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Growing cane grass - Kate Sieper (Katherine NT)

The Victoria River Bridge in the Northern Territory, on the main arterial link between the top end and Western Australia, is about to be rebuilt. It will be a massive undertaking, requiring significant land clearing along the banks of the river. In an effort to protect the area's native grasses and animal life, Greening Australia staff are undertaking a project to collect and grow native grass species which can be replanted as part of the site rehabilitation work once construction is complete. Reporter Kate Sieper hitches a ride with Greening Australia's rangeland co-ordinator Beronia Saggars as she heads out to the Victoria River to collect some cane grass samples for her regeneration plots back in Katherine.



Cane grass once grew thickly all along the Victoria River.



Remaining patches exist in protected places, like near the Victoria River Bridge.



Dry at this time year, fire is a big a threat.



When the bridge is rebuilt, hopefully the grass can be replanted.



This bag of cane grass could represent the future of the purple crowned fairy wren.



Beronia hard at work digging up plants.



If it doesn't get burnt and eaten by cattle, cane grass can be pretty tough.



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