



News Update

30 August 2022.



The changing face of the landscape in the Melaleuca Wetlands came under spotlight this month, three years into a project that has seen weed-infested hot spots transformed into areas of thriving biodiversity.

Evaluating the change since his initial visit in 2019 last week was Healthy Land and Water's, Southern Area Manager Paul Donatiu accompanied by Senior Scientist, Chelsea Kluske.

In 2019 Coastcare embarked on the [project](#) supported by Healthy Land and Water through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare program to undertake weed reduction and rehabilitation as part of an effort to protect threatened species and Ramsar values.

The chemical-free project is supported by Redland City Council with on-going effort of Coastcare volunteers who maintain designated workzones through the Melaleuca Wetlands.

After an inspection across several sites, contractor, Tali Shelley of Bushtekniq explained the process of supporting natural regeneration by methodically working from the strength

of pristine areas and peeling back weed infestations including Singapore daisy, asparagus and fishbone ferns around the wetland edge on the south-east.

Regeneration of healthy native vegetation is testament to the carefully staged approach. See photos below showing the latest piles of hand-pulled and raked Singapore daisy before the saturated steam weeder reduces weeds to mulch. Follow-up steam application will occur with further hand removal in Spring.



Above: Saturated steam weeding plays a significant role in weed reduction along the south-eastern edge of the Melaleuca Wetlands. The steamer was funded by a Community Sustainability Action Grant from the Queensland Government in 2018 and has proven its worth also in the treatment of Mothers of Millions in Coastcare workzones around Coochiemudlo's shoreline.

See you at the Outriggers Beach next Saturday 3 September

Flinders beach, fondly referred to as "the Outriggers" by locals, will be the target of a Coastcare working bee this weekend.

Please join us between 2 - 4pm on Saturday 3 September if you can spare time to lend a hand weeding and tending the dunes followed by a cuppa and chat.

We meet where the Coastcare flags fly at the picnic area by the bollards.

Just a reminder to wear covered shoes, long pants, hat sun-screen and insect repellent. We'll provide the equipment.

Newcomers, especially families are always welcome and there are jobs to match all abilities. Please don't hesitate to ring Jane on 0479139527 or Bryan on 0487054127 with any query.

Thanks to RedVic Lions

Sincere thanks to members of RedVic Lions for their donation of \$500 towards Coastcare's environmental works on Coochiemudlo Island.

We're overwhelmed by the generosity of this local service club and deeply appreciate their ongoing support of Coastcare volunteer effort.

Council supports arboricultural report on island trees

The conservation of significant trees at threat around the Heritage-listed Emerald Fringe received a boost this month with the acceptance by Redland City Council of a consultant's report providing survey, amenity valuation and management recommendations.

The report by Arbor Australis was funded last year by a grant from Healthy Land and Water. The final study in November covered 74 trees with priority given to trees at-risk along the eastern shoreline. Coastcare believes the findings will assist Council to implement endorsed recommendations of the Shoreline Erosion Management Plan to "repair remnant existing erosion on Norfolk Beach and return the beaches to functional units."

According to Council's Parks and Conservation Manager, David Katavic, "The report from Arbor Australis, the valuation methodology, conclusions and recommendations all appear as being arboriculturally sound from the council's perspective".

Mr Katavic notes the arborist report "appears to be predominantly commissioned to inform tree valuations and only has general recommendations." Further, beach nourishment works would be in consultation with Parks & Conservation for any arboricultural advice/recommendations that are specific to the scope of works being undertaken.

Rain events between February and March this year caused extensive storm water tunnelling that undermined significant trees along the foreshore and reserves of both Main Beach and the Outriggers Beach. Successful rehabilitation requires specialist advice and Coastcare looks forward to furthering discussions on management options with Council and assisting the implementation of soft engineering initiatives to reduce the impact of future storm water damage on our conservation shoreline.

Report <https://coochiemudloislandcoastcare.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/PFC-20220201.zip>



Above-Coastal erosion from storm water runoff.

A reminder is your annual membership is due?

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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