

SEQ Catchments: Leaders in Waterway Restoration



Planting Tomorrow's Forest A Knapp Creek land owner works with contractors to plant the upper reach of Knapp Creek which has just been rehabilitated. Several thousand native tubes were planted at this site.



SEOC Sediment Pond and Gully Erosion Repair Heavy rainfall can cause an immense volume of water to flow through gullies and as overland flow in the Lockyer Valley. Siltation ponds prevent further sediment from entering the main channel. This sediment pond is being repaired so it may cope with future storms.



Erosion Site Planned for Rehabilitation Works Numerous sites like this one will be fenced and rehabilitated as part of the Waterways Restoration Project in the Upper Bremer.

SEQ Catchments is spearheading the implementation of a \$3 million project aimed at restoring the health of certain waterways in South East Queensland. The waterways which are the focus of this investment are Knapp Creek, in the Logan River Catchment, the upper reaches of the Bremer River and Blackfellow Creek. Each of these waterways was identified by SEQ Catchments and project partners as being a high priority for erosion and subsequent sediment loading into river systems. To remedy this problem SEQ Catchments has been working with the community, local land owners and project partners to determine the best means of rehabilitating these waterways in a results focused, partnership manner. The SEQ Catchments Project Manager, Tony McKew summed up the SEQ Catchments approach stating "we are bringing the concerned parties together – the land owners and the technical experts. We are focused on implementing a solution that takes account of all knowledge and obtains the best result for all concerned. To this end we have made some great progress so far".

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Restoration works in the three focal area catchments are already well underway with numerous projects completed and others in progress. The type of work being undertaken includes:

- large scale plantings of native trees, shrubs and ground covers
- construction of natural weirs to stabilize creek beds and banks
- erosion repair and mitigation
- fencing
- property management planning projects

All works in this project are undertaken in partnership with the local land owners and community support. A Knapp Creek land owner recently commented on a project completed on his property: "I think this will all look really good in the years to come. We should have thought about planting these trees years ago but I'm glad we've done it now." Community support and interest is growing stronger as the project continues with more land owners seeing the value in maintaining the health of the landscape in which they live. SEQ Catchments Project Manager Tony McKew stated that "ultimately a part of the success of this project will be attributable to the land owners who we worked with and support to make such an important landscape change. These people have made a difference".