

# Coastal Dry Tropics Landcare Inc (CDTLI)

## Annual Report

July 2015 – June 2016

## For Townsville City Council

For the delivery of Community Revegetation and Natural Resource Management Groups Engagement in  
Townsville

## Integrated Sustainability Services



## Delivery of Community Revegetation and Natural Resource Management in Townsville

Key Indicator	Performance	Target	Outcomes
1. Quarterly reporting of NRM programs and activities		Quarterly	Record and monitoring of activities completed, planned and achievements.
2. The delivery of regular community revegetation activities involving community revegetation groups in Townsville		5 events	The revegetation of selected community revegetation sites in Townsville. Enhancement of natural areas and Habitats
3. The delivery of Landcare days on existing community revegetation sites		Weekly	Continuous maintenance of community revegetation sites to a satisfactory standard (including watering, weeding, mulching and replacement planting) and increased rate of success of revegetation works.
4. Provision of a suitable centralised Landcare Centre		Ongoing	The provision of support, information and space for coordination of NRM projects and support for community revegetation groups.
5. Build on existing and implement new partnerships between the community, local government, the public and private sectors in NRM in Townsville		Ongoing	Promotion of revegetation initiatives as part of an integrated approach to natural resource management in Townsville.
6. Liaise with proponents of similar projects at regional and sub-regional NRM groups		Ongoing	Sharing of information and resources and promotion of a coordinated strategic approach to biodiversity and habitat conservation in Townsville.
7. The production of Kapok NRM Newsletter		Quarterly	Publication and distribution of Kapok to facilitate the implementation of the Townsville Community Natural Resource Management Strategy.  Improving Council's relationship with the community through the process of community natural resource management.

### **KPI 1. Quarterly reporting of NRM programs and activities**

Two official meetings were held between CDTLI and TCC ISS in the 2015-16 financial year regarding progress and future plans.

These meeting took place on 7/9/15 and 25/1/16 and the minutes from these meetings are attached.

CDTLI and ISS met unofficially throughout the year and kept contact through emails, phone calls and community events, e.g. eco fiesta and national tree day.

A Quarterly Report was sent for the period October – December 2015 (attached). Future reports have been assigned deadlines as follows: beginning of the months October 2016, January 2017, April 2017 and July 2018.

### **KPI 2. The delivery of regular community revegetation activities involving community revegetation groups in Townsville (5)**

- National Tree Day 2015 – Turtle Bridge, 26<sup>th</sup> July
- A day in the Bush Garden 2015 – Mundingburra, 21<sup>st</sup> November
- Weed spotters training day – Quarantine Station, 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016
- Weedbusters Week 2015 – 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> September
- National Landcare Week 2015 – 7<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> September
- Heatley High School Collaboration – Series of days at Mundy Creek and the Bush Garden Nursery

#### **Other events attended**

- 2015 Townsville Plant and Garden Expo – Riverway, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August
- Clean up Australia Day 2016 – Upper Ross River, 6<sup>th</sup> March
- 2016 Welcome to Townsville Defence Expo – Lavarack Barracks, 21<sup>st</sup> March
- Eco Fiesta 2016 – Queens Gardens, 29<sup>th</sup> May
- Great Northern Clean Up 2015 – Mundy Creek, September

### **KPI 3. The delivery of Landcare days on existing community revegetation sites**

Regular community landcare days are conducted at the following 5 established sites over each month.

Mundy Creek, Garbutt – First Saturday of each month

Turtle Bridge, Annandale – Second Saturday of each month

Lou Litster Park, Hermit Park Third Sunday of each Month

Bush Garden, Mundingburra – Third Saturday of each month

Goondaloo Creek, Douglas – Fourth Saturday of each month

With the resignation of the previous Community Revegetation Coordinator the delivery of these regular days has been interrupted, however devoted site leaders, along with the two Green Army Teams and a Max Employment workforce, have maintained the high condition of our revegetation sites. Landcare days will be restructured and reinstated in the near future by our recently appointed Project Officer.

Informal work was also conducted at another established CDTLI site between Aplins Weir and Sheriff Park in Mundingburra.

## Nursery

CDTLI and Conservation Volunteers previously conducted the Bush Garden Nursery as a joint venture. Conservation Volunteers moved their project and all related funding at the end of the 2014-15 financial year. Without the funding required to pay staff, CDTLI continued management of the Bush Garden Nursery on a volunteer basis.

The Nursery project is only small but is very educational and enjoyable for the volunteers, school groups, university students, English language students and people with special needs. The Society for Growing Australian Plants and the Townsville Garden Club have both made successful visits to the Nursery. On both of these visits there was a lot of give and take about local Native Plants in the Townsville and the Nursery was open for sales.

The Bush Garden Nursery was open every Friday of 2015-16 except for Christmas Day and New Years day - even Good Friday - this speaks loudly for the interest and enthusiasm of our volunteers

## Volunteer hours

The total volunteer hours devoted to on-ground work across all sites was 1952 hours spread across 110 recorded site visits. There was an average of 5.7 volunteers present at these volunteer days and the most popular sites for volunteering were Mundy Creek (running the Mundy Creek Catchment Care project utilising the Community Landcare Grant provided by NQ Dry Tropics – 802 hours) and the Bush Garden Nursery in Thompson Street, Mundingburra (769 hours).

There was a total of 194.75 volunteer hours worked in the Landcare office on administrative duties.

### **KPI 4. Provision of a suitable centralised Landcare Centre**

We are currently located at the Quarantine station within the Conservation Park in Pallarenda. We welcome all volunteers to the office to browse the library of landcare resources and discuss current and future activities. Our Bush Garden nursery in Mundingburra also provides a place for volunteers to meet and connect whilst participating in landcare activities.

### **KPI 5. Build on existing and implement new partnerships between the community, local government, the public and private sectors in NRM in Townsville**

AND

### **KPI 6. Liaise with proponents of similar projects at regional and sub-regional NRM groups**

- Conservation Volunteers
  - We work closely with Conservation Volunteers as they are the Project Host for our Green Army teams.
  - We also share office space with Conservation Volunteers at the Cape Pallarenda Quarantine station.
- NQ Dry Tropics- Strengthening Communities Weed control and Community engagement Project
  - Sagittaria management project
  - We are working closely with NQ Dry Tropics and Townsville City Council to complement their efforts in controlling *Sagittaria platyphylla* and raise awareness in the community.
- Sagittaria Working Group
  - CDTLI is a member of the Sagittaria working group that are in regular contact about activities that are being undertaken to combat the spread of *Sagittaria platyphylla* in the region.

- Other organisations represented in this group are NQ Dry Tropics, Townsville City Council, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and Burdekin Shire Council.
- Mundy Creek Catchment Connections – Stage 2
  - This project involved the cooperation of CDTLI, Conservation Volunteers Australia through the Green Army and Creekwatch, TCC ISS Greening and Waterways team, Castle Hill PCYC and professional support from a variety of parties involving scientific assessment and advice, and Indigenous advice

**KPI 7. The production of Kapok NRM newsletter**

CDTLI produced 2 editions of Kapok for the 2015-16 financial year – October 2015 and February 2016. These are attached. We have recently gained a dedicated editor for our newsletter who is going to take on the role of producing Kapok for the foreseeable future (assisted by the Project Officer). This will help to ensure we can meet our target of distributing editions every quarter.

Coastal Dry Tropics Landcare Inc. would like to extend our sincerest thanks to Townsville City Council for their continued support, in particular the Integrated Sustainability Services team including Andrew Hannay, Angela Wicks, Megan Taylor, Helen Manski and Ray Willis.

Yours sincerely,

Lucy Holmes

Project Officer

Coastal Dry Tropics Landcare Inc.