

Seymour Swamp ecological restoration project (Phase 2)

The Seymour Swamp revegetation project has now been running for approximately two and a half years. The Seymour Community Action Group has done an excellent job in doing primary and secondary treatment of weeds over most of the site. It is now time to assess progress made so far and plan for next steps.

1. Assess the level of natural regeneration and weed populations/regrowth over the project area.
2. In the next few years introduced grasses such as *Paspalum dilatatum* (*Paspalum*), *Holcus lanatus* (Yorkshire Fog Grass), *Sporobolus africanus* (Rats Tail Grass), *Dactylis glomerata* (Cocksfoot Grass) as well as Scotch and Californian Thistle and Blackberries will need to be carefully monitored and controlled as they may colonise areas opened up by the absence of mature gorse plants.....and of course Gorse regrowth will require ongoing attention.
3. In areas of good natural regeneration maintain the condition by careful selective weeding where necessary to allow natives to dominate (some planting to expand around the edges of good regeneration areas could also be undertaken).
4. In areas of low or little natural regeneration.
 - It is recommended that planting of these sites commence using locally sourced species.
 - Direct seeding is another option, but it would require fencing off regeneration areas to avoid browsing from native and introduced animals ie rabbits, wallabies etc and would also need quite a lot of seed to be collected. A trial plot could be established to assess viability of this method, but it would potentially require more weed management.

- Planting should proceed from south to north as much as possible to avoid shading of plants which would occur if planting north to south.
- Make a list of available local provenance plant species suitable for replanting (list attached at the end of report)
- Identify suitable areas for planting and develop a planting/maintenance plan commencing from Autumn 2020 for the sites selected
- Collect the seed and cuttings required (this would best be done by Habitat Nursery) so that plants can be propagated to be ready for planting out in mid- late Autumn 2020
- Areas with poor drainage will need to be planted with different species than drier areas
- Some seed could be collected and broadcast over the site for future regeneration (ie germinated by next fire). The remnant patch on the south side of Champ st has a good variety of native understorey species (see photos below). Some understorey species may regenerate more successfully by direct seeding than by planting ie peas such as *Aotus ericoides* and *Dillwynia glaberrima*)
- Watering of trees/shrubs could be undertaken via a water tank loaded on a ute. ie Parks and Wildlife fire fighting vehicle.

MOST SUITABLE PLANTS FOR REPLANTING

Dry areas

Banksia marginata

Eucalyptus globulus

Eucalyptus amygdalina

Allocasuarina littoralis

Allocasuarina monilifera

Bursaria spinosa

Monotoca elliptica

Lomandra longifolia (dry or moistish)

Diplarrena moraea (moistish areas)

Leptospermum scoparium (moistish areas)

Acacia genistifolia

Wetter areas

Melaleuca ericifolia

Hakea teretifolia

Acacia verticillata

Eucalyptus ovata

Regeneration area south of Champ st



Hibbertia riparia (Erect Guineaflower) and *Eurymyrtus ramosissima* (Rosy Heathmyrtle)



Diplarrena moraea (White Flag Iris)



Dillwynia glaberrima (Smooth Parrotpea), *Burchardia umbellata* (Milkmaids) and *Lepidosperma concavum* (Sword Sedge) regenerating amongst dead Gorse.



Xanthorrhoea australis (Grass Tree) flowering



Hibbertia riparia, *Leucopogon* (Bearded Heath) and *Epacris impressa* (Common Heath)



Holcus lanatus (Yorkshire Fog Grass) weed



Sporobolus africanus (Rats Tail Grass) weed.



Californian Thistle and Yorkshire Fog Grass weeds adjacent to Champ St next to culvert

Todd Dudley

North East Bioregional Network

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