



Company Profile


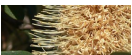
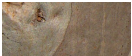






COMPANY PROFILE

Contact Details & Index

CONTACT DETAILS

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INDEX

	Company overview Page 3
	Summary of services..... Page 3
	Detailed description of services..... Page 4
	Previous bush regeneration & revegetation experience Page 5
	Previous bush care support & training experience Page 9
	Previous seed collection experience Page 10
	Previous Consultation experience..... Page 11
	Key staff profiles..... Page 13
	Ecohort's main sub-contractors..... Page 25

Company Overview

COMPANY OVERVIEW

Ecohort Pty Ltd offers a wide range of integrated and professional bush regeneration, re-vegetation, landscaping and native vegetation management contracting and consultancy services.

Edgar Freimanis is Ecohort's Managing Director. Since 1989, Edgar has had experience in the native vegetation management & restoration fields. Ecohort also has 15 senior staff who have completed formal horticultural and/or environmental and bush regeneration training. Members of the team have up to 7 years experience running a wide range of bush regeneration, re-vegetation and seed collection projects in the greater Sydney region. A number of additional staff work on a part-time basis and we are able to increase staffing levels quite rapidly by liaising with our extensive network of industry contacts in response to demand.

The Ecohort base team is able to undertake both small & large-scale projects in a professional and timely manner for a range of private and public sector clients.

Ecohort and our hand-picked range of qualified and experienced subcontractors, utilise a range of specialist plant equipment to assist in the effective implementation of our services. These include a number of utility vehicles, bobcats, tipper trucks, excavators, herbicide spray carts, watering carts, mechanical clearing equipment, chippers, chainsaws, brush cutters and specialist hand and machine operated planting systems.

The Ecohort business is supported by an office, workshop and depot facility at Glenhaven in the Hills District of Sydney.

Ecohort has all required insurances and we have developed Environmental Management Plans, OH&S and Quality Assurance policies to assist with the professional delivery of all of our services.

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

Ecohort Pty Ltd offers the following services:

- Bushland regeneration & weed control
- Re-vegetation/landscaping, planting installation and maintenance, project management & installation
- Projects that use local native plants are our speciality
- Native seed collection & organising the propagation of local native plant material
- Vegetation restoration and management consulting services
- Bushcare and Landcare group support & training

Services in Detail

Bush Regeneration and Weed Control

Ecohort specialises in implementing small and large scale bush regeneration and environmentally sympathetic weed control works.

Bush regeneration is the practice of restoring bushland in areas where there is native plant resilience, which together with time and intervention such as weed control, will encourage the natural regeneration of local native bushland.

Our project managers, site supervisors and senior staff have extensive experience in managing and implementing a variety of bush regeneration and weed control projects, as well as having TAFE bush regeneration qualifications and being members of the Australian Association of Bush Regenerators (AABR). We have most expertise in the regeneration of plant communities in western Sydney, but have experience and the capacity to undertake works in the greater Sydney region.

Re-vegetation, Landscaping, Planting and Maintenance Projects

Ecohort has expertise in the installation and management of small and large-scale re-vegetation, landscaping, planting and maintenance projects. Our niche market includes the use of local native plants for these projects, although we are happy to quote on any re-vegetation job.

Our highly skilled management and field teams and hand-picked sub-contractors can install and manage re-vegetation, landscaping, planting and maintenance jobs to high quality-assured standards, at fair and competitive prices.

Native Seed Collection and the Propagation of Local Native Plant Material

Ecohort can collect native plant seed and vegetative material on contract from specific areas, state wide.

We also have a seed bank, which contains some 1000 batches of native seeds collected from the western Sydney, Blue Mountains and Illawarra Regions. These seeds can be purchased on request.

In addition, we can organise the propagation of collected seeds and vegetative material using one of our specialist sub-contractor nurseries at very competitive prices.

Ecohort staff satisfy DLWC section 3A permit and Threatened Species Conservation Act (1995) guidelines as part of the collection of seed and vegetative material.

Vegetation Assessment, Restoration and Management Consultancy Services

We offer vegetation assessment, restoration and management consulting services including:

- Flora and fauna assessments
- Bush regeneration and re-vegetation advice, planning, audits and specifications
- Vegetation management plans, bushland and weed management plans
- Weed and Native Vegetation mapping using GIS technology.

The preparation of Threatened Species Conservation Act (1995) 8 Part Test and Species Impact Statements, Rivers and Foreshores Act 3A permit compliant Vegetation Management Plans, native vegetation impact assessments and impact mitigation plans, bush regeneration and re-vegetation project planning and audits, are amongst our specialties.





BUSH REGENERATION AND RE-VEGETATION CONTRACTS

Baulkham Hills Shire Council 1998 - ongoing

Selective bushfire hazard reduction, bush regeneration clearing at 14 Baulkham Hills Shire Council reserves, over approximately 7.7 hectares of urban interface, in a number of plant communities, including Sydney Sandstone Ridgetop vegetation, and the endangered Blue Gum High Forest and Shale Sandstone Transition Forest endangered ecological communities. 2006.

Cattai Creek Headwaters - Bush regeneration of remnant Shale Sandstone Transition Forest and planting of 14,000 plants in riparian areas of Cattai Creek over a three year period. 2003—2006.

Cockayne Reserve - Bush regeneration of remnant Shale Sandstone Transition Forest and Riverflat Forest at Castle Hill. 2002 - ongoing.

Regeneration and reconstruction of Riverflat Forest at Michael Duggin Drain at Lower Portland, 2002 - ongoing.

Annangrove Park, Annangrove - Regeneration of Turpentine Ironbark Forest. 2000 - ongoing.

Col Sutton Park, Baulkham Hills - Hand-weeding and spot spraying of weeds in bushland in Shale Sandstone Transition Forest along a cycleway adjoining Col Sutton Park. 1999.

Sophia Doyle Reserve, Baulkham Hills - Target weeding of woody weeds in Hawkesbury Sandstone Gully Forest at Sophia Doyle Reserve, Baulkham Hills. 1998.

Hawkesbury City Council 2004 - 2009

Bush regeneration at Bellbird Hill Reserve. 2004—2006.

Bush regeneration, weed control and reconstruction of Riverflat Forest along 2.5 kilometres of South Creek on either side of the Fitzroy Bridge on Windsor Road at Windsor. 2006 until 2009.

Sydney Water 2001 - 2005

Bushland regeneration of Shale Sandstone Transition Forest and Sydney Sandstone Gully Forest along Smalls Creek between Samantha Riley Drive and Withers Rd, Kellyville area. 2005.

Bushland regeneration of Shale Sandstone Transition Forest and Sydney Sandstone Gully Forest along Smalls Creek between Wrights Rd and Vantage Crescent, Kellyville area. 2002—2005.

Cumberland Plain Woodland reconstruction and screening plantings of disused pasture at the Picton STP and surrounding pump stations with 20,000 tube-stock grown at our nursery from seed collected in Cumberland Plain remnants in the Picton region. 2001—2002.

Blacktown City Council 1997 - 2007

Reconstruction planting and 12 months maintenance of 30,000 Cumberland Plain Woodland and Sydney Coastal Riverflat Forest plants at two creek line and wetland sites at Seven Hills and Plumpton for Blacktown City Council. 2006—2007.

Bushland regeneration and reconstruction of Cumberland Plain Woodland and Riverflat Forest at Blacktown Creek and Timbertop Reserve for Blacktown Council. Included the planting of 10,000 hiko tubes and 20,000 grass cells. These works were undertaken under various contracts between 2000 and 2005.

Regeneration and reconstruction of Riverflat Forest in the Eastern Creek catchment. Included ecological burns to control weeds and stimulate regeneration at Aquilina Reserve, Doonside. 1998 and 2000.

Cumberland Plain Woodland reconstruction planting of 500 local native plants with Mt Druitt High School (supervising 500 students on a planting day) for Blacktown City Council. Including a maintenance program. 1997—1998.

Experience

BUSH REGENERATION AND REVEGETATION CONTRACTS

Wollongong City Council 2005 - ongoing

Bushfire hazard reduction bush regeneration clearing at 12 sites in the Woonona, Coalcliff, Wombarra and Coledale areas.

Waverley Council 2006 - 2007

Bush regeneration works, bushland management plan composition and selective stabilisation and re-vegetation of local native Sydney sandstone heath vegetation at Bronte Beach Reserve.

Campbelltown City Council 2006 - 2007

Bush regeneration and reconstruction plantings along a section of creek line that supports Cumberland Plain Woodland and Riverflat Forest at Pembroke Park in Minto.

Strathfield Municipal Council 2006

Bush regeneration weeding in remnant salt marsh, mangroves and replanted sections of terrestrial local native vegetation at Mason Park in Homebush.

Fairfield City Council 1998 - 2001

Bush regeneration, re-vegetation and maintenance works at Prout Park, Mount Pritchard, along Burns Creek at Fairfield West and at the Cabramatta Bat Colony at Cabramatta.

Department of Environment and Conservation 2006 - 2008

Bush regeneration along a five kilometre long and 10 metre wide disused gas pipeline corridor through Sydney Sandstone Ridgetop and Gully Forest vegetation in Lane Cove National Park at North Ryde.

RailCorp 1999 - 2007

Weed control, site mulching and re-vegetation using local native plant species of a 6500m² section of the Rail Corridor at Flemington. 2005—2007

Weed control and bush regeneration over a 22 kilometre section of Rail Corridor between Marrickville and Yagoona along the Metro South – West line, 2005—2006.

Weed control, site mulching and re-vegetation using local native plant species of various sections of the Freight Line Rail Corridor at Sydenham. 2004—2005.

Olympic Rail Corridor Greening Project on the Western Line, Auburn to Emu Plains: Weed control and re-vegetation works over 20 sites between Auburn and Emu Plains, including regeneration and reconstruction of Cumberland Plain Woodland including planting 20,000 tube stock, mulching and 12 months of post-planting maintenance. 1999—2001.

WSN Environmental Solutions (ex Waste Service NSW) 2003 - 2007

Collecting local native seeds, supplying, planting, irrigating and maintaining 12,500 Cumberland Plain Woodland plants over a 12 hectare rehabilitated landform area at the closed down Grange Rd, Marsden Park landfill site, for WSN Environmental Solutions. 2005—2007

Target bush regeneration weeding of woody weeds in Sandstone Bushland adjoining WSN's Belrose Tip site. 2006.

Collecting local native seeds, supplying, planting, irrigating and maintaining 11,500 Cumberland Plain Woodland plants over a 10 hectare rehabilitated landform area at Area 4, Eastern Creek Waste Management Centre. 2004—2005.

Collecting local native seeds, supplying, planting, irrigating and maintaining 9,000 Castlereagh Woodland and forest plants over a 10 hectare rehabilitated landform area at the closed Castlereagh Tip site. 2003—2005.

Supplying, planting, irrigating and maintaining 3,000 Cumberland Plain Woodland plants over three rehabilitated landform areas at the Eastern Creek Waste Management Centre. 2003—2005.



BUSH REGENERATION AND REVEGETATION CONTRACTS

Landcom 2005 - 2007

Bush regeneration of the endangered Illawarra Sub-tropical Rainforest and Illawarra Lowland Grassy Woodlands and reconstruction plantings, using local native plants along bushland edges at Stoney Range Reserve and surrounds at Blackbutt, Shellharbour.

Department of Defence 2003

Bush regeneration of Cumberland Plain Woodland at the Orchard Hills site during 2003 for Department of Defence and Defence Maintenance Management.

Olympic Coordination Authority 1999 - 2001

Impact assessment planning and restoration of Dry Vine Rainforest and grassy ground-layered Cumberland Plain Woodland at Fairfield City Farm, before and after the Sydney 2000 Olympics Mountain Bike Event, between 1999 and 2001.

Taronga Zoo (Asset Management) 2001 - 2002

The Centenary Viewing Platform Slope Stabilisation Project. Soil remediation and stabilisation works over a 4500m² area, supply and installation of 15,000 local Sydney Sandstone Gully Forest and Woodland tube-stock and maintenance of area.

Landscape Solutions 2006 - 2008

Topsoiling, mulching, bush regeneration and reconstruction planting of 20,000 of Turpentine Ironbark Forest and freshwater wetland plants of a riparian area associated with Stage 2 Student Accommodation Building at Macquarie University. RFI Act 3 A Permit Vegetation Management Plan.

GM Baden Pty Ltd 2006 - 2008

Creek line stabilisation, mulching and reconstruction of local native Sydney Coastal Riverflat Forest by planting local native tube-stock and direct seeding areas with locally collected native grass seed on a section of Bungaribee Creek at Arndell Park.

Senator Management Pty Ltd 2006 - 2008

Bush regeneration and reconstruction of Shale Sandstone Transition Forest and Riverflat Forest along a 300 metre long section of Smalls Creek on Sydney Water lands. RFI Act 3 A Permit Vegetation Management Plan.

Thiess John Holland 2004 - 2006

Various bush regeneration and re-vegetation jobs and flora impact assessments and mitigation plans associated with the Lane Cove Tunnel project.

John Holland Group 2005 - 2006

Various re-vegetation jobs to rehabilitate local native Cumberland Plain Woodland and Shale Sandstone Transition Forest surrounding trunk drainage, sewer, potable and recycled water mains infrastructure constructed for Rouse Hill Stage 3.

Kurt Vegners 2006 - 2008

Seed collection, supply, installation and two years' maintenance of 15,000 local native Cumberland Plain Woodland and Sydney Coastal Riverflat Forest plants at a property development site at Denham Court. RFI Act 3 A Permit Vegetation Management Plan.

Penrith Lakes Development Corporation Ltd (PLDC) 2001 - 2006

Primary and follow-up bush regeneration weeding of Riverflat Forest along Cranebrook Creek and Cumberland Plain Woodland at the Cranebrook escarpment site. 2001 and 2004. Ecohort has also worked with PLDC in the past undertaking four Vegetation Consultancy Investigations, seed collection contracts and three previous bush regeneration/weed control projects on Nepean River and adjoining PLDC owned lands.

Experience

BUSH REGENERATION AND REVEGETATION CONTRACTS

Abigroup Contractors Pty Ltd 2000 - 2003

Bushland regeneration and reconstruction planting of four plant community types (Cumberland Plain Woodland, Sydney Coastal Riverflat Forest, Shale Sandstone Transition Forest and Sydney Sandstone Gully Forest) at various sites in the Rouse Hill and Kellyville areas, associated with the development of trunk drainage and sewer infrastructure for the Rouse Hill Infrastructure Development Project (Stage 2), for Abigroup Contractors P/L. The project involved the primary and follow-up weeding of three kilometres of riparian areas along Smalls and Caddies Creeks, seed collection of 40 local native plant species in the Smalls and Caddies Creek catchments, for use in subsequent native plant community reconstruction plantings; and planting and maintaining local native 70,000 forestry tubes and 180,000 grass cells over 27 sites that have been disturbed to accommodate sewer line development, creek line channelisation and culvert reconstruction. 1999–2000

Supply and planting of 13,000 local native plants to rehabilitate parts of the Warragamba Spillway. 2003.

Wirrimbirra Sanctuary/BradCorp 2003 - 2004

Bush regeneration and bushfire hazard reduction amongst remnant Cumberland Plain woodland at Nangarin Estate, Picton. The treated zones on this site were on steep terrain, over an area of more than seven hectares, adjoining new residential areas.

ASK Developments 2004 - 2007

Regeneration and reconstruction of remnant riparian vegetation and the endangered Blue Gum High Forest ecological community at Castle Hill. RFI Act 3 A Permit job.

Hammond Care Group 2005 - 2007

Regeneration and reconstruction of remnant riparian vegetation at Woy Woy. RFI Act 3 A Permit job.

Vigor Master Pty Ltd 2005 - 2007

Regeneration and reconstruction of remnant riparian vegetation and Blue Gum High Forest at Beecroft. RFI Act 3 A Permit job.

James Clifford Constructions Pty Ltd 2003 - 2005

Stabilisation, re-vegetation and two year maintenance of a creek line adjoining the St Marys RSL Club to satisfy DIPNR's Part 3A requirements with local native plant species.

Greening Australia and DIPNR 1998 - 2005

Bush regeneration of Riverflat Forest behind the Mamre Homestead on South Creek.

Lower Colo River Landcare Group 2003

Bush regeneration and re-vegetation of riparian vegetation on the Colo River.



COMMUNITY BUSHCARE TRAINING AND SUPPORT

Redeemer Baptist School 2004 - 2007

Training and supervision of Redeemer Baptist School students, teachers and staff in bush regeneration re-vegetation and maintenance tasks along a 300 metre long section of creek line at the North Parramatta School site. Works are being carried out as required.

Hawkesbury City Council 2004 - 2007

Supervision of Bushcare volunteers at Hawkesbury City Council's Bellbird Hill Reserve site. Works are being carried out once a month.

Landcare Illawarra Ltd. 2002 - 2003

Co-ordination, training and facilitation of Landcare groups for seed collection and processing throughout the Illawarra Region (Wollongong, Kiama and Shellharbour LGAs), for Landcare Illawarra Ltd.

Mulgoa Valley Landcare Group 1998 - 2000

Landcare support and training, involving the regeneration of Riverflat Forest at various sites along Mulgoa Creek for the Mulgoa Valley Landcare Group.

Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment

Management Trust Works 1998 - 1999

Landcare support and re-vegetation along two kilometers of creek bank at South Creek, Windsor for the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Trust Works.

Narellan Landcare Group 1999

Regeneration of Cumberland Plain Woodland, including control of African Boxthorn and herbaceous weeds in remnant grassland at Narellan for the Narellan Landcare Group.

Baulkham Hills Shire Council 1998 - 2000

Supervising Bushcare volunteers working on a section of remnant Blue Gum High Forest as required at Richard Webb Reserve.

Experience

SEED COLLECTION CONTRACTS

WSN Environmental Solutions 2004 - 2006

Collection of Castlereagh Woodland tree and shrub seeds for ongoing re-vegetation works at the closed Castlereagh site.

Pittendrigh, Shinkfield and Bruce Landscape Architects, and Stockland 2003 - 2004

Collection of Cumberland Plain Woodland and Sydney Coastal Riverflat Forest plant species at the old CSIRO site and surrounding areas for proposed re-vegetation works along Greystanes Creek.

North West P/L. Contract administered by Pittendrigh, Shinkfield and Bruce Landscape Architects 2002 - 2003

Seed collection along Elizabeth Macarthur Creek in the Bella Vista area for proposed re-vegetation works.

Seed collection of Hanging Swamp and Sydney Sandstone plant species at Katoomba Golf Course for Pittendrigh, Shinkfield and Bruce Landscape Architects. Contract Value \$5,500

Department of Public Works ongoing

Seed collection of Castlereagh Woodland plant species John Morony Gaol for Contract Value \$4,000

Penrith Lakes Development Corporation 1997

Seed collection of plant species from Cumberland Plain Woodland and Castlereagh Woodland plant communities.

Australian Defence Forces, Holsworthy 1996 - 99

Seed collection of plant species from Cumberland Plain Woodland, Castlereagh Woodland and Sydney Sandstone plant communities.

Statewide Roads March 1998

Seed Collection of plant species from Cumberland Plain Woodland plant communities for use on the M4 Motorway upgrade.

Transgrid 1997 - 1988

Seed collection of plant species from Cumberland Plain Woodland plant communities.

Greening Australia 1997

Seed collection of plant species from Cumberland Plain Woodland plant communities.

Experience

CONSULTANCY JOBS

Campbelltown City Council 2006

Bushland Management Plans for two Koala habitat areas in the Campbelltown LGA.

Waverly Council 2006

Bushland Management Plan for Bronte Beach.

Campbelltown Golf Course 2006

Vegetation Management Plan.

EDAW Baulkham Hills Shire Council 2006

Bushland Management Plan component for a Landscape Rehabilitation Master Plan for Upper Toongabbie Creek in the Baulkham Hills LGA.

Rouse Hill Infrastructure Consortium Pty Ltd 2005

Bushland (Sydney Coastal Riverflat Forest, Cumberland Plain Woodland and Shale Sandstone Transition Forest) and Landscape Rehabilitation and Restoration Planning for Stage 3 Water, Sewerage and Trunk Drainage Works in the Balmoral Road Release and Second Ponds Creek Areas. Ecohort was in a team with PSB Landscape Architects and Sydney Environment and Soil Lab.

Pittendrigh, Shinkfield and Bruce and Stockland Developments 2004

Bushland Management Plan for Sydney Coastal Riverflat Forest and Cumberland Plain Woodland areas at the old CSIRO site along Girraween Creek, Prospect.

Pittendrigh, Shinkfield and Bruce and Stockland Developments 2003

Bushland Management Plan for a Blue Gum High Forest remnant at Mona Vale Rd, St Ives .

WSN Environment Services 2003

Bushland Management Plan for Sydney Coastal Riverflat Forest and Cumberland Plain Woodland areas at the Waste Service NSW site along Eastern and Reedy Creeks.

Auburn Golf Course 2002

Bush Regeneration and Reconstruction Plan of Works for Auburn Golf Course. Included detailed descriptions and strategies for the restoration of remnant Cooks River/Castlereagh Ironbark Forest and Sydney Coastal Riverflat Forest along Duck River and other lands within Auburn Golf Course.

Storm Consulting P/L 2001

Vegetation Management Plan for remnant Cooks River/Castlereagh Ironbark Forest and habitat areas along an upper catchment section of the Cooks River, at Chullora. A report was produced for Pacific National to meet DIPNR RFI Act Vegetation Management Plan guidelines.

Bushland Management Plan for areas of remnant Turpentine Ironbark Forest and Shale Sandstone Transition Forest at the Hills district Pony Club site.

Bewsher Consulting and Fairfield City Council 1999 - 2001

Native Vegetation Impact Assessment and Vegetation Restoration Plan for Proposed Drainage Works on remnant Sydney Coastal Riverflat Forest and Cumberland Plain Woodland on Upper Clear Paddock Creek in Bonnyrigg.

Penrith Lakes Development Corporation (PLDC) 2001

Weed Mapping and Weed Management Plan on five kilometres of Nepean River bank and mine site lands. This involved three separate contracts for PLDC

PSB Landscape Architects in 2000

Bushland Management Plan at Katoomba Golf Course.

Cattai CMC between 1999 and 2000

Ecology of the Maroota Sandmass. A one year regional flora and fauna study.

Experience

CONSULTANCY JOBS cont.

Olympic Coordination Authority, 1999 and 2000.

Native Vegetation Impact Assessment and Vegetation Restoration Plan for the Sydney 2000 Olympics Mountain Bike Event area at Fairfield City Farm.

Fairfield City Council 1995 and 1996

Assessing the impacts and prescribing mitigation actions for the restoration and conservation of Sydney Coastal Riverflat Forest and Cumberland Plain Woodland for six past projects, including two drainage developments at Burns Creek, one along Upper Clear Paddock Creek in the Bonnyrigg area, and one at Stockdale Reserve, Abbotsbury; a bike track and associated works along Orphan School Creek at Carramar; a section of Orphan School Creek at Greenfield Park; a section of Cumberland Plain woodland at Rafter Crescent, Abbotsbury; and a Western Sydney Urban Bushland Biodiversity Survey - an assessment of bushland remnants and native plant bio-diversity in the Fairfield and Blacktown Local Government areas for the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Key Staff Profiles

Edgar Freimanis: Director and Senior Project Manager

Edgar is the Director of Ecohort Pty Ltd. He is also the Ecohort quality representative and environmental representative.

Edgar has worked in the bush regeneration field since 1989. This work started in the Lithgow area as a part of his University degree. During these studies Edgar also worked as a bush regenerator on River-flat Forest on NSW Agriculture lands at Camden. He also worked as a bush regenerator for Urban Bushland Management at sites including Excelsior Reserve, the Lane Cove River, Smiths Creek at Campbelltown and Darvall Reserve, Denistone, from 1992–1993. Four years were spent with Greening Australia undertaking bushland regeneration and re-vegetation supervision, management, and extension throughout the western Sydney region between 1992–1996. In 1996, Edgar was a tutor for the Bush Regeneration Certificate course and Plant Propagation elective at Ryde TAFE.

Since 1995, Edgar has been operating Ecohort Pty Ltd - a business which has completed numerous projects, primarily in western Sydney in the following fields:

- flora and fauna surveys and bushland management plans/consultancy
- wholesale nursery- propagating tubes native to the Sydney Region
- bushland regeneration, seed collection and re-vegetation contracting

The Ecohort bush regeneration and re-vegetation contracting business has been operating, in effect, since 1994. Since that time the company has completed a diverse range of bush regeneration and re-vegetation contracts throughout the Sydney region. Edgar has worked with numerous community groups, local, state and federal government agencies, construction firms and development proponents in the field of native vegetation assessment and restoration.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Applied Science (Horticulture), University of Western Sydney, Hawkesbury (1992)
- Bush Regeneration Certificate, Padstow TAFE (1990)
- Train the Trainer Certificate (1993)
- Farm Chemical Users Trainers Course
- Certificate III in Bushland Regeneration
- Chainsaw Operations (Level 1)
- Senior First Aid
- OHS Induction Card
- RISI Card
- Work Safely at Heights

Key Staff Profiles

Andrejs Lasmanis: Site Supervisor

Andrejs has over 30 years experience working in the landscaping industry, including hard and soft, domestic and commercial, landscape installation and maintenance, and has been one of our senior Supervisors since commencing with Ecohort in 2000. Some of the work Andrejs has undertaken during his landscaping career has included paving, rock-wall construction, track construction, and various types of small and large scale drainage works. Projects he has been involved with have included planting 3,000 street trees for Liverpool City Council, supervision of the Olympic Corridor Greening Project along the Western Line between Auburn and Emu Plains, the construction of paths and rock armouring drainage work at Moore Reserve for Kogarah Council, and numerous other bush regeneration works for a variety of clients.

Qualifications:

- Certificate of Horticulture, Ryde TAFE (1984)
- Bush Regeneration Certificate II, Ryde TAFE
- Chainsaw Operations (Level 2) Richmond TAFE (2007)
- Senior First Aid
- RISI Card
- OHS Induction Card
- Chemical Accreditation (AQFIII)_
- Work Safely at Heights

Alexandra McCarthy: Site Supervisor / Project Officer / GIS Support

Alex has been working as a bush regenerator since 2001, and as a Supervisor since the beginning of 2005, supervising a large number of bush regeneration and weed control works undertaken by Ecohort for Wollongong City Council, Wollondilly Shire Council, and Landcom, mainly in the Wollongong and Shellharbour areas.

Qualifications:

- Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management, Charles Sturt University (2009)
- Bachelor of Teaching (Primary), University of Wollongong (2002)
- Certificate II Bushland Regeneration, Yallah TAFE (2000)
- Bachelor of Science (Physical Geography), University of Wollongong (1999)
- Associate Diploma in Engineering (Land Information Systems) Wollongong TAFE (1996)
- Chainsaw Operations (Level 1)
- ChemCert Accreditation (AQFIII and AQFIV)
- Senior First Aid
- RISI Card
- OHS Induction Card



Key Staff Profiles

Stephen Norman: Site Supervisor

Steve has worked for Ecohort since early 2006 as a bush regenerator. Prior to this Steve spent 8 years supervising 'work-for-the-dole' teams undertaking a range of bush regeneration and outdoor construction activities in the Penrith area.

Qualifications:

- Certificate II in Occupational Studies Horticulture (1997)
- Certificate II in Bushland Regeneration (1998)
- Chainsaw Operations (Level I)
- Senior First Aid Certificate
- RISI Card
- OHS Induction Card
- Chemical Accreditation (AQFIII)

Michael Bremer: Site Supervisor

Michael has been working as a bush regenerator and irrigation installation specialist for Ecohort since February 2005. In addition to assisting with the installation of irrigation systems on Ecohort's revegetation sites, Michael has mainly worked as a bush regeneration team member at various sites throughout Sydney in a variety of plant community types. Prior to being employed by Ecohort, Michael worked in the landscape contracting field for 7 years, undertaking weed maintenance, soft landscaping, hard landscaping, and irrigation activities.

Qualifications:

- Commercial Service Course Irrigation Installation Stage II (TAFE 1992)
- Certificate III Conservation and Land Management (2007)
- Chainsaw Operations (Level 1)
- Senior First Aid Certificate
- Chemical Accreditation (AQFIII)
- OHS Induction Card
- RISI Card
- Work Safely at Heights

Key Staff Profiles

Justin Keys: Site Supervisor / Project Officer

Justin began working as a trainee bush regenerator for Ecohort in April 2009. Since working for Ecohort, Justin has undertaken work in the Greater Western Sydney area for a variety of clients, including Baulkham Hills Shire Council, Wollondilly Council, Baulderstone & Hornibrook, Fairfield and Liverpool City Councils.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Science (Botany) UNE (In Progress)
- Certificate III in Conservation & Land Management (Natural Area Restoration) Padstow TAFE (2009)
- Certificate III in Horticulture (Padstow TAFE) 2009
- Certificate of Permaculture Design (1995)
- SmartTrain Chemical Accreditation (AQFII)
- Chainsaw Operations (Level 1)
- OHS Construction Induction Card

Joshua Thickpenny: Site Supervisor

Joshua joined Ecohort as a trainee bush regenerator in 2015 after changing his career path to realize his passion in environmental conservation. Josh recently completed a CALM course at TAFE which consolidates his bush regeneration training and skills development.

Qualifications:

- Certificate III in Conservation & Land Management (TAFE)
- OHS Construction Induction White Card
- SMARTtrain AQF3 Chemical Accreditation
- Working at Heights

Allan Chapple: Assistant Site Supervisor/Bush Regenerator

Allan is a trained and experienced bush regenerator and has been working for Ecohort Pty Ltd since January 2005. Since working for Ecohort, Allan has worked in various sites throughout Sydney in a variety of plant community types. Prior to being employed by Ecohort, Allan worked in the nursery industry for 7 years.

Qualifications:

- Certificate II in Bushland Regeneration (1998)
- Chainsaw Operations (Level 1)
- Chemical Accreditation (AQFIII)
- RISI Card
- OHS Induction Card



Staff Profiles

Mervyn Vessey: Assistant Site Supervisor/Bush Regenerator

Mervyn has worked in the field of bush regeneration since the beginning of 2005 and has worked as a bush regenerator for Ecohort since early 2008. Since working for Ecohort, Mervyn has undertaken a large variety of bush regeneration activities for a variety of clients, including Baulkham Hills Shire Council, Hawkesbury City Council, Baulderstone and Hornibrook, Delfin Lend Lease, and Taronga Zoo.

Qualifications:

- Certificate III in Conservation and Land Management (2004)
- Chainsaw Operations (Level 2)
- RISI Card
- SmartTrain Chemical Accreditation (AQFIII)
- OHS Induction Card

Mathew Kay: Bush Regenerator

Mathew has been with Ecohort since April 2010 on a casual basis. He is an integral part of Ecohort's bush regeneration team and has worked all over the Greater Sydney region.

Qualifications:

- Certificate IV in Conservation & Land Management
- Bachelor of Environmental Science (Environmental Rehabilitation) (2008)
- RISI Card
- OHS Induction Card
- Chainsaw Operations (Level 1)
- Chemical Accreditation (AQFIII)

Craig Horne: Bush Regenerator

Craig began working as a trainee bush regenerator for Ecohort in August 2008. Since working for Ecohort, Craig has undertaken work in the Greater Western Sydney area for a variety of clients, including Baulkham Hills Shire Council, Hawkesbury City Council, Baulderstone & Hornibrook, Penrith and Liverpool City Councils.

Qualifications:

- Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management (2011)
- RISI Card
- OHS Induction Card
- Chemical Accreditation (AQFIII)

Staff Profiles

Natalie James: Bush Regenerator

Natalie began working for Ecohort in May 2013 as a trainee Bush Regenerator. Her industry-related experience included volunteer work with the National Parks and Wildlife Service at Montague Island Nature Reserve in 2007, participating in revegetation works for the Little Penguin habitat by digging holes and planting tree tube-stock.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Environmental Science (Management) CSU (2010)
- OHS Construction Induction White Card
- Workplace EEO and OH&S (CSU)
- AQF3 Chemical Accreditation

Narelle Hulbert: Bush Regenerator

Narelle joined Ecohort in May 2013 as a casual trained Bush Regenerator. Narelle has had extensive experience in bushland management and has been working as a bush regenerator since 1990. She has also taught bushland management subjects at TAFE and other institutions.

Qualifications:

- Certificate in Bushland Regeneration (1993)
- Australian Wildflowers II (1991)
- Bush Management Introductory Course (National Trust of Australia) (1990)
- Computer Database Management (1990)
- Diploma in Teaching (Dip. Teaching)
- Chainsaw Operations (Level 1) (1996)
- Senior First Aid
- OHS Construction Induction White Card

Rebecca Hill: Bush Regenerator

Rebecca has worked in bush regeneration since 2008 as a team member and also as a site supervisor training other team members and Bushcare volunteers. She joined Ecohort in 2015.

Qualifications:

- Certificate III in Conservation & Land Management (TAFE) 2008
- OHS Construction Induction White Card
- AQF3 Chemical Accreditation
- Provide First Aid

Staff Profiles

Robert Shestanovich: Bush Regenerator

Robert has worked and volunteered all over the western Sydney LGA on environmental projects in Fairfield, Bankstown, Blacktown, Auburn, Holroyd, Liverpool, Penrith, Parramatta, Ryde, and outside the Sydney metro and beyond the Sydney Basin, Southern Highlands, and the Blue Mountains. Robert has been an active Bushcare volunteer for Liverpool Council Environmental Groups for over 14 years supporting conservation. He is also a member of Fairfield Creeks and Wetlands volunteers, and a member of Wiannamatta Bushcare Group via Penrith Council Bushcare volunteers. Robert has experience working in the Cumberland Plain Endangered Ecological Communities, such as Shale Plains Woodland, Shale Hills Woodland, Shale / Gravel Transition Forest, Shale / Sandstone Transition Forest, Alluvial Woodland / River Flat Forest, Western Sydney Dry Rainforest, within and outside of Sydney; as well as Sandstone vegetation communities. Robert joined Ecohort in 2015.

Qualifications:

- Certificate IV in Conservation & Land Management (Richmond College of TAFE) In Progress
- Certificate II in Bushland Regeneration (Ryde College of TAFE) 2008
- SMARTtrain AGFIII Chemical Accreditation
- OHS Construction Induction White Card

Melanie Aldridge: Bush Regenerator

Melanie has worked as a bush regenerator since 2007 when she was employed by Ecohort. Between 2007 and 2015 Melanie was employed by the NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service assisting in park management as a Cadet Ranger, then as a Park Ranger. Melanie returned to Ecohort late 2015 following her return to the Sydney area.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Applied Science (Parks, Recreation & Heritage) CSU 2011
- Certificate III in Conservation & Land Management (Natural Area Restoration & Management) TAFE 2007
- Certificate III in Conservation & Land Management (Lands, Parks & Wildlife) TAFE 2007
- Certificate III in Business Administration (2004)
- WHS Construction Induction White Card
- Chainsaw Operations – Level 1
- Provide First Aid

Staff Profiles

Axton Aguiar: Bush Regenerator

Axton has been engaged in natural area management during his tertiary studies as an ecological field worker, laboratory technician, research assistant, and field botanist, as well as having some teaching experience with Wollongong University, prior to joining Ecohort as a casual bush regenerator in 2015. Axton is currently undertaking a PhD and has joined Ecohort to improve his botanical skills and also to contribute his considerable knowledge and expertise in the area of natural resource management.

Qualifications:

- PhD Urban Ecology: Plant Stress (UOW) In Progress
- Master of Science: Urban Planning/Urban Ecology (UOW) 2012
- Bachelor of Marine Biology & Geology (UOW) 2010

Jodie McGill: Bush Regenerator

Following her tertiary studies, and prior to joining Ecohort in 2015 as a casual bush regenerator, Jodie was employed by the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service as a Park Ranger for over 7 years managing several natural area which included bush regeneration in the Royal and Botany Bay National Parks, Illawarra State Conservation Area, and Towra Point and Berkeley Nature Reserves (containing endangered ecological communities and threatened species).

Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Applied Science (Hons): Zoology (JCU) 2003
- Bachelor of Applied Science: Parks, Recreation & Heritage (CSU) 2002
- Cert. I in Landcare & Environmental Studies (TAFE) 2001
- Cert. III Zoo-keeping (Syd. Inst. Tech) 2000
- Cert II Animal Attending (Syd. Inst. Tech) 1999
- AQF3 Chemical Accreditation
- Chainsaw Operations (Level 1)
- Provide First Aid
- WHS Construction Induction White Card

Staff Profiles

Sandra Wheeler: Bush Regenerator

Prior to joining Ecohort as a casual bush regenerator in 2016, Sandra spent over 5 years as Group Coordinator with Wollongong City Council's Bushcare scheme, while being Coordinator of the William Beach Bushcare Group for over 5 years, and volunteering at Puckey's Estate at Wollongong, and with Conservation Volunteers working on a number of sites throughout the Illawarra.

Qualifications:

- Certificate III Conservation & Land Management (TAFE)
- AQF3 Chemical Accreditation (TAFE)
- OHS Construction Induction White Card
- Chainsaw Operations Level 1 (TAFE) 2015

Kate Pecchiari: Bush Regenerator

Kate joined Ecohort early 2016 following completion of her 4 year horticultural apprenticeship with the Royal Botanic Gardens at Sydney Cove. Prior to this tenure, Kate worked as a land conservation assistant with Green Corps carrying out natural area restoration works, and undertaking seasonal horticultural work with Brushbox Flower Farm in the Southern Highlands.

Qualifications:

- Certificate II in Conservation & Land Management (TAFE) 2011
- Certificate III in Parks & Gardens (TAFE) 2015
- AQF3 Chemical Accreditation
- OHS Construction Induction White Card
- Provide First Aid
- Back Basics – Safe Manual Handling Course (2015)
- Safe Tractor Operation & Maintenance (2014)

Peter Freimanis: Bush Regenerator

Peter is a trained and experienced bush regenerator who has worked as a part-time bush regenerator and seed collector with Ecohort for many years. Peter has worked on, and supervised, regeneration work at numerous sites throughout the Sydney region, including Fairfield City Farm, Blacktown Creek, Prospect, the Rouse Hill/Kellyville area, and numerous other sites, on a variety of plant communities throughout the greater Sydney region.

Qualifications:

- Certificate II Bushland Regeneration
- Diploma in Applied Horticulture, University of Western Sydney (in progress)
- OHS Induction Card

Staff Profiles

David Khoury: Bush Regenerator

Prior to his employment with Ecohort in early 2016, and as a novice to the field of bushland restoration, David gained valuable bush regeneration training and experience during his tenure with the National Trust working on a variety of sites in western Sydney. Prior to this David also trained with the Green Army— Campbell Page, at the Deep Water Park at Milperra.

Qualifications:

- Dip. of Conservation & Land Management (TAFE) 2015 – In Progress
- Statement of Attainment – Natural Area Restoration (TAFE) 2015
- Statement in Understanding Diversity for Green Army (TAFE) 2015
- WHS Construction Induction White Card
- AQF3 Chemical Accreditation
- First Aid

Andrew Maxwell: Trainee Bush Regenerator

Andrew is a trainee bush regenerator with Ecohort, having joined the company in 2015. Prior to his employment, Andrew gained initial training through his participation in the Green Army program working on a revegetation project at the Barden Ridge Sporting Complex while volunteering his leisure time to bush regeneration activities within the Royal National Park.

Qualifications:

- Postgraduate Certificate of Environment (MQU) 2014
- Bachelor of Science: Biology, Geology, Geophysics (USyd) 2013
- Certificate II in Conservation & Land Management (TAFE) 2015
- AQF3 Chemical Accreditation
- Pool lifeguard Licence Including CPR
- Provide First Aid

Leann Gunton: Trainee Bush Regenerator

Leann joined Ecohort as a trainee bush regenerator in 2015. She also gained additional training and skills while undertaking a recently completed CALM course at TAFE where she worked on a number of bush regeneration sites at various parks and reserves throughout the Blue Mountains. Leann also volunteers her spare time to the Gardening Club of Leonay Public School.

Qualifications:

- Certificate III in Conservation & Land Management (TAFE)
- Certificate II in Business Administration (Nepean Community College) 2010
- AQF3 Chemical Accreditation
- OHS Work Safely in the Construction Industry (White Card)



Staff Profiles

Monica Tadros: Trainee Bush Regenerator

After completing her tertiary studies in Environmental Management, Monica joined the Green Army program through Sutherland Shire Council to gain essential practical experience for her future transition to the bush regeneration industry, joining Ecohort in 2016.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Environmental Management & Environmental Earth Sciences (MQU) 2015
- Green Army Certificate of Appreciation (2015)AQF3 Chemical Accreditation
- WHS Cert I in Construction – (White Card)
- Provide First Aid

Aimee Freimanis: Bush Regenerator, Avifauna Consultant

Aimee has worked with the Ecohort flora and fauna consultancy and bush regeneration teams on a part-time basis for many years. Aimee worked as an environmental advisor in relation to bird hazard management at Sydney Airport for four years, and Birds Australia, prior to working with Ecohort. She has excellent environmental management and report writing skills and knows her birds and native plants extremely well. Although Aimee does not have formal bush regeneration training, she has completed numerous tertiary courses in the environmental management fields, as well as working as a part-time bush regeneration team member for Ecohort, and as a volunteer on a sandstone site in Sydney's north-west in Castle Hill.

Qualifications:

- Masters in Environmental Management, Macquarie University
- Graduate Diploma of Environmental Management from Macquarie University
- Bachelor of Science (University of Technology)

Staff Profiles

Jill Turner: Office Manager

Jill has been working for Ecohort Pty Ltd since June 2011 as the office and systems administrator. She has an extensive background in office administration over the past 30 years. Jill plays an integral role in the Ecohort team, ensuring that all administration, accounting, supply chain, operational, and safety needs are coordinated and communicated between all levels of staff, to assist with the smooth operation of the company.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Applied Science (Hons): Natural and Cultural Resource Management (CSU) 2004

Sub-Contractors

ECOHORT'S MAIN SUB-CONTRACTORS

Supply of tube stock

- Eastwood Nurseries
- Australian Ecoflora

Bobcat, excavator and tipper hire

- Nelson Agricultural & Landscaping Services Pty Ltd
- Tutt Bryant Hire

Mechanical tree planting and tractor work

- Burkitt & Associates Pty Ltd

Mulch supply and mechanical clearing of vegetation

- Benedict Sand and Gravel
- Heaton Contracting and Spider Excavations Pty Ltd
- Perrett Earthmoving Pty Ltd

Fauna studies

- Wirrimbirra Consultants

Soil testing

- Sydney Environmental & Soil Laboratory

Native Grass Seed Supply & Seed Installation

- Cumberland Plain Seeds