



Data Sheet 4 (DS 004)

Bush Regeneration Volunteer Work

What are we monitoring?

The number of hours worked by volunteers taking part in Blue Mountains City Council (BMCC) Community Conservation Program bush regeneration activities.

What is the trend?

The number of hours spent by volunteers regenerating bushland under Council assisted programs has shown a general upward trend since 1999–2000. Since 2011 the number of volunteer hours has remained steady at over 10,000 hours each year.

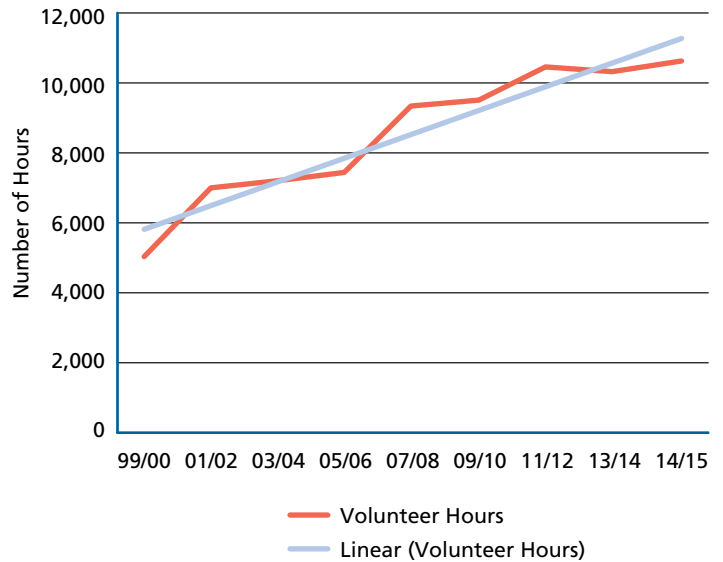
Why is monitoring this trend important?

Voluntary bush regeneration produces environmental, social and economic benefits for the Blue Mountains. It improves the condition of natural assets as well as providing an opportunity for local residents to engage socially with other people in the community. It also contributes to cost savings for the Council and for rate payers.

Monitoring this trend provides a measure of community response to the importance of maintaining the quality of our natural environment and managing the impacts of weed invasion and other pressures on our bushland. It also indicates how well the community can respond to local needs and build social capital.

It is important to note that this is an input measure only and does not relate to the quality of output of bush regeneration or indicate the extent to which bush regeneration programs are sufficient to meet the requirements of the environment.

Hours of Bush Regeneration Volunteer Work Completed in the Blue Mountains



Hours of Bush Regeneration Volunteer Work Completed in Council Conservation Programs

Year	1999/00	2001/02	2003/04	2005/06	2007/08	2009/10	2011/12	2013/14	2014/15
Hours	5,040	7,000	7,200	7,440	9,327	9,494	10,468	10,314	10,608

Source: Blue Mountains City Council Annual Reports and State of Environment Reports, 2000–2015