

## **FoBNP Bushcare Report for March 2020**

In March the Friends of Belair National Park bushcarers worked a total of 191.5 hours.

- 102 hours in VMU 9
- 69.5 hours in VMU 20
- 20 hours in VMU 31

We started the month working with the Trees for Life contractor in VMU 20, at the site of old Court 37. Collectively we made a big difference to this site, removing Poplar, Dog-rose, Ash, and Thistles, and some rare *Carex sp.* (Sedges) have now been protected. We then continued our work on VMU 9, and have now completed a sweep of this important Grey Box area, removing Boneseed, Rhamnus and Olives. We also worked in the Railway Dam area, where Verbena would have otherwise gone to seed, and many small ash trees needed to be taken out.

Our thriving third Saturday group did an excellent job removing Boneseed from VMU 31.

After receiving advice from DEW Volunteer Management, we have had to cancel all bushcare activities in the Park due to the Corona virus pandemic. While this directive makes us very sad, fortunately we are still permitted to walk in the Park, maintaining appropriate physical distancing. At this difficult time, when most of us are self-isolating to stay safe and well, that is indeed a great help, to get some much-needed exercise in BNP's beautiful surroundings. And this assists us to sustain our mental health.

We hope all our wonderful volunteers remain safe and well, and that, because of our compliance with stay-at-home rules as much as possible, we will all be able to return to our bushcare work as soon as possible.

Barb Raine

Bushcare Coordinator

Friends of Belair National Park Inc.

6th April 2020