

Factsheet

Queen Charlotte Vale Creek Royal Rehabilitation Treatment Project



In 2020, Bathurst Regional Council secured funding from the NSW Government's Environmental Trust for the Queen Charlotte Vale Creek Royal Rehabilitation Treatment Project. The recently acquired land along Queen Charlotte Vale Creek at Gormans Hill, Bathurst created a unique opportunity to rehabilitate 700 metres of this important waterway.

As part of the project, the creek line will be fenced with wildlife-friendly fencing to exclude stock, whilst invasive riparian (creek bank) weeds such as willow, blackberry and poplar will be controlled on both sides to reduce the competition and impact that these weeds have on the creek. The project also aims to revegetate the riparian zone along the creek with native species to stabilise the creek bank, and to provide essential habitat for local wildlife including the Platypus (*Ornithorhynchus anatinus*) and threatened Grey-headed Flying Fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*).

This section of Queen Charlotte Vale Creek is identified as of high conservation value in the *Bathurst Urban Waterways Management Plan (2010)* as it is located 1km upstream from the confluence with the Macquarie Wambuul River and located on the junction with Hawthornden Creek.



Grey-headed Flying Fox @ DJM Australia Photography.



Queen Charlotte Vale Creek at the junction with Hawthornden Creek @ Bathurst Regional Council.

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What will the project aim to achieve?

The project will see the installation of wildlife-friendly fencing to reduce the impacts of grazing livestock on riparian vegetation condition, aquatic habitat and creek bank stability. The use of wildlife-friendly rural fencing will also allow for local wildlife such as kangaroos, wallabies, bats and owls to be able to move through the site safely without injury.

The project will aim to reduce the impacts of woody weeds on Queen Charlotte Vale Creek through a control program that will focus on



Wildlife-friendly fencing installation @ Bathurst Regional Council

invasive riparian species such as willow, blackberry, poplar and African boxthorn. Due to the sensitive nature of the site and its location 1km upstream from the confluence with the Macquarie Wambuil River, best practice methods for weed control along waterways will be used, and mature poplars will be retained until such time that the revegetation has matured ensuring creek bank stability and providing temporary habitat for native wildlife.

The installation of wildlife-friendly fencing and staged weed control will be followed by the planting of 4000 locally occurring native trees, shrubs and grasses along the banks of Queen Charlotte Vale Creek. Once mature this native riparian vegetation will provide essential habitat for local wildlife increasing biodiversity and thus improving the health of this important waterway.



Control of riparian woody weeds @ Bathurst Regional Council

How can we get involved?

Join Council at any one of our community tree planting days or revegetation maintenance days. Give as much or as little time as you can spare - it all makes a difference in helping to rehabilitate Queen Charlotte Vale Creek.



Community tree planting day @ Bathurst Regional Council