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News Update

January 2020

Happy New Year to members and friends. With your support, Coastcare looks forward to a rewarding 2020 as our volunteer organisation continues working with government, network partners and Traditional Owners, the Quandamooka People, to strengthen the resilience of our island home.

With the seventh anniversary of the devastating storm surge from ex-tropical Cyclone Oswald looming on the Australia Day weekend, we're reminded of the fragility of the shoreline. Our Heritage-listed Emerald Fringe is at risk including the trees graveyard in the north-east, the Melaleuca Wetlands and historic Norfolk Beach where veteran trees hang at risk and eroded access paths have been closed by Council.

While a Shoreline Erosion Management Plan (SEMP) has been underway for the past two years, it's clear the island needs urgent committed action to address erosion issues.



Landcare project to restore habitat in Melaleuca Wetlands

undertake weed reduction and rehabilitation work across the Melaleuca Wetlands as part of the “Coochiemudlo Island Wetland Weed Control Project - 2019-2023 Protecting threatened species and Ramsar values”.

As Project Managers, Coastcare will work with Healthy Land and Water, supported by Redland City Council, to reduce threats and restore habitat in and around the 19.5hectare freshwater wetlands, part of the Moreton Bay Ramsar site. The wetlands have high cultural and ecological values and are home to over 170-recorded native plant species including endangered orchids and fungi. They provide habitat for over 100 bird species, native animals and invertebrates.

Melaleuca Wetlands have been diminished in south-east Queensland due to coastal development pressures, hence the preservation of this wetland is important not only for the ecosystem services it provides to Ramsar but also as a remnant of this vegetation type.

Monitoring restoration outcomes will play an important role in the carefully staged chemical-free operations across hot-spot locations. Quadrats have been established and will be evaluated for weed reduction and native regeneration over four years.

Contractors who undertook initial works last month, including removal of over 100 cocos palms, will return soon to complete another 14 days for the current financial year.

Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare has been caring for the environment since 2013 and its members are passionate about undertaking ecosystem protection and restoration activities without the use of chemicals. This approach prevents chemicals leaching through the Island’s sandy soils and into the groundwater and Moreton Bay.

Volunteers who undertake working bees to remove weeds and restore habitat east of the walking track will help maintain the site past the project completion date to improve restoration outcomes in the longer term.

This project is supported by Healthy Land and Water through funding from the Australia Government’s National Landcare Program

**Celebrate World Wetlands Day
and help launch the project on Coochiemudlo**

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We'll be launching the Melaleuca Wetlands project at our first working bee of the year as a curtain-raiser for World Wetlands Day so please come and join us on **Saturday 1 February 2.30 – 4.30pm** with refreshments to follow.

Meet at the southern Wetlands entrance where Coastcare flags fly. Volunteers are reminded to wear hat, covered shoes, comfortable clothes, sunscreen, insect repellent and bring water. New members are welcome. Any queries please phone **Dave on 0438 875 257** or **Graeme on 0413 352 511**.



IndigiScapes

Coochie Curlew Count 2020

Join us for the 24th Coochie Curlew Count as we search for these beautiful birds on Coochiemudlo Island.

**Saturday 8 February, 4pm
Pioneer Park Coochiemudlo Island**

Stay on with us after the count for a sausage sizzle where you get to sit back and relax while hearing from our special guest speaker.

BYO:

Drinks, torch, insect repellent and chair (if you want to be comfy).

Wear:

Comfy shoes, hat, sunscreen and your curlew spotting eyes!



Please call to register for the count (for catering purposes).

[redlands indigiscapes](#)

[3824 8611](tel:38248611)





Annual Memberships are due now and can be paid at our stall at the Australia Day beach markets on January 26.

Your continued support makes such a difference and ensures you are covered by volunteer insurance for any activity.

Membership fees:-

- Single annual membership \$2
- Family annual membership \$5
- Life Membership Single \$50
- Life Membership Family \$100

If your details have changed please fill out a [membership form](#).

Choose your membership level and Direct Deposit to Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare Inc – Commonwealth Bank BSB 064-149 Account 10096929.

You can:

- Return your form with payment to 94 Victoria Parade, Coochiemudlo Island; or
- Email your form and a copy of your payment receipt to coochiecoastcare@gmail.com.

(If paying electronically, please include your full name as the reference.)

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