



HAMILTON FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB

PO Box 591
Hamilton, Victoria 3300

Report on Weed Control at Fulham Streamside Reserve in Spring 2024

Summary

We managed two visits to the reserve, on 28 September and 13 October. We were constrained by having few volunteers and so we concentrated on particular parts of the area west of the entry track off Edgewood Rd on the western quarter of Fulham SR (see map):

- Area 1 – northern part and narrow strip along the track to the entrance
- Area 9 – a dense infestation in a short section about 70 m east of the entry track, about 250 m south of the Old Bridge Tk, and a narrow strip opposite Area 1 with only a few Cape Tulip.
- Area 2 – all of the south and middle section but not including much of the embankment area or a strip of about 50 m along the south side of Old Bridge Tk.

Area 1 was well covered in 2023 but only the south end of Area 2 was worked on at that time.

We treated *Moraea flaccida* Cape Tulip (CT), *Sparaxis bulbifera* Harlequin Flower (SB), *Gladiolus undulatus* Wild Gladiolus (WG) and *Disa bracteata* African Weed Orchid (AWO). The treatments applied were herbicide-wiping, as described in previous reports. We saw few AWO and only met with WG towards the Old Bridge Rd. As usual, there were a few SB surviving in old areas of infestation. We did not get to the worst area adjacent to the Old Bridge Tk.

In 2023 we found infestations of lavender near a large log in N-centre of Area 1 and 3 African Boxthorn seedlings (under a tree near the track in Area 1). These sites were re-visited. A surviving Boxthorn was treated and dozens of very small lavenders were spot-sprayed.

In total, we spent 32 person-hours and applied 5.1 L of wipe herbicide. On the basis of an estimate of an average of about 1 mL of herbicide solution applied/plant we estimate that we wiped around 5,000 plants (a rough estimate CT 90%, SB 5%, others 5%).

Particulars of the volunteer work visits

23 Sept. 2024 – RB, DL, GT & AT worked in Area 1 and 9. The weather was fine.

Work time = 16 hours. Herbicide wipe solution used = 2.5 L. Spot-sprayed (3 L) about 100 very small and stressed lavender plants.

13 Oct. 2024 – RB, DL, SP worked on Areas 1, 2 & 9. About 20% of the CT had flowers. Some drops of rain at 4.30 pm and when driving out to Edgewood Rd at 4.45 pm we pulled a hundred or more CT rather than wiping with herbicide.

Work time = 16 hours. Herbicide wipe solution used = 2.6 L.

Fauna seen – Red-necked Wallaby, Black Wallaby, Eastern Grey Kangaroo and a number of Shinglebacks were also seen. One Shingleback was seen eating Cape Tulip flowers.

Birds seen during these visits on 28 Sept. & 13 Oct. 2024 were:

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|------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike | 9. Pied Currawong | 17. Superb Fairy-wren |
| 2. Common Bronzewing | 10. Horsfield's Bronze-cuckoo | 18. White-browed Babbler |
| 3. Crimson Rosella | 11. Rainbow Bee-eater | 19. Yellow-faced Honeyeater |
| 4. Forest Raven | 12. Sacred Kingfisher | 20. Yellow-tailed Black-cockatoo |
| 5. Gang Gang Cockatoo | 13. Shining Bronze-cuckoo | |
| 6. Grey Currawong | 14. Striated Pardalote | |
| 7. Grey Fantail | 15. Stubble Quail | |
| 8. Grey Shrike-thrush | 16. Sulphur-crested Cockatoo | |

Steve Clark reported seeing 2 Black Kite here on 2 Aug 2024

Flora seen – particular notice of orchids was made.

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Caladenia carnea</i> | 5. <i>Caladenia tentaculata</i> | 9. <i>Thelymitra ixioides</i> |
| 2. <i>Caladenia ornata</i> | 6. <i>Glossodia major</i> | 10. <i>Thelymitra pauciflora</i> |
| 3. <i>Caladenia parva</i> | 7. <i>Thelymitra antennifera</i> | 11. <i>Thelymitra rubra</i> |
| 4. <i>Caladenia pusilla</i> | 8. <i>Thelymitra holmesii</i> (?) | |

In one 5 m x 5 m spot of *Calytrix tetragona* shrubs there were about 150 *C. carnea*. A few flowers were found on a tiny almost prostrate pea plant that appeared to be *Eutaxia microphylla* (not previously listed in the reserve).

FULHAM STREAMSIDE RESERVE – Western Quarter Sketch Map
HFNC Weed Work Areas 1-10

