



Environment Institute
of Australia and
New Zealand

ANET 2026



BREAKING THE BARRIERS

INNOVATING TO IMPROVE ECOLOGICAL OUTCOMES
ON TRANSPORT AND OTHER LINEAR INFRASTRUCTURE

23 – 25 MARCH 2026 | BRISBANE

IMAGE CREDIT: ROB APPLEBY, WILDSPY/GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY



FANNY DELOR
Natural Areas
Conservation Officer
Sunshine Coast
Council



JACQUELINE NOLEN
Conservation
Planning Lead
Sunshine Coast
Council

ABSTRACT

No time to waste - Audit, innovate, implement, review

Local Governments are often at the forefront of implementing innovative measures to reduce wildlife vehicle collision in response to growing development and population growth. At Sunshine Coast Council, fauna movement infrastructure is conditioned for new developments under the Planning Scheme. Much of this is unreported and unpublished work. As part of a new fauna movement program, Sunshine Coast Council is trialling a range of techniques as well as reviewing existing fauna infrastructure. Understanding what infrastructure currently exists and how it functions is key. Council completed a comprehensive audit and condition assessment of all fauna crossing infrastructure within the Local Government Area and engaged UniSc to monitor some of the older established crossings. This included fauna rope bridges, culvert underpasses and a land bridge. Key findings demonstrate 1) there has been a rapid growth in fauna crossing infrastructure being installed by developers over the past 10 years; 2) many structures are sub-optimally designed; 3) wildlife are surprisingly adventurous and prolific at older structures, particularly culverts. Additionally, as part of the audit it was found that the Cresswell Road land bridge over a major arterial road into Caloundra had fallen into disrepair. First constructed in 2008/9 the Cresswell Rd fauna bridge is to this day Sunshine Coast's only fauna bridge. This offers a case study for future best practice with its unique design as a multi-use crossing for both people and wildlife. This can be used in green infrastructure planning to include wildlife crossings and save on costs. After 15 years the rope bridge has decayed and needed to be replaced, and the landscaping restored. Since its refurbishment in 2024, native mammals have already been observed using the crossing which now includes a trial of biodegradable habitat pods to provide additional cover while the vegetation grows, and cameras installed for monitoring.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. There has been a rapid growth in fauna crossing infrastructure being installed by developers over the past 10 years;
2. Many structures are sub-optimally designed;
3. Wildlife are surprisingly adventurous and prolific at older structures, particularly culverts.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Fanny Delor holds a Masters of Protected Areas Governance and Management from the University of Tasmania, as well as a Graduate Diploma of Ornithology from Charles Sturt University. With a passion for wildlife conservation, Fanny has been working as a Natural Areas Conservation Officer at the Sunshine Coast Council for the past three years in the Natural Areas Engagement Planning and Wildlife Team. Fanny works on citizen science projects and has led the City Nature Challenge for Sunshine Coast, bringing international focus to our region and sharing citizen science data on an international platform. Fauna moment is one of Fanny's key projects in the Sunshine Coast Council team, working together to map, design, consult and evaluate Council's fauna movement infrastructure and innovative signage. Fanny is particularly interested in the different ways in which fauna-friendly designs can be incorporated to new and existing road projects to improve connectivity in the landscape for wildlife. She also has interests and previous experience in bird and sea turtle conservation.

Jacqueline Nolen holds a Masters of Urban Planning - Griffith University; BSC Hons (limnology) James Cook University. Jacqueline has over 30 years' experience in natural resource management and conservation, ranging from research and consultancy in freshwater ecology and wetland restoration to government policy and environmental planning in state and local government. Jacqueline has worked as conservation planning lead for Sunshine Coast Council for the past ten years. With her Engagement Planning and Wildlife team, Jacqueline has responsibility for developing a dedicated fauna movement program for Sunshine Coast Council.