

SLCMA Catchment News



March 2018

Office: 101 Sarina Beach Rd
Postal: PO Box 682
Sarina QLD 4737
Phone: (07) 4956 1388
Fax: (07) 4956 2944
Email:
admin@sarinalandcare.org.au

SLCMA Office is OPEN every weekday, 9-12noon (afternoon by prior arrangement)

Coordinator

Saskia von Fahland

Administration Officer

Nadine Hamill

Nursery Officer

Sandy Whittington—Shaw

Call us for information:

- ◇ Weed management
- ◇ Plant identification
- ◇ Land management
- ◇ Local projects
- ◇ FREE property visits
- ◇ Land for Wildlife

Volunteer opportunities:

SLCMA Community Volunteer Program:

- ◇ Wednesday 9-12noon: Seed collecting, native plant propagation at the SLCMA Community Nursery

SLCMA Executive 17/18

Chair:

Gloria Murray

Vice-chair:

Greg Melvin

Treasurer:

Jenny Price

Secretary:

Chris Brown



Sarina Landcare



Clean Up Australia Day—with Sarina Scouts :)

SLCMA joined forces with the Sarina Scouts Club for *Clean Up Australia Day* on 4th March, at the Plane Creek Revegetation Site. The team of 18 enthusiastic youth and adults collected over 7 bags of rubbish and some larger items including tin, pipes, a shopping trolley base and plastic chair. The main items were chocolate & chip packets, softdrink cans, broken glass and shopping bags. The hotspots for rubbish on the site was the roadside and two drain outlets that drain from the highway and nearby shopping carpark. Along with collecting rubbish, it was an opportunity for the participants to explore and learn about the history of the site. SLCMA would like to thank the Sarina Scouts for their involvement and we look forward to working with the club on local projects throughout the year. This event was made possible with funding from the Mackay Regional Council, Natural Environment Levy.

The Plane Creek Revegetation Site began in 1994 with a team of volunteers from a number of groups including Society for Growing Australian Plants and SLCMA; undertaking the transformation from an overgrown, weedy dump

Sarina Scouts Club ready to go—donned with gloves, bags & pick up tongs



site to what you see today with mature riparian (creekbank) vegetation.

Images: S von Fahland



Scouts using their keen eyes searching for rubbish

Over the years, SLCMA, Sarina Green Corps teams and Council have continued to maintain and add features such as a walking trail and extend the revegetation. The site is utilised by SLCMA, school and art groups for various educational and leisure activities. The site suffered some damage after Cyclone Debbie last year and we have since secured funding through the QLD Government - Community Sustainability Action Grants to continue its rehabilitation story in partnership with Mackay Regional Council. There will be opportunities for the community to be involved in future clean-ups and planting events.

Stop the spread—Jaguar cichlid & Peacock bass

Jaguar cichlid (*Parachromis manguensis*) were recently found in Fursden Creek and the Gooseponds and, a Peacock bass (*Cichla spp.*) was recently found in the Pioneer River. Both fish are a highly aggressive aquarium fish and like all aquarium fish, must not be released into the Australian environment. To help stop the spread, please report all sightings of these fish to the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. Photograph the fish, record your location and submit your report [online](#) or call 132523.

Left: Jaguar cichlid (*Parachromis manguensis*)

Right: Peacock bass (*Cichla spp.*)



Images: QLD Government

SLCMA Community Volunteer Program *by Sandy Whittington—Shaw*

This month in the SLCMA Community Nursery we focussed on the Wetland Treatment Train educational facility. The hot Summer growing conditions have been ideal for the wetland plants and thus they needed some taming! It was messy work but everyone loves getting their hands wet n dirty on a hot day don't they?? The treatment train is certainly a success as a seed resource for a variety of native wetland plants, with many of the species being recently harvested.

This year the SLCMA Community Nursery will implement some new operational procedures, starting this month with nursery hygiene. The volunteers and staff have learnt about the importance of creating a pathogen free work area and how it can be achieved.

We have been sorting through the variety of forestry tubes that has been stockpiled over the years, while it is an ongoing task, the mountain is now a molehill and we have reduced the selection of tubes to just a few. The rest will be available for purchase by the community, in the garage that SLCMA will host in the coming months.

We have also been sowing a variety of seed brought into us by our volunteers and members. These regular donations are very much appreciated and allow us to produce a wide variety of plant species of local provenance. Which we can then make available to our members as part of membership benefits, for sale to the general public and to regional revegetation projects.

A staff/management committee working bee was held recently and we would like to send a special thankyou to Merv Murray, Greg Melvin & Saskia who utilised their sewing skills for some much needed mending of the shade house. And to BJ for modifying the gate for the Wetland Treatment Train.

If you would like to volunteer in your local community and meet new people while learning about local native plants and their propagation, come along to the SLCMA Community Volunteer morning, every Wednesday, 9am to 12noon. The SLCMA Community Volunteer Program is proudly supported by Mackay Regional Council, Natural Environment Levy. For more details contact SLCMA on 4956 1388.

Images: S von Fabland



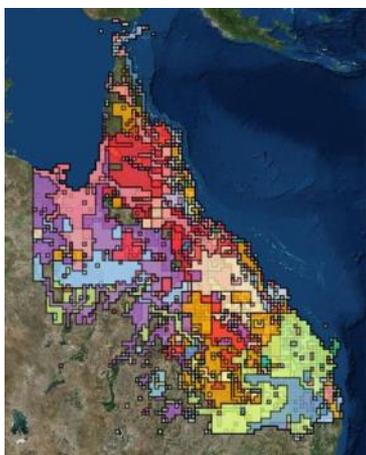
Our newly modified gate and some great looking plants ready to go into the ground.

Land for Wildlife Program— Access to weed maps

Knowing the location of weeds and pest animals is integral to effective pest management, and maps are valuable tools for recording pest information and planning and determining treatment methods.



For people who like visual representations of facts and figures, Biosecurity Queensland have produced a comprehensive series of pest distribution maps that show where over 100 weeds and pest animal species occur in Queensland. It also produces predictive maps created from pest modelling programs that show where pests are likely to occur. This type of map can help in early detection programs and assist in resource planning and prevention activities.



By clicking on the map and waiting for it to download, viewers can click on the colour coded squares laid over the satellite generated map of Queensland to receive such information as:

- Weed name (common and botanical)
- State declaration status
- Category
- Notifiable status
- Weed description
- Any relevant management fact sheets
- A picture of the weed

A layer list to the right of screen allows you to select particular weeds and filter in or out with the species of interest. As with Google maps, the user can zoom in or out with the map scale. So if you're concerned about weeds? This map's worth a look.

<https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/plants/weeds-pest-animals-ants/pest-mapping/annual-pest-distribution-maps>

Project Profile: Riparian rehabilitation after Cyclone Debbie

Funding Program: Queensland Government - Community Sustainability Action Grants
Project duration: February 2018 –October 2020
Project Partners: Mackay Regional Council and Landholders

Aim: This project seeks to address damage to riparian areas within the Sarina Catchment, in particular areas affected by Cyclone Debbie in March 2017. The project aims to improve:

- The health of riparian areas and build resilience within the landscape
- Community awareness of the importance of riparian areas including habitat value, role in streambank health and water quality
- Community and landholder participation in rehabilitation activities along local creeks
- Landholder knowledge and capacity to protect and restore riparian areas

We will engage with and encourage the community to undertake rehabilitation activities, with the aim to restore and build resilience back into selected riparian areas. The project will include rehabilitation activities at the Plane Creek Revegetation Site to demonstrate the 'importance of riparian zones and use of rehabilitation techniques'. The project will also provide support for landholders to rehabilitate riparian areas on their properties.

How can you be involved?

- Landholders whose property has sustained damage to riparian vegetation and/or erosion issues along a creekbank or waterway and, would like advice on stabilisation and assistance with native plants for revegetating riparian (creekbank) areas.
- Opportunity to attend a field trip to find out more about the importance of riparian areas and see first-hand local examples of creekbank stabilisation and rehabilitation.
- Volunteer and attend planting and community events at the Plane Creek Revegetation Site to gain hands-on experience in the rehabilitation process.



Plane creek damage after Cyclone Debbie

If you would like to be involved in the project and to find out more, please contact SLCMA.



Energy efficient appliance rebate

Did you know, you may be eligible to apply for a rebate through the Queensland Government Affordable Energy Plan. The Queensland Government has committed \$20million towards the 'energy efficient appliance' rebate scheme which is available to Queensland households. Rebates apply for purchases made after 1 January 2018 for the following '4 star or higher energy rated' household appliances: \$200 for washing machine, \$250 for refrigerator, \$300 for air conditioner. The scheme is limited to 1 rebate application per household and the scheme will end once the funding is exhausted. For more information visit: Affordable Energy Plan (<https://www.dews.qld.gov.au/electricity/affordable-energy-plan>).

SLCMA Community Nursery "Plant of the Month"

This month's 'Plant of the Month' is *Hakea actites* (Wallum Hakea)

Family: Proteaceae

What is in a name? *Hakea*: honour Baron von Hake 1744-1818, German patron of Botany and councillor; *actites*: Greek meaning 'coast-dweller'

Form: Small to tall shrub, to 2m

Leaves: Cylindrical, light green, up to 10cm long and crowned with a sharp point.

Flower: Clusters of conspicuous 1-6 white flowers along stem

Fruit: Woody, egg-shaped fruits, containing two winged seeds

Habitat: Swampy and coastal areas

Distribution: Coastal south-eastern Queensland to just north of Coffs Harbour, northern NSW.

Notes: The prickly foliage provides shelter and nesting sites for small native birds.

The "Plant of the Month" is currently available from the SLCMA Community Nursery. Landcare members are eligible to receive 1 free "Plant of the Month" throughout that month. Please contact SLCMA for more information. **Information sourced from:** www.noosasnativeplants.com.au; www.austplants.com.au

Flowers of *Hakea actites*



Image: S von Fahland

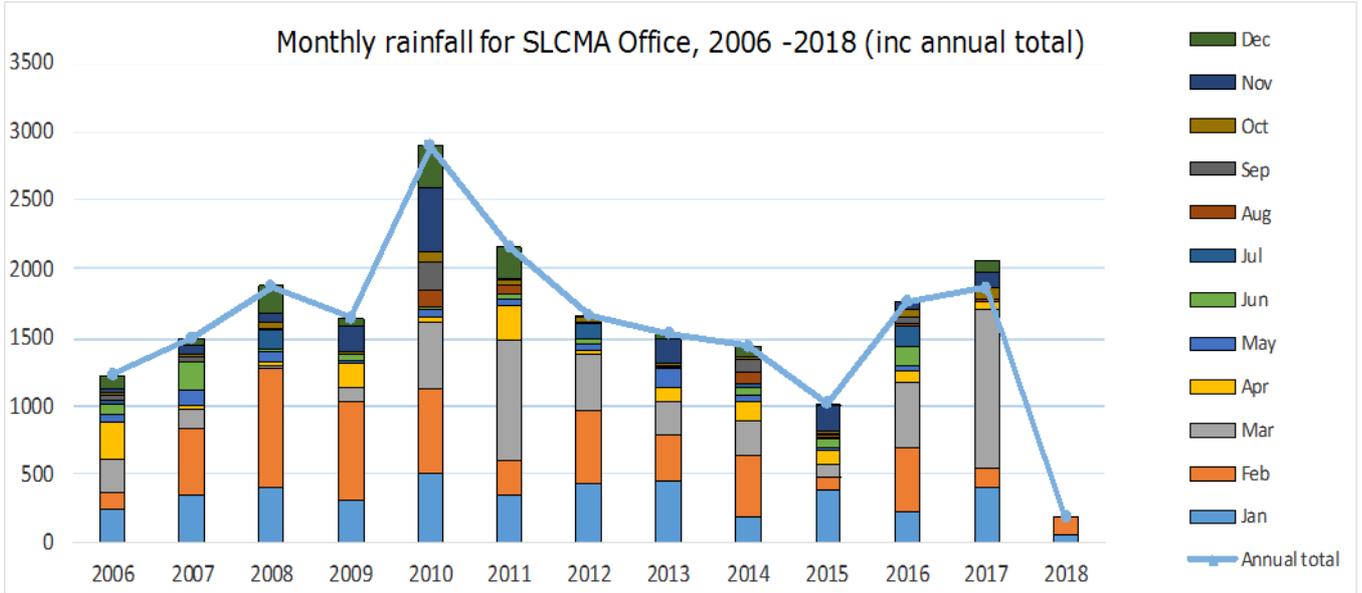


What SLCMA Membership does for you !

A membership with SLCMA has many rewards:

Office: 101 Sarina Beach Rd
 Postal: PO Box 682
 Sarina QLD 4737
 Phone: (07) 4956 1388
 Fax: (07) 4956 2944
 Email:
 admin@sarinalandcare.org.au

- ◇ Easy access to Natural Resource Management information and extension
- ◇ Monthly newsletter, meeting minutes, progress and project reports
- ◇ A vote on issues in your catchment
- ◇ A say in the types of projects applied for
- ◇ Up to 10 free local native seedlings/year from the SLCMA Community Nursery
- ◇ Invitations to Natural Resource Management field days and workshops
- ◇ Copy of the SLCMA Annual Report
- ◇ Discounts on purchases of books for sale



Up & coming events — March

- 14 SLCMA General Meeting, 1.30pm @ SLCMA Office
- 14, 21, 28 SLCMA Community Volunteer Mornings, 9am-12noon @ SLCMA Community Nursery (*unless otherwise notified*). Nursery activities and plant propagation.
- 6,20 Sarina Prime and Store Sale (from 10am)
- 24 Earth hour, 8.30pm

[Find us on facebook](#)



Central QLD Coast
Landcare
 Network

Just for fun!

So the baby snake says to its mum: "Mum, are we poisonous?" And the mummy snakes says, "Why do you ask?" The baby replies, "Because I just bit my tongue."

Three year old son Scott had thin fly-away hair, so his mother often wet it to comb it into place. One morning as she applied water and slicked his hair back, she announced it was time for him to get another haircut.
 "Mum." Scott replied, "If you'd quit watering it so much, it wouldn't grow so fast!"

A partnership for the natural resource management of catchments in the Central Queensland Coast Bioregion: Pioneer, Sarina & Whitsunday Catchments.

SLCMA is proudly supported by:



Sarina Community Bank® Branch
 together with
RURAL BANK
 Bendigo Bank

Proudly Printed By
MICHELLE LANDRY MP
 Federal Member for Capricornia
 If you have any issues, don't hesitate to contact my office
 Shop 8, Sarina Beach Road Shopping Centre, Sarina 4743
 (07) 4943 2722 www.MichelleLandry.com.au
 michelle.landry.mp@aph.gov.au MichelleLandryMP
 Authorised by M. Landry, 159 Denison Street, Rockhampton QLD 4700