



Matchstick Banksia Project 2018 - 2019

PROJECT CODE: RLP-MU33-P5

Overview of Progress: April to June 2019

Having completed the on ground surveys of the Matchstick Banksia populations on private property last period, this period was busy identifying appropriate management actions for those populations and developing site management plans.

- Continued partnership discussions with DBCA to identify potential project activity for MB populations on private land.
- Threatened Flora Authorisation permit approved by DBCA to conduct management activities.
- Contracted property owners with Matchstick Banksia populations. Met with much enthusiasm, landholders were happy to receive updates on the health and status of their banksia populations as well as plans and assistance to manage them into the future.
- Workshop with Quairading DHS, interested in being involved in further conservation activity.
- 5 site specific management plans developed, negotiated and contracted with community to help secure Matchstick Banksia populations.
- Workshop – Quairading DHS to author envirostories.
- Controlling pest animals – 17ha treated for rabbits through a calici release at one of the remnants with a Matchstick Banksia population.
- 2 habitat augmentation structures installed - Installed insect hotels at 2 populations to monitor insect pollinator activity, with the view to install 2 more structures to deter parrots in the next year of the project.



Workshop with Quairading DHS Year 6 class - writing Envirostories for the Matchstick Banksia.

This workshop discussed the endangered status and what it means to be an EPBC listed species and that it is listed as one of the 30 plant species under the Threatened Species Strategy. It also mentioned the significance of the Matchstick Banksia, particularly to the Quairading area, and the threatening processes and management actions identified to be beneficial to the species. The workshop highlighted what the community can do, both for the Matchstick Banksia and other endangered species and resulted in 5 Envirostories which are in the process of being published.

Lessons Learnt and Improvements

- Delayed project activity through permit application process with DBCA.
- Compressed timeframe to contract landholders for project services.
- Some activities are cost prohibitive. Exclusion fencing for entire remnants would be the preferred option however fence netting to exclude rabbits and kits is expensive.
- Engaging absentee landholders delayed project progression.
- EPBC Listing and recommended management actions identified in the IRP are based on outdated information, as the current threats to these individuals are not easily identifiable.
- Lack of knowledge/data deficiency on appropriate management actions to reduce the pressure of the current threats. Additionally, actions have been identified but the best practice methodology for implementation is unknown, i.e. weed control
- Ground-truthing revealed the species to be in worse state than the IRP indicated, with signs of recent deaths of individuals as well as many individuals under stress as evidenced by dead or dying branches. Furthermore, there is no evidence of regeneration. The current project management actions and deliverables are not directly aimed at improving the regeneration/regeneration ability of the species and without this action we wouldn't anticipate an improvement in the trajectory of this species into the future.