**Media Release**

Date:

**Headline [based on content]**

[use this space to introduce the science topics in your region].

“I invite the [council name] community to get involved in National Science Week, Australia’s annual opportunity to meet scientists, discuss the hot topics, do science and celebrate its cultural and economic impact on society,” says [mayor/councillor/spokesperson name].

“Local activities include…

[use this space to write about events in your region].

“[Region/council name] residents can also explore the tweets, howls, bellows, barks, chirps, croaks and calls of Aussie wildlife from the comfort of their own homes by participating in ABC’s National Science Week project ‘Call of the Wild’. People can go online, find out about iconic native creatures, and vote for Australia’s favourite animal sounds.”

First held in 1997, National Science Week has become one of Australia’s largest festivals. Last year about 1.9 million people participated in more than 1650 events and activities.

In 2023, National Science Week events will be held online and right throughout Australia—from Tassie’s dark sky astro-party to ancient Aussie beasts in the Territory, and from bird brains in WA to a giant inflatable ‘poo palace’ in Newcastle—with everything including science festivals, music and comedy shows, expert panel discussions, interactive displays, open days and online activities.

“Science is fun, interesting and useful. The COVID-19 pandemic has reminded us that it also saves lives. That’s why [council name] is please to foster community interest in science,” says [spokesperson name].

The festival is proudly supported by the Australian Government; partners CSIRO, the Australian Science Teachers Association and the ABC.

National Science Week 2023 will run from 12 to 20 August. Event details can be found at www.scienceweek.net.au.

ENDS

For further information please contact xxxxxxx