FIDO's Bush Regeneration Record of Working Bees

While FIDO had a long history of working on weeds the first big working bee was in Eurong when Easton street area was cleared of all lantana and Cassia. The cassia never returned following that cleanup and truckload of cassia and lantana were removed. The next big assault coincided with Weedbusters Week in 2002 when one team under John C Sinclair with mainly FIDO members worked in Eurong and another team with John Sinclair Snr worked a team of volunteers from Greening Australia focused on Happy Valley.

FIDO's weeding operations gained much more traction from 2005 when volunteers had access to Supe a Troop Carrier to convey people to Fraser Island and to let them see more of the island when they ware there, From 2005 to 2010 Laura Simmons FIDO led FIDO's Fraser Island weeding operations in both Eurong and Happy Valley. The precise number and documentation isn't available.

Eurong

No	Date	Duration Hours	Leader
*	17-27 October 2005	11 days 450	Stephanie Lymburner
*	22 May - 4 June 2006	12 days	Stephanie Lymburner
*	13- 24 May 2007	9 days 213	Stephanie Lymburner
*	7 - 15 May 2008	9 days	Stephanie Lymburner
	9 – 16 June 2007	9 days	Laura Simmons
	18-24 April 2010	7 days	Laura Simmons
	August 2010	7 days	Laura Simmons

The following programs followed John Sinclair's "retirement" from GO BUSH Safaris enabling him to work more on Fraser Island. They were carried out with BMRG financial support. Michael Lowe's work included preparing *Fraser Island Native Garden Planting Guide* was funded by Caring for Country.

	28 August 4 September 2011	7 days		John Sinclair
*	13-19 November 2011	7 days	210	John Sinclair
*	4-10 March 2012	7 days	276	John Sinclair
*	13-19 May 2012	7 days	237	John Sinclair
	14-20 October, 2012	7 days		Michael Lowe
*	25 November -1 Dec 2012	7 days	262	John Sinclair
*	9-15 February 2013	7 days	242	Michael Lowe
*	10-16 March 2013	7 days	266	John Sinclair
*	21-27 April 2013	7 days	289.5	John Sinclair
	26 May -1 June, 2013	7 days		Michael Lowe
*	15-21 September 2013	7 days	225	John Sinclair
*	23 February - 1 March 2014	7 days	245	John Sinclair
*	18-24 May 2014	7 days	259	John Sinclair
*	24-30 August 2014	7 days	400.5	John Sinclair
*	15-21 February 2015	7 days	229	John Sinclair
*	24-30 May 2015	7 days	307	John Sinclair
*	25 July to 1 August 2015	8 days	295.5	Maree Prior
	24 -31 October 2015	8 days		Maree Prior

^{*} Diaries/Reports available

Happy Valley, Fraser Island

Early Happy Valley operations were very ad hoc. During a National Parks Association of Queensland safari to Fraser Island 28 people put in a day of weeding in Happy Valley

18-20 October 2002 2 days John Sinclair Friday, 29th August to Sunday 31st August, 2003

Natural Heritage Trust assisted FIDO to carry out four 10-12 day weeding bees in 2006:

March 2006 June 2006 August 2006

15 - 22 June 2007 8 days Laura Simmons

2 - 5 August 2007

27 October- 4 November 2007

April 2008 April 2010 August 2010

1st to 9th December 2010 Jason Harvey

February 2011 FIDO volunteers worked with Happy Valley residents to tackle Easter Cassia, Crabs-eye vine

Due to the difficulties of working in Happy Valley and the opposition from one or two residents who promised to control the weeds without FIDO's help, FIDO focussed on Eurong. About this time Laura Simmons became unavailable and Jason Harvey who had developed the Fraser Island Weed Management Strategy left the University of the Sunshine Coast leaving a void.

During the period that FIDO had suspended its Happy Valley weeding operations, a number of weeds had got out of control, particularly Abrus. This was noted in early 2013 and FIDO began trying to work in in Happy Valley as a day or two from our Eurong base but by the end of the year it was realized a more concerted effort was needed. As a result of negotiations with BMRG and Peter Shooter. Peter Shooter agreed to lead working bees in Happy Valley in 2014. These very focussed working bees are making significant inroads on Abrus but there is a bust program set for 2016 to bring it under control.

May 2014	7 days	Peter Shooter
September 2014	7 days	Peter Shooter
12-18 November 2014	7 days	Peter Shooter
10-16 May 2015	7 days	Peter Shooter
16-22 August 2015	7 days	Peter Shooter
8-14 November 2015	7 days	Peter Shooter