



SALTPAN RESTORATION / RECONSTRUCTION

Location: Saltpan - Cole Street, Brooklyn, Hornsby LGA

Date: 2016-2024 Ongoing

Client: Hornsby Shire Council

Site Description:

The site has been subject to severe degradation from past land use activities. As a result, the area was a reclaimed weed infested ecotone between Swamp Sclerophyll Forest EEC, Swamp Oak Floodplain Forest and Yellow Bloodwood Woodland. Much of the connectivity between communities was dominated by Morning Glory, Camphor Laurel, Coral Trees, Crofton Weed, Lantana and Privet.





Project Objectives

- To control and remove heavy mixed weed infestation within Swamp Sclerophyll EEC (>70% Projected Foliage Cover at project commencement)
- Stabilise and armour open drainage lines
- Collect local provenance seed throughout and revegetate reference communities linking fragmented remnants
- Ultimately, re-instate ecological function through a self-sustaining ecosystem of restored native vegetation



Description of Works

- Over several years we have controlled the weed infestations and transformed the native vegetation
- In collaboration with Hornsby Council we have developed and implemented plans which have seen excellent regeneration, protection and enhancement of the extant vegetation communities.
- We have worked as a team with council project officers, earth works contractors and fabricated/landscaped aesthetically fantastic and diverse native revegetation



Outcomes Achieved

- Our revegetation works have been extremely successful here, now representing a diverse provenance seed bank for the local area and connecting once weed infested remnants into their respective native vegetation communities with restored ecosystem function.
- The erodible creeks here have been armoured with sandstone and revegetated very successfully, enhancing and connecting riparian habitat.
- Our collaborative works have transformed a once degraded and undervalued dumping ground into a local community asset, a place to visit and value, increasing community amenity and providing an all-accessible interactive recreational sanctuary.