

Six years managing a created Saltmarsh

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Summary Dragonfly Environmental has been deeply connected with the first planning then planting and now ongoing maintenance of the constructed salt marsh at Penrhyn Estuary in Botany Bay Sydney. This case study presents weed management that occurred prior to the creation of the salt marsh including the use of machinery, reshaping the dunes, removing bitou bush, and both machine and hand removal of *Juncus acutus* or Spiny Rush from throughout the proposed saltmarsh recreation area. A small area of Mangroves were also removed to improve habitat for migratory birds.

With over six years maintaining the site we share the lessons and successes in keeping *Juncus acutus* out of the constructed saltmarsh and managing mangrove so they do not grow within the key migratory bird habitat. This case study includes considerations of working in contaminated environments as well as work health safety practicalities of working in an intertidal zone next to a large port and by the Airport.

Keywords Saltmarsh, Coastal, Machinery, *Juncus acutus*, Bitou Bush, Migratory Birds.