



Canungra Creek Restoration Project

The Canungra Creek Restoration project is a Canungra State School initiative that recognises the importance of protecting and enhancing the local environment.

Project Aims / Objectives

The project aims to enhance biodiversity on the Canungra Creek and provide students and community members the opportunity to participate in a restoration project. The objectives of the Canungra Creek Restoration Project are :

- To manage weed species and increase the **biodiversity** of the gallery rainforest and creek ecosystem.
- Engage community members, school children and staff to contribute to the management of our local environment, and increase the capacity of such to undertake weed management and revegetation works.
- Undertake community activity days and workshops that provide the opportunity for increasing knowledge in regards Riparian Restoration techniques.
- Streamline environmental and cultural awareness learning into the school curriculum.
- Install monitoring programs such as Photopoint and Water Quality Monitoring to evaluate project success.



Restoration works in progress

Project Outcomes

The project will enhance the wildlife corridor and provide habitat and food sources for native fauna, reptile, bird and aquatic species. The site is on the Canungra Creek and forms part of the catchment of the Logan and Albert Rivers. Enhancement and protection of the creek bank will assist with the prevention of erosion and improve water quality in the Canungra Creek system and have positive downstream effects.

Canungra State School students are involved in many aspects of the restoration project. Practical experience, education and appreciation of the natural environment will lead to positive attitudes towards conservation and restoration throughout the school and extend to the local community.



Canungra State School students undertaking Revegetation works.

Biological diversity - or biodiversity - is the foundation of life on Earth and represents the variety of all living things. It is crucial for the functioning of ecosystems which provide us with products and services which we couldn't live without. Oxygen, food, fresh water, fertile soil, medicines, shelter, protection from storms and floods, stable climate and recreation - all have their source in nature and healthy ecosystems. Biodiversity is amazing—there are few things as beautiful and inspiring as the diversity of life that exists on Earth!





Flora

The Low-lying floodplains of the Albert River, Canungra Creek and other associated creeks are home to a number of waterholes and wetlands that support a variety of flora. Rich basalt sediments are washed down from surrounding mountains in times of flood and enrich the soils of the **riparian** zones providing nutrients for remnant riparian vegetation. Unfortunately only a narrow vegetated buffer exists along the banks of many of these waterways. Some isolated large specimen trees flanking the Canungra Creek are good indicators of the species that once flourished in the region.



Fauna

Fauna is considered a significant part of the environment and habitat degradation has a large impact on their ability to survive. Predation on wildlife by domestic pets and loss of nesting, shelter and foraging habitats have also considerably reduced numbers.

The Canungra Creek is home to a wide array of native fauna including the shy Platypus, Eastern Water Dragons, freshwater turtles, fish and other aquatic species. The creek is also frequented by a number of freshwater and terrestrial bird species.



Partnerships

Partnerships are a key to the continuity of the Canungra Creek Restoration Project. The collaboration of a variety of individuals and groups has provided technical expertise and on-ground labour to ensure the project is ongoing.

Thanks to:

- **Canungra State School Green Team**—Innovative ideas, on-ground commitment and grant writing
- **Clr Virginia West—SRRC** —Promotional and funding support
- **Keith McCosh—SRRC**—Technical advice
- **Beechmont Landcare**—Technical advice and funding support
- **SEQ Catchments**— Provision of regional mapping
- **National Green Jobs Program**—Provision of labour teams for maintenance
- **Ken Markwell—Wangerriburra Cultural Consultant**—Cultural advice
- **Foodworks**—Provision of food for fund-raising and prizes for students
- **Staff, students and families of Canungra State School**—Involvement in Working Bees

Riparian—Relating to or inhabiting the banks of a natural course of water. Riparian zones are ecologically diverse and contribute to the health of other aquatic ecosystems by filtering out pollutants and preventing erosion.

Funding

The Canungra Creek Restoration Project has been made possible with successful funding grants secured from the Scenic Rim Regional Council and the Qld State Government.

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Acknowledgements—

<http://www.logan.qld.gov.au/environment-water-and-waste/waterways/logan-citys-waterways#albert>



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