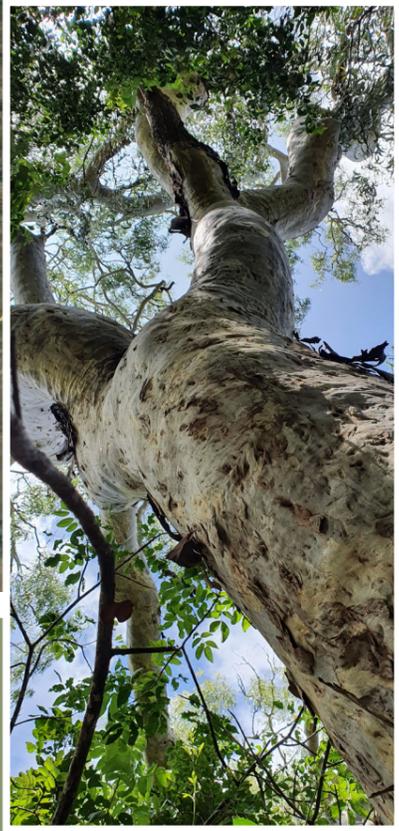
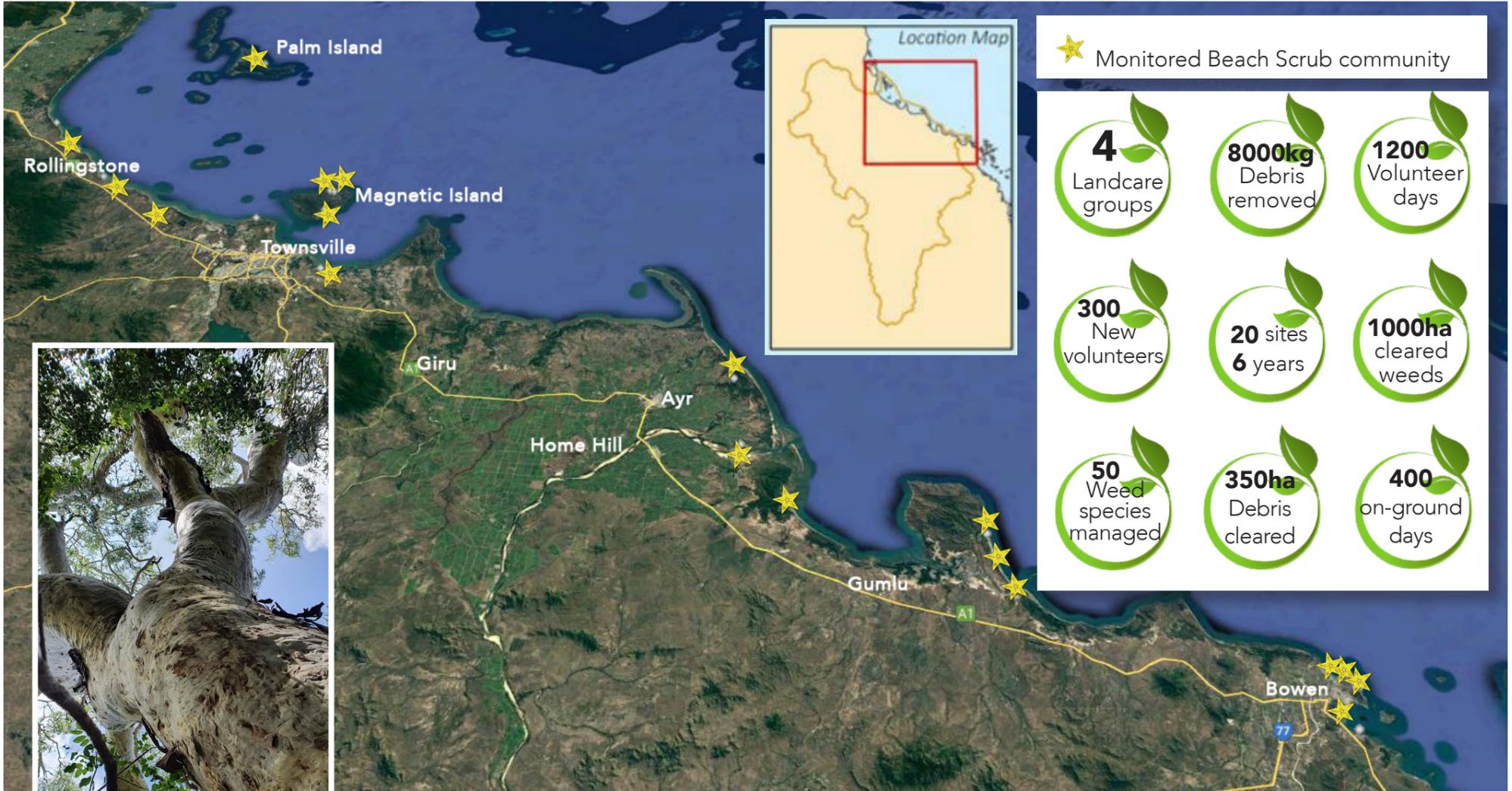


Protecting endangered Beach Scrub



What is Beach Scrub and why is it important?

Beach scrubs and coastal vine thickets provide habitat and help protect land from coastal erosion, reducing the effects of wind and flooding during storms and acts as a filter for sediment, nutrients and pollutants.

Improving the condition of these endangered ecosystems with the help of local landcare groups will also promote biodiversity and resilience.

There are two Regional Ecosystems in the NQ Dry Tropics region:

- 11.2.3 microphyll vine forest (Of Concern); and
- 7.2.2 semi-evergreen vine thickets including:
 - Brigalow Belt (north and south) and the Nandewar bioregions (Endangered); and
 - Littoral Rainforest and Coastal Vine Thickets of Eastern Australia (Critically Endangered).



Whitsunday Catchment Landcare volunteer Jan Armstrong removing lantana at Cape Upstart.



Volunteers from Whitsunday Catchment Landcare and Gudjuda Reference Group clearing debris from Cape Upstart beach.



Spraying invasive grasses at Kings Beach.

Landcare groups do the work

Beach scrubs threats include inappropriate development, feral pigs, invasive woody and grassy weeds, recreational activities and fire.

Operating in this environment is difficult — thick complex vegetation makes weed treatment arduous.

It's delicate work because of the difficulty walking through beach scrub without harming some of the vegetation the project aimed to protect.

NQ Dry Tropics engaged four Landcare and Indigenous community groups to

manage weeds and remove debris:

- Whitsunday Catchment Landcare;
- Lower Burdekin Landcare;
- Wulgurukaba Landcare; and
- Magnetic Island Nature Care Association.

They focus on 20 beach scrub communities along more than 200km of coastline.

Their efforts to reduce weeds and rubbish allow each site to naturally regenerate and improve naturally.



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