



REHABILITATION OF CASTLEREAGH RIVERBANK, GILGANDRA

In early 2019, Gilgandra Shire Council staff completed a rehabilitation of a 500m frontage of the Castlereagh River as part of a larger project - *Beautification of the Windmill Walking and Cycling Track*.

Challenges overcome by people power

Due to the proximity to the river, no chemicals of any kind were used. Introduced trees and invasive ground covers were removed purely by hand and hand-tool, proving to be extremely labour intensive.

The Castlereagh's steep banks were also a challenge, with all works needing to be completed without machinery due to access and safety concerns.

Drought conditions resulted in the site requiring daily hand watering until plants established. This helped kickstart the long-term monitoring of the site needed to prevent the return of weeds.

- Re-established understory habitat for native insects, birds and animals
- Re-planted with native riparian species, with a particular focus on flowering species
- Chemical-free, labour-intensive weed removal and control methods used
- Over 500 'Native Wanderer' planted in the riverbed
- Positive community feedback received

Collaboration

This project was boosted by funding from the Central West Councils Environment and Waterways Alliance. The balance, labour and coordination were provided by Gilgandra Shire Council.



For more information

Mick Callan
Project Support Officer
Environment & Waterways Alliance
mick@neophemaenvironmental.com
Phone: 0438 580 342