

Biodiversity – volunteer bush regeneration

Data Sheet 4, 2009

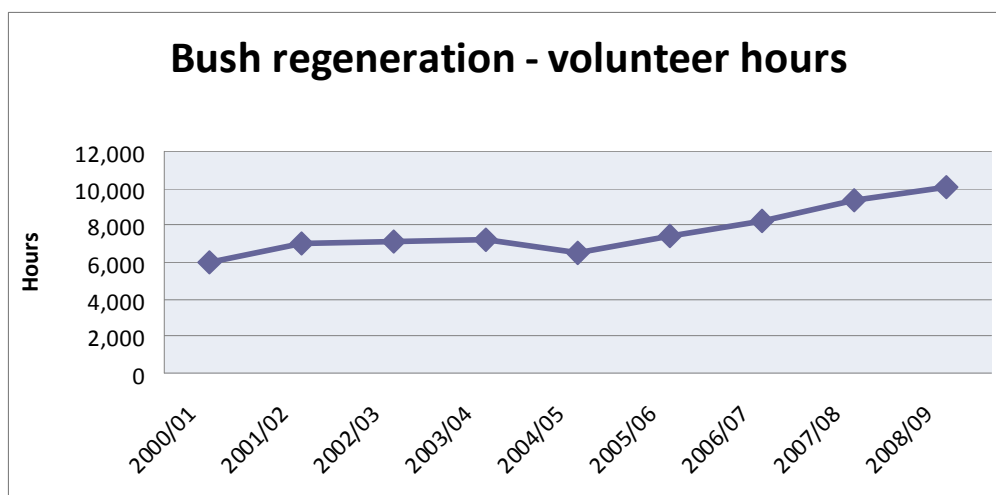
What are we monitoring?

The number of hours worked by volunteers doing bush regeneration as part of Blue Mountains City Council assisted program

What is the trend?

The number of hours spent by volunteers regenerating bushland under Council assisted programs increased between 2000-2001 and 2008-2009. There was a slight decrease in the 2004-2005 financial year compared to the previous year. This was mainly due to the loss of TAFE bush regeneration hours - as a result of occupational health and safety issues.

These programs include Bushcare, Landcare and TAFE Bush Regeneration Courses. Bushcare and Landcare are Council assisted bush regeneration programs, both of which support a number of community volunteer groups. Bushcare supports groups working on public land. Landcare supports groups working on private land.



BUSH REGENERATION – VOLUNTEER HOURS									
YEAR	00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09
Volunteer Hours	6,000	7,000	7,100	7,200	6,520	7,440	8,209	9,327	10,077

Why is monitoring this trend important?

Voluntary bush regeneration produces multiple benefits. It rebuilds the state or condition of the natural assets on which all life depends. It can foster within people a stronger and more realistic appreciation of their relationship with the rest of the natural world. It provides an opportunity for local residents to act as a community in building and maintaining our environmental assets and in achieving common goals. This trend information provides one measure of the community's capacity to respond and work as volunteers and build social capital. It also provides a measure of the community's response to weed invasion and other pressures on our bushland.

Source: State of Environment Reports - City of Blue Mountains

www.sustainablebluemountains.net.au/resources/publications/