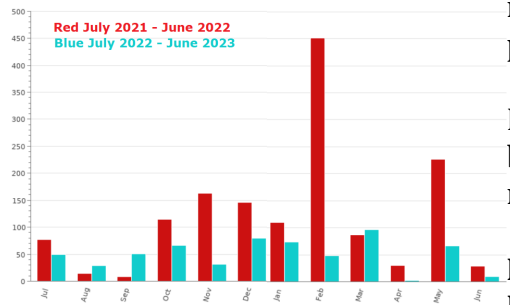


Redwood Park Report – 2022-2023

Hugh Krenske

In 2021-2022, Redwood Park received 1458mm of rain, about twice our average rainfall. This saw an explosion in Madeira Vine regrowth, green panic, velvet tree pear, coral berry and cats claw creeper. This past year we have had to limit our work areas to control this invasion of weeds.

In the years prior to 2021-22, we were receiving well below our average rainfall. This resulted in an expansion of our work areas. This past year we have received 602mm of rain, again below our average, giving us a chance to get on top of the Madeira Vine once more, although we have had to leave some areas go, particularly sectors 8 and 9.



In the past year our volunteer numbers varied between 5 and 10 with 118 working bees for a total number of 2310 hours.

Main Target Areas Dry rainforest area.

The lower part of the forest remains a priority area. We have managed to keep this area in fairly pristine condition. Black breasted button quail platelets are often found in this area. Further to the north, Madeira Vine tuber masses were more numerous. The drier, cooler weather this year has seen some of the Madeira Vine regrowth move into a more dormant stage. Perhaps with warmer weather and some rain, the Madeira Vine will start shooting again and allow the herbicide to take better effect.

Iron Bark area

The area from the entry gate down to the picnic area has continued to be monitored. The most significant weeds targeted are Mother of Millions and Green Panic.

Grasstree track

A group of dedicated volunteers have been working in areas adjacent to the Grasstree Track up to and including its junction with the Eaglenest Track. Over the months the Lantana, Privet and Tree Pear regrowth have been fairly well brought under control. Green Panic is growing thickly in this area. We, together with Toowoomba Regional Council, the Bunya People Aboriginal Corporation and Main Roads have been planning to do a cultural/environmental burn between the Toowoomba Connection Road and the Grasstree track. The aim was to control the Green Panic by patch burning, allowing the insects and small mammals to escape into nearby unburnt areas. The area is part of Southeast Queensland's Core Koala Habitat. As the days get longer and warmer, the timing of the burn may no longer be appropriate.

Callitris baileyi

During their environmental surveys in Redwood, Redleaf Environmental found a grove of near threatened Bailey's Cypress. There is one large tree about 20m in height surrounded by numerous seedlings between 1 and 2 metres in height as well as a large number of seedlings about 10-20cm high. FEP members have spent some hours working in the area removing Lantana, Privet, Cats Claw Creeper and Velvet Tree Pear. This tree has a very restricted distribution along the eastern Darling Downs, the Lockyer Valley and Scenic Rim regions. It is listed as endangered in New South Wales.