



Yalukit Willam Nature Association

PLANTLAB VISION and GUIDELINES 2024

The Yalukit Willam people of the Kulin Nation knew a vastly different place to the contemporary site of the Yalukit Willam Nature Reserve. The area was a vast and biodiverse wetland. In fact, the wetland area would have extended right into what is now known as Port Phillip Bay (Nairn). Sea level rise engulfed much of the land and the geography as we know it now is only a few thousand years old. The land harboured a rich range of flora, looked after by countless generations of Boonwurrung people of the Yalukit Willam clan. After colonisation and urbanisation, much of the original flora is now locally extinct, hard to source and at times difficult to grow. The YWNA Plantlab offers the local community an opportunity to have a hand in growing the biodiversity of plants and regenerating a thriving wetland in the 14 hectare Yalukit Willam Nature Reserve, formerly the Elsternwick Golf Club.

Similarly, the land would have had a diverse range of animals, many of which are dependent on particular flora. The Plantlab gives YWNA the flexibility to propagate plants with particular habitat/ecological values, thus supporting and enriching the Reserve Vision in the [Masterplan](#) and Flora and Fauna Strategy.

The Plant Lab consults with YWNA's patron, Boonwurrung Elder - Prof N'arwee't Carolyn Briggs, on all matters of Cultural significance and consolidates local knowledge from the body of community ecological knowledge. The Lab is fortunate to have access to a broad range of local knowledge holders through our own committees, Bayside Council and many contributing professionals, academics and local community. The Plant Lab works hand in hand with the BCC Project Lead to ensure that we are all working cohesively together with Bayside Council, the Land Manager.

Finally, the Plantlab is, by its very essence, labour intensive. This enables a rich and deep community engagement in the Reserve Vision and helps fulfil the purpose of YWNA- 'to involve and engage the community' in realising the Vision for the Reserve and achieving the masterplan's intentions.

YWNA's driving principle is in the belief that the best outcomes will come through a collaborative approach, working with all stakeholders and community. The breadth of the community engagement and connection enables Plant Lab to be very responsive to the growing restorative needs of the reserve.

PLANT LAB OVERVIEW

Purpose : To provide an overview of the Vision and Mission of the Plant Lab

A community nursery that facilitates indigenous habitat restoration within the Yalukit Willam Nature Reserve

Guiding Principles /Purpose/Priorities

1. Habitat creation/ promoting biodiversity to support ecosystem function
2. Diversity of flora from sandbelt region – to promote genetic diversity and planting resilience in a changing climate
3. Grow significant plants that are difficult to grow, rare, threatened, reduced availability, locally extinct or inconspicuous plants, particularly those that have Indigenous cultural significance and ecological function
4. Particular specialisation around indigenous wetland plants, which are typically not readily available in other nurseries
5. Social inclusion/ community development and engagement allowing access for people of all abilities and backgrounds
6. Education regarding preservation of environment/ wildlife - learning by doing.
7. Promotion of First Peoples plants of significance
8. Habitat for [target](#) fauna species (see Habitat and Flora Strategy doc)
9. Utilisation and promotion of sustainable practices
10. To develop collaborative working relationships with other indigenous/community nurseries, schools particularly to support sharing of knowledge, resources including seeds/plants and other organisations including schools, partnerships with etc
11. Warm, inclusive culture amongst all participants- please see Code of Conduct in our [Volunteers Handbook](#)

Objectives of plant propagation team:

1. Ongoing supply of plants to develop and maintain the wetlands and all areas of Yalukit Willam Nature Reserve
2. To establish an ongoing workforce for seed generation, seedling planting and developing ongoing skills for working in the reserve. To maintain records for stock inventory and planting future requests considering logistics around when plants are required and lead in time for supply
3. To maintain pest and weed control using sustainable practices
4. Watering requirements during growth period (details around watering. Developing guidelines for watering frequency in different seasons. Develop checks around how to judge the effectiveness of watering. Possibly grouping plants based on water requirements and also the different needs of various plant species (i.e. shade/sun/sheltered). Also grouping plants connected to where they will be planted in the reserve. The other consideration is moving plants based on stages of development - i.e. seedlings, newly pricked out plants in more sheltered positions, and shifting plants into more exposed areas to prepare them for planting out. If there is a great need for this protection of young plants and more sensitive species, setting up a shade house could be looked at in the future.)
5. Assist in planting/ prpagating working bees as required

6. Promote engagement of volunteers offering flexibility to promote both education and engagement however still meet supply requirements
7. Key spokesperson for Plant Lab team needs to ensure that any planting in the reserve has been shared with the Bayside Project Lead (Jarrod Fleming)- this insures that we are on the same page as the Council Project team.
8. Roles and responsibilities for team leaders clearly communicated and shared



GOALS FOR 2024 and beyond:

To collaborate with Bayside to assist in the provision of plants and seeds for the Chain of Ponds, Small bird corridor, the new soak, the Yulendji Djeembana, Wildflower/grassy meadow, YWNR corner and Southern Wetland.

The focus for the year will be:

1. Seed Production and collection -via tending to the Seed Propagation Area (SPA)- please refer to YWNA [seed cleaning guide](#) for cleaning.
2. Grasses and Wildflowers for the Wildflower Meadow, the Yulendji Djeembana and for the Chain of Ponds area
3. Aquatic plants for the new soak and infill for the Chain of Ponds and Southern Wetlands

Difficult to propagate and culturally and ecologically significant plants especially:

- Utricularia Australis
- Cherry Ballart- possible partnership with N'arwee't and Melbourne Uni
- Wedding Bush
- Amphibromis
- Leucopogan

Trees and shrubs with particular habitat and or cultural value e.g:

- Black wattle and hedge wattle
- Cherry Ballart Exocarpos
- Mealy stringy-bark (Eucalyptus cephalocarpa)
- Sweet Bursaria ?
- Silver banksia (limited numbers)
- ? Leptospermum?

Trees of particular significance in very small numbers for ceremonial purposes

- Separation tree
- Ngargee tree

[Current inventory - April 24](#)

The focus for 24/25/26 is likely to shift heavily towards Aquatic Plants, depending on Southern Wetlands construction timelines

Propagation Targets:

Goals to produce:

- 10-20K Plants for the above areas
- 1000 difficult to propagate plants
- Plant 10-20K plants

Aim to have the Plantlab sessions:

- Every Wednesday afternoon-3 hours
- Most Saturday mornings or afternoon
- Monthly weekend working bees
- A team of volunteers that can do weeding and seed collection etc in the Plantlab when needed.

High quality operation:

- Plantlab area to be kept, reasonably clean, tidy and weed free.
- Equipment kept, clean, tidy and in good condition
- All supervisors have completed training and checks
- Inductions for volunteers for each session

PLANT LAB GUIDELINES

SEED COLLECTION PROCESS

Purpose : Collection of seed and other plant materials for propagation to support the establishment and ongoing development of the Nature Reserve

Persons Responsible: Leader required for each session

Current signed permit with leaders name and **current permit holder's name.**

Restrictions: Must abide by all requirements as stated in attached Permit , including following key points - written notification to Parks Victoria required for any collection on Parks Victoria operated lands (see reference material for map)

Log onto ParkConnect to seek approval to access land managed by Parks Victoria need to specify each site, -contact with Friends of Groups required prior to any visit (see list attached)

- Acknowledgement of Country required at start of each session- The Yalukit Willam Nature Association Acknowledges the Yalukit Willam clan of the Boon Wurrung people - Traditional Custodians of the Land and Sea Country we live on. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We celebrate the stories, cultures and traditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Elders of all communities. Always was, always will be.

Always practise good soil health by keeping shoes clean when moving between different areas

- No taking of restricted species
- No more than 10% of each plant or X of parent plant
- All efforts required to determine if collection by another body has already occurred in that seed collection year
- 'To maximise genetic diversity of the seed collected, always collect from a minimum of 10 plants spaced widely apart and avoid collecting from isolated individuals' (<https://www2.csu.edu.au/herbarium/riverina/chapters/chapter10.pdf> - see page 2). In practice, a way of achieving this is to collect from 10% of plants or roughly one in every ten individuals.

* Minimise damage to plants, hand strip seed or use sharp secateurs

* Never fell plants just for seed collecting. However, take advantage of storm damage to collect seed from larger trees.

Seed Labelling system

date of collection
where collected
collectors name
family,
botanical name
common name
amount taken of parent plants
total weight of seed collected
ideally seed "best by" dates to optimise planting time

Seed Logging System

System for logging any seed collection activity - a google spreadsheet (or at bare minimum a log) of species that have been collected with dates and other relevant information (provenance). Something extra to include are the optimal times (i.e. season) for sowing each species. This would help with planning seed sowing activity for coming seasons.

Volunteer Safety

Volunteers will be requested to bring suitable sun and foot protection, introduction by leader to include reference to permit guidelines, acknowledgement of traditional land owners and contact with relevant "Friends of Groups" (see attached draft invitation letter)

See [Handbook](#)

Seed Storage

All collected material to be provided to the person responsible for storage who will ensure that information is collected into the Seed Collection database, that use by date is noted and filed, origin, and that material is optimally stored for both categorisation and seed longevity

Seed Purchase

Price varies per gram ranging from about \$1 per gram to about \$5 per gram, average approx. \$3.50

<https://www.victoriannativeseed.com.au/catalogue/>

https://www.seedingvictoria.com.au/catalogue.php?action=view_catalogue&type=full&id=1

also check Bayside nursery and Aus Eco for Seed Draft only

Seed cleaning - Please refer to [YWNR Seed cleaning Guide](#)

The **seed collection process** for the SPA area should be distinct, since there would be a different protocol for how seed is collected in comparison with collecting from sites on the ground.

The notes on operating the SPA on pages 6/7 doesn't include seed collection methods for the SPA specifically, so this should be worked on with more detail, including optimal times for collection, checking for seed readiness, and the care required for the plants when removing seed (i.e. do you remove stalks, care for other developing flowers/seeds).

NOTES FOR SEED WORK- reference material

[Rivers of Carbon- Caring and Collecting Seed](#)

[Conservation management Notes on how to collect seeds-](#)

[Greening Australia Field Collection Data Sheet](#)

Use ethical collection practices and consider seed genetics.

- Don't collect more than 10% of the seed from any one plant. If plants have only a few seeds each, don't collect from more than 1% of the population.
- If possible return plant material such as twigs and discarded capsules to the collection site.
- Find out the provenance of the seed source. Provenance is the origin of a seed source and refers to the genetic adaptation to local environmental conditions. If you collect seed from plants at a high altitude, wet site and plant them at a lower altitude, dry site they may not survive the warmer, Obtain the best genetic quality seed.

When collecting seed, you can get good genetic quality seed if you: ??

Seed Production Area – Notes from Melbourne Uni - Sophia Blosfelds

Label brown paper bags – CODE ie BUL BUB, amount and date harvested and initials

Store bags – clip up on “ Seed line” wires in shed window for full drying out and keep seed for same month in separate bag

Peak season Spring/Summer – daily collection recommended

Weeding - please see our Weed policy

Watering winter 1 min twice daily or less if lots of rain

Fertilising 1x monthly, soluble Pete's Professional for natives/ornamentals, switch to Pete's Professional Pot Plant Special in spring

Pest – some slug baits, some sprays - other methods to be discussed

PROPAGATION PROCESS

Purpose : To optimise growing conditions, knowledge of current stock and suitability for planting out onto site

Person Responsible: Plant lab coordinators and leaders

Volunteer Skill/Safety

- Daily processes to be conducted by a person who has had appropriate training or working with support of a mentor (Training includes 1. Safety induction 2. overview to seed sowing practices 3. overview to seed pricking out and potting up.)
- Note any seed propagation that require work with any chemicals , boiling water or other hazardous materials are not to be undertaken on site without prior discussion with Plant Lab Coordinators)
- Persons to be checked in using Sign in sheet

Identification

- Plants to be labelled with Botanical name (first 3 letters of species and genus), aiming 2 labels per seedling tray and 25% of forestry tubes
- Date seed collected (SC) and seed planted (SP) dates to be noted
- Groups of plants to be labelled with large green label with 3 letter id, Full botanical name , Common Name

Stock monitoring

- Keep same plant species together , aiming for one species per pond or carry crate)
- Routine audits of stock (using plant list attached)

Water levels/requirements

- Recommended plant placement levels to be documented on large green labels for Aquapro Poly Ponds (either on bottom , mid way propped up on 1 level carry crate or near top (propped up on 2x carry crates to maintain suitable water coverage/depth without needing to puncture ponds
- Planted seed trays to be propped up on seedling trays and kept away from weeds
- Ensure all terrestrials well in reach of sprinklers

Pest Management

- Pests to be managed via physical barriers as first option
- Ongoing weeding around plant lab especially near plant materials , to reduce weed dispersal and reduce snail/slug issues
- Tube stock/trays etc to be clean prior to use
- Tubes stock/trays to be submerged overnight prior to use to reduce presence of dangerous insects/spiders (check this)

Categorization

- YWNA only Aquatic plants to be keep in one row
- YWNA only Terrestrials in separate row well within reach of sprinkler
- Planted up seedling trays kept together- with ones planted at same time kept together and ensure well positioned to allow optimum sunlight
- Plants in separate row for those ready to be planted out by Commercial operator grouped into row for Aquatics and row for Terrestrials and labelled)

Equipment storage

- Endeavour to keep site looking ordered and professional, particularly as it will be what our community will viewing
- No polystyrene on site (environmental hazard)
- Seed Production Area and materials and not available for YWNA usage at this time

PLANT LAB GUIDELINES

PLANT LAB STAFF ROLE

Plant lab coordinators

Purpose : To define roles and responsibilities of Plant Lab coordinator

Person Responsible to: YWNA committee

Duties:

Volunteers- Encourage volunteer involvement in planting

Support all volunteers to follow code of conduct etc and ensure all are members to ensure insurance covers onsite involvement

Encourage volunteers to join YWNA and to register their particular interests and contact details - all regular volunteers need to be a YWNA member.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1BzkzuJDzGYBvEDxL_zWM4lhqKhBh9rm020cgTHviQ/edit

Stock Management

Stock take, categorisation of plants to be overseen by Plant Lab coordinators, delegated as appropriate in response to requests from Management committee/council/YWNA committee for stock availability etc

Plant Lab session activities

Oversee timetables and rostering, including ensuring a Person Responsible is nominated for each session

Invite and schedule educator sessions

Session work plan is made available to the group, via email/white board. Priorities noted and range of options for days activities posted

End of session to have a Person Responsible nominated and responsible for documenting in the diary all the day's activities, who attended including sign up sheet, presence/absence of any OHS issues and person who has completed site lock up/security check. Any comments, suggestions or requests for materials to be noted in diary - uploading all data onto google sheet.

Liaison

Act as communication link between volunteers and committee

One person out of the team to maintain regular meeting with key naturalists/horticulturalists, Bayside project lead to know planting requirements and supply logistics

Collate requests from YWNA committee/ council/ naturalist plant lab [Page 15 of 15](#)

Any issues /concerns re plant lab activities can be raised with YWNA COMMITTEE OFFICERS who will discuss with appropriate plant lab member with support from YWNA committee

Seed production area external contact people as of 26 July 2024

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Reference Materials/Appendix

| | | | | |
|---|-------|------|-----------|--|
| Stock Take for Plant Lab Plants : DATE | READY | DATE | READ Y | |
|---|-------|------|-----------|--|

| Botanic Name | Common name | water depth | Number | Number |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------|--------|
| Philydrum lanuginosum | Woolly water lily | 0-20cm | | |
| Isolepus Inundata | Swamp Club rush | 0-10cm | | |
| Ornduffia reniformis | Running marsh flower | 10-40cm | | |
| Bulboschoenus caldwellii | Marsh club rush | 0-10cm | | |
| Hydrocotyle verticillata | Shield Pennywort | 10-30cm | | |
| Triglochin procerum | Water ribbon | 10-30cm | | |
| Myriophyllum crispatum | Upright water Milfoil | 10cm | | |
| Ranunculus papulentus | Large River Buttercup | 0-10cm | | |
| Selliera radicans | Swamp weed/bonking grass | 0-10cm | | |
| Eleocharis acuta | Sharp Spike Rush | 0-10cm | | |
| Ranunculus Repens | Creeping Buttercup | | | |
| Ranunculus amphitrichus | Small River Buttercup | - Bog or 0-10cm | | |
| Ranunculus inundatus | River Buttercup | Bog/shallow | | |
| Juncus usitatus | | | | |
| Amphibromus neesii | | | | |
| Pattersonia occidentalis | Long purple flag | | | |
| Schoenus Apogan | Common bog sedge | 0-10 cm | | |
| Viola Hederacea | Australian violet | | | |
| Astostipa species | Spear grass | | | |
| Comproasma quadrifida | Prickly currant | | | |

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| Lomandra nana | Pale mat rush | | | |
| Xanthorrea minor | Small grass tree | | | |
| Muehlenbeckia florulenta | Tangled lignum | | | |
| Ozothamnus ferruginea | Tree everlasting | | | |
| Leucophyta brownii | cushion bush | | | |
| Senecio quadridentatus | Cotton fireweed | | | |
| Gahania Sieberiana | Red fruit sword sedge | | | |
| Myoporum insulare | Common Boobialla | | | |
| Microlaenea stipoides | Weeping grass | | | |
| Dianella Revoluta | | | | |
| Trachymene incisa | Wild Parsnip | | | |

Rough guidelines for Wildflower Meadow planting

Grasses from Jarrod's recommended list (priority H to L) – with edits from YWNA 15.11.23

| Botanic Name | Common Name |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| | |
| | |
| Austrostipa mollis | Soft Spear Grass |
| Rytidosperma geniculata | Kneed Wallaby Grass |
| Rytidosperma carphoides | Short Wallaby Grass |
| Themeda triandra | Kangaroo grass |
| Hemarthria uncintata | Mat grass |
| Austrostipa rudis | Spear Grass |
| Rytidosperma laeve | Smooth Wallaby Grass |
| Poa ensiformis | Sword Tussock Grass |
| Lachnagrostis aemula | Blown Grass |
| Deyeuxia quad | Reed Bent Grass |

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| | |
| <i>Rytidosperma erianthum</i> | Smooth Wallaby Grass |
| <i>Austrostipa pubinodis</i> | Tall Spear Grass |
| <i>Impereta cylindrica</i> | Blady Grass |
| <i>Rytidosperma racemosa</i> | Stiped Wallaby Grass |
| <i>Pimelea humilis</i> | Common Rice Flower |
| <i>Lomandra filiformis</i> | Wattle Mat Rush |
| <i>Lomandra longifolia</i> | Mat Rush |
| <i>Eryngium versiculosum</i> | Prickfoot |
| <i>Dianella</i> sp Ras Rev, (other 2) | <i>Dianella</i> sp |
| <i>Poa morrisii</i> | Velvet Tussock Grass |
| <i>Allitia cardiocarpa</i> | Swamp Daisy |
| <i>Brachyscome decipiens</i> | Field Daisy |

WILDFLOWER MEADOW MAPS



North Zones



South Zones

1. Light Blue Zone:
 - Low T1 – 874 m2 . *Austrostipa* mix with forbes and wetter tolerant species in drain line. *Leptorynchos*, *Craspedia*....
 - Low T2 – 240 m2. Linear species mix *Poa* sp with *Calocephalus* and forbes. Partial jute webbing to protect from run off
 - Low T3 – 300 m2. *Poa* or *Themeda* mix with wet tolerant forbes *Xerochysum palustre*???
2. Yellow Zone:
 - Upper Mix 1 – *Themeda triandra* with forbes. Jute webbing to protect from run off
 - Upper Mix 2 – Wallaby Grass Mix with forbes. *Wahlenbergia*, *Vittadinia* sp, *Kennedia*. Pea flowering sp, *Arthropodium*, *Bulbine*, *Caesia caliantha*
 - Upper Mix 3 - *Chloris truncate*, Wallaby with forbes. *Calocephalus*, *Kennedia*, *Coronidium* sp, *Chyso apic*
 - Upper Mix 4 – *Dichanthium sericeum*, *Xerochysum bracteutum* *Rytido erianthum*
 - Upper Mix 5 – *Poa*
3. Pink Zone:
 - *Microleana stipodes*. Area to be cleared of rocks and light sand cover *Burchadia*???
 - Volunteers to plant *Dichondra* and *Rytidosperma* genic and *carphoides*
4. Orange Zones:
 - Melbourne Uni Wet Meadow Zone

A very rough guide but hopefully something we can work with

YWNR BILLABONG BIODIVERSITY PROJECT - YWNA working with the Hydrology regime

Protocols- Project complete

Rationale:

The key purpose for the Chain of Ponds are habitat and public amenity. It will be even more important as habitat when work on the Southern Wetlands begins as the Chain of Ponds will be the main refuge for wetland creatures during that time. Frog habitat creation is a key related purpose of the Chain of Ponds.

The essential features of the Chain of Ponds, that facilitate ideal frog (and aquatic plant) habitat includes:

- Dynamic water levels (as per the hydrology regime Jarrod Fleming has shared recently with Officers and YWNA)
- Regular drying out (this allows for aquatic plants to establish themselves, helps reduce or eliminate Gambusia (a key threat to frogs establishing in the Chain of Ponds).
- Rocks and logs, especially in sunny locations.

However, due to a flood and technical issues, the Chain of Ponds now has a Gambusia infestation. The aquatic vegetation has failed in the Chain of Ponds partially due to the static water height.

The notable exception to this, have been the Soaks. Soak 1 and 3* dried out naturally this summer and Soak 2 dried out late last summer. As a result, all three are:

- Free of Gambusia
- Abundant in aquatic vegetation
- Have an abundant, growing and diverse frog population.

The two Billabongs in the Chain of Ponds are potentially ideal frog habitat. They have naturally very low water levels currently (as the pumps have been turned off to mimic the Summer cycle). They can be kept separate from the rest of the Chain of Ponds by managing water levels. YWNA is interested in helping facilitate a final drying out, as then potentially:

- It will allow for the seeding natural recruitment and growth of aquatic vegetation
- Potentially eradicate Gambusia
- Optimise the ecological health of these water bodies. Through invigorating plant growth to improve water quality outcomes

If then, the two Billabongs, could be kept separate from the rest of the Chain of Ponds over the next 12 months, then this would potentially allow for the eradication of Gambusia entirely from the Chain of Ponds late next summer, simply by allowing the central chain of the Chain of Ponds to dry out.

Method:

The water levels in the two Billabongs are already, naturally very low. All it will take to drain them entirely is:

Use of small pump:

- A small amount of pumping, done by YWNA volunteers over the next 1-2 weeks as per the Protocols outlined below.

Water absorption:

- Ideally this kind of work would be carried out in late summer, to allow the exposed mud to bake dry. Given that it is now autumn, Coir Peat will be used to absorb excess water. This can be purchased by YWNA and can be laid out by volunteers when conditions are favourable.

Seed sowing:

- The above actions, combined with current weather conditions and the fact that Coir Peat is excellent for seed raising, provides ideal conditions for aquatic vegetation to gain a foothold.
- Once the ponds are dried out, seeds, collected over summer from the Chain of Ponds will be sown via the broadcast method into the Coir peat.

Protocols:

All work in this project will be conducted as per the following protocols:

- All volunteers are YWNA members and will have read and discussed the Volunteer Handbook
- A properly authorised YWNA supervisor will be onsite during all volunteer activities in relation to this project
- PPE will be worn -especially appropriate footwear and vests.
- All activity in relation to the project will be logged as per YWNA protocols
- Volunteering will be limited to a few, key people who are known and trusted YWNA members
- Project lead will be informed when works are occurring and or via pre-planned schedule
- Equipment, including petrol cans to be kept in a secure location
- Communication amongst the team-via Facebook Chat and via email, phone or text with committee and Bayside officers as appropriate.
- Keep in close vicinity of pump at all times. Do not leave pump unattended.
- Refueling with appropriate jerry container to avoid petrol spilling into billabong. A rag fastened around the jerry container opening may be required to limit leaking.
- Pack up pump at end of day but hoses are fine leave in situ.
- No hoses to cross pedestrian paths, to prevent tripping hazards.
- Assure pumps are kept in an open flat location, kept clear of surrounding dry vegetation. To prevent exhaust from causing a potential fire.
- If formal complaints or objection arise from senior Bayside officers or Local Laws. Operations will be terminated
- If any of the above directions are breached, operations will be terminated.

Current schedule:

- Wednesday afternoon, during normal Plantlab time-230-5pm
- Other times, based on the teams" availability.

Weed policy

- *The area down the Western edge of the Plantlab to be managed by the Wednesday afternoon team via weed suppression (using weed mats and gravel) (Jo).*
- 1. Keep up current weed suppression methods. The stone was meant to be 100mm thick from behind media bays to bowls entry gate. The recently purchased jute matting was also for this side and ordered without slits to further prevent weeds from pushing through.
- 2. Never let the weeds get to flowering stage, if possible. Investing in good, serrated hand weeding tools might be worth the investment.
<https://www.gardentoolcompany.com/collections/weeding-tools>
- *The area down the Eastern edge of the Plantlab to be managed via Claire's teams via mulching the planting out with indigenous vegetation (Claire).*

Marked in Yellow

1. As per the last Working Bee, use the large pile of mulch inside gates on the eastern boundary.

Steam weeding will not be an option. It is very expensive and carries a huge carbon footprint. They go through around 20 litres of Diesel an hour and consume about 120 litres of water.

3. A more effective method might be to have Aus Eco to brush cut large weeds and use Slasher Organic herbicide to target all the weeds in the yellow and green area. Or potentially buy some from Bunnings and spray this area.
4. Solarizing using black builders plastic could be an option.
5. Also should be noted that the Green area may end up being part of the Gateway Building footprint.

