



GER Connections: October 2024

Dear

The trumpeting calls of channel-billed cuckoos and koels have heralded the start of spring, along with some welcome rain to water in the new seedlings sprouting across the GER corridor.

In this edition of our enewsletter, read about the 15,000 saplings that have been bedded in the Wollondilly Shire to regenerate catchment lands, explore our new connectivity decision support tool for practitioners, and learn about the state-of-the-art artificial habitats that have been popped up around Nymboida.

Lastly, we share our reflections on the recent Global Nature Positive Summit and Katoomba Group Summit in Sydney, and what Australia needs to do to move from nature loss to nature positive.



Community volunteers help plant thousands of food trees for koalas and other wildlife in Bargo

Our partner Greater Sydney Landcare and community volunteers helped plant around 3,000 seedlings at the Australian Wildlife Sanctuary on 25 September to support local wildlife and regenerate catchment lands as part of GER's partnership with Amazon Web Services. The heritage-listed wildlife sanctuary in Bargo was badly hit by the 2019-20 Black Summer bushfires, which destroyed a significant amount of bushland on the property. The native seedlings were planted to restore and reconnect habitat for local wildlife, while also providing an important source of food for the sanctuary's resident animals.

[Read more](#)



New decision support tool a game changer for wildlife corridor projects

GER and Gondwana Link have engaged researchers at Griffith University to develop a new cutting-edge decision support tool to help practitioners plan projects to strengthen vital connections between wildlife habitats. The research was done as part of our three year joint project funded by The Ian Potter Foundation. An interactive map enables users to explore important movement corridors and patches of habitat for a selection of forest-dependent animals in eastern and south-western Australia. These include glossy black-cockatoos, gliding possums and fruit-eating pigeons. The data can be downloaded by practitioners for free and used for further analyses.

[Learn more](#)



Nymboida wildlife get new state-of-the-art homes

Masked owls, brush-tailed phascogales, squirrel gliders and other animals in Nymboida have received new cutting-edge residences as part of GER's project with WIRES. State-of-the-art Habitat Modular Nest Boxes and biodegradable Habitat Pods were installed by our regional partner Clarence Landcare to provide local wildlife with additional homes after a fire ripped through the region in October last year – a place still recovering from the Black Summer bushfires.

[Read more](#)



Moving from nature loss to nature positive

GER joined other leaders from around the world at the first Global Nature Positive Summit (GNPS) and Katoomba Group summit in Sydney at the beginning of October. View our key takeaways from these significant events and the position statement released by the Restoration Decade Alliance in the lead up to the GNPS. 'A national approach to nature positive restoration in Australia' highlights ways that governments, industries and communities can help ensure that nature repair far surpasses nature loss. As a large-scale, multi-landscape conservation initiative, the Great Eastern Ranges has a significant role to play in this.

[View key takeaways](#)

[Read position statement](#)

DARWIN200

Stewarding the next generation of conservationists

We are excited to be hosting a young conservationist in November alongside our regional partner, K2W Link Inc, as part of DARWIN200 - a project to empower the planet's top young conservationists. The group of 18-25 year old scientists and conservationists from 200 countries and states are retracing the steps of Charles Darwin's famous journey on the HMS Beagle. While docked in Sydney, the Darwin Leader we are hosting will be involved in a research project that forms part of our Glideways program in the K2W Link, with a focus on southern greater gliders.

[Learn more about DARWIN200](#)



Nuggan Biodiversity Stewardship t-shirts

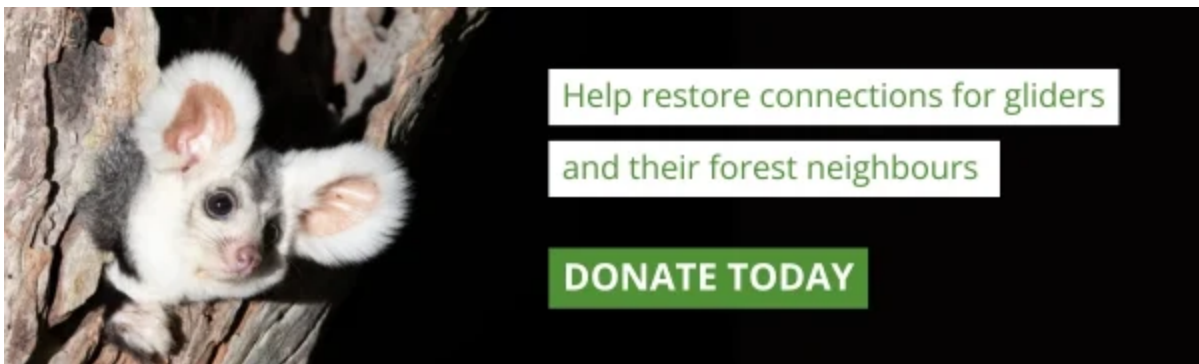
Our supporter, Lodge Environmental, has designed some delightful t-shirts to celebrate the environmental stewardship work undertaken at Nuggan - a biodiversity-rich property that sits on picturesque Yuin Country in NSW. Since purchasing Nuggan, the dedicated landholders have worked alongside Lodge Environmental, GER's partners and others to transform the property into a pioneering model of private land conservation. \$20 of every tee sale is kindly being donated to the Great Eastern Ranges. To purchase one of the limited edition t-shirts visit www.shop.lodgeenviro.com.au

This is just a snapshot of the activities that the Great Eastern Ranges and our partners deliver with the support of our funders and in-kind contributions. Together we are having a real impact and I thank each of you for everything you do to contribute towards the initiative.

My sabbatical is nearly over and I will be back at the helm of GER in early November, refreshed and re-energised. I look forward to reconnecting with you to continue and grow our crucial work and thank the GER team for their stewardship in my absence.




Gary Howling, CEO of Great Eastern Ranges



Through our Glideways program, we are rolling out a suite of complementary projects across the GER corridor to curb the loss of our threatened gliders while ensuring that common ones, remain common. By making a donation you will be helping to secure their future and that of the many other animals that share their forest homes. [Will you help us?](#)

All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible.

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