across dairy farms.

[Read more](#)



Koala community education program kicks off in Coffs

To help boost local knowledge of koalas, the Jaliigirr Biodiversity Alliance has engaged the City of Coffs Harbour to run a series of action-based workshops for the community including eight schools. The educational program also includes tree planting events and the creation of learning materials. The program is being run as part of Cores, Corridors and Koalas – our partnership project with WWF-Australia.

[Read more](#)



New study indicates majority of endangered greater glider habitat in Queensland unprotected

A Griffith University study funded by GER has discovered that the majority of critical habitat and movement pathways for southern greater gliders in Queensland lie outside of protected areas. Dr Patrick Norman and Professor Brendan Mackey used cutting-edge technology to map mature forests to identify potential habitat and corridors that are essential for the survival of the endangered species. They found that most of the important remaining glider habitat in the state occurs on privately owned, lease-owned land and state forest, leaving it vulnerable to logging, clearing and other threats.

[Learn more](#)



Corporate volunteers dig in to help plant trees for wildlife in the K2W Link

Around 20 corporate volunteers from Australian furniture retailer Koala, WWF-Australia, and International Volunteers for Peace helped plant habitat for local wildlife at an award-winning Land for Wildlife property near Crookwell NSW in October. More than 1,000 seedlings were planted on Garry Kadwell's farm on the day to reduce soil erosion, improve biodiversity and reconnect bushland for native animals.

[Read more](#)



Restoration Decade Alliance calls for national roadmap to accelerate ecosystem restoration

The Restoration Decade Alliance, which includes GER, has called for a national plan for ecosystem restoration to guide and accelerate action to reverse environmental degradation, curb biodiversity loss, and mitigate the impacts of climate change. The RDA issued the Statement off the back of the 10th World Conference on Ecological Restoration (SER2023) in Darwin in September. It calls on government to take the lead in developing an ambitious plan that provides a clear roadmap for effective restoration and unites and empowers the whole-of-community to meet the goals of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

[Read more](#)



CREATURE CONNECT

Greater gliders

With their large fluffy ears, lush velvety fur and outrageously cute faces, you could easily mistake a greater glider for a character out of a children's book. However, these adorable marsupials are Australia's largest gliding mammals, found high in the canopies of eucalypt forests across our eastern states. The three species of greater gliders play a vital role as "indicator species", providing important information about the health of our forests. Sadly, populations of these once abundant species have been plummeting over the last 20 years.

[Learn more](#)

We hope that you have a safe, happy and wild festive season.

We look forward to working with you in 2024 to continue to connect, protect and regenerate nature across eastern Australia!



Gary Howling, CEO, Great Eastern Ranges

There has never been a greater need
to repair and reconnect nature
or the chance to do it



DONATE TODAY

We know what needs to be done and where it will have the biggest impact on the ground. Together we can reverse the damage at the vast scale needed and create a thriving, resilient Australia for people and nature. [Will you help us?](#)

All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible



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