

CWCN General Meeting

Tuesday, 25th July 2017, 6:30pm for 7:00pm
CWCN Centre, 47 Hepworth St, Chapel Hill (UBD 178 A11)

with guest speakers Ralph Dowling and Dr Arnon Accad

Mangroves and Mud in Moreton Bay: Past, Present and is there a Future?



Mangrove and associated communities are essential for maintaining the health of fisheries and coastal and marine seascapes and ecosystems. While these communities are currently protected under the Fisheries Act (1994) and are dynamic in nature, losses due to anthropogenic causes have also occurred mainly from urban and infrastructure development.

A 2016 report *Mangrove and associated communities of Moreton Bay, Queensland, Australia: change in extent 1955-1997-2012* by the Queensland Herbarium documents the change in extent of each mangrove and associated community from 1955 (historical) to 2012 for Moreton Bay, supported by the earlier 1974 and 1997 mapping. Mangrove communities have increased in area between 1955 and 2012, whereas saltmarsh (including samphire, marine couch and claypan) and *Casuarina glauca* communities have lost extent during the same period.

Ralph and Arnon will discuss the mangroves of Moreton Bay, their distribution, the history of the formation of the bay and the effects of humans on the bay. They will present the results of the long-term monitoring studies of the mangroves and associated saltmarsh and clay pan communities within Moreton Bay. They will also demonstrate their interactive website which makes the results of their studies with Moreton Bay readily available to the public. Changes to the extent of mangroves along the Brisbane River between 1955 and 2012 will be discussed, in particular along the stretch of the Brisbane River covered by CWCN. More information and reports on Mangrove and Associated Communities of Moreton Bay can be found on:

<http://bit.do/moreton-mangroves>

Ralph Dowling is a Principal Botanist with the Queensland Herbarium, Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation (DSITI). He has 45 years' experience of working within the mangroves of Moreton Bay and throughout the Queensland coastline. He has mapped and worked in most areas of mangroves along the eastern Queensland coastline.

Dr Arnon Accad is Principal Scientist with the Queensland Herbarium, DSITI. He is also an Adjunct Associate Professor at the Sunshine Coast University and Adjunct Associate Professor at Griffith University. He has worked at CITEC (Brisbane) from 1992 – 1996, the Wet Tropics Management Authority (Cairns) from 1992 – 1996 and at the Queensland Herbarium from 1996 to present where he is in charge of the Biodiversity Information and Analysis Group.

Our meeting will also inform about past and future activities of CWCN. As always, it is also an opportunity to socialise and exchange information and ideas. Refreshments and finger food are waiting for you.

Everyone is welcome.

We look forward to seeing you at our General Meeting on **Tuesday, 25th July**.