

NOOSA & DISTRICT LANDCARE GROUP The Management Team Operations –

Gary Clarke

Farm Forestry Program Manager

As our capacity and experience grows, the range of natural resource management activities carried out by the farm forestry team extends. We have successfully demonstrated 'total property management' as a responsible way to manage the whole landscape. Landholders are accepting that in order to truly be sustainable they must take responsibility for their consumption. Our property developments seek to repair the damage

from past land uses and replace them with holistic systems that protect the landscape from further degradation whilst producing a renewable resource.

The success of revegetation projects, such as our work on Double Island Point with Noosa Parks Association have led to major contracts with 'eco' developers and the extension of regional funding from BMRG to continue and expand these activities. An undertaking by one of these developers to fund and locate a new nursery on their site will greatly increase our capacity for coastal weed eradication and revegetation projects.

Along with the Noosa Shire Council sponsored 'Free Tree Incentive and Training Program', our contracting services arm continues to support major land use change across the region. Long-term management capacity has increased our range of services to a point where 30% of overall income is derived from silvicultural management and maintenance of properties that have been established by us in the past.

A new partnership with The Silver Lining Foundation (the National Indigenous Centre for Enterprise Development at Wondai) and Burnett Mary Regional Group has the long-term goal of training a western workforce in total property management with an emphasis on forestry and revegetation. Noosa Landcare coordination and expertise and Silver Lining graduates will provide the capacity to extend sustainable land use management across the whole of the Burnett Mary Catchment as well as areas of South East Queensland catchments.

The foundations set up several years ago are paying off with the group's recognition as professional and ethical land use managers.

