Landcare-led Landscape Resilience

Tools and data for restoration decisions

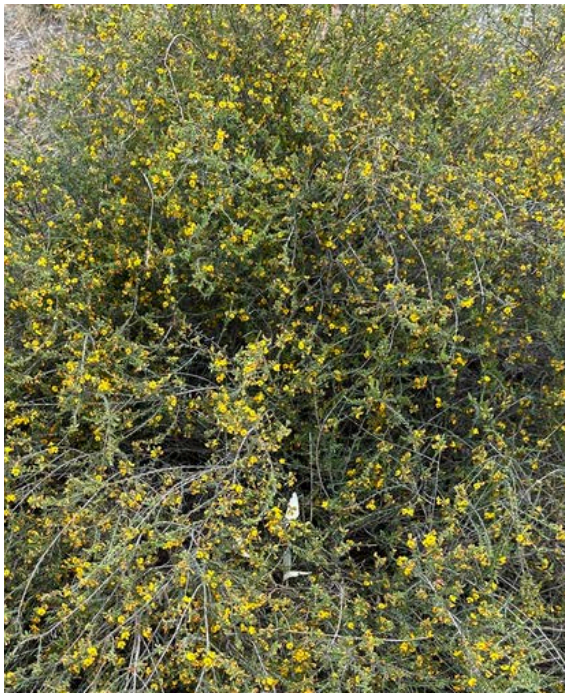
Fenced Exclusion Site For Native Pea Species Regeneration Demonstration Site

OBJECTIVES

To exclude herbivores, such as hares, kangaroos, and livestock by fencing two sites at Redlands Hill Reserve near Corowa, in the Central Murray Region NSW. This is to allow regeneration of ground covers that are now rare to the area such as native pea species; which include Mallee Bush Pea (*Eutaxia microphylla)* and Showy Parrot Pea (*Dillwynia sericea)*.

WHAT IS SUCCESS?

To see regeneration of native pea species, which have been badly damaged by herbivore browsing. This will allow the plants to flower and set seed, leading to an increased population of plants within the demonstration sites. Each site is approx. 0.5ha each, using exclusion fencing (1.9m high) with rabbit proofing at ground level.



Mallee Bush Pea (*Eutaxia microphylla*) flowering



Exclusion Fence at a *Eutaxia microphylla* Demonstration Site

KEY STEPS

- Identify best site for the fenced exclusion area
- Keep exclusion area under 1ha to facilitate effective weed management and ensure sufficient space for the regeneration of ground cover species, including native peas.
- Use fencing which will exclude kangaroos, rabbits and livestock.
- Include a gate into the exclusion area for management purposes
- Control weeds in site (dig out instead of spraying)
- Monitor pea plants with photos and counting population numbers in the sites.

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

USE APPROPRATE FENCING

DON'T LEAVE THE GATE OPEN

MONITOR SITE & MANAGE WEEDS

KEY LEARNINGS FROM EXPERIENCE

- Be clear about what species you want to protect
- Incorporate advice from your local Landcare Group.
- Choose your site carefully (not too large).
- Ensure you can get the fencing materials and tool to the site.
- Make sure your exclusion fence is secure to stop livestock, kangaroos and rabbits.
- Manage weeds and other plants within the site to ensure regeneration success.



Eutaxia microphylla at an established conservation site

COST CONSIDERATIONS

- Fencing site - materials & labour
- Controlling weeds - labour to maintaining site

Fencing habitat areas is a useful tool that can be taken to protect vulnerable native plant species from grazing herbivores

A LOCAL NETWORK OF DEMONSTRATION SITES ARE BEING ESTABLISHED UTILISING 'BEST PRACTICE' RESTORATION AND REVEGETATION TECHNIQUES FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE. THIS IS SHOWCASING OF THE POSITIVE ECONOMIC, PRODUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF NATIVE VEGETATION RESTORATION, AND THE POTENTIAL FOR INCOME STREAMS FOR BUSINESS RESILIENCE.

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Australian Government | Future Drought Fund | Murrumbidgee Landcare Incorporated | Holbrook Landcare Network | Corowa District Landcare