

Lake  
Baroon  
Catchment  
Care  
Group

*Working with our community...for our waterways*

# Annual Report

## 2016-17

# LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP

## Annual Report 2016-17

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### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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President	<i>Peter Stevens</i>
Vice President	<i>Steve Skull</i>
Secretary	<i>Steven Lang</i>
Treasurer	<i>Keith Schelberg</i>
Committee Member	<i>Heather Spring</i>
Committee Member	<i>Marek Malter</i>
Committee Member	<i>Sally Watter</i>
Life Member	<i>Gillian Pechey</i>

### STAFF

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Manager	<i>Mark Amos</i>
Project Officer	<i>Matt Bateman</i>
Project Officer	<i>David Clark</i>
Project Officer	<i>Paul Mackay</i>
Administration Support	<i>Denis Lalor</i>

## LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP

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The Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group (LBCCG) was formed in 1992 by water authority AquaGen (Caloundra and Maroochy Councils) and the local community in response to water quality issues in the recently completed Baroon Pocket Dam. The development of the partnership sought to address the decline in the health of the waterways that supply the Dam through the implementation of on-ground remedial works and the raising of community awareness. AquaGen was acutely aware that influencing land management on land it did not own was not only critical but best delivered by an independent community organisation already embedded in the catchment.

In 2007 the Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group developed and adopted a Ten Year Financial Plan, which in turn led to the Ten Year Funding Agreement between LBCCG and AquaGen. With the transference of management of Baroon Pocket Dam and associated infrastructure from local Councils to the State in 2008, the new manager Seqwater continued to honour the original AquaGen Agreement, before the landmark 'Contribution Agreement' between LBCCG and Seqwater was formalised in 2015.

The Contribution Agreement provides LBCCG certainty which is essential for the effective engagement of the catchment community which in turn fosters community ownership of water quality outcomes. Although the Contribution Agreement operates under a three year cycle, it is expected the arrangement will continue for an undetermined timeframe.

Since 2000, LBCCG has developed and implemented over 200 individual projects in the catchment with a total value exceeding \$6.1 million. The majority of projects have involved on-ground remedial works designed to mitigate risks to water quality. Importantly, they have also provided wider environmental benefits, attracting additional investment from external funding providers.

The Contribution Agreement enables LBCCG to:

- plan and budget with certainty;
- attract and retain staff;
- develop long term relationships with landholders, stakeholders and other partners;
- fund non-traditional project infrastructure; *and importantly*
- invest in projects over a number of years at a level more likely to ensure long-term success.

The Agreement also provides key benefits for Seqwater:

- low-cost, efficient and high quality projects delivered by LBCCG in a competitive manner;
- outputs clearly linked to key Seqwater corporate goals, objectives and Key Performance Indicators;
- the not-for-profit status of LBCCG ensures high levels of voluntary contribution (enhancing cost effectiveness) by the local community passionate about the environment and water;
- the ability of LBCCG to apply for additional Commonwealth, State and Local government funding to value add to Seqwater projects and programs; *and*
- provide a gateway onto catchment properties that would not otherwise exist.

LBCCG continues to demonstrate the effectiveness of a community based approach to catchment management. The success of our group has been dependant on the ongoing support of Seqwater and Sunshine Coast Council, the provision of office facilities at North Maleny, and the input of Seqwater staff. Without these generous contributions we would be unable to carry out the important activities that reduce risks to water quality in the Lake Baroon catchment.

I am happy to report that the LBCCG has continued to expand and increase its delivery of project outputs. Project spending has risen from \$800,000 last year to over \$1.1 million this year, with a projected spend of approximately \$1.5 million for the coming year.

Sadly, we saw Dave Clark leave the Dairy Program where he had made a significant contribution to establishing a sound plan for this year which has been implemented successfully. Our thanks to Dave, and no doubt we will see him in other roles in the future.

Dave's position of Project Officer was taken up by Paul Mackay who has been appointed on a permanent part-time basis, taking our permanent employee numbers to three. Paul has slipped into the new role very comfortably and is producing a high level of work following on from the good foundation provided by Dave. Paul is well known to many local landowners in the area and has already made new contacts and relationships for the group.

Mark and Matt have also had an extremely busy year and have continued to deliver excellent project outcomes for the group. Mark Amos now has a significant administrative workload with the increased project activity of the group, I would like to thank him for the exceptional reports and standard of work produced by him that underpins the functioning and success of LBCCG. As a committee member, I have to say that Mark's oversight and intimate knowledge of all the group activities makes the role of the committee much easier, and as always Mark is a pleasure to work with.

Matt continues to achieve impressive results on the Landslide and Weed Programs. The sheer number of individual sites in the Weed Program and the high number of stakeholders involved takes an overwhelming amount of time and organisation.

The level of interest and uptake of our new programs and the projects within them

demonstrates the effectiveness of the LBCCG approach to delivering catchment care activities. A topic of some interest at the moment is, "What is Landcare?" As we now deliver a lot of landcare activities in this area, I can only say that it is about being appropriate and relevant, locally based and engaged with landowners, efficient and professional. Above all, it is about being trusted and respected by landholders to act in their interest to deliver a mutually agreed outcome over time. I would like to commend all our staff for continuing to deliver new projects in the above spirit, which in turn reflects upon them and the success of LBCCG.

Our success is in no way possible without the continuing support of our funding partners. I would like to acknowledge the immense support we receive from Seqwater and the trust they place in us to deliver the outcomes required. I would also thank the Sunshine Coast Council for continued administrative funding through our Environment Levy Partnership and project assistance from their staff. We have also been successful in securing funding through State and Federal funding sources.

I would also take this opportunity, last not least, to thank the dedicated work and commitment of our committee members, particularly our Treasurer, Keith Schelberg, and Secretary, Steven Lang.

Peter Stevens

President LBCCG

## TREASURER'S REPORT

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Keith Schelberg

I would like to present this report to the LBCCG Committee and members and to submit the Financial Statements and Audited Report for the year ending 30 June 2017. I invite you to carefully peruse the Annual Report which includes:

- Income and Expenditure during the last financial year;
- Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2017; and
- Depreciation Schedule for the last financial year.

This year has been another great success story due to substantial funding levels, dedicated staff, noteworthy projects and the enthusiastic support of the Committee. Without sufficient funding, we would go nowhere. We hasten to give special thanks to Seqwater, Sunshine Coast Council, Burnett Mary Regional Group, Department of Transport and Main Roads, Regional Landcare Facilitator and others for their funding and for their renewed confidence in our ability to perform beyond their expectations and to provide exceptional outcomes. We thank all personnel involved in making this funding available.

Our total income for the year was \$723,228.57 and total expenditure was \$682,451.39 leaving a profit of \$40,777.18 when adjusted for depreciation. This is a successful outcome and it makes good business sense for us to plan for a reasonable end of year profit given the more complex and involved work we are now undertaking.

Adequate funding has enabled us to continue to employ Matt Bateman to manage our Weeds and Landslide Program, Dave Clark and Paul Mackay to manage our Dairy Program and Mark Amos to manage the Core Program and provide overall administration and managerial assistance. Mark has the exceptional ability to keep the entire operation focused and within budget. I particularly thank Mark for his assistance to me in financial matters.

I thank the Committee for their assistance during the year and for trusting my financial reports and

recommendations given at Management Committee meetings.

I move that the Independent Financial Audit and Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented.

I also move that Simon Green, of LeVert Audit Services be accepted as external auditor for the 2017/2018 financial year.

Keith Schelberg

Treasurer

Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group

LBCCG in 2016/17 has continued to implement on ground projects throughout the Lake Baroon catchment reducing risks to water quality, improving agricultural property sustainability, and delivering numerous other environmental, social and cultural benefits. Of course no single person can take all the credit for our success and as often declared in our Management Committee meetings – we all work as a team and each staff member, Committee member and supporters from Seqwater all contribute to the well-deserved success.

Much of this success can be attributed to the specific method of engaging our clients. 'Extension' has over the years become a somewhat maligned engagement tool, deemed expensive and slow, surpassed by the 'shotgun' approach where people are invited to short workshops. LBCCG on the other hand prefers to build relationships with targeted (often unengaged) landholders one on one – those that require support to improve on farm water quality and sustainability practices.

Unfortunately during the year Dairy Project Manager David Clark moved on to pursue other opportunities. However as usual we worked to turn a negative into a positive and were able to secure the services of Paul Mackay, a Maleny local who over many years has built a strong set of skills and local knowledge. Perhaps most importantly Paul is very engaging and is well respected in the local community.

2016/17 has been a huge leap forwards with the commencement of new, or expansion of existing Programs – Landslides, Weeds and Dairy, with a significant increase in funding. As an organisation we have the ability to implement these projects, have sites identified and landholders on board, but have found a lack a local capacity to meet our demand. We preferentially engage local Contractors and businesses however increasingly are forced to source help from outside business. Nevertheless LBCCG has been able to deliver numerous notable achievements.



**TAFE students planting trees in Bridge Creek**

LBCCG delivers four key Programs:

- CORE Agricultural – projects with beef farms, horticulture and general activities that may include smaller properties;
- Landslide Program – various activities focussing on properties that suffer from significant soil loss;
- Weed Control Program – eradication, control and management of four key weed species: Cats Claw vine, Madeira vine, Chinese elm and Salvinia;
- Dairy Program – implementing activities on all catchment dairy farms to improve on-farm and catchment water quality.

These Programs receive funding and support from:

- Seqwater (administration, office facilities and CORE project funding);

- Seqwater (Seqwater Catchment Improvement Programs – project management and project funding);
  - Sunshine Coast Council (operational and project funding);
  - Department of Transport and Main Roads (project funding);
  - Burnett Mary Regional Group (project funding);
  - Regional Landcare Facilitator (workshop funding); *and*
  - Opportunistic funding from Local, State and Commonwealth sources.
- 5.6 hectares of environmental weed management (2.6 ha CORE & 3 ha Landslides);
  - maintained over 10,200 plants to ensure establishment (planted in previous years – CORE & landslides);
  - two hectares drainage works as part of Landslide Program;
  - 1,250 metres of landslide fencing;
  - control of 9 Cats claw infestations;
  - control of 86 Madeira vine infestations;
  - control of one Chinese elm infestation (including numerous seedlings)
  - management of several Salvinia infestations; *and*
  - various community events including financial support of Barung Landcare’s Landholder Guide and partnering with East Coast TAFE (workshops, field walks and tree planting days).



**Alcorn Creek**

As a result of this considerable support, in 2016/17 LBCCG delivered:

- installation of 4,050 metres of riparian fencing managing livestock access to waterways;
- planting of 14,425 tubestock in riparian zones (7,125) and landslide remediation (7,300);
- construction of three waterway crossings reducing erosion from livestock;
- repaired and rehabilitated four waterway crossings;
- installation of 29 alternate livestock watering points (troughs);
- rehabilitation of six alternate livestock watering points;
- 1,280 metres of livestock laneway rehabilitation/construction;
- construction of four livestock feed pads;



**Lake Baroon from Wittacork Dairy**

When all contributions are included (including all Seqwater Catchment Improvement Programs), in 2016/17 LBCCG facilitated a total *Project Value* of \$1,156,502.

As mentioned previously, none of this would be possible without a team effort, including an exceptional and stable Management Committee, quality staff, essential support and trust from key Seqwater staff (Tim Odgers and Julian O’Mara) and numerous skilled Contractors. Our major funding providers, Seqwater and Sunshine Coast Council continue to provide incredible support to our efforts to achieve real outcomes in the catchment.

## 2016-17 Annual Report

### Total Project Value of *all* LBCCG activities in 2016/17 (includes Administration, Project Management, SCIP Programs, in-kind contributions and Grants)

The table below is an illustration of the Total Project Value that LBCCG has been involved in during 2016/17 and includes in-kind contributions and funding that has contributed to LBCCG projects but not necessarily passed through LBCCG hands (for example Sunshine Coast Council Landholder Environment Grants). **The table is for illustration purposes only** and will not correspond to the Independent Audit (differing accounting methods used).

Program	Project Funding			Administration/Operational				Total value
	Seqwater	Grants <sup>(1)</sup>	Other <sup>(2)</sup> (includes landholder cash & in-kind)	Seqwater	Project Management	Sunshine Coast Council <sup>(3)</sup>	Other	
<b>CORE Project funding</b>	\$ 135,136	\$ 18,503	\$ 196,198	-	-	-	-	\$ 349,837
<b>CORE Administration</b>	-	-	-	\$ 102,500	-	-	\$ 7,419 <sup>(4)</sup>	\$ 109,919
<i>Sub-total</i>								<b>\$ 459,756</b>
<b>SCIP - Landslide</b>	\$ 180,860	\$ 10,610	\$ 47,200	-	\$ 34,240	\$ 20,000	\$ 0	\$ 292,910 <sup>(5)</sup>
<b>SCIP - Weeds</b>	\$ 76,440	\$ 65,000	\$ 20,000	-	\$ 13,696	\$ 20,000	\$ 0	\$ 195,136 <sup>(5)</sup>
<b>SCIP - Dairy</b>	\$ 131,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 39,000	-	\$ 26,200	\$ 10,000	\$ 0	\$ 208,700 <sup>(5)</sup>
<i>Sub-total</i>								<b>\$ 696,746</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 523,436</b>	<b>\$ 96,613</b>	<b>\$ 302,398</b>	<b>\$ 102,500</b>	<b>\$ 74,136</b>	<b>\$ 50,000</b>	<b>\$ 7,419</b>	<b>\$ 1,156,502</b>

(1) External grants from Sunshine Coast Council (Landholder Environment Grants & other weed management contributions), Department of Transport & Main Roads, Burnett Mary Regional Group (including Regional Landcare Facilitator) and other sources.

(2) Landholder cash & in-kind contributions, volunteer labour from East Coast TAFE, estimated contributions from Bridge Creek Bushcare and LBCCG cash contributions.

(3) Sunshine Coast Council Environment Levy Partnership Operational funding.

(4) Includes Consultancy fees, interest, membership, sales and donations.

(5) Not all of these figures were received by LBCCG in the financial year and therefore will not reconcile with the independent audit.

## PROJECTS

Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group delivers four key Programs:

- CORE Agriculture Program;
- Landslide Program;
- Weed Control Program; *and*
- Dairy Agricultural Practice Improvement Program.

Project and Program funding is received from multiple sources. These include:

- Seqwater CORE Project Funding;
- Seqwater Strategic Catchment Investment Programs;
- External funding (Local, State and Commonwealth funding); *and*
- Other sources (landholders etc).



### **Clark Creek Off Stream Water Project**

In 2016-17 LBCCG undertook four projects that utilised Seqwater CORE funding and a further three small projects funded from other sources. One of these projects (Walkers Creek Rehabilitation & Enhancement) was a multi-year revegetation project approved in a previous financial year. Projects that involve revegetation and/or weed management are best managed over multiple years to ensure successful outcomes. Ongoing support is critical and maintenance is ideally performed by contractors to ensure timely and effective work is carried out.

Three new on-ground projects were developed with

implementation commencing during the 2016-17 financial year (although Northern Alcorn Creek Stage 2 followed on from a 2015/16 project) . One of these projects (Lawley Creek Tributaries Partnership) received external funding from Sunshine Coast Council (estimated total \$10,000) via Bridge Creek Bushcare. This support is extremely valuable in value-adding to the considerable Seqwater investment. In fact these projects would not have occurred (or at least to the level) without the assistance received through external sources.



### **Walkers Creek Rehabilitation & Enhancement**

The Landslide Program in 2016/17 delivered over five sites:

- 1,300 Araucaria species planted;
- 6,000 biodiverse species planted;
- 350 metres of permanent fencing;
- 900 metres of semi-permanent fencing;
- Two hectares of drainage; *and*
- Three hectares of weed management.

Additionally 8,050 stems planted in previous years were continued to be maintained.

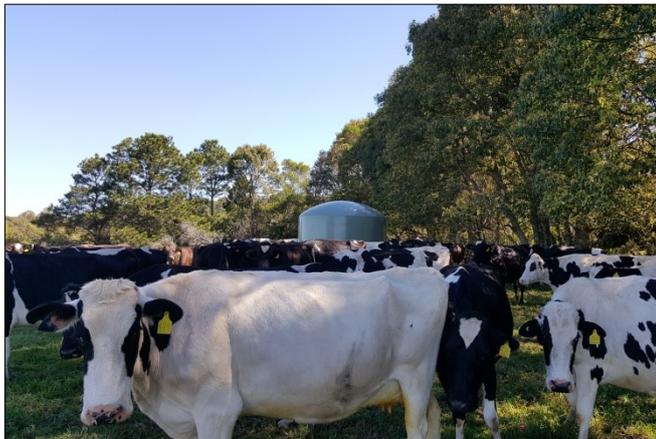
The Weed Control Program targeted Cats claw vine, Madeira vine and Chinese elm. In total 19,180 m<sup>2</sup> of weeds were treated comprising:

- 86 Madeira vine infestations;
- 9 Cats claw infestations;

- Several *Salvinia* infestations; and
- 1 Chinese elm infestation.

The Dairy Program worked with seven dairy farmers delivering:

- 1,280 metres of livestock laneway constructed or rehabilitated;
- 495 metres of fencing;
- Five new off stream watering systems installed (17 troughs);
- Three off stream watering systems rehabilitated or repaired (6 troughs);
- One 23,000 litre header tank installed (for existing inefficient OSW system);
- Three stream crossing installed or repaired;
- Three new feed pads constructed and one heifer paddock relocated;
- One dairy apron modification; and
- Two effluent management plans (in lieu of proposed Hopper system installation).



**2016/17 Dairy Program**

In 2016-17 Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group and Sunshine Coast Council continued strong ties, with Council continuing to provide Levy Partnership Operational funding to help deliver the Seqwater Catchment Improvement Programs (SCIP). This support partially funds LBCCG's two Project Managers who coordinate the SCIP Weeds and Landslide Programs (Matt Bateman) and the SCIP Dairy Program (David Clark & Paul Mackay). Other roles include assisting landholders to apply for Landholder Environment Grants (Sunshine Coast Council) as well as sourcing and contributing to

various catchment improvement projects, and providing technical advice and assistance to other organisations (Mooloolah River Waterwatch, Hinterland Bush Links, Green Hills, Barung Landcare, Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee and others).



**2016/17 Dairy Program**

LBCCG has established strong relationships with landholders throughout the catchment, a benefit that is difficult to quantify or value, but nevertheless is very beneficial to Seqwater and others. Additionally when researchers or Seqwater require information, LBCCG is often the first contact due to our knowledge of the catchment. LBCCG has widespread presence in the catchment and consequently are often approached by the general public for information on the status of the Baroon Pocket Dam storage, activities permitted and who to contact regarding specific queries or concerns.



**2016/17 Weed Program**

**CORE AGRICULTURAL PROJECT REPORTS**

**Northern Alcorn Creek Stage 2**

Northern Alcorn Creek Stage 2 was implemented in a high priority sub-catchment that delivers significant concentrations of nutrients and high volumes of sediment to Bridge Creek and ultimately Lake Baroon.

The Lake Baroon Catchment Implementation Plan (2007) rates Management Unit BR1 a LOW priority for rehabilitation works (mainly due to remediation costs and resources required). When assessing the Management Unit using a modified version of the Prioritisation Process, which prioritises MU’s on pollution input levels and land instability parameters, BR1 rates as VERY HIGH; due to the contribution of nutrients and sediments to Bridge Creek.

Less than 10% of the sub-catchment is vegetated; with minimal length of waterways supporting riparian cover of varying quality (mostly poor). The MU contributes a large nutrient load to Bridge Creek, with more than 98% of samples exceeding guideline levels (Dunstan 2007).

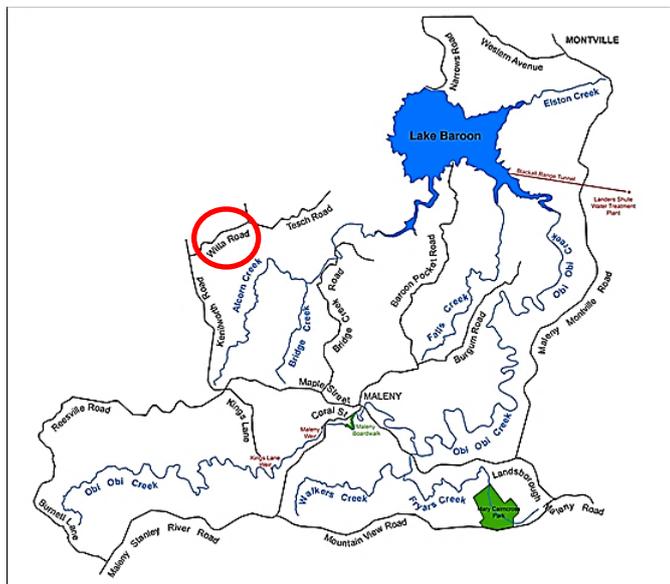


**Alcorn Creek on the Colley property has good riparian cover however unmanaged livestock access causes erosion and degrades the vegetation.**

Properties in the Alcorn Creek catchment are still relatively large as the topography does not lend itself to development. The land has several key management issues – steep, unstable hillslopes and benches (landslips), moderately fertile but variable soils that are easily compacted and/or eroded, and numerous watercourses fed by springs and soaks.

The Colley and Costello properties were previously a single dairy farm but following deregulation in 2000 were sub-divided (along with the adjacent Walker property) and have converted to beef grazing.

The project has continued activities on the Colley property (commenced in 2015/16) and included the adjacent Costello property. The project is addressing the mentioned high priority issues, with the key aims of reducing soil loss; managing livestock in riparian zones and on unstable hillslopes, remediating landslips and improving property management. All of these activities will provide water quality benefits and other complementary benefits such as enhanced wildlife corridors and habitat.



**The project is located in the Alcorn Creek (Bridge Creek) sub-catchment in a high priority management unit noted for its instability, high sediment and nutrient loads and prior to 2012, lack of landholder engagement.**



***Fencing of the riparian zone has provided a substantial buffer to beef grazing on Alcorn Creek.***

The project has completed four components not including related SCIP Landslide Program activities (these are reported elsewhere):

1. Installed 950 metres riparian fencing on Alcorn Creek and a tributary (Colley);
2. Rehabilitated an existing pipe crossing and spillway on the Alcorn Creek tributary (Colley);
3. Extended the existing off stream watering system to provide alternative water to Alcorn Creek (Colley); *and*
4. Installed new off stream watering system to provide alternative water to the Alcorn Creek tributary (Costello).



***Fencing under construction.***

The project will achieve multiple benefits including:

- manage grazing of riparian zones;
- improve stability of stream banks and beds;
- reduce erosion and associated sediments from livestock laneways;
- stabilise landslip prone hillslopes;
- enhance riparian buffers to trap and filter contaminants;
- enhance aquatic habitat;
- improve property management;
- protect property infrastructure; *and*
- reduce risk to water quality by limiting sedimentation and nutrient enrichment.

The Colley property has also been included in the SCIP Landslide Program (2015-17) with drainage activities, fencing and revegetation utilising local Araucaria species. The Costello property will be included in the 2017/18 Landslide Program with land type fencing (fencing of landslips so that they can be managed (grazed) differently to the rest of the farm.



***Stream crossing repairs and access to Costello property reinstated.***

## Clark Creek Off Stream Water Project

The Clark Creek Off Stream Water Project was implemented in a high priority sub-catchment that delivers very high levels of nutrients and likely pathogens to Obi Obi Creek and ultimately Baroon Pocket Dam.

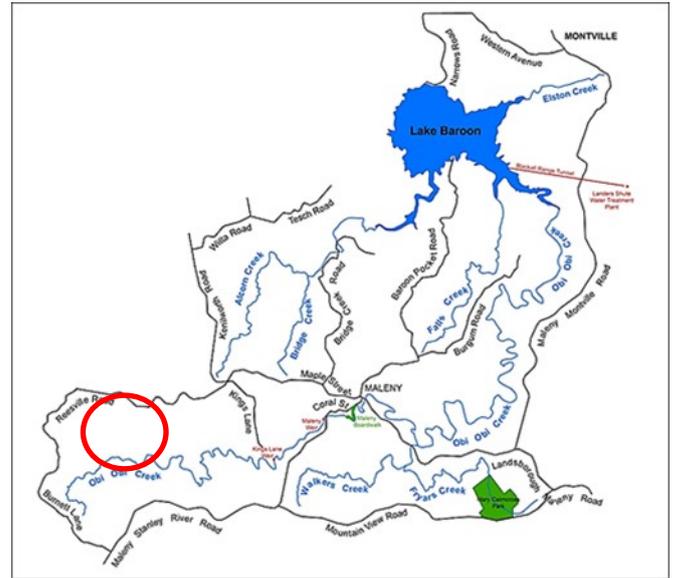
The upper reaches of Obi Obi Creek support large agricultural properties that are suspected (and confirmed by Seqwater water quality monitoring) of contributing high levels of contaminants (particularly nutrients – nitrogen, ammonia, phosphorus) to the system.

The Thomas, Barlow and Macleod properties lie in high priority Management Units in the Obi Obi Creek catchment – MU OB1 and OB3. These MUs lie in the upper reaches of Obi Obi Creek where agricultural properties still dominate land use. The MUs are characterised by gentle to moderately steep slopes and numerous watercourses, and have been identified as contributing significant inputs of nutrients (OB1 – 99% of samples between 1991 – 2005 exceeded ANZECC guideline levels; OB3 – 88% of samples between 1991 – 2005 exceeded ANZECC guideline levels). Although the middle and lower reaches of Obi Obi effectively ‘clean’ many of the contaminants that originate from the upper catchment before entering Baroon Pocket Dam, it is pragmatic to address contamination at the source.

The Lake Baroon Catchment Implementation Plan (2007) rates OB1 a LOW priority and OB3 as a MODERATE priority for rehabilitation works. When assessing the Management Unit using a modified version of the Prioritisation Process, which prioritises MU’s on pollution input levels and land instability parameters, OB1 rates as a HIGH and OB3 as a MODERATE priority due to the contribution of nutrients, sediments and likely pathogens to Obi Obi Creek.

LBCCG has been very active in the upper reaches of Obi Obi Creek for many years working with dairy farmers and large beef graziers rehabilitating laneways, installing stream crossings and off stream

watering, fencing waterways, and other activities that reduce risks to water quality.



**The project is located in upper Obi Obi Creek sub-catchment in a high priority management unit noted for its large agricultural properties and high nutrient and likely high pathogen loads.**

The project has brought together three adjoining Landholders to fence riparian zones, install off stream watering systems and construct and repair stream crossings. This will address erosion caused by livestock, reduce the deposition of faecal material directly into waterways, improve buffers to watercourses and improve property management.



**The Clark Creek sub-catchment lies in the headwaters of the Obi Obi Creek and remains dominated by large agricultural properties due to the gentle topography, reliable water and fertile soils.**



**Installation of concrete troughs on Thomas property.**

- reducing erosion and associated sediments by providing alternate livestock water away from riparian zones;
- reducing bed and bank erosion by installing low level stream crossings (including the rehabilitation of existing crossings);
- enhancing riparian buffers to trap and filter contaminants;
- enhancing aquatic habitat;
- improving property management; and
- reducing risk to water quality by limiting sedimentation and nutrient enrichment.

The project has completed or nearing completion of six components:

1. 1,420 metres of permanent riparian electric fencing (Thomas);
2. 125 metres of permanent riparian fencing (Macleod);
3. Extension of an existing off stream watering system with a further six troughs (Thomas);
4. Extension of an existing off stream watering system with a further trough (Macleod);
5. Installation of a stream crossing (Barlow); and
6. Rehabilitation of two stream crossings.



**Obi Obi Creek riparian zone on the Macleod property showing livestock damage to the bed and banks of the stream. Riparian fencing and associated off stream watering was installed.**



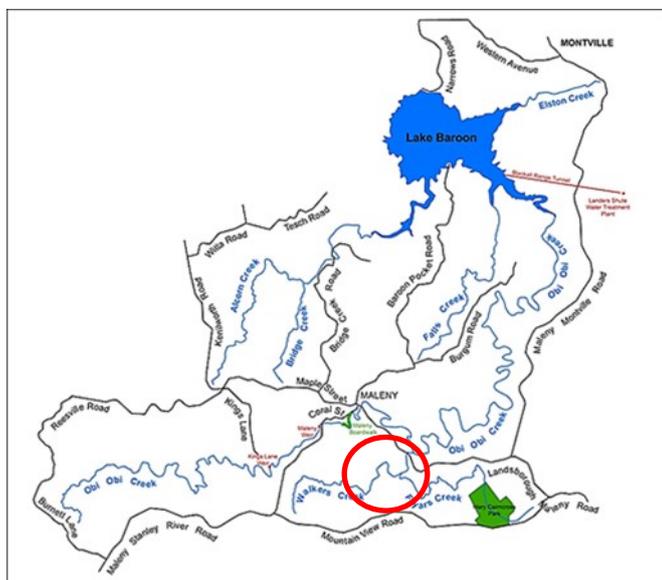
**Stream crossing site on Barlow property showing severe erosion of bed and banks of Clark Creek.**

The project is achieving multiple benefits including:

- management of grazing of riparian zones;
- stabilisation stream banks and beds;

**Walkers Creek Rehabilitation & Enhancement Year 3**

Walkers Creek Rehabilitation and Enhancement is being implemented over two adjoining properties, staged over three years and is effectively a continuation of recent projects on neighbouring properties both upstream and downstream (this Report covers Year 3 of the Project). The project has excluded livestock from 385 metres of Walkers Creek, controlled invasive environmental weeds and replaced them with native vegetation, establishing a vegetated buffer. The riparian vegetation is reducing erosion, shading the watercourse reducing temperature, enhancing dissolved oxygen levels and enhancing the watercourses ability to mitigate the effects of pollutants originating further upstream. Other benefits include the extension of wildlife corridors, providing habitat, improving aesthetic appeal (important to raise awareness of value of riparian restoration) and a reduction in weed sources. This is reducing risks to water quality in the catchment (and ultimately Lake Baroon) by reducing key contaminants including nutrients, pathogens, pesticides and gross pollutants.



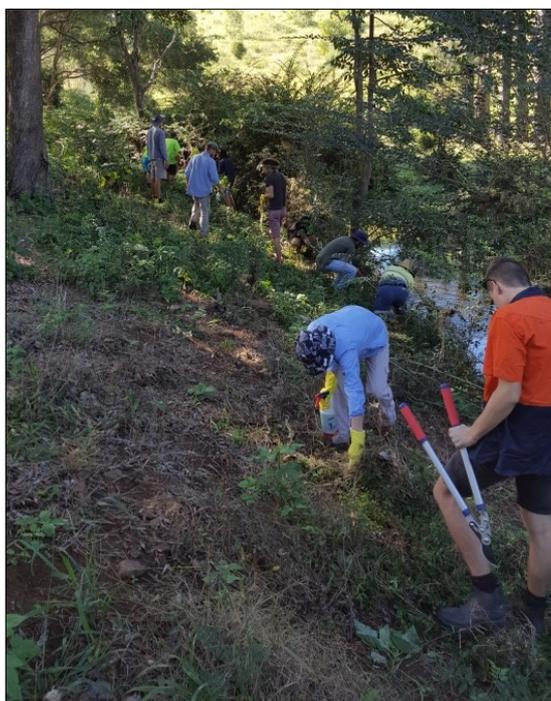
**The project is located in the lower Walkers Creek sub-catchment in a high priority management unit noted for its large agricultural properties and high nutrient and likely high pathogen loads.**



**Walkers Creek on the Quick property. After two years of project the creek is recovering to provide water quality and biodiversity benefits. Privet has been retained on the immediate edge to provide shade, stability and habitat.**

Walkers Creek is the most disturbed and polluted waterway in the Lake Baroon catchment, consisting of 15 km of waterway in a sub catchment of 697 ha.

Less than 10% of the sub catchment is covered in vegetation, with much of the area significantly disturbed mostly supporting beef or dairy cattle (Dunstan 2007).



**East Coast TAFE undertaking weed control – management of immature privet, camphor laurel and other woody weeds.**

A series of projects around the Walkers and Obi Obi Creek confluence has excluded livestock from riparian zones, installed a considerable length of fencing and off stream watering where required, managed environmental weeds, and revegetated banks to establish buffers. Vegetated buffers enable us to manage risks to water quality impacted by livestock grazing and access, restoring riparian zones to a 'natural' condition reducing water temperatures, improving dissolved oxygen, reducing nutrients, pathogens and sedimentation.



**Revegetation species were selected for hardiness and speed of growth including frost tolerance which appears to have worked very well.**

The fencing of riparian zones is best practice to reducing risks to water quality however in cases where native vegetation is lacking and there is little likelihood of natural regeneration, revegetation is required to provide long term management. Indeed many landholders' primary motivation for erecting fencing is to enable revegetation and the associated benefits (in addition to water quality) of habitat and wildlife corridors, weed management, improved property management, or simply aesthetic appeal. Regardless of the motivations, the exclusion of livestock and the revegetation of riparian zones provide multiple environmental benefits with water quality certainly at the forefront.

The project (2016/17 stage) has completed three components:

1. Planted 1,000 stems in the Walkers Creek riparian zone;
2. Continued weed management activities; and
3. Maintained plants installed throughout the life of the project (1,050).



**Revegetation forming a canopy discouraging weeds while providing an essential layer of organic material that improves soil and slows and filters run off.**

The implementation of the planned activities has reduced threats to catchment water quality by:

- reducing erosion of the bed and banks of Walkers Creek reducing turbidity and sedimentation;
- reduced direct faecal deposition (nutrients and pathogens) to Walkers Creek;
- extended wildlife corridors linking Obi Obi, Walkers and Fryars Creeks (eventual linking MC Park);
- returned Walkers Creek to a more natural watercourse which in turn improves its ability to mitigate water quality threats originating upstream;
- improved livestock management;
- continued to develop land manager engagement;
- provided demonstration site (previous nearby projects has led to greater landholder awareness and a series of related projects); and
- provided learning opportunities for Conservation and Land Management students (East Coast TAFE).

## Lawley Creek Tributaries Partnership

The Lawley Creek Tributaries Partnership project was implemented in a high priority sub-catchment that delivers relatively high levels of nutrients and high volumes of sediment to Bridge Creek and ultimately Baroon Pocket Dam. LBCCG has been very active in the upper reaches of Lawley Creek for many years fencing waterways, controlling weeds that impact on water quality and revegetating riparian zones. The Landslide SCIP Program is commencing activities in the same area in 2016/17.



***A tributary of Lawley Creek, the waterway is dominated by two Council dams acting as sediment retention basins filtering stormwater from Range View Estate.***

The lower reaches of the MU (lower Bridge Creek) supports intensive beef grazing while Lawley Creek has less, but still significant grazing pressures. The MU is characterised by relatively steep slopes and moderate instability (63% of land unstable), and has been identified as contributing significant inputs of nutrients. The middle reaches of the MU are well forested however it is suspected that urban Maleny in the headwaters contributes significant pollutants. As a result, the Management Unit contributes significant volumes of sediment and high levels of nutrients (and likely pathogens) with 70% of samples collected between 1991 and 2005 exceeding ANZECC guideline levels.

The upper Lawley Creek catchment (a major tributary of Bridge Creek) has been targeted for on ground activities (projects) since 2011. Previous projects in this sub catchment (including many

smaller projects prior to 2008) have focused on the fencing and revegetation of riparian zones with weed management as an important but minor component. Establishing buffers on the streams assists in the treatment of contaminants that originate from cattle and horse grazing and from stormwater in urban Maleny.



***Riparian fencing being installed.***

LBCCG was approached by Bridge Creek Bushcare who has been removing weeds and replacing them with native vegetation in Council managed parklands in and around the Range View Estate. This small group made up of residents of the Estate have been very active in raising the awareness of residents to the value of native vegetation and wildlife corridors (already residents have observed increased bird activity and visits into urban gardens). Furthermore this awareness has led to residents making better choices of garden plantings (rejection of exotic and weedy species) and resulted in less tampering of Estate buffer zones (in the past residents would remove trees that affected views).

Bridge Creek Bushcare is made up primarily of residents of Range View Estate and several other local volunteers. The group meets monthly to plant trees, manage weeds and perform maintenance of Council managed areas. The group is supported by

Sunshine Coast Council Community Partnership program providing materials, safety equipment, training and insurance coverage.



**Fencing completed. Range View Estate is visible in the background with the vegetation that will be cleared of weeds and revegetated by Bridge Creek Bushcare with Sunshine Coast Council support.**

The project is receiving substantial support from multiple partners – Bridge Creek Bushcare with Sunshine Coast Council (Community Nature Conservation Program) support is providing revegetation and minor weed management (over three years) while Council is providing major weed management. Seqwater via LBCCG installed fencing and off stream watering infrastructure. Seqwater will also contribute to as part of the SCIP Landslide Program (scheduled for 2016/17 but delayed until 2018).

Additional to the water quality benefits, riparian vegetation is important to re-establish linkages between stands of remnant and regrowth vegetation. The benefits to wildlife (including the local spiny crayfish known to inhabit the upper reaches of Lawley Creek in good numbers) are well known and documented.

The project completed two activities before June 30, 2017 (CORE funding):

1. Installed 1,255 metres riparian fencing; *and*
2. Installed one off stream watering system (two troughs).

The project commenced two activities due for completion by 30 June, 2019 (Sunshine Coast Council funding):

1. Plant 4,875 stems in riparian zones; *and*
2. Complete 1.1 hectares of weed management.

Additionally two more activities are scheduled to be completed (planned for 2016/17 however due to the complexity of the CORE funded project has been delayed to a future financial year):

1. Plant 500 Araucarias on landslip; *and*
2. Install 150 metres permanent landslip management fencing.



**Off stream watering system installed – solar powered pump, header tank and two troughs.**

The project provides multiple benefits including:

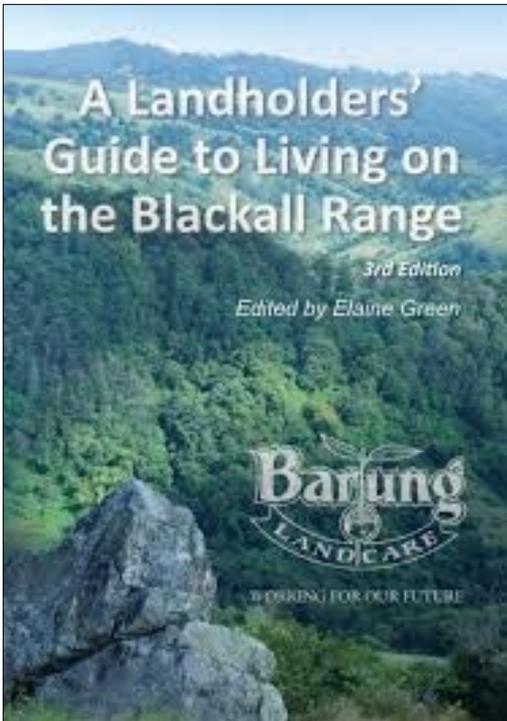
- improved management of grazing in riparian zones;
- stabilisation of stream banks and beds;
- reduced erosion and associated sediments from livestock laneways;
- protection of remnant vegetation;
- stabilisation of landslip prone hillslopes;
- establishment of riparian buffers to trap and filter contaminants;
- enhancement of aquatic habitat;
- improved property management;
- protection of property infrastructure; *and*
- reduced risk to water quality by limiting sedimentation and nutrient enrichment.

## Non - Seqwater Funded Projects

### Barung Landholder Guide

A Landholder's Guide to Living on the Blackall Range (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition) is a full colour publication sharing the collective knowledge of local experts and is an invaluable guide to working with the land – particularly newcomers to the region.

LBCCG sponsored the publication and authored a short case study of the several projects implemented on Maleny Dairies.



**Barung Landcare's A Landholders Guide to Living on the Blackall Range.**



**Stage 1 and 2 of the Harris project centre left with Stage 3 to the right of the photo.**

### La Porte

LBCCG has continued support to a small weed management and revegetation project on the La Porte property – eastern boundary of Seqwater land at Montville commenced in 2014/15. The project was predominantly funded by a Sunshine Coast Council Landholder Environment Grant and a further successful application has been submitted annually since. LBCCG primarily have provided technical advice and minor assistance with the purchase of appropriate plants for the site and weed control.

LBCCG considers the project important as the property shares a boundary with Seqwater land and it is sensible to support these types of projects as part of an unofficial 'Good Neighbour' program.



**La Porte weed control and revegetation**

### Harris Stage 3

The 2014/15 LBCCG CORE project Walkers Creek Riparian Program (Harris) was completed successfully with the landholder continuing to receive funding from Sunshine Coast Council through the Landholder Environment Grant program. LBCCG has continued to support Rick and Cindy Harris with technical advice and equipment (planting auger, water pump and hoses) to continue the revegetation of Walkers Creek and an associated gully tributary.

**Strategic Catchment Improvement Programs**

These projects are additional to any funding LBCCG receives under the Contribution Agreement (CORE Agricultural and administration funding). These Programs are usually large made up of many individual projects or activities. Targeting specific catchment issues, LBCCG assists Seqwater to develop the Program and once approved then

delivers the activities on behalf of Seqwater. LBCCG charges a management fee to enable the engagement of resources to deliver the Programs. As mentioned previously, Sunshine Coast Council also provides operational funding to support the three current Programs.

**STRATEGIC CATCHMENT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS SUMMARY 2016/17**

Project	Activities	Seqwater Program Funding	Project Management <sup>(1)</sup>	Sunshine Coast Council <sup>(2)</sup>	Other Contributions <sup>(3)</sup>	Total Value
<b>1617-018</b> Landslide Program	Fencing Revegetation Drainage Weed management	\$180,860	\$34,240	\$20,000	\$57,810	\$292,910
<b>1617-019</b> Weed Control Program	Priority weed management (Cats claw vine, Madeira vine, Chinese elm, Salvinia)	\$76,440	\$13,696	\$20,000	\$71,550	\$181,686
<b>1617-020</b> Dairy Agricultural Practice Improvement Program <sup>(3)</sup>	Workshops Dairy discussion group Action Plans	\$131,000	\$26,200	\$10,000	\$41,500	\$208,700
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$388,300</b>	<b>\$74,136</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>\$170,860</b>	<b>\$683,296</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> LBCCG charges a Project Management fee to coordinate the Programs on behalf of Seqwater.

<sup>(2)</sup> Sunshine Coast Council Environment Levy Partnership operational funding.

<sup>(3)</sup> Includes landholder contributions have been calculated at \$30.00 to \$50.00 per hour depending on machinery usage. Also includes funding from external sources such as Sunshine Coast Council Landholder Environment Grants, Department of Transport And Main Roads, Burnett Mary Regional Group, Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee and Regional Landcare Facilitator.

## **Landslide Program** for the stabilisation, mitigation and management of landslides within the Lake Baroon catchment

Landslides or landslips as they are more commonly known locally occur on the flanks of the Maleny plateau or on the slopes associated with the streams that drain the plateau. Heavy rainfall reactivates colluvial soils that form unconsolidated benches originating from historical landslips following land clearing.

Prior to European settlement the plateau was in delicate balance where the native forest cover stabilised steep slopes while utilising rainfall. Large scale clearing has changed the soils water balance with heavy rainfall now saturating the soil profile beyond its ability to resist gravity. It would seem that the catchment's geomorphic makeup, past and present land use and high seasonal rainfall give Lake Baroon a proportionally high yield of landslip originated sediment and in particular suspended sediments.



**Installation of drainage on Daley landslip project site.**

This year saw the commencement of a three year Program with all aspects of the Program undertaken by LBCCG.

The program in 2016/17 delivered over four sites (originally planned five) sites:

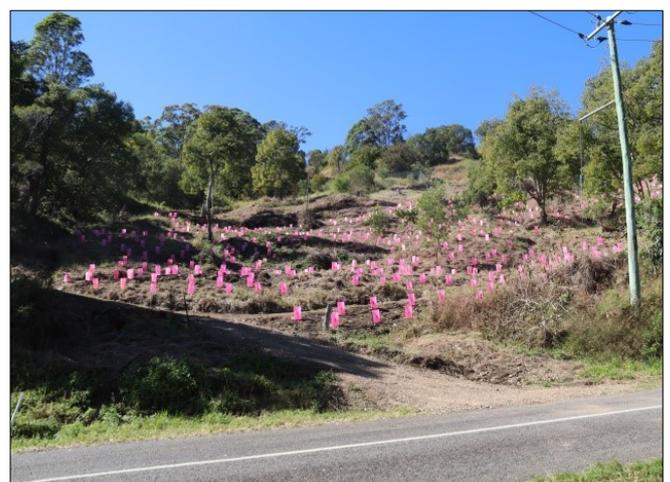
- 800 Araucaria species planted;
- 6,500 biodiverse species planted;
- 350 metres of permanent fencing;

- 900 metres of semi-permanent fencing;
- Two hectares of drainage; and
- Three hectares of weed management.

Additionally 8,050 stems planted in previous years were continued to be maintained (see *Landslide Remediation Program 2016/17 Site management of previous revegetation* figure on page 23). As indicated by the figures on page 22 and 23, a large portion of slip derived sediment originates from a small proportion of the catchment. Given the scale of the problem, the high cost of alternate engineering solutions, the ongoing risk to any remediation activities and the evidence that vegetation can reduce the risk, a targeted program based on the planting of appropriate vegetation, and drainage can provide a cost effective, low risk approach to landslip remediation.



**Revegetation of Keton site underway. Note the significant scarp in the centre of the photo.**

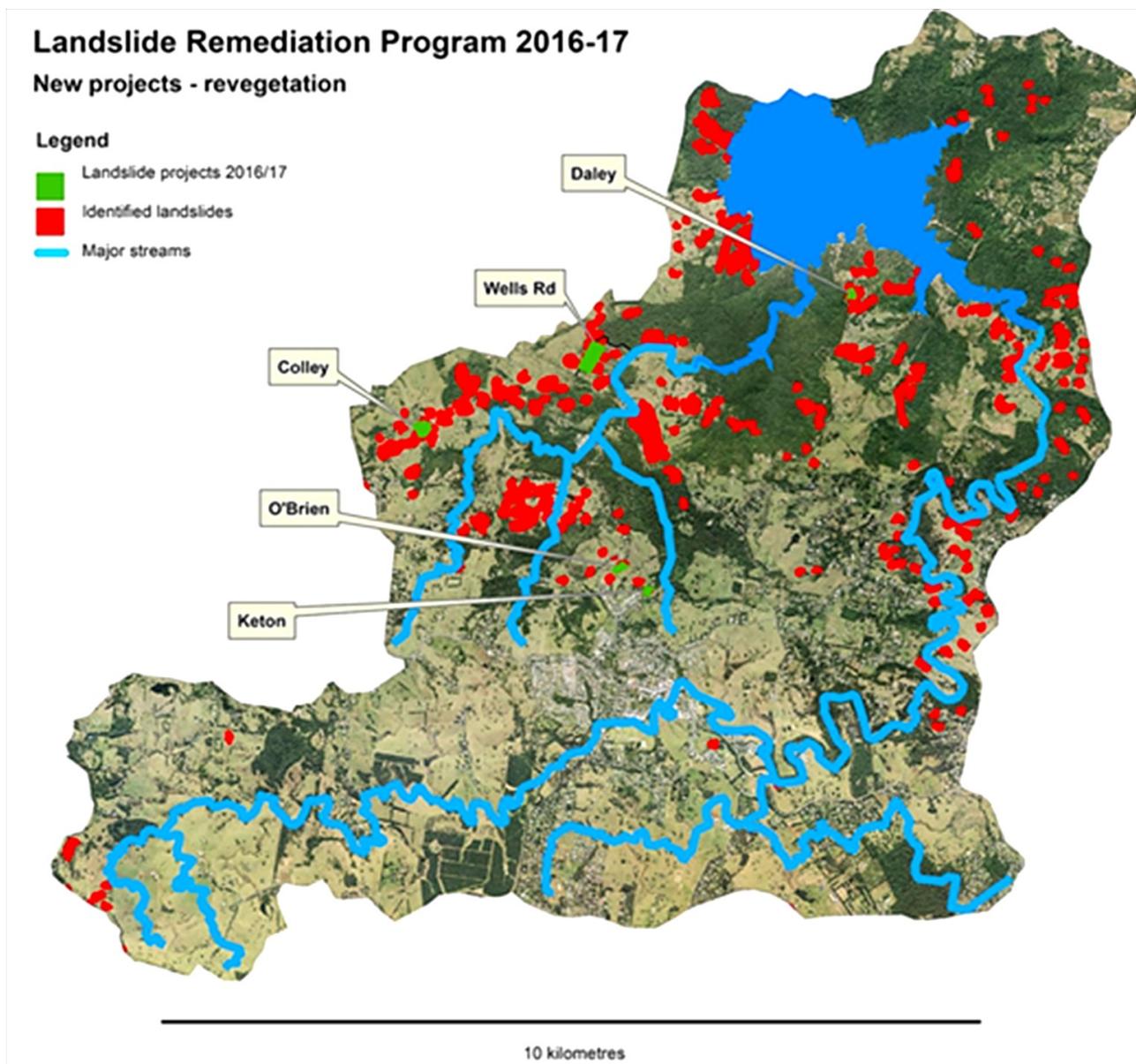


**Completed Daley revegetation.**

With the very late start to the Program in 2016/17 we missed the ideal planting time and were forced to plant when conditions were very dry. Additionally it remained unseasonably dry until October which necessitated several watering on the biodiverse plantings. However the overall impact on the success of the Program was negligible.

Now in its fourth year (first year of the current Program) the Landslide Program is targeting landslips that are known to provide significant volumes of sediment to catchment watercourses

that is ultimately delivered to Baroon Pocket Dam. The program is an example of the effectiveness of a catchment based community organisation can deliver an efficient, targeted and well received on-ground project in the catchment. LBCCG is well positioned to be able to access and engage key landholders in the catchment, an invaluable resource for Seqwater who do not own or have direct control of the vast majority of the catchment. This combined with LBCCG's ability to professionally deliver and report at a high level make this a key partnership in the shared aim of providing water quality outcomes.

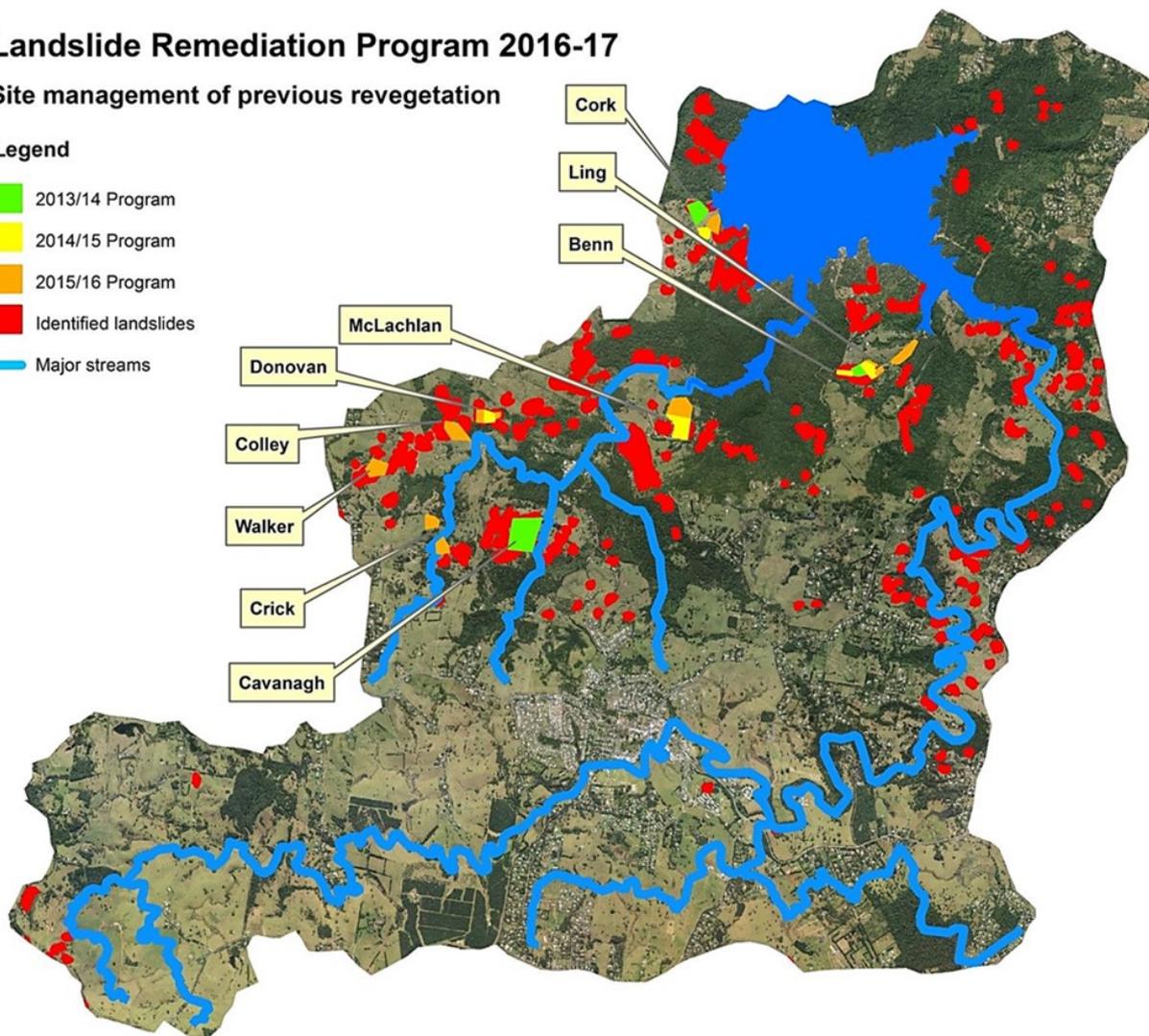


### Landslide Remediation Program 2016-17

Site management of previous revegetation

**Legend**

- 2013/14 Program
- 2014/15 Program
- 2015/16 Program
- Identified landslides
- Major streams



10 kilometres

## **Weed Control Program** for the reduction of Cats Claw Creeper, Madeira vine and Chinese Elm within the Lake Baroon catchment

The Seqwater SCIP Program – Weed Control Program for the reduction of Cats claw Creeper, Madeira vine and Chinese elm within the Lake Baroon catchment is targeting catchment weeds that have the potential to impact riparian vegetation and subsequently catchment water quality. These weeds (Cats claw vine, Madeira vine and Chinese elm can alter riparian zones by killing or displacing native vegetation which can lead to bed and bank instability.



### **Madreia vine smothering vegetation.**

It is not feasible to control all weeds, with available resources allocated to target the species that are most likely to impact on riparian zones and water quality and which can be realistically eradicated, controlled or managed. Therefore Cats claw vine (only known to exist in small infestations and all associated either in the urban environment or habitation), Madeira vine (widespread but in relatively small infestations mostly associated with roadsides) and Chinese elm (in limited infestations mainly in urban Maleny and along roadsides) are all deemed to be high priority and can be controlled with an adequately resourced program of sufficient duration.

The aquatic weed Salvinia is also being monitored and where feasible being treated with a variety of methods such as biocontrol, herbicide application and hand removal.



### **Many vine infestations are present in urban Maleny and extra precautions are required.**

In 2016/17 Seqwater has funded LBCCG to manage the first year of a three year long Program to eradicate Cats claw and control/manage Madeira vine and Chinese elm.

Long term objectives and outcomes are:

- Reduce the risk weeds pose to riparian vegetation and systems;
- Improve knowledge of weed occurrence and spread in the catchment;
- Engage other stakeholders;
- Support other stakeholders particularly private landholders with advice and funding;
- Raise awareness of the economic and environmental impact of these weeds;
- Monitor weed occurrence and control results; *and*
- Monitor potential new weed threats into the catchment.

The 2016/17 Program focussed on freehold land, particularly Cats claw in urban Maleny and Madeira infestations in riparian zones or within close proximity, and also included some infestations outside the catchment but likely to reinfest the catchment in the future. Several high priority infestations on roadsides have been treated including on the Landsborough Maleny Road which the Department of Transport and Main Roads provide funding to treat. Chinese elm has continued to be controlled but to a lower level primarily as most of the infestations are either on property

within urban Maleny, on roadsides or in areas under Sunshine Coast Council control. Chinese elm can be controlled with a single treatment so has taken a lower priority as opposed to the vine species that require long term management to eradicate.



**Cats claw vine on rural fence. Most catchment infestations are small and are associated with habitation – urban Maleny or farmhouses.**

For ease of Contractor quoting and engagement the catchment was split into sub-catchments. The Obi Obi Creek was further split into reaches. Approximately 60 landholders were involved in the Program, although some of these have only very minor infestations.



**Treatment of vine weeds with 'Vigilant Gel' which is proving to be very successful.**



**Treated vine stems.**

**Weed Control Program Outputs 2016/17**

Sub-catchment	Madeira infestations	Cats claw infestations	Chinese elm	Primary Treatment <sup>(1)</sup>	Follow-up Treatment <sup>(2)</sup>	Area m <sup>2</sup>
Bridge Creek	9	2	-	2	9	845
Elston Creek	15	-	-	14	1	3,300
Obi Obi Creek - Upper	17	-	-	10	7	1,230
Obi Obi Creek - Mid	24	4	1	15	14	3,605
Obi Obi Creek - Lower	14	-	-	3	11	8,000
Buffer Zone <sup>(3)</sup> (500 m – 2 km)	7	3	-	10	-	2,200
<b>Totals</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>19,180m<sup>2</sup></b>

<sup>(1)</sup> Primary treatments are sites that have never been treated.

<sup>(2)</sup> Follow up treatment sites are sites that have been treated in a previous year (Note – Both Madeira and Cats claw require multiple treatments for eradication).

<sup>(3)</sup> The buffer is an area immediately outside the catchment and varies according to weed species and mode of spread.

## **Dairy Program for the management and delivery of the Lake Baroon catchment Dairy Agricultural Practice Improvement Program**

Dairy properties are characterised by intensive animal husbandry and land management. By their nature, dairy farms can potentially be high risk to water quality, with impacts on the environment and waterways complex and proportional to location in the catchment. Supporting existing experienced land managers is preferable to the loss of a local industry and conversion to less intensively managed (with unknown water quality risk) systems (beef grazing), or rural residential, hobby farms and so on.



**Extension has been critical to securing landholder support for the Program. David Clark speaking with dairy farmer Mark Webster.**

Supporting dairy producers through a Dairy Agricultural Practice Improvement Program does not assist unviable properties to continue production, but supports and encourages producers to make better decisions around farm management. Incentives aim to accelerate the rate of change, implement change that would not otherwise take place, introduce new concepts and ideas, as well as having farm management benefits to encourage participation.



**Dairy Discussion Group workshop at Rob Cork's dairy – animal health, parasites and dung beetles.**

The first Stage of the Program (2015/16) successfully engaged with all the dairy farmers within the Lake Baroon Catchment area with all seven landholders participating. The loosely formalised Discussion group has continued with a number of meetings with varying levels of participation.



**Low level concrete stream crossing installed on Walkers Creek, Maleny Dairies.**

With the Implementation Phase commencing late in the 2016/17 financial year and the complexity of the Program, the 2016/17 at the time of writing is incomplete however it is expected to be completed by the end of September 2017.

The three year program is designed to assist farmers to identify, develop and implement improved water quality management practices on farm and to enhance the long term sustainability of the farm enterprise.



**Laneway rehabilitation commences on Rob Corks.**



**Ryan Francis from EnviroAg discussing effluent management solutions with Matt Cork.**

Long term objectives and outcomes are:

- improved management of nutrients by preventing nutrient loss through soil testing, optimum timing of application, formulation of fertilizers; and by establishing buffer areas around high-risk areas such as surface water;
- prevention of soil erosion by maintaining good pasture cover, establishing optimum grazing rotations, improving infrastructure such as laneways and off stream watering, protecting a
- reducing grazing impacts in sensitive locations such as stream banks and riparian zones – managing livestock access, improved stream crossings, alternative watering points and establishing shade away from sensitive areas;
- effectively and safely utilising dairy effluent nutrients by reusing and distributing on pastures – where possible linking into existing irrigation systems;
- managing effluent systems to avoid runoff;
- implement seven Action Plans that will give realistic targets, outcomes and solutions for issues that impact on whole farm planning and water quality;
- improve dairy farmers' risk management, including preparation for drought and extreme weather events, which can adversely impact on water quality, farm management and resilience; and
- continue with the farmer driven sub-group (Dairy Discussion Group) of LBCCG to ensure the outcomes achieved by the Project are maintained and built upon into the future.

The Implementation Program focused on the dairy properties within the Lake Baroon Catchment area. Cleaner milk production not only protects the environment but also reduces operating costs, streamlines processes, boosts productivity, and improves sustainability. Maintaining a profitable business in dairy farming is becoming increasingly challenging with most on-farm decisions made to improve production, however when developing farm infrastructure, significant environmental (and water quality) gains can also be achieved through careful design and construction.

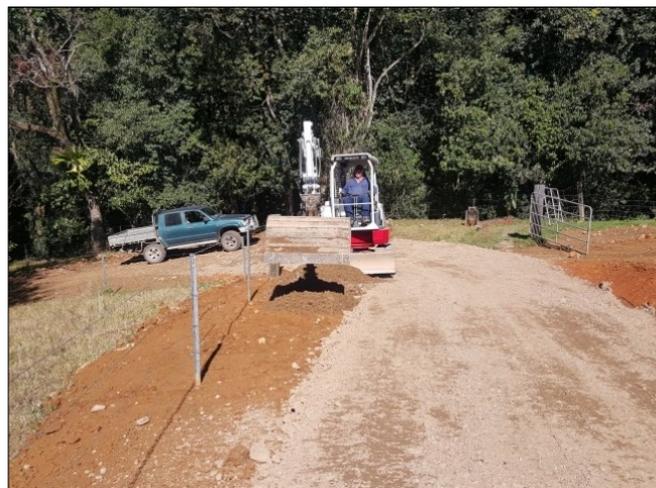


**Trough installed on Webster Dairy. Usually LBCCG installs concrete troughs however landholder preferences are given priority.**

Activities included:

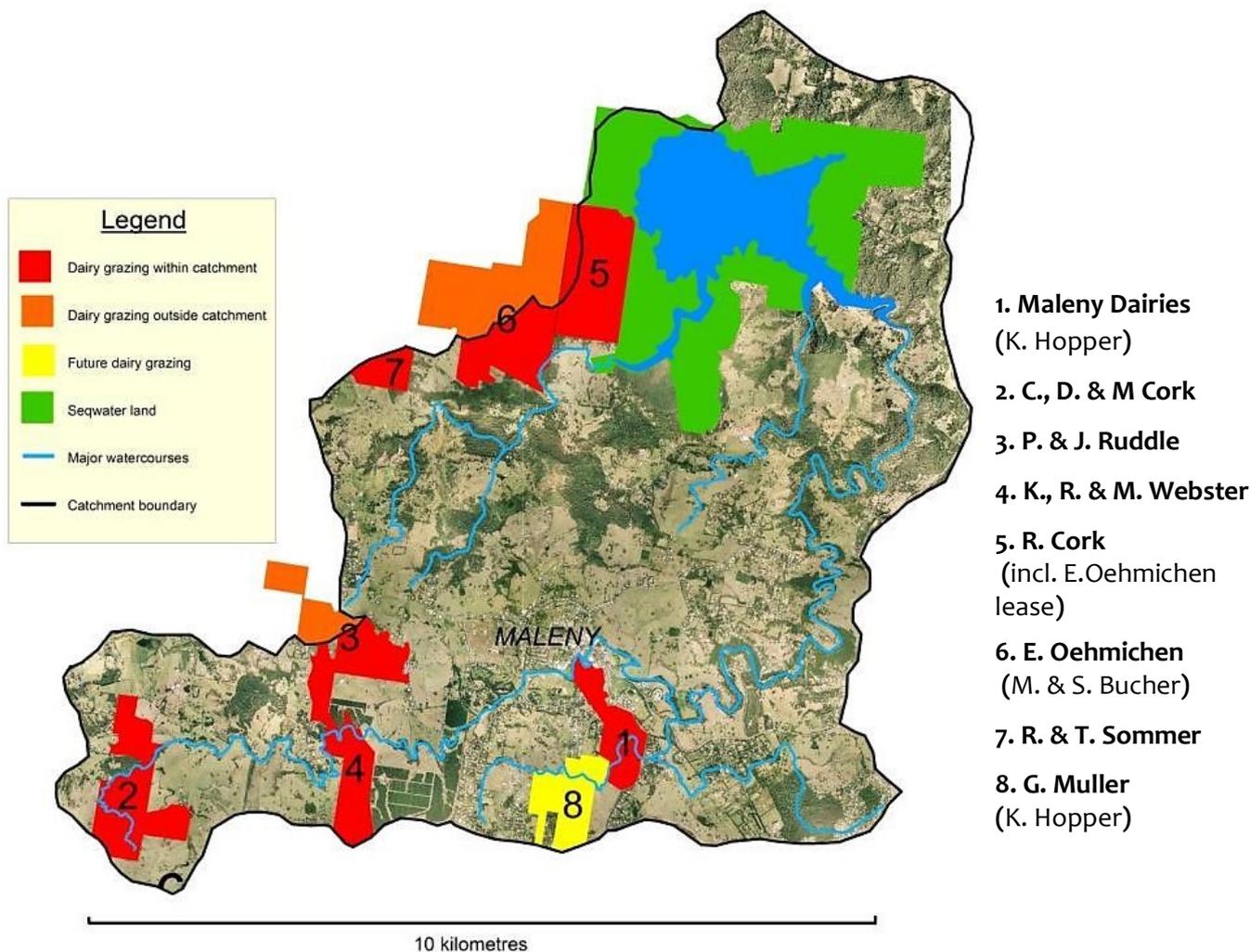
- 1,280 metres of livestock laneway constructed or rehabilitated;
- 495 metres of fencing;
- Five new off stream watering systems installed (comprising 17 troughs);

- Three off stream watering systems rehabilitated or repaired (comprising 6 troughs);
- One 23,000 litre header tank installed (for existing inefficient OSW system);
- Three stream crossing installed or repaired;
- Three new feed pads constructed and one heifer paddock relocated;
- One dairy apron modified;
- Two dairy effluent management plans (in lieu of proposed Hopper system installation); and
- Three workshops (soil health, pest management, animal health, pasture management, effluent management).



*Laneway construction on Cork's dairy.*

## Lake Baroon catchment dairy farms 2016



## PARTNERS



Seqwater is the major project, program and administrative funder of LBCCG. In some capacity, Seqwater has been involved in all LBCCG activities throughout the year.



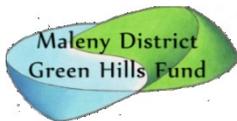
Sunshine Coast Council through the Environment Levy Partnership Funding Program supports LBCCG to assist in the delivery of the Strategic Catchment Investment Programs – Landslides, Weeds and Dairy as well as other projects that meet Councils goals and aspirations.



Queensland Water and Land Carers is the peak body for NRM volunteers in Queensland supporting the valuable work of volunteer community groups and provides insurance cover for LBCCG.



LBCCG Project Officer Matt Bateman continues to provide support to Hinterland Bush Links to deliver a project targeting priority vine weeds in the upper Mary River.



Maleny District Green Hills Fund continues to be the lead community group on the Maleny Community Precinct. LBCCG provides administrative and resource support.



The Burnett Mary Regional Group is the Mary River Catchment's peak natural resource management body.



LBCCG and Sunshine Coast Council continued to collaborate on several projects including *Northern Alcorn Creek*, *Alcorn Creek Recovery and Walkers Creek Rehabilitation and Enhancement*.



Regional Landcare Facilitators support Landcare and production groups to adopt sustainable farm and land management practices and to protect Australia's landscape. LBCCG works closely with Burnett Mary facilitator Kay Enkelmann.



LBCCG and East Coast TAFE have continued a collaborative partnership in 2015-16. TAFE students provided labour support to *Walkers Creek Rehabilitation & Enhancement*, planting tubestock and managing woody weeds. TAFE also participated in a field walk on the Ling property viewing landslips and remediation and collection of flora samples as part of their studies.



**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS & AUDIT REPORT**

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**LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP INC**

**IA 11947**

**SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2017**

**LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP INC**

**STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

The Management Committee has determined that Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc (“the Association”) is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements which are considered appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (Queensland)*. The Management Committee acknowledges and understands its responsibilities for the preparation of the financial report and maintenance of the underlying accounting records.

In the opinion of the Management Committee:

- a) the financial statements and notes set out on pages 2 to 7 present fairly the financial position of the Association as at 30 June 2017 and of its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements;
- b) at the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due; and
- c) all expenditure transactions recorded in the accounting records of the Association represent expenditure necessarily incurred in the pursuit of the Association’s objectives.

Signed on behalf of the Management Committee:

Keith Schelberg  
Treasurer

9 November 2017

## LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP INC

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	2017 \$	2016 \$
<i>Income</i>		
Project funding	498,001.00	379,314.72
Administration funding	168,036.05	165,000.00
Sunshine Coast Council partnership	50,000.00	-
Gain on disposal of motor vehicle	-	8,557.00
Consultancy	3,639.00	-
Interest	3,317.97	4,769.48
Awards received	-	750.00
Donations	45.45	600.00
Membership fees	109.10	109.09
Sundry items	80.00	-
	723,228.57	559,100.29
<i>Expenditure</i>		
Advertising	371.88	150.78
Administration support	-	842.00
Audit	500.00	500.00
Bank charges	3.50	10.50
Bookkeeping	2,020.25	841.27
Catering	587.18	1,100.58
Cleaning	51.18	-
Computer expenses	1,325.25	1,554.71
Conferences	-	409.09
Depreciation	4,307.79	5,370.45
Equipment	2,274.30	4,627.28
Fees and permits	51.70	120.20
Field walk	135.30	-
Fuel	596.55	365.02
Garden maintenance	984.00	730.00
Insurance	1,236.14	759.46
Mapping	561.95	450.00
Meeting expenses	2,025.00	1,328.33
Memberships and subscriptions	40.91	31.82
Motor vehicle expenses	4,039.93	5,397.60
Photocopying	1,732.43	1,782.63
Postage	152.36	168.32
Printing and stationery	120.98	259.95
Project expenditure	498,001.00	379,314.72
Repairs and maintenance	1,039.61	228.40
Salaries and wages	140,485.75	132,528.26

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP INC**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<i>Expenditure (continued)</i>		
Sponsorship	909.09	-
Superannuation	13,318.50	11,141.14
Telephone and internet	2,888.91	2,741.56
Trailer registration	-	212.60
Training	-	220.40
Travelling	1,200.00	74.90
Uniforms	519.45	558.45
Workcover	698.96	714.57
Sundry items	271.54	672.18
	<u>682,451.39</u>	<u>555,207.17</u>
Surplus / (deficit) before income tax expense	<u>40,777.18</u>	<u>(1,391.85)</u>
Income tax expense	-	-
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	<u>40,777.18</u>	<u>(1,391.85)</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP INC

BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 30 JUNE 2017

	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents		
- Maleny Credit Union Everyday account	11,914.68	19,347.79
- Maleny Credit Union Esaver account	150,029.39	68,384.09
- Bank of Queensland websaving account	62,699.25	68,251.63
- Cash on hand	550.00	500.00
Trade debtors	247,017.71	51,874.80
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>472,211.03</u>	<u>208,358.31</u>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		
Fixed assets		
- Plant and equipment at cost	19,760.10	19,760.10
- Accumulated depreciation	(17,637.09)	(17,352.10)
- Motor vehicles at cost	25,142.45	25,142.45
- Accumulated depreciation	(9,051.25)	(5,028.45)
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<u>18,214.21</u>	<u>22,522.00</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>490,425.24</u>	<u>230,880.31</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Payables	-	-
GST payable	20,472.89	2,085.45
Payroll related payables	24,297.55	10,361.66
Employee entitlements – annual leave	9,036.70	9,036.70
Unspent funding obligations	327,334.00	140,889.58
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>381,141.14</u>	<u>162,373.39</u>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>		
Employee entitlements – long service leave	11,250.00	11,250.00
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>11,250.00</u>	<u>11,250.00</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>392,391.14</u>	<u>173,623.39</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<u>98,034.10</u>	<u>57,256.92</u>
<b>MEMBERS FUNDS</b>		
Retained earnings		
- brought forward	57,256.92	53,363.80
- surplus / (deficit) for the year	40,777.18	3,893.12
<b>Total Members Funds</b>	<u>98,034.10</u>	<u>57,256.92</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP INC**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

*Special purpose financial report*

In the Management Committee's opinion, Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc ("the Association") is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial reports. This is a special purpose financial report that has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the financial reporting responsibilities under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (Queensland)* to the members and must not be used for any other purpose.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement principles of Australian Accounting Standards and contains only those disclosures considered necessary by the Management Committee to meet the needs of the members.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs.

The financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis which contemplates the continuity of normal operational activities and the realisation of assets and discharge of liabilities in the ordinary course of these activities. Normal operating activities are dependent upon the sourcing of income through funding agreements which the Management Committee has assessed as being a reasonable assumption upon which to prepare the financial report on a going concern basis.

*Accounting policies*

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous year unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements.

a) Income

Income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

Income from the rendering of goods or services is recognised upon delivery of the goods or services to the customer.

Non-reciprocal grant funds are recognised as income when the Association obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt of the funds as the Association has or will comply with all attached conditions, or has incurred the costs that the funds are intended to compensate. Where conditions have not been satisfied or costs have not been incurred the grant funds are recorded as an unspent grant funding liability until the conditions have been met or the costs that the funds are intended to compensate have been incurred.

Donations and fundraising activity income are recognised when received.

Membership related fees are recognised as income on receipt as no further service obligations are imposed upon the Association.

Interest income is recognised when received.

**LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP INC**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

b) Expenditure

Expenditure represents liabilities for goods or services provided to the Association and are recognised upon incurrence of the liability and the receipt of an invoice.

c) Taxation

No provision for income tax has been recognised as the Management Committee has assessed the Association as being exempt from income tax under Section 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

d) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash includes cash on hand, cash at bank and funds held in term deposits and cash management accounts that are readily convertible to cash on hand with an insignificant risk of change in value, which are used in the Association's cash management strategy.

e) Receivables

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the amounts receivable as they are due for settlement within 30 days. Collectability of trade debtors is reviewed on an ongoing basis.

f) Fixed assets

Fixed assets, whether owned or leased, are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and, where applicable, any impairment losses.

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets, including buildings and improvements, are depreciated on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives to the Association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are:

Plant and equipment – 7.5% to 50.0%  
Motor vehicles – 20.0%

g) Payables

Payables represent liabilities for goods or services provided to the Association prior to the end of the financial year and which remain unpaid.

**LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP INC**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

h) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reasonably measured.

Provisions recognised represent the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at reporting date.

i) Employee entitlements

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee entitlements, being annual leave, long service leave and time in lieu, arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period.

Employee entitlements that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled. Employee entitlements payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may not satisfy vesting requirements.

j) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

**Note 2: Mortgages, Charges and Other Security**

There are no mortgages, charges or other securities affecting the property of the Association at any time during the period, or as at or subsequent to balance date.

The Association did not have any contingent assets or liabilities as at 30 June 2017.

**Note 3: Matters Subsequent to the end of the Financial Year**

No matter or circumstances have arisen since the end of the year that has significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Association, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Association in years subsequent to 30 June 2017.

Levert Audit Services Pty Ltd  
ABN 81 615 075 244



Director:  
Mr Simon Green CA

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP INC

### *Opinion*

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report of Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc ("the Association") which comprises the Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2017, the Income and Expenditure Statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the Statement by Members of the Committee.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at 30 June 2017 and of its performance for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in the accounting policies disclosed in Note 1 to the financial statements and the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (Queensland)*.

### *Basis for Opinion*

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of the audit report.

We are independent of the Association in accordance with the auditor independence and ethical requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### *Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting*

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Management Committee's financial reporting responsibilities under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (Queensland)*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than the members. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

### *Emphasis of Matter - Cost Allocation*

Our audit procedures include the testing of the Association's accounting records and transactions to relevant supporting documentation on a sample basis. The allocation of costs between programs requires Management to exercise its judgement based upon, knowledge of the program tasks and suppliers involved. Management judgements not capable of being verified to documentation are assessed for reasonableness when relevant and critical. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

### *Responsibilities of the Committee for the Financial Report*

The Management Committee of the Association is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that presents fairly and has determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (Queensland)* and the needs of the members. The Management Committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the Management Committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that presents fairly and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP INC  
(continued)**

In preparing the financial report, the Management Committee is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as appropriate, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting.

*Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report*

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- a) Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls;
- b) Obtain an understanding of internal controls relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal controls;
- c) Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Management Committee;
- d) Conclude on the appropriateness of the Management Committee's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern; and
- e) Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Management Committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal controls that we identify during our audit.

Simon Green CA  
Director

Nambour, 9 November 2017