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Resilient Rivers Initiative

The Council of Mayors (SEQ) Resilient Rivers Initiative is a collaborative program to improve the health and resilience of South East Queensland's catchments, rivers and Moreton Bay.

Logan-Albert Catchment Action Plan

The Logan-Albert Catchment Action Plan (CAP) identifies the high risk of sediment movement from the catchment and its downstream impact on the Logan and Albert Rivers and Moreton Bay.

A goal of the action plan is to keep soil on our land and out of our waterways to support agricultural productivity and improve water quality.

Priority reach

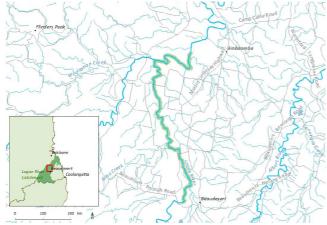


Figure 1: Location of Priority Reach - Cedar Grove Weir to Beaudesert

Within the catchment, the Mid-Logan reach between Cedar Grove Weir and Beaudesert has been identified as an area that would benefit from focused riparian restoration and protection.

Landholders are supported with riverbank restoration achieved through weed management, revegetation, gully stabilisation, stock fencing and off-stream watering.

These actions are funded by the Resilient Rivers Initiative through pooled funding contributed by member councils of the Council of Mayors (SEQ). This includes Logan City Council and Scenic Rim Regional Council.

Collaborations

Successful delivery of Resilient Rivers outcomes in the Logan-Albert catchment depends on strong collaboration between Logan and Scenic Rim councils, landholders and relevant entities working across the catchment.

To better coordinate this collaboration, the Resilient Rivers Initiative also funds a Catchment Management Officer who works across council boundaries to deliver outcomes.

Collaboration has achieved:

- Revegetation at Cochrane's Bridge Park through Logan River Vision replacing 1,300m² of heavily weeded and eroded riverbank with 1,300 native tube stock
- Installation of water quality monitoring station at Cochrane's Bridge Park through Logan River Vision

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- Revegetation with 36,000 native trees across 33 hectares of land at Cedar Grove Environment Centre through Logan City Council offset funding
- Riverbank restoration project funded by Logan Water and built as a nutrient offset for Wastewater Treatment Plant at Cedar Grove
- Seqwater has been funding significant cat's claw creeper management in lower Teviot and Logan Rivers in the Cedar Grove via their Regional Riparian Weed Control Program (RRWCP) partnership with Healthy Land and Water
- Streambank restoration on properties adjacent to Ilbogan Park through Urban Utilities Water Quality Offsets Project delivered by Healthy Land & Water

Projects

Weed management

Weed management focuses on the treatment of environmental weeds which threaten native species and if not managed ultimately result in decay of the riparian zone leading to habitat loss and erosion.

Target weeds include castor oil plant (*Ricinus communis*), cat's claw creeper (*Dolichandra unguiscati*), balloon vine (*Cardiospermum grandiflorum*) and green cestrum (*Cestrum parqui*).

Cat's claw creeper is an aggressive climber with the ability to completely smother native trees including Queensland Blue Gums (*Eucalyptus tereticornis*) which feature prominently along the Logan River and play a significant role in keeping the river banks stable.



Figure 1: Eucalyptus tereticornis beside the Logan River

Revegetation

Local native species are used to improve bank stability and increasing habitat for wildlife. In time, revegetation will reduce streambank and gully erosion and the amount of sediment entering the waterway to improve water quality.

Species are chosen to complement existing vegetation and create plant communities similar to what has historically existed in the area based on regional ecosystem mapping.

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Species used on our projects have included Castanospermum australe (Black Bean), Eucalyptus tereticornis (Queensland Blue Gum), Grevillea robusta (Silky Oak), Melaleuca viminalis (Weeping Bottlebrush) and Lomandra hystrix (Creek Matt Rush).

Gully stabilisation

The stabilisation of eroding gullies initiating on steep riverbanks sometimes requires more than weed management and revegetation.

In the priority reach, the Resilient Rivers Initiative has funded a gully restoration project using a combination of gully bank battering, rock chutes and a stilling pond to slow down water and reduce sediment flow into Logan River.



Figure 3: Gully stabilisation beside the Logan River

Stock fencing and off-stream watering

Stock fencing and off-stream watering points contribute to riverbank management and enable natural restoration and regeneration. Resting riverbanks from grazing assists vegetation to recover, improves bank stability and soil retention.

This in turn improves the water quality of the Logan River and protects productive soils from being eroded away.

Water provided by the off-stream watering points contributes to improved stock management, the health of livestock and cleaner instream water.



Figure 4: Future stock fencing and off-stream watering site

Find out more and get involved

Land managers along the Logan River from Cedar Grove Weir to Beaudesert are invited to find out how the Resilient Rivers Initiative can support them.

For more information contact the Resilient Rivers Catchment Management Officer on 5540 5111 (Scenic Rim Regional Council) or 3412 3412 (Logan City Council).

