

NEWEE CREEK

Rehabilitation of former banana land

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Landholder | Heath Addison |
| Map reference | 13 |
| Land use | Pasture, bush regeneration |
| Soil Erosion Solutions Grant | \$8,298 (earthworks, trees, fencing materials) |
| Landholder's in-kind contribution | \$8,000 (labour) |

The site

Part of this property had formerly been used as a banana plantation. The old tracks and gullied drainage lines were eroding and overrun with lantana.

The project

- > Slopes were reshaped to restore natural topography and drainage lines, and divert water flows away from erosion hot spots.
- > Old banana tracks were removed.
- > Three hectares of gullies and all slopes steeper than 15% were planted with native trees and shrubs.
- > Pasture was established on 2.5 ha of flatter land.



Heath Addison on the newly reworked banana plantation slope

The benefits

- > Eroding soil has stabilised.
- > Revegetation has improved soil health and fauna and flora biodiversity.
- > Weeds have been controlled.
- > The property now has manageable pasture areas.
- > Reduced sediment loss has improved water quality in the creek.



Groundcover established on the reworked slope

Landholder's experience

What was the **best thing** about this project?

"We would not have managed the financial aspect of restoration and prevention that this grant has allowed. Thank you."

What was the **most difficult** aspect of the project?

"The most difficult aspect is watching the noxious weeds sprouting right throughout the site. We have planted pasture; however the amount of weeds returning is a new problem that will require a lot of work for us in the future."



New fencing allows better management of the new pasture and tree plantings