

centralwest environment council

Draft Chair's Report for 2011

MEETINGS

Meetings were held in February & May and today's AGM December 11th.

SUBMISSIONS

Submissions were made on the following issues:

- NSW Coal and Gas Strategy Scoping Paper (April);
- the Review of the role of the Livestock, Health and Pest Authority (November);
- the Planning System Review (NSW) (November); and
- the Macquarie Pipeline (referral to the Commonwealth Government) (December).

Thanks are particularly due to Bev Smiles for drafting these submissions.

ACTIVITIES & ATTENDANCE AT FORUMS

CWEC was involved with helping to organize two public seminars:

- Murray-Darling Basin Talks (Orange, May)
- Travelling Stock Reserves and Routes (Orange, June).

In addition the chair attended several forums and meetings throughout the year:

- The Nature Conservation Council - Bushfire Conference (June)
- The NSW Landcare Forum (September)
- CMA Biodiversity Conference (paper presented) (October)
- CMA CW Natural Resources Working Group (May and November)
- LHPA Forum, Orange (November)
- Several forums on water issues

ASSISTANCE TO OTHER GROUPS

Assistance was provided and/or there was participation by the chair with activities of other community groups such as Orange Field Naturalist & Conservation Society (as president and coordinator of Common Myna control program); Summer Hill Creekgate (as president); Central Tablelands Landcare (as secretary); Western Rivers Regional Advisory Committee NPWS (NCC representative); Canobolas Zone Bushfire Management Committee (NCC representative); NSW Environmental Trust Restoration and Rehabilitation Technical Committee (NCC representative), WIRES, ECCO, CSU Environmental Campus committee amongst others.

WEBSITE

The chair was able to attend a website course, courtesy of Central Tablelands Landcare and has now established a website: www.cwecouncil.com. This is a very basic site but most of the recent submissions have been uploaded and it provides information about coming activities. There is considerable room for improvement. To date, the site has been free, but for it to continue past March 2012, a fee will be required (about \$10/month).

GENERAL

This was an interesting year that seemed to get busier and busier towards the end when there was a flurry of activity associated in particular with water management issues and travelling stock reserves. Many thanks are due to the committee who helped sort through the complexities of these issues, particularly Bev.

Cilla Kinross

CHAIR

Central West Environment Council
9th December 2011.