

## Fish Habitat Area benefits from riparian restoration

### Restoring the Myora Springs Wetland

Proponent: SEQ Catchments



Myora Springs is a unique wetland site on the northwest side of North Stradbroke Island.

This fresh water spring directly adjoins rainforest and mangrove communities as well as the largest declared Fish Habitat Area in Southern Queensland.

Myora Springs supports a wide diversity of flora and fauna and is of particular significance for its cultural heritage values. The endangered Water Mouse (*Xeromys myoides*) and the endangered Swamp Orchid (*Phaius australis*) are known to occur in this site. This place is also a favoured camping and meeting place of the Quandamooka people. A very significant intact midden still exists at the site and it is possible to see parts of several others on the banks surrounding Myora Springs.

Despite these values, this site has been impacted by human activities. Being a popular swimming location, human traffic has unintentionally caused erosion destroying vegetation. Significant mangrove dieback is also evident throughout the immediate creek vicinity, which is thought to be largely a result of compaction. Additionally, the Myora Springs wetland has become infested with invasive weed species, such as Lantana, Singapore Daisy and Umbrella trees.

OceanWatch Australia funded the project proponent to enhance and protect the ecological features of the Myora Springs wetland system. Invasive weed species, including Lantana, Singapore Daisy and Umbrella trees are being treated.

Works to date have been, and will be, closely undertaken with local aboriginal people. This has included the Quandamooka people on the island and the Indigenous Ranger Trainees that have recently commenced with Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service.