

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Our key focus will continue to be the implementation of innovative and best practice projects under the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme. We will continue to support and engage with the South West community, Noongar people, farmers, groups and other organisations.

We are working with our local communities to build a more collaborative framework, and enable more collaborative project planning for our combined projects, beyond 2018.

We look forward to continuing the strong outcomes achieved through our existing partnership projects such as the Western Dairy Research, Development and Extension Hub, and the Vasse-Wonnerup Investigation Node research projects.

A very positive development this year has been the formation of SWCC Consulting, which we hope will allow us to undertake a range of management works on a contractor basis, and independently fund other projects.

Further partnerships, business development and alternative funding opportunities will continue to be a priority in the new financial year.

SWCC is looking forward to continuing to deliver projects that protect our natural environment and improve sustainable agricultural productivity across the South West, in partnership with the community.



THANK YOU

SWCC would like to thank the local communities across the South West Region for their hard work and commitment to looking after their local environment and agricultural land.

We are honoured to work alongside our Regional Partners, landholders, industry partners, research institutions, government agencies, local government, Aboriginal organisations, community groups and volunteers in the delivery of NRM and Landcare in the South West Region. All of our achievements are shared with this dynamic and supportive network.

We also thank members of the SWCC Association, Regional Coordination Team and other working groups and steering committees for the guidance, assistance and support provided to us in the delivery of our projects.

The Australian Government is acknowledged and thanked for the ongoing support for NRM through the National Landcare Programme, Green Army, and 20 Million Trees funding, which have continued to assist many groups and farmers across the Region.

Thank you also to the Government of Western Australian and State NRM Office for their support of the NRM community and the South West environment.

And finally, to the many private organisations who have provided support and volunteering for our NRM projects, we thank you.

We look forward to continuing to work together to achieve more environmental, economic and community outcomes for the South West, so that it continues to thrive.



121

ON-GROUND WORK SITES



91

LAND MANAGERS SUPPORTED



68

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



38

ON-FARM TRIALS



55

NOONGARS ENGAGED



This project is supported by the South West Catchments Council, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme.



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SOUTH WEST CATCHMENTS COUNCIL A YEAR IN REVIEW 2015-16

ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY



Full report available at:
swccnrm.org.au

working together to make a difference today and develop a sustainable environment for tomorrow.



158,087

SEEDLINGS PLANTED



899.62

HECTARES REHABILITATED



6,340

PEOPLE ENGAGED



181

EVENTS



\$1.075m

TO COMMUNITY

CARING FOR COUNTRY

As the traditional owners of the South West, the Noongar people have interacted with the land, the sea, the waters, the plants and animals sustainably for tens of thousands of years. They call this caring for Country and the boodja (land) is their mother.

The greatest opportunity we have to continue to care for Country in the South West is for Noongar people to be part of driving positive environmental and social change, for the benefit of future generations.

The South West Catchments Council is committed to engaging and collaborating with Noongar people at all levels of Natural Resource Management, from policy development to on-ground action.

By continuing to work together, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people can make a difference today to develop a sustainable environment for tomorrow.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

The SWCC team has worked hard over the last year, together with community volunteers and our key partners and with the support of our funders, to achieve a range of positive outcomes for the South West environment.

We have facilitated significant on-ground outcomes for the conservation of key biodiversity assets, Threatened Ecological Communities and threatened species. This has included; feral pest animal control over a significant area, targeting pigs, foxes and rabbits, targeted weed control to protect priority sites and revegetation efforts, remnant vegetation protection and corridors to enhance the habitat of threatened species like the Western Ring-tail Possum, quenda, Carnaby's Cockatoo, *Geocrinia spp.* and more.

We are continuing to protect our coastlines through a range of on-ground actions over 18 on-ground sites and counting! This success has been aided by strong community and local government partnerships.

We continue to invest in a range of innovative sustainable agriculture trials and demonstrations, in partnership with more than 50 landholders, Landcare groups, grower groups and peak industry bodies. This work is being undertaken over more than 1,500ha and is supporting and encouraging our South West farmers to embrace new techniques and technologies to protect and enhance our important agriculture and aquaculture industries.

We are continuing to invest in community Landcare through the Strategic and Community Groundworks Grants, with almost 40 projects currently underway. These projects are grassroots driven, achieving local community engagement and on-ground outcomes that meet Australian Government National Landcare Programme priorities.

Of course, none of this on-ground work would be possible without the invaluable contributions from the South West community, farmers, and our key partner organisations. With this in mind, SWCC ran and facilitated almost 200 events this year on a range of topics, engaging 6,340 people, including 55 Noongar people and 91 land managers.

We are very proud of this year's achievements and we look forward to continuing to work in collaboration with the South West community.

PROJECTS

