

Townsville City Council Environmental Management Services

Rowes Bay Wetland Reserve

Rowes Bay Wetland is State Land under trusteeship of Townsville City Council (TCC) and is managed as an Environmental Reserve. Over the last 12 months TCC has been carrying out work within the reserve area. This has included:

- Registration of the site under the Land For Wildlife program
- Carrying out Bushcare Activities with community groups and residents

Land For Wildlife

The Rowes Bay reserve has been registered with the Land for Wildlife program. This recognises the area's regional significance as a coastal woodland and wetland habitat. The woodland is in excellent condition, with relatively few weeds and is habitat for a diverse range of native animals. It also a breeding site for birds of prey. The surrounding wetland provides habitat for many water bird species and also supports other fauna such as crabs and fish during the wet season. The site is important for Migratory Waders protected under International Treaties (JAMBA and CAMBA).

The Rowes Bay Reserve is the last remaining intact example of the types of ecosystems present before the development of the wetland complex area that surrounds the Town Common.

The brochure attached contains more detail on the reserve and its management and includes things that you can do to assist in protecting this unique urban wetland.

Bush Care Activities

Council with the support of Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA) and Green Corp have initiated a revegetation and weed management program to restore the natural vegetation where required.

Areas where this work has been carried out include:

- Plantings along the wetland at the end of Havana Street and Falcon Street (National Tree Day 2000 and 2001).
- Planting and weed management in the wetland and sand dunes by Green Corp and Green Reserves.
- NatureSearch carried out a fauna survey during 2001

A local Soroptimist Club carried out flora monitoring

Up Coming Rehabilitation Works

Over the next few days Green Corps will commence weed management in an area of the wetland as part of the Bushcare program and in response to local residents requests. This will be followed by a small planting of native grasses and scattered trees to replace the weed areas.

We are currently formulating plans to fence and or bollard the area to control vehicle access, reduce local noise nuisance and natural values of the wetland. We have recently been successful in obtaining Bushcare funding which will enable us to complete this fencing along Herald St.

Other works will include removal of the dumped vehicles from the wetland area.

If you have any questions about this work or would like to be involved in future tree planting and care of the wetland please contact us



Aerial view of Rowes bay wetland

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