



Coordinating Committee Meeting

Monday 10th Feb 2020 7-30 pm

Minutes

Present: John Brannan (Convenor), Warren Bond, Len Taylor

1. Apologies

Margo Hellyer, Alana Wilkes, Denise Hall

2. [Minutes of the Last Meeting](#) / Business Arising

It was moved by John and seconded by Len that the Minutes of the Coordinating Committee meeting held on 4th November 2019 be accepted as a true and fair record of that meeting.

Agreed.

Consideration of Actions carried forward from previous meetings:

20161205: Item 11 (e)

ii. [Member Survey](#)

Action: Warren and Margo to draft a survey to determine members' communication preferences.

Some progress but still outstanding.

20170306: Item 14 (b) FOMP – Belconnen Hills Strategy

Action: This item cannot be progressed until PCS has finalised its Landscape Classification Assessment.

Action pending. It is hoped that the finalisation of the Canberra Nature Park Management Plan may allow this to be progressed.

20190304: Item 10 (c) Preparing for global warming

Action: John to ask PCS about their planning for global warming.

Question has been asked; no response as yet. After 6 months it is expected that a response will not be forthcoming because PCS is still in the process of addressing this issue.

20190805: Item 5. Treasurer's Report

Action: John to seek up to date balances for all remaining funds held by GCG.

Balances have been received.

20190805: Item 11 (b) Subscribing to National e-deposit (NED)

Action: Warren to follow up and do whatever is required (if anything).

It is thought that we don't need to do anything but Warren will check.

Still pending.

20190805: Item 11 (c) Proposal from local real estate agent Cristina O'Brien

Action: Warren to respond to Cris and arrange for her to interview appropriate members.

To be dealt with under Item 12 (a).

20191104: Item 5. Treasurer's Report

Action: Margo to provide a Financial Statement as soon as it is convenient.

Financial statement is now up to date.

20191104: Item 12 (c) fotpin's 10th birthday

Action: These matters to be considered further at the February meeting.

Warren to discuss Weed Plan with Pax.

Plans for 10th birthday discussed at Item 12(b) below.

Warren has contacted Pax; discussions ongoing – see Item 12(c) below.

3. Correspondence in and out (Warren) ([Attachment A](#))

Noted.

4. Convenor's Report ([Attachment B](#))

John had previously circulated his report which was noted.

Main topics were:

- Weetangera Primary School fete report
- Report of Annual Planning Meeting with PCS
- ACT Landcare Awards
- Report on Watering Bee for last year's Bottom Pinnacle planting
- Upcoming Events

The report was noted.

5. Treasurer's Report ([Attachment C](#))

Margo was unable to be at the meeting but Warren tabled the report on her behalf.

Warren moved (seconded by John) that the report be accepted. **Agreed.**

6. Membership Report

Warren reported that our current membership increased by 3 to 98 in the last 3 months, while the net number of other people who have requested to be on our email list increased by 4 to 189, bringing the combined total to 287.

7. Weed Management

Warren reported that the total effort spent on weed control between 1 November and 31 January was 146 hours. This is the smallest in our 10 years of records, half the effort for this period last year and a third of the largest effort for this period. St. John's Wort, Miscellaneous broadleaf weeds, Briars and Capeweed received the most attention and made up 88% of the total effort.

Total effort for the season to date was 255 hours. A summary of weeding effort for the 2019-20 season to date showing what weeds and which areas received the most effort and comparing the season with previous ones can be found on the [weeding effort page](#).

8. Information and Outreach

a. Website

Warren reported that there were some major revisions and additions on the website in the last three months (as documented on the [website updates](#) page). These included out tweaking of the menu, an update of the home page and addition of several new pages, notably new species pages, a new [flora and fauna portal](#) page to guide people to the latter and also a new [weather](#) page.

The number of unique visitors to the website per month was considerably less than the average for the previous two years. The most popular pages in this period were “Recent Weeding”, “Newsletters”, “Walking Tracks”, “About the Pinnacle”, “Kangaroos”, “Erosion” and the “Walking home page”.

b. Social Media

No report.

c. Weetangera Primary School Fete (John)

See [Convenor’s Report item 1](#).

9. Events Program

John reported that events for autumn were currently under consideration. Apart from our participation in the Hawker Primary School Fete, the only other event currently scheduled is a bird walk on or about May 17th. Unfortunately the hot, dry, smoky conditions meant that the hoped-for Butterfly walk had to be abandoned.

10. Molonglo Watermain

a. Potential weed management contract for pipeline corridor

After the contract for the pipeline construction was finalized in mid-2018, the LDA (now the Land Release Infrastructure Unit - LRI) approached fofpin to assess our interest in entering a commercial arrangement to carry out two years of weed management along the entire length of the watermain once the construction contractor’s responsibility for these had ceased. We expressed “in principle” interest subject to resolving some practical issues. (see [Attachment D](#))

We were approached again in November to see if we were still interested and replied that we were, subject to agreement by members. At that time John confirmed that GCG would be agreeable to managing the contract for us.

The commencement of this contract is currently expected to be not sooner than October 2020. The exact date will be subject to the LRI accepting that contractor’s responsibilities are complete and the plants and grass along the pipeline corridor are in an acceptable condition for handover to the ACT Government.

We await the next contact from LRI with contract details and will keep the Committee and members informed.

b. Continued use (and abuse) of temporary detour track;

Warren and John described the work that had been undertaken, in conjunction with Rangers Riko and Michelle, to try to deter bike riders from continuing to use the detour track. Results have been mixed but largely unsuccessful. We have left the decision on what is to be done next to Riko and Michelle, because ultimately it involves their ability to enforce the rule on use of bikes on the reserve.

- c. Corridor restoration follow-up (plant replacement, weed control – current and future)

Warren reported that there was little evidence that the pipeline contractor's commitments to replace dead plants and control weeds along the corridor had been met. He noted that there was an intense patch of Spear Thistles at the tank end of the corridor and that Bob has found (and removed) a Bathurst Burr from that area.

Action: Warren to raise these concerns with the appropriate people who met previously for a site inspection when we first raised concerns in October.

- d. Clean-up of remaining gravel piles near the tanks

There was an undertaking at one stage by PCS to clean up the gravel piles near the tanks but outside the responsibility of the pipeline contractor.

Action: John to follow up.

11. Groundcover Revegetation Project Report ([Attachment E](#))

Len had circulated his report on planting activities to date and the survival rates.

Report noted.

He also circulated a draft plan for seeding bare patches of Weetangera paddock with native grasses. As well as requiring suitable conditions, this will also require the purchase of seed, which will in turn require raising funds to support this activity.

It was agreed in principle to proceed along the lines Len had suggested and he was asked to prepare a more detailed proposal with areas to be treated, likely sources and costs of seed. He was also encouraged to discuss the proposal with John Fitz Gerald and with Sarah Hnatiuk from Friends of Mt. Painter to build on their experience. Consideration also needs to be given to potential funding sources.

12. Other Business

- a. Proposal from local real estate agent Cristina O'Brien to write an article about fotpin for RiotACT – update

Negotiations have ceased. It appears that we all agree that the difficulties of organizing something under the current weather and climate conditions is too difficult.

- b. Fotpin's 10th birthday

Ideas for a celebration were discussed. It is proposed that we do this to coincide with the 2020 AGM - see (d) below. We are planning a BBQ to precede the meeting and considering an appropriate venue, possible at John's home.

- c. Review of Weed Plan 10 years on

Warren has contacted Pax who has expressed interest in seeing what we can put together. The Committee discussed the timing of the review and whether or not to attempt to repeat the survey that formed the basis of the Plan. If we do the latter then it will be necessary to wait until conditions are suitably comparable with those at the time of the 2009 survey.

Action: Warren to follow up with Pax and report back.

- d. Date for AGM

Warren mentioned that he would be unavailable for all of May, which is when we have moved the AGM to. It was agreed that we would hold it on 7th June.

13. Proposed date for next meeting

April 27th 2020 at John's home.

Meeting closed at 9-25 pm.

Warren Bond

Fotpin Secretary

13th Feb 2020

Attachment A. Summary of Major Items of Correspondence since August meeting**ParkCare**

From	To (if specific)	Date	Subject
John Brannan	Friends of Mulligan's Flat	15 th Nov	Email address change
Marty Bajt		18 th Nov	Announcement of Snake Awareness Workshop
Marty Bajt		18 th Nov	Postponement of November ParkCare Convenors Meeting
Alison McLeod		2 nd Dec	Update on ParkCare office following illness
John Brannan	Marty Bajt	10 th Dec	Request for water tank refill
Marty Bajt		11 th Dec	Cancelling of December Fringe Forum
Marty Bajt		11 th Dec	Reminder that ParkCare activities are to be cancelled on total fire ban days
Marty Bajt		12 th Dec	Closure of Bimberi Wilderness
Marty Bajt		13 th Dec	Reminder of deadline for submissions to review of the Canberra Nature Park Management Plan
Marty Bajt		13 th Dec	Low Ranger staffing levels at present
Alison McLeod		18 th Dec	Stay cool, stay safe, and Merry Christmas
Alison McLeod		8 th Jan	Update - Park Closures
Danielle Sykes		10 th Jan	Update to situation in ACT Parks and Conservation reserves. Suspension of volunteering activities in total fire bans, park closures, and when smoke reaches hazardous air quality levels.
Marty Bajt		10 th Jan	Selected for an Interstate Deployment; unavailable until 22 nd Jan
Alison McLeod		28 th Jan	ParkCare volunteer safety- working in extreme conditions - Guidelines
Alison McLeod		31 st Jan	Updated guidelines for volunteer fieldwork in a STATE OF ALERT
Karen Williams		9 th Feb	Request for Coordinators to attend Ministerial briefing on Monday morning 10 th Feb

* ParkCare Coordinator: Alison McLeod

* ParkCare Ranger: Marty Bajt

* Volunteer Program Coordinator, Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve: Karen Williams

PCS Rangers

From	To (if specific)	Date	Subject
John Brannan	Kate Boyd *	9 th Nov	Making contact with new Offsets Ranger and
Kate Boyd *	John Brannan	18 th Nov	Reply to above
John Brannan	Riko Ahlers, Michelle Ralph	21 st Nov	Notification of unlocked gate
Warren Bond	Riko Ahlers, Michelle Ralph	10 th Dec	Fallen tree over Valley track and broken gate hinge at the tank entrance; proposal to use tree to block the temporary pipeline bypass track in Central paddock still being used
Riko Ahlers	Warren Bond	15 th Dec	Confirmation that tree across track had been sawn up and was ready for relocation to close off the undesired track
Warren Bond	Riko Ahlers, Michelle Ralph	17 th Dec	Confirming that branches moved to block undesired track
Michelle Ralph	Warren Bond	18 th Dec	Offer of PCS "Track closed" signs
Warren Bond	Michelle Ralph, Riko Ahlers	2 nd Jan	Acceptance of offer of signs after branches moved by feral bike riders
Riko Ahlers	Warren Bond	25 th Jan	Checking on progress
Warren Bond	Riko Ahlers	25 th Jan	Reporting back on failure to deter bike riders
Len Taylor	Riko Ahlers	7 th Feb	Informing of planting of red leg grass seedlings
Riko Ahlers	Len Taylor	8 th Feb	Response to above
Riko Ahlers		10 th Feb	Request for northside groups to let him know of planting plans and requirements for 2020

* Kate Boyd: Offsets Ranger, Northside

* Northside Rangers: Michelle Ralph, Andrew Halley

* Pinnacle Ranger: Riko Ahlers

Ginninderra Catchment Group

From	To (if specific)	Date	Subject
Ann Milligan		8 th Nov	November Newsletter available
John Brannan	Fiona Spier	15 th Nov	Update on the grant funds held by GCG in trust for fotpin Request for release of funds (\$98.26) to reimburse revegetation project expenses
Karissa Preuss		20 th Nov	Consultation on "wellbeing indicators" as part of assessing funding for ACT government programs
John Brannan	Karissa Preuss	20 th Nov	Seeking confirmation that any future contract for weed control in the pipeline corridor can be paid through GCG (see Miscellaneous Correspondence on 19 th Nov.
Karissa Preuss	John Brannan	20 th Nov	Confirmation of above, subject to inclusion of a component for GCG admin costs.
Karissa Preuss		27 th Nov	Reminder of AGM and Christmas Party
Karissa Preuss		29 th Nov	Congratulations to Landcare award winners
Julian Low	John Brannan	3 rd Dec	Response to funds request on 15 th Nov
Ann Milligan		16 th Dec	December Newsletter available
Karissa Preuss		13 th Jan	Leaving GCG to take up position of Chief Executive Officer of Landcare ACT and also to be the Community Representative for the ACT & Region Catchment Management Coordination Group
Karissa Preuss		16 th Jan	Transition arrangements
Ann Milligan		16 th Jan	Call for contributions to January newsletter
John Brannan	Ann Milligan	28 th Jan	Fotpin contribution to Newsletter
Ann Milligan		30 th Jan	Newsletter now online
Sandy Lolicato		16 th Jan	Farewell for Karissa Preuss

* Karissa Preuss: GCG Executive Officer

* Fiona Spier: GCG Admin Officer

* Julian Low: GCG Finance Officer

* Sandy Lolicato: GCG Chair

Miscellaneous

From	To (if specific)	Date	Subject
John Brannan	Parks Planning	9 th Nov	CNP Draft Management Plan feedback
Linda Reynolds		13 th Nov, 11 th Dec, 21 st Jan	Heritage Festival registration kit and reminders
Stuart Oxborrow (Land Release Infrastructure)	Warren Bond	19 th Nov	Contracting fotpin for weed management in pipeline corridor for 2 years from late2020
Warren Bond	Stuart Oxborrow	19 th Nov	Reply to above with in-principle agreement
Weetangera School Fete Coordinators	John Brannan	14 th Jan	Thank you to all stall holders who contributed to a highly successful day
John Brannan		15 th Jan	Reply to above, thanking them for the opportunity to take part in the Fete.

Attachment B. Convenor's Report

Convenor's Report

February 2020

We are, I hope, now reaching the end of a Summer that has been unforgettable for all the wrong reasons. Drought followed by record heat, rampaging bushfires, dust, smoke, golfball-sized hail and now, finally, some very welcome rain.

Like the rest of us, the Pinnacle Nature Reserve has been struggling to cope with the extremes of this Summer, and many of the trees are showing the signs. Many small trees and saplings have died off altogether, and many of the larger trees have sacrificed one or more limbs, redirecting the scarce moisture and nutrients to the remaining branches. Add to this the leaves stripped from the canopy by the hailstorm, and the result is a reserve that is looking far from its best. Only time will tell whether the Pinnacle can recover from this season or whether this is just the beginning of more extreme weather. Fingers crossed, we will have a nice wet winter that will allow the reserve to store some water deep in the soil ahead of next Spring.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all those people who have put out water containers for the wildlife around the reserve, and for keeping those containers full through the worst of the heat and smoke. I've seen as many as a dozen species of bird drinking and bathing at one of the water containers, so I know they've made a real difference.

One mercy of the extreme heat and dry is that weed growth was suppressed along with everything else, so we had a relatively quiet weeding season. Even so, our weeders logged a total of 146 hours of weeding effort between November 1st and January 31st, often in very hot conditions, so a big vote of thanks for everyone who contributed.

In other news, Len has been busy raising seedlings to revegetate the burned areas in Weetangera paddock, with his latest effort producing well over 300 Red-leg Grass plants. Last Friday, he and a small group of fotpin volunteers planted 70 of the seedlings ahead of the predicted rain. The plants were protected by a mix of recycled plastic guards and small wire guards put together by Len and his wife. Over the last several months, Len has germinated and planted an enormous number of grass and forb seedlings to help revegetate the burned areas of Weetangera paddock, consistently working to protect the plants against the heat, the dry and some very hungry rabbits. He deserves a huge vote of thanks from us all for his commitment and the time and effort he has devoted to this task.

In the absence of weeds to pull or spray, Warren has also been busy revamping our website, including a new [flora and fauna portal](#) that points to all the species lists we have. Most of these are also new pages - sourced from the Canberra Nature Map where Alison Milton (mainly) and a few other keen field naturalists and photographers make regular contributions of new findings. When you add them all up there are several hundred native species occupying or visiting the Reserve. This includes 109 native bird species and 186 native plant species. Not bad for a reserve that used to be mostly old sheep paddocks.

Below are some of the other things that have been happening since the last fotpin update.

1. Weetangera Primary School fete

As always, the WPS fete was a great success, and the volunteers who staffed our stall at the fete spent an enjoyable few hours raising awareness of the reserve among the local parents and children. My thanks to everyone who helped out, and especially to Marty, our ParkCare Ranger,

who organized the display boards and the snappy table cover and teardrop banner advertising our presence. (See photo below.)



Fotpin display board and table

2. Annual Planning Meeting with PCS

Our annual planning meeting with PCS was held at the PCS Mitchell depot on November 15th, 2019. In attendance were myself, Warren, ParkCare Ranger Marty Bajt and District Ranger Riko Ahlers. Offsets Ranger Michelle Ralph was unable to attend. The topics discussed included the following:

- Weed control, including the control of African Lovegrass on the reserve perimeter.
- Ground layer revegetation and the need for ongoing deliveries of water
- Monitoring of the revegetation work along the Molonglo pipeline corridor
- Remediation of the remaining heaps of metal along the southern edge of the water tanks compound and the potential to use the metal to assist in grading the De Salis St car parking (including removing the illegally dumped builder's rubble)
- Grading of the Central track
- Incursions into the reserve by stock from adjacent paddocks
- Pathways for improved communication with the Offsets rangers to better coordinate our activities in the Pinnacle extension

The meeting was generally cordial and constructive, with PCS committing to work with fotpin to achieve our goals to the extent that their budgetary and staffing constraints permit. We were pleased to hear that Kate Boyd will be taking over as Offsets Ranger for the northside reserves and is likely to remain in that position for the long term.

3. ACT Landcare Awards

Fotpin was nominated for an unprecedented three categories in this year's ACT Landcare awards: Individual Landcarer, Community Landcare Group and Australian Government Partnerships. Unfortunately, we didn't win in any of our nominated categories, though I received a Highly Commended (i.e. 2nd place) in the Individual Landcarer award. The winners in the respective

categories were all individuals or groups who have been active and successful in the Landcare area over several decades, and the fact that we were nominated is a recognition of the outstanding achievements of fotpin in the 10 years since we were founded.

4. Watering Bee

On a warm morning in early December, over a dozen volunteers fronted up to help dole out some much-needed water to the seedlings we planted in the Bottom Pinnacle last May. A full water cube was emptied and its contents divided out among roughly 100 plants in the space of a very productive two hours, after which participants enjoyed a well-deserved cuppa and some home-baked treats. Well done everyone who took part and many thanks again to Marty for making sure the water cube was full on the day.



A couple of younger fotpins collaborating



Base camp

5. Upcoming Events

- **Hawker Primary School Fete -- TBC**

- **Autumn bird walk – Sunday May 17th**

I have had to delay my Autumn bird walk this year to allow myself time to fully recover from hip surgery. I expect to be in better shape than ever by mid-May and am looking forward to leading anyone who's interested around some of the Pinnacle's birding hot spots to check out the resident birds and any of the migrants who might still be around.

I should also note that while fotpin has no plans to participate in this year's Clean-up Australia Day campaign, the Ginninderra Catchment Group will be organising an event and Lake Ginninderra on March 1st.

John Brannan

9 February, 2020

Attachment C. Treasurer's Report

Statement of Receipts and Payments
for the period 30-July-2019 to 31-Jan-2020

Opening balance on 30-July-2019		\$2392.63
Receipts		
Ginninderra Catchment Group to	\$98.96	
Beyond Bank account -		
reimbursement – L Taylor		
Interest	\$0.11	
		<u>\$99.07</u>
Payments		
L Taylor - cheque #11 -		\$113.96
reimbursement revegetation		
supplies and table. Note \$98.96		
received from GCG.		
		<u>\$113.96</u>
Surplus/deficit of receipts over payments		<u><u>– \$14.89</u></u>
Closing balance on 31-Jan-2020		<u><u>\$2,377.74</u></u>
Reconciled to:		
“Beyond Bank” Account 03356841	\$2309.35	
Petty Cash	\$182.35	
		<u>\$2,491.70</u>
Less unpresented Cheques	\$113.96	
Total		<u><u>\$2,377.74</u></u>

Notes:

1. Total value of all funds held and administered for fotpin by Ginninderra Catchment as at Jan 28 2020 : \$8342.52
Funds are largely residual funds from the Commonwealth Caring for Country Grant and the Labor Club Grant (both for the Native Grass Regeneration Project) and Spicers (for the 2011 tree planting project).
2. \$1300 of the funds held in the fotpin bank account are a donation from the Harden-Murrumburrah Landcare Group to be spent on interpretative signage

Margo Hellyer
Treasurer
3 February 2020

Attachment D Record of meeting between fotpin and LDA, May 2018

This note is to record the key outcomes of the meeting today between FOTPIN (John Brannan and Warren Bond) and ACT Government (Stuart Oxborrow, CMTEDD and Leigh Crocker EPSDD) regarding weed management associated with the 600mm watermain from Weetangera Reservoir to William Hovell Drive (WHD).

The purpose of the meeting was for ACT Government to gauge the interest from FOTPIN in entering a commercial arrangement to carry out two years of weed management along the entire length of the watermain.

ACT Government

- The scope is the length of watermain from Weetangera Reservoir to WHD, but excluding the watermain being constructed as part of the John Gorton Drive extension. The southern end of the watermain contract, therefore, is approximately where the western arm of Deep Creek crosses under WHD.
- The watermain construction contract includes 12 months of “establishment” for the post construction planting, including weed management in that time. Hence the two years additional weed management proposed is likely to start in around 2020, and last until 2022;
- PCS have expressed strong support for FOTPIN undertaking this work, and have also offered themselves as a backup plan;
- The concept is that FOTPIN would be paid a lump sum towards the end of the establishment period and this would cover two years of work. The scope of the work would be weed management along the length of the pipeline, with the detailed scope and implementation details to be agreed at the time;
- Whilst the scope is yet to be determined in detail, a guess at the contract value could be between \$10,000 and \$20,000 per year, for two years, but this will require further discussion. The actual mechanism for payment from the ACT government to FOTPIN would need to be determined, and;
- The work will need to be done, and if (for whatever reason) FOTPIN are not able to do the work ACT Government would hire a contractor. However, given FOTPIN’s input and involvement in the project to date, and their interest and work in weed management within the Pinnacles, ACT Government would be very happy to have FOTPIN carry out this work.

FOTPIN expressed interest in undertaking the work, but raised some concerns, including;

- FOTPIN is unincorporated and hence not a legal entity. FOTPIN have previously managed this issue by using Ginninderra Catchment Group (GCG) as the legal entity for Government grants FOTPIN have received. Hence this issue can be overcome by using either GCG or PCS. Details to be considered close to the date work is due to commence;
- There is a small risk FOTPIN may not even exist by the time the work is due to commence. It was agreed that this risk would be accepted, and it would be very clear at the time the work is due to commence whether or not FOTPIN still existed;
- There are a range of practical issues associated with doing the work (e.g. which herbicide to use). These were discussed, and while none seem insurmountable, they would have to be worked through before weed management work commenced.

In summary it was agreed that this concept is of interest to both parties and will continue to be discussed and refined over the next two years with the intention of reaching a mutually agreeable arrangement for FOTPIN to be the commercial provider of post construction weed management services for the watermain project.

Attachment E Groundcover Revegetation Project

Report on progress with recent activities in the Weetangera paddock

The Microlaena was probably planted too late in the season, so I believe the plants were too small to allow them to go dormant in the Summer. This, together with the drought, has caused the need for continual watering once a week. Rabbits have also attacked the plants by trying to dig under the guards. Their small holes have been filled but they did completely eat, roots included, a small daisy plant and another just died. Most of the Cotton Fire Weed was left unguarded and eventually got eaten. However this is an annual or short lived perennial which often dies off over Summer and reshoots again in Autumn.

The Red Leg germinated well resulting in three trays full of seedlings. Robert Gunning came to help with transferring seedlings into tubes. Before Christmas only one tray was done. From that single tray we have 310 Red Leg that have survived the drought and hail. Unfortunately, the other seedlings were left in the trays for too long resulting in the roots penetrating through the paper and the polystyrene box. Not to waste these we ripped the mass of seedlings from the box in one sheet and watered them before ripping the sheets smaller and planting them unguarded in the Pinnacle. The grazers did the job of trimming the tops for us and then the guards were fitted. Although that was an experiment which I did not think would work, it did, and those plants are still surviving with only two lots of water a week.

The peak growing season for Red Leg is January and February and I don't want to be caught out having to nurse immature Red Leg for a long period. The regular planting and weeding crew of Grahame, Margaret and Tom along with Julia answered a sudden call for help on Friday 7th Feb and we planted 70 of the Red Leg in the hope that the forecast rain would do the job of getting them started. This again was a gamble because PCS are not in a position with the fires to be able to fill the tanks all the time. Let's hope that the rain does come sufficiently to seriously dampen the fires.

Only nine of the Yellow Burr Daisy germinated two of which got too badly damaged by hail that they died.

We also have someone else who has expressed an interest in germinating and raising seedlings for us so we may be able to expand the operation.

Len Taylor
February 8th 2020