

Biodiversity and bioswale in college creek corridor

Lota Creek Biodiversity Corridor

Proponent: Moreton Bay Boys College, Manly West, Brisbane

The Moreton Bay Boys' College is located on Manly Road, Manly West, approximately 2 km from the Moreton Bay RAMSAR area. The college's nature refuge adjoins Lota Creek to the south and the Melaleuca Conservation Park to the east. Endemic species of the Nature Refuge, adjoining creek and wetlands areas are threatened by a number of processes including weed encroachment, clearing of vegetation and coastal urban development.

The college established a 5.7 hectare declared nature refuge on the southern college grounds, adjoining Lota Creek, primarily to protect the valuable communities of Swamp Orchid (*Phaius australis tancarvilleae*). This new protected area is also home to Bancroft's Red Gum and Swamp Stringybark. The refuge has also been identified as supporting populations of Glossy Black Cockatoos, Koalas, Gliders and Grey Goshawks.



The establishment of the reserve instigated the need for on-ground works. Actions delivered have involved so far: weed removal, the creation of a bioswale and replanting which has involved subcontractors, students, parents and the Bayside Creek Catchment Group.

This has improved the trapping of sediments and nutrients, and the reduction of the overground stormwater to the adjacent Lota Creek, which will improve water quality into Moreton Bay. To link the works being undertaken back to food production and its reliance on healthy catchments, interaction with local seafood harvesters/producers have been included in the project.