

Camp Gregory offers escape for returned servicemen and families

# Vet fights for retreat for diggers

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WAR veteran Roger Dwyer has released a video in his campaign for the government to support his fellow returned servicemen.

Mr Dwyer owns a 40-acre property by the Gregory River and has created a retreat there for Vietnam veterans and their families to use free of charge.

Mr Dwyer said returned servicemen from all over south-east Queensland made regular visits to his Camp Gregory site and he wished the government would offer similar facilities and support.

He described the place as a paradise where visitors could forget their troubles and unwind in the simple joys of being in the bush, sitting by the campfire or fishing.

"We need a lot more of these facilities around Australia for our returned servicemen," he said.

It hasn't been an easy task for Mr Dwyer to manage the facility.

"I had problems with the government and have been fined through the Department of Primary Industries for environmental



War veteran  
Roger Dwyer

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charges," he said.

Mr Dwyer said his actions of adding gravel to small sections of the mangrove banks to increase accessibility for some of the less capable visitors was not a form of eco-vandalism.

Former member of parliament Rob Messenger has taken on the campaign to gain more public support for Mr Dwyer's plight.

"We want his conviction to be overturned and the money he was fined to be returned to the Vietnam veterans," Mr Messenger said.

"We want to reach out to all the young diggers returning from duty and let them know the Vietnam vets are there for them and wish to share and help however they can."

The interview-style YouTube video is available by following the link at [robmessenger.com](http://robmessenger.com).

