



Hello!

I would like to invite you to be a part of making our two upcoming NatureKeepers community biodiversity surveys a success. Throughout the year the National Parks Association's NatureKeepers program offers opportunities for the community to participate in activities that protect, restore, and explore the natural environment. Activities include biodiversity surveys, clean ups, bush regeneration, park monitoring and volunteer training days.

NPA has been running community biodiversity surveys for 15 years with an aim to train future survey coordinators from the community, and contribute significant new biodiversity data to the NSW community. The surveys allow participants to work with field experts to develop experience in survey technique using the methodology of the Community Biodiversity Survey Manual 3rd edition.

In the coming months we have two biodiversity surveys. If you are interested in being a team member for either or both of these surveys **register now to get involved!** Simply complete and send back the attached registration form or call for more details.

Thurs 19 to Sun 22 March 2009

Breelong National Park, Dubbo

Situated on the on the Western plains, near Dubbo, there is currently no biodiversity data available on the Park. Newly adopted, every bit of biodiversity data on the area will assist with its new management plan.

Fri 17 to Mon 20 April 2009

Marramarra National Park, Hawkesbury

This survey will take place on the southern side of the Hawkesbury River, 50km North west of Sydney. Currently there is no fauna data available on the park and the biodiversity may have changed since a wild fire burnt the whole park in 2002. All the data collected will assist in updating the previous management plan, which is now 10 years old.

We are seeking volunteer team members to assist scientific team leaders to conduct surveys for:

- Birds
- Botany
- Mammals
- Frogs and Reptiles
- Invertebrates (Insects)

Survey teams will ideally consist of 1-2 expert team leaders and 8-12 volunteer assistants. **No previous experience is necessary to be a team member.**

Please tell others who you think would be interested in being a team member or a team leader. Invite your **friends and family** along, and young people are always welcome to inspire us all!

Some initial details about the surveys...

Schedule: Set up happens on the first morning and the survey will start early afternoon on the same day. Fieldwork will be complete the final morning, then everyone back for lunch and pack up and ready to leave around 2.00pm.

We need team members to be **available for the whole period** so that there is continuity with data collection methods and to reduce the difficulties of having to slot people in half way through the survey. Do not hesitate to contact us to discuss this.

Catering: The survey will be fully catered for with a range of non-vegetarian, vegetarian with dairy, and non-dairy food available. If you have any food allergies it might be easier to bring your own food. Please contact us to discuss or to find out what is on the menu.

Car-pooling: Lifts will be organised by phone in the few weeks before the survey. You will receive the final details about how to get to the survey, the names of your team leaders and what you need to bring at least a week before the survey.

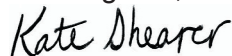
Registration fee: There is a fee to assist in covering costs such as camping, catering, use of scientific equipment and consumables etc. Please contact us if this will prevent you from participating. There may be registration support from our funders for extreme cases.

Non-NPA members:	\$100
NPA members:	\$90 (10% discount)

Survey equipment: If you have access or leads to any survey equipment that we can borrow for the survey including traps, anabat boxes, hair tubes, call and play back equipment, microscopes, GPS etc., please let us know.

Don't hesitate to contact me at 02 9299 0000 or naturekeepers@npansw.org.au to discuss anything further. I look forward to seeing you in the field!

Kind regards,



Kate Shearer

NatureKeepers Coordinator