

BUSH REGENERATION

FACT SHEET

BACKGROUND

Much of our local bushland has been affected by clearing causing weed invasion. The ultimate aim of bush regeneration is to restore an area to native bushland free from weeds.

PRINCIPLES

Bush regeneration involves staged removal of non-indigenous plants to allow, where possible, natural regeneration to occur. The process is staged to minimise erosion by wind and water, and the reinvasion of weeds.

A book called *Bringing Back the Bush*, written by the Bradley sisters in Sydney in the 1960s introduced the following principles:

- Always work from areas with good native plants towards weed-infested areas.
- Create minimal disturbance.
- Let the rate of regeneration of native plants determine the rate of weed removal.

These principles are still followed in bush regeneration today for best management practice and to reduce erosion.

Regeneration is an ongoing process as weed seeds remain in the soil. Often we need to return several times to a site to remove new weeds.

Setbacks can also occur after bushfires, over-clearing, vandalism or where there is inappropriate use of herbicides.



Removing African Love Grass.

HERBICIDES

The use of herbicides has been controversial, but these are now accepted practice as they provide an efficient and cost-effective way to control weeds. When used correctly they do not harm the environment.



Volunteers of all ages can help

HOW CAN I HELP?

Join one of our bushcare groups, sign up for a training course to learn more or talk to Council's Bushland Management Officer.

For more information please phone the Bushland Management Officer on 4732 8088.

