



Land for Wildlife  
South East Queensland

ANNUAL REPORT  
2020-2021





2020-2021

392 

New LfWSEQ properties

(310 Registered, 82 Working Towards Registration)



3417 ha

of Retained Habitat



436 ha

of Habitat Under Restoration



1664 revisits

by Local Government Officers to  
LfWSEQ properties



173 social media posts

(161 unique content)



7677 observations

on LfWSEQ iNaturalist project



43,000 native  
plants provided



154 website  
comments



145 nest boxes  
provided



4 newsletters  
produced

(print run of 4185 copies)

As of 30 June 2021

5031

LfWSEQ properties

(4027 Registered, 1004 Working Towards Registration)

68,966 ha

of Retained Habitat

7711 ha

of Habitat Under Restoration

168 LfWSEQ properties

also with a Higher Agreement

(Voluntary Conservation Covenant &/or Nature Refuge)

8907

Facebook Followers

11,538 iNaturalist LfWSEQ observations  
in total

#### OTHER INCENTIVES PROVIDED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO LFWSEQ PROPERTIES:

- Herbicide weed control tools  
(e.g. spraypacks)
- Bushland restoration tools  
(e.g. gloves, secateurs & tool belts)
- Fauna monitoring cameras
- Field guides
- Access to grants for contractor assistance with  
fencing, weed control and revegetation

LAND FOR WILDLIFE SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND PROUDLY DELIVERED BY:



Dedicated to a better Brisbane



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2020-21 proved to be another highly successful year for Land for Wildlife South East Queensland (LFWSEQ) with 392 new properties joining, the highest annual growth period in the program's 22 year history.

As well as the large membership growth, the 13 Local Governments that deliver LFWSEQ also maintained partnerships with their existing members through 1664 revisits to LFWSEQ properties and the provision of diverse incentives such as native plants, nest boxes, fauna monitoring cameras and numerous workshops. Most Local Governments also offered environmental grants to support LFWSEQ members control weeds, revegetate degraded areas, exclude stock from waterways and protect habitats for threatened species.

Local Governments and the LFWSEQ program responded to shifting Covid-19 restrictions through the adoption of video-conferencing meetings, phone and virtual support for LfW members, socially-distanced LfW property visits, increased social media posts and the growth of the iNaturalist LFWSEQ project across six councils.

This financial year saw the start of a new three-year term for LFWSEQ regional coordination. The Host Council (Sunshine Coast Council) signed the National Arrangement with the State of Victoria and engaged a

contractor to deliver regional coordination services, in line with the LFWSEQ Terms of Reference. A Strategic Subcommittee was established to provide strategic recommendations to the LFWSEQ Steering Committee on program direction and opportunities.

The LFWSEQ Steering Committee met six times this financial year with over 20 attendees representing at least nine Local Governments per meeting. Major activities progressed by the Steering Committee included the endorsement of key program governance documents, Covid-19 adaptation measures and an agreement on the regional coordination delivery model and forecast budget.

The development of a LFWSEQ Annual Report was identified as a key action in the LFWSEQ Reporting Framework (in prep.). This Annual Report is the first one to be produced under the Local Government led collaborative governance model of regional coordination and will be made available to the 13 Local Governments and to all members through the LFWSEQ website.



# MILESTONES

In March 2021, the 5000th property joined the LfWSEQ program



**Laceys Creek, Moreton Bay**  
Joined: 11 Feb 2021  
Status: Registered  
Property: 77.98 ha  
Retained Habitat: 58 ha  
Habitat Under Restoration: 9 ha

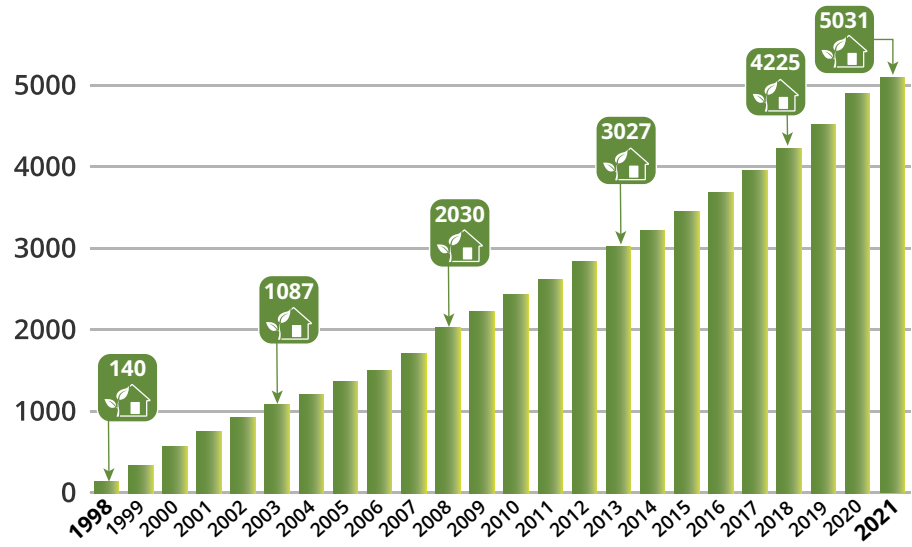


**Cr Peter Flannery, Mayor of Moreton Bay Regional Council, with Timotheos Firestone, the 5000<sup>th</sup> LfWSEQ member at a celebration event**

"As much as I wish the place was already pristine, I also enjoy that I can justify running around with a scythe or machete because the property is so choked up with weeds. The land needs me as much as I need it. I joined the Land for Wildlife program as I heard it meant I could get free native trees and a sign that would

show visitors what I'm doing, but I've since found it offers so much more than that. The wealth of knowledge, various useful events, and meeting wonderful other people in the Land for Wildlife community can't be underestimated."

**Timotheos Firestone**  
5000<sup>th</sup> LfWSEQ member





[illegible]

*LfWSEQ Terms of Reference 2020-2023* finalised and currency maintained

***Arrangement to Coordinate Land for Wildlife Schemes***  
between State of Victoria and Host Council (Sunshine  
Coast Council), executed.

*LfWSEQ Workplan 2020-2023* finalised and currency maintained

**6 Steering Committee meetings - Aug, Oct, Dec, Feb, Apr, Jun**

1 Officer Roundtable meeting - Sep

## Archive old LfWSEQ files into shared OneDrive folder

**Media** - 5000th event (MBRC socials and ABC Drive) and Orchids (RCC socials)



## We are collaborative and transparent





# NEW MEMBERS

In 2020-21, 392 new properties joined the LfWSEQ program protecting 3417 ha of retained habitat and restoring 4366 ha of habitat.

## Protecting the Coastal Foreshore

The new owners of this remarkable coastal property are keen to return the diverse bushland back to its original glory. After many years with little maintenance, the ecosystems need some help. Partnering with Redland City Council, the owners have taken on the long-term job of restoring the land and protecting the native plants and wildlife. Koalas, Glossy Black-Cockatoos and numerous other bird species call this place home. As do diverse plants, including this stunning Slender Hyacinth Orchid

uncovered by Emily, the property's resident junior environmental ranger. The owners are discovering more about their property and have attended recent environmental education workshops organised by council to fast-track their learning.



## Restoring farms along the Logan River

This property at Bethania, Logan has been owned and farmed by the Radke family since 1866. John Radke is the fifth-generation owner and he wants to restore the waterway that runs through his property to provide more habitat for wildlife and to filter the water before it enters the Logan River. In 2020, John decided to join Logan City Council's Land for Wildlife and Voluntary Restoration Agreement (VRA) programs. Through

these programs, Logan City Council has supported John to revegetate about half a hectare around the wetlands. Logan landholders with a VRA are eligible to receive up to 1000 native tubestock per year as well as \$3000 per year to engage contractors to plant tubestock and for other items like herbicide and tree guards. Five months after planting, most of the trees are already over 2m in height.

### Redland Bay, Redland

Joined: 24 May 2021

Status: Registered

Property: 25.3 ha

Retained Habitat: 20 ha

Habitat Under Restoration: 4 ha



## OUR VALUES

We are committed to habitat conservation and restoration

### Bethania, Logan

Joined: 10 July 2020

Status: Working Towards Registration

Property: 33.6 ha

Retained Habitat: 0 ha

Habitat Under Restoration: 3.13 ha





# LONG-TERM MEMBERS

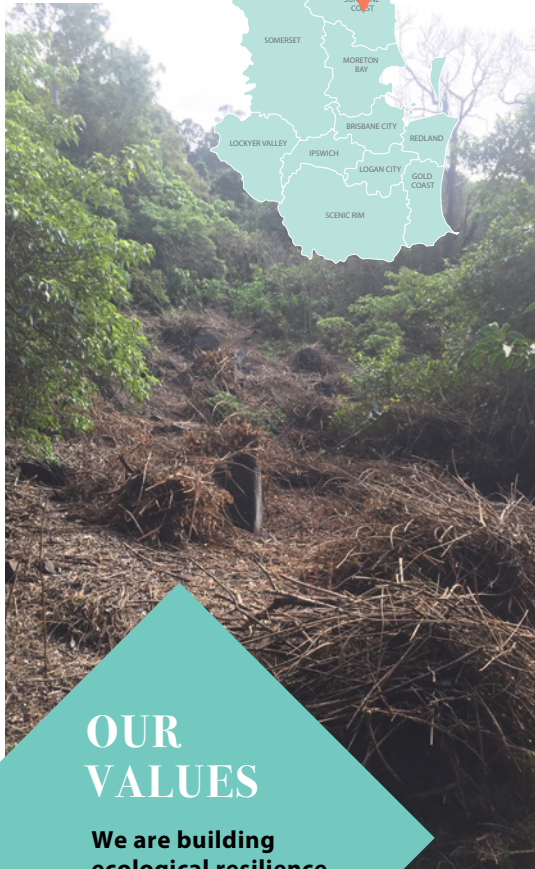
Mim Coulstock was already an active member of Land for Wildlife and co-ordinator of a local landcare group when she and her husband sold their Land for Wildlife property near Maleny and bought a larger Land for Wildlife property a bit further out of town. That was in 2005. They were the third owners of the property since it was initially registered as Land for Wildlife in 1999. The property had paddocks for grazing, a mature open-forest ridge in good condition and a previously cleared area of steep rocky terrain covered in basalt boulders, lantana, glycine, privet and blue-morning glory. Undaunted by the challenge presented by this weedy regrowth, Mim set about tackling the weeds in order to regenerate the rainforest.

The disturbance history combined with moisture from springs, the rich volcanic soils and the exposure to full sun meant that the weeds did well.....very well. Most

people would have taken one look and thought the task too difficult, others may have tried for a year or two and given up. Mim has persisted for the past 15 years. She has put her grant writing skills to work to receive financial assistance from various sources to employ contractor bush regenerators. But the one consistent thing through all of this time has been her determination to restore the 9 hectare rainforest area. Through the Sunshine Coast Council's Voluntary Conservation Agreement program, a bush regenerator is engaged annually to help Mim with the task at hand.

Recently, Black-breasted Button-quails, a nationally threatened species, were recorded feeding in an area of regrowth rainforest that has been restored from weeds. The bird diversity has increased and it's not uncommon to spot a Richmond Birdwing butterfly cruising over the area to check on progress.

**Curramore, Sunshine Coast**  
Joined: August 1999  
Current Owner Joined: 27 Jan 2015  
Status: Registered  
Property: 20.4 ha  
Retained Habitat: 11 ha  
Habitat Under Restoration: 4 ha



## OUR VALUES

**We are building ecological resilience**





# WORKSHOPS AND FIELD DAYS

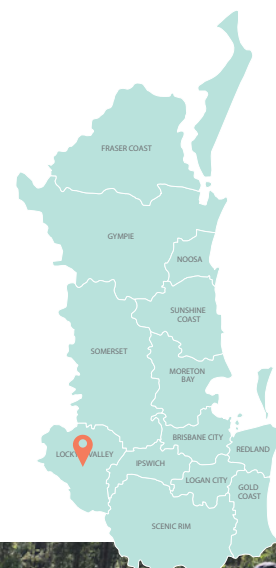
Every year, Local Governments deliver a range of workshops for Land for Wildlife members. In-line with Queensland Government Covid-19 restrictions, workshops were delivered in-person and online.

## Re-Introduction of Indigenous Fire to the Lockyer

From April to June, a series of fire management workshops were delivered by on four Land for Wildlife properties across the Lockyer. These workshops were designed to reintroduce Indigenous fire management to make the landscape more resistant to devastating wildfires, such as the wildfires of 2019 that destroyed 22,000 hectares in the Lockyer, including several Land for Wildlife properties.

Lockyer Valley Regional Council worked closely with Victor Steffensen and Leeton Lee from Firesticks Alliance, plus

local Yuggera and Ugarapul Traditional Owners and members of the Qld Fire and Emergency Services to provide a unique opportunity for landholders to learn about traditional fire management. These workshops created opportunities for Traditional Owners to reconnect with their country and the community that now lives there, while providing first-hand demonstrations of Indigenous fire practices. Lockyer Valley Regional Council continues to support the roll-out these workshops and reintroduction of traditional fire.



## OUR VALUES

**We are engaging with Traditional Owners**

## Indigenous Cultural Heritage of the Sunshine Coast

In early 2021, Sunshine Coast Council organised a Cultural Heritage Field Walk led by Gubbi Gubbi/Kabi Kabi man Lyndon Davis for Land for Wildlife members. Lyndon spoke about the cultural significance of various fauna and flora species present onsite as well as his enduring connection to country.





## Creating Floating Wetlands

This year, Brisbane City Council was pleased to hold two floating wetlands workshops for Land for Wildlife members. On the day, Land for Wildlife members received information on the ecological role of floating wetlands in providing alternate habitat and safe nesting sites for wildlife, not to mention the added benefit of improving dam water quality.

More importantly each participant was able to build their own floating wetland on the day, complete with suitable native water plants, ready to launch once they got home. Land for Wildlife members from Logan City Council joined one of the workshops demonstrating the strong linkages between SEQ councils and the fact that wildlife doesn't recognise borders.

### OUR VALUES

We are translating science into practice



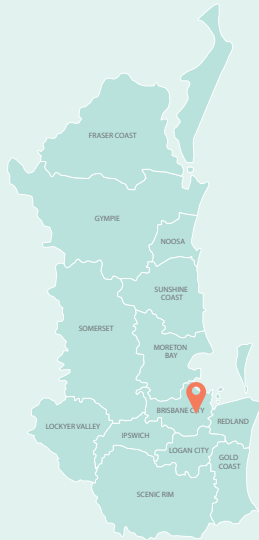
## LfWSEQ Ten Year Plan 2020-2030 Objectives

Focus Area	Objective	Actions in 2020-21
1. Policy and Planning Context	1.1. Evaluate and align reporting mechanisms with LGA, state and federal strategies, policies and legislation	ongoing
2. Collaborative Governance	2.1. Maintain an active and engaged Steering Committee	✓ 6 meetings
	2.2. Maintain an active and engaged Strategic Subcommittee	✓ 6 meetings
	2.3. Review and renewal of Host Council arrangements and regional coordination delivery model	✓ in progress
	2.4. Maintain currency of key LfWSEQ documents	✓ done
3. Regional Coordination	3.1. Maintain commitment to LfWSEQ and appropriate levels of investment for regional coordination	ongoing
	3.2. Develop a three-year operational work plan	✓ done
	3.3 Review and renewal of regional coordination contract	✓ done
4. Local Government Delivery	4.1. Maintain delivery of LfWSEQ services in line with best practice science, program values and key LfWSEQ documents	ongoing
	4.2. Maintain relevant regional nature conservation partnerships that complement LfWSEQ program values	ongoing
	4.3. Analyse the LfWSEQ membership and program services to identify opportunities to further tailor LfWSEQ products and services	planned for 2021-22
	4.4. Maintain delivery of higher-level conservation agreements	ongoing
5. Continuous Improvement	5.1. Develop a Reporting Framework for LfWSEQ	✓ in progress
	5.2. Establish and implement an agreed collective suite of minimum reporting standards across LGAs for LfWSEQ	✓ done
	5.3. Identify and analyse the ecological assets within the LfWSEQ estate	planned for 2021-22
	5.4. Identify and analyse the social assets within the LfWSEQ network	planned for 2021-22
	5.5. Identify and analyse the economics of LfWSEQ	planned for 2021-22
	5.6. Develop a Communications Framework for LfWSEQ	✓ done
6. Future Opportunities	6.1. Create and adopt new regional nature conservation partnerships	ongoing
	6.2. Adopt relevant new technologies and emerging ecological restoration science into LfWSEQ resources	ongoing
	6.3. Create regional events for LfWSEQ members to network and improve conservation skills and knowledge	to be considered
	6.4. Seek funding for future opportunities to support conservation outcomes	to be considered



# RECOGNISING 20-YEAR MEMBERSHIPS

In 2020-21, 211 LfWSEQ members celebrated their 20 year membership with the program.



"What we enjoy the most about living on our property is the constant surprises of seeing something unexpected, for example, we had Mistletoebirds visit our property recently, we have never seen them here before! Has it really been 20 years since we joined?! We are very grateful to have had the wonderful support and encouragement from various LfW Officers over the years. It's an excellent program and we look forward to sharing the next 20 years!"

*Roy and Gwynneth Thake*

**Burbank, Brisbane**

**Joined: 19 June 2000**

**Status: Registered**

**Property: 2.48 ha**

**Retained Habitat: 2.36 ha**

**Habitat Under Restoration: 0 ha**



"It was a real surprise to get my 20-year sign. I get as much fun handing out signs to landholders in the Lockyer as I did receiving this one for my own property. In 1990 there were 15 species of birds here at my place, there are now 102 species. They have a home now thanks to all the trees I've planted. You just have to put the right plant in the right spot."

*Martin Bennett*

**Prenzlau, Somerset**

**Joined: 14 April 2000**

**Status: Registered**

**Property: 4 ha**

**Retained Habitat: 0.5 ha**

**Habitat Under Restoration: 2 ha**



"Over 20-years ago we thought we would join Land for Wildlife as we were interested in nature and saw that the program offered worthwhile support. Over that time, we have let natural regrowth occur on our property and have undertaken lots of weed control. We have received lots of support over the years from council and Land for Wildlife, which has been gratefully received."

*Peter Langford*

**Sheldon, Redland**

**Joined: 11 March 1999**

**Status: Registered**

**Property: 3.45 ha**

**Retained Habitat: 2.5 ha**