

CLIENT: Grow West
PROJECT: Revegetation at Whitehorse Creek, Ballan
DATES: July 2013

Background

Grow West is one of Australia's most ambitious restoration programs, launched in 2003 with an objective of rejuvenating 10,000 hectares of land in the Upper Werribee Catchment. The project, aimed at increasing biodiversity and improving waterway health, has implemented a range of practises to overhaul the area, including revegetation.

As a part of this restoration program, revegetation sites were identified along a stretch of Whitehorse Creek, running East of Ingliston-Settlement Road, 10km South East of Ballan. Platypus was engaged to create biolinks for the native vegetation in this area.

Implementation

A dedicated area had to be prepared before planting could commence. Spray works were carried out along rip lines using hand-held boom sprays and spray knapsacks.

Following site preparation, over 18,000 plants were distributed on steep, degraded landscapes. A selection of 25 native species were planted, including 7 types of eucalyptus, 3 species of wattle, fragrant saltbush and kangaroo grass. Each plant was expertly placed, using Hamilton tree planters, pottiputkis and mattocks, with a view to ensuring optimum benefit to the surrounding habitat. Corflute guards were also installed to ensure a maximum survival rate.

It took Platypus only 4 weeks to complete the revegetation works.



Site prior to revegetation



Site following revegetation