



CONSERVATION INTERNSHIPS

International placement student at the TLC's Vale of Belvoir Reserve. Credit: Phill Laroche

The Tasmanian Land Conservancy's (TLC) internship and professional placement program involves emerging professionals in applied conservation activities, enabling them to expand their skills and experience. Students work alongside our experienced team on ecological research, field surveying, data processing and analysis, and land management activities. Usually interns complete a discrete conservation project, often structured by agreement with their course convenor and credited towards post-graduate studies. Upon completion, participants have new insights into nature conservation, new skills and expertise, new industry contacts and often, new ideas and convictions for career pathways. The TLC has an important role to play to facilitate these opportunities and demand is growing, but philanthropic support is needed to sustain the program.

INVESTING IN EMERGING PROFESSIONALS

While ensuring students work on projects that are strategic for the TLC, our commitment is also to support learning outcomes and beneficial experiences for participants. To achieve this, organisational costs are incurred for every intern placement. From liaising with university staff on potential projects, to supervising participants in practical activities in the field, staff resourcing is necessary. There may also be additional equipment required, travel and accommodation expenses while conducting field work, and other incidental costs incurred by the TLC for interns. To make this opportunity accessible to everyone, we would also like to offer students a small stipend to contribute to living expenses during placements.

The TLC invites supporters to donate \$5,000 (tax deductible) to invest in the learning opportunities for a conservation intern or placement student. This gift will enable us to involve one emerging professional in a meaningful placement, broadening their skills

and experiences and helping to launch them into a successful career in nature conservation. Funds will contribute to the TLC's science and reserves staffing, placement expenses and a modest stipend for participants. We hope to continue supporting three interns or placement students annually (including through the Bird Conservation Scholarship). Ultimately, we plan to build the [The TLC Foundation](#) endowment to guarantee a funded internship program in perpetuity.

BIRD CONSERVATION FUND SCHOLARSHIP

In 2018, the TLC initiated the [Bird Conservation Fund Scholarship](#), an annual postgraduate scholarship to address knowledge gaps in bird conservation across Tasmania. The scholarship provides up to \$5000 annually to a postgraduate scholar to explore critical knowledge gaps in bird conservation across Tasmania. This research will help better understand bird species condition and threats, while also providing support for an emerging conservation researcher.

AMY WING – BIRD CONSERVATION FUND SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT 2019

During her honours year at UTAS, Amy examined the genetic and environmental factors affecting production of manna from white gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis*), a crucial food resource for many animals, including the endangered forty-spotted pardalote (*Pardalotus quadragintus*). Manna is a sugary secretion produced from wounds on the leaves, stems or branches caused by insect bites but also by the hooked beak of the forty-spotted pardalote. Amy's project investigated quality and quantity variations of manna between populations of white gum across various environments, and implications for the forty-spotted pardalote.

Photo: Amy Wing and Dr Sally Bryant doing fieldwork on Bruny Island



KEY PARTNERSHIPS

Since 2013, the TLC has partnered with the University of Tasmania Geography and Environment Faculty, supervising one to three graduate students annually. These 'work integrated learning' participants complete a minimum of 80 hours featuring projects that may include drafting reserve management plans, surveying threatened species, ARC GIS mapping, literature reviews and producing reports on sector issues.

The TLC also works with various other researchers and institutes as outlined in our [2018–19 Annual Report](#) (page 18).

ABOUT US

The [Tasmanian Land Conservancy](#) (TLC) was established in 2001 with \$50 in the bank and a handful of committed volunteers. Since then, we have grown to be one of Tasmania's largest private landholders. We protect and manage nature on our own land, and we work alongside other committed landholders to identify, protect and manage important areas for nature conservation. We are a for-purpose, apolitical, science and community-based organisation, registered as a deductible gift recipient.

Learn more about the TLC's conservation internships at tasland.org.au/science/. For more information on donating to the TLC's intern program, please contact Margie Jenkin, Philanthropy and Engagement Manager, mjenkin@tasland.org.au or 0403789110.



HARRISON TALARICO – WORK INTEGRATED LEARNING PLACEMENT, SUMMER 2019–2020

Harry came to the TLC in his third year of a Bachelor of Zoology at UTAS. Harry took a lead role in the collection and analysis of flora and fauna survey data from the TLC's newest reserve, Little Swanport, on Tasmania's east coast. He also made field trips to other TLC reserves including the Vale of Belvoir and Egg Islands and supported assessments of properties being considered for Land for Wildlife membership. Harry is an ongoing volunteer with our Science team, further building his skills and experiences in nature conservation.

Photo: Harrison Talarica kayaking at the TLC's Egg Islands Reserve