



Illegal Vegetation Damage - Mant Street, Point Vernon

Herbicide poisoning has been confirmed as the cause of die-back and death of a section of bushland vegetation in the public foreshore reserve on Mant Street.

A chemical analysis, conducted by an independent consultant, detected the presence of residual herbicide in the soil. Residual herbicides remain active in the soil for extended periods and as a result it will take many years to re-establish the natural environment that has been lost.

In order to rehabilitate the site following the illegal vegetation damage on the reserve and ensure public safety, we will install temporary fencing with mesh infill panels that will contain environmental educational messages. The panels will be designed to be both attractive and educational. Council will also conduct rehabilitation activities on the site, including revegetating the area. When plants are established and have grown to the height of the temporary fence, the fencing will be removed.

Poisoned trees will be retained on site as roosts and nesting habitat, particularly for birds, and allowed to decompose naturally. Members of the public may be interested to know that the area of Gatakers Bay where this vandalism occurred supports a variety of wildlife, including almost 100 different bird species.

The cost of assessing environmental vandalism, and restoring and protecting damaged sites, is ultimately carried by the entire community.

These actions aim to raise awareness of illegal vegetation damage and demonstrate Council's and the community's zero tolerance for such obvious damage on Council managed land.

If members of the public have any information which could assist with identifying those responsible for the vegetation damage they can report it confidentially on 1300 79 49 29.



Vegetation displaying damage from poisoning



Vegetation damage areas



Similar example of proposed temporary fencing