

HFNC weed control report for Four Posts Streamside Reserve 2018

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The Four Posts Streamside Reserve is situated immediately upstream from the Four Posts Bridge on Nigretta Rd. There is a triangular shaped block on the north bank, adjacent to the road reserve and Hewett Park (SGSC – an old quarry site stripped of gravel by the former Hamilton City Council) and a block on the south bank upstream to a now disused rhyolite quarry.

HFNC made a submission to the Land Conservation Council (LCC) in the 1980s extolling the virtues of this significant scenic Crown Frontage and the LCC subsequently recommended it become a Streamside Reserve. The flora is listed in the publication *Indigenous Vascular Flora of the Wannon River frontages from Wannon Falls to the Red Rd Bridge* (Rod Bird, 2011 – updated in 2018 and available on the HFNC website). The current list of native vascular flora species is 131.

African Weed Orchid (AWO) were found in this reserve in 2016 and efforts have been made since that time to control them there, on private frontage downstream from the bridge on the south bank and to a lesser extent on part of Hewett Park adjacent to the north block of the Streamside Reserve.

Four Posts South:

- 26 Oct – PH wiped 29 AWO in patches, with a few isolated plants
- 12 Nov – PH dug up 38 AWO mostly in 3 patches

Four Posts North:

- 26 Oct – PH wiped 173 AWO
- 29 Oct – PH wiped 451 AWO

Frontage downstream South (5.6 ha):

- Oct – PH wiped or dug 31 AWO and 1000+ Wild Gladiolus plus Phalaris & Angled Onion.



Summary of works to control AWOs since 2016:

- 2018 – 67 AWA (29 wiped & 38 dug) on south side, 624 wiped on north side = 691 AWO
- 2017 – 199 AWO wiped or dug on south side, 478 wiped or dug on north side, = 677 AWO
- 2016 – 1648 AWO dug on north side, incl. part of Hewett Park
- 2015 – AWO dug but numbers not available

