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Australian Citizen Science Association

10 March 2020

Dear <<First Name>>,

Autumn is here, and with it we have seen welcome rain across much of the countryside severely impacted by the summer bushfires. While we still have a long road ahead, it is encouraging to see signs of regrowth and regeneration. Read on for more information on ACSA's bushfire reponse including the project audit results and ongoing activity in this space. Plenty more in this bumper edition including the opening of the Eureka entries, a City Nature Challenge update and an introduction to Maxine Newlands, new member of the ACSA management team.

ACSA Bushfire Reponse - projects and promotion

Early in the new year we were waking up to the realisation of how awful and extensive all the bushfires across Australia were. We were also seeing a huge response from the public who wanted to contribute, to do something to help monitor recovery and resilience, and to do something to help the wildlife that may have survived the fires, but were now faced with a lack of water, food and shelter/cover.



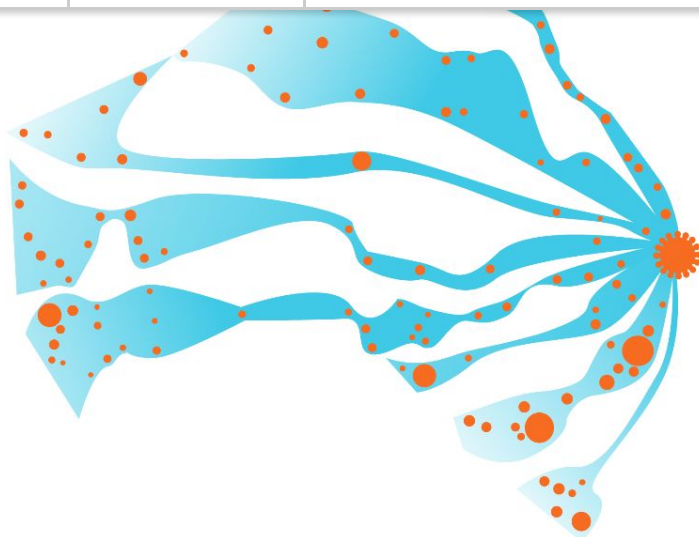
We also realised that none of us knew what citizen science we could usefully do that would help scientists and natural resource managers with information about what was happening. We needed to be guided as to what to look for so we could begin to understand the destructive and regenerative processes we were observing around us.

ACSA established an informal working group to undertake an audit of post bushfire/wildfire projects which involve an element of citizen science in their data gathering. Our task was to collate what we could find and make it accessible to the whole citizen science community.

We now have both an [Atlas of Living Australia Biocollect Bushfire Projects page](#) and a [Sci Starter microsite](#) to which we can continue to add suitable projects and where you can find relevant platforms and methodologies to work with.

READ MORE for audit results and ongoing activity

CitSciOz20 Update



Australian Citizen Science Association

Inspire, Impact, Influence
Gold Coast, QLD | 6-9 October 2020

Do you like our new conference logo? What do you think it symbolises? We'd love to know how you interpret it...send your thoughts to Amy via coordinator@citizenscience.org.au.

We have updated a few of the key dates for the conference, including the call for abstracts. Please see our [conference webpage](#) for the revised dates.

Sponsorship

Are you interested in sponsoring our conference? CitSciOz20 offers a range of partnership opportunities. Support for this conference provides a platform to reach a diverse, energetic, national audience working in many aspects of science, research, policy making and the community, and we are anticipating an audience of more than 300 people.

Our [Sponsorship Prospectus](#) provides an overview of sponsorship packages and benefits, and we are also willing to discuss a tailored package to best meet your sponsorship needs. Please contact Amy via coordinator@citizenscience.org.au.

ECSA Conference // 2020

Are you considering going to the European Citizen Science Association Conference in Trieste, Italy? If so, please see [this webpage](#) for the latest information on COVID-19, as well as registration, conference program and travel details. Please note that registration is on a first come first served basis, with a cap of 500 delegates.

Entries to the 2020 Eureka Prize for Innovation in Citizen Science are now open!

Are you involved in a citizen science project that is building STEM knowledge or skills, empowering greater community engagement in STEM, or changing attitudes towards STEM?

Sponsored by the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources, the **Eureka Prize for Innovation in Citizen Science** is awarded for demonstrated excellence in citizen science practice, through an innovative research and community engagement project.

Who can enter?

- The prize is open to individuals and teams.
- People can either enter themselves or be nominated by others.
- Projects of all sizes and scopes – from localised community focused projects to national scale initiatives – are welcome to enter.
- Activity entered for the prize must have taken place in the past 5 years

It's a brilliant opportunity to get your project noticed; finalist representatives will be invited to attend the Australian Museum Eureka Prizes Award Dinner in Sydney, and the winner receives \$10,000 in prize money.

[Find out more and enter now.](#)

Entries close 7pm AEST Friday 1 May 2020.



City Nature Challenge 2020



Find Wildlife



Take a Picture



Share!

Are you ready to bioblitz?

With less than 50 days until the 5th City Nature Challenge (CNC) the four Australian cities competing are busy training citizen scientists and getting the word out on social media. International founders and organisers, Lila Higgins (Natural History Museum of LA County) and Alison Young (California Academy of Sciences), anticipate more than 40,000 people worldwide will make & share over 1 million observations of nature in over 230 cities from the 24th to 27th of April inclusive. All Australian iNaturalist research-grade observations are added to the Atlas of Living Australia via the iNaturalist Australia node. You can read more about that [here](#).

For more information on how our cities are preparing, please [click here](#).

[Download the iNaturalist app](#) and head to Redland City (QLD), City of Sydney (NSW), City of Geelong (VIC) or Greater Adelaide area (SA) from the 24-27th of April to participate in the City Nature Challenge 2020!



Global Citizen Science Month

Did you know that the month of April is now "Citizen Science Month"?

inspiring projects, and anything else citizen science-related! This global celebration includes events hosted by libraries, institutions, community groups, museums, and individuals all around the world.

With April just around the corner, it's time to think about how you can contribute. Our mates at [SciStarter](#) have teamed up with ACSA and other partners to create a world wide calendar of events! Check out the [online calendar](#) to find out more.

Is your citizen science project having a workshop or celebrating an event? It's not too late to add it to the CitSciMonth calendar and download materials for your local library, shops, school etc. Find out more [here](#).



ACSA-VIC event

ACSA Victoria invites you to join them for their next community event: *How can citizen science contribute to public health?*

Guest presentations will be made by Ann Borda ([Centre for the Digital Transformation of Health](#)) and Ollie Conlan ([Bicycle Network](#)), which will be followed by time for group discussion and networking.

When: 3pm – 5:00pm, 25 March, 2020

Where: Kathleen Syme Library and Community Centre, 251 Faraday St, Carlton.

RSVP: via [Eventbrite](#)

[Click here](#) for more information.

March publications now Online

Thanks to those of you who sent in your publications for the March listing. They

March Publications List

Meet your ACSA team: Maxine Newlands

As announced in last months newsletter, ACSA has appointed two additional General Members to its Management Committee. This month we'd like to introduce you to Maxine Newlands.



Maxine Newlands

Maxine is a social scientist in Townsville, Queensland. As a researcher and academic at James Cook University, her research centres on political ecology (combining politics and ecology), environmental communication, and citizen science within stakeholder engagement. As an environmental educator, Max combines her love of science and the social sciences, to explore Reef governance and policy.

A secondary interest lies in media, social media and big data analysis to see what we think of the environment and how people can do more. As convenor of the Australian Citizen Science Association, Queensland branch - World Science Festival satellite event at the Museum of Tropic Queensland in 2019, Max coordinated a series of speakers to talk all things reef-related citizen science, showcasing the importance of citizen science in the regions.

It's great to have you on board Maxine. Remember you can view the profiles of all our Management Committee members [on our website](#).

Please consider helping spread the word about ACSA by sharing this newsletter with people engaged in citizen science!

Thank you for your continued support and interest in ACSA.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us:

coordinator@citizenscience.org.au or via our [website](#).



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This is the official ACSA subscription list.

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The Australian Citizen Science Association (ACSA) is a developing 'community of practice' which supports researchers, educators, businesses, science communicators, government, community groups and community volunteers in all aspects of citizen science. To learn more visit <http://citizenscience.org.au>.

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