

Strategic Rehabilitation of Ross River – An Urban Catchment



Natural Heritage Trust Bushcare

Funding - **\$72 000** per year for 2 years

Other Funding

City of Thuringowa Council - **\$4000** per year for 2 years



Community Tree Planting at Marabou Drive Revegetation Site

Partner Agencies:

- Tropical Urban Production and Landcare Group
- City of Thuringowa Council

Participating Groups:

- Delfin Lend Lease
- Dept. of Primary Industries
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Oonoonba Revegetation Group
- Marabou Drive Revegetation Group
- Isabella Court Revegetation Group
- Ross Creek Revegetation Group
- Water to Winifred St Revegetation Group
- O'Dowd St Revegetation Group
- Kirrang Court Revegetation Group
- Bush Garden (Thompson St)
- Rosslea Golf Club
- Sun City Caravan Park
- Corvath's Waterhole Revegetation Group (Thuringowa)

Each group formally meets on a monthly or bi-monthly basis, and carry out maintenance between these times at their sites.

Aim: To protect and rehabilitate the Ross River riparian zones through the development of partnerships between each sector of the community to undertake coordinated on ground projects to increase biodiversity, habitat opportunities and increase awareness of the environmental values of the Ross River.

Activities Undertaken:

- Conducted 3 Revegetation Tours
- Held workshops on plant identification and seed propagation techniques
- Conducted photo point monitoring
- Planting of local native seedlings
- Monthly seed collection trips
- Weekly seed propagation workshops
- Development of educational materials for the general public
- Displays at local events including Fundays
- Weed Management and control
- Development of Site Management Plans

Sites:

- All sites occur along the Ross River or Ross Creek

Outcomes:

- Over 250 community members have participated in the project
- Over 10 000 local natives planted along the river
- Production of 4000 copies of *Plant Species for Revegetation in the Townsville/Thuringowa Region*.
- Production of 2000 copies of *Garden Thugs* – a booklet on garden plants that are impacting on local natural areas
- Community contributed over 6000 hours of volunteer's time over the 2-year project.
- Development of a *Rehabilitation Manual* to assist people with revegetation projects in the future. (Expected to be printed August 2002)