

## **GECO meeting**

**9th May 2025**

### **Chairperson & Minutes: Tanja**

Attendance: Lee, Jac, Michael, Denise, James, Ralph, Tanja and Rose

\* James spoke about a Mushroom Workshop he went to recently in Byron Shire. The facilitators are from Rainbow Regeneration and liaise with Weed Forest Earth. They use funghi for micro regeneration by innooculating endemic species of mushrooms into woody trees that are viewed as weeds eg. Camphor Laurel. The trees are ring barked and as the funghi grows it slowly kills the tree. A big tree could take a 5 year plan to decompose..... and as follow up, workers harvest the funghi as a crop to eat or sell. The experience James had was with Turkey Tail mushrooms which are very common. The GECO group was keen to learn more about this technique. James will contact the company to see what mushrooms would be suitable in our area.....

\* Michael had contact with Hank and Sue Bower earlier in the day. They are consultants we are hoping to have come to Goolawah to see the Rainforest Remnant area and get a classification (to help with conservation and possible funding in future). Hank said they may be able to visit Goolawah late June/July.

\* In the meantime Michael will follow up with Louie from Easy Kempsey Landcare to find out where they got their funding from for the Feb 2025 Landcare project that was advertised in their newsletter

\* BUDGET: group still keen to get some cameras out in bush areas for the purpose of surveying wildlife. We currently have \$1000 allocated to us. Lee will follow up getting 2 cameras plus accessories.

\* Tanja will follow up contacting Mohini to see what brand of equipment she uses with work around bush regeneration.

\* The group discussed that we would also like to get some soil testing equipment, a Makita gardening kit and a weed removal tool ( Fiskars). Lee will request a budget increase of \$2000 for equipment purchases and consultancy costs.

\* The tools we purchase are dedicated to GECO and Community projects and would eventually be housed in Men's Shed shipping container.

\* Michael has requested next meeting we start to look at a 150 year plan for Goolawah

\* Tanja will invite Bushrangers ( Landcare) members to the next GECO meeting