



2011/12



Bjarne K
Dahl Trust

ANNUAL REVIEW

Eucalyptus, an Australian icon

www.dahltrust.org.au

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About our Benefactor	2
Chair's Overview	3
About Us	4
Governance	4
Projects Funded	5
Finances	9
Looking Ahead	9

ABOUT OUR BENEFACTOR

In 1928, at the age of thirty, Klaus Bjarne Dahl ventured from Norway to Australia to take up the position of forest assessor with the Forests Commission of Victoria. In 1946, still with the Forest Commission of Victoria, Dahl was appointed Head of the Victorian Forest Assessment Branch.

In 1948, Dahl became the Chief Land Purchasing Officer at Australian Paper Manufacturers, where he stayed until 1961. During this period he travelled extensively throughout Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. Throughout his life Dahl purchased land and managed forests as a private

investment and, with other fortuitous investments, grew his private wealth.

During his career Dahl developed a true affinity with the Australian bush and, in particular, a love of the Silvertop Ash, or Eucalyptus sieberi – so much so that he bequeathed all his property to the Forests Commission of Victoria, now the Department of Sustainability and Environment, to be established as a Trust focused on eucalypts. Dahl recalled,

'I was once a Chief Forester, and I owe [the] Forests Commission of Victoria a great deal of gratitude for giving me in 1928 the opportunity to make good in my profession.'



Dahl died in 1993 and his estate has been professionally managed and grown by Perpetual Trustees, as directed in his will.

CHAIR'S OVERVIEW

Welcome to the second Annual Review for the Bjarne K Dahl Trust, included in this second review of the Trust is an overview of our operations to date, information about the grants awarded in our Small Grants Program and details about what lies ahead of for the Trust.



This Review covers the period from January 2011 to June 2012; this period has been very productive and also very rewarding. We have made many important decisions including a commitment to fund a major project over three years – Eucalypts of Northern Australia, expanded our small grantmaking across Australia and developing the Strategic Plan for 2012-15. This Strategic Plan will direct our resources and efforts over the next three years and is available on our website. The Plan was informed by two commissioned scoping studies, one for eucalypt conservation across Australia and the other for education related to eucalypts occurring in Australia.

The Trust has received an overwhelming response to our Small Grants Program over the past eighteen months. We received fifty-three project applications with a total request of \$634,395 across the three rounds of our Small Grants Program. Of these requests, the Trust was able to fund a total of \$259,565 towards twenty-four projects across all Australian States and Territories. The Trustees and I have been delighted to be able to fund so many valuable eucalypt conservation and education projects from environmental not for profit organisations, Universities, environmental networks, individuals, Aboriginal Corporations and Landcare groups. The Trust aims to build on the success of this program and will run further Small Grants Programs on an annual basis over the next three years.

In August 2011, Professor Pauline Ladiges AO FAA and I were fortunate to represent the Dahl Trust on the Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network (AEGN) Northern Territory Field Trip to learn more about how philanthropy can work with indigenous conservation and land management. We visited Darwin, Kakadu National Park and Arnhem Land and were warmly welcomed by the Djelk and Warddeken Ranger Groups at Maningrida. We then travelled to Kabulwarnamyo Outstation in the stone country between the headwaters of the Mann and Liverpool Rivers, in remote Western Arnhem Land where we were generously welcomed and hosted. The input of Barry Trail of the Pew Environment Group and Amanda Martin, AEGN made this a very informative experience. This Field trip reinforced to us the importance of the eucalypt savannah woodlands across Northern Australia. As a direct result of this trip, the Trust has formed a partnership with the Environment Centre NT and we have now embarked on our first multi-year large grant for the project Eucalypts of Northern Australia.

The Board of Managing Trustees would like to warmly thank those who have helped to make the Trust what it is today, especially the people and organisations who have generously given their time and expertise on a pro-bono basis. We are grateful to Mr Peter Seidel, Partner, Arnold Bloch Leibler, Lawyers and Advisors, for his generous pro-bono legal advice; and to Mr Andrew Brookes, Chief Executive, Helen Macpherson Smith Trust, formerly Executive Officer, Colonial Foundation, for sharing his experience of grant making.

We thank Marc Savis, Private Client Adviser of Perpetual for the management of the Trust Funds, Ms. Amanda Martin, Executive Officer of AGEN, for her assistance developing the Strategic Plan. We thank also the staff of Department of Sustainability and Environment for their support in the operating phase as a significant grant maker to the environment of the Trust. The Trust is also pleased to be a member of Philanthropy Australia, Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network and the Friends of Norway.

I have been fortunate and delighted to work with our most knowledgeable and passionate Board of Managing Trustees. The Board was joined by in January 2011 by Professor Pauline Ladiges AO FAA. The Office has been well served by Sophie Burke, our initial Project Officer; we thanked and bid farewell to Sophie Burke in August 2011 and then welcomed April Merrick née Curatolo as the Executive Officer for the Trust.

We are very excited about the year ahead and implementing our Strategic Plan. Please feel welcome to visit our website or contact the office should you need any further information about the Bjarne K Dahl Trust.

A handwritten signature in orange ink that reads "Alison Teese".

Alison Teese, Chair

ABOUT US

The Bjarne K Dahl Trust is a philanthropic fund established from a bequest from Bjarne K Dahl to focus on the iconic Australian trees 'the eucalypts'. The Trust was formally established in 2007 through an Order of the Supreme Court of Victoria as an independent Trust, separate to the Department of Sustainability and Environment of Victoria. In 2009 the Board of Managing Trustees were appointed and the Trust formally commenced operations in 2010.

OUR VISION

We envisage a public inspired by and appreciative of eucalypts.

OUR MISSION

To honour and fulfil Bjarne K Dahl's wishes and legacy we will direct our resources towards areas that have the greatest potential for impact, in order to promote, establish, cultivate and conserve eucalypts, and educate the public in these matters

OUR FOCUS

- ✦ The establishment, promotion, cultivation and conservation of eucalyptus trees; and
- ✦ The education of the public in the establishment, cultivation and conservation of eucalyptus trees.

GOVERNANCE

Members of the Board of Managing Trustees

- ✦ Ms Alison Teese (Chairperson)
- ✦ Mr Ken King
- ✦ Prof. John Miller AO
- ✦ Prof. Leon Bren
- ✦ Prof. Pauline Ladiges AO FAA
- ✦ Mr Greg Wilson, Secretary,
- Ms Kylie White, Delegate to the Secretary, Department of Sustainability and Environment, Victoria

STAFF

- ✦ Sophie Burke, Project Officer (Concluded Aug 2011)
- ✦ Mrs April Merrick, Executive Officer (Commenced Aug 2011)



PROJECTS FUNDED

The 2010 –11 Small Grants Program commenced in late 2010, concluded in December 2011 and consisted of four granting rounds. The principal purpose for the Small Grants Program was the protection and enhancement of eucalypts as a significant aspect of Australia's natural environment, as well as the provision of information and education about eucalypts.

Round one of the Small Grants Program distributed \$89,229 to nine projects, which were reported in our 2010 Annual Review. For the remaining three rounds, rounds two, three and four, over fifty applications were received. The Trustees carefully considered all of these applications and twenty-five high-quality grants, totalling \$259,565 were awarded to a diverse range of eucalypt-focused research and education projects across Australia. All the applications have helped to inform the Trustees of the community's efforts in the areas of eucalypt conservation and education involving eucalypts across Australia.

ROUND 2

Round 2 of the Small Grants Program resulted in \$91,145 being distributed to support eight projects.

Assessment of tall eucalypts in north-eastern NSW for World Heritage listing	\$11,000
NSW National Parks Association	
Improved Protection for the Nationally Endangered Miena Cider Gum	\$10,000
Tasmanian Land Conservancy	
Locating and recording water trees	\$12,645
Goldfields Land & Sea Council (Ngadju Aboriginal Corp.)	
Promotional & educational photograph book of East Gippsland's eucalypts	\$10,000
Ms Jill Redwood	
Regional variation in the Salmon Gum communities of the Great Western Woodlands, WA	\$8,000
Ms Judith Harvey	
River Red to Snow - A film about the Eucalypts of Slopes to Summit	\$15,000
Slopes to Summit	
Trees after YASI, What next?	\$10,000
James Cook University	
Watch Them Grow	\$14,500
Armidale Pine Forest Committee	
Total distributed in round 2	\$91,145

PROJECT FEATURE

Regional variation in the Salmon Gum communities of the Great Western Woodlands, Western Australia

Ms Judith Harvey

Eucalyptus salmonophloia, or the Salmon Gum, is an iconic Western Australian species found in remnants and along road verges across the Wheatbelt and throughout the Great Western Woodlands. It is a remarkable species; able to survive in such an arid environment, regenerating after decades of timber cutting and severe fire and floods and providing habitat for fauna. The aim of this project was to co-ordinate a network of interested botanists and trained individuals to undertake site-based surveys of Salmon Gum woodland communities across the Great Western Woodlands of Western Australia for the purpose

of ascertaining regional variations in composition, structure and function and determining what environmental gradients and conditions are driving the patterns. The project has been very successful and has expanded knowledge of the distribution, composition and function of the Salmon Gum woodlands in the Great Western Woodlands for future conservation purposes. This project features on the front cover of this annual review.



Image courtesy of Pat Wenban

IT IS A REMARKABLE
SPECIES; ABLE TO
SURVIVE IN SUCH AN
ARID ENVIRONMENT,
REGENERATING AFTER
DECADES OF TIMBER
CUTTING, SEVERE
FIRE AND FLOODS AND
PROVIDING HABITAT
FOR FAUNA.

ROUND 3

Round 3 of the Small Grants Program resulted in \$37,400 being distributed to support four projects.

Arboretum planting to showcase WA gimlet eucalypts	\$7,470
Golden Valley Tree Park Inc.	
Eucalypt Arboreta Enhancement	\$14,900
Royal Botanic Gardens & Domain Trust, Mount Annan	
Eucalypt Demonstration Planting Project for Dairy Industry and General Community	\$5,030
Demonstration Farm	
Pullen Pullen Catchment “Protecting Our Eucalypt Forests”	\$10,000
Pullen Pullen Catchment Group Inc	
Total distributed in round 3	\$37,400

PROJECT FEATURE

Improved Protection for the Nationally Endangered Miena Cider Gum

Tasmanian Land Conservancy

The nationally endangered Miena Cider Gum (*Eucalyptus gunnii* ssp. *divaricata*) is endemic to Tasmania’s central highlands, where it has undergone severe decline over the last three decades. The aim of this project was to survey over 22,000 hectares of land within the core and intermediate range of the species to improve current knowledge about the distribution and health of the species and determine the management requirements of the stands. A key achievement of this project was the identification of twenty new populations of Miena Cider Gum. As a direct result of this project, a case study is being prepared on the Miena Cider Gum for the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (NCCARF) for its case study series.



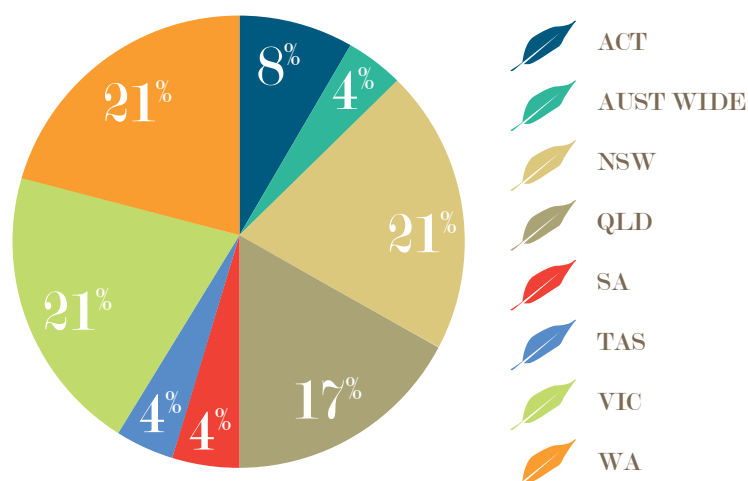
Image courtesy of Steve Pearce

ROUND 4

Round 4 of the Small Grants Program resulted in \$131,020 being distributed to support twelve projects.

Building generational resilience of iconic Eucalypt Woodlands - the application & assessment of practical approaches to regenerate Wheatbelt Woodlands	\$15,000
Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Inc Documenting the history of Eucalypt Science in Australia	\$15,000
Scholarships Research Centre, University of Melbourne Doggrell tree Protection Area, Como, Kin Kin	\$11,440
Noosa and District Landcare Group Ecological Thinning Trial at Bush Family Reserve	\$13,000
Trust for Nature Eucalypt Discovery Walk	\$11,950
Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens Eucalypts of the Castlemaine Region- Expansion of existing workshop project	\$5,000
Connecting Country Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens Arboretum – Interpretive Signs for Eucalyptus of the Region	\$8,650
Friends of Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens Guide to the Eucalyptus of Fitzgerald Biosphere	\$12,500
Nathan McQuiod Myrtle Rust – a new threat to Australia’s biodiversity	\$10,000
Australian Network for Plant Conservation Inc. Recovering the Nationally Endangered Mt Compass March gum (<i>Eucalyptus paludicola</i>) on the Fleurieu Peninsula in South Australia	\$14,880
Nature Conservation Society of South Australia South East Queensland Eucalyptus Seed Collection & Propagation	\$6,000
Greening Australia Taxonomic revision of <i>Eucalyptus wimmerensis</i>	\$2,600
Kevin Rule Total distributed in round 4	\$131,020
Total distributed in 2011	\$259,565

GEOGRAPHIC SPREAD OF DISTRIBUTIONS



SPECIAL GRANT AWARDED

As part of our ongoing support, the Trust awarded a special grant to the Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne to assist with the 2012 Eucalypt Festival, a celebration of Australia's most iconic plant. The festival provided a fun and engaging suite of educational programs to facilitate our community's discovery and exploration of the diversity and beauty of eucalypts. The funds from the Bjarne K Dahl Trust enabled the Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne to include additional free activities, performances and programs in the Eucalypt Festival, which greatly improved the visitor experience and family engagement at the festival.

Eucalypt Festival 2012

\$7,000

Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne

FINANCES

The Bjarne K Dahl Trust is a Discretionary Investment Trust that operates on a not-for-profit basis. The Trust is an Australian Tax Office-endorsed Charitable Institution and is entitled to GST concessions and income tax exemptions. The Trust's assets are managed by Perpetual Trustees as an ethical and socially responsible investment fund, whereby investment companies are subject to a rigorous ethical and socially responsible investment screening process. The Trust banks with bankmecu for our operational purposes. A detailed financial report for the 2011-12 financial year is available on our website under the publications section.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Trust operates as a paperless office and shares all the information about our activities and grants on our website. We update our website on a regular basis where you can find summaries and photos of grants awarded, our 2012-15 Strategic Plan, our latest brochure, annual reviews and many of our other publications. All of the Trust's internal and external communications (where possible) are via electronic means. This includes the use of iPads by our Board of Managing Trustees for our Board meetings, which has proved to be a great success.

LOOKING AHEAD

In the coming year the Trust will continue to operate as a grant-making body by continuing with our successful Small Grants Program on an annual basis. Our major focus will be to implement our new strategic direction by delivering the activities and programs that are directed by our 2012-15 Strategic Plan. A copy of the plan is available on our website. We are most excited about the following major activities, which will form the basis of our work not only in 2012-13 but in the period up until 2015.

- 🍃 Operate an annual small grants program focused on the conservation of eucalypts and the education of the public in areas of conservation, propagation, cultural and historical significance in relation to eucalypts throughout Australia;
- 🍃 Develop partnerships to fund a number of large multi-year projects focused on the conservation of eucalypts across Australia; and,
- 🍃 Bring together eucalypt conservation experts, industry and partners to share and discuss the future of eucalypt conservation at a biannual forum.

THE EUCALYPT IS AUSTRALIA'S GREATEST ASSET AND FINEST AMBASSADOR THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

Stan Kelly, Eucalypts volume II, 1976

STAY IN CONTACT

All information about the work and activities of the Bjarne K Dahl Trust will be shared online on our website www.dahltrust.org.au

Mailing address: Level 13
200 Queen Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000
www.dahltrust.org.au
enquiries@dahltrust.org.au

P +61 3 8648 6510
F +61 3 86486480
Find us on Facebook
[www.facebook.com/pages/
Bjarne-K-Dahl-Trust/1402628426624](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bjarne-K-Dahl-Trust/1402628426624)