

Bridgetown-Greenbushes Community Landcare

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COMMUNITY LANDCARE OFFICER REPORT –11th November to 9th December 2020

Work completed or in progress:

CLO Admin-

- Updated the Community Landcare and Bridgetown Community Facebook pages with current and planned activities. The Bridgetown-Greenbushes Community Landcare page can be found at: www.facebook.com/BridgetownGreenbushesCommunityLandcare.
- Attended a First Aid course, funded by the State NRM Office through a grant from SWCC
- Assisted Bridgetown-Greenbushes Shire landholders and residents with-
 - general landcare queries,
 - weed identification and control information,
 - native plant identification,
 - property visits,
 - motion sensor camera loan.

Water monitoring-

- Monitored Somme Creek, Geegeelup Brook, the Shire Dam and the Blackwood River on 08/12/2020. The water samples are taken from the same place at each site and approximately 30cm below the water surface where possible. Sent Shire Dam results to Derek Duffett and spoke with him about the high pH reading.
 - Results are-
 - Geegeelup Brook - pH 8.0; EC 2500µs/cm; water temp 17.7°C
 - Somme Creek - pH 8.1; EC 1900µs/cm; water temp 20.8°C
 - Blackwood River- pH 8.2; EC 5900µs/cm; water temp 23.7°C
 - Shire Dam- pH 9.4; EC 2800µs/cm; water temp 24.7°C

Helping Hands Bushcare volunteers-

- **Old Abattoir Walk Trail (Krsuls Rd side)-**
 - Chainsaw large and hand-pull smaller Tagasaste infestation.
 - Cut and paint all *Acacia dealbata* regrowth from previous works.
 - Hand pulled infestations of Watsonia and Haresfoot Clover.
 - Pick up and remove old and new rubbish.
- **Layman St Reserve-**
 - Hand-weeded and whipper-snipped the area beside walk trail near the picnic table.
- **Yornup Brook (off Brockman Hwy)-**
 - Hand-pull grasses, thistles, and other weeds around revegetation and naturally regenerating native seedlings.
 - Dig up and remove bulbs and Dolichos Pea plants.

'What Lives in My Backyard?' motion sensor camera loan project-

- All cameras continue to be out on loan, results show that the most common animal species seen at night on people's properties around Bridgetown this month are straying domestic cats and rabbits. Foxes are becoming more commonly seen.

Pollinator Project-

- Site visits to each project site, 2020-21 Q2 reporting completed and submitted.
- Contracted weed control at past and future revegetation sites at one property.
- Established more photo-monitoring sites at another property for 2020-21 on-ground works.

Herbarium-

- Collected and pressed more plant specimens from the Bridgetown area.
- Sent a specimen of Friars Cowl Lily (*Arisarum vulgare*) to the State Herbarium, was notified that it is a significant plant due to it being the first reported sighting of the plant as a weed in WA. Possibly introduced by machinery as it is next to a Western Power pole on an access track from Brockman Hwy to Davies Rd.

State NRM Office Community Stewardship Grant-

'Managing Shire Bushland Reserves for Highest Environmental and Social Returns'

- BES was notified of our successful application for a project to review and upgrade the current six Shire Reserve Management Plans that were developed in the early 2000's and adopted by the Shire and to write a further two reserve management plans. They will help to cost and inform future Shire Reserve weed and fire management and volunteer Bushcare activities. The project will be for 18 months and create part time employment for 2-3 people and will include eight Community Engagement events.

Others-

- Continued to host a work experience person.
- Hand pulled and removed all Cleavers (*Galium aparine*) populations in Old Boardwalk area.
- Met Seonaid Lesley at an area next to the refuse site that will be cleared soon to see if any native plants can be rescued, and seed collected from the native plants there. Visited the site three times so far- many plants dug up, cutting material taken and seed collected. One or more visits required to complete the seed collection.
- Met with Tim Clynch, Megan and Leith from Shire, Jenny and Julia from BES to clarify project areas, timeline, budget, on-ground works etc. Followed up with a walk at the proposed project sites with Leith who will be the project manager.
- Distributed Possum Nest Boxes made by the Mens Shed to possum workshop participants.
- Liaise with Blackwood Biosecurity re landholder's rabbit control and calici virus release.

With warm regards,

Cheryl Hamence

Community Landcare Officer

09/12/2020