



Lake  
Baroon  
Catchment  
Care  
Group

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

# Annual Report

## 2017-18

# LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP

Annual Report 2017-18

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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 Manager	<i>Matt Bateman</i>
Project Manager	<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 partnership sought to address the decline in the health of the waterways that supply the Dam through the development of the Lake Baroon Catchment Management Strategy and the implementation of on-ground remedial works. 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 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 AquaGen assets to the State in 2008, the new manager Seqwater continued to honour the Agreements in place, before the landmark 'Contribution Agreement' between LBCCG and Seqwater was formalised in 2015.

The Contribution Agreement provides LBCCG ongoing certainty which is essential for the effective engagement of the catchment community and 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 \$7.85 million. The majority of projects have involved on-ground works designed to reduce risks to water quality. Importantly, they have also provided wider environmental benefits and attracted substantial additional investment from local, State and Commonwealth 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 water and the environment;
- the ability of LBCCG to apply for additional Commonwealth, State and Local government funding to value add to Seqwater projects and programs; *and*
- provides 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 including the provision of office facilities at North Maleny, the support and contributions of Seqwater staff and Sunshine Coast Council who annually provide operational funding. Without this generous assistance we would be unable to carry out the important and extensive work that reduces risk to water quality in the Lake Baroon catchment.

As I write this I can report that LBCCG was very fortunate to receive a National Landcare Award at the recent National Landcare Conference held in Brisbane during October 2018. The award, Australian Government Excellence in Sustainable Farm Practices, reflects our commitment to working closely with farm and agricultural properties in the area. This followed our success in receiving a State Landcare Award in November 2017 under the same category, which qualified LBCCG to enter the National Awards this year. Both awards highlight the hard work and commitment of the Committee and staff to deliver outcomes and work professionally to a high standard that has now received National recognition. We have also received tremendous support from Seqwater itself, particularly through Tim Odgers and Julian O'Mara. That is not to forget the trust and confidence landholders within our region have made to support our projects, financially and otherwise, that have led to our success. I also acknowledge the long-term support of Sunshine Coast Council.



**Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group wins the Australian Government Excellence in Sustainable Farm Practices at the 2018 National Landcare Awards. Pictured Steve Skull (Committee Member), Paul Mackay (Dairy & Beef Project Manager), Peter Stevens (President), Mark Amos (Manager) and Tim Odgers (Seqwater).**

What does all this mean? Perhaps it is an endorsement of the partnership model and community-based approach that we use to deliver landcare outcomes. Seqwater certainly thinks so, to quote Seqwater CEO Neil Brennan, “Our partnership model with LBCCG has been so successful, it will be rolled out with other groups across South East Queensland”. Again, I would like to thank our staff, particularly Manager Mark Amos, for achieving outstanding results over many years that has led to outcomes bigger than the group itself.

It is worth remembering that our original funding model was conceived in 2005 but properly delivered in 2008 with our Ten-year funding agreement. Many people contributed to the development of that agreement and subsequent agreements with Seqwater over a long period of time, some of whom are unknown to the current staff and Committee. I would like to thank all of those people; they know who they are, for being part of where we are now.

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During this year LBCCG has continued to deliver a large number of projects and I refer you to the Project Reports section to appreciate the activities we have undertaken. The total project value delivered by LBCCG over 2017/2018 is well in excess of \$1.5 million, a new high, and it is a credit to our staff that our continued growth has been sustained and managed well. This growth has been possible through the support of Seqwater as our main funding provider but also through other important sources such as the partnership with Sunshine Coast Council which was recently renewed for a further two years. We were also successful in attracting one of the few Federal Smart Farms grants for \$50,000 over eighteen months. LBCCG is now tracking our expenditure within the local community with early data suggesting over 80% of our funding is returned to our local community as wages, purchases and services. Significantly Maleny also benefits in many intangible ways such as amenity, social, tourism, biodiversity and other values that support our community.

Our sustained and increasing project activity has required an increase of hours worked by Paul Mackay, now working four days per week. Paul has firmly established himself in the Dairy and other programs including the new Maleny Sustainable Beef project. The expansion of the Weed Control Program by Seqwater into adjoining catchments has allowed Matt Bateman to share his specialist skills with other groups over a wide area as well as managing our Landslip Program. There are plans to increase administrative support for our staff to manage the increasing workload. It is a credit to our team that a four-fold increase in activity over recent years has been managed without mishap or reduction in performance.

As always, I would like to thank the Committee for their invaluable contributions and support. As a community not-for-profit group it is very satisfying we can make such an important difference to our community. I would particularly like to mention outgoing Treasurer Keith Schelberg who has diligently overseen our financials providing easily understood innovative reports. Keith has also been instrumental in developing and promoting our Health and Safety Policy - a tricky job at the best of times. Our thanks go to Keith for many years in this not always popular role, but fortunately we will still benefit from Keith's input as part of the ongoing Committee.

It is my pleasure to present this report and to submit the Financial Statements and Audited Report for the year ending 30 June 2018. 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 2018.
- Depreciation Schedule for the last financial year.

It has been another success story for LBCCG this year due to the combination of adequate funding levels, dedicated staff, note-worthy projects and the enthusiastic support of the Committee. Without sufficient funding, we would simply not achieve the benchmark results LBCCG is noted for. We give special thanks to Seqwater, Sunshine Coast Council and others for their funding and for their renewed confidence in our ability to perform to and even beyond their expectations. We thank all personnel involved in making this funding available.

Our total income for the year was \$1,468,847.07 and total expenditure was \$1,445,525.95 leaving a profit of \$23,321.12 when adjusted for depreciation. This is a commendable outcome given the more complex and involved works we are now undertaking.

Adequate funding has enabled us to continue to employ Matt Bateman to manage our Weeds and Landslide Programs, Paul Mackay to manage our Dairy Program and Mark Amos to manage the Core Projects and provide overall administration and managerial role. 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 also give special thanks to Denis Lalor for his bookkeeping skills that keeps our financial matters intact.

I thank the Committee for their assistance while I have been Treasurer for the eight years and also for trusting my financial reports and recommendations given at Management Committee meetings. My best wishes go to the incoming Treasurer.

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 2018/2019 financial year.

Once again in 2017/18 LBCCG has shown strong growth, both in income and services provided to the Lake Baroon catchment community (and beyond). The second year of the Landslide, Weed and Dairy Programs has been implemented despite access difficulties for much of the first half of 2018 as a result of the unusually wet autumn and early winter. Virtually all of the landholders approached to be involved in these Programs have been supportive and keen to be a part of reducing risk to catchment water quality.

As the Manager of LBCCG it is extremely pleasing to be a part of the huge growth in LBCCG over the last nine years but the most rewarding aspects without a doubt is the group's ability to provide a valuable service to the Maleny community – particularly those members (primary producers) who find it hard to access support; and working alongside skilled and passionate staff.

This year a new Seqwater Catchment Improvement Program (SCIP) commenced – *Erosion & Sediment Control Program* is addressing eroding and unstable stream banks in lower Bridge Creek. An excellent long term relationship with the landholder made the development of a workable Plan a reality and highlights the value of both the extension approach to landholder engagement by LBCCG and the need to retain staff long term to facilitate trust. The demand for CORE Agricultural projects too has reached unprecedented levels with new projects requiring creative funding and delivery approaches (such as the successful Community Sustainability Action grant *Bridge Creek Connections* and upcoming Smart Farms Small Grants *Maleny Sustainable Beef* project).

Unfortunately once again in 2017/18 local Contractor capacity created a bottleneck to project delivery. LBCCG has the funding, landholders on board and projects identified and planned but struggle to get on ground activities implemented on time. Local Contractors are prioritised however we may be forced in the future to seek more non-local support to deliver our projects.

In 2017/18 LBCCG delivered five key Programs:

- CORE Agricultural – projects with beef farms, horticulture and key smaller;
- SCIP Landslide Program – various remediation activities focussing on properties that suffer from significant soil loss;
- SCIP Weed Control Program – eradication, control and management of four key weed species: Cats Claw vine, Madeira vine, Chinese elm and Salvinia;
- SCIP Dairy Program – implementing activities on all catchment dairy farms to improve on-farm and catchment water quality; *and*
- SCIP Erosion Control Program – a property specific project in the lower reach of Bridge Creek.

These Programs receive funding and support from:

- Seqwater (CORE project and administration funding, SCIP project funding and project management, office facilities);
- Sunshine Coast Council (operational funding);
- Department of Transport and Main Roads (project funding);
- Queensland Government (Community Sustainability Action Grants); *and*
- Other opportunistic funding from Local, State and Commonwealth sources.

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As a result of this considerable support, in 2017/18 LBCCG delivered:

Activity	CORE	Dairy	Landslides	Weeds	Erosion	Total
Fencing	4,655	2,330	2,500	-	550	10,053 m
Revegetation	9,400	-	10,200	-	1,387	20,987
Revegetation maintenance	-	-	12,000	-	-	12,000
Stream crossings	1	-	5	-	-	6
Stream crossing repairs	3	3	-	-	1	7
Livestock troughs	14	29	-	-	1	44
Trough repairs	-	3	-	-	-	3
Weed management	14.5	-	14.5	27.7	2.6	59.3 ha
Wetland bank repair	1	-	-	-	-	1
Nest boxes	25	-	-	-	-	25
Livestock laneways	-	1,485	-	-	-	1,485 m
Livestock feed pads	-	4	-	-	-	4
Community events	3	1	-	-	-	4
Drainage	-	-	7	-	-	7 ha
Access tracks	-	-	1,400	-	-	1,400 m
Stream bank profiling	-	-	-	-	1,000	1,000 m

Although the major focus of LBCCG is the delivery of on-ground projects we also highly value our role as local industry leaders and contribute to numerous community events and awareness raising including:

- conducting bush walks as part of Seqwater *Educational Experiences* at Baroon Pocket Dam (8 events with approximately 450 Primary and High School students);
- hosting *Industry Days* with East Coast TAFE on LBCCG project sites (2 events/4 days with approximately 90 students);
- presenting at other organisations and community group's workshops and events (Matt Bateman – Hinterland Bush Links Weed Vine workshop);
- member of Regional Landcare Facilitator Steering Committee (Mark Amos);
- contributing to Sunshine Coast Council Biosecurity Plan (Matt Bateman); and
- winning the National Australian Government Excellence in Sustainable Farm Practices Award.

When all contributions are included (including all Seqwater Catchment Improvement Programs), in 2017/18 LBCCG facilitated a total *Project Value* of \$1,689,463.

But LBCCG does not operate in a vacuum and therefore our success is due to a team effort from the LBCCG Management Committee, committed staff, skilled Contractors, project participants and landholders, volunteers, and of course the exceptional support from Seqwater (particularly Tim Odgers, Julian O'Mara and Tim Packer), Sunshine Coast Council and other funding providers and supporters.

## 2017-18 Annual Report

### Total Project Value of all LBCCG activities in 2017/18

The table below is an illustration of the Total Project Value that LBCCG has been involved in during 2017/18 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>	\$ 138,514	\$ 71,544	\$ 195,502	-	-	-	-	\$ 405,560
<b>CORE Administration</b>	-	-	-	\$ 105,063	-	-	\$ 5,432 <sup>(4)</sup>	\$ 110,495
<i>Sub-total</i>								<b>\$ 516,055</b>
<b>SCIP - Landslide</b>	\$ 288,766	-	\$ 106,200 <sup>(5)</sup>	-	\$ 40,000	\$ 20,000	-	\$ 454,966
<b>SCIP - Weeds</b>	\$ 76,496	\$ 17,500	\$ 97,000 <sup>(5)</sup>	-	\$ 14,222	\$ 20,000	-	\$ 225,218
<b>SCIP - Dairy</b>	\$ 261,100	-	\$ 89,000 <sup>(5)</sup>	-	\$ 52,220	\$ 10,000	-	\$ 412,320
<b>SCIP – Bridge Creek Erosion</b>	\$ 56,901	-	\$ 18,670 <sup>(5)</sup>	-	\$ 5,333	-	-	\$ 80,904
<i>Sub-total</i>								<b>\$ 1,173,408</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 821,777</b>	<b>\$ 89,044</b>	<b>\$ 506,372</b>	<b>\$ 105,063</b>	<b>\$ 111,775</b>	<b>\$ 50,000</b>	<b>\$ 5,432</b>	<b>\$ 1,689,463</b>

(1) External grants from Department of Transport & Main Roads, Community Sustainability Action Grants and other sources. Does not include grants that are not directly received by LBCCG – these indirect grants are captured under the *Landholder cash and in-kind* column.

(2) Landholder cash & in-kind contributions, volunteer labour from East Coast TAFE. Also includes *indirect grants*.

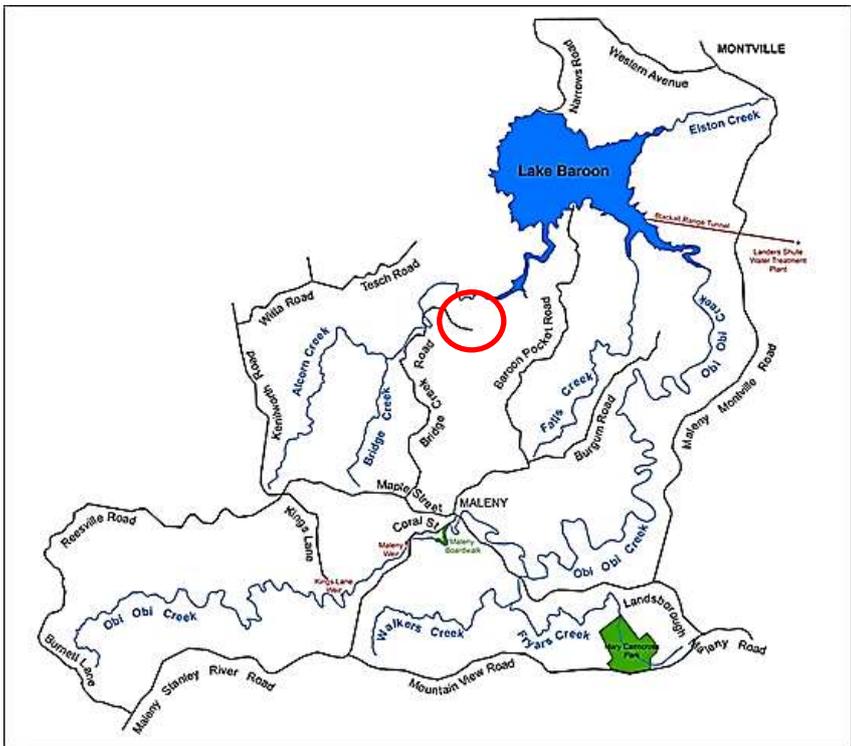
(3) Sunshine Coast Council Environmental Levy Partnership Operational funding.

(4) Includes Consultancy fees, bank 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.

CORE AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM

Lower Bridge Creek Erosion Project



Lower Bridge Creek Erosion Project was implemented in a high priority sub-catchment that delivers high levels of nutrients and large volumes of sediment to Bridge Creek and ultimately Baroon Pocket Dam. The fencing and revegetation of the eroding gully is part of a larger complex project (see SCIP Bridge Creek Erosion & Sediment Control Program and Bridge Creek Connections projects) with multiple stakeholders and contributors, and resultant broad range of water quality and environmental outcomes. The McLauchlan property is a high priority for works as it is the last before Bridge Creek flows into Baroon Pocket Dam. The project addressed unmanaged livestock access to a Bridge Creek tributary - reducing erosion and inputs of nutrients and faecal material. Other benefits of the project are the establishment of a wildlife corridor and the engagement of TAFE students.

**Project is located in the lower Bridge Creek sub-catchment (LBCCG Management Unit BR3). The McLauchlan property is the last before Bridge Creek flows into Baroon Pocket Dam.**



**Eroding gully on McLauchlan property. Previous LBCCG revegetation can be seen in background.**

Bridge Creek (2,413 hectares) is characterised by its cleared steep slopes with many devoid of stabilising vegetation. The soils of the catchment are predominantly black clays lacking the ability to absorb nutrients and rainfall, resulting in minimal filtering of run-off. Although there are significant areas of natural vegetation and most of the waterways have good riparian vegetation, the sub-catchment contributes high volumes of sediments, nutrients and likely pathogens to Baroon Pocket Dam.



**East Coast TAFE revegetating gully. Conservation and Land Management students gain valuable experience working with industry.**

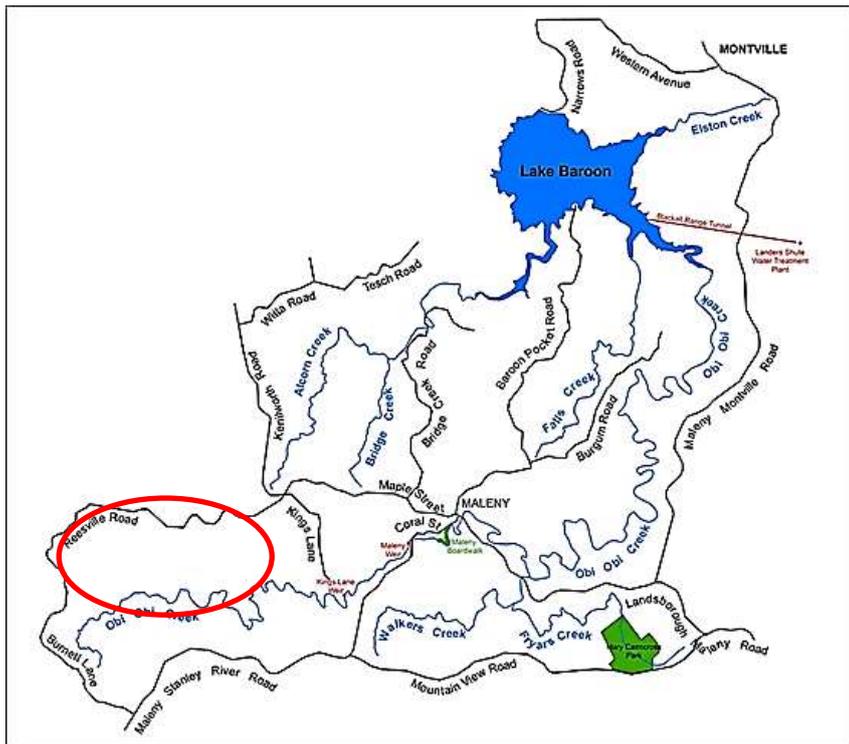
Excluding livestock from the watercourse and planting trees reduces threats to catchment water quality by:

- reducing erosion of the bed and banks of the tributary (although usually not flowing, the gully is always boggy) reducing turbidity and sedimentation;
- reducing direct faecal deposition (nutrients and pathogens) to Bridge Creek and improving the buffer to overland flows (the gully always has green feed and livestock spent long periods here depositing significant quantities of faecal material);
- reducing the length of time livestock spend in riparian zones by providing alternative water sources (trough) well away from streams and dams;
- supporting improved land management and enhancing farm productivity (such as providing improved water access – troughs that provide cleaner water sources and splitting larger paddocks);
- building land manager engagement on a high priority property; *and*
- integrating with other projects and Programs occurring simultaneously on the property and within the immediate area (CSA grant, Seqwater SCIP Landslide Program).



**Completed project in early 2018.**

Clark Creek Off Stream Water Project Stage 2



Clark Creek Off Stream Water Project Stage 2 was implemented in high priority sub-catchments that deliver very high levels of nutrients and likely pathogens to Obi Obi Creek and eventually Baroon Pocket Dam (and beyond).

LBCCG has been very active in the upper reaches of the Obi for many years targeting dairy farmers and large beef graziers to rehabilitate laneways, installing stream crossings, fencing riparian zones and providing off stream watering, and other activities that reduce risk to water quality.

The upper reaches of Obi Obi Creek support large agricultural properties that are suspected (and supported by routine water quality monitoring) of contributing high levels of contaminants to the system.

The project brought together three nearby landholders to continue the gains achieved in Stage 1 of the project - fencing riparian zones, installing off stream watering systems and repairing wetland banks.

**Project is located in the Clark Creek sub-catchment (LBCCG Management Units OB1 & OB3). Clark Creek is a major tributary of Obi Obi Creek. The project was implemented over three properties (Smith, Jones & Macleod) addressing unmanaged livestock access to waterways, threats to riparian vegetation enhancing the ability of wetlands to trap and process contaminants in raw water (repairing wetland banks).**

This will address erosion caused by livestock, reduce the deposition of faecal material directly into waterways, improve vegetation buffers to watercourses, enhance the ability of wetlands to process nutrients and turbidity, and improve property management.



**Fencing being installed on Smith property following an old farm track.**

The Obi Obi Creek is the main watercourse in the Lake Baroon catchment, consisting of 71 km of waterway in a sub catchment of 2,880 ha. Only 18% of the Obi sub catchment is covered in vegetation, with much of the area significantly disturbed, mostly supporting beef or dairy cattle; but also including the majority of urban Maleny. Dairy grazing (three farms) remains a significant land use although dairying has been in gradual decline since deregulation in 2000 despite a recent resurgence with all local milk being processed by either Maleny Dairies or Maleny Cheese. Beef grazing has over time replaced dairying as the dominant land use. Clark Creek is a significant tributary of Obi Obi Creek.



**Robin Smith installed the off stream watering infrastructure on his property.**

The project implemented five components:

1. 820 metres riparian fencing over two properties (Smith and Macleod);
2. Installed off stream watering, installing five livestock troughs (Smith);
3. Planted 0.5 hectares of trees (Macleod);
4. Completed 1.5 hectares of riparian weed management Smith, Macleod and Jones); and
5. Rehabilitated a wetland bank and spillway (Jones).



**Fencing being installed on Macleod property by Bald Knob Fencing (Tim Simpson).**

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

- reducing erosion of the bed and banks of Clark and Obi Obi Creeks and tributaries (riparian fencing and provision of alternative water supply) reducing turbidity and sedimentation;
- reducing direct faecal deposition (nutrients and pathogens) to watercourses and enhancing vegetation buffers (riparian fencing excludes livestock) to overland flows;
- improving livestock management (fencing and off stream watering) – important for gaining landholder support;
- building land manager engagement (previously unengaged landholder – Smith); and
- enhancing wildlife corridors (including koala) and habitat (riparian fencing, wetland reinstatement and revegetation).

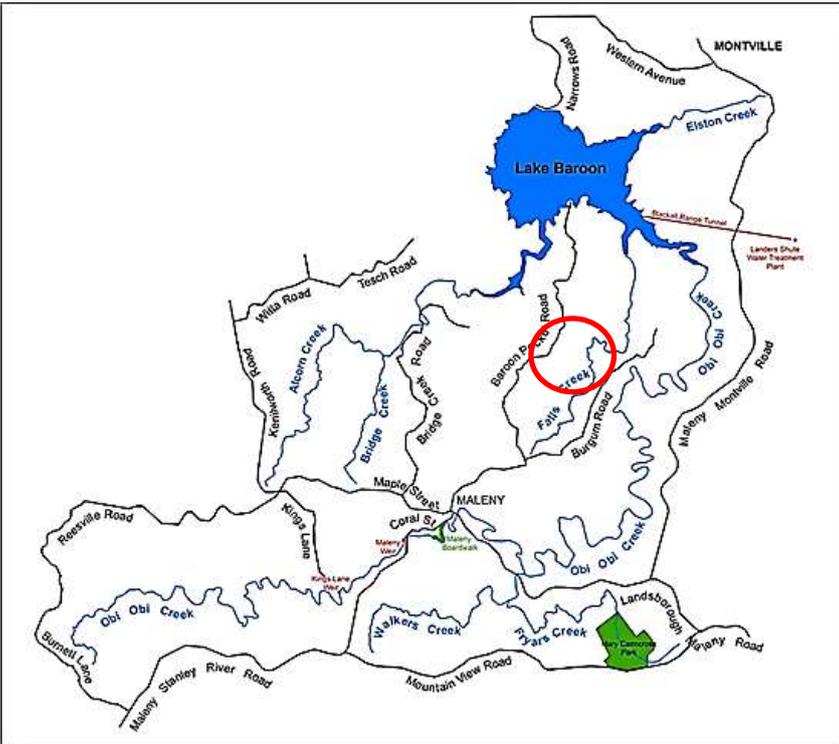


**East Coast TAFE students completing weed management work on the Reesville Wetlands project site.**



**Local bird enthusiast Sam Price conducting a bird survey at the Reesville Wetlands with TAFE students.**

Falls Creek Riparian Fencing



Falls Creek Riparian Fencing was implemented in a moderate priority sub-catchment of the larger Lake Baroon catchment, which delivers high levels of nutrients and significant volumes of sediment to Falls Creek and ultimately Baroon Pocket Dam.

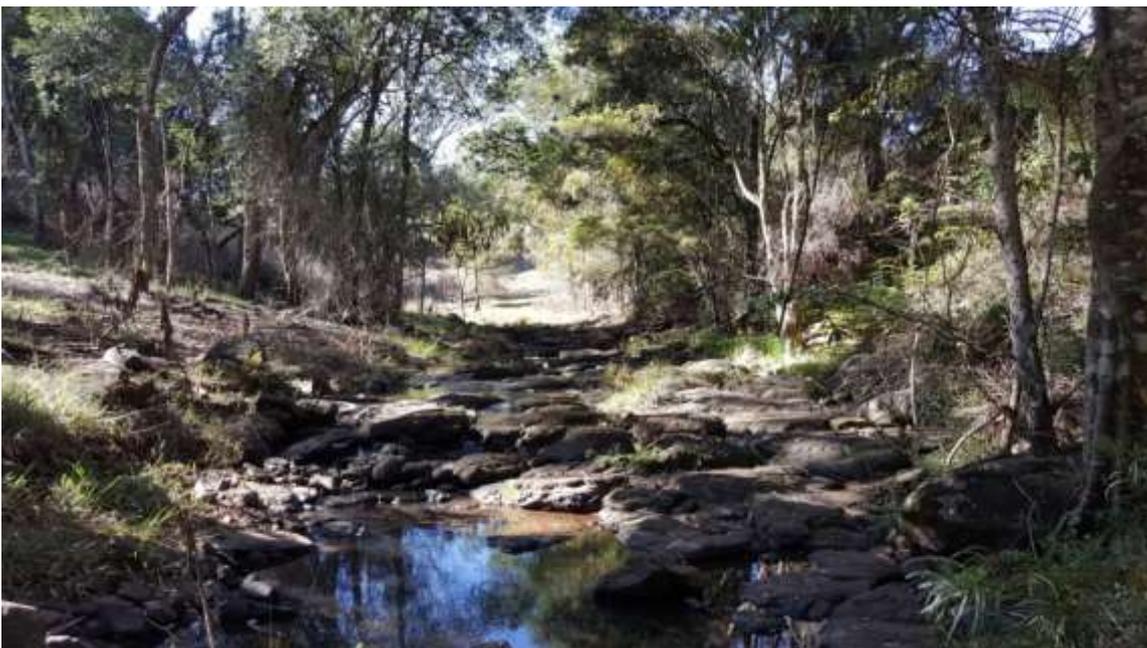
The project was implemented at the same time the new landowner was reorganising the property for intensive beef grazing. Ideally water quality projects are implemented at the same time to ensure the integration of a *whole property plan* minimising risk to water quality.

The Falls Creek riparian zone was fenced to manage livestock and supported with off stream water infrastructure and a formal stream crossing to cope with the increased concentration of traffic through the creek.

Additionally a sharing of weed control management with the landholder will enhance existing vegetation in the riparian zone.

***Project is located in the mid Falls Creek sub- catchment (LBCCG Management Units FA1 & FA2). The Willims property supports intensive beef grazing and is high risk to water quality with the project designed to reduce livestock contact with natural water sources.***

Internal property fencing funded by the landholder will enable rotational grazing which is known to enhance water quality outcomes by managing pasture health.



***Falls Creek flowing through the Willims property. The entire stream was unfenced and was degraded by woody weeds.***

The Falls Creek catchment is characterised by relatively moderately intensive beef grazing with considerable areas of rural residential and minimal vegetation, particularly along the watercourses. The Willims property lies in two moderate priority sub-catchments (Management Units) of the larger Falls Creek catchment – MUs FA1 and FA4. Although the

Willims property is spread over the two MUs, FA1 is the most representative. Historically the MU supported dairy grazing which, along with the rural residential, likely yielded the historical poor water quality results - high levels of nutrients (and likely pathogens).



***Fencing underway.***

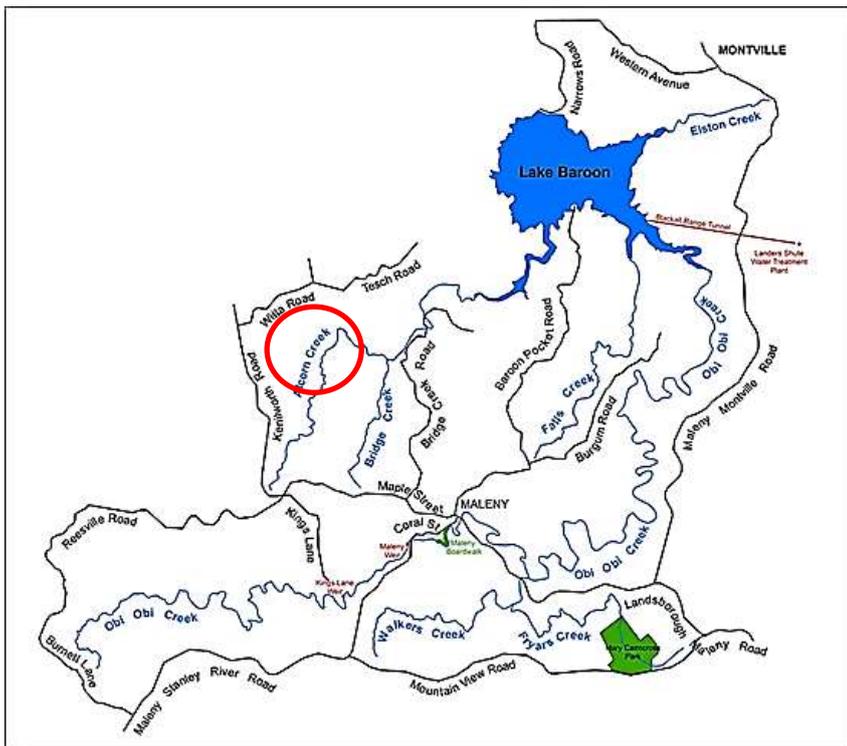
The project implemented six components:

1. 1,335 metres riparian fencing (Falls Creek);
2. Installed off stream watering with two livestock troughs;
3. Installed a low level concrete stream crossing;
4. Completed 3.5 hectares of riparian weed management;
5. Repaired a failed farm dam spillway; and
6. Erected 1,350 metres of internal property fencing (LBCCG influenced design to best protect natural watercourses including the fencing of a tributary of Falls Creek).



***Completed stream crossing and riparian fencing. Note the livestock trough in the background.***

Northern Alcorn Creek Stage 3



*The project is located in the Alcorn Creek sub-catchment (LBCCG Management Unit BR1). Alcorn Creek is a major tributary of Bridge Creek. The project was implemented over three adjoining properties (Crick, Colley & Costello) addressing unmanaged livestock access to waterways, threats to riparian and remnant vegetation. The project was supported by Sunshine Coast Council through the Landholder Environment Grants Program, providing funding for fencing on the Colley property.*

The project addressed farm soil loss; unmanaged livestock in riparian zones and on unstable slopes, and improving property management (rotational grazing) which leads to improved groundcover and reduced paddock soil loss.



*Riparian fencing on Alcorn Creek.*

Northern Alcorn Creek Stage 3 was implemented in a high priority sub-catchment that delivers high levels of nutrients and very high volumes of sediment to Bridge Creek and ultimately Baroon Pocket Dam.

The Colley and Costello properties were previously a single dairy farm but following deregulation were sub-divided (along with the adjacent Walker property) and have converted to mainly beef grazing, but also other minor land uses.

Properties in the Alcorn Creek catchment remain large as the topography does not lend itself to subdivision or development.

The land has several key management issues – steep, unstable hillslopes and benches (landslips), variable soils that are easily compacted and/or eroded, and numerous watercourses fed by springs and soaks.

The project continued activities commenced in 2015/16 on the Colley property, continued in 2016/17 with the inclusion of the Costello property and in Stage 3 included the adjacent Crick property.

Bridge Creek (2,413 hectares) is characterised by its cleared steep slopes with many devoid of stabilising vegetation. The soils of the catchment are predominantly black clays lacking the ability to absorb nutrients and rainfall, resulting in minimal filtering of run-off. Although there are significant areas of natural vegetation and most of the waterways have good riparian vegetation, the sub-catchment contributes high volumes of sediments, nutrients and likely pathogens to Baroon Pocket Dam. Alcorn Creek (Management Unit BR1) is a major tributary of Bridge Creek and drains the western slopes of the catchment. The MU has particularly steep slopes, heavy black cracking clays (also areas of sandstone derived soils), intensive livestock grazing, and numerous permanent and ephemeral watercourses fed by springs and soaks. As a result, the sub-catchment contributes very high volumes of sediments generated by extensive landslips, high levels of nutrients (and likely pathogens) from livestock, and threats to remnant vegetation and wildlife habitat.



**Typical view of the Alcorn Creek sub-catchment. Note the trough installed on the Crick property in the centre of the photo.**



**Nathan Colley (left) with Sunshine Coast Council Community Partnerships Officer Alan Wynn discussing management options for Alcorn Creek.**

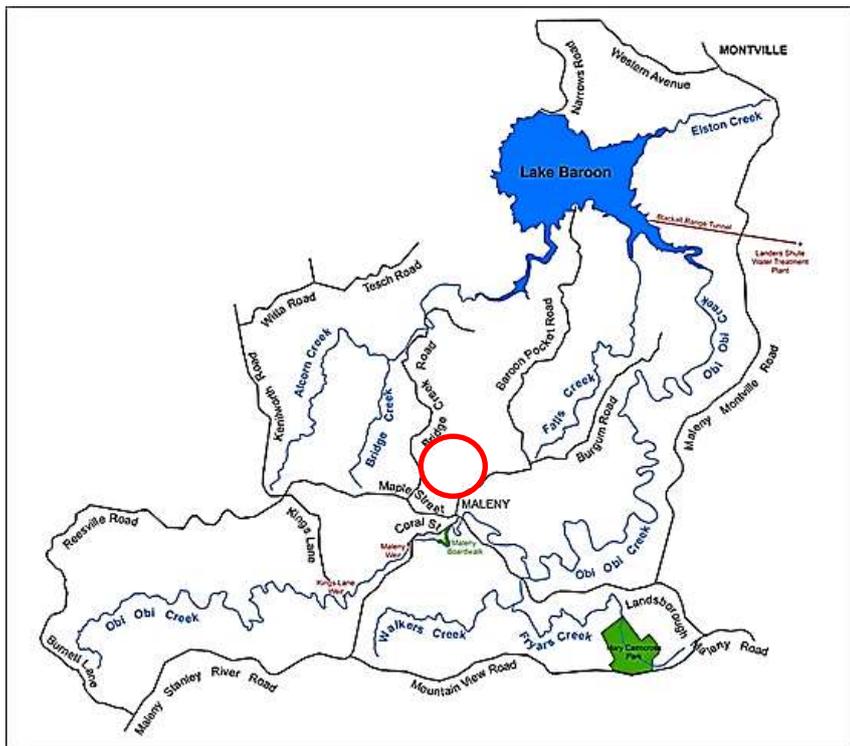
The project implemented four components:

1. 1,525 metres riparian fencing;
2. Extended existing off stream watering (one trough);
3. Planted 200 trees; and
4. Completed 2 hectares of riparian weed management.

The project will reduce threats to catchment water quality by:

- reducing erosion of the bed and banks of Alcorn Creek reducing turbidity and sedimentation;
- reducing direct faecal deposition (nutrients and pathogens) to Alcorn Creek and enhance the riparian buffer to overland flows;
- enhancing wildlife habitat and corridors;
- protecting remnant and regrowth native vegetation;
- attracting native wildlife to the farm;
- controlling agricultural and environmental weeds;
- improving livestock management (important for gaining and maintaining landholder acceptance and engagement);
- building land manager engagement (including Priority Properties); and
- maintaining access for 2017/18 Landslide Program (ongoing).

Lawley Creek Tributaries Partnership Stage 2



The Lawley Creek Tributaries Partnership Stage 2 project is a continuation of previous activities in the headwaters of Lawley Creek, a major tributary of Bridge Creek.

Located on the fringes of urban Maleny, the sub-catchment is high priority - delivering relatively high levels of nutrients and other contaminants to 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.

There are only a few short lengths of Lawley Creek and tributaries remaining unfenced.

This project will bring together three adjoining landholders to continue fencing and revegetating riparian zones; enhancing stream buffers to trap and process nutrients and contaminants, and rehabilitating an eroding stream crossing.

**The project is located in the Lawley Creek sub-catchment (LBCCG Management Unit BR3). Lawley Creek is a major tributary of Bridge Creek. The project was implemented over three properties (Lawley, Malter & Keton) addressing unmanaged livestock access to waterways, threats to riparian vegetation and point source erosion from an informal stream crossing.**



**The Malter property with Lawley Creek in the centre of the photo. Note the extensive revegetation to the left (early to mid-2000s) and right (LBCCG projects since 2011). The project will complete the fencing and revegetation of the western arm of Lawley Creek.**



**Trough installed on Keton property. Note the 2016/17 Landslide Program revegetation in the background.**

The project implemented five components:

1. 310 metres riparian fencing;
2. Installed two off stream watering systems, installing four livestock troughs;
3. Planted 1,000 trees;
4. Repaired 990 metres of riparian fencing; *and*
5. Rehabilitated a stream crossing.

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

- reducing erosion of the bed and banks of the Lawley Creek tributaries (fencing and revegetation) reducing turbidity and sedimentation;
- reducing direct faecal deposition (nutrients and pathogens) to watercourses and enhance buffers (fencing and revegetation) to overland flows;
- improving livestock management (fencing and off stream watering - important for gaining landholder acceptance);
- providing access for 2017/18 (and beyond) SCIP Landslide Program;
- creating and enhancing wildlife corridors and habitat (revegetation and weed management); *and*
- working collaboratively with Sunshine Coast Council.



**Rehabilitated stream crossing.**

## STRATEGIC CATCHMENT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

These projects are additional to funding received under the Contribution Agreement (CORE Agricultural and Administration funding). These Programs are usually large, made up of many individual projects or activities (and landholders). Targeting specific catchment issues, LBCCG helps develop the Program and once approved, delivers the activities on behalf of Seqwater. LBCCG receives a management fee to enable the engagement of resources to deliver the Programs. Sunshine Coast Council also provides operational funding to support three of the four current Programs.

### Strategic Catchment Improvement Programs Summary 2017/18

Project	Activities	Seqwater Project Funding	Project Mgt <sup>(1)</sup>	Sunshine Coast Council <sup>(2)</sup>	Other Contributors <sup>(3)</sup>	Total Value
<b>1718-016 Erosion and Sediment Control Program</b>	Riparian fencing, Riparian revegetation, Off stream water, Stream bank profiling	\$56,901	\$5,333	-	\$18,670	\$80,904
<b>1718-018 Landslide Program</b>	Fencing Revegetation Drainage Weed management Off stream water, Access tracks	\$288,766	\$40,000	\$20,000	\$106,200	\$454,966
<b>1718-019 Weed Control Program</b>	Weed management (Cats claw vine, Madeira vine, Chinese elm)	\$76,496	\$14,222	\$20,000	\$77,000	\$187,718
<b>1718-020 Dairy Agricultural Practice Improvement Program</b>	Riparian fencing, Other fencing, Off stream water, Laneway rehabilitation, Revegetation, Effluent management, Workshops	\$261,100	\$52,220	\$10,000	\$89,000	\$412,320
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$683,263</b>	<b>\$111,775</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>\$290,870</b>	<b>\$1,135,908</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> LBCCG receives 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 calculated at \$30.00 (labour only) to \$100.00 per hour depending on machinery usage. Also includes funding from external sources such as Sunshine Coast Council (Landholder Environment Grants and Project funding), Department of Transport And Main Roads and others.

## **Erosion and Sediment Control Program** for the management and delivery of the Lake Baroon catchment Erosion and Sediment Control Program 2017-20

Bridge Creek (2,413 hectares) is characterised by its steep slopes that lack stabilising vegetation. The soils of the sub-catchment are predominantly swelling black clays that provide little cohesiveness when saturated leading to high instability when combined with steep slopes. The heavy nature of the soil discourages infiltration and results in high run off rates during rainfall events. Naturally occurring phosphorus bound to soil is released to catchment streams when the extensive landslips mobilise, particularly during high rainfall associated with east coast lows. Although there are significant areas of natural vegetation and most of the waterways have good riparian vegetation, the sub-catchment contributes high volumes of sediments, nutrients and potentially pathogens to Baroon Pocket Dam.

Dairy grazing was the dominant land use in the Bridge Creek catchment until relatively recently (2000) however due to the widely varying topography and soils (and generally poorer pasture), dairy grazing has been reduced to three properties (Sommers, Oehmichen [recently leased by Maleny Cheese to run dry dairy cattle] and R. Cork). The McLauchlan property ceased dairying in the mid-1970s.



**McLauchlan project site. Steep banks have been battered to less than 45 degrees, seeded with pasture grass and hardwood flood stakes have been placed allowing accurate site preparation. Cattle have continued to graze the riparian zone/revegetation area to assist planting (excessive groundcover is difficult to plant into).**

Soils on the site predominantly consist of coarse to fine sandy loam alluvial soils that have been deposited by a combination of mass movement (landslips), hill slope (paddock) erosion and gullyng (although the usual black clay catchment soils have obviously continued on to the Dam as turbidity). The velocity and volume of flows on the McLauchlan property are slowed significantly as the creek spills out onto floodplain and there has been significant accumulation of sediment over time. However without binding woody vegetation, the stream regularly changes course.

The lower reaches of Bridge Creek on the McLauchlan property have probably been suffering erosion since it was cleared around 100 years ago. The stream has changed course regularly in the relatively recent past (evidenced by aerial photography from the 1960s) as unlike the majority of the catchment, the stream is not constrained by bedrock valley on both sides. The volume and velocity of flows at this point are very high and alluvial material deposited over a long period of time provides little resistance to erosion (meandering). As a result, unstable and actively eroding vertical

banks and sharp bends have developed which is of concern to the landholder and Seqwater (the bed is relatively stable).



**Weston Earthmoving battering vertical banks on Bridge Creek.**



**Site planting performed by Totem Fauna & Flora – note the size of the advanced trees. This is primarily to counter any possible flooding that may occur; advanced trees with large root balls (trainer pots) planted deeper than normal are less likely to be washed out.**

In mid-2016 Seqwater commissioned Alluvium Consulting to assess the site and provide a range of costed options to address these erosion concerns.

## Alluvium found:

- Vertical, eroded bank 2.5-3 metre high threatening existing plantation (revegetation) on the right bank at the downstream end of the floodplain;
- Bank slump and active erosion along much of the subject reach;
- Cobble substrate;
- Exposed bedrock in the bank toe and bed on the left bank in the middle of the reach, where the stream makes a 90-degree bend to the south and abuts the valley margin;
- Aside from the plantation (vegetation) areas at the downstream end of the floodplain, vegetation on the banks, floodplain and in-channel consists primarily of pasture grasses and agricultural weeds, with some isolated scattered aquatic vegetation in the channel;
- Steep, high, eroded banks are forming where the channel colluvium adjacent to the valley margin;
- Scour of the right bank at the lower end of the floodplain where an overland flow path re-enters the channel;  
*and*
- There is stock access to the waterway.



***Off stream watering installed in the Bridge Creek floodplain paddock. Livestock prefer to drink from troughs over creeks and dams and will spend more time near the trough away from the riparian zone.***

## A series of options were recommended:

- 1: Revegetate lower floodplain, banks & channel;
- 2: Revegetate lower floodplain, banks & channel along entire reach;
- 3: Revegetate floodplain, banks and channel along entire reach;
- 4: Grass or rock re-entry chute;
- 5: Batter and revegetate banks along entire reach;
- 6: Targeted bank battering and revegetation;
- 7: Locally enhanced bank protection; *and*
- 8: Structures to enhance short-term resilience.



***The project site will continue to be grazed by cattle to help manage the site however the Waterhousia trees require individual guarding.***

The total estimated cost to implement all of these options was considered excessive for the reduction in sediment generation that would be achieved. Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group (LBCCG) was engaged by Seqwater to provide a costing for a modified project that could deliver as many options as possible.

As a result LBCCG in a three year project will deliver the following key outputs:

1. 1,000 metres of stream bank modified (battered to less than 45 degree - includes both sides) and floodplain flow paths reinstated (approximately 1,000 m<sup>3</sup> soil);
2. 550 metres of moderate term electric fencing (up to three years) to control grazing in the riparian zone and protect revegetation;
3. Planting of 1,237 local pines (*Araucaria cunninghamii* & *A. bidwillii*) on floodplain;
4. Planting of 50 advanced *Waterhousia florabunda* on top of stream bank;
5. Planting of 100 diverse local species in previously revegetated areas to provide long term resilience;
6. Construct and install 50 semi-permanent tree guards (on *Waterhousia florabunda*); and
7. Complete 2.6 hectares of environmental weed control in previously revegetated areas.



***Electric fencing to manage livestock access to Bridge Creek and project activities being installed.***

## Landslide Program

Landslides or landslips as they are more commonly known locally, mainly occur on the retreating basalt flanks of the Maleny plateau or on the slopes associated with the streams that drain the plateau. Heavy rainfall (particularly east coast lows) reactivate the unconsolidated colluvial soils that have formed benches originating from historical landslips following land clearing.



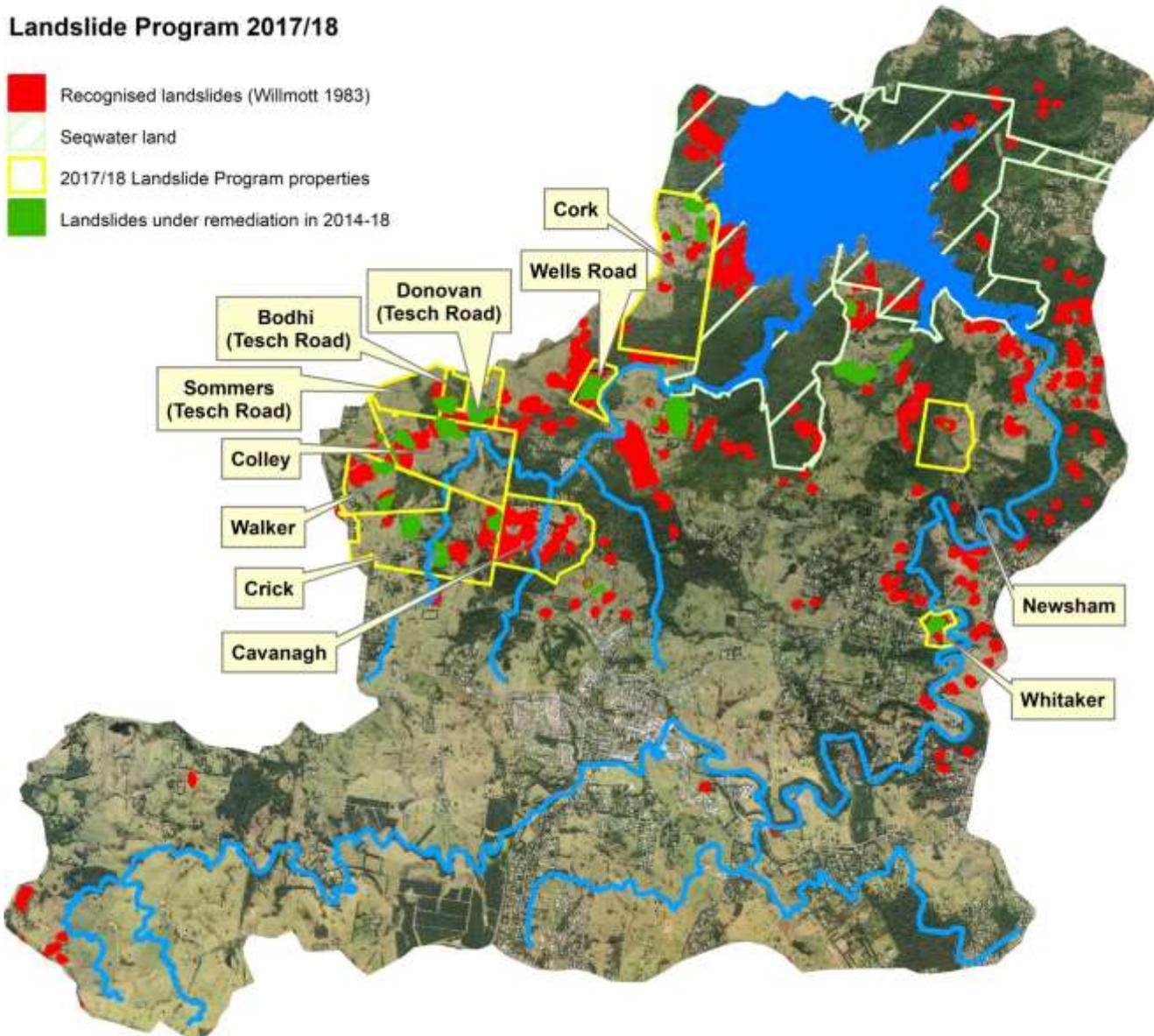
***Cavanagh landslide. Although parts of the property are very unstable, large volumes of water need to flow from the property creating these large deep gullies that further exacerbate the slip issue. It is proposed to fence and revegetate these gullies to not only stabilise landslides but also address gully erosion.***

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 soil 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 the Lake Baroon catchment a proportionally high yield of landslip originated sediments with the majority entering Baroon Pocket Dam as suspended sediment.



***University of Sunshine Coast using drone photography on Newsham landslide. Landowner Scott Newsham on right.***

**Landslide Program 2017/18**



Given that landslides have the potential to generate enormous volumes of sediments and the characteristics of catchment waterways results in the vast majority of these sediments being delivered to the Dam, the impacts on the storage range from:

- Loss of capacity from build-up of sediment in bed of the Dam;
- Turbidity that is difficult to remove from potable water and subsequent disposal costs;
- Mobilisation of nutrients and delivery to the Dam contributing to cyanobacteria outbreaks;
- Delivery of floating debris to the Dam that can potentially cause safety issues including blockage of the spillway; and
- Closure of the Dam for recreational use.

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.

The Three Year Program being delivered by Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group (LBCCG) is employing relatively low cost and low risk activities to commence stabilisation of approximately 25 landslides on 18 properties in the catchment such as:

- Surface drainage;
- Fencing of unstable areas to manage livestock grazing;
- Removing shallow rooted weeds from suspected landslides and replacement with native vegetation;
- Revegetation with deep rooted stabilising vegetation (Araucaria species) where grazed or a diverse range of native species where grazing excluded, that promote both stabilisation and high levels of transpiration;
- Activities that enable the implementation of the Program (access tracks, stream crossings and so on); and
- Other activities that improve evaluation and monitoring, knowledge or provide stabilisation improvements in some way.



**Whitaker landslide. Note the large scarps resulting from 2013 Australia Day rainfall event and the previous revegetation efforts by the landholder and LBCCG (pre Landslide Program).**



**Revegetated Whitaker landslide. The landslide is predominantly on Sunshine Coast Council land who has engaged LBCCG to manage and revegetate the site.**



**Wells Road site prepared for revegetation. The unusually wet autumn in 2018 has delayed the project due to access difficulties. Note the uneven terrain typical of active landslips.**



**The landslide on Wells Road continually feeds material into a gully which during heavy rainfall washes the soil into nearby Bridge Creek. This site is only 1.5 kilometres upstream from Baroon Pocket Dam.**



**Further revegetation on Ling property. This previously highly unstable stream bank/slope has somewhat stabilised following drainage works. Fast growing, hardy species have been used in an attempt to slow down or minimise soil loss.**

The Program aims to stabilise unstable hillslopes long term by addressing excessive soil profile moisture (through removal of seasonal soaks and dams, moving surface flows away from or speeding up flows off unstable areas and planting local tree species that dry the soil profile through transpiration), fencing landslide zones to enhance groundcover (pasture grasses) and mechanically stabilising the soil profile by planting deep rooted species (Araucaria). Overseas evidence suggests revegetation will take a minimum of eight years to provide stabilisation (Reid and Page 2002) however drainage activities will likely immediately improve stability while improved management of livestock and groundcover will provide benefits in the short to moderate term (1-3 years).



**Colley landslide. The sprayed slope in the centre of the photo is to be revegetated once cleared. A new access track can be seen running mid slope. Previous landslide revegetation can be seen on the lower slope in the right of the photo.**



**Excavator mounted groomer mulching lantana and other woody weeds on the Colley property.**

The program in 2017/18 delivered over nine sites (planned outputs in brackets):

- 1,700 Araucaria species planted (4,300);
- 8,500 biodiverse species planted (2,000);
- 2,500 metres of permanent, semi-permanent and temporary fencing (3,500 metres);
- Seven hectares of drainage (three hectares);

- 1,400 metres of access tracks constructed (150 metres); and
- 14.5 hectares of weed management (9 hectares).

Additionally over 12,000 stems planted in previous program years were continued to be maintained.



***Drainage installed on Colley property. This new drain will intercept flows and divert them away from an unstable landslide area and safely divert into an area of dense vegetation and a natural, stable watercourse***

Landslides are notoriously difficult to access, usually located on or at the foot of steep slopes, on clay soils and with very uneven surfaces. The unusually wet autumn and winter experienced in Maleny in 2018 resulted in major delays to the delivery of the 2017/18 Program simply as access to many of the sites was impossible – particularly for machinery such as excavators and weed management machines. Consequently all activities were not completed until late 2018.

The Landslide Program has been very effective engaging local landholders with all those with identified priority landslides being involved in the Program in some way. This is particularly pleasing since the vast majority of landslides occur on cleared grazing country. Despite the devastating effects of landslides on property infrastructure and the stark visual impact, most landslides usually grow good pasture. Convincing graziers to revegetate these slopes can be challenging however each individual site is managed differently according to the landholder's concerns. Now in its fifth year (second 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 delivering an efficient, targeted and well received on-ground project in the catchment.

## Weed Control Program

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.



***New Madeira vine infestations continue to be identified in urban and rural residential areas.***



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 habitation and 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 2017/18 Program has continued the focus 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 considered likely to reinfest the catchment in the future if left untreated.

Several high priority infestations on roadsides have been treated particularly on the Landsborough Maleny Road with the Department of Transport and Main Roads providing funding to treat. Although Sunshine Coast Council has not provided LBCCG any funding at this stage, they nevertheless have assisted in the removal of several Chinese elms in the upper Bridge Creek catchment on Bridge Creek Road.

***Madiera vine quickly smothers native vegetation.***

Chinese elm has continued to be controlled at a lower level primarily as most of the infestations are either on private 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.



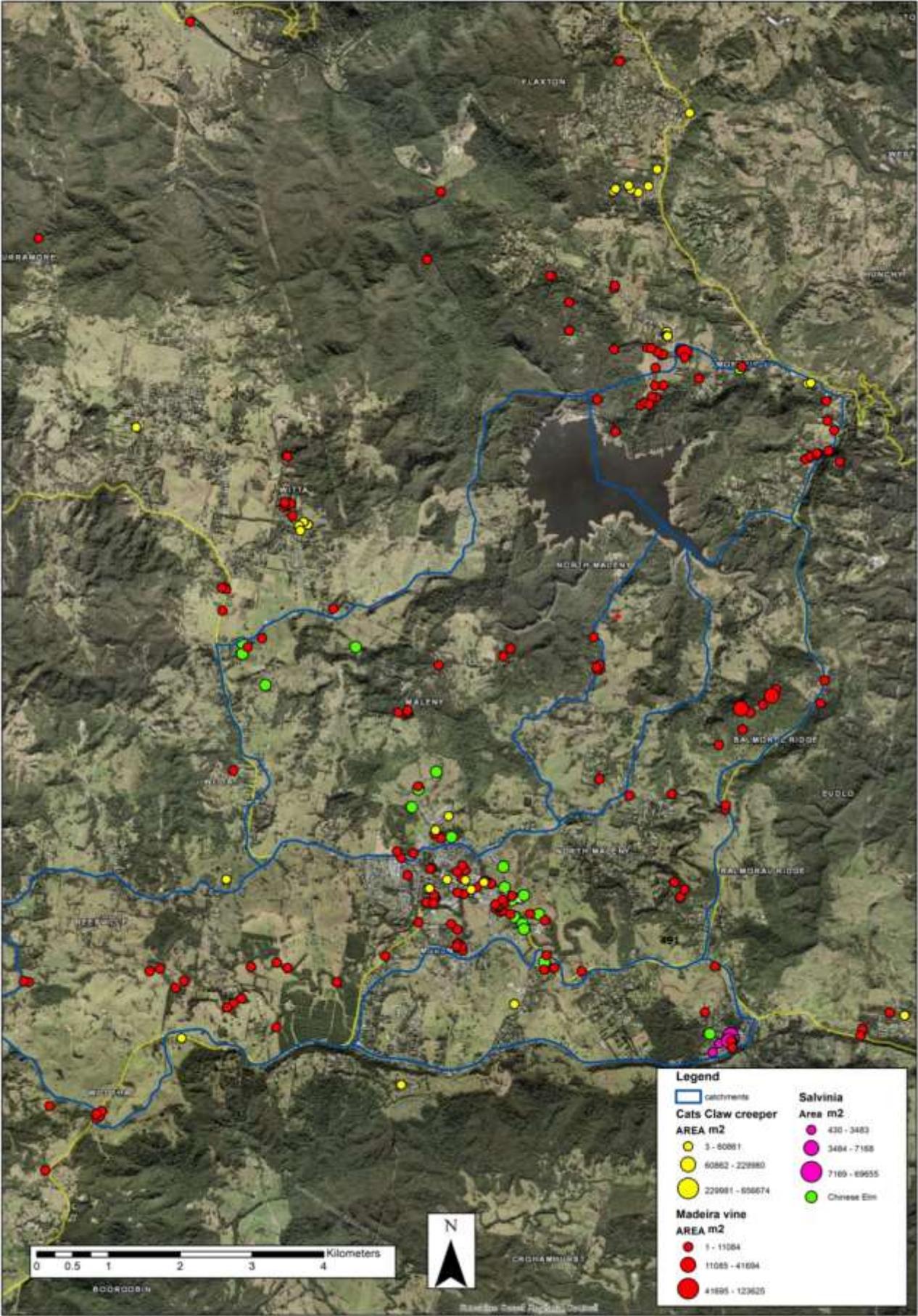
*In most vine weed control situations the preferred method is to apply Vigilant Gel onto the stems of the plant. This ensures herbicide is drawn up stems to the aerial tubers (Madeira) and down into the sub-surface tubers.*



Long term objectives and outcomes are:

- Reduce the risk weeds pose to riparian vegetation and ecosystems;
- Improve knowledge of weed occurrence and spread in the catchment;
- Engage other catchment stakeholders (Department of Transport & Main Roads, Sunshine Coast Council);
- Support other stakeholders, particularly private landholders with advice, funding and other support;
- Raise awareness of the economic and environmental impact (particularly water quality) of these weeds;
- Monitor weed occurrence and control results; and
- Monitor potential new weed threats into the catchment.

*Sometimes it is necessary or more effective to manually remove stems and aerial tubers from Madeira vine.*



Priority weeds currently under management. Sites immediately outside the catchment are in the various 'buffer' zones while far-flung sites were funded by the Department of Transport & Main Roads or others.

Indicative Weed Control Program Outputs

Project Outputs 2017-18	Upper Obi Obi Creek	Mid-Obi Obi Creek (including urban Maleny)	Lower Obi Obi Creek	Bridge Creek	Elston Creek (Montville)	Buffer zone (outside catchment)	Fryars Creek	New infestations (all weeds)	TOTALS
Cats Claw vine (m <sup>2</sup> )	1 (1 sites)	800 (8 sites)	-	100 (2 sites)	5 (4 sites)	300 (9 sites)	-	120 (4 sites)	1,320 m <sup>2</sup> (28 sites)
Madeira vine (m <sup>2</sup> )	2,230 (19 site)	4,805 (70 site)	1,967 (15 site)	1,225 (12 site)	5,500 (26 site)	6,000 (31 site)	-	3,500 (16 site)	25,227 m <sup>2</sup> (189 sites)
Chinese elm (trees)	2	250 (est)	-	6	-	-	-	n/a	258 trees (estimate)
Salvinia (m <sup>2</sup> )	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,200	n/a	1,200 m <sup>2</sup> (conservative estimate)
<b>Total \$</b>	<b>\$7,720</b>	<b>\$18,760</b>	<b>\$6,800</b>	<b>\$9,520</b>	<b>\$6,500</b>	<b>\$9,200</b>	<b>\$2,520</b>	<b>\$9,120</b>	<b>\$70,140</b>

Note – all \$ figures are indicative only



**Contractor Barung Landcare removing Madeira vine from RSL site in urban Maleny. Note Obi Obi Creek proximity.**



**Pond in upper Fryars Creek before any Salvinia control.**



**Local landholders assisting in the physical removal of Salvinia.**



**Pond following control works. Physical removal is effective removing the mass of weed and is the most environmentally friendly however it is very unlikely to eradicate the weed. Currently there is no control method that is able to reliably provide eradication.**



Bio control agent rearing cage provided to the Peachester State School as part of their environmental studies.

**Biological Control Workshop**  
 Cats Claw Creeper and Madeira vine  
 When: 10am-2pm 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018  
 Where: Noosa Landcare Rural Futures Centre  
 Pavilion St, Pomona QLD 4568

**Agenda**

- > Welcome and introduction and aim of today's meeting.
- > Participants introduction (Name, organisation, desired outcome for day)
- > Update on current and future research on invasive weeds – Dr. Dhileepan Kinnjithupatham esp.
  - Current status of biocontrol agents for Cat's Claw Creeper and Madeira vine including - Leaf Tying Moth history and potential.
  - Future research and development.
  - How groups can best support - interact with Biosecurity Queensland.
- > Presentations by groups - Oral or PP presentation - 10min Max.
  - o Agents reared.
  - o Production Nos. and
  - o Methods of monitoring releases, collecting & processing data.

**Break for Lunch**

**Workshops**

**Suggested topics**

1. Establishment of a central database
  - Standardising data collection and recording.
  - Monitoring and evaluation.
  - Data sharing and group access; and
  - Mapping biocontrol release sites.
2. Sources of biocontrol agents:
  - Current rearing facilities.
  - Adequate Supply/Demand.
  - Viability of mass rearing; and
  - Expertise/monitoring.

**Lunch will be provided**  
 Please Register at Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group on Ph. No. (07) 54943775 or contact Kevin Jackson on 0438565172

Supported by:

LBCCG has provided extensive assistance to regional vine weed control efforts including organising a Biological control workshop in Noosa.



LBCCG Project Manager presenting at a Hinterland Bush Links weed workshop.



Skilling Queenslanders for Work releasing bio-control beetles on Cats claw creeper site.

## Dairy 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.



*Dairy farms are managed intensively with high numbers of animals in confined spaces. Note the manure mounded on the right of the photo for disposal. Effluent and high volumes of water used to wash down the dairies daily, combined with the high rainfall of Maleny results in a significant effluent management issue.*

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 on soil and pasture health in 2018.*



**Soil testing has resulted in changes to dairy farm fertiliser programs. Instead of 'doing what dad did' farmers are tailoring application to the soil's needs. Here John Ruddle is applying lime to balance the pH so any fertiliser application benefits pasture health. This means less fertiliser use overall and reduced risk to property and catchment water quality.**

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. A key focus of the 2017/18 Dairy program has been to design best practice dairy effluent systems. The two high priority systems have been identified as Maleny dairies (Keith Hopper) and Matt & Colin Cork. The only other system in the Lake Baroon catchment is Mark & Ken Webster which due to low herd numbers and a satisfactory (if not labour intensive) system of dealing with effluent is considered a lower priority. It is expected that the Webster property is likely to cease dairy production in the medium term and any effluent investment would therefore be largely wasted.



**Typical catchment effluent system. Designed in the 1960s before high stock numbers and before the construction of Baroon Pocket Dam, has become increasingly inadequate to manage the high volumes of effluent generated from the milking shed and associated yards.**

Ryan Francis from EnviroAg interviewed Keith Hopper and Matt Cork, measured dairy water usage and looked at other factors that affect effluent and water production - such as unrelated run off entering effluent systems (un-guttered roofing, drainage patterns around the dairy apron etc). A brief safety audit was also completed with advice provided around farm safety relating to the dairy shed and surrounds. As a result two brief EMPs were produced providing best practice designs for effluent ponds (amongst other recommendations on water usage etc) designed to accommodate effluent production and cope with a 1 in 10 year rainfall total. A key part of the design however is an irrigation system must be installed concurrently. This benefits the farmer by providing a reliable, relatively nutrient rich water source that is utilised during the drier months of the year (July – December). Importantly though the use of this effluent

means that in December there is little volume remaining in the ponds and they can be easily cleaned of solids (small pond annually, large pond as required).



**Short term solution to manage effluent on Cork Dairies until a suitable replacement system is designed and constructed.**

The completed EnviroAg designs and associated costs is more than twice the cost of the original budget provided for dealing with on-farm effluent management. Funding to complete the effluent systems will be acquired in several ways:

- Savings within the project – completed activities coming in under budget;
- Landholders contributions offsetting activity costs (for example Keith Hopper has provided considerable labour and equipment to activities on his property – notably fencing and laneway construction);
- Cancelling or rescheduling activities (solar pumps where alternatives already exist, provision of shade or activities funded by alternative sources) that are not deemed essential or required by landholders; and
- Alternative sources of funding.



**Maleny Dairies effluent management. A new effluent system was constructed in around 2014 however the aerobic system (installed at great cost) has struggled to be able to process the high volumes of liquid (mainly wash down water) generated by the dairy shed and run off during heavy rainfall.**



**Keith Hopper (right), Ross Warren- Department of Agriculture & Fisheries (centre right), Carla Cork (centre) and Matt Cork (left) discussing the benefits dairy effluent systems and associated irrigation.**



**Ground Truth drilling soil samples to be analysed for their compaction suitability in the construction of new dairy effluent systems on Maleny Dairies and Cork Dairies.**



**Sommers Brothers Earthmoving rehabilitating and hardening laneways on the Webster dairy.**

Long term objectives and outcomes of the Dairy Program are:

- improved management of nutrients by preventing 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;
- reducing grazing impacts in sensitive locations such as riparian zones – managing livestock access, improved stream crossings, alternative watering points and establishing shade away from sensitive areas;
- effectively and safely utilising dairy effluent 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.



***Completed laneways and associated fencing on Webster dairy.***



***Contractors Bald Knob Fencing fencing rehabilitated laneways on Wittacork.***



**Fenced riparian zone on Muller property (leased by Maleny Dairies). Note that these riparian zones are still occasionally grazed when weather conditions suit, to control excessive growth and maintain the health of the pasture buffer.**



**Phil Nash installing trough on Maleny Dairies.**

Activities in 2017/18 included:

- 1,485 metres of livestock laneway constructed or rehabilitated;
- 2,330 metres of fencing;
- 1,808 metres of fencing realignment;
- Five new off stream watering systems installed (comprising 29 troughs);
- One off stream watering systems rehabilitated or repaired (comprising three troughs);
- Three stream crossing installed;
- Ten stream crossings repaired;
- Four new feed pads constructed; and
- One workshop (soil health).



**Trough installed on Maleny Dairies. When the adjacent laneway is fenced the trough will primarily water the paddock on the left but also protrude far enough into the laneway to provide cows a watering point on the way to the dairy for milking.**

## OTHER PROJECTS

### Bridge Creek Connections (Community Sustainability Action Grant)

The **Community Sustainability Action** grants are providing \$12 million over three years to eligible community groups and individuals for innovative projects which seek to address climate change, conserve Queensland's natural and built environment and protect our unique wildlife. The program will support locally based, community driven projects which encourage real change in Queensland communities.

<https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/pollution/funding/community-sustainability>

Bridge Creek Connections is a three year project funded by the Department Of Environment and Science (Queensland Government), totalling \$46,610. The project is linked to two LBCCG projects; *Lower Bridge Creek Erosion Project* and *Northern Alcorn Creek Stage 3*. This is primarily to value-add to, and expand existing projects to achieve a broader range of outcomes. Since the application to CSA a further property (Duncan & Natasha Stacey) has become involved who has received supporting funding through Sunshine Coast Council's Landholder Environment Grants program (for weed management and revegetation). Additionally, funding from the Sunshine Coast Rivers Initiative has been added to the project to support weed management on the Stacey property and riparian fencing on the Colley property.

On 29 September 2011 at the 14th annual International River Symposium in Brisbane, the **Sunshine Coast Rivers Initiative** was awarded the Australian National Riverprize. The Riverprize was presented by the International River Foundation in recognition of the development and implementation of outstanding, visionary and sustainable programs in river management - it is one of the world's most prestigious environmental awards. The \$150,000 prize money was split equally between the community groups in the Rivers Initiative to be spent at each group's discretion but towards a worthwhile initiative.

The Rivers Initiative is delivered by Council and a broad range of partners and collaborators who represent over 30 catchment and landcare groups and other government agencies.

It is a program of waterways health monitoring, river restoration, pollution prevention and community education, rolled out across the region's six river catchments. The focus of the Rivers Initiative is to protect and improve of Sunshine Coast's natural waterways to ensure:

- community values of waterways are upheld
- water quality is maintained or improved
- degraded habitat are restored
- pollution is reduced
- sustainable land use practices are adopted
- on-river activities are well managed.

<https://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/Environment/Rivers-and-Coast/Sunshine-Coast-Rivers-Initiative>

Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group is successful securing funding from Seqwater and others for water quality improvement activities however significant funding for threatened species, remnant vegetation protection and enhancement, and biodiversity outcomes is far more difficult (Sunshine Coast Council is the usual source but in relatively small amounts). State and Commonwealth 'Landcare' grants are usually the only way significant funding can be sourced – in this case the Community Sustainability Action grants.

Generally to achieve these outcomes the primary activity is reducing the weed threat to existing vegetation including remnant, regrowth and previous revegetation. Revegetation to link areas of vegetation, permanently reduce weeds, provide diversity and habitat, and awareness-raising are also high priority activities. Importantly these activities also directly provide significant water quality benefits.



*A key focus of the project is community engagement. East Coast TAFE students have been utilised on several sites for planting labour and weed management works while gaining valuable experience with a local environmental industry leader.*



*East Coast TAFE planting trees on the Wells Road project site.*

The project builds on previous activities in the mid to lower reaches of Bridge Creek:

- fencing and revegetation of riparian zones as part of the Bridging The Gap project (circa 2000);

- fencing and revegetation of riparian zones and landslides on the McLauchlan property (2009-17);
- revegetation of landslides, including riparian zones on Wells Road (Cimesa & O'Connor) property (2016 - ongoing);
- riparian fencing, off stream watering, livestock laneway rehabilitation, stream crossings and landslide revegetation on Colley property (2015 - ongoing); *and*
- several minor projects on properties in the immediate area - primarily riparian revegetation.



**Posi-track mounted mulcher. This machine is efficient on large areas of lantana and other woody weeds provided the site is relatively flat and debris free.**

Bridge Creek Connections aims to:

- establish new riparian corridors and widen existing corridors by planting vegetation on Bridge Creek;
- enhance existing wildlife corridors by completing weed management;
- protect remnant vegetation through weed control and planting trees (to provide a buffer);
- remove livestock (cattle) access to riparian zones through fencing and revegetation (*see Lower Bridge Creek Erosion Project*);
- establish riparian buffers to intercept nutrients, sediments and faecal material improving water quality;
- contribute to landslide stabilisation;
- provide and enhance existing terrestrial and aquatic habitat for threatened species;
- address climate change impacts on wildlife by enhancing movement opportunities;
- provide learning opportunities for TAFE Catchment & Land Management students; *and*
- provide training opportunities for Skilling Queenslanders Initiative (hosted by Barung Landcare);
- provide education opportunities for Ananda Marga River School students and teachers.

Lower Bridge Creek has high environmental and water quality importance:

- significant areas of remnant vegetation, regrowth vegetation and previous revegetation (most vegetation however is impacted by woody weeds such as lantana and privet);
- vegetation is fragmented and requires re-establishment of corridors to assist wildlife movement (cleared riparian zones are dominated by annual weeds, exotic grasses and vines);
- a high number of threatened flora and fauna species recorded in the area;
- project is immediately upstream of Baroon Pocket Dam - the Sunshine Coast's most important potable water supply (and greater South east Queensland);
- good quality riparian vegetation 'cleans' polluted raw water originating upstream (urban Maleny and intensive livestock grazing), removing nutrients (ammonia, nitrogen, phosphorus) and faecal material (including pathogens); *and*

- weed control removes catchment priority weeds such as Madeira vine and Chinese elm that have the potential to severely impact riparian zones but are present, but in manageable infestations.



**Weed clearing by Lantana Pros. This is an extremely efficient method of clearing (and mulching) lantana and other woody weeds on steep or sites with debris including rocks.**

The project will:

- erect 665 metres fencing on McLauchlan to remove livestock from 1 hectare of riparian zone linking previous revegetation to remnant, regrowth and revegetation (Seqwater funding);
- complete 7.5 hectares of weed control - 1 hectare in remnant vegetation on McLauchlan; 2 hectares on Cimesa in remnant, regrowth, revegetation and cleared areas; 2.5 hectares on River School in remnant and lantana dominated cleared area; 2 hectares on Colley in remnant, regrowth and lantana dominated cleared area.
- complete 3 hectares revegetation - 1 hectare (2,500 trees) on McLauchlan (Seqwater funded) consistent with RE 12.8.3; 1 hectare (1,000 trees) on Cimesa consistent with RE 12.8.3 and RE12.12.15; 2 hectares (5,000 trees) on River School consistent with RE12.12.1/12.12.16. All sites will have appropriate numbers of Koala food trees planted;
- install 25 nest boxes on River School to aid education of primary students; and
- hold Field Day at end of project for contributors, supporters and volunteers.



**Ananda Marga River School before weed management.**



*River School after following lantana (and other woody weed) control using posi-track mulcher.*

Re-establishing vegetated corridors will:

- enhance the ability of wildlife, including threatened species to move through the landscape;
- assist those species that avoid crossing open ground (such as Koala);
- improve aquatic and terrestrial habitat.

Weed management will:

- remove key threat to remnant vegetation (particularly those areas that have high edge to area ratio such as watercourses);
- encourage native regeneration, particularly understorey and ground cover;
- increase vegetation resilience, enhancing habitat;



*River School students planting trees. The entire student body were involved over two days to plant 400 trees.*

Other benefits of the project include:

- fencing of riparian zones will remove livestock from sensitive riparian zones;
- revegetation of riparian zones will improve water quality by filtering contaminants before entry to streams;
- installing wildlife boxes will provide nesting opportunities for wildlife in the absence of hollow bearing trees;
- engaging a high number of volunteers over a three year period will demonstrate best practice for protecting water quality, biodiversity, weed management and livestock management.



***The River School before and after lantana control using Lantana Pros. This is a more efficient method of weed management where the site is steeper and has more obstacles to a tracked or wheeled machine. Retaining the fallen timber as habitat is important.***



*The Wells Road revegetation site with site maintenance being performed by Skilling Queenslanders for Work (hosted by Barung Landcare).*



*Skilling Queenslanders for Work engaged through Barung Landcare planting roadside trees on Ananda Marga River School (Bridge Creek Connections). The majority of this site will be planted by River School students however the road verge was considered too hazardous for primary-aged students. Skilling Queenslanders have also provided considerable weed management labour within regrowth and remnant vegetation on the site.*

## 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. LBCCG also provided presentation equipment to the group.



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*, *Clark Creek Off Stream Water Project*, *Lawley Creek Tributaries Partnership* and several other small projects.



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



LBCCG and East Coast TAFE have continued a collaborative partnership in 2017-18. TAFE students provided labour support to *Lower Bridge Creek Erosion Project* and *Bridge Creek Connections*, planting tubestock and managing woody weeds.



**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 2018**

**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 2018 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 Scheiberg  
Treasurer

8 November 2018

## LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP INC

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

	2018 \$	2017 \$
<i>Income</i>		
Project funding	1,196,575.95	498,001.00
Administration funding	216,838.29	168,036.05
Sunshine Coast Council partnership	50,000.00	50,000.00
Interest	5,356.46	3,317.97
Consultancy	-	3,639.00
Membership fees	76.37	109.10
Donations	-	45.45
Sundry items	-	80.00
	1,468,847.07	723,228.57
<i>Expenditure</i>		
Advertising	286.13	371.88
Audit	630.00	500.00
Bank charges	8.00	3.50
Bookkeeping	2,789.68	2,020.25
Catering	-	587.18
Cleaning	-	51.18
Computer expenses	217.17	1,325.25
Depreciation	7,802.24	4,307.79
Equipment	1,266.64	2,274.30
Fees and permits	53.50	51.70
Field walk	-	135.30
Fuel	2,346.09	596.55
Garden maintenance	502.32	984.00
Insurance	677.04	1,236.14
Leave provision	6,350.51	-
Mapping	680.00	561.95
Meeting expenses	2,879.24	2,025.00
Memberships and subscriptions	125.00	40.91
Motor vehicle expenses	7,669.05	4,039.93
Photocopying	1,843.44	1,732.43
Postage	229.03	152.36
Printing and stationery	276.85	120.98
Project expenditure	1,196,575.95	498,001.00
Reference books	18.18	-
Repairs and maintenance	924.47	1,039.61
Salaries and wages	185,278.29	140,485.75

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 2018

	2018 \$	2017 \$
<i>Expenditure (continued)</i>		
Sponsorship	-	909.09
Superannuation	17,601.41	13,318.50
Tele phone and internet	2,711.40	2,888.91
Travelling	864.30	1,200.00
Uniforms	-	519.45
Workcover	1,141.54	698.96
Workplace health and safety	65.00	-
Sundry items	1,341.97	271.54
Prior year adjustment	2,371.51	-
	<u>1,445,525.95</u>	<u>682,451.39</u>
Surplus / (deficit) before income tax expense	<u>23,321.12</u>	<u>40,777.18</u>
Income tax expense	-	-
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	<u>23,321.12</u>	<u>40,777.18</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## LAKE BAROON CATCHMENT CARE GROUP INC

BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 30 JUNE 2018

	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents		
- Maleny Credit Union Everyday account	11,965.96	11,914.68
- Maleny Credit Union Esaver account	534,404.58	150,029.39
- Bank of Queensland websaving account	63,680.52	62,699.25
- Cash on hand	550.00	550.00
Trade debtors	30,250.00	247,017.71
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>640,851.06</u>	<u>472,211.03</u>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		
Fixed assets		
- Plant and equipment at cost	21,031.92	19,760.10
- Accumulated depreciation	(17,961.85)	(17,637.09)
- Motor vehicles at cost	47,937.55	25,142.45
- Accumulated depreciation	(16,528.73)	(9,051.25)
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<u>34,478.89</u>	<u>18,214.21</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>675,329.95</u>	<u>490,425.24</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Payables		-
GST payable	26,247.53	33,001.89
Payroll related payables	14,076.83	11,768.55
Employee entitlements – annual leave	15,924.21	9,036.70
Unspent funding obligations	484,641.65	327,334.00
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>540,890.22</u>	<u>381,141.14</u>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>		
Employee entitlements – long service leave	13,084.51	11,250.00
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>13,084.51</u>	<u>11,250.00</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>553,974.73</u>	<u>392,391.14</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<u>121,355.22</u>	<u>98,034.10</u>
<b>MEMBERS FUNDS</b>		
Retained earnings		
- brought forward	98,034.10	57,256.92
- surplus / (deficit) for the year	23,321.12	40,777.18
<b>Total Members Funds</b>	<u>121,355.22</u>	<u>98,034.10</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 2018

**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 2018

**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 2018

**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 year, or as at or subsequent to balance date.

The Association did not have any contingent assets or liabilities as at 30 June 2018.

**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 2018.

Levert Audit Services Pty Ltd  
ABN 81 075 075 244



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 2018, 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 2018 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, 8 November 2018