



ON SITE: Port Binnli CEO Jeff Smith at the site of the 1860's homestead

Photo by Warren Lynam/c15245

A lean green team

GREENING Australia has entered into a partnership with North East Business Park in Caboolture which will provide environmental benefits with the rehabilitation of degraded pine and cane plantation land on the planned North Harbour site.

The North Harbour master plan will see about 350 hectares of the 760-hectare site preserved as open space and environmental buffer zones.

One of the initiatives of the rehabilitation program could be the inclusion of a wildlife corridor (suitable for koala habitat) and birdwatching hides.

Wildlife corridors have become an increasingly important issue in the Moreton Bay region in recent weeks with the march of residential development from the south.

North East Business Park chief executive Jeff Smith said Greening Australia had been enlisted to en-

Planning to get environment right

sure the best possible environmental outcome for the first part of the work.

Greening Australia chief executive Rod Bristow was excited to be involved in this project which would deliver a three-year environmental rehabilitation program beginning in early 2010 and invest more than \$600,000 on the first 90 hectares of rehabilitation.

"The area requires extensive weed management and revegetation to increase the ecological and habitat values, improve water quality in the Caboolture River and establish an aesthetic and functional open space," Mr Bristow said.

"We have had a look at the areas to be restored and what types of plants and trees are indigenous to the area and enlisted the help of Caboolture Region Environmental

Education Centre (CREEC) with this project."

The site has stands of hoop, bunya and Bribie pines as well as some introduced trees such as pests such as camphor laurels which will have to be removed.

The rehabilitation is part of North Harbour's \$628 million development which will see the creation of a residential and business park precinct, a marina and golf course and Jeff Smith said that his team was committed to creating a healthy, diverse and sustainable environment which would be treasured by North Harbour residents and visitors alike.

"We want to create an open space everyone can enjoy, while retaining and preserving regional native flora and fauna," he said.