



Record of on-site meeting at Magpie Hill with Jeff Abrecht, ACT Government arborist and Sarah Sharp, Ecologist and former resident – 5 February 2020.



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The site includes a mix of remnant trees (some 100 years plus) and a number of planted trees.

Woodland tree species include:

*Eucalyptus macrorhyncha*, *E. polyanthemos*, *E. blakelyi*, *E. melliodora*, *E. dives*, *E. mannifera* and *E. pauciflora*. Overall the quality of the trees is good.

There is a lack of understorey vegetation due to drought, compaction and mowing regimes. Sarah Sharp reports in the past she has observed *Bulbine bulbosa* and Chocolate Lilies (seed must be in the soil). On site there was evidence of *Lomandra*, *Chrycocephalum* and *Cassinia*.

Jeff Albrecht was supportive of installing swales (to capture runoff and infiltrate into the soil) in order to support new plantings. He advised that the swales must be at least 2 metres outside the dripline of healthy trees.

TCCS will not remove trees that are dead or dying unless they put the public at risk due to branch fall. Dead trees provide perching places and hollows for birds and their bark provides habitat for invertebrates.

Sarah recommends increased plant layers to attract small birds. Sarah recommended Nicki Taws from Greening Australia as an expert on the sorts of plants appropriate as an understorey under woodland species. Edwina worked with

Nicki Taws and ACT for Bees in 2018 to develop a bird and pollinator attracting species list for the Birdscaping #CBR project on David St, O'Connor opposite Turner Primary.

Jeff recommends that we can create a plan for mowing contractors to show areas that we don't want mowed to allow regeneration to occur.

The main shrubby weed in the park was Cootamundra Wattle, *Acacia baileyana* which could be removed by the group.

Sarah recommends incorporating logs, branches (to increase biodiversity) and Jeff said TCCS could supply logs for the project.



Edwina Robinson