

Three Mile Scrub Enoggera Creek Bushcare Group

Habitat Brisbane

Post February 2022 flood report

Chris Galbraith

March 8, 2022



Lomandra Hystrix planted by Three Mile Scrub Bushcare Group on January 26, 2022, still hanging on after two days of metres' deep flooding exactly one month later, on February 26 & 27.

Hi Bushcarers, one and all,

Our plants were amazing! I shudder to think how much worse things would have been without them being there.

No-one could have prepared for the super soggy soil; the battering of high velocity logs knocking our taller trees; the creek trying to find its old course; smaller trees being bent over and totally submerged for days on end; and tons of rubble and sand being dumped over most of our site.

Despite all that we have maintained:

Almost continuous vegetation along the creek banks between the two bridges and downstream of the Quandong bridge.



Near Seils Park bridge



Despite heavy debris, there are lots of tough trees.



And the bank just below Quandong Park

Vegetation along the edges of the (ex) grassy path - a graphic demonstration of the value of vegetation in erosion prevention if ever one was needed!



And although there's lots of work ahead of us working through the debris, clearing and propping up plants, we have a great base to start from:



The shed unfortunately succumbed to the forces, cleverly keeping itself elevated on the buttresses of a nearby quandong tree.



Our next steps:

1. Await site clearance re contamination risks and advice where we can safely work. There are some areas with suspended debris and branches which the contractors will need to deal with. The contractors will also assist in straightening trees, removing large rubbish and obstructive logs.
2. As soon as we are allowed to work our first tasks will be freeing up covered plants and straightening them as best we can and planting out this totally washed-out bank (area of our end of cane grass celebrations and the fox holes).



There are some bits of good news too:

- ✓ not a leaf of 'roll it up weed' to be seen
- ✓ lots of trees poking their ways through the sand and putting out new leaves, and
- ✓ the raspberries are putting shoots out everywhere.

We have every reason to celebrate the resilience of our Good Works. Certainly, there is lots of repair work to be done, but that's so much better than starting again from scratch. I'll let you know when we get the clearance to restart working bees. Then there will be lots of opportunities to be involved, including during the week. Do let me know if you have weekday availability.

Thank you for the part that each of you has played in developing our site. I hope you can join me in getting on with the repair work when we can.

Cheers,
Chris Galbraith