



BRACKENRIDGE ESTATE

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL OFFICER REPORT

Report: #5

Period: 1 September to 30 September 2024

Date: 30 September 2024

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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 newly appointed 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.

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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.

Post-burn clean-up of Block 5 (1.68 ha).

The laying of the gravity feed pipeline in block 5 was completed in September, whereupon the area required to be re-assessed.

Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, the contractors laying the pipeline were forced to remove more clay and soil than that which we had previously envisaged, leading to greater disturbance of the burnt area.

The ECO along with the EMC and the Brackenridge Management team are in the process of developing an in-depth proposal to rehabilitate block 5. This proposal will include an option to those homeowners who look onto block 5 to become involved in the rehabilitation process.

A roller was hired from Coastal Hire to flatten out the area where a new path will run through block 5. The path runs alongside the pipeline to prevent further disturbance of block and also ensure there is easy access to the pipeline in need.

Path marking in block 5.



Path marking in block 5.



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

The ECO along with Steve Ritky examined Block 6 and established that more needs to be cut back and stacked in those areas still needing to be stacked burned.

This caused a delay in the stack burn. The Board of Trustees approved bringing in the Working on Fire team to undertake the remainder of the clearing and stacking. Once completed, a new burn date will be set.

Part of the clean-up in block 6 includes marking and upgrading all of the pathways. The upgrade takes cognisance of those areas more prone to being slipping hazards when wet by installing steps. There will also be the placement of one new bench.

The ECO will draw up plans for the upgrade and submit it to the Board of Trustees for their approval. Once approved, work will begin for the restoration of the pathways.

The Brackenridge Tortoise group have had sightings of the tortoises, including our gentle giant, Number 5.

Number 30, which was rescued during the tortoise search before the prescribed burns, has been released and is doing well.



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 a volunteer, removed Port Jackson from a homeowner's property. Properties situated along the fence line in Protea Dale do have a number of Port Jacksons emerging, given that the bordering property to Brackenridge Estate have not cleared Port Jacksons from their property. It may be worth considering requesting the neighbouring property owners to undertake this important control of invasive species.

Eldred and his team continue to clear along the fence line, removing and chipping all invasive species they encounter during the clearing.

The Integrated Fire and Alien Species Management Plan is currently being developed by the ECO.

Removal of alien invasives in Protea Dale.



Appendix A

Block 5 pre-burn plant species list

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

Appendix A

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

Appendix B

Block 6 pre-burn plant species list

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

Appendix B

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

Appendix B

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