

Annual Report 2020-2021



SOUTHCOAST
NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT INC.



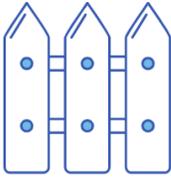
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We acknowledge the Noongar/Nyungar peoples of the South Coast region as the traditional custodians of this land and we pay our respect to their Elders past, present, and emerging. We recognise their deep connections to land, sea, and community.

Front cover: Gnowangerup vista. Image credit: Johanna Tomlinson.

Outcomes and impacts achieved in 2020-2021

<p>Collaboratively with our partners, we invested</p>  <p>\$4,617,897</p>	<p>We leveraged this investment with contributions worth</p> <p>\$856,569</p> 	
<p>We have signed 35 agreements with partners to deliver on-ground works and worked across 25 projects with a combined whole-of-project-life value of \$19M. Together we have...</p>		
<p>...protected 572 hectares of coastal saltmarsh, important habitats of threatened animals, and perennial pastures in land with over 39 kilometres of fencing,</p> 	<p>...reduced the threats to animals by controlling foxes, feral cats and rabbits over 128,427 hectares,</p> 	<p>... controlled weeds over 147 hectares to enhance the condition of habitats of threatened animals,</p> 
<p>...improved the habitat of threatened animals with 146 hectares of revegetation activities, and</p> 	<p>...funded and supported the delivery of 124 events attended by 1,526 people to increase their skills and knowledge to assist them with managing our natural resources.</p>  	
<p>This year South Coast NRM secured a further</p> <p>\$7,916,875</p> <p>for our region for the next four years</p>		

Chair's report

The operating environment for organisations working in natural resource management can best be described as challenging, primarily as a result of the downward trend in funding for managing our natural environment. Of concern is the large budget deficit incurred by the Federal Government primarily through expenditure undertaken during the pandemic. It is very possible future expenditure on the environment will be reduced as a cost saving measure. This risk will be addressed by broadening the sources of funding to which South Coast NRM submits project applications. This approach has already been successful, resulting in projects being approved by both public and private institutions, including a research and development corporation, increasing income for the financial year. South Coast NRM continue to explore opportunities for increasing funding to continue achieving the objectives of managing natural resources on the South Coast, as outlined in Southern Prospects, and building the capacity of the organisation to support the vision of looking after where we live.

The South Coast Snapshot is a collaboration with UWA and is a high priority of the Board, with an aim to assess the impact of past work on the environment. This is an important project in the absence of ongoing monitoring of the condition of the environment. The data may be used to guide future direction and will provide evidence for the effectiveness of NRM expenditure in the region, both to the community and funders.

We are fortunate in the current environment to have a very experienced Board of Directors from diverse backgrounds and experience, and I am grateful for their support. In particular I acknowledge Marilyn Connell and Helen Tasker, both of whom are retiring, for their contribution to the work of the Board. We also acknowledge the contribution made by community members that are involved in the delegated sub-committees of the Board, the Audit Committee and Board Nominations and Remuneration Committee, and Reference Groups. More than 30 skilled practitioners with a broad array of backgrounds contributed their knowledge and experience at almost 20 meetings across 6 different committees or groups last financial year.

The Board is also very grateful for the diligence and professionalism of staff, who have a strong interest in supporting the vision of Southern Prospects. Particular thanks go to Jo Headlam, David Broadhurst and Brett Dal Pozzo who have served the organisation well over the past decade.

This past year has brought many highlights, and two demand a mention:

- The State-wide project that provides a framework for management and investment for Dieback control has been awarded an Australian Biosecurity Award in the Environmental category; congratulations to all involved.
- A collaboration between communities in Tambellup and Gnowangerup has provided an excellent opportunity for Noongar residents to gain skills and training in seed collection and nursery production, with a broader aim to commercialise the businesses. Testimonials from the participants in these projects have demonstrated the potential of skilled facilitation to build capacity in disadvantaged communities.

In conclusion I acknowledge the efforts of all supporters and staff of South Coast NRM. South Coast NRM has a reputation for good governance and sound project management, and has an excellent record for completing work and achieving project outcomes. This is a reflection of the capacity of our partners and staff and their work ethic as well as the support provided by the Board.

Andrew Bathgate, Chair

CEO's report

South Coast NRM's mission is to create resilient communities by enabling them to care for their environment; we call this looking after where you live. Our team and partners have worked hard to achieve this throughout 2020-2021 by continuing to deliver quality projects, expanding on an already diversified income base, supporting our partners, and advocating for regional needs through various consultative and planning processes at local, State and National levels.

Last year we sourced additional funding for important projects addressing drought resilience and assisting farmers to better understand their carbon emissions and sequestration and how to use this to access future markets. We've continued to carefully target funding programs that avoid competition with local partners, whilst preferentially providing money from successful projects to local partners through simple and administratively easy approaches. This is a small example of how we help our partners to look after where they live.

Our income in 2020-2021 rose by almost \$1M from the previous year to \$4.6M, which is our best result in the last 3 years. This demonstrates the significant value that the program management team led by our Chief Operations Officer, Johanna Tomlinson, contributes to resourcing the important work done by our partners and the South Coast NRM team. South Coast NRM used funding from 11 discrete sources across 19 projects last year. Particular recognition is due to Karen Herlihy and our Sustainable Communities team for their work in delivering new projects that support our Aboriginal partners, with this success addressing a major gap in funding. The administrative efforts of our team to manage the contracting, procurement and reporting of these projects is significant, and our Chief Financial Officer, Jo Headlam, has been critical to maintaining our reputation for strong governance and management. We wish Jo all the best for her move onto a new opportunity in South Australia after 9 years with the organisation. All of our staff have continued to make significant and important contributions to looking after we we live this year, working well above and beyond what we ask of them. Our sincere thanks to all.

We invested significant effort in 2020-2021 at improving the way we engage with State and Federal politicians. This has involved mapping the work we have delivered over the past decade to demonstrate our achievements in electorates held by our local members of parliament. Complementing this we have proactively connected with key Ministers and Departmental representatives to advocate for regional priorities. We expect that this work which profiles the unique values of the South Coast, combined with our effective partnerships with the community, government and universities, will position the region well for future opportunities.

Throughout 2021-2022, South Coast NRM will create a new Corporate Plan that will guide the future size and function of the organisation. Our staff will help our Board develop the strategies to ensure that we can continue to achieve the goals and aspirations of Southern Prospects. With the help of our partners, we're confident that we can protect and enhance our unique plants, animals and landscapes of the region for current and future communities to enjoy.

We're sincerely grateful for the strong collaborative working relationships we have with our major funders: Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Lotterywest, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Great Southern Development Commission, Grains Research and Development Commission, Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and the Gnowangerup Aboriginal Corporation. We're also deeply grateful for the ongoing support of key Ministers including David Littleproud, Sussan Ley, Alannah MacTiernan, Amber-Jade Sanderson, Stephen Dawson, David Kelly and Tony Buti.

Justin Bellanger, Chief Executive Officer

Progress to Southern Prospects

On behalf of the South Coast community, South Coast NRM are proud to be the custodians of *Southern Prospects – the South Coast Regional Strategy for Natural Resource Management*. Southern Prospects is at the core of South Coast NRM’s efforts and actions. Figure 1 below identifies key achievements across the themes identified in Southern Prospects. Please note that these only represent the investment secured by South Coast NRM. It is acknowledged and celebrated that there are a range of other stakeholders across the South Coast region also working to contribute to achieving the aspirations of *Southern Prospects* that are not shown here.

The last financial year has involved planning to evaluate the impact of consecutive investments to manage our natural resources that will culminate in the production of the South Coast Snapshot 2022. This will provide a contemporary iteration of a report card on the condition of natural resources in the South Coast NRM region.

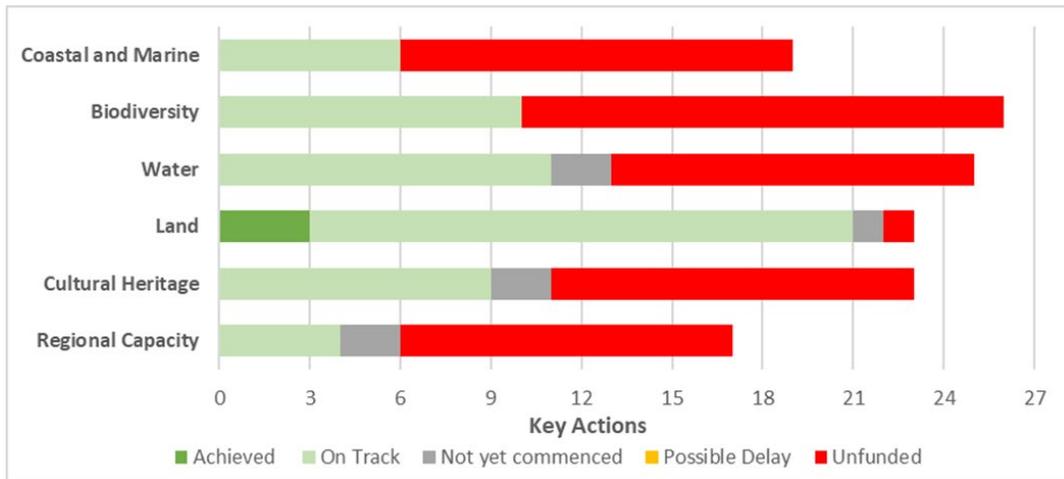
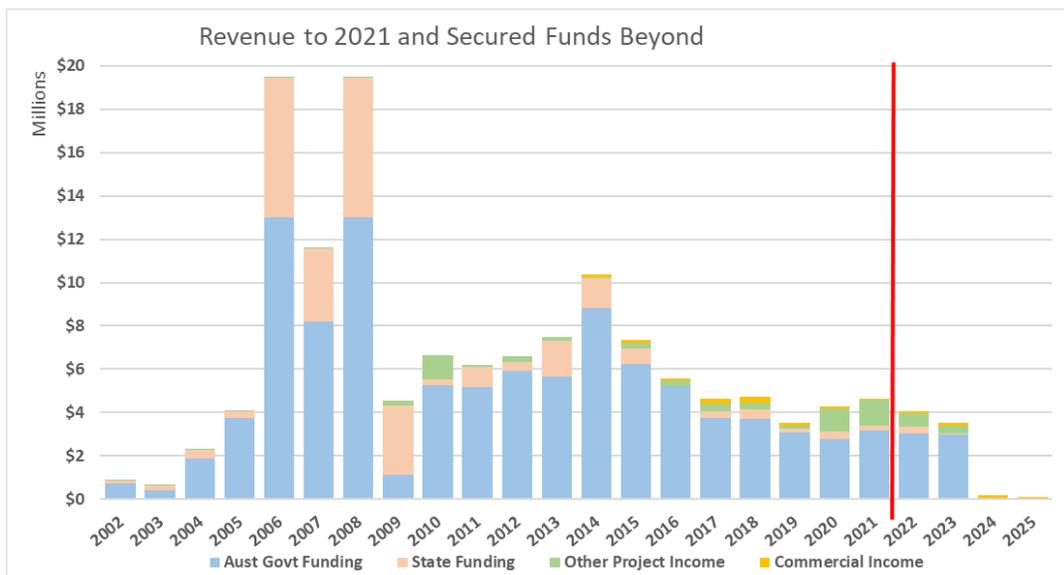


Figure 1: Indication of actions achieved across the themes of Southern Prospects 2019 – 2024.

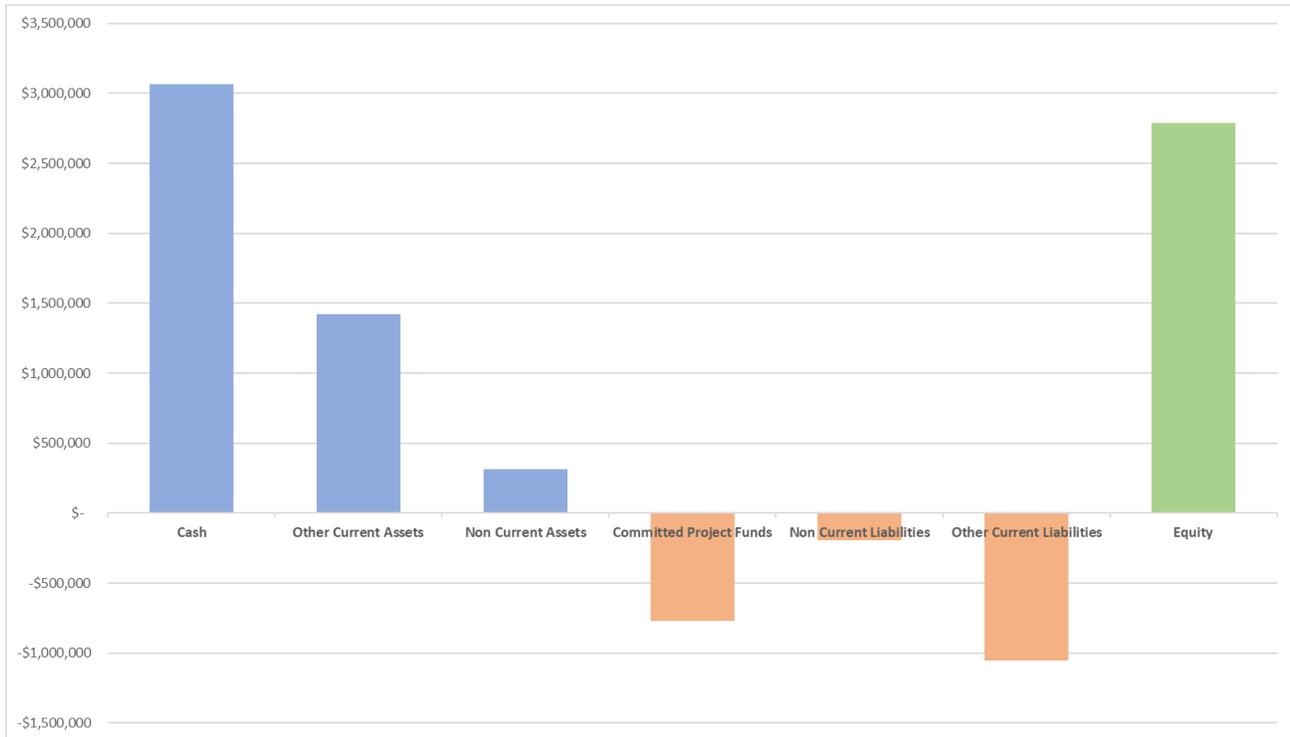


Since 1 July 2001, South Coast NRM has generated almost \$143M of revenue for the region. Beyond June 2021 to the latter half of 2025, a further \$7.9m has been secured to date.

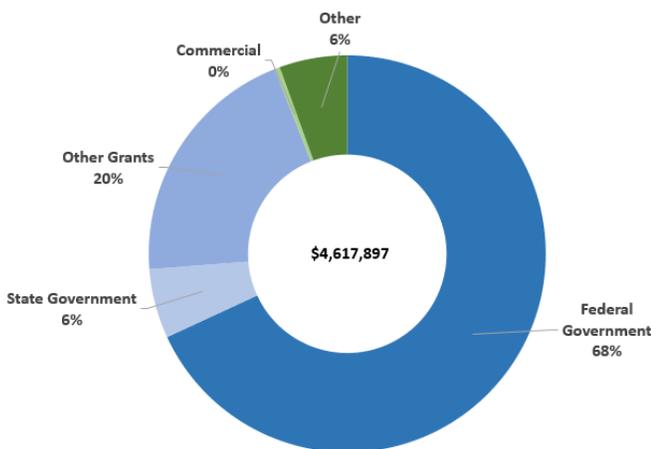
Johanna Tomlinson, Chief Operations Officer, and Ray Chilton, Monitoring & Evaluation Coordinator

Financials

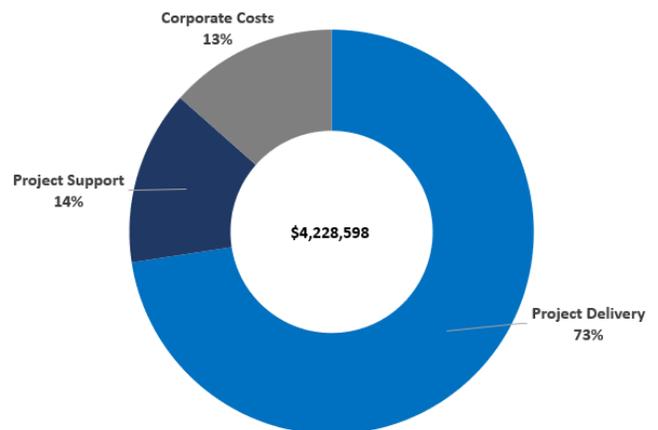
Financial position 2020-2021



Funding



Expenditure



Auditor's declaration 2020-2021

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2021 there have been no contraventions of:

- (i) The auditor independence requirements as set out in section 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) Any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Richard Gregson CA Director | WALKER WAYLAND AUDIT (WA) PTY LTD

Regional capacity

Supporting regional capacity is embedded in the delivery of the four biophysical themes which are fundamental to achieving the aspirations and outcomes of Southern Prospects. We continued to empower the South Coast community to contribute to the overall management of the region's natural resources by supporting dedicated volunteers, citizen scientists, farming groups and soil health champions, Aboriginal leaders and their communities, sustainability advocates and individuals with a commitment to managing natural resources across the region.

In delivering the Regional Land Partnerships program, South Coast NRM works with the sub-regional based groups in the recovery of threatened species and threatened ecological communities, addressing climate change and in the protection of Ramsar-listed wetlands. The Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitators work to support the network of project officers in the region. The various activities within projects have created local engagement of 1,526 participants by way of 124 community engagement events. The Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitators have also overseen the delivery of the training component of the State NRM funded project, which has involved supporting a total of 19 training activities across a range of initiatives from project management, digital marketing and GIS mapping.

South Coast NRM renewed the delivery of the regional NRM forums, which have progressed to a proactive and effective discussion with experts and regional community around emerging issues and opportunities to ensure we stay connected and lead the way in best practice management of natural resources. Key questions around biosecurity and fire management centered discussions in October 2020 whilst in May 2021 the forum delved into the collaborative effort for threatened species management. Both events were well supported by presenters and participants alike, attracting over 125 people.

One of the key challenges in the management of natural resources is telling the story. South Coast NRM has been sharing many great stories of the collective effort of the community through a range of communication channels, including our website (735 visitors during the year with 3,600 page views), monthly eNews to 736 subscribers, media releases, radio interviews, short videos, forums/events and social media posts (214 Facebook posts shared to over 1,000 followers, as well as Twitter and Instagram). The Southern Soils website has been rebuilt and relaunched with 934 visitors and 2,700 page views in the last 12 months.

The residual effects of COVID-19 and sporadic lock downs have resulted in restrictions of staff movement between regions. This has limited professional development opportunities, access to technical knowledge and in some cases an inability to liaise directly with land managers including the Aboriginal community. Disruptions to supply chains resulted in issues in delivery of good and services. South Coast NRM is thankful for the ongoing support provided by its funders and community partners during the COVID-19 pandemic, which addressed uncertainty for all involved and enabled flexibility to ensure project outcomes could still be achieved.



Albany Senior High School students at an excursion to Lake Pleasant View/Ballogup, 2021. Image credit: South Coast NRM.

Cultural heritage

South Coast NRM are proud of the projects delivering on the Cultural Heritage outcomes of Southern Prospects, developed in partnership with the Noongar/Nyungar community and under the direction of the Aboriginal Reference Group. A key focus has been engaging with Aboriginal people in caring for country, recognising the importance of traditional ecological knowledge (TEK), building capability and capacity and developing career pathways and jobs in the natural resources management sector for Aboriginal peoples and corporations. This builds the foundation for sustainable long-term impact.

Aboriginal people and corporations across the South Coast have been engaged in delivering in the regions National Landcare Program projects, with activities including:

- Property planning on Aboriginal owned/managed lands and recovery actions to support threatened species.
- Work to protect and recover threatened ecological communities and Ramsar wetlands.
- Aboriginal corporations, farmers and land managers trialing bush food enterprises, establishing local demonstration sites and progressing native seed collection and plant propagation to support the region to adapt, innovate and meet food market demands for sustainable food production in a changing climate.

Restoring Noongar Boodja, supported by Lotterywest, continued in 2020-2021, enabling the Noongar community to actively pursue caring for country (Boodja) using TEK, while restoring and protecting culturally significant locations through three key projects:

- Songlines & Sustainability, a project in partnership with the Wirlomin Noongar Language and Stories Project, is exploring the link between culture, language, songline stories and caring for country. This year's focus has been the development of intellectual protocols and partner agreements to assist in protecting integrity when recording cultural heritage and working with partners, and on-country trips to document and record songline stories.
- The Restoring Lake Pleasant View/Ballogup Project, in partnership with Albany Heritage Reference Group Aboriginal Corporation, has enabled this group to develop foundational plans and surveys for the protection and restoration of the cultural and environmental values of this Aboriginal owned property. Noongar Elders, community members and casual work teams have worked alongside biologists, ecologists and archaeologists to develop these plans and have begun leading educational tours with the assistance of Kurrah Mia.
- The Walking Together Project, in partnership with UWA and the Aboriginal community, has begun engaging with Noongar Elders and community to record TEK with the aim to combine this with western science to establish protocols and contemporary management of our country.



Cultural survey at Lake Pleasant View/Ballogup, 2021. Image credit: South Coast NRM.

Seeding the Great Southern Noongar Enterprises has been an exciting project supporting the development of a trained Aboriginal workforce in native seed collection in Tambellup and native plant propagation in Gnowangerup in partnership with two local Aboriginal Corporations: the Tambellup Aboriginal Progress Association and the Gnowangerup Aboriginal Corporation. Both continue to work towards aspirations of Noongar enterprise development, thanks to funding from Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and Great Southern Development Commission and support from the community involved in the management of natural resources.

Strong & Proud, an after-school program, has continued in 2020-2021 to deliver in engaging Aboriginal youth in cultural, environmental and educational activities thanks to funding from Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) and with support from Heathways, Department of Education and community partners. This program continues to be very successful, expanding from Albany to Tambellup in 2021 in supporting Aboriginal youth to improve school attendance, self-esteem, cultural identity, connection, and participation in their community while encouraging healthy and active lifestyle choices. South Coast NRM worked collaboratively across the region to develop a submission to the Federal Government's Safer Communities Fund to further expand the project and provide continuity to this valuable work.



Tambellup Strong & Proud Aboriginal youth climb at Mt Trio, Stirling Range National Park, 30th April 2021. Image credit: South Coast NRM.

In 2020-2021 the Restoring Connections to Country project funded by DLGSC has enabled Aboriginal men and women through four bush camps to get back on country to share culture, heal and care for country.

The Noongar Kaartdijin in Schools Program, funded by the Commonwealth Bank, assisted Aboriginal Elders and educators to lead school incursions and excursions to educate our future generations about the importance of cultural heritage in our region. Noongar Kaartdijin is being extended through funding from State NRM and will result in students involved in seed collection, plant propagation and revegetation activities with the Noongar community in 2022.

In partnership with ATC Worksmart, South Coast NRM supported Aboriginal youth in school-based traineeships to provide pathways to employment. Presently South Coast NRM are hosting three Aboriginal School Based Trainees in Albany and Gnowangerup with the aspiration that over the next few years we will see an increase in job opportunities for Aboriginal rangers, as well as training and community development roles for Aboriginal people.

Karen Herlihy, Sustainable Communities Program Manager

Land

The land theme represents a fast paced, rapidly evolving space for South Coast NRM and the region's primary production industries. The aspiration of the land theme is to improve and protect land resources through sustainable land use, matched to land capability.

Following three consecutive years of drought in many parts of the region, the Future Drought Fund project '*Farmers helping farmers to maximise soil-moisture and production from Australia's most prolonged drought area*' kicked off, supported by the Federal Government. Despite the drought breaking in 2020-2021 the project's mantra is that the best time to plan for the next drought is right now! This project is being delivered in partnership with the Gillamii Centre and Ravensthorpe Agricultural Initiative Network. A great range of events have been held across these two regions, with the aim of sharing information and building knowledge, skills, and networks for drought preparedness.

On-ground activities in the Grains Research and Development Corporation funded drainage trial in the Esperance Port Zone started in February 2021 with the installation of tile drainage at the trial site. Preliminary results are indicating a yield benefit this year with the wet season. Results from this site will be combined with a trial site currently being monitored by Stirlings to Coast Farmers in the Albany Port Zone. Economic analyses will be carried out on results from both sites and will provide more information on the economic costs and benefits associated with drainage.



GRDC Subsurface Drainage field day, Esperance, 11th February 2021. Image credit: South Coast NRM.

The Regional Land Partnership funded market access focused project is continuing to deliver interesting results. Two demonstration sites have been established in the Esperance area by Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation to look at the agricultural possibilities around ancient grains and other bush foods. These sites will continue to be monitored over the duration of this project.

The Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitators have supported the delivery of our sustainable agriculture projects and have actively built capacity in project officers working in this space. Key initiatives delivered by our Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitators have included developing case studies across a range of issues and the development of a short film on 2020 Soil Health Champion Richard Davy which will be released later in 2021.

A project funded by the State NRM program has delivered on a range of activities across biosecurity and regional capacity. A key component of the project has been investigating the options for delivering biosecurity actions on the ground in the Albany area. This has involved developing a project steering committee and a project risk assessment. Further activity will take place in the 2021-2022 financial year, with the project due to deliver a final report at the end of 2021.

A new project in 2020/2021 sees South Coast NRM collaborating on a national stage through its involvement in the Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) project called Sustainable Pathways to CN30. South Coast NRM is playing a key role in supporting the carbon neutrality adoption pathway for CN30, as well as developing the MLA CarbonEDGE module. The CarbonEDGE module will provide a framework to assist livestock producers to move along the pathway towards carbon neutrality.

Other activities in the carbon space include South Coast NRM supporting the delivery of a workshop in the region on the WA Carbon and Land Restoration Program. This has the potential to be an interesting opportunity for those

agricultural entities looking to get involved in carbon farming. South Coast NRM is also a participant in the NRM WA Carbon Community of Practice, which is providing a great forum for the sharing of information.



Bushfire Preparedness Workshop, October 2021. Image credit: South Coast NRM.

Water

South Coast NRM is driven by the Southern Prospect's aspiration of the region's rivers, estuaries, wetlands and water resources being recognised as precious and being maintained, protected and/or restored with social, cultural, economic and ecological values.

The Regional Estuaries Initiative project for Yakamia Creek concluded in December 2020. This project delivered on a range of activities including 24 workshops involving 335 participants, coverage in ten media articles, over 20 social media posts and release of a video titled Yakamia Creek: Albany's Living Stream. The video is available through the South Coast NRM YouTube channel and on the website.

The Lake Warden and Lake Gore Ramsar wetlands project, funded through Regional Land Partnerships, has continued to deliver on-ground actions in the Esperance area to protect the ecological character of these internationally significant areas. Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation is a key partner in this project, and they have continued to deliver on-country activities with their Aboriginal Ranger team in culturally significant areas of the Ramsar wetlands.

Over the past 12 months, the following has been achieved in the Ramsar wetlands project:

- 15 community participation and engagement opportunities.
- Over 65,000 hectares of fauna surveys.
- More than 3,400 hectares of pest management, primarily foxes to protect water birds.
- Three training and skills development activities.
- Over 180 hectares of site preparation.
- Nearly 20 hectares of revegetation.

One of the exciting things to come out of the Ramsar project has been the Lake Warden Wetlands System Catchment Technical Action Report 2021-2041. Surprisingly, this is the first time the big-picture needs of these internationally significant wetlands have been documented. Using a strategic and science-based approach the report provides important perspectives on how current and future programs can contribute to protecting these unique assets. The report will be made available via the South Coast NRM website – stay tuned!

Coobidge Creek has been another focus with a State NRM funded project that started in early 2021. This project will design a long-term management plan to restore Coobidge Creek which flows into the Lake Gore Ramsar wetlands complex west of Esperance. The catchment was heavily impacted by extreme flooding in 2017. The plan will be used by the farmers to conduct appropriate on-ground actions on the creek and surrounding catchment with co-invested resources and to leverage potential future funding.

South Coast NRM began preliminary planning for a Wetlands Forum to be held early in 2022. This forum will look at bringing together a range of interested parties to share knowledge and skills on how internally drained wetlands across the landscape can be better managed. More information on this project will be made available in early 2022.

Kylie Fletcher, Land & Water Program Manager



National Volunteer Week Wetland Walk with the Esperance Volunteer Resource Centre, Lake Wheatfield, 20th May 2021. Image credit: South Coast NRM.

Coastal & marine

Improved coastal and marine systems can be achieved through reducing key threats, using a community-led approach that embraces social, cultural, economic and ecological values. Over the last year, the focus has been on exploring opportunities with local governments, stakeholders and partners in coastal project initiatives. South Coast NRM aims to maintain the legacy of region-wide collaboration for coastal management following the cessation of South Coast Management Group.

Collaborative efforts in the coastal and marine theme have seen South Coast NRM develop two projects with our partners for submission to State NRM, with results of this yet to be announced. South Coast NRM led a collaborative project to support the ongoing recovery of southern right whales through increasing local community capacity for monitoring in the region. This project will enable the mapping of critical calving grounds and assessment of anthropogenic impacts identified as high priority for this species which will help inform research and monitoring priorities for southern right whales in the South Coast region. A further collaboration involved South Coast NRM assisting in the development of a state-wide project focusing on the unmanaged use of road registered four-wheel drives. The proposal outlined a coordinated approach to driver education to minimise impacts to our fragile coastal systems. This has been a long-term focus for South Coast NRM with past activities including the development of Code Off-Road, a guide to safe, spectacular, responsible off-road driving on the South Coast of WA.

In 2020-2021, South Coast NRM completed the coastal habitat protection project, funded by Coastwest, in partnership with Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Cooperation, the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) and the Shire of Esperance. This project protected priority *Phytophthora* Dieback free *Banksia* communities ('Kwongkan' threatened ecological communities), cultural sites, resident and migratory shorebird habitat, and fragile granite headlands from uncontrolled off-road vehicle use in the Wharton Beach to Victoria Harbour area east of Esperance.

In 2020-2021, South Coast NRM participated in consultations with DBCA regarding the spatial marine planning for the proposed marine park in the region. It is anticipated that we will continue these consultations with DBCA and other local community groups as the process continues to develop.



Cable fencing delineating on south side of "causeway" between Warton's Beach and Victoria Harbour, approaching Victoria Harbour entrance at Cape Le Grand National Park, 2021.

Biodiversity

The three key focus areas of the biodiversity theme were threatened species conservation, biosecurity, and building community capacity.

South Coast NRM addresses threatened species conservation through protection and restoration of key habitats and species, targeted feral predator control programs and community-based monitoring to measure the on-ground impacts of investments. Last year, in partnership with 11 community groups, land managers, and two Aboriginal corporations, South Coast NRM implemented recovery actions to address key threats to six threatened species and two threatened ecological communities across the region. Supported by Regional Land Partnerships funding highlights include:

- Aboriginal community involvement in threatened species recovery actions across 4,701 hectares of Aboriginal managed lands.
- Contribution to the successful translocation of the Gilbert's potoroo to maintain an existing wild breeding population in partnership with DBCA, Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group and local volunteers.
- Implementation of feral animal baiting programs in 150,000 hectares of mixed tenure by three community groups and one Aboriginal Ranger team, resulting in reduced threats to Australasian bittern, chuditch, malleefowl and western ringtail possum populations.
- Partnership with the City of Albany to protect one of the largest patches of Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh TEC in the South Coast region, Emu Point, through access control and the establishment of vegetation condition monitoring.
- A series of workshop events at five locations in the South Coast management unit, with over 100 attendees, to increase the skills and knowledge of community groups and land managers for the improved management of Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh TEC.

The Environmental Restoration Fund project, supported by the Federal Government, works in collaboration with Birdlife Australia and three other regional NRM groups to protect black cockatoos by supporting private land holders to improve the habitat values of black cockatoo nesting and feeding sites. This year, the highest breeding activity (number of active nests) and rates of nest usage were recorded at sites across the South Coast NRM catchments. Prior to the current breeding season, South Coast NRM installed 10 artificial nesting sites, called Cockatubes®. South Coast NRM look forward to reporting the success of the 2021-2022 breeding season in next year's annual report.



A female Black Cockatoo guards her eggs during a survey of a Cockatube® installed at Mondurup. Image credit: Eddy Wajon.

South Coast NRM continues to take a leadership and supportive approach to Dieback across the South Coast and further afield. Cross-tenure action and investment continues in Phytophthora Dieback mitigation through the implementation of the State Dieback Phytophthora Dieback Framework, which aims for long-term protection of high priority landscapes. This project has continued to work closely with land managers, stakeholders and the community in 2020-2021, delivering on-ground management actions such as access control, track consolidation and green bridging in six high-priority key Priority Protection Areas across the South Coast. South Coast NRM has continued to maintain DIDMS, the Dieback Information Delivery and Management System. Recognising the long-term approach required to environmental biosecurity, South Coast NRM developed a successive project proposal to State NRM to contemporise DIDMS through stakeholder consultation ensuring an end user focus, as well as extend further training and awareness in dieback hygiene.



Stu Ford of DBCA conducting predator control at Lake Pleasant View/Ballogup, March 2021. Image credit: DBCA.

Mike Wysong, Healthy Environments Program Manager



Members of the Healthy Environments team at the field day and green card training during the Hopetoun Kwongkan and Dieback Forum, October 2021. Image credit: South Coast NRM.

Our partners

Delivery in the region and on the ground is made possible through the strong network of partners across the South Coast. South Coast NRM would like to acknowledge and formally thank all of its partners for their support and work across the range of projects in 2020-2021.

Aboriginal Health	CSIRO
Advanced Choice Economics	Curtin University
AgZero 2030	Deep Woods Surveys
Albany Aboriginal Corporation	Denmark Weed Action Group
Albany Heritage Reference Group Aboriginal Corporation	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions
Albany Plantation Forest Company of Australia	Department of Education
Albany Senior High School	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
ASHEEP	Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage
ATC Worksmart	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
Aurora Environmental	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
Australasian Bittern Recovery Team	Dieback Working Group
Australian Facilitation Company	Ecological Restoration and Education Services
Badjebup Aboriginal Corporation	Esperance Bird Observer Group
Birdlife Australia	Esperance Farm Trees
Bush Heritage Australia	Esperance Senior High School
Carnaby's Cockatoo Recovery Team	Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation
Centre of Excellence in Natural Resource Management	Esperance Weeds Action Group
Chuditch Recovery Team	Fitzgerald Biosphere Community Collective
City of Albany	Fitzgerald Biosphere Group Inc.
Consulting Great Southern	Friends of the Fitzgerald River National Park
Friends of the Porongurup Range	Northern Agricultural Catchments Council Inc.
Friends of the Western Ground Parrot	Nowanup
Friends of Yakamia Creek	Oyster Harbour Catchment Group Inc.
Gaia Resources	Palmerston

GHD Engineering, environmental and project management consultants	Ravensthorpe Agricultural Initiative Network Inc.
Gilberts Potoroo Action Group	Red Ochre Consulting
Gillamii Centre Inc.	Relationships Australia
Gnowangerup Aboriginal Corporation	Seedesign Studio
Great Southern Aboriginal Health Service	Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup
Great Southern Bio Logic	Shire of Denmark
Great Southern Development Commission	Shire of Esperance
Great Southern Grammar	Shire of Gnowangerup
Greening Australia WA	Shire of Jerramungup
Impact Services	Shire of Plantagenet
Katanning Senior High School	Shire of Ravensthorpe
Kendenup Fencing Contractors	South Coast Threatened Birds Recovery Team
Kurrah Mia	South East Premium Wheat Growers Association
Landholders and land managers across the region	South Regional TAFE
Malleefowl Community of Practice	South West Catchments Council
Malleefowl Preservation Group	Southern Ecology
Many Peaks Primary School	Stirlings to Coast Farmers
MLA Carbon Storage Partnership network	Subsurface Water Management
Murdoch University – Centre for Phytophthora Science and Management	Tambellup Aboriginal Progress Association
National Malleefowl Recovery Team	Tambellup Primary School
North Albany Senior High School	TiloMass Environmental Services
North Stirlings Pallinup Natural Resources Inc.	Torbay Catchment Group Inc.
University of Tasmania	Western Power
University of Western Australia	Western Ringtail Possum Recovery Team
WA Malleefowl Recovery Group	Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management
WA Police	Wilson Inlet Catchment Committee Inc.
WA State NRM Office	Wirlomin Noongar Language and Stories Project
Wongutha Christian Aboriginal Parent-Directed School	

Our investment partners

South Coast NRM acknowledges and extends thanks to all its investment partners.

Federal Government – Department Agriculture, Water and the Environment	Esperance Regional Forum
Federal Government – Department of Environment and Energy	Healthways WA
Federal Government – Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources	Lotterywest
City of Albany	Gnowangerup Aboriginal Corporation
Commonwealth Bank (Community Grants Program)	Grains Research & Development Corporation
Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries	Great Southern Development Commission
Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development (incl. State NRM Program)	Meat and Livestock Australia
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation	South West Catchments Council
Water Corporation	

South Coast NRM has been recognised as a national leader in implementing environmental biosecurity, winning the 2021 Australian Biosecurity Award in the Environmental Biosecurity category. Image credit: South Coast NRM.



Connect with us



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Call the Esperance office
08 9076 2200



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Visit the Esperance office
4/113 Dempster Street, Esperance



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