



Maroochy Waterwatch Inc

# ANNUAL REPORT

July 2012 to June 2013



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## President's Overview

At the close of this meeting we will commence a strategic planning session. This will be a key step in a process to map out the approach the organisation should adopt for the next 3 years. The plan I hope will be set in the context of a 5 year outlook on where we are going and will form the basis of associated rolling 3 year budgets.

It would be easy to feel that the world presently surrounding us is anything but conducive to the achievement of our mission. The State government seems to wish to ignore the impact of its policies on the environment and community organisations working in the field. The new federal government appears to be using Queensland as some sort of pathfinder and is behaving similarly. Contrary to this the Sunshine Coast Regional Council has been most supportive, although we are yet to be able to judge whether deamalgamation will have any significant impact.

I have revisited the overviews I offered to this annual meeting in the last 2 years. Nothing that I am aware of has emerged from the review mentioned in 2011 of how the state government delivers its services. The Green Army and QESSI, which I referred to in positive terms have gone, although something like the former seems to be emerging with the Commonwealth. The dithering about how to utilise the Rivers Initiative prize mentioned last year has unfortunately continued, as the committee involved simply does not know how to move forward. I have been asked by individuals to provide direction, but I have no confidence that the effort involved is worth it. An organisation labelling itself the Coalition of Community Boards, with state and national affiliations, has been established with a view to influencing government action, principally by lobbying. Our CEO and I have attended local chapter meetings, but neither of us

anticipates any dramatic successes will be forthcoming.

Notwithstanding recent experiences I am still an optimist and believe strongly that the future is what we make of it. Our "vollies" and staff continue to be our strength and a highly skilled board is progressively evolving. We undertook an efficiency audit which has been successfully implemented. The board and staff have shown themselves to have many innovative ideas. We have already set out on a path to explore and develop a new direction towards an organisation structure which retains Waterwatch and at the same time builds a strong business orientation for the future.

Joan and I recently spent 10 days North and East of Perth on an organised tour focussed on wildflowers. The experience was memorable, mainly because the season was good and there were only 10 paying enthusiasts travelling with 3 experts. It would have been easy to feel depressed by the frequent reminders of the impact of poor management leading to the salinisation of the landscape. However, the spirit of the group was quite the reverse. The constantly changing landscape, the species diversity with a wide variety of adaptations and the tenacity of the wildlife to thrive in hostile conditions was remarkable. We also had continuing expert explanation of what we were looking at, which was invaluable.

This experience raised in my mind the question of how many locals and visitors have any significant knowledge of the natural environment of our region, its beauties and the uglies of present and past management. Our final day was free time and we revisited Kings Park, known worldwide as a centre of excellence on wildflowers, which was celebrating its centenary. I discovered that there is a group called River Guardians for the Swan river and environs, the members of which share ideas and knowledge and

take part in events with a focus on:

- river culture;
- river science;

- river history;
- river networks;
- river restoration; and
- training to help protect and restore river health.

There is also a Friends group for Kings Park with parallel objectives.

One of the things which has been of concern to me over the last few years is the question of how well we connect with the community of the region. If a philanthropist looking at contributing asked this question could we answer positively with confidence? As far as natural resource management is concerned the organisation is technically strong and continually improving. What about our outreach?

The vision and mission of Maroochy Waterwatch look forward to an active and knowledgeable community and one with a lifelong commitment to sustainable living. The government in its wisdom has withdrawn the financial basis of our previous connection with the school age community. On the other hand our contact with landholders who seek partnership in restoration work remains strong. Although we do not have an organised "extension" group a positive response was received to a recent media and education campaign directed to the community. The problem is that at the moment we have no direct way to measure resulting changes in attitude or behaviour.

Drifting away from our community of interest and preoccupation with financial stresses can lead to questions of relevance and potential decline. As we build a new structure and organisation, how much emphasis do we place on our outreach to the community in our strategic plan and how can our aspirations for the community be achieved?

John Dillon  
Chairman

## Operational Overview

Another year passes and as I reflect on the achievements I have to acknowledge that it is the inclusiveness of diversity that can largely be contributed to our success. When I look around the office and the people involved in our projects, the variety of skills being contributed or gained by our participants is extraordinary. There is never a dull moment as we combine environmental management with social inclusion and community initiatives whilst trying to remain viable into the future.

In saying that, the future is something that remains ever uncertain but we need to think outside the box and view the challenges as opportunities. The old saying that 'if you keep doing what you've always done, you'll keep getting what you've always got' is so pertinent in the changing landscape of community based natural resource management.

Government grants and tenders have become highly competitive with emphasis on not only value for money and ability to deliver but also on quality assurance, EH&S and environmental management. The coming year will see investment in moving towards ISO accreditation in quality management, environment management systems and EH&S systems in order to be competitive in the market place.

Additionally, companies tendering for work are being assessed on the value add and their corporate social responsibilities and I believe there is scope for forming strategic alliances where we can deliver works in partnership. In order to undertake this and broaden our scope of works, ECOllaboration has been registered as a business name and the domain secured.

However, we still need to keep doing what we have always done in providing support to the local community and engaging them in understanding the environment and actively trying to improve the environment, in particular catchments. What goes around, comes around as is the case with our training initiatives. The State Government abolished the Skilling Queenslanders for Work yet the Australian Government are about to roll out a Green Army projects. The devil will be in the detail but I believe we are well placed to deliver these projects.

There is however little light on the horizon with general sustainability education and management. The decision by the State Government not to continue supporting the Queensland Environmental Sustainable Schools Initiative (QESSI) has been extremely disappointing, with 8 years of developing partnership and contacts potentially lost. We were also fortunate to support council in their sustainability endeavours by undertaking a gap analysis on education providers on the coast and incorporating biodiversity curriculum into the living smart website. Although both projects require further work there does not appear to be commitment from council to further the work.

However, we remain a key partner with council and their support is appreciated by staff, volunteers and landowners in managing our environment. With the demise of the labour market programs we have turned our attention to building a strong reputation with contracting through Maroochy Catchment Services and have successfully delivered rehabilitation projects for council and other clients and project managed other works for SEQ Water and SEQ Catchments.

The backbone of our organisation still remains with the volunteers and incorporating them into all that we do is a

pleasant challenge. Some volunteer to give back to the community their skills, others volunteer to gain skills, whilst other volunteers for social interaction and it is having an understanding of the volunteers requirements and supporting them which sets the organisation apart.

The support we receive from volunteers is outstanding and we are often at capacity given the resources we have to support volunteering. Turning people away is not something we like to do, but we have to be realistic with limited resources for coordination and supervision. I do hope our volunteers feel valued for all they contribute to the organisation as their efforts are noticed and appreciated by the wider community. Following speaking to the Probis Club of Nambour, the Secretary wrote that he had comments to him with expressing pleasure that there are people in our community who are willing to go out and get their hands dirty, rather than loudly wail about a situation, which generally achieves little.

A small gesture such as this confirms that all we do is reaching the broader community which is where our focus must lie. This is however what we can't quantify but social change is the key to improving the environment.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all those that have supported the organisation over the last year. Whether they be partners, funding providers, staff, volunteers or supporters. We look set for some interesting times ahead but I can be optimistic that with good planning and governance and organisational management, we can take the organisation and its works to the next chapter in its life.

Cerran Fawns  
Chief Executive Officer

## Excellence in Business, Governance and Administration

### Maroochy Catchment Services

Maroochy Catchment Services is a revegetation and environmental consulting unit owned entirely by Maroochy Waterwatch and has been in operation since 2007.

This has been a focus of activities in the past year to deliver both grant and tender revegetation projects through the business. Hetti Malone was engaged as Natural Area Manager and has been developing relationships with our clients. The crew have been receiving great feedback on their attention to detail and quality of work.

The Services reputation of excellent project management has also led it on an interesting path project managing other revegetation companies that are traditionally our competitors.

Competition remains fierce with the service continually sharpening its pencil with the aim to remain profitable. The business however still needs to operate on an opportunistic basis by applying for revegetation tenders, delivering grant projects when available and being on panel of providers for government agencies.

It is envisaged that we will keep this opportunistic business model until the economy improves and there is more work in the marketplace.

We remain on the panel of providers for Sunshine Coast Council, and EHP's Koala Habitat plant supply.



### Coolool Community Native Nursery

The Coolool District Coast Care Group & Maroochy Waterwatch partnership - Coolool Community Native Nursery - continues to thrive sustainably as a supplier of wholesale and retail local native plant stock to the South East Queensland market. On a wholesale level tubestock is supplied to a wide range of projects, either directly to contractors and councils/government departments, or indirectly via complete plant suppliers. On the retail level popularity with locals continues to grow, with retail plants/garden product combined sales going from 24% to 40% of total sales in 12 months.

Volunteer interest and positions have remained diverse, but with a long dry spell late in 2012 stock levels got too high so Tuesdays were taken off the volunteer roster. Since then around 6 new volunteers have started, after sales picked up in early 2013. Numbers stand at around 40 regular or semi-regular each week. This is the limit of the nursery capacity in terms of space (for potted stock) and staff management resources.

Free Plants for Schools during National Tree Day had an even bigger response from schools than last year, with schools

and kindergartens coast wide participating in a giveaway of over 1000 native tubes.

Holding a stall at the Qld Home Garden Expo 2013, for the third year running, provided fantastic exposure in the retail market and also generated interest from peer nurseries on the Sunshine Coast and beyond.

Upgrade of nursery refrigerators and insulation of the shed has reduced power consumption and furthers the nursery's ability to improve sustainability practices and use this as a promotional tool.

Retail price for standard native tubes was increased from \$2 to \$2.50 from the 14th January 2013. It's the first retail native tube price increase since the CCNN doors opened 6 years ago.

A battery recycling station has been established to increase in foot traffic to the nursery, and for the recycling of all types of batteries and mobile phones.

Membership of a new Australia-wide database called Evergreen Connect has assisted in wholesale trade orders. This includes automatic updates of our stock list each month.

More signage has been installed and improved overall usability for retail customers within the nursery, and a new nursery street sign has been placed on the boundary for motorists.

Book display cabinet constructed and installed for book sales.

The NGIQ Myrtle Rust Pest Management Program continues to be implemented and all myrtaceae stock continually monitored.



## Education Services

The Education Service is providing a fee for service to schools, delivering ecology workshops based on school needs. There is also an additional component for delivering school environmental management plans as a fee for service, however since the demise of the QESSI program there has been limited call for this service. We have had a steady influx of enquiry throughout the year from schools and school holiday programs. We have also had discussions around running school holiday programs out and about with an enviro education focus and are currently investigating the potential.

In aiming to educate the wider community, we also trialled Eco Safaries as a possible fee for service based on our specific local knowledge. They were a success with some great feedback from the participants. In the coming months, attention will be given to the possibility of running this service as a commercial operation for overseas visitors.

The community education services that are free have been well received. We have been guest speakers at a variety of service organisations from U3A, Probis and Garden Clubs. In addition, the office remains a hub for the community to learn about the environment and we take many

enquiries by phone, email and in person with information such as weed and plant identification, water quality concerns and all manner of other interesting educational opportunities.



## Governance

The Waterwatch Board have spent considerable time in ensuring our activities match with the strategic direction of the organisation and that we are compliant in all our endeavours.

Considerable attention has been given to the notion of a possible name change and from the survey it was clear that the community had ownership of the Maroochy Waterwatch brand. The Board is committed to keeping the name for the community based activities, however to remain competitive we need to broaden activities. The basis of this will be the development of a strategic plan centred around ECOllaboration and a restructure that aligns with the strategic plan whilst still supporting the vision and mission of Maroochy Waterwatch.

In addition, the roll out of not for profit reform into the federal government realm has begun and the organisation now reports to the new government department called the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission.

## Administration

Early in 2012, the Board issued the policy that they would like 2 years of operational funding in reserve to buffer any unexpected shortfalls in income. As a result an efficiency audit on our administration functions was undertaken and the recommendations implemented throughout the year.

This has seen many changes behind the scenes with our administrative processes which could now be considered as best practice.

## Supporting a learning community that leads to change

### Training

This year was one of the quietest years for training with the loss of the Skilling Queenslanders for Work program. This resulted in no training in revegetation and nursery work and also flowed onto no training for people with English as a second language in business administration.

The employment of one school based trainee in business administration has been a pleasure and in his own words, 'He now knows how to open a letter without ripping it to shreds'.

We have also supported formal learning placements with school based industry placements, university industry placements, and also through the Primary Industry Centre for Secondary Education. We strive to support volunteer learning and professional development with several



people obtaining a Cert III in Water testing.

People are encouraged to study to improve qualifications and several staff are completing or have completed undergraduate and post graduate qualifications in environmental management, business and project management.



## Community Outreach

We continue to have an excellent rapport with the local media. Media releases on anything topical are generally used by print, radio and television and on slow news days we often receive a phone call if we have anything news worthy. Topics vary on sediment plumes and water quality, Eco Safaris, water quality, flooding, landslip, eco goats and the old favourite of litter.

Workshops for the general public included water quality and macroinvertebrates. We led Mapleton State School in a community workshop regarding works on Baxter Creek. We also continue to delivered information sessions to the USC AusAid programs.

Meetings and workshops attended to gain information, networking and/or community consultation included the Sunshine Coast Rivers Initiative and UnityWater's Community Reference Group.

## Developing a Centre of Excellence in Environmental Management

### Water Monitoring

The SEQ Water Monitoring Projects primary objective was to work with the community in assisting in compiling information on environmental water quality conditions. Considering this goal, the project has met its main objective as Maroochy Waterwatch has engaged over 60 families in monthly water testing, has worked in close association with state agencies, local government, other non-for profit organisations and a number of volunteers in regard to water quality and ecosystem health.

As mentioned above, the monthly volunteer water testing has increased and now involves over 66 families, on average testing 125 sites per month. The number of sites tested monthly can largely vary due to volunteer movements. Water is tested using Horiba U10 water testing kits. Grants from Heritage Building Society, the Gamling fund and council have enabled us to purchase new water testing equipment over the last couple of years to ensure the integrity of the data collected.

### Communication Activities

Maroochy Waterwatch aims to promote the water quality monitoring program within the community through a number of avenues. Our quarterly newsletter includes information on the program and will soon include a profile of a different water quality volunteer each issue. Our Facebook page and website are also utilized to promote the water quality program and various projects and activities in a light hearted fashion.

Throughout the year we ran over 26 Ecology and Water Quality Workshops with local schools and other community and service groups. These workshops are a perfect opportunity to discuss the benefits of the water quality program. Often these workshops include a complete run down on the use of a Horiba unit, this is done by incorporating water quality and catchment health into the presentation, normally done by engaging the participants with an activity known as the “Catchment Story” – a localized and interactive story that takes the children on a journey as a drop of water through their local waterways – seeing how everyday activities can pollute and damage the waterway and its inhabitants.

The WQ traffic light mapping system has been further refined and is email to all volunteers on a seasonal basis

The organisation has regular enquires for volunteering opportunities and we try to accommodate where possible. We also involve university and school based industry placement students in calibration days.

MWW aims to maintain a high level of quality control in regards to water quality data. That is made available to BOM through the UniDap database.

Volunteers were offered the opportunity to attend a Water Quality Training Program held by SEQ Catchments in November 2012. As most of MWW volunteers are long standing volunteers, the majority of them had already attended this training.

Maroochy Waterwatch was able to engage the media on 4 occasions regarding water quality issues.

## Frog Surveys

To continue monitoring of frog species of the Maroochy Catchment five sites were chosen to be monitored over the 2012 / 13 wet season.

At each site a 100m transect that had been previously been surveyed in earlier years was located and flagging tape placed at 10m intervals for the 100m to be later surveyed / monitored for frog species.

Each transect at each site was surveyed / monitored after sunset three (3) times on different occasions. Each 10m interval was surveyed / monitored using spotlighting, hand searching, call recognition and call playback. The 10m intervals were surveyed for the entire 100m transect at each site. Data of frogs species identified will be forwarded to council as a separate document.

The monitoring of biodiversity is of particular importance to the environment as well as the community. Understanding what species reside within our communities and surrounding environs is important for the conservation of various habitats, flora & fauna.

Frogs are a key species in the overall ecology of a system and serve as an important bio-indicator of the health of environments. The continual monitoring of biodiversity is integral in the long term conservation of the environment.

The community in general have an affiliation with frogs and are keen to learn more about them and to protect them and their habitats. Such surveys are an excellent way to interact on a ground level with land owners and the community to raise awareness and educate people of the importance of monitoring of biodiversity and caring for catchments and waterways.

The surveys have been assisted with the help of over 12 volunteers throughout the year. Due to animal ethics requirements the volunteers need to have a basic level of survey experience. Most of these volunteers are university students or interested scientific people.



## Salvinia Program

The Salvinia project is a biological control project run by Maroochy Waterwatch with support from the Sunshine Coast Council. This project allows Maroochy Waterwatch staff to work with local land owners to combat Salvinia infestations on their property. This is achieved by using the Salvinia weevil; the Salvinia weevil is a well researched, well documented biological control agent known for its impacts on Salvinia molesta in tropical and sub-tropical Australia. This project gives Maroochy Waterwatch the authority to distribute Salvinia weevils to the participating land owners. Once distributed the weevils' progress is monitored weekly by the participating landowner and monthly by Maroochy Waterwatch. Monitoring includes taking progressive photographs of the site, looking for notable changes in colour and also counting the number of damaged buds.

The Salvinia project began in January 2010 with a media release sent out mid January to attract attention and gain participants for the program. In 2010/2011, 17 sites were identified. In the 2011/2012 season 30 sites were treated. All sites were initially checked to ensure they did in fact have a Salvinia infestation. Following this initial check, Salvinia weed was collected from the infested site and transported to the Sunshine Coast Council facility at Gympie for trading. At the facility 'clean' Salvinia was traded for 'infested' Salvinia, which

was then transported back to the Sunshine Coast. Each site received approximately 400-600 weevils (2 x 40L bags), those sites with larger infestations received additional weevils to increase the likelihood of success. Weekly monitoring was performed by the land owners themselves whereas; monthly monitoring was performed by Maroochy Waterwatch. The program has also been supported by volunteers, university students, trainees building their knowledge and understanding of biocontrol programs. Landowners are also encouraged to utilise other control measures such as manual removal and containment were possible. We do generally advocate for spraying due to the high possibility of deoxygenation of the water body.

The program in 2012 2013 was hindered by the lack of availability of the weevils by council. To avoid this occurring in future years we are looking at obtaining our own permit to keep declared pest plants through Biosecurity Qld so we may be able to obtain weevils from Brisbane and/or transport from dam to dam as well as using the Gympie facility.



## Newsletter and Communications

Newsletters went out in Aug and Nov in 2012 and March in 2013. In addition the Annual Report was released after the AGM in November. These are all available on the website [http://www.maroochycatchmentcentre.org.au/catchment/?page\\_id=1206](http://www.maroochycatchmentcentre.org.au/catchment/?page_id=1206). The

website is also updated regularly with other tidbits of news and media releases in between newsletter editions. In addition our Facebook and Twitter feeds are regularly updated with more chit chatty information

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Maroochy-Waterwatch-Inc/113734315315458>.

There were over 20 media opportunities in radio, newspaper and TV regarding waterways and our environment in general and activities of the organisation.

## Litter Education

Our litter campaign continues to receive good coverage in the media with 4 articles in the local media. Cr Jason OPray also accompanied the River Patrol crew for a morning collecting rubbish in the mangroves. It was a real eye opener for him to see the amount of rubbish in the river close up.

We also had a group of 30 Indonesian TAFE hospitality students help with a clean up of Petire Creek as part of their community service program.

A new perspex box was made for the cigarette butt project and is available for community groups to use as a display at various events.

## Transforming the Catchment

### Property Planning and Community Revegetation Projects

Project officers supported over 40 landowners with grant applications for revegetation works both through the council grants system and other sources of funding. The office has also been a port of call for all manner of questions from the community in relation to NRM

averaging at least one enquiry per day. The council grants program was promoted through the newsletter and the website to generate interest and we have supported over 20 landowners in developing their applications. We were able to lever the council support to gain additional funding of in revegetation or land management of approximately \$200 000. This is significantly lower than previous years due to the axing of the Skilling Queenlanders for Work program in July 2012



## River Patrol

The Maroochy Waterwatch River Patrol (MWRP) has continued successfully under the auspice of Maroochy Waterwatch and the Maroochy Catchment Centre reporting to CEO Cerran Fawns when appropriate. Twenty two trained skippers and crew were rostered to undertake patrol duties on a regular daily/weekly/fortnightly basis.

Unfortunately a protracted and unusually consistent wet season made it difficult to maintain a regular presence on occasions but extended working hours by the crews helped negate some this short fall.

Additional crew members were utilised this year to enable crews of three to be available for each shift. This alleviated to problem of two man crews being unavailable on occasions and enabled a greater flexibility of active days on the water.

A comprehensive and regular maintenance schedule, backed up by written documentation, was adhered to and any basic ongoing maintenance issues dealt with by the volunteers when applicable. The outboard motor was serviced by a qualified marine mechanic at 100 hour intervals and a new custom made trailer was ordered with delivery expected mid August 2013.

Crews were required to enter all details of their relevant activities for that day in a "daily log of events" outlining volunteers present, hours involved, collections data, safety events, areas worked, unusual happenings, and craft/outboard maintenance issues. A more comprehensive monthly maintenance schedule was also conducted to comply with "craft under survey" regulations.

Recently MWRP extended its operations to the Mooloolah River with good success and it is envisaged that a regular presence on this waterway will be maintained.

The Maroochy Waterfront Resort continues to offer free use of a secure enclosure and washing facilities, and have made available an area for the industrial skip required for our collections. This skip is collected twice weekly by council. Ongoing funding for the service was made available through council, public donations, and fund raising activities.

During the twelve (12) months of operation of the MWRP covered in this report-

- averaged four mornings on the rivers each week
- removed 28,464 litres of rubbish (9% increase on 2011-2012 period).
- total weight of collections 5095kg
- accumulated 1766.5 volunteer hours (18% increase on 2011-2012 period)
- accrued 288 outboard motor hours (an increase of 14% on 2011-2012)
- recycled 3255 litres of total collections (a new initiative)

- experienced 53 positive public comments while on the water
- provided transportation for several environmental groups/mangrove plantings
- located and retrieved 14 adrift or abandoned craft
- removed 9 illegal camp sites on the shoreline
- not included in the above figures were derelict crab pots, industrial waste, household furniture, electrical goods, shopping trolleys, navigation hazards, chemical drums, car parts, etc

All major issues of concern were directed to Maroochy Waterwatch with the River Patrol crews maintaining a productive and successful working relationship with the CEO and staff.



### Transforming the People

This is the hard item to quantify. You can count numbers of trees, water tests and rubbish collected, but it is the interaction between the science and the social science which is difficult. Are we actually changing the way people think and act towards the environment?

If one looks at the continual growth of the organisation, we must be getting our

message out there. We need to be contemporary in our approach to reach the masses, in particular very tech savvy with the website and social media as tools of engagement. However we also still need to talk and interact with the general community as this is where trust is built and our values are communicated.

It is also important to note that although our efforts are largely focussed on changing people's thinking and behaviours in regard to the environment, we also change lives in other positive ways. Our volunteering opportunities provide for social inclusion which helps to create a healthy community.

## Partnerships

Partnerships are crucial for the operation of the organisation for various projects and activities. Below is a list of partners that help fund or support our activities:

### Operational Partners

- Sunshine Coast Council
- Dept of Environment, Water Heritage and the Arts

### Project Partners

#### Government

- Bureau of Meteorology
- Dept of Education
- Dept of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation
- Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
- Dept of Environment, Water Heritage and the Arts
- Gympie Regional Council
- SEQ Water
- Sunshine Coast Council

### Community and Not For Profit Organisations

- Barung Landcare
- Coolum and District Coast Care Group
- Maroochy Landcare
- Maroochy Neighbourhood Centre
- Mooloolah Waterwatch
- Noosa Landcare
- SEQ Catchments Ltd
- Volunteering Sunshine Coast

### Employment and Training Organisations

- Cadet Employment Services
- Campbell Page Employment Services
- MEGT
- Mission Australia Employment Services
- Primary Industry Centre for Secondary Education
- Qld Youth Industry Links
- Salvation Army Employment Services
- Skill Centred

### Corporates, Industry and Business

- Heritage Bank
- Lend Lease Developments (Coolum Beachside)
- Swan Boat Hire
- UniDap Solutions
- University of the Sunshine Coast

### Affiliations and Memberships

- Healthy Waterways Ltd
- Qld Litter Prevention Alliance
- Qld Water and Landcarers
- SEQ Catchments Members Assoc
- SEQ Event Monitoring Forum
- Sunshine Coast Environment Council
- Sunshine Coast Litter Collective
- Volunteering Sunshine Coast
- Various state and local government planning committees
- Unity Water

## Regional Planning Processes

In order to transform our catchment and regional community, we need to ensure that we have involvement in the planning processes.

Throughout the year we attended numerous government planning, consultation and networking meetings including:

- Sunshine Coast Council
- Healthy Waterways
- SEQ Catchments
- SEQ Water
- Unity Water
- Other miscellaneous planning and consultation meetings

## Board, Staff and Volunteers

Our board consists of community members with a skill set in environmental policy, planning and management, financial administration, risk management, legal, business development and corporate governance, extension and networking.

John Dillon - Chairman  
Les Massey - Treasurer  
Glenn Bartley  
Ben Baldwin  
John Clemones  
Nicola Crutchley (resigned)  
Margie Hutchence  
Richard Kelleway

Our passionate and knowledgeable staff and volunteers provide support in administering and managing the projects and activities. Without their expertise, many of these programs would cease to exist.

Management and Administration Staff:  
Cerran Fawns - CEO

Sandy McBride - QESSI Coordinator  
Clare Cox - QESSI Facilitator  
Jake Hazzard - CCNN Manager  
Ben Pearce - CCNN Assistant  
Jacqui Smythe - Env Projects Manager  
Colleen Long - Natural Resource Manager  
Hetti Malone – Natural Areas Manager  
Mike Hannon - Business Administrator & Secretary  
Reece McIntosh - Office Admin Trainee  
Vernon Flood - Administration support  
Gay Luxmoore - Administration support  
Di Ericson - Administration support  
Darryl Scurr – Administration support  
Lesya Roden - Newsletter editor  
Peter Wakeford - Grants writer  
Glenn Bartley - River Patrol Coordinator  
Janine Bedros – Project support  
Daisy Cross – Project support  
Joline Lalime – Project support  
Leah Leask - Project support

Revegetation Field Supervisors:  
Geoffrey Carra  
Allisa George

Field Officers:  
Jarrod Barton  
Kayla Beezley  
Timothy Byrne  
Stephen Creak  
Wayne Evans  
David Graham  
Jessica Hale  
Nicholas Milne  
Sky Thorby

Water Monitors  
66 volunteers with families

River Patrol Skippers and Crews  
30 volunteers

Coolum Community Native Nursery  
40 volunteers

Salvinia Biocontrol Properties  
35 properties

Revegetation Properties  
40 current properties

Project Support  
130 volunteers

## **Need more information?**

**Contact:**

**Cerran Fawns**

**Chief Executive Officer**

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**Email: [cerran@maroochycatchmentcentre.org.au](mailto:cerran@maroochycatchmentcentre.org.au)**

