

Upper Obi Obi Creek Restoration

In the December E-newsletter we looked at our recent successful Caring for Country Community Action Grants application. We also received funding through the same program last year (2010-11) and in this newsletter we will take a quick look at what's happening on this project.



Weed management and woody debris manipulation.

Upper Obi Obi Creek Restoration is a project on Farmhouse Macadamias—one of the largest parcels of land on the Blackall Range and with over 2.5 kilometres of frontage to the Obi and Kings Lane Weir.

Although there are few formal requirements for macadamia growers to establish vegetative buffers between orchards and adjoining land, the farmhouse Macadamias owners and manager recognises it is good practice to do so—especially adjacent to environmentally sensitive areas such as watercourses and remnant vegetation.

The objective of the project is to continue the establishment of a vegetative buffer between the properties' agricultural activities and the Obi. There are multiple benefits to the project—buffer, wildlife corridor, habitat enhancement, remnant vegetation protection and productivity benefits for the macadamia property.

Much of the area adjacent to the properties waterways are often difficult to access, become waterlogged over summer and are havens for weeds, and require costly and constant maintenance—slashing and spraying. By reinstating (and enhancing existing) vegetation not only do achieve significant environmental gains but reduce the costs of maintaining land that has no commercial value to the macadamia enterprise.

Fortunately LBCCG was able to secure the services of the Conservation Volunteers Australia National Green Jobs Corps (NGJC) program where local unemployed youth volunteer their time for worthwhile environmental projects.



One of two revegetated sites on Farmhouse Macadamias.

The NGJC teams—led by Jono Bateman planted approximately 2,000 tubestock on two sites over a three month period between September and November. Although we had an extended dry period over this time the trees are establishing rapidly and with few losses—a testament to the ability and thoroughness of the team.

LBCCG would like to acknowledge the Caring for Country funding program, National Green Jobs Corps, and especially the landowners for their enthusiasm and assistance implementing the project.

The LBCCG Committee and staff would like to thank our members, partners, project participants & friends for a successful year and wish all a merry and safe Christmas and New Year.



Conservation Volunteers Australia NGJC team in action.