



Carbon Farming Awareness

Increasing understanding in the South West



Project Overview

Project Manager

Wendy Wilkins

Project Duration

2012 to 2016

Key Partners

Department of Agriculture and Food, Royalties for Regions, Regional NRM organisations

Key Achievements

- 1106 DAFWA fact sheets disseminated
- Two workshops, four field days
- Three demonstration sites established

The Carbon Farming Awareness Project was a State-wide project funded by the Government of Western Australia through its Royalties for Regions Program, from 2012-13 to 2015-16.

The project was managed by Rangelands NRM, on behalf of the Department of Agriculture and Food WA (DAFWA) and all WA NRM regional organisations were involved in the delivery.

The aim in the South West was to raise the awareness of individuals and communities about carbon farming and the possible opportunities and risks that it presents.

This resulted in increased knowledge and understanding of carbon farming among South West landholders who engaged with the project.



This project was supported by the South West Catchments Council, through funding from the Government of Western Australia's Royalties for Regions Program.



swccnrm.org.au

A collaborative approach

A cross-regional approach has achieved greater reach and significantly more impact to local communities and farmers in WA than a single region approach.

Collaborative effort

The aim of the collaboration was to work towards developing an understanding in regional WA of the productivity, profitability and sustainability potential of carbon farming, and of the associated risks, while supporting communities to responsibly manage their natural resources.

The project developed a strong understanding of the opportunities and risks that carbon farming may present, established demonstration sites and undertook a diverse range of public events including field days and workshops to showcase carbon farming.

“Added benefits have been the feedback received via communications with land managers; plus guidance, a peer review of the process and of information via the steering committee,” said Dr Henry Brockman, DAFWA Project Manager.

Demonstration sites across WA

Since the project was initiated in 2012, 20 demonstration sites have been developed from the Pilbara in the north to the south coast of WA. These sites have shown how diverse carbon farming activities can be.

In the high rainfall regions of the South West, demonstration sites were established evaluating the benefits of adding compost to dairy farms for pasture growth rates and soil organic carbon. In south coastal regions, soil organic carbon increases under biological farming techniques, while reducing emissions from livestock with perennial grazing systems key carbon farming activities. Across the central and northern Wheatbelt, on-farm examples of carbon farming looked at brown manuring crops, sandalwood plantations and forage shrub plantings for carbon storage. Across the rangelands, sites demonstrated just how much carbon is stored above and below the soil.



This project was supported by the South West Catchments Council, through funding from the Government of Western Australia's Royalties for Regions Program.



swccnrm.org.au