



Issue 1 | Date: April 17, 2020

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Date to be determined

### 8TH BIENNIAL ECOHEALTH CONFERENCE

Held at UC Davis, California, USA

Date to be determined

### 69TH ANNUAL WDA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Held in Cuenca, Spain

Date to be determined

### 52ND AAZV ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Held in Nashville, Tennessee USA

Sept 28 - Oct 2, 2020

### WDA AUSTRALASIA SECTION CONFERENCE

Held in Adelaide, Australia



## 2020 WDA-A CONFERENCE

The Annual **Wildlife Disease Association Conference, Australasia Section** will be held in the secluded Adelaide Hills at **Woodhouse Activity Centre** from **Monday 28th September till Friday 2nd October 2020**.

Keep an eye out for the **abstract submission deadline** when it becomes available on the conference website.

If you are interested in wildlife health and disease, biology, ecology, conservation or animal science, we encourage you to **submit an abstract** for an oral presentation and/or poster.

Don't forget to sign up and become a **WDA-A student member!** *CLICK HERE for more information*

## FROM THE STUDENT COMMITTEE

It has been an exciting start to the year for our WDA-A student chapter! We have welcomed four new committee members to the team. We are pleased to introduce our new president **Christina Karagiorgis**, and members **Jessica Agius**, **Berta Blanch**, **Lauren Caspersz**.

To contact the student chapter - email: [wdaastudent@gmail.com](mailto:wdaastudent@gmail.com)

## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Dont forget to apply for the scholarships and awards offered for the WDA international conference, these include:

- **Wildlife Disease Association Scholarship:** Awarded annually to a student who is pursuing a master's or doctoral degree specializing in research on wildlife disease.
- **Wildlife Disease Graduate Student Research Recognition Award:** Awarded annually to the student judged to have the best research project in the field of wildlife disease.
- **Terry Amundson Student Presentation Award:** Awarded annually acknowledging the most outstanding oral presentation of research findings at the WDA annual international conference.
- **WDA Student Poster Competition:** Awarded annually acknowledging the most outstanding poster presentation of research findings at the WDA annual international conference.



## RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

### PhD - Griffith University, Gold Coast, Australia

Project: Understanding resistance and tolerance to chytrid fungal disease in amphibians to improve conservation

Supervisor: Dr Laura Grogan

[CLICK HERE for more info](#)

### PhD - Monash University, Melbourne, Australia

Project: Male-female differences the evolution of infectious disease

Supervisor: Dr Matt Hall

[CLICK HERE for more info](#)

### PhD - Waikato University, New Zealand

Project: Disease and stress genomics of two New Zealand finfish species

Supervisors: Dr Steve Bird and Dr Maren Wellenreuther

[CLICK HERE for more info](#)

### PhD - Deakin University, Australia & Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway

Project: Pollution and infection susceptibility in migrating shorebirds

Supervisor: Prof. Veerle Jaspers & AP. Courtney Waugh

[CLICK HERE for more info](#)

## SHARE SHARE SHARE !

**Events:** Do you have an event coming up in your local area that you think fellow members might be interested in? [let us know!](#)

**Stories:** Have you had a wildlife experience or have you come across recent study findings that you would like to share? [shoot us an email!](#)

**Photo of the Month:** Do you have some of your work that you would like to feature in our student newsletter?

Please email them to: [wdaastudent@gmail.com](mailto:wdaastudent@gmail.com)

## AVAILABLE SCHOLARSHIPS

### The Scholes Student Scholarship

**FOR:** students working in the field of conservation where their research has relevance to private-land conservation in Victoria

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO](#)

### Holsworth Wildlife Research Endowment

**FOR:** Post-graduate student research support in ecology, wildlife management and natural history studies.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO](#)

## TOP STORIES

### Coronavirus: The wildlife species enjoying lockdown

With fewer people in urban environments and much less traffic on the roads, scientists say there could be gains particularly for our native mammals

[\*READ full story here\*](#)

### Koala injured in bushfires released back into the wild

A koala injured in devastating bushfires has recovered and was released back to her natural habitat today.

[\*READ full story here\*](#)

### China set to clamp down permanently on wildlife trade in wake of coronavirus

Wild-animal markets are the suspected origin of the current outbreak and the 2002 SARS outbreak.

[\*READ full story here\*](#)

### Chytrid fungi and global amphibian declines

Discovering that chytrid fungi cause chytridiomycosis in amphibians represented a paradigm shift in our understanding of how emerging infectious diseases contribute to patterns of biodiversity loss.

[\*READ full story here\*](#)

### A Necropsy Study of Disease and Comorbidity Trends in Morbidity and Mortality in the Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) in South-East Queensland, Australia

Koalas are an iconic Australian marsupial undergoing precipitous population reduction in South-East Queensland from complex interacting threats.

[\*READ full story here\*](#)

### The ecological consequences of mass mortality events

Australia's bushfires throw the spotlight on an increasingly frequent problem.

[\*READ full story here\*](#)