

## FUTURE DIRECTIONS

This financial year will see SWCC settle into a new organisational structure and the continued implementation of the National Landcare Programme, raising new challenges, opportunities and possibilities.

In addition to welcoming our first full-time Aboriginal trainee this year, we expect to be very busy planting, fencing, controlling weeds and pests, improving soil health and engaging with the community.

The introduction of the Western Dairy Research, Development and Extension team in partnership with Western Dairy, Dairy Australia and DAFWA is a significant initiative and further partnerships, business development and alternative funding opportunities will continue to be priorities this financial year.

In partnership with our community, we will continue delivering all of our projects in the second year of this investment and expect to see tangible results from our first-year efforts.



South West Catchments Council staff

# SOUTH WEST CATCHMENTS COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY 2014-15



## THANK YOU

SWCC would like to thank the community for its unwavering dedication and commitment to caring for the South West environment.

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, other working groups and steering committees for their guidance, assistance and support in the delivery of our projects.

Thank you to the Australian Government for its ongoing support through the National Landcare Programme, Green Army, 20 Million Trees and 25 Year Landcare Grants, which have assisted a number of groups and farmers across the Region.

Finally, thank you also to the Government of Western Australia and State NRM Office for their support of the NRM community and the South West environment.

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.



Full report available at:  
[swccnrm.org.au](http://swccnrm.org.au)



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



PO Box 5066, Bunbury WA 6230 Tel: 9724 2400 Fax: 9724 2498 Email: [swcc@swccnrm.org.au](mailto:swcc@swccnrm.org.au) Visit: [swccnrm.org.au](http://swccnrm.org.au)



**99,243**  
SEEDLINGS PLANTED



**41.91**  
HECTARES REHABILITATED



**2,116**  
PEOPLE ENGAGED



**272**  
EVENTS



**\$2.03m**  
TO COMMUNITY

## CARING FOR COUNTRY

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

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 South West Catchments Council (SWCC) is the regional Natural Resource Management (NRM) organisation for the South West of Western Australia. We work with the community to care for the environment, our agricultural land and our local communities. We do this in many ways; working to improve biodiversity, protecting coastal environments, working with farmers to improve agricultural practices, and engaging with our extensive community network to increase knowledge and skills in environmental management.

SWCC allocated \$2.031 million of regional funding to the community last financial year through partnerships and the Community Groundworks Grants program, supporting a range of landcare and community groups across the region to implement on-ground works.

Our recent achievements include partnering with farmers and research institutions to run 53 on-farm trials of innovative practices, establishing the Vasse-Wonnerup Investigation Node to address knowledge gaps, and expanding the SWCC Association to increase community representation at the highest level. Protection of the biodiversity values of the proposed Preston River to Ocean Regional Park was further assisted through partnerships, community engagement and on-ground works.

We also extended a warm welcome to the Western Dairy Research, Development and Extension Hub team, who are now based at the SWCC Bunbury office. This is an important partnership which integrates NRM into an industry-driven approach to research.

SWCC supported 272 events across the year including the largest annual regional NRM event in the South West, the 'South West Celebration'. Some new approaches to NRM communication included launching the autumn *Save the Crabs, Then eat Them* behaviour change campaign and engaging the corporate sector through sponsorship and volunteering. Underpinning our work is the South West Regional NRM Strategy – now an interactive, online resource designed to inform and engage our community on climate change.

# PROJECTS

