

FoBNP Bushcare Report for November 2019

In November the Friends of Belair National Park worked 129.5 hours.

- VMU 2 – 45.5 hours
- VMU 16 – 28 hours
- VMU 20 (Volunteer Centre) – 32 hours
- VMU 22 – 4 hours

Most recently we have been tackling large South African daisy, boneseed and olives in the prescribed burn area in VMU 2. We have been through most of VMU 16 where there is a great deal of Sollya (*Billardiera heterophylla*), which continues to germinate and will require constant follow-up. In VMU 20, behind the Volunteer Centre, we have been weeding around the plants put in on the Memorial Planting Day for Tim Fuhlbohm on 20th July 2019. Thank you to Ian Graham for brush-cutting on the difficult slope to cut back rampant weeds there. And thank you to Mark Pedlar, who has taken on the task of spot-spraying small olives coming up under the dead olives treated by Ross Handsaker in VMU 22.

It seems to be increasingly common that weather events are causing us to cancel bushcare sessions, with 3 sessions cancelled this month due to Severe Weather Warnings, and Total Fire Bans.

The Trees for Life contractors have completed their allocated Grant-funded hours working in VMU 9A. Although a great deal has been done, much more remains to be tackled. This important Greybox grassy woodland is home to some significant and beautiful native plants, including *Pterostylis cucullata* and *Prasophyllum pruinosum*, and it is distressing to see the Blowfly bush (*Rhamnus alaternus*) which is profuse in this one weedy area, spreading throughout the entire VMU. We would like to see more Grant money spent here to help us to remove this pest. Some of the large olives have been treated, and pittosporums cut down. Our thanks to Ross who will help us with some of those remaining.

Barb Raine

Bushcare Coordinator

1st December 2019