

Upper Brisbane River Bank Stabilisation

Lower Cressbrook - Riparian Revegetation



Lower Cressbrook riparian restoration

Seqwater is a Queensland Government statutory authority that provides safe, secure and cost-effective drinking water supply for over 3.1 million people across South East Queensland. Seqwater manages up to \$11 billion of water supply assets, with operations extending from Gympie to the base of the Toowoomba ranges and as far south as the New South Wales border.

PROJECT SUMMARY

The Water and Carbon Group were engaged by Alluvium Consulting in 2015 to undertake site assessments and identify opportunities for restoration. Riparian vegetation planting plans were then prepared and approved by Seqwater that included treatments for re-profiled river banks. In 2016, WCG partnered with GWT Earthmoving and were successful in being awarded 2 bank stabilisation projects at Lower Cressbrook. The civil works were shortly undertaken, followed by plantings. Both sites have continued to be monitored and maintained by the Water and Carbon Group over the past 3 years.

34,050

native tubestock
planted in the entire
project.

3 years

duration of project.
From planning to
completion.

2.75 ha

of land requiring bank
stabilisation across
two sites.



Early construction stage of the project



Planting of tubestock on the river bank



Site progress shot after seasonal rainfall.



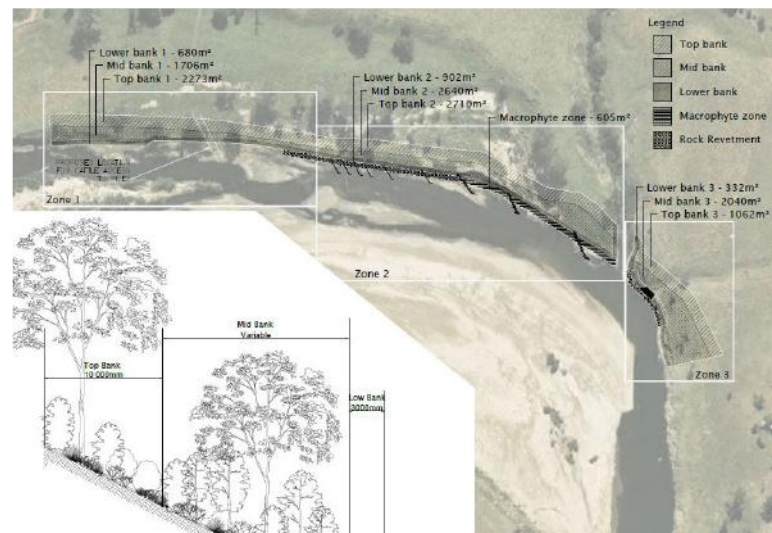
Establishment of riparian plantings

BACKGROUND

Throughout recent years, the Lower Cressbrook area has been affected heavily by floods, particularly in 2011. A large amount of damage has been caused to the Upper Brisbane River banks as a result, leaving several river banks in need of restoration and stabilisation in preparation for any similar events in the future.

SOLUTION

The Water and Carbon Group undertook site assessments before developing riparian revegetation planting plans which were then approved by Seqwater. This included high density plantings graded throughout the river banks reintroducing structural complexity (including native grasses/groundcovers) in order to reinstate biodiverse riparian zones. Civil works and planting was initiated at two sites between August and October 2016 with monitoring and maintenance to occur over 3 years.



Riparian Vegetation Plan

OUTCOMES

As of 2018, the project is still ongoing with regular monitoring and maintenance taking place. The project appears to be exceeding expectations despite being affected by additional flooding, frost damage and seasonal dry weather. Despite the setbacks, the project has been completed to an extremely high quality, whilst staying within its budget and time constraints.