



News Update

National Landcare Conference Field Trip hailed a success

Feedback from delegates visiting Coochie earlier in the month hailed the trip an outstanding success with several planning to return. The day showcased the saturated steam weeding project funded by the Queensland government, the Landcare interpretive signage in the Melaleuca Wetlands and beach restoration following the storm surge from ex-Tropical Cyclone Oswald in 2013. This collaborative project between SEQ Catchments, Coastcare and Redland City Council was driven by funding from WetlandsCare Australia in support of our wetlands which are part of the Moreton Bay Ramsar designation.

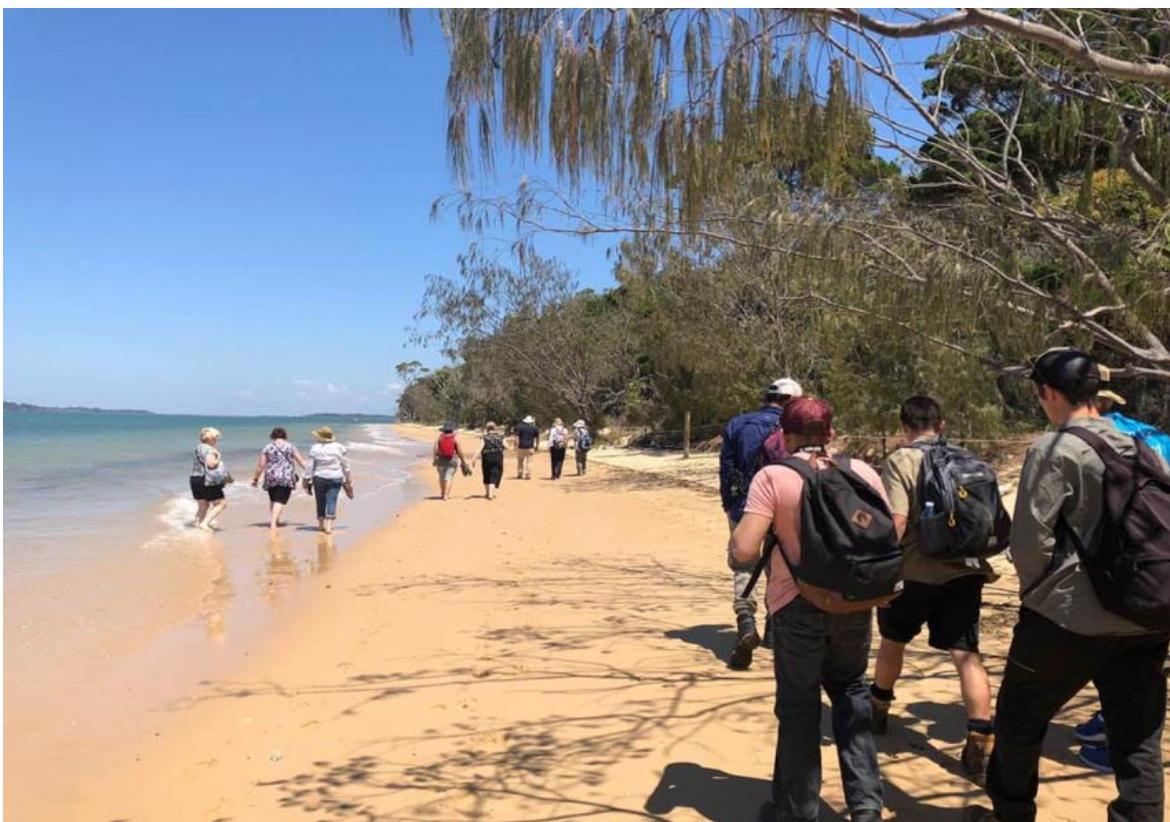
Karen Toms from Healthy Land and Water discussed the sea-grass friendly mooring buoy program while native bees also came under the spotlight.

As both interpretive signage and steam weeding projects were undertaken in collaboration with the Quandamooka people, it was fitting to have QYAC Ranger Brandon Martin welcome Australia's leading Landcarers to Country.

There was a high degree of interest in the success of the saturated steam weeding project where Coastcare volunteers & QYAC rangers have been undertaking chemical-free weeding around the island foreshore. Revegetation of denuded areas is also underway with the planting of 2500 native ground covers, grasses, shrubs and trees, many propagated in the island's native nursery.

Jeremy Winer, the CEO of Weedtechnics Australia answered technical questions and oversaw application of saturated steam on a previously untreated watercourse heavily infested with Singapore Daisy in William Street. Coastcarers were pleased to have Kim Richards MP, Member for Redlands join them to welcome the visitors from all Australian states and delighted with her [video](#).

Grateful thanks to Carolyn Brammer, founding Coastcare President for opening Mudlo as a base for the day. Coastcare committee member Heather Smith attended the two-day conference in Brisbane. Her report follows.



For many, the beach walk and inspection of rehabilitation areas was a chance to kick-off the shoes and relax before two days of conference workshops and presentations.





L-R Weedtechnics CEO, Jeremy Winer, QYAC Ranger Brandon Martin, Heather Smith,

Bruce Wollstein.
Back: Andrew Ross and Elijah

Landcare Conference overview (Heather Smith)

The conference started brilliantly with a range of field trips to choose from and we on Coochie proved to be one of the most popular. Coochiemudlo Island Coastcarers hosted the day with a focus on steam-weeding, the interpretative signage project proudly displayed in the Melaleuca wetlands, beach restoration following the devastation caused by TC Oswald as well as discussions on eco-friendly moorings and native bees.

The property “Mudlo” was the host venue with amazing food provided by Coastcare volunteers. Redland City Council came on board by allowing Coastcare to demonstrate the steam-weeder at a site not part of our allocated zones but perfect with an infestation of Singapore daisy. The area behind the surf lifesavers in William Street was approved by council and the result was instant. We are hoping to be allowed by RCC to maintain this area.

The next two days were intensive and informative group sessions in the Brisbane Entertainment Centre. The topics were many and grouped into the main areas of: sustainable agriculture, community in action, partnerships and the environment. There was a myriad of topics discussed and further details of individual sessions can be sourced on the Landcare Australia website www.nationallandcareconference.org.au/speaker-presentations/

There was also an expo of products and services available to enhance the Landcare experience and provide the latest information available to help us all achieve our goals of a sustainable future by protecting our natural resources and environment.



Redland City Council last week issued notification of weed management works at the following sites from Monday 29 October to Friday 2 November (weather permitting) See attached map

- Drainage areas on both sides of the road on Elizabeth St (adjacent to the shop)
- Melaleuca Wetlands (Zone 1)
- Adjacent to Curlew Creek (Zone 2)
- Embankment area from to Tageruba St towards Epraphah St (Zone 2)
- Adjacent to the Golf Course (Zone 3 a)

On Friday, Coastcare was advised works would now start on Tuesday 30 October covering “Cats Claw hill” near the golf course and drainage lines, both sides of Elizabeth Street adjacent to the kiosk. Works on the left-hand side will involve brush-cutting and hand-removal “to enable the water to flow within the roadside drain”

A four-metre spray-free buffer will extend along the edge of Curkew Creek to protect the waterway. Works are planned both sides of the creek. RCC Parks and Conservation Manager, David Katavic says they are happy to meet with and work with community members on this site.

Glyphosate 360, Met mac, Starane Advanced, Generex 1000 and Dicamba have been confirmed as the chemicals to be used. As previously, it's expected dyes will be added to mark spray zones and correct warning signs will remain in place throughout work. At this stage, hand-weeding only will occur in the Melaleuca Wetlands between Elizabeth Street and the waste transfer station in a previous work zone funded by a Wetland Care Australia grant.

Please share warning to schools - The Integrated Weed Management Plan approved by Council officers in January 2018 recommends – *“Notification to the contractors if a school group is booked to visit the island should be provided with at least with 1 week’s notice. This will prevent any conflict or perceived conflict between school children and weed control works. If Council is aware that a group is visiting the wetlands then informing contractors will be very helpful as they can easily move works to zone 3 or 4. If schools are visiting the whole island, then it may be more effective if contractors either did not go to Coochiemudlo that day or if they did, refrained from spraying. Any notification of schools visiting the island should be shared between community groups, Council and contractors.”* If you know of any schools or groups contemplating a visit to the island please circulate this information. Council offers an official register for those who'd like to be warned when herbicide spraying takes place. Lodge contact details with Rory.House@redland.qld.gov.au and

copy Lance.Hewlett@redland.qld.gov.au Further details phone Council on 38298999.



DUNECARE Saturday 3 November 2.00 – 4.00 pm

Join us in the Melaleuca Wetlands Beach (ZONE D), replanting the dunes & weeding alongside the track.

Enjoy getting to know folk over a cuppa and chat.

You'll find sign-on where the Coastcare flags fly at the southern (James Street) entrance to the wetlands. Please BYO water, wear covered shoes, comfortable clothes, sunscreen and insect repellent.

New members are always welcome. Annual membership (including insurance) is \$2 for singles and \$5 for families. Life Memberships of \$50 for singles and \$100 for families are also available.

For further details please phone Secretary, Lois Toop on 0408 180 630.



Shoreline Erosion Management Plan underway

The SEMP Open House attracted about 40 people to the Recreation Club on Saturday 13 October. Many lingered to study information and photographs on display and add their thoughts to the process.

Attendees were asked to identify key areas of **economic, social and environmental value**. Overall, feedback was positive with many saying they appreciated interacting with BMT consultant, Malcolm Andrews, local expert Dr Michael Gourlay and Council officers on the day. Individual comments will be assessed by in the development of the SEMP.

We were contacted by several members unable to attend, but there's still opportunity to lodge feedback.

If you're short on time but want to understand the process, we recommend a flick through the original Norfolk Beach SEMP (demoted to a study in 2015) This document detailed recommended actions for the eastern beaches from the northern tip to Main Beach east. See in right-hand column. <https://yoursay.redland.qld.gov.au/29790/documents/81958>.

Along with the development of the Coochie SEMP, a Coastal Hazard Adaption Strategy is being developed for the whole of Redland City. Last year Coastcare voiced concern at the risk rating of individual beaches <https://coochiemudloislandcoastcare.org.au/2017/07/21/erosion-on-coochie/>.

Have Your Say Emailing rcc@redland.qld.gov.au – subject line: Coochie SEMP; write to Redland City Council, Reply Paid 21, CLEVELAND QLD 4163, or Contact 3829 8999 and ask to speak to Julie Fullerton. Feel free to copy Coastcare, coochiecoastcare@gmail.com.