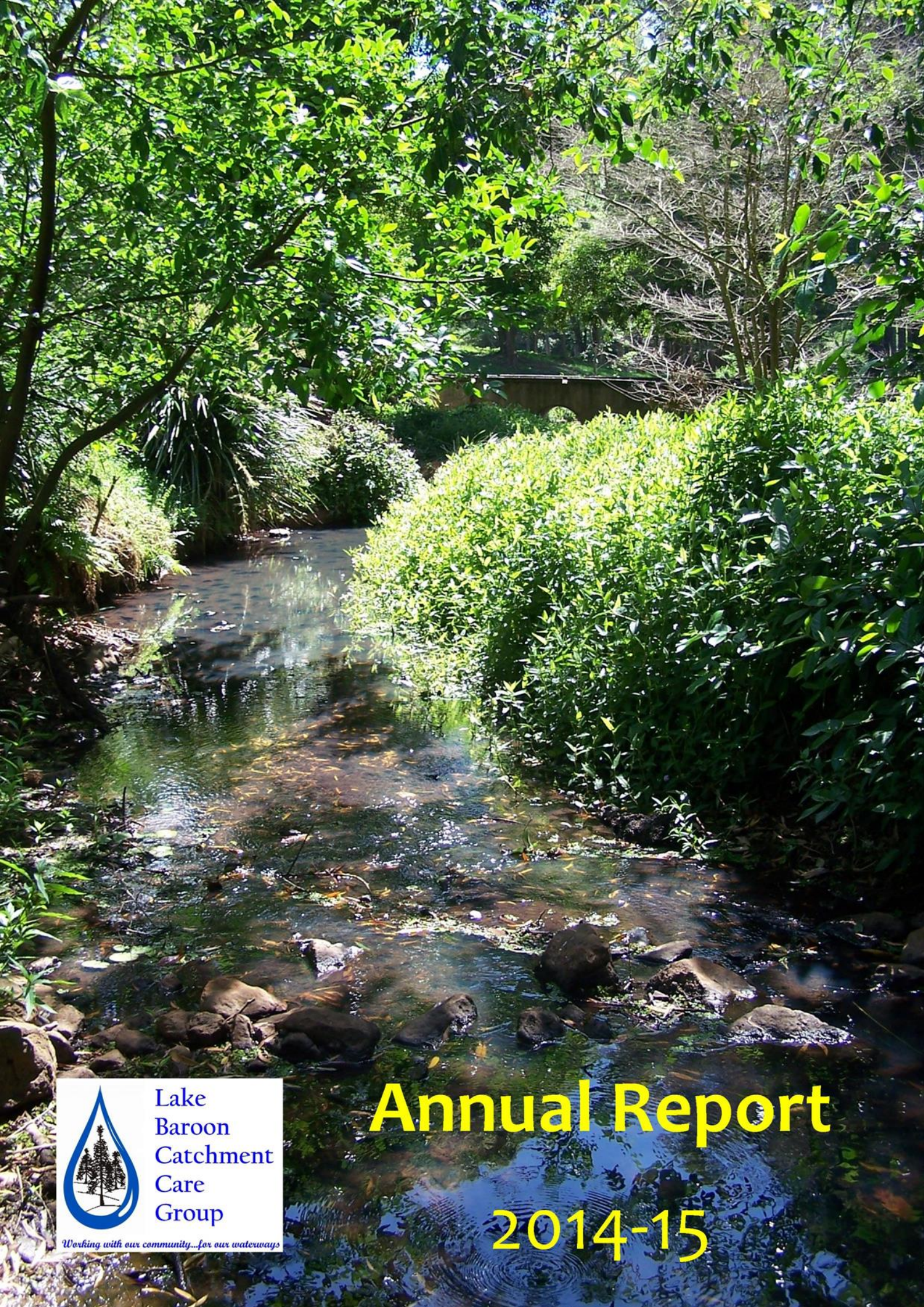

Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group

Working with our community...for our waterways

Annual Report

2014-15

LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP

Annual Report 2014-15

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2014-15 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President	*Peter Stevens*
Vice President	*Steve Skull*
Secretary	*Gillian Pechey*
Treasurer	*Keith Schelberg*
Committee Member	*Steven Lang*
Committee Member	*Marek Malter*
Committee Member	*Sally Watter*

2014-15 STAFF

Project Manager	*Mark Amos*
Project Officer P/T	*Matt Bateman*
HBL Coordinator P/T	*Susie Duncan*
Bookkeeping P/T	*Denis Lalor*

LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP

The Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group (LBCCG) was formed in 1992 by the local community and AquaGen in response to water quality issues in the recently completed Baroon Pocket Dam. The partnership sought to address the decline in the health of the waterways that supply the dam.

In 2007 the Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group developed and adopted with Ministerial approval, 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, Seqwater has continued to honour the original Agreement with LBCCG, supporting the ongoing investment in the catchment.

Seqwater owns a mere 10% of the watershed of Lake Baroon. Therefore to manage risk Seqwater must influence management of land it neither owns nor has legislative power over to enforce improved land management practices. LBCCG is pivotal to achieving this.

Since 2000, LBCCG has developed and implemented over 150 individual projects in the catchment with a total value exceeding $3.5 million. The majority of projects have comprised on-ground remedial works designed to mitigate risks to water quality. Importantly, they have also provided wider environmental benefits, encouraging additional investment from external funding providers.

The Ten Year Funding Agreement has provided LBCCG the ability 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 our 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.

Equally significant, however, are the landholder relationships delivered by LBCCG, providing a gateway for Seqwater onto key properties that would not otherwise exist.

LBCCG provides extensive support to Seqwater staff and research organisations – particularly facilitating landholder engagement and access, providing catchment information, maps and reference materials and where access is compromised, suggesting alternative arrangements – all requiring extensive knowledge of, and experience in the catchment.

LBCCG continues to demonstrate the effectiveness of a community based approach to catchment management. The success of our group has been dependant on the support of Seqwater, the provision of office facilities, and the input of Seqwater staff. Without this generous support we would be unable to carry out the activities which reduce risks to water quality.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Peter Stevens

This year LBCCG delivered over $400,000 of on-ground projects within the catchment, emphasising our focus on project delivery. This result is in line with the last two years and is testament to the large role Mark Amos plays in the ongoing success of the group and the good governance provided by all of our committee.

The main focus of the committee this year has been strategic planning, primarily relating to negotiating a new agreement with Seqwater and ensuring long term funding and staffing arrangements. A workshop set out our goals and aspirations, facilitated by Alluvium Consulting, to produce a concise document to guide us into the future. In tandem with this, LBCCG applied to Sunshine Coast Council (SCC) for partnership funding and were successful in receiving a three year partnership of $50,000 per annum. This funding has enabled the group to take on a second full time employee (Matt Bateman) to deliver the anticipated expansion in project activity. Mark Amos now holds the position of Manager for LBCCG, and Matt takes on the role of Project Officer. Matt has wide experience in project delivery and revegetation work in particular, having spent many years as Manager of Natural Area Services for Barung Landcare. We welcome Matt to the team and congratulate Mark on his new role.

Planning for a new funding agreement with Seqwater commenced in late 2014, coinciding with Seqwater forming a Source Protection unit. With full support from Seqwater CEO Peter Dennis, the outcomes from our planning workshop fed into this process. Whilst the new agreement has not yet been signed (scheduled December), there is full agreement on the content and scope. The agreement will provide a three plus three year term, a modest increase in administrative support and a small increase in our core project budget. Notably, our discussions have included special projects outside and additional to the agreement. This will likely comprise a Landslip Program, a Dairy Program looking at effluent and whole farm management and a Weed Program targeting specific weeds of threat to the catchment. These projects will likely double the project output of the group and has been addressed through the appointment of Matt.

In June LBCCG was successful in winning a Healthy Waterways Award in the Rural and Agricultural division. This award is a reflection of the achievements of the group within the South East Queensland area. I congratulate all our staff and the Committee on this prestigious award and will surely raise the profile of LBCCG.

I should also mention our ongoing support for a variety of research programs, in particular research to better understand our local Spiny Crayfish. An excellent presentation was made by Charlotte Hurry (Griffith Uni) which was well attended and much interest shown from the questions afterwards.

As is evident from all of the above, the Committee and staff have had an extraordinarily full year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their work and dedication. I especially thank Treasurer Keith Schelberg, who puts in many hours of work, often unseen, to provide a fair representation of our financial position. As the group has grown, this has become increasingly more complex and important to the Committee. I also thank the rest of our Committee for their input this year, especially in relation to planning workshops and other commitments over and above our normal meetings. Particularly I would mention Steve Skull, our Vice-President, who has attended numerous meetings with Seqwater this year and made his offices in Brisbane available for this purpose.

Finally I would like to acknowledge Gillian Pechey who has held a Committee position for over 20 years - the longest serving member of our Committee. Gillian intends to step down this year and we will all miss her guiding hand and perspective she has brought. Gillian still intends to be involved and will become the first life member of the group in recognition of her commitment and contribution. Gillian has previously been awarded volunteer of the year locally and we thank Gillian for her service.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Keith Schelberg

I am pleased to be able to make this report to LBCCG members and to submit the Financial Statements and Audited Report for the year ending 30 June 2015. This includes:

a) Income and Expenditure during the last financial year.
b) Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2015.
c) Depreciation Schedule for the last financial year.

This year has been another very successful year in that we have been able to deliver creditable and successful outcomes – benefiting not only all of our stakeholders but also our local community. Our Income and Expenditure Statement shows that LBCCG ended this financial year with a loss of $6,176.73. However, this is "somewhat distorted" because the $10,000.00 additional administration funding we were to receive this financial year was actually received last financial year. So, in real terms, we achieved a surplus this year of $3823.27. We can now look forward with renewed optimism and confidence due to the new Contribution Agreement with Seqwater and the Environment Levy Partnership Funding Agreement with the Sunshine Coast Council. We thank both providers as well as those who were instrumental in getting it to happen. The above highlights our dependence on adequate and timely funding. Despite the above loss, LBCCG is in a stable financial position and is now well placed to remain so into the future.

Our increased workload and funding has enabled us to engage another full time employee, Matt Bateman. Matt comes with extensive relevant experience and we give a hearty welcome to Matt. Special thanks to our Project manager, Mark Amos, for his tremendous efforts and outcomes achieved during the year. I particularly thank Mark for his assistance to me with financial matters.

I thank the Committee for their assistance during the year and for trusting my financial reports and recommendations given at each management committee meeting.

I move that the independent financial audit and treasurer's report be accepted as presented.

I also move that Michael Harper be accepted as external auditor for the 2015/2016 financial year.

LBCCG PROJECT MANAGER'S REPORT

Mark Amos

The quality of water in Lake Baroon is a direct consequence of climate and land use in the catchment. Cyanobacteria blooms in Lake Baroon can be attributed at least in part to excessive nutrients and sediments originating in the catchment and delivered via heavy rainfall events. LBCCG cannot control the local weather… yet, but we can influence land management.

The Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group has continued to implement projects throughout the catchment that reduce risks to water quality, improve property sustainability and viability, and deliver numerous other environmental and social benefits.

Importantly, the group has taken a significant step forward during the year with an expansion of staff and negotiations are well underway with Seqwater, on a new funding Agreement.

There are several pieces to the LBCCG jigsaw that contribute to our success. The most important piece is undoubtedly the Management Committee. The Committee is made up of a varied bunch that all have very different life experiences. However the mix provides a deep well of experience, providing strategic direction and supporting staff to fulfil our roles.

Our partners, notably Seqwater and Sunshine Coast Council (and many others), generously support LBCCG and without their commitment we would find it difficult to prosper in an increasingly challenging industry.

Like all 'Landcare' groups we are a product of our members and active participants (landholders). We are fortunate that the large landholders in the catchment are keen to work with us to address water quality outcomes although LBCCG does have the aim of creating win-win projects where landholders are not penalised for providing a community benefit.

LBCCG continue to demonstrate the effectiveness of a community based approach to catchment management.

Notable achievements in 2014-15 by LBCCG in partnership with Seqwater (and others) include:

- Installation of over 1,795 metres of riparian fencing managing livestock access to waterways;
- Planting of over 3,500 tubestock in riparian zones (and continued maintenance of a further 7,250);
- Construction of three waterway crossings reducing erosion from livestock and vehicles;
- Installation of seven alternate livestock watering points (including six troughs);
- Remediation of two minor erosion points;
- 34 hectares of environmental weed management;
- One major community event (field day);
- Supported two research thesis' (one financially);
- Installed one educational sign (replaced Obi Obi Creek sign in Tesch Park);
- Hosted an awareness program (Hinterland BushLinks supported by Sunshine Coast Council and delivered via Barung Landcare); *and*
- Produced one Report highlighting the value of the LBCCG model and supporting the upcoming 'new' Agreement with Seqwater.

As a result of these and other LBCCG projects, the total project value was $404,144, of which Seqwater's investment was $125,356 (not including administration funding). External funding was secured from:

- Queensland Government Everyone's Environment Grant ($24,000);
- Sunshine Coast Council Community Partnerships ($50,000);
- Sunshine Coast Council Landholder Environment Grants ($28,375): *and*
- East Coast TAFE labour support (estimated $9,000).

I look forward to continuing the momentum in 2015-16 and beyond.

PROJECTS OVERVIEW 2014-15

Project	Activities	Seqwater Funding	Grants [1]	Other[2] Contributors	Total Value
1415-002 Upper Lawley Creek Restoration Year 4	Revegetation maintenance Weed management	$2,602	$7,500	$5,000	$15,102
1415-003 Restoring Bridge Creek Year 3	Revegetation maintenance	$4,586	-	$5,000	$9,586
1415-004 Farmhouse Macadamias Waterway Crossings & Weed Management	Waterway crossings Weed management	$24,675	-	$22,400	$47,075
1415-005 Upper Obi Obi Creek Restoration Year 4	Weed management Revegetation maintenance	$4,923	-	$5,000	$9,923
1415-006 Obi Obi Creek Fencing & Revegetation	Revegetation Riparian fencing, Watering point	$10,980	$3,148	$8,680	$22,808
1415-008 Erowal Riparian Fencing & Off Stream Watering Year 3	Off stream watering Riparian fencing Weed management	$5,255	-	$4,980	$10,235
1415-009 Nadi Lane Livestock & Erosion Management	Fencing Revegetation	$12,438	$8,148	$5,091	$25,677
1415-010 Walkers Creek Rehabilitation & Enhancement	Riparian fencing Revegetation Weed management	$15,470	$8,988	$22,560	$47,018
1415-016 Walkers Creek Riparian Program	Riparian fencing Off stream watering Revegetation	$10,332	$5,091	$9,160	$24,583
1415-017 Mid Obi Riparian Corridor Protection	Weed management Revegetation	$10,474	$24,000	$30,750	$65,224
1415-022 Alcorn Creek Off Stream Watering	Off stream watering Weed management	$14,297	-	$18,360	$32657
1415-015 Obi Waterfall Project – Fencing & Weed Control	Fencing Erosion control Weed management	$9,324	$3,000	$11,505	$32,657
Non-Seqwater Projects					
1415-012 UQ Thesis	Thesis	-	-	$1,000	$1,000
1415-013 Hinterland Bush Links	Awareness program	-	$50,000	-	$50,000
1415-015 Tesch Park Sign	Educational sign	-	-	$599	$599
1415-021 LBCCG Report	Report	-	-	$10,000	$10,000
TOTALS		**$125,356**	**$109,875**	**$160,085**	**$404,144**

[1] Grants or cash contributions from other organisations (Sunshine Coast Council, Everyone's Environment Grants).

[2] Landholder contributions include cash and in-kind (in-kind labour calculated at $30.00 per hour or $50.00 per hour when machinery/equipment hire is taken into consideration.

PROJECT OUTPUTS 2014-15

Project Outputs 2014-15	1415-002 Upper Lawley Creek Restoration Year 4	1415-003 Restoring Bridge Creek Year 3	1415-004 Farmhouse Macadamias Crossings & Weed Management	1415-005 Upper Obi Obi Creek Restoration Year 4	1415-006 Obi Obi Creek Fencing & Revegetation	1415-008 Erowal Riparian Fencing & Off Stream Watering Year 3	1415-009 Nadi Lane Livestock & Erosion Management	1415-010 Walkers Creek Rehabilitation & Enhancement	1415-016 Walkers Creek Riparian Program	1415-017 Mid Obi Riparian Corridor Protection	1415-022 Alcorn Creek Off Stream Watering	1415-023 Obi Waterfall Project – Fencing & Weed Control	1415-012 UQ Thesis(1)	1415-013 Hinterland Bush Links(2)	1415-015 Tesch Park Sign(1)	1415-021 LBCCG Report(1)	TOTALS
Fencing	-	-	-	-	100	140	150	470	175	-	300	460	-	-	-	-	**1,795 m**
Revegetation	-	-	-	-	200	-	1,650	1,150	400	100	-		-	-	-	-	**3,500 plants**
Weed management	25,000	10,000	35,000	20,000	-	20,000	-	15,000	-	65,000	100,000	30,000	-	-	-	-	**340,000 m^2**
Waterway crossings	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**3**
Revegetation maintained	3,250	2,000		2,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**7,250 plants**
Watering points	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	2		2	-	-	-	-	-	**7 points**
Minor erosion management	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	**2 points**
Community events	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	**1 event**
Research Thesis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	**1 thesis**
Educational signs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			1	-	**1 sign**
Awareness program	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	**1 program**
Report	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	**1 report**

(1) Projects funded by LBCCG from Members Funds

(2) Community Partnership funded by Sunshine Coast Council

PROJECT REPORTS

Upper Lawley Creek Restoration Year 4

1415-002

Final year of four year project.

Lawley Creek drains approximately 280 hectares of catchment and is bounded by urban Maleny to the south, Bridge Creek Road to the west, North Maleny Road to the east and Rosella Road to the north. The confluence with Bridge Creek occurs just to the west of the first bridge over Bridge Creek Road. The project site is in the headwaters of Lawley Creek, therefore the catchment is a mere 35 hectares, although this is misleading as urban Maleny, with its roads and hardened surfaces provide greater run-off than the catchment size suggests.

From Keton property-Lawley in background, Malter mid figure, Keton SCC plantings in foreground.

Lawley Creek – particularly downstream of the project site is one of the more protected and vegetated (although some of this vegetation is degraded by environmental weeds with arguable buffering ability) areas in the Lake Baroon catchment. The upper areas of Lawley Creek however are largely grazed. The project site represents a 'gap' in the riparian vegetation between bushland on the outskirts of Maleny and the remnant vegetation and bushland in the lower reaches of Lawley Creek.

The project was a significant partnership between the Commonwealth Government (initial funding through Community Action Grants), Seqwater, LBCCG, Barung Landcare and the Sunshine Coast Council (SCC).

Exceptional tree establishment on the Lawley reach.

The project was implemented over three adjoining properties with area mapped as Essential Habitat for threatened species by DERM (EPBC vulnerable *Macadamia ternifolia* and *Syzygium hodgkinsoniae)*. This facilitated funding from the several different sources.

The project fenced 680 metres of riparian zone including 460 metres of Lawley Creek, 140 metres of a tributary (gully) and 80 metres of a major tributary flowing from the east. The fencing included steep slopes and seasonally waterlogged soaks – areas difficult to manage from a production perspective.

Lawley Creek. Trees were planted to the lower creek bank. Growth in creek bed is native smart weed.

The total area fenced was approximately 3.4 hectares and included small stands of remnant

vegetation, some regrowth and degraded areas dominated by environmental weeds.

Malter reach (western side). This short reach contains a small stand of remnant vegetation.

LBCCG revegetated approximately 1.5 hectares (3,200 plants) with Sunshine Coast Council (through a Landholder Environment Grant) establishing a further 750 plants on a tributary (gully). Fifty Richmond birdwing vines were planted by volunteers facilitated by Conservation Volunteers on the Keton property.

Additionally the project implemented a staged weed management program over approximately 2 hectares; however this was modified substantially once a significant population of local crayfish was discovered on site. Weed management has not been completed due to this however LBCCG, SCC and the landowner will continue to work onsite to ensure the original weed management outcomes are realised without adversely impacting on the rare species.

Malter reach (western side). Fertile soils and good species selection has facilitated good establishment.

As with all LBCCG revegetation projects maintenance of the planted trees (and weed management) continued for a minimum of three years to ensure successful establishment and intended outcomes are achieved.

Although LBCCG projects have the primary aim of reducing risk to water quality, invariably other environmental outcomes are delivered.

The project excluded livestock from remnant vegetation and re-established a vegetation corridor between remnants and also regrowth vegetation on the fringe of urban Maleny.

Although the spiny crayfish identified on site were coping well with the heavy infestation of environmental weeds, it is expected the removal of grazing and the reestablishment of native riparian vegetation is likely to enhance the survival of the species.

Keton reach (downstream end). Several significant floods have slowed tree establishment but overall the planting has performed well. Minor maintenance will need to continue for approximately two more years.

Fencing riparian zones usually results in loss of grazing however often these areas can be difficult to manage due to mustering difficulties, possibility of lost livestock due to misadventure, weed management and the maintenance of flood fences. There can be significant productivity gains in fencing off difficult areas and revegetating to essentially create an area that maintains itself with minimal intervention.

The establishment of a vegetated buffer reduces nutrient, sediment pathogen and chemical delivery to waterways by excluding livestock from riparian

zones, slowing overland flows and trapping contaminants before they reach the watercourse.

Keton reach (upper bank). Good establishment. Note the access track on the right being maintained.

Two field walks were conducted on the project, including one held in partnership with Land for Wildlife.

Challenging weather conditions hampered the project in the early stages– mainly the dry finish to 2012 which delayed the planting of 1,200 tubestock. Despite the dry conditions and the following wet period experienced in early 2013, the revegetation has performed well – particularly on the Lawley and Malter properties where the red soils are well drained and fertile.

Weed management has been modified to ensure changes to canopy coverage is gradual. This is to ensure the population of spiny crayfish is not adversely affected.

Despite the weather related issues, the project was very successful with project components completed to a high standard. Minor follow up maintenance over a limited area and some final weed management is required however it will not affect the overall outcomes of the project.

The Sunshine Coast Council component of the project on the Lawley Creek tributary (gully).

Restoring Bridge Creek – A Partnership between the Commonwealth, State and Community Year 2 **1415-003**

Third year of a four year project.

The project has fenced 380 metres of a tributary of Lawley/Bridge Creek, excluding livestock. We have established a vegetation corridor (2,000 trees) between remnant rainforest vegetation, and a series of constructed wetlands on the outskirts of urban Maleny. We are addressing water quality issues in the catchment impacting on Lake Baroon (the Sunshine Coast's most important water supply) from grazing, erosion, sedimentation, urban development, habitat fragmentation, biodiversity decline and weed spread.

Project from Bridge Creek Road. Keton property/site on left of figure, Smith property/site on right of figure.

A low level concrete crossing was constructed enabling access to an eastern paddock and this also acts as a controlled watering point.

Revegetation established.

The project is being implemented over two adjoining properties with area mapped as Essential Habitat for threatened species by DERM (EPBC vulnerable *Macadamia ternifolia* and *Syzygium hodgkinsoniae*). The project entered a maintenance phase in 2013-14 (revegetation and weeds) which is crucial to the long term success and establishment of an effective riparian buffer and wildlife corridor.

Project from Meg Hankinson Park. Future plans are to fence and revegetate the wetland system in between.

The project is enhancing the filtering and buffering capacity of a degraded Bridge Creek tributary; excluding livestock from the waterway, establishing a vegetation buffer to filter paddock run off carrying faecal material with potential pathogens, sediments, nutrients and pesticides.

Growth on the majority of the site has been fair and already well on the way to establishing a shade canopy – particularly on the Smith property. In time this will reduce light penetration and discourage weed growth, reducing maintenance frequency and cost. Also as trees gain height their ability to be overgrown by weeds is significantly reduced.

Farmhouse Macadamias Waterway Crossings and Weed Management 1415-004

The project is constructing two low level concrete crossings on the Obi Obi Creek providing safe, low risk access to orchards on the opposite side of the creek. Additionally weed management has been commenced on the lower reach of the creek to enhance its ability to buffer flows and provide a vegetative buffer to agricultural operations.

Crossing number 1.

The construction of the crossings will significantly reduce the risk of a potentially catastrophic incident from machinery accidents. This could include the release of high volumes of insecticide and/or herbicide but also include liquid or granular fertiliser. Additionally there is the constant risk of fuels, oils and other contaminants being deposited into the watercourse.

The reach below Kings Lane Weir has high habitat values with a diverse range of hydrological features such as large deep pools, some remnant and regrowth vegetation and good macrophyte vegetation (anecdotal evidence suggests that vegetated riparian buffers, particularly established macrophyte vegetation assists in the removal of pollutants and contamination before it reaches Lake Baroon) . Therefore any activity that enhances the riparian buffer is likely to benefit raw water quality before it enters the storage.

Crossing point number 2.

Intensive, staged weed management for two years (2014-16) will control weeds in a sustainable approach with a focus on removing environmental weeds (predominantly viny weeds such as madeira and blue morning glory) that have the potential to alter vegetation structure, impacting on the ability of the zone to filter contaminants. It is anticipated once weed management has been satisfactorily completed external (commonwealth, state and local) funding applications focussing on the revegetation of the site will be possible.

Obi Obi Creek riparian zone below Kings Lane Weir has some individual remnant vegetation but is severely degraded by environmental weeds.

Weed management has commenced however crossing construction will be completed when creek flows are at a minimum – likely September 2015.

Upper Obi Obi Creek Restoration Year 4 1415-005

Final year of a four year project.

The project was initially funded by a Caring for Our Country Community Action Grant, which enabled support from the National Green Jobs Corps Program and further support from Seqwater (particularly the maintenance phases of the project).

The Farmhouse Macadamias property Obi Obi Creek frontage (approximately 2.5 kilometres in length) is generally quite well covered in vegetation – much of it having a relatively wide buffer. This is due to remnant vegetation, extensive revegetation programs and weed dominated areas that contain individual remnant trees.

Western edge of Site 1.

The project has continued the establishment of a buffer on the Obi Obi Creek. The buffer provides a vegetation filter between agricultural activities in the adjacent orchard and King's Lane Weir – an important component of the water supply to Lake Baroon.

Eastern edge of site 1.

The revegetation filters run-off from the property which can potentially carry pesticides, sediments and nutrients derived from fertilisers while extending the vegetation corridor along the Obi Obi Creek. Additionally the vegetation provides a buffer to airborne contaminants such as pesticides.

The project has planted 2,000 riparian trees on approximately 320 metres of Obi Obi Creek and two tributaries. This has extended and enhanced over 320 metres of wildlife corridor and provided an education and training exercise for Conservation Volunteers Australia through the National Green Jobs Corps Program.

Site 1. The edge exposed to the south is vulnerable to frost and to a lesser extent waterlogging, affecting tree establishment and growth.

As part of the revegetation and also to enhance adjacent riparian zones, over 10,000 m^2 of weed management was undertaken, primarily focussing on environmental species that are detrimental to water quality by outcompeting beneficial native vegetation.

The project has been used as a demonstration site with a field day (15 attendees), three visits by Universities including the published University of Queensland research project '*Early Response of Soil Properties and Function to Riparian Rainforest Restoration*'.

The persistence of the Blue morning glory has also been a concern and a concerted effort to eliminate this weed has been required in the last 18 months

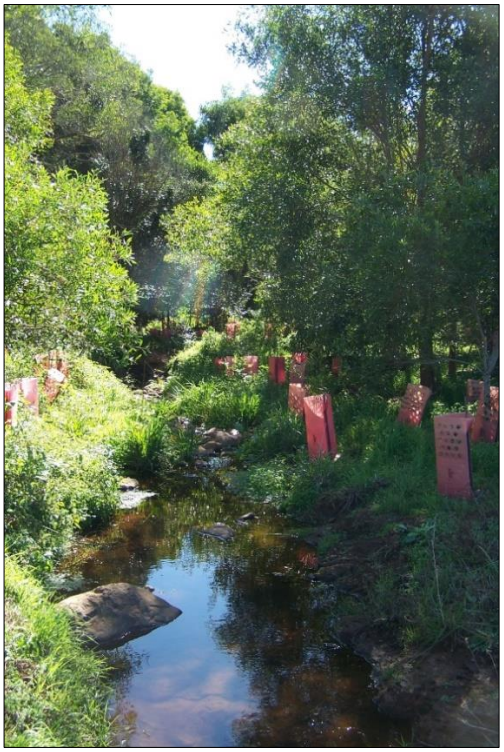
of the project. Similarly Tradescantia spp. has thrived on the site as it is particularly resistant to Glyphosate-based herbicides. Although it does not greatly affect the establishment or growth of the revegetation, it does however form a dense mat that excludes natural regeneration and provides very little water quality benefits (provides little creek bank stability and in high velocity flows is removed leaving bare earth banks that are very prone to erosion).

Site 2.

Ex-tropical cyclone Oswald caused minor flooding on the site but more importantly resulted in several very large Blackwood wattles being uprooted and falling into the revegetation. Although this did not cause significant damage to the revegetation it did limit access to perform maintenance. Trimming to allow access was an unforeseen cost to the project.

Established edge of site 2

Significantly the project has also had benefits for Farmhouse Macadamias. Riparian zones can be difficult to manage with labour intensive mowing, spraying and general maintenance. These areas also tend to support environmental and agricultural weeds which can provide habitat for introduced rats and insects that can attack macadamia trees.



The ultimate aim of waterway restoration is return the watercourse to a more natural form.

Revegetation projects on the Maleny plateau can be high risk. The climate, although conducive to the rapid growth of plant species also can be unpredictable. An annual rainfall of approximately 2,000 mm per year has in recent years actually exceeded 3,500 mm, with the majority falling over the summer months in high intensity events.

Flooding and waterlogging resulted in a loss of approximately 150 stems while annual severe frosts have caused further losses and impacted on the growth of a large number of trees. Dead trees have been replaced – with species that can tolerate waterlogging (Swamp mahogany - Eucalyptus robusta) and frost tolerant (and also capable of surviving wet conditions) Blackwood wattle (Acacia melanoxylon). Acacias also have the advantage of establishing quickly although in the future we may have to add a more diverse mix of species and manage the acacias (funding permitting).

Obi Obi Creek Riparian Revegetation [Macleod] 1415-006

Obi Obi Creek Riparian Revegetation was implemented in the upper reaches of Obi Obi Creek – an area of intensive agriculture with significant risks to water quality. The project in partnership with Sunshine Coast Council (LEG program) completed the fencing and revegetation of the Obi Obi Creek on the Macleod property and commenced the construction of an innovative controlled watering point for livestock.

Obi Obi Creek fencing and revegetation.

The project has excluded livestock from 315 metres of Obi Obi Creek through the installation of 100 metres of permanent fencing, revegetated the riparian zone and improved property management by strictly controlling water access.

The wildlife corridor has been extended linking areas of remnant vegetation, regrowth vegetation and revegetation projects. The riparian vegetation will stabilise the creek bank, shade the watercourse reducing temperature and enhancing dissolved oxygen levels, and enhance the watercourse's ability to mitigate the effects of pollutants originating further upstream. Other benefits include provision and enhancement of habitat, improving aesthetic appeal (promoting the value of riparian restoration) and reducing weed sources.

Obi Obi Creek flooding in February 2015. Note the hardwood stakes - protecting the seedlings from debris.

The project will ultimately reduce risks to water quality in the catchment (and ultimately Lake Baroon) by reducing the delivery of key contaminants including nutrients, pathogens, pesticides and gross pollutants.

The project has completed three components:

1. Installation of 100 metres of fencing on Obi Obi Creek;
2. Revegetation of Obi Obi Creek riparian zone;
3. Commenced installation of controlled watering point for livestock (construction requires the Obi to be at base flows – usually only achieved during early spring).

Controlled watering point under construction.

Erowal Riparian Fencing and Off Stream Watering Stage 3 1415-008

Final stage of a three year project.

Erowal Riparian Fencing and Off Stream Watering is a multi-year project designed to address unmanaged livestock access to major watercourses, degraded riparian buffers and the proliferation of environmental weeds that provide limited stabilisation of creek banks and maintenance of water quality.

Year 1 fencing was completed inundated during April 2015 floods. Quality fencing can withstand flooding.

The first Stage (2012-13) of the project funded the fencing of the Obi Obi Creek riparian zone and initial weed management. The second stage (2013-14) installed off stream watering infrastructure and continued weed management. The final Stage (2014-15) has continued weed management, however efficiencies and greater landholder in-kind contributions, enabled a series of additional activities (extension of the existing off stream watering system and riparian fencing.

Savings from the weed management budget has allowed the OSW system to be extended permitting Walkers

The project has excluded livestock from 850 metres of Obi Obi Creek riparian zone and commenced the enhancement of the riparian zone through weed management, improving the ability of the riparian zone to function as an effective buffer to paddock run off (sediments, nutrients, faecal material/pathogens, urban pollution and pesticides). Additionally the wildlife corridor/linkage is being enhanced over time.

New fencing (in background) installed on Walkers Creek.

The additional activities has excluded livestock from a further 140 metres of watercourse and managed weeds in a further 0.5 hectares riparian zone. A small budget has been retained to complete weed management.

The project has:

- implemented on-ground activities that mitigate threats to water quality;
- promoted integrated catchment management in the Lake Baroon catchment;
- reduced nutrient delivery to waterways;
- reduced sediment delivery to waterways;
- improved aquatic habitats;
- raised community awareness (water quality);
- supported and worked cooperatively with like-minded community organisations;
- reduced the impact of weeds;
- enhanced links between vegetation and re-established corridors;
- contributed to conservation of threatened species;
- contributed to climate change adaptation; *and*
- demonstrated BMP of riparian zones.

Nadi Lane Livestock and Erosion Management 1415-009

The project evolved from a successful application to the Sunshine Coast Council's Landholder Environment Grants program by the landowners Scott Whitaker and Allyson Reynolds. LBCCG became involved when it was determined that the size and extent of the project was too large for the landholders to be able to successfully complete, even with Sunshine Coast Council support.

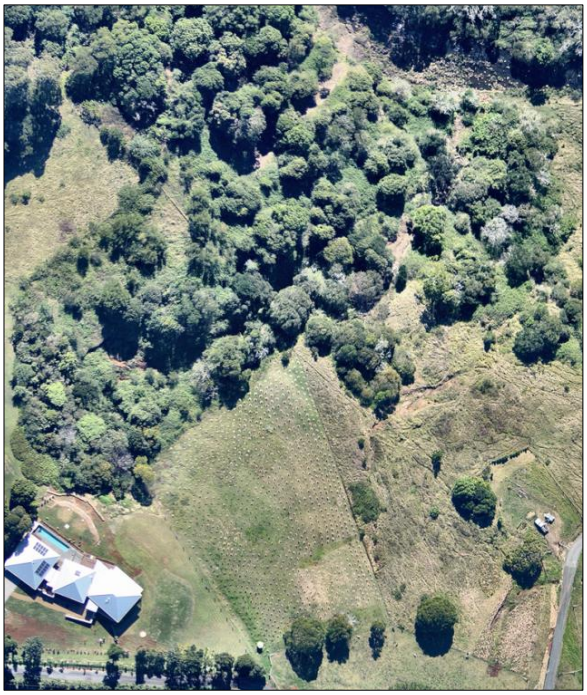
The project completed two components:

1. Excluded livestock from a steep slope immediately above a significant land slip through installation of 150 metres of permanent fencing;
2. Revegetated (1,400 stems) the hillslope to provide long term stability and extend wildlife habitat.

Newly installed tubestock on steep hill slope immediately above significant land slip.

The project site is located a relatively short distance upstream of Baroon Pocket Dam - the major supplier of potable water to the Sunshine Coast and important contributor to greater South east Queensland via the Northern Pipeline Interconnector. Activities will contribute to the stabilisation of the relatively major landslip by reducing and slowing surface run off, binding the soil profile by providing root diversity (planting of trees) and increasing transpiration rates (which ultimately reduces the volume of water reaching the landslip's slip plane).

Revegetation from downhill. The land slip can be seen in the far right of the figure.



Aerial view of site. Revegetation centre and lower right; landslip mid right; Obi Obi Creek top right of figure.

The project has:

- Assisted in the stabilisation of a hillslope delivering large volumes of soil to Obi Obi Creek;
- Addresses sediment loss particularly during high rainfall;
- Reduced risks to water quality in Obi Obi Creek from livestock pathogens and nutrients;
- Established native vegetation extending wildlife habitat; improving the linkage with Obi Obi Ck;
- Contributes to the long term protection of remnant and regrowth vegetation;
- Engaged new landholders; *and*
- Strengthened the partnership with Sunshine Coast Council and Landholder Environment Grants program.

Additional fencing to exclude livestock from the land slip has been installed to permit further stabilisation works to continue in the future.

Walkers Creek Rehabilitation & Enhancement [Quick & Gray] 1415-010

Walkers Creek Rehabilitation and Enhancement will be implemented over two adjoining properties, staged over three years and is effectively a continuation of recent projects on neighbouring properties both upstream and downstream.

Walkers Creek supports a variety of land uses including primary production and rural residential. This reach on the Gray property has been partially restored.

The project has excluded livestock from 385 metres of Walkers Creek, commenced control of invasive environmental weeds and replacement with appropriate native vegetation, establishing a vegetated buffer. The riparian vegetation will reduce erosion, shade the watercourse reducing temperature, enhancing dissolved oxygen levels and enhance the watercourses ability to mitigate the effects of pollutants originating further upstream.

The Gray property is rural residential and received only minor cash support to revegetate the riparian zone, however significant in-kind support was provided.

Other benefits include extending wildlife corridors, providing habitat, improving aesthetic appeal (important to raise awareness of value of riparian restoration) and reduce weed sources. This will reduce risks to water quality in the catchment (and ultimately Lake Baroon) by reducing key contaminants including nutrients, pathogens, pesticides and gross pollutants.

Majority of the Quick property revegetation was planted by East Coast TAFE students.

The project over three years will complete three components:

1. Install 470 metres of fencing on Quick property;
2. Implement weed management activities over 1 hectare;
3. Revegetate riparian zones on both properties (2,050 plants).

In 2014-15 three components were completed or partially completed:

1. 470 metres of fencing was completed on Quick property;
2. Commenced weed management activities over 1 hectare;
3. Planted a total of 1,150 plants over two properties.

The implementation of the planned activities will reduce threats to catchment water quality by:

- reducing erosion of the bed and banks of Walkers Creek reducing turbidity and sedimentation;
- reduce direct faecal deposition (nutrients and pathogens) to Walkers Creek;
- extend wildlife corridors linking Obi Obi Creek, Walkers Creek and Fryars Creek (with the eventual aim of linking Mary Cairncross Park);
- return Walkers Creek to a more natural watercourse which in turn improves its ability to mitigate water quality threats originating upstream;
- improve livestock management;
- continue to develop land manager engagement;
- provide demonstration site (previous nearby projects has led to greater landholder awareness and a series of related projects); *and*
- provide learning opportunities for Conservation and Land Management students (East Coast TAFE).

Spreading bamboo was initially controlled by a posi-track mounted slasher which dropped and mulched the weed with follow up spraying to kill it when it re-shot.

Fencing being installed in background. Note the flood debris on an internal paddock fence. Despite this there was little damage caused to the recent revegetation.

Walkers Creek Riparian Program [Harris]

1415-016

The project has evolved from site discussions with the landholder and a subsequent application to the Sunshine Coast Council's Landholder Environment Grants program by the landowners Rick and Cindy Harris.

Livestock have access to the Walkers Creek riparian zone and preferentially graze in these areas as it usually produces the best feed.

The project aimed to complete four components:

1. Exclude livestock from a steep slope with permanent fencing;
2. Install off stream watering infrastructure;
3. Remediation of minor bank erosion in Walkers Creek; *and*
4. Commence revegetation of the Walkers Creek riparian zone to establish a buffer and wildlife habitat 'node'.

Revegetation by the landholders

The project site is located a relatively short distance upstream of Baroon Pocket Dam - the major supplier of potable water to the Sunshine Coast and important contributor to greater South east Queensland via the Northern Pipeline Interconnector.

Activities will reduce risks to water quality in a high priority catchment.

Off stream watering being installed.

The project will:

- reduce erosion of the bed and banks of Walkers Creek reducing turbidity and sedimentation;
- reduce direct livestock faecal deposition (nutrients and pathogens) to Walkers Creek;
- return Walkers Creek to a more natural watercourse which in turn improves its ability to mitigate water quality threats originating upstream;
- improve livestock management;
- continue to develop land manager engagement;
- provide demonstration site (previous nearby projects has led to greater landholder awareness and a series of related projects); *and*
- Strengthen the partnership with Sunshine Coast Council and Landholder Environment Grants program.

Riparian fencing installed

Mid Obi Riparian Corridor Protection

1415-017

This new project is continuing the implementation of the series of activities protecting, enhancing and restoring the Obi Obi Creek riparian zone. The latest phase of activities is the protection and enhancement of the remnant vegetation within fenced areas – particularly Endangered Regional Ecosystem 12.3.1 *Gallery rainforest (notophyll vine forest) on alluvial plains*.

One hundred birdwing vines were planted by CVA.

The primary threat (excluding clearing) to the RE is weed invasion due to the typical occurrence as a narrow riparian strip with a high edge to area ratio. Initial site investigations have identified threatened fauna species such as the Giant barred frog, Richmond birdwing butterfly and Pink underwing moth, while flora species include the Richmond birdwing vine. A vegetation survey undertaken by Sunshine Coast Council is expected to identify more threatened and rare species.

We are implementing a staged weed management program over 6.5 hectares utilising various best practice methods (and most efficient) to enhance the remnant and valuable regrowth vegetation, and clear weed infested areas to enable revegetation activities.

We are protecting and enhancing 1,050 metres of Obi Obi Creek frontage (southern bank). We are engaging the local community (in partnership with Conservation Volunteers and East Coast TAFE), to assist with weed management and revegetation of threatened species (Richmond birdwing vine).

Highland Slashing clearing extensive lantana.

The project has:

- implemented an on-ground project that mitigates threats to water quality;
- promoted integrated catchment management;
- reduced nutrient delivery to waterways;
- reduced sediment delivery to waterways;
- improved aquatic habitats;
- raised community awareness;
- supported and worked cooperatively with like-minded community organisations;
- protected endangered remnant vegetation;
- restored links between vegetation and enhance wildlife corridors;
- contributed to conservation of threatened species;

Vegetation survey of riparian zone.

The project received funding under the Queensland Government's Everyone's Environment Grants which runs until December 31, 2015.

Alcorn Creek Off Stream Watering [Crick] 1415-022

The Crick property is one of the largest properties (104 hectares) in the Lake Baroon catchment and lies in one of the most unstable areas – the mid to upper reaches of Bridge (Alcorn) Creek. More than 95% of samples between 1994 and 2005 exceeded ANZECC guidelines with very high nutrients and faecal coliforms detected (Dunstan 2007; Traill 2007). Although not captured by the sampling program it is known that the catchment, including the Crick property delivers a huge sediment load to Bridge Creek and due to the high faecal coliforms the pathogen risk would be significant.

A small farm dam located on the hillslope and likely contributing to the hillslope's instability was removed. Weed management activities have revealed the location of springs and soaks, and areas of instability that can be addressed by the 2015-16 Seqwater Landslide Remediation Program.

The property has been identified as high priority for the Seqwater Landslide Remediation program and with extensive weed management and a change in grazing management will enable direct landslip intervention on the site (targeted drainage, revegetation and temporary fencing) in 2015-16.

Without LBCCG intervention a farm dam would have been constructed on the landslip envelope – high risk in unstable areas. By providing off stream watering infrastructure instead and developing a longer term plan we can, in future years, not only greatly improve hill slope stability but improve grazing management which will provide a flow on reduction in water quality risk.

With the removal of the farm dam in the landslip envelope, alternative livestock was required. An existing system was modified and extended to include two new troughs in the eastern paddocks.

The project has completed four components:

1. Complete weed management over ten hectares;
2. Installed off stream watering system to provide livestock water (two points);
3. Installed fencing to improve grazing management;
4. Decommissioned one farm dam and drained several areas of water storage on the unstable hill-slope.

The project has:

- removed heavy infestations of environmental weeds enabling identification of the areas most prone to slippage;
- provided access for Seqwater programs;
- improved stability of land slip areas by improving upper-slope drainage;
- improved livestock management on the Crick property;
- provided watering points for livestock enabling removal of a destabilising farm dam;
- built land manager capacity and improve land manager engagement; *and*
- established a demonstration site.

Obi Waterfall Project – Fencing and Weed Control [Lawrie] 1415-023

LBCCG have been working in the mid to lower Obi Obi Creek area for many years, mainly on the larger properties upstream, however to continue addressing land management issues in this important zone, it is strategic to engage smaller landholders with significant frontage to Obi Obi Creek. Evidence suggests that by enhancing the riparian zone in this area, polluted flows from the upper Obi Obi Creek, Walkers Creek and urban Maleny can be 'cleaned' as they move through pools, riffles, macrophytes and terrestrial vegetation.

The Lawrie property in lower Obi Obi Creek catchment. Although small it has a long frontage to the waterway.

The project will fence an Obi Obi Creek tributary excluding livestock, control weeds both within the fenced area and in the Obi Obi Creek riparian zone, and remediate a minor erosion gully in the watercourse.

Riparian zone of the Obi Obi Creek tributary. New fencing will be installed to exclude livestock.

The project aims to complete four components:

1. Install 460 metres of riparian fencing to exclude livestock from 102 metres of watercourse;
2. Control weeds in the 1 hectare of fenced area;
3. Control weeds in a further 4 hectares as part of a staged Obi Obi Creek riparian rehabilitation; *and*
4. Remediate a minor erosion gully that threatens to damage a farm dam bank.

Riparian zone and extensive infestation of environmental weeds. To simplify management the weeds will be controlled before the fence is installed.

The project will:

- Commence a longer term project that will ultimately enhance 800 metres of Obi Obi Creek riparian zone including the protection and enhancement of remnant vegetation;
- Exclude livestock from 102 metres of an Obi Obi Creek tributary reducing erosion, nutrient and pathogen loads;
- Provide watercourse stability by undertaking minor pre-emptive erosion control;
- Enhance wildlife habitat; improving the linkage with Obi Obi Creek;
- Engage a new landholder; *and*
- Strengthens partnership with Sunshine Coast Council and Landholder Environment Grants program.

Non- Seqwater Funded Projects

UQ Thesis - 'Early response of soil properties and function to riparian rainforest restoration' 1415-012

Although this project was completed in 2013-14, in the current financial year LBCCG partially funded the publication cost on PLOS One. Honours student Rose Gageler's (University of Queensland) thesis '*Early Response of Soil Properties and Function to Riparian Rainforest Restoration*' can be found here: Soil-response-to-reforestation.pdf

Luke Shoo, Rose Gageler, Susanne Schmidt and Mark from University of Queensland.

Hinterland Bush Links 1415-013

LBCCG hosted the Hinterland Bush Links project for three years. Although the project is based at Barung Landcare, LBCCG has provided administrative support.

Hinterland Bush Links
connecting restoring protecting
the Sunshine Coast Hinterland

Hinterland Bush Links is a visionary project to protect the biodiversity of the Sunshine Coast Hinterland by connecting, restoring and protecting habitat. It was launched in response to the decline of many plants, animals and ecosystems in this biodiverse region. This decline is due to loss and fragmentation of vegetation, and degradation of habitat by weed invasion. Connecting blocks of bush with wildlife corridors will facilitate dispersal of plants and animals through the landscape, increasing available habitat and allowing species to adapt to climate change.

Tesch Park Sign 1415-015

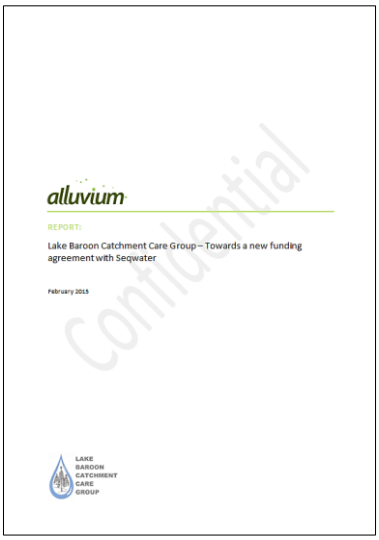
The Tesch Park sign update was completed in 2014-15 and funded out of this year's LBCCG budget. LBCCG has been consulting with the Jinibara Peoples and other stakeholders, including Seqwater to redesign the informative, but out of date sign in Tesch Park, Maleny.

The new design reflects the recent native title determination and updates the information on the sign.

LBCCG President Peter Stevens unveiling the new Tesch Park sign on the banks of Obi Obi Creek.

LBCCG Report - *Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group – Towards a new funding agreement with Seqwater*

The Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group (LBCCG) is currently 7 years (as at 2014/15) into a 10 year funding agreement with Seqwater. The group therefore identified that negotiations for a new funding agreement should take place as soon as possible to ensure an agreement is in place well before the current one expires.


alluvium

REPORT:

Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group – Towards a new funding agreement with Seqwater

February 2015

Confidential

LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP

In early discussions with Seqwater it was identified that a report should be produced to support the new agreement negotiation process, covering the following key topics:

- The current work program delivered by the existing agreement
- Any lessons learned during the tenure of the current agreement
- A future work program for the group and the resources required to deliver it.

LBCCG subsequently engaged Alluvium Consulting Australia to produce this report.

Other Projects (no funding required)

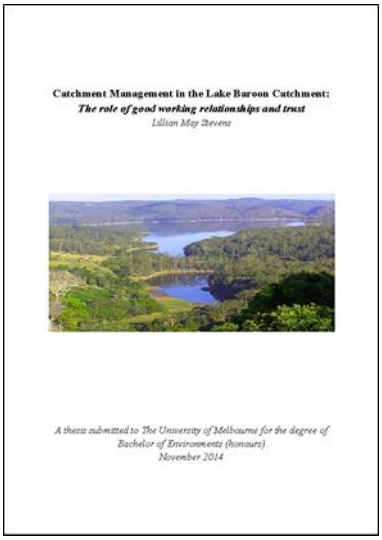
Catchment management in the Lake Baroon Catchment: The role of good working relationships and trust

An Honours thesis by Lillian Stevens

Abstract:

Achieving and maintaining water quality within a catchment provides significant benefits to agricultural and urban water uses. Particularly in catchments which flow into a dam, effectively managing the catchment can prevent nonpoint source pollution and sedimentation of this asset.

There are multiple challenges to doing so effectively. In many rural catchments, nonpoint source pollution comes from multiple, dispersed agricultural sources, which means that in catchments where land has not been acquisitioned by the state, improving water quality requires the combined efforts of most farmers in a watershed. Furthermore, nonpoint source pollution is hard to monitor and reacts with aquatic ecosystems in complex ways, making it difficult to link farmer behaviour and environmental outcomes.


Catchment Management in the Lake Baroon Catchment:

The role of good working relationships and trust

Lillian May Stevens

A thesis submitted to The University of Melbourne for the degree of Bachelor of Environments (honours)

November 2014

It is generally agreed that trust is important in building and maintaining positive relationships between NRM agencies and communities. There is a high incentive to cultivate trust because it is extremely difficult to plan and implement management activities with opposition or distrust from the public. In particular, on-ground catchment care projects require the trust and consent of private landholders to gain access to their property, and to encourage cooperation. This makes trust a central issue and conceptual tool to addressing the issue of non- point source pollution in a catchment.

The aim of this thesis was to examine the role that trust plays in engaging landholder to participate in on-ground catchment care activities in the Lake Baroon Catchment, QLD. In particular, it sought to expand existing theory and knowledge on the process and benefits of trust in a Natural Resource Management Context. Indeed, a better understanding of the processes leading to landholder engagement in general, may be applied to many fields of natural resource management.

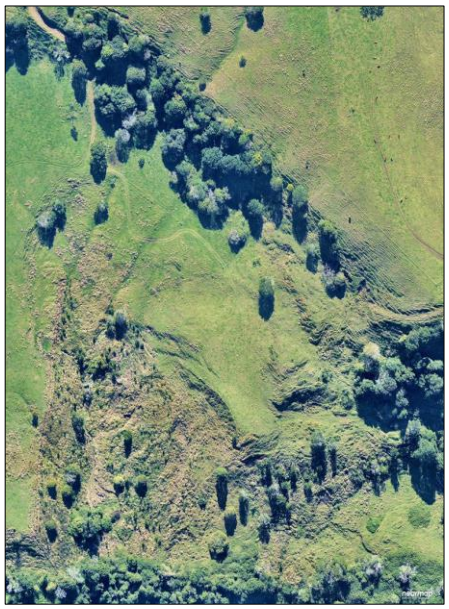
Semi-structured interviews were conducted in the Lake Baroon Catchment during July 2014 and analysed using qualitative social research methods. The preliminary results thus far have suggested that trust plays a crucial role in engaging landholders. Amongst other things, it proposes a number of theories about what drives trust and distrust between landholders and NRM agencies seeking to conduct on-ground catchment care activities. Furthermore, it highlights how the broader institutional and funding model which NRM agencies operate within can impact on their ability to cultivate trusting relationships with landholders.

Seqwater Priority Projects (delivered by LBCCG)

Seqwater Landslide Remediation Program

1415-018

The Lake Baroon catchment is well known for its green rolling hills, grazing livestock and mild climate. Locally it is also well known for its instability, or soil mass movement events, locally known as 'landslips' or just 'slips'. The interaction of factors influencing this movement is complex as are the factors influencing sediment delivery to the catchment's waterways. Until recently it was not known the extent landslips played in the Lake Baroon sediment budget. 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. This is unlike most other catchments where stream bank erosion plays a dominant role in sediment yields.



A further finding has been that a large portion of slip derived sediment is being liberated 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

The Donovan property in the upper reaches of Bridge Creek (Alcorn Creek).

based on the planting of appropriate vegetation, and drainage can provide a cost effective, low risk approach to landslip remediation.

In 2013-14 LBCCG managed the Seqwater Landslide Remediation program on behalf of the water authority. The program has just completed its second year of activities (2014-15).

Sediment mobilised by catchment landslips is deposited in Lake Baroon; this figure shows the sediment plume in the Falls Creek arm of the storage.

Overall the program has demonstrated how the collaboration between Seqwater and LBCCG can deliver efficient, targeted and well received on-ground works programs 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 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.

The program delivered over seven sites:

- two hectares weed management;
- 3,250 plants;
- 850 metres permanent fencing;
- 1,000 metres of temporary electric fencing;

The total area planted was 8.5 hectares and included the maintenance of the 2013-14 plants.

PARTNERS

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

The Queensland Government's Everyone's Environment Grants provided funding to the Mid Obi Riparian Corridor Protection project.

LBCCG assisted (providing auspicing and administration support) Hinterland Bush Links to deliver a program to promote the connecting, restoring and protecting habitat on the Sunshine coast Hinterland.

Barung Landcare provides contracting services for some of LBCCG's revegetation programs (including maintenance). Tube-stock is predominantly sourced from the Barung Community nursery.

The Commonwealth Government's Caring for Our Country Community Action Grants program provided seed funding to several ongoing LBCCG projects.

Conservation Volunteers Australia provided labour support to the Mid Obi Riparian Corridor Protection project.

Maleny District Green Hills Fund has been very active on the Maleny Community Precinct in 2014- 15 with support (provision and installation of fencing and facilitating volunteers) from LBCCG.

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

LBCCG and Sunshine Coast Council collaborated on *Obi Obi Creek Fencing and Revegetation*, *Nadi Lane Livestock and Erosion Management*, *Walkers Creek Rehabilitation and Enhancement*, and the *Obi Waterfall Project*.

LBCCG and East Coast TAFE have continued a collaborative partnership in 2014-15. TAFE students provided labour support to several projects – including 4 days planting trees and 2 days fencing on the Maleny Community Precinct.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS & AUDIT REPORT

LAKE BAROON

CATCHMENT CARE GROUP

INC

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AND

AUDIT REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

30TH JUNE 2015

Michael T Harper B.Bus. MIPA. Registered Company Auditor (6286)
Room 2, 2nd Level, 27A Howard Street, Nambour
PO Box 607, Nambour Qld 4560
Phone/Fax 07 5476 4386

LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP INC

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2015

2014 $		2015 $
	INCOME	
200,454.50	Project Funding	329,272.09
50,900.00	Grant Income	50,000.00
97,092.00	Administration Funding	70,695.78
1,236.36	Donations	1,200.00
76.37	Membership Fees	98.19
4,847.63	Interest Received	4,247.29
	Sale Pump	454.55
354,606.86	**TOTAL INCOME**	455,967.90
	EXPENDITURE	
85.86	Advertising	87.16
	Administration Costs	458.18
5,058.50	Administration Support	1,117.78
400.00	Audit	450.00
0.15	Bank Charges	
860.00	Bookkeeping	920.82
140.56	Catering	207.64
	Cleaning	24.54
749.09	Computer Expenses	445.40
56.22	Conferences	
4,103.00	Depreciation	3,280.00
2,714.48	Equipment	237.05
46.60	Fees and Permits	48.25
1,354.56	Fuel	1,042.72
792.91	Insurance	757.41
1,524.78	Meeting Expenses	2,007.29
50.00	Memberships and Subscriptions	31.82
3,046.44	Motor Vehicle Expenses	3,546.31
1,501.36	Photocoping	1,371.93
121.81	Postage	113.15
526.36	Printing and Stationery	142.34
200,454.50	Project Expenditure	329,272.09
135.46	Reference Books	218.18
107.23	Repairs and Maintenance	637.68
100,297.46	Salaries and Wages	101,809.60
43.58	Staff Amenities	5.60
748.54	Sundry Expenses	198.49
9,155.94	Superannuation Contributions	9,671.91
2,791.91	Telephone and Internet	3,053.77
92.55	Trailer Registration	87.09
-224.32	Travel	291.78
585.39	Workcover	498.65
345.27	Workplace Health and Safety	110.00
337,666.19	**TOTAL EXPENDITURE**	462,144.63
16,940.67	**EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME**	-6,176.73

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report

LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP INC

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30TH JUNE 2015

2014 $		2015 $
	MEMBERS FUNDS	
42,599.86	Opening Balance	59,540.53
16,940.67	Less Excess of Expenditure over Income	-6,176.73
59,540.53	**TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS**	53,363.80
	REPRESENTED BY : -	
	ASSETS	
	CURRENT ASSETS	
200.00	Cash on Hand	200.00
6,616.24	Cash at Bank - Maleny Credit Union - 4937 S1	7,384.78
6,234.07	Cash at Bank - Maleny Credit Union - Esaver	128,150.42
63,897.56	Cash at Bank - Maleny Credit Union - Term Deposit	66,217.75
101,805.00	Trade Debtors	24,094.80
178,752.87	**TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS**	226,047.75
	FIXED ASSETS	
19,760.10	Plant and Equipment - at Cost	19,760.10
16,591.10	Less Accumulated Depreciation	17,010.10
3,169.00		2,750.00
27,937.08	Motor Vehicles - at Cost	27,937.08
13,633.08	Less Accumulated Depreciation	16,494.08
14,304.00		11,443.00
17,473.00	**TOTAL FIXED ASSETS**	14,193.00
196,225.87	**TOTAL ASSETS**	240,240.75
	LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	
	Salary Sacrifice	4,829.43
2,905.08	Superannuation Payable	2,912.96
2,889.72	GST Control Account	7,576.60
4,910.10	PAYG Liability	3,995.10
125,980.44	Project Liabilities	167,562.86
136,685.34	**TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES**	186,876.95
59,540.53	**NET ASSETS**	53,363.80

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report

LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP INC

DEPRECIATION SCHEDULE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2015

Asset	Cost	Acc/Depn	Open WDV	Rate %	Depn	Close WDV
Plant and Equipment						
Trailer	1,640	1,535	105	15.0	16	89
Display Boards	80	80	0	7.5	0	0
Answering Machine	79	79	0	15.0	0	0
Lamp	64	64	0	7.5	0	0
Filing Cabinet	90	90	0	7.5	0	0
Plastic Chairs	40	40	0	7.5	0	0
Turbidity Tubes	104	104	0	7.5	0	0
Computer (Pentium) and Scanner	2,829	2,829	0	36.0	0	0
Water Test Equipment	2,554	1,697	857	7.5	64	793
Tape Measures	147	147	0	7.5	0	0
First Aid Kits	70	70	0	7.5	0	0
Microscopes and Hand Lenses	1,073	684	389	7.5	29	360
Folding Display Unit	1,628	1,038	590	7.5	44	546
TV Video Unit	565	497	68	15.0	10	58
Brushcutter	963	963	0	30.0	0	0
Cannon S520 Printer	345	345	0	50.0	0	0
Filing Cabinets	1,393	1,208	185	20.0	37	148
Computer	1,445	1,213	232	20.0	46	186
Printer	490	490	0	50.0	0	0
Scanner	100	100	0	50.0	0	0
Concept IT System	2,433	2,356	77	50.0	39	39
Trailer - 13.08.10	1,628	961	667	20.0	133	534
Total Plant and Equipment	**19,760**	**16,590**	**3,170**		**419**	**2,751**
Motor Vehicles						
Ford Ranger Crew Cab 4x4 - 17.08.11	27,937	13,633	14,304	20.0	2,861	11,443
Total Motor Vehicles	**27,937**	**13,633**	**14,304**		**2,861**	**11,443**
Total	**47,697**	**30,223**	**17,474**		**3,280**	**14,194**

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report

Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30th June 2015

Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies.
This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (Queensland) and the committee. The Committee has determined that the Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (Queensland) and the following Australian Accounting Standards:

Statement of Financial Performance
Accounting for Income Tax
Materiality
Events Occurring after Reporting Date

No other **applicable** Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues, Group Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

This financial report has been prepared on a cash basis whereby items are brought into account as money is paid or received, from the records of the Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc.

The following **material** accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

(a) Income Tax
The Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc is exempt from income tax under the Australian Income Tax Assessment Act 1997. No provision for income tax has therefore been made in these accounts.

(b) Payments to Members
There were no payments made to members of the Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc in the form of remuneration.

(c) Fixed Assets
Fixed Assets are recorded at cost. Depreciation has been calculated over the useful lives of the assets to the Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Independent Audit Report to the Committee of the Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc For the year ended 30th June 2015

Scope

We have audited the financial statements, being a special purpose financial report, of the Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc for the year ended 30th June 2015. The Committee is responsible for the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies used and described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (Queensland) and are appropriate to meet the needs of the Committee. We have conducted an independent audit of this financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the Committee. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the Committee.

The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (Queensland) and the Committee. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the Committee, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures include examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the Association's financial position, and performance as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows. These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Qualification

As is common for organizations of this type, it is not practicable for the Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc to maintain an effective system of internal control over receipts and payments until their initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, the audit in relation to these activities was limited to the amounts recorded.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects of such adjustments, if any, as might have been determined to be necessary had the limitation discussed in the qualification paragraph not existed, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the financial position of the Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc as at 30th June 2015 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.

Michael T. Harper MIPA.
Auditor

Dated this 20th day of August 2015

Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc

Statement by Members of the Committee
For the year ended 30th June 2015

The Committee has determined that the Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Committee the financial report as set out:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of the Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc as at 30th June 2015 and its performance for the year ended on that date.

2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

3. All expenses included on the Profit and Loss Statement for the Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc for the year ended 30th June 2015 have been approved for payment by the Committee.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

President.....

Secretary.....

Treasurer.....

Dated this.....day of.....2015