

BRACKENRIDGE ESTATE

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL OFFICER REPORT

- Report: #7
- Period: 1 November to 30 November 2024
- Date: 30 November 2024
- Author: Kellyn Whitehead, MSc / ECO Brackenridge Estate



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OVERVIEW

The aim of this report is to document the deliverables agreed upon between the Homeowners Association (HOA), the Environmental Management Committee (EMC) and the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) to ensure the proper management of Brackenridge.

The report will be updated every month by the ECO, detailing the action plans for each deliverable, what has been achieved, what still needs to be completed and any recommendations for both estate management and homeowners.

All environmental management on the estate will be done in accordance with the Environmental Audit conducted by Professor Patricia Holmes in October 2023 and the updated Environmental Management Plan drawn up in October 2023.

Any new environmental concerns that are discovered during maintenance, or any changes found regarding the guidelines of the environmental audit, will be communicated in this report.

Any concerns or questions that homeowners may have in reference to environmental management can be addressed to either the General Manager or the ECO.

Boet Grobler, General Manager manager@brackenridge.co.za 044 533 6547 Kellyn Whitehead, ECO kellynwhitehead4@gmail.com 044 533 6547

ACTION POINT: Prescribed burns.

RELEVANCE: Regeneration and maintenance of endangered Garden Route Shale Fynbos; help circumvention of wildfires.

DELIVERABLES: Invasive alien control, fire belt cutting, permits, fuel reduction, prescribed burn, mopping up.

• Please refer to EMP, page 9 - 12 for more details.

Pre-burn preparation for Block 1 (11.8 ha).

Preparation of block 1 has begun and the Working on Fire (WoF) team have started clearing the 4m fire break, starting at the boundary of properties bordering this block.

Post-burn clean-up of Block 6 (3.00 ha).

The final stack burn for block 6 took place on the 12th November under the guidance of Steve Ritky. The management team made up of Boet and Eldred's team started and managed the stack burns. It was a successful day and the stacks burnt down as predicted and we can now mark block 6 as completed.

The ECO and management will continue to monitor the block for alien invasives and will work to thin out the Bietou bush and remove the Port Jackson and thistle. If any homeowners would like to get involved in the removal of AIS on block 5 and bock 6, please let the ECO know.

FIRE MANAGEMENT

Stack burn - block 6













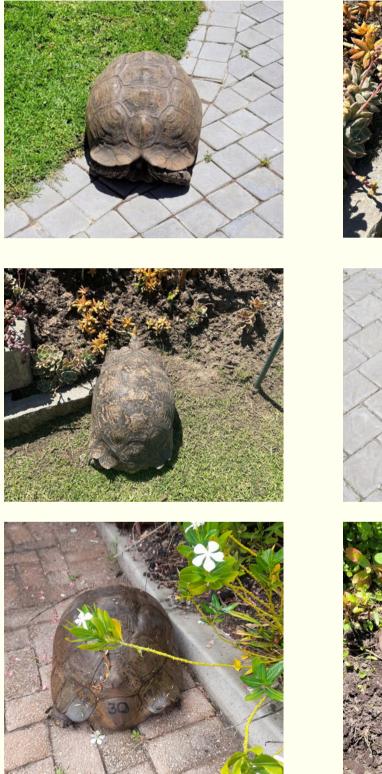




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WILDLIFE

The tortoises of Brackenridge are on the move once again, now that the weather is warming up. Please be cautious when driving on the estate as they have been seen on the roads.









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ACTION POINT: Control growth and spread of invasive plant species.

RELEVANCE: Restoration of native ecosystems.

DELIVERABLES: Invasive alien control, Integrated Fire and Alien Species Management Plan.

• Please refer to EMP, page 13 for more details.

The ECO along with her intern, Yulynne, found a large amount of Port Jackson (*Acacia saligna*) seedlings growing in block 6. As yet, no Port Jackson has been seen in block 5.

During the week of the 11th of November, the ECO, her intern and the HfH team started to tackle the removal of the Port Jackson in block 6. Block 6 will be broken up into sections to make sure each area is cover thoroughly before moving onto the next section.

Block 5 and block 6 have a large amount of thistle and wall fume that will also be removed.

The Bietou bush is growing prolifically in both blocks, and although not an invasive species, it will be thinned out in both blocks to allow other fynbos species to grow.

INVASIVE ALIEN CONTROL

Removal of Port Jackson seedlings from block 6.













OPEN SPACES

ACTION POINT: Maintain open spaces to standard specified in the approval of the site development plan.

RELEVANCE: Open spaces are aesthetically pleasing and ecologically viable.

DELIVERABLES: maintenance of roads, services and pedestrian network, erosion control, waste, and litter control.

• Please refer to EMP, page 14 - 15 for more details.

<u>Walking trails</u>: The new signage has been printed and will be placed around the estate during December. The names of each path will follow in January as these still need to be designed.



Maintenance: The ECO has completed the management guidelines for all open spaces on the estate. These guidelines are currently under review and will be finalised in due course.

OPEN SPACES

Block 5: New plants have been planted on the two berms that were created in block 5. Special thank to Angela Meister and Debbie Constant for their hard work planting all of the plants brought, along with assistance from the HfH team. Thank you Steve Harcourt-Cooke who assisted Angela with purchasing the plants.

A special mention to the two nurseries which kindly assisted with sourcing stock for the estate, Simply Green Nursery (The Crags) and Blume Bespoke Nursery (The Heath), their service was impeccable.













Appendix A

Block 5 pre-burn plant species list

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	COMMENTS
Acacia cyclops	Rooikrans	Invasive
Buddleja salciifolia	Sagewood	
Centella asiatica	Asian pennywort	
cf Carpobrotus	Sourfig	Awaiting ID
cf Gnidia	Cape saffron	Awaiting ID
cf Restio	True Cape reeds	Awaiting ID
cf Satyriium	Satyr orchid	Awaiting ID
Chironia baccifera	Christmas berry	Endemic to SA
Chloris gayana	Rhodes grass	
Cliffortia stricta	Staid Cape rose	Endemic to Fynbos
Colpoon compressum	Cape sumach	
Erica canaliculata	Hairy grey heather	Endemic to Fynbos
Eriocephalus africanus	Wild rosemary	Endemic to SA
Euryops virgineus	Virgin true-eye	Endemic to SA
Haemanthus sanguineus	Smooth bloodlily	Endemic to SA

Appendix A

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	COMMENTS
Helichrysum cymosum	Fume everlasting	Endemic to SA
Helichrysum foetidum	Stinking everlasting	Endemic to SA
Helichrysum petiolare	Silver everlasting	Endemic to SA
Hippia frutescens	Scrambling stinkals	Endemic to SA
Leucadendron salignum	Common sunshine conebush	Endemic to Fynbos
Metalasia acuta	Pointy blombos	Endemic to Fynbos
Metalasia pungens	Stink blombos	Endemic to Fynbos
Osteospermum monolifera	Bietou bush	Endemic to WC
Oxalis imbricata	Tile sorrel	Endemic to SA
Passerina corymbosa	Common gonna	Endemic to SA
Pinus sp.	Pine	Invasive
Podalyria burchelli	Hairy Cape sweetpea	Endemic to Fynbos
Selago canescens	Skinny bitterbush	Endemic to Fynbos
Selago corymbosa	Stiff bitterbush	Endemic to Fynbos
Seriphium plumosum	Common snake bush	
Sersia lucida	Blinktaaibos	

Appendix **B**

Block 6 pre-burn plant species list

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	COMMENTS
Anthanasia dentata	Geel Blombos	Endemic to Fynbos
Aspalathus ciliaris	Fringe Cape gorse	Endemic to Fynbos
Asaragus asparagoides	Bridal asparagus	
Burchellia bubalina	Wild pomegranate	
Centella asiatica	Asian pennywort	
cf Anthospermum		Awaiting ID
cf Asteriodae	Daisy	Awaiting ID
cf Carpobrotus	Sourfig	Awaiting ID
Chironia baccifera	Christmas berry	Endemic to SA
Cliffortia stricta	Staid Cape rose	Endemic to Fynbos
Colpoon compressum	Cape sumach	
Cyrtanthus contractus	Common fire lily	
Diospyros dichrophylla	Poison star apple	
Erica canaliculata	Hairy grey heather	Endemic to Fynbos
Erica peltata	Shield heath	Endemic to Fynbos
Grewia occidentalis	Common cross berry	

Appendix B

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	COMMENTS
Halleria lucida	Tree fuchsia	
Helichrysum cymosum	Fume everlasting	Endemic to SA
Helichrysum foetidum	Stinking everlasting	Endemic to SA
Helichrysum petiolare	Silver everlasting	Endemic to SA
Hippia frutescens	Scrambling stinkals	Endemic to SA
Hypoxis villosa	Shaggy star grass	
Leucadendron salignum	Common sunshine conebush	Endemic to Fynbos
Metalasia acuta	Pointy blombos	Endemic to Fynbos
Metalasia pungens	Stink blombos	Endemic to Fynbos
Monopsis unidentata	Wild violet	Endemic to SA
Nidorella ivifolia	Oven bush	
Nidorella ulmifolia	Ulm vleiweed	
Osteospermum monolifera	Bietou bush	Endemic to WC
Oxalis imbricata	Tile sorrel	Endemic to SA
Oxalis purpurea	Purple sorrel	Endemic to SA
Passerina corymbosa	Common gonna	Endemic to SA

Appendix B

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	COMMENTS
Pinus sp.	Pine	Invasive
Plecostachys serpyllifolia	Petite-licorice	Endemic to SA
Podalyria burchelli	Hairy Cape sweetpea	Endemic to Fynbos
Psoralea axillaris	Violet-flash fountain bush	Endemic to SA
Rapanea melanophloeos	Cape beech	
Selago canescens	Skinny bitterbush	Endemic to Fynbos
Selago corymbosa	Stiff bitterbush	Endemic to Fynbos
Seriphium plumosum	Common snake bush	
Sersia lucida	Blinktaaibos	
Sideroxylon inerme	White milkwood	Protected
Struthiola hirsuta	Shaggy Cape spray	Endemic to Fynbos
Tarchonanthus littoralis	Coastal camphor bush	Endemic to SA
Tecomaria capensis	Cape honeysuckle	
Westringia fruticosa	Coastal rosemary	

Appendix C

Block 5 post-burn plant species list

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	COMMENTS
Disa bracteata	Bract orchid	Endemic to Fynbos
Fumaria muralis	Wall fume	Introduced - weed
Pelargonium grossularoides	Coconut stroksbill	
Satryium membranaceum	Membrane orchid	Endemic to Fynbos
Selago spp.		

Appendix D

Block 6 post-burn plant species list

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	COMMENTS
Disa bracteata	Bract orchid	Endemic to Fynbos
Fumaria muralis	Wall fume	Introduced - weed
Hypoxis angustifolia	Narrow stargrass	
Ixia orientalis	Eastern kalossie	Endemic to SA
Pelargonium grossularoides	Coconut storksbill	