

Fox Gully Restoration Update

November 2008

Replanting progressive total – 1,090 grasses, herbs, shrubs and trees

ANZ Fox Gully Bushcare Team

A great finish to the week! Out of the office, off with the coat and tie ... time to get down and dirty restoring the Australian bush.

On Friday afternoon 14th November the ANZ Volunteers Fox Gully Team – Rob, Tim, Ryan, Ewan, Darius & Scott - were hard at work stripping and carting up the steep slope, four cubic metres of the invasive weed – Purple Succulent *Callisia fragrans* - and moving mulch down to start the restoration of degraded soil.



Logs (trunks of weed trees like Chinese Elm) retain the mulch on the slope so spiders, beetles and earth worms start conditioning the soil and reestablishing the complex ecosystem.



With the Purple Succulent gone, the team finished the day by planting trees. For Darius this immersion in the bush was a far cry from growing up among the high rises of Hong Kong. Margaret and Roger (#50) provided a “bush-tucker” afternoon tea of pumpkin scones, home grown/made Davidson’s Plum (endangered species) jam and cream.

On behalf of our mountain community, thank you to our new friends at ANZ. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2009 to continue the restoration of ANZ www.anz.com.au sponsored Zone 8.

Continue over ...



Purple Succulent/Inch Plant *Callisia fragrans* is a hardy garden escapee that can survive in dry rocky locations and in moist gullies. In gullies it spreads aggressively smothering everything. Purple Succulent also commonly causes skin problems in dogs - www.albertanimalhospital.com.au/AllergyPlants.pdf

Like other succulents this invasive weed will shoot from any small piece that falls on the ground and commonly spreads from garden waste dumped in the bush. Because of the large volume in Zone 8, removal and disposal is being managed by on site composting under black plastic.



The BCC Habitat Brisbane team will undertake the next stage of Zone 8 restoration using a selective herbicide to poison the huge area of Fishbone Fern *Nephrolepis cordifolia*. The herbicide will target just the Fishbone, leaving our indigenous vegetation untouched. Fishbone is an Australian native rainforest plant that has become a major problem in other bushland near residential areas.

Manual removal will still be used for the small amount of Fishbone remaining upstream in Zone 9. I will continue to work with our sponsor, Mike Duggan - www.fourwallsandarooft.com.au to restore this beautiful part of the gully which is home to at least five different native ferns including Basket Fern, Rough Maidenhair Fern and Rasp Fern.



When removing Fishbone from your garden it is important to dig out the brown and white rhizomes then bag and bin the whole plant.



Fox Gully Bushcare Map

Fox Gully Bushcare

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