

Myna Newsletter

Clarence Valley Conservation in Action



This is the first of our quarterly Mynas newsletter.

We understand that many of our trappers do not have access to the internet and the CVCIA website and therefore can't see the overall picture. Hopefully this will assist in keeping you updated.

Our database:

Since February this year when Laura started work on the council data base, Mick, Kevin and Pam have rebuilt and modified over 40 of the original council traps. Most were just made more user friendly as well as having perches, shade cloth for shelter and self filling water bottle. Some however, were badly damaged including a couple which had been trampled by cattle and another had a small wall fall on it and were practically rebuilt.



Myna trap and caller cage

Presently we know of about 50 operational traps throughout the Clarence Valley area. If you come across any others please advise us so we can include them in our program. Our trappers are catching an impressive 150 birds per month, although we expect these numbers to drop off during the winter months when the birds normally roost in certain areas. If you notice or hear of one of these roost locations please let us know so we can adjust our trapping plan.

Our monitoring is progressing and these results have been added to the website by Sharon and Kevin. If you have web access and want to see the sightings map [click here](#) or if you are reading a hardcopy of this newsletter then a copy the sighting map is on the back. We value any sightings as a way of increasing our knowledge of the spread of these pests so keep sending details of any seen.

New Trap Construction:

The Clarence Valley Council has donated several rolls of wire and a project has just started at Acmena Juvenile Justice Centre where a few of the boys have begun building traps. Hopefully this will be a success as we really need more traps.

Mapping update:

As well as mapping our sightings we have added a map showing the [locations of our traps](#) and details of numbers trapped to the website. The little pins are colour coded to show higher catching trap. Location may not be exact as we are only using street names and no numbers for privacy. Again we have printed a copy on the back of this newsletter.

Grant applications:

Attempting to run a project like this with very little funding is difficult to say the least. The Council and National Parks & Wildlife have assisted with some funds, wire for cages and dog food. Beyond that it has all been voluntary and probably will stay that way for now.

However Pam one of our Area Co-ordinators has been very busy working on a couple of "expressions of interest" for grants to assist the project.

Local Markets:

To publicise our project we decided to visit our local markets recently. This was successful from an information point of view although we didn't place any traps.



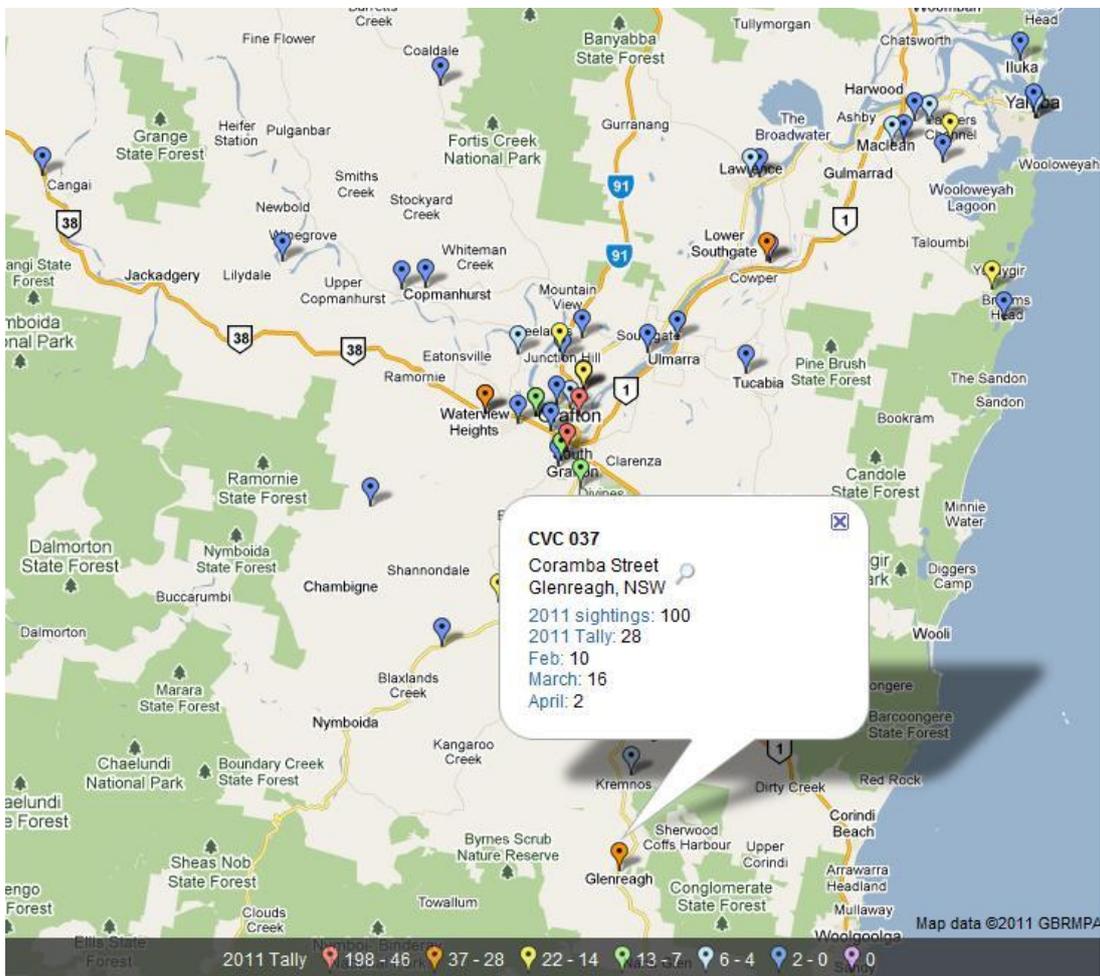
Laura & friends at Halfway Creek markets

Following on from this we decided to try Yamba markets but our first attempt was rained out, so we will wait till after the colder months when the Mynas are more active, to give it another go. We would hope to have displays at other local markets next spring/summer.

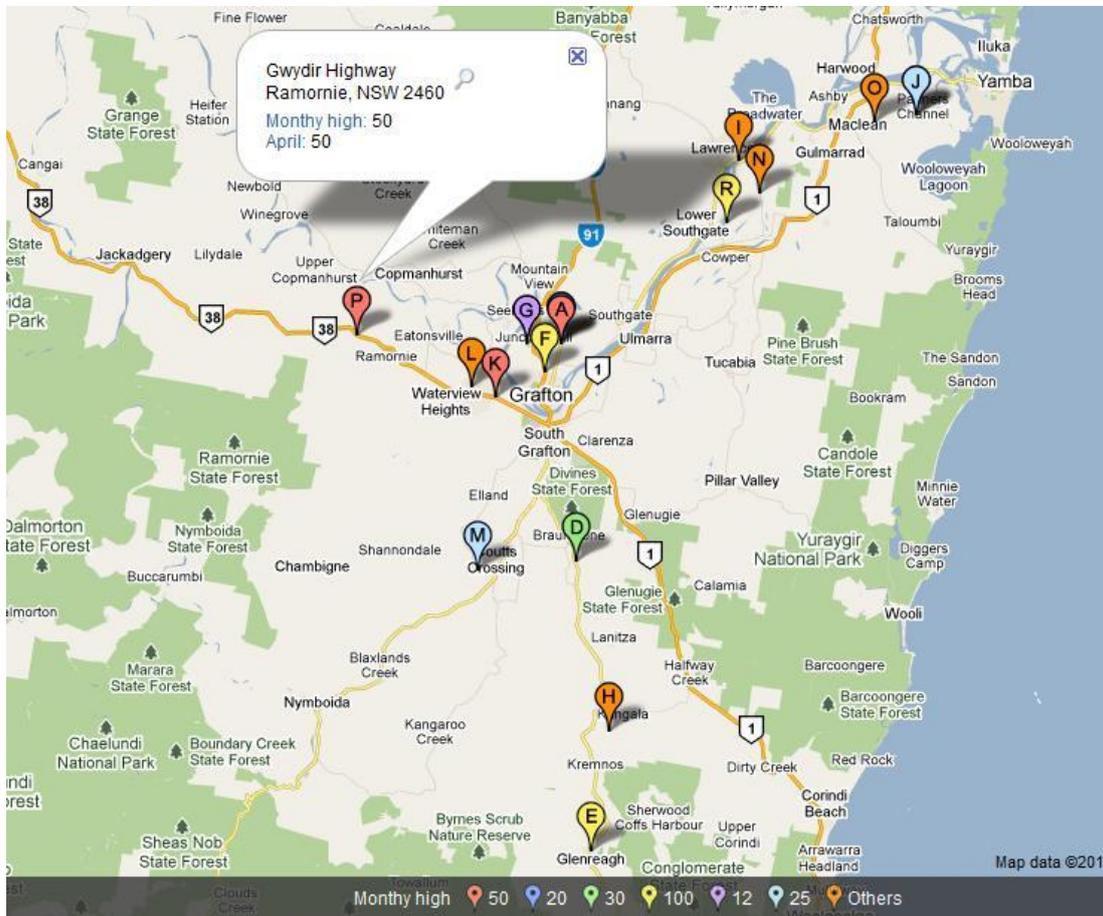
MYNAS TRAPPED FEBRUARY to APRIL 2011

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Trapper map (on the net clicking on a flag brings up the details shown in the box)



Sightings Map