



What better way to celebrate Coastcare's First birthday earlier this month than with a working bee along Curlew Creek and barbeque. A low-key start to what we hope is another productive and personally rewarding year.

To all those wonderful supporters, individuals and organisations who value our sandy beaches, ecologically sensitive Melaleuca wetlands, marine surrounds and mangroves as much as we do - THANK YOU!

Your support and determination to make a difference to our unique island environment is valued.

Occasionally, we revisit the montage of photos and music (thanks Cliff & Peter) to remind ourselves just how much has been achieved in Coastcare's first year. If you haven't seen this inspirational little production please enjoy –

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VPp7GpETvLc>

## Upcoming events

**Monday 24 February - Wednesday 26 February, South East Island Forum** (venues: Stradbroke, Russell & Macleay Islands). A ferry will pick-up islanders wishing to attend the Russell Island session where Coastcare President, Carolyn Brammer has been invited to speak.

**Thursday 27 February** – Have your say in the **SEQ Regional Plan roundtable** being held at the Cleveland Library, corner of Bloomfield & Middle Streets from 10 till 1pm. Please see link hereunder for further details

[www.seqcatchments.com.au/news/have-your-say-in-looking-after-our-natural-assets-for-a-prosperous-seq](http://www.seqcatchments.com.au/news/have-your-say-in-looking-after-our-natural-assets-for-a-prosperous-seq)

RSVP by 21 February essential. email: [jbolzenius@seqcatchments.com.au](mailto:jbolzenius@seqcatchments.com.au)

**Sunday 2 March – Clean Up Australia Day** – Please join Coochie's annual clean-up co-ordinated for another year by fellow Coastcarer, Lee Steindl. Sign-on at the rotunda at Main Beach from 8am. This clean-up and the following week's Dune-care workshop will replace Coastcare's monthly

**Saturday 8 March** – 10-3pm **Dune-care workshop** co-ordinated by Griffith Centre of Coastal Management & funded by Redland City Council Community Conservation Grant. This eagerly awaited workshop includes lunch and is limited to 35 members so please register your interest as soon possible.

**Just a reminder - 2014 membership fees are now due – see back page for details.**

# Draft Shoreline Erosion Management Plan released

Redland City Council has released the Draft Norfolk Beach Shoreline Erosion Management Plan (SEMP) in hard format and it will soon be available online. Copies will also be made available for loan at the Coochie library this week.

The 85-page plan by consultants BMT WBM draws highlights coastal processes and legislative considerations. It also touches on environmental, social, economic and cultural needs to achieve a sustainable future for our shoreline.

The Draft SEMP finds our eastern shoreline is suffering long-term recession and pinpoints five rocky outcrops or headlands “assisting to control the alignment of the beach”

It says the north-eastern tip or Control Point Five appears to have been “out-flanked at some time in the past and Control Point Four, just south is now determining beach alignment in the area.”

The report confirms there has been “significant movement of the northern shoreline around Control Point Five” and describes Control Point Four as rocky and currently providing some alignment control.

It recommends efforts should be concentrated at the south initially and results monitored.



If Control Points One & Two can be stabilised and resist further storm action then Control Points further north “could be subsequently enhanced with the technique and order be determined by recent experience”

There is little specific detail on Control Point Three where current remediation works are being undertaken however the consultants recommend the use of geo-fabric bags to secure mature eucalypts and stabilise beach alignment.

Both Main and Morwong Beaches are considered stable with a “small ongoing sand loss to the channel at the west” while Morwong beach is regarded as recently improved.

The report also recommends relocating the Norfolk beach track landwards 22 metres, the use of imported sand for protection works and beach monitoring to assess long-term change. Council has undertaken two beach profile surveys along Norfolk (May 2013 and January 2014) as well as scarp survey from Morwong Beach east around the island to the barge ramp.

At this early stage, Coastcare Executive is still examining the findings of the draft report and welcomes your feedback.

Information from the Manager of Marine Infrastructure & Planning, Murray Erbs indicates the need for appropriate community consultation, refinement of options, preparation of a prioritised implementation plan and finalised consultant's report before a final document is returned to Council.

At the same time officers will work on costing for continued beach monitoring and construction of Control points 1 and 2.

The preliminary time frame includes a final report in April with recommended works to start in the 2014-15 financial year.

Coastcare regards the Draft SEMP as an important step towards preserving the visual amenity of our vegetated sandy foreshores for future generations.



## Urgent beach works now underway

**Remediation work started on Norfolk beach last week to stabilise 60-metres of shoreline surrounding two iconic eucalypts.**

Geo-textile bags, filled with washed river sand will be layered up to three high to match the contour of the land. The biggest, .75 cubic metre bags will be placed along the bottom two rows.

Coastcare looks forward to revegetating after contractors complete backfilling and top-dressing, similar to the repair by the eroded beach track now covered with Spinifex, native creepers and bladey grass.

Alarm was first raised over rapid erosion on North Norfolk in early October. In the absence of cyclonic conditions, simply high tides and strong, mostly north-easterly winds we watched four metres of dune collapse in three months.

When Coastcare took the issue to Council's general meeting in December seeking urgent funds for remediation, we had no idea the area was a vital control point for the eastern shoreline. We knew, however, that Council officers had sought quotes for beach works.

Thanks to Councillor Lance Hewlett for raising the Urgent Motion without Notice and to Redland City Councillors who spoke in support and voted unanimously to allocate urgent funding.





14.10.2013 - two weeks after erosion started



9.1.2014 - up to 4 metres of dune width lost

## A friendly reminder – Memberships now due

We value your support and look forward to a rewarding 2014. Please choose your membership level and forward dues to -

### ***Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare Inc***

94 Victoria Parade East Coochiemudlo Island AUSTRALIA 4184 Ph: 32077153 email: [viviennert@optusnet.com.au](mailto:viviennert@optusnet.com.au)

Direct Deposit: Commonwealth Bank BSB 064-149 Account 10096929



**Single Membership \$2    Family \$5    Life Single \$50    Life Family \$100**

Please use the form below to invite a friend to join or notify us of change of contact details

NAME .....Date.....

ADDRESS.....POSTCODE.....

email.....PH.....

Signature.....

Further detail please contact President Carolyn Brammer on mob 048888 6000 or Secretary, Vivienne Roberts-Thomson on

Mob 0411226363

