

BIEPA

NEXT MEETING
7:00pm Monday 26th April 2021

GARDEN Room Bribie RSL
99 Toorbul Street. Bongaree



GUEST SPEAKER:

Brittany Elliott
PhD Student

University of the Sunshine Coast
“Identifying spatial drivers of plant assemblage structure and complexity to prioritise restoration and rehabilitation actions (coastal ecosystems)”

Coastal ecosystems are significantly impacted by human activities which have altered the extent and condition of these ecosystems. Consequently, the demand for ecological restoration and rehabilitation in coastal landscapes is increasing globally. Establishing the drivers of the species composition, density and distribution of plants on coastal dunes is important so that suitable quantitative restoration and rehabilitation goals can be made, and actions can be designed that maximise biodiversity outcomes. The aim of this study was to identify environmental variables that most influence the composition of dune vegetation assemblages to quantitatively identify priority sites for coastal restoration and rehabilitation actions. We surveyed coastal vegetation assemblages at 18 sites along approximately 30 km of coastline on the Sunshine Coast. Our results suggest that four key tree species – coast banksia, pandanus, coastal she-oak and beach bird’s eye – are key targets for plantings on Coast dunes. We have also identified important locations where the highly invasive asparagus fern and glory lily are likely to thrive.

<https://www.usc.edu.au/about/usc-news/news-archive/2021/january/research-weeds-out-problems-for-coast-beach-dunes>