

SLCMA Catchment News 2025



September

Office: 101 Sarina Beach Rd
Sarina, QLD, 4737

Phone: (07) 4956 1388

Website:

www.sarinalandcare.org.au

Email:

admin@sarinalandcare.org.au

Office hours:

Mon/Wed: 9am-4pm

Tue/Thu: 9am-3pm

Fri: 9am-3.30pm

Please phone ahead to confirm availability, just in case we are out on a project or meeting.

Staff

Coordinator

Saskia von Fahland

Administration Officer

Helen Dangerfield

Project Officer

Rodney Fraser

Nursery Officer/ Field Supervisor

Susie Tomlinson

Field Team Leader

Dominique Jooste

Field Team

Adrian Brooks

Josh Ernst

Call us for information:

- ◇ Weed management
- ◇ Plant identification
- ◇ Land management
- ◇ Land for Wildlife

Volunteer opportunities:

SLCMA Community
Volunteer Program,
Wednesday, 9-12 noon.
Thursday, 2-5pm.

SLCMA Executive 24/25

Chair: Lachlan McBride

Vice-chair: Malcolm Warfield

Treasurer: Susan Andrews

Secretary: Karen May

Executive member:

Kath De Vita



SLCMA News!

Share Your Photos for Our 2026 Calendar!

We're putting together next year's Landcare Calendar and would love to share your favourite shots of local landscapes, farms, wildlife and community in action. If you've captured a special moment that celebrates our beautiful region, please send your photos through to: admin@sarinalandcare.org.au by **Monday 3rd November**.

Call for Photos

– 2026 Landcare Calendar



Get Involved!

We are looking for enthusiastic members to join our volunteer Management Committee at our next Annual General Meeting. It's a great way to have a say in local Landcare projects, share ideas, and help guide our direction for the year ahead. Please contact us to find out more.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Dom, who finished up with us this month. Dom has been a great asset to the Landcare team as both a Field Officer and Team Leader as part of the Reef Assist Program and other projects —bringing enthusiasm, hard work, and a genuine passion for caring for our environment. We wish Dom all the very best in her future endeavours and hope our paths cross again!

We're Hiring!

Join our dedicated Landcare field team!

- ◆ **Team Leader** – Ideal for someone with experience leading a team and skills in landscaping, restoration, or bush regeneration projects.
- ◆ **Field Officer** – We're looking for someone with a genuine interest or experience in environmental work, revegetation, or bush regeneration.

If you're passionate about caring for our local environment and enjoy hands-on outdoor work, we'd love to hear from you! To apply or learn more, contact us at coordinator@sarinalandcare.org.au or visit our website for more details [here](#).



Dom Jooste planting onsite

Frog Hotel Fun

We recently had the pleasure of visiting Homebush State School where students rolled up their sleeves to help construct a *Frog Hotel* for their school grounds! The activity was a great hands-on way to learn about the needs of our local froggy friends.

Together, we explored the key ingredients for a healthy frog habitat — shelter, moisture and hiding places — with PVC pipes and native plants providing the perfect little hideouts.

It was fantastic to see the students' enthusiasm for helping create a safe, welcoming space for frogs to call home!



Photo: D Petersen

Saskia & Miss Neil putting together the frog hotel



Photo: S. von Fahland

Help keep our Koalas safe this breeding season

It's koala breeding season and they are on the move. This means they are spending more time on the ground and are at higher risk of car strike and dog attack. Please drive carefully, especially at dawn and dusk, and keep dogs restrained. Watch for koalas crossing roads and report any injured or sick animals to your local wildlife rescue group.

Together, we can help keep our koalas safe.

SLCMA 'Plant of the Month'

This month's 'Plant of the Month' is:

Parachidendron pruinosum (Snow wood)

Family: Fabaceae

What is in a name? *Parachidendron* from Greek *para*, near and *dendron*, a tree, referring to its resemblance to *Archidendron* which is an imposing tree. *Prurinosum* from Latin *pruriens*, an itching sensation, a reference to the hairy surface of the leaves and stems.

Form: Tree to about 15m.

Bark: Dark reddish brown patterned with corky pustules.

Leaves: Alternate, bipinnate, 5-11 leaflets each 2-8mm x 15-25mm.

Flower: Fragrant, fluffy; white or greenish, later turning yellow, October to January.

Fruit: Twisted, flattened pods mature February to June; Seeds black, shiny, flat, oval shape.

Distribution: Grows in well developed rainforest and riparian zones.

Notes: Attracts bees and is a host for many butterflies. Is a useful screen, windbreak, street tree or shade tree, nitrogen fixing.

The "Plant of the Month" is currently available from the SLCMA Community Nursery. Landcare members are eligible to receive 1 free "Plant of the Month", throughout that month. This and other native plant species are also available for purchase at \$3.30 each. Visit our [website](https://anpsa.org.au/plant_profiles/parachidendron-pruinsum/) for latest plant order form. All plants are grown from locally sourced seed in the SLCMA Community Nursery by SLCMA staff and the SLCMA Volunteer team.

Information sourced from: https://anpsa.org.au/plant_profiles/parachidendron-pruinsum/, <https://bie.ala.org.au/species/id.biodiversity.org.au/taxon/apni/51436733#overview>



Photo: T. Pascoe

Flowers of snow wood

SLCMA Community Nursery Volunteer Program

Spring is in full swing, bringing ideal conditions for sowing and growing in the nursery. Our dedicated volunteers have been hard at work gathering, cleaning, and sowing seeds. Thanks to their efforts, germination is going strong, and the seedlings will soon be ready for potting—keeping everyone busy and productive!

We were also delighted to welcome new volunteers from the Sarina Selectability Clubhouse Program this month. It's great to have their group join our nursery mornings as part of their regular activities.

Our monthly seed collecting excursion took place on the last Wednesday of the month, with a trip to Carmila Beach. Volunteers were joined by the Field Team, who were carrying out scheduled maintenance at a Reef Assist Program project site nearby. The area was rich in seeding native species, providing a fantastic opportunity to replenish our seed bank. Participants also gained valuable experience in plant identification and seed collection techniques.

Thank you to all our volunteers—new and returning—for your continued enthusiasm and support!

If you would like to volunteer in your local community and meet new people while learning about local native plants and their propagation, come along to the SLCMA Community

Volunteer days, every Wednesday, 9am to 12noon and, Thursday, 2pm to 5pm. For more details contact SLCMA on 4956 1388. The SLCMA Community Volunteer Program is proudly supported by Mackay Regional Council, Natural Environment Levy.



Photo: S. Tomlinson

Volunteers & RAP Team seed collecting at Carmila beach

Sarina Community Native Gardens

The Sarina Community Native Gardens is a hidden gem ready to be explored! Discover our region's unique native flora on a self-guided stroll. Want more insight? Book a group guided walk with our friendly Landcare staff. Whether you're a plant lover or a curious wanderer, there's something for everyone. Contact us at 4956 1388 or admin@sarinalandcare.org.au to plan your visit today!



Photos: D. Jooste

Engaging Saltmarsh Workshop

SLCMA staff enjoyed the opportunity to attend the "Engaging Saltmarsh Workshop" in late August, facilitated by Pioneer Catchment and Landcare Group and MangroveWatch. It was a great day bringing industry professionals and community leaders together to explore the vital role of saltmarsh ecosystems, sharing knowledge of values, threats and creative project ideas for conservation.

Photo: contributed



In the afternoon session, we rolled up our sleeves and headed into the field – immersing ourselves in the saltmarsh at Bucasia and completing a MangroveWatch survey to assess the condition of the local habitat.

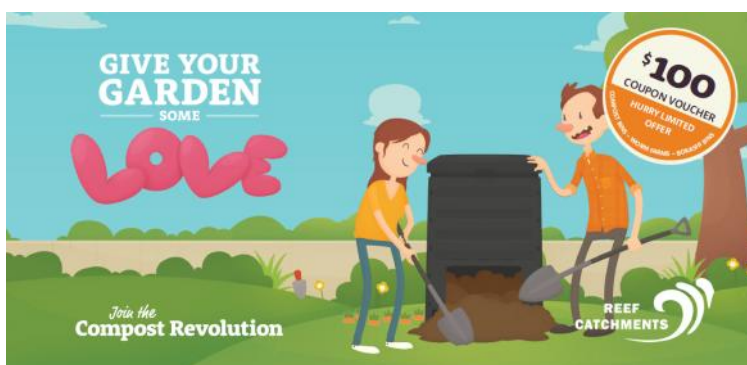
Thank you PCL and MangroveWatch for organising a great, informative, collaborative event!

Soana (MangroveWatch), Christine (WCL), Saskia (SLCMA) undertaking survey of the saltmarsh

Photo: PCL

Workshop attendees—ready to survey saltmarsh at Bucasia

Workshop attendees—ready to survey saltmarsh at Bucasia and completing a MangroveWatch survey to assess the condition of the local habitat.



Join the Compost Revolution

Reef Catchments is providing an opportunity for community members in the Mackay and Whitsunday region to have compost or worm farm bins at home.

To receive \$100 off your purchase, enter the coupon code: **REEFCATCHMENT100**

Register now at the following [website](https://compostrevolution.com.au/products/):
<https://compostrevolution.com.au/products/>

****First in basis, only 50 household spots available.**

Compost your food scraps and watch your garden grow!

This gift voucher entitles Mackay and Whitsunday residents to a discount on worm farms bokashi and compost bins – courtesy of the Reef Catchments' School Waste Minimisation Program. To redeem visit the web site below, enter your address then choose your products and enter the coupon code at checkout.

www.compostrevolution.com.au

Join the Compost Revolution

The School Waste Minimisation Program is funded by the partnership between the Australian Government's Reef Trust and the Great Barrier Reef Foundation.

\$100 OFF
HURRY LIMITED OFFER
WORM FARMS - COMPOST BINS - BOKASHI BINS
Enter REEFCATCHMENT100 at the checkout.

Illustration of a large black compost bin, a smaller green-lidded bin, and a green worm farm.

Australian Government
REEF TRUST
Great Barrier Reef Foundation
REEF CATCHMENTS

Have your say on Queensland's Biosecurity Review

Under the Biosecurity Act 2014, certain pests, pathogens and diseases are regulated as *prohibited* or *restricted matter* to protect human health, industry, the economy, the environment and our way of life. Amendments made in April 2024 under the Agriculture and Fisheries and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024 will move the prohibited and restricted matter lists from the Act to the Biosecurity Regulation 2016. These lists identify high-risk species and assign management actions to control them effectively. Before this transition, the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries is reviewing the lists to ensure they are scientifically current, meet legislative criteria and reflect Queensland's specific risk profiles.

A **discussion paper** outlines the proposed updates and their potential impacts on local government, industry, farmers and the community. Public feedback will help shape the final lists to ensure Queensland's biosecurity framework remains strong, practical and effective. Consultation is open from 29 September **until 5pm on 27 October**, and all stakeholders are encouraged to have their say. To read the discussion paper and provide feedback, visit here: <https://dpi.engagementhub.com.au/biosecurity-prohibited-restricted-matter>



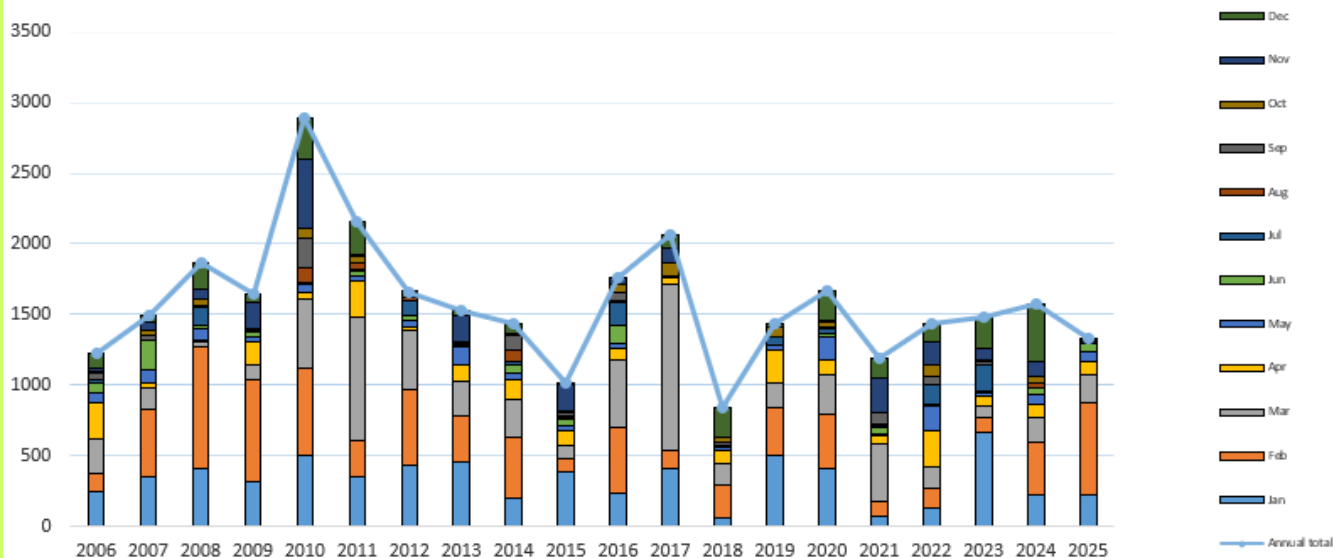
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What SLCMA Membership does for you!

A membership with SLCMA has many rewards:

- ◇ Easy access to Natural Resource Management information and extension
- ◇ Monthly newsletter, meeting minutes, progress and project reports
- ◇ A vote on issues in your catchment
- ◇ A say in the types of projects applied for
- ◇ Up to 10 free local native seedlings/year from the SLCMA Community Nursery
- ◇ Invitations to Natural Resource Management field days and workshops
- ◇ Copy of the SLCMA Annual Report

Monthly rainfall for SLCMA Office, 2006 -2025 (inc. annual total)



Please consider donating your Containers for Change to SLCMA. You can quote SLCMA's Scheme ID#C10002138 when you deposit your eligible containers **or**, you can drop your containers to us. It is a great way to help the environment and the community. You can reduce waste, save energy, and contribute to local environment projects and programs.



SLCMA's Scheme ID
C10002138



A partnership for the natural resource management of catchments in the Central Queensland Coast Bioregion: Pioneer, Sarina & Whitsunday Catchments.

Just for fun!

Q. Why are trees so good at networking?
 A. Because they are constantly branching out

Q. What did the carrot say to the other root vegetables?
 A. You're looking radishing today!

Q. How do plants contact each other?
 A. With the tel-leaf-phone



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SLCMA is proudly supported by:



Community Bank
 Sarina

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