

Bridgetown-Greenbushes Community Landcare

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COMMUNITY LANDCARE OFFICER REPORT – 15th March to 19th April 2022

Work completed or in progress:

CLO Admin-

- Took one week annual leave 11-14 April.
- 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.
- Assisted Bridgetown-Greenbushes Shire landholders and residents with-
 - Assisted residents and landholders with property visits, plant identification, weed control, revegetation, and native fauna information
 - Lent motion sensor cameras to Shire residents.
 - Monitored water samples for residents from their dams, bores, soaks and springs.
- Met with the new Community Landcare Officer, Karrie Williamson, and BES Chair, Julia Boyle, to discuss her Employment Contract, future work program, start date- 19th April and work days: Tues-Thurs. We will have four weeks working together, then my final day is 12th May.

Water monitoring-

- Monitored Somme Creek, Geegeelup Brook, the Shire Dam and the Blackwood River on 19/04/2022. The water samples are taken from the same place at each site and approximately 30cm below the water surface where possible. The monitoring results have been sent to the Parks and Gardens Dept in the past but I am unsure of who has replaced Aaron Hide so will wait to hear who it is before sending the results again.
- Results are-

▪ Shire Dam-	pH 8.4;	EC 4000µs/cm;	water temp 18.9°C
▪ Geegeelup Brook -	pH 7.5;	EC 3100µs/cm;	water temp 15.7°C
▪ Somme Creek -	pH 7.5;	EC 2700µs/cm;	water temp 15.9°C
▪ Blackwood River-	pH 8.0;	EC 5900µs/cm;	water temp 17.9°C

Helping Hands Bushcare volunteers-

- Somme Creek- continued to weed and cut back dead and broken vegetation; pulled up all wild celery plants in the creekline; cleaned up more rubbish at the 'party place' in among the paperbarks.
- Abbots Reserve, Brockman Hwy- removed all tree guards from last winter's planting, pull up and cut and dab weeds, pick up rubbish, cut fallen branches to free up the revegetation dig up bulbous weeds.
- Allnutt St Bushland- found many of the woody weeds identified during the recent weed mapping, cut them and treated stumps with herbicide except where they were too big for us to cut out.
- Requested some Shire wheelie bins for the second April Helping Hands activity- collecting historic rubbish dumping at Eight Mile Well Reserve on Thurs 21st April- from Alexa.

Pollinator Project-

- Completed project photo-point monitoring at all properties.
- Review last winters plantings, discussed any project requirements with the participants.
- Picked up and delivered rolls of fencing wire.
- Completed and submitted 2021-22 Q3 project reporting for SWCC.
- Spray contractor completed weed control at 2022 winter planting area at one project property.

Reserves Management Plans Project-

- Completed and submitted Project Progress Report to State NRM Office- accepted.
- Meeting with Lyndon Pearce and Erica Shedley to discuss Fire Management Plans for each of the Reserves- identify cells and any special considerations at each reserve, minimum and maximum burn intervals etc. Lyndon will send draft Fire Plans for us to review.
- Continued developing list of Management Actions for each reserve to include in the plans.
- Contacted Matt Rumenos, DBCA Flora Conservation Officer re Winnejup Reserve special area. He has agreed to lead a walk at the Reserve on Sat 30th April from 9am to talk about the 'Warren Quandong Area', why it should not be burnt and possibly how the flora came to be there.
- Met with Ben Lullfitz, DBCA Conservation Officer (Flora), at Eight Mile Well Reserve to discuss management of the bushland around the Granite outcrop area there.
- Continued to research information and historic photos about each of the reserves

Others-

- Met with CLO position applicants to discuss the work.
- Met with Hugh Wheatley, Fire Mitigation Officer, on site at Allnutt St Reserve to walk the area and identify where a track can be put in for fire mitigation works.
- Checked the Fire Station Reserve following the bushfire to see what the response has been, took photos and posted an update on the Landcare and Community Facebook page.
- MS camera took photos and videos of stray cat in my yard while I was away, put a post on the Landcare FB page about (ir)responsible pet ownership.
- Discuss potential Community Stewardship Grant joint project with some landholders along the Quagamirup Brook.
- I was notified of an area in Maslin Reserve where someone has illegally cleared the understorey and pushed it up into piles in the bushland. Checked it out and sent email with photos and map to Lyndon Pearce, Donna Baker and Alexa Tunmer to see if any of them had given permission for the clearing, and to see what the consequences will be to the perpetrator if it is found to be illegal.
- Meeting with Blackwood Biosecurity who want me to deliver a presentation on post-fire weed management at an upcoming workshop. Also to help identify possible sites where they can have a Blackberry Control trial.

With regards,

Cheryl Hamence

Community Landcare Officer

14/03/2022