**STANTHORPE RIVER TRUST FACTSHEET**

The Stanthorpe River trust is responsible for all of the named creeks of the Severn River in the south to the Pikes Creek catchment in the north - hundreds of kilometres of waterways.

The Stanthorpe River Trust undertakes to care for

* the health of the bed, the banks and the waters of the Severnlea to Pikes Peak Catchment.
* the management of exotic (non-native vegetation)
* flood mitigation and protection of community assets
* beautification projects.

The purpose of their work is to pass on a healthy ecosystem for the benefit of wildlife and future generations.

The River Trust sits under the authority of the Queensland Government: Natural Resources and Mining

The Southern Downs Regional Council is a partner in the creek work. Two of the councillors are committee members.

**Current Program:** Revegetation

Government grant money has been provided for revegetation at the mouth of Quart Pot creek. Weeds will be slashed and approximately 1700 trees will be planted.

Native revegetation will improve the health of the creek bed and river line, as well as the health of living organisms including fish.

Weed clearing and vegetation will also assist in mitigating the possibility of flooding, protecting parklands buildings, homes and other assets close by.

**Major Historical Work**

Before ............ the sections of Quart Pot creek that flowed through Stanthorpe were on a disconnected series of waterholes, choked by weeds, and in some areas, dumping grounds for rusty cars and other waste products.

The River Trust was formed and proceeded to create one waterway, that wound through the town.

**Other Project and Works**

Develop a co-ordinated plan for managing and rehabilitating riparian zone vegetation • Encourage land owners to adopt appropriate riparian zone management practices • Develop and implement a riparian weeds management program in conjunction with DNRM, Landcare and landholders • Raise community awareness of problem weeds and control techniques

Ecological Stream Health & Water Quality Strategy To provide inputs to ensure that water quality issues are appropriately managed and to improve water quality through its activities and programs. Actions • Support the development and implementation of a `whole of catchment' water quality monitoring and management plan • Perform analysis of environmental impacts of water abstraction • Raise awareness of requirements of fish passage around weir construction and modifications; and on the problems associated with invasive/noxious fish species

Flooding Strategy Development and maintenance of flood prevention levees where suitable, and maintaining clear streams. Actions • Continued development and investigation of enhancement of existing levee system • Constant maintenance of existing flood levee system • Inspection and removal of debris and inappropriate dense vegetation where identified to enable clear flows

R STRATEGIES 1.1 Become actively involved in the process of Integrated Catchment Management. 1.2 Develop and implement a community education and involvement program. 2.1 Establish networks with State Council of River Trusts, State Government and other river associations to develop specialist river management knowledge. 2.2 Be actively involved in the development of new legislation. 3.1 Undertake revegetation programs in strategic areas and provide conditions amenable to natural tree regeneration. 3.2 Implement exotic weed management plans. 3.3 Encourage landholders to adopt appropriate riparian zone management practices. 4.1 Undertake recurrent erosion control works to ensure bank stabilisation.

� � � � � � � � � 4.2 Undertake works appropriate to reduce the frequency and extent of flood breakouts and undertake planning works to reduce exposure to flood related damages. 4.3 Control erosion generating sediment loads and undertake minor de-silting works. 4.4 Alleviate flow constrictions that threaten stream stability while encouraging snag management to ensure the protection of stream habitat values. 5.1 Liaise with Government and the community to ensure that stream health, stability and water quality are catered for in water management planning and allocation. 5.2 Preparation of detailed mapping for future land resource planning and management. OUR OUTCOMES 1. Improved bank stabilisation and hydraulic capacity of the river systems 2. Improved riparian zones with native vegetation 3. Increased knowledge of landholders on riverine protection practices 4. Minimise stream course changes 5. Minimise damage to private and public infrastructure through flood mitigation