

PERTH NRM
ANNUAL REPORT
2015



Perth NRM

NOTE: This report has been recompiled from a web format. As such, formatting and interactive components may not work as expected.

1. INTRODUCTION - Messages from the CEO and Chair

2015 in review

A heartfelt thank you from the team at Perth NRM

You, the stewards of our region, have helped in so many ways. From cleaning up our iconic beaches, to planting native seedlings along the Swan-Canning rivers; treating trees and guarding them from disease, to conserving wetland and bushland that preserves habitat for native birds and animals. Thank you for helping us create living landscapes that we can all enjoy now and well into the future.

Our gratitude to our generous community and corporate supporters – you have made a direct and powerful contribution; your impact will last for generations to come.

“Our employees have worked hard to achieve an environment of integrity, respect, equity, accountability and responsiveness. Core to our success has been working collaboratively with our community and corporate volunteers.”

– Lisa Potter, CEO



Perth NRM staff planting native trees at Fairbrossen Winery. Photo credit Lisa Potter

Message of thanks from Mariyon Slany, Chairperson, Perth NRM

On behalf of the Board of Directors, my sincere thanks to Perth NRM staff, members, supporters and partners. Your expertise, enthusiasm and professionalism reflects the leading role we play in bringing together diverse interests to achieve a common goal. Our community and corporate supporters, in conjunction with Perth NRM staff have once again seen the completion of many outstanding projects.

As part of an overall responsibility, our community has a heightened awareness that managing our natural resources benefits us all and brings value, not only when viewing the landscape from our car windows, but in the whole chain of food supply, healthy soils, sufficient water and in the air we breathe. David Suzuki says that ‘we have to recall the image of the planet from outer space: a single entity in which air, water and land are interconnected. That is our home.’ Whether you enjoy walking or cycling along our foreshore or walking through the bush, looking after our natural resources is everyone’s responsibility. Our member’s and supporters commitment to Perth NRM is helping bring this idea of fully valuing these natural resources to the general Perth community, and we will continue to work hard at this.

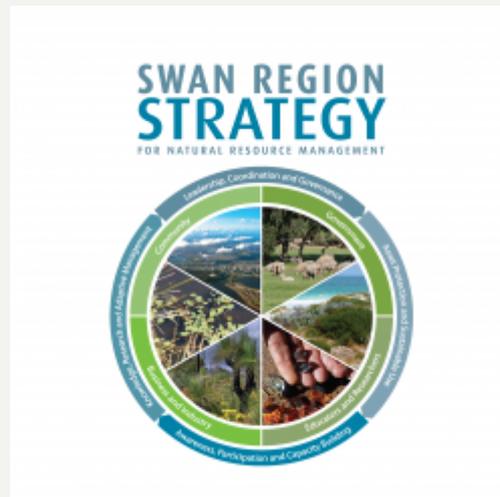
2. SWAN REGION STRATEGY FOR PERTH NRM

Building awareness, understanding and capacity acknowledges the central role of people in effective natural resource management. By working together towards the same sustainable goals, our actions can change our unsustainable trajectory.

– Greer Gilroy, Environment Program Manager

Perth NRM commenced a review and update of the 2004 Swan NRM Strategy in April 2013. As custodian of the Strategy, we are responsible for maintaining and updating the document in consultation with key stakeholders. After a twelve month consultation process involving more than **170 people** from **85 organisations** and groups across the region, the new incarnation of the Strategy has emerged.

Unlike the asset-based approach of the 2004 Strategy, the new Strategy presents a more integrated action-area approach that holistically considers the social, cultural, economic and environmental drivers and opportunities for effective natural resource management.



The Swan NRM Committee, established by Perth NRM in December 2013, has overseen every step of the Strategy development process. Meeting quarterly, the committee includes representatives from across government, community, industry and research sectors, reflecting the diversity of stakeholders engaged in NRM across the Swan region.

The draft Strategy was released for public comment for 9 weeks in December 2014, coinciding with the launch of a new [Swan Region Strategy website](#). A total of **43 submissions** were received, with the majority of submissions expressing their support for the Strategy and the framework presented. The Minister's for Environment, Agriculture and Water commended Perth NRM and the Swan NRM Committee on the comprehensive analysis of the issues.



The Strategy website receives over 100 hits a month and was used to receive feedback during the consultation period

To support the development of the Strategy's Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) Plan and Implementation Plan, Perth NRM initiated two working groups of the Swan NRM Committee; the MERI Working Group and the Implementation Working Group. Collectively meeting six times over the past twelve months, these working groups provided an opportunity for committee members to delve into the detail and explore, assess and identify the most appropriate way forward for implementation of the Strategy. As a result of these meetings, Perth NRM have prepared a MERI Plan and Implementation Plan ready for release with the final Strategy in late 2015.

To keep the community informed of the progress of the Strategy and the Swan NRM Committee, Perth NRM produces the Swan NRM News electronic newsletter and regularly updates the strategy website. The newsletter is circulated monthly and currently has over 650 members.

Perth NRM would like to thank all those people who have contributed and provided feedback on the Strategy, we look forward to sharing the final Strategy with you.

– Greer Gilroy, Environment Program Manager

3. ASSESSING CAPACITY

Our aim is to systematically address community group capacity gaps by developing and delivering hands-on tailored training.

– Annette Hoskisson, Stakeholder Engagement Coordinator



SALP recipients. Photo credit Erin Devlin

Following on from the results of the Community Capacity Assessment, Perth NRM used the feedback provided by community groups to develop a series of capacity building workshops and projects to assist community groups in our region.

- **125 individual environmental volunteers** took the time to participate in our second community capacity assessment. Results were made available to local, State and Australian Government agencies likely to be able to help. Overall the respondents represented **77 groups and organisations** involved in natural resource management across the Swan Region. To view a snapshot of the recipients [click here](#).
- “Grant Writing for Success” was delivered to audiences in both the north and the south of the region. The workshops focused on how to help raise funds for on-ground activity and equipment.
- The program is also facilitating the provision of First Aid Training for community groups with Local Governments in the region.
- **Twenty-seven community based groups** shared in \$30,000 in Perth NRM’s [Small Grant Program](#) to build capacity for NRM across the Swan Region. The diversity of assistance provided to community groups to ensure on-ground capacity, saw various items funded including; tubs for turtles which are being rescued across the whole region; a chainsaw (and associated protective gear) with which to attack woody weeds and; and a cement mixer for large scale mixing of potting media to go into deep crates for ‘difficult to grow’ plants.



Community members attended one of three Grant Workshops held to help improve groups success when applying for funding. Photo credit Sharon Munro

To the Future

Partnerships

Perth NRM is currently undertaking a Local Government Capacity Assessment. Similar to the Community Capacity Assessment, the aim is to identify where there are “capacity gaps” for Environmental Management in local government that can be filled through collaborative planning, partnerships and capacity building workshops and events during 2016.

Working collaboratively.

The next year will see a calendar of training workshops developed for community groups including; how to recruit and train volunteers, weed identification, and marketing and social media for community groups.

4. ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

Our awareness campaigns utilised a range of online communication channels which resulted in many of our stories being featured in print media and on radio. The people of Perth gave us a big thumbs-up as thousands chose to follow our posts online across LinkedIn, Facebook and You Tube.

We shared and people listened; our audience reach went well beyond Perth as we received feedback and engaged people from around the globe.

– Preeti Castle, Communications Manager

We truly became the NRM hub of activity as business and community utilised information from our website whilst sharing their stories, photographs and thoughts about environmental conservation.



We have taken our Facebook followers from 200 to 1900+ in the last year, engaging the Perth community more regularly in NRM work in our region

Our aim next year is to better leverage this new network of supporters so we can share the experiences of our dedicated supporters as they continue to create living landscapes that make a difference to our community.

5. COASTAL + MARINE

Developing coastal rehabilitation programs with our corporate partners expands our area under active management, generates linkages with local government and assists corporate based environment and social outcomes.

Craig Wilson, Coastal and Marine Program Manager



Leighton Beach dunes form part of Perth NRM's Coastal and Marine program rehabilitation area. Photo credit Merome Wright

The facts

Social outcomes

- **3,586 people** participated in Coastcare activities
- Engaged 15 community groups, 15 corporate organisations and 24 school/education institutions
- A total of **114 events** were held equating to **8,505 hours** of coastal restoration work completed by volunteers

Environmental outcomes

- More than **25 hectares** of coastline has been enhanced, including the removal of **840kg of marine debris**, the installation of erosion control fencing along 1 hectare of coastline, the removal of weeds from 7 hectares, and the planting of **12,702 seedlings**.

Economic outcomes

- Secured continued corporate sponsorship from the following organisations: Alcoa; BP Refinery; Kwinana Industries Council; Tronox; proAlliance, with **\$40,000 committed** for the 2014/2015 financial year.
- The project has local government co-investment of approximately **\$120,000 per year** towards delivery of coastal restoration activities.



The future of our coast lies in the hands of our children and the Adopt a Beach Program is inspiring primary school students to conserve our beaches and dunes. Photo credit The Moonlight Studios

How we did it

Cross program collaboration

Perth NRM's [Coastal](#) and [Cultural Heritage](#) programs came together to run numerous workshops on coastal management and engaged Noongars in NRM work. One workshop focused on reducing and reversing the issue of sand dune and riverbank erosion and saw Noongar attendees meet at Leighton Beach. Supported by the City of Fremantle, the group commenced laying down jute matting to help stop dune blowout and encourage sand build-up and put up fencing to dissuade beach goers from climbing over the dunes. The matted areas were then planted with endemic species after the winter rains, which further helps to stabilise the dunes.



Laying jute matting to stabilise dunes formed a large part of the coastcare rehabilitation program. Photo credit Craig Wilson

Corporate coastcare

Engaging employees in environmental activities provides opportunities for organisations to create shared goals and values, build goodwill in the community for your brand and deliver on social responsibility goals. Our Coastcare program managed a range of corporate events over 2014/2015 achieving excellent NRM outcomes on the coastline and helping our partners engage their staff in social responsibility.

Coastcare corporate partner [Tronox](#) kicked off the 2015 coastal planting program followed by a number of our corporate partners over the winter months. The group continued their coastal rehabilitation program at the Governor Road Reserve in Rockingham planting Tuarts and Rottnest Teatrees to help stabilise the dunes and provide habitat for native fauna. Ospreys occur in the area and the planting of Tuarts close to the coast will provide potential nesting locations for future Osprey communities. Tronox staff planted additional shrubs through the year and undertook beach clean up events to minimise debris entering Cockburn Sound and affecting marine animals including dolphins and seals. Corporate involvement in our coastal rehabilitation program is essential in order to generate positive change and make a collective impact.

National Landcare Awards – our Coastcare Kate!

Western Australia was a high achiever at the 2014 National Landcare Awards, winning three of the nine categories. Winners were announced at a gala dinner held in the grand surroundings of the Melbourne Exhibition Building, a far cry from the salty dunes of Perth's beautiful beaches. Award winners were selected from a field of sixty-nine finalists all undertaking landcare projects around the country. [Kate Sputore](#), Perth NRM's Coastal and Marine Program Manager, won the Innovative Young Landcare Award for her work on coastal rehabilitation projects, a hard earned recognition of her tireless work to rehabilitate our northern coastline.

Technology is the future

How can we utilise new technology to better gather and manage information on coastal ecosystems and track change over time?

In partnership with Ioniq Innovation, Perth NRM created a short video "Our Perth Coast – Mapping Future Changes". The video was created to demonstrate how we can quantify changes to dune systems and more effectively monitor changes in vegetation communities. It was screened at the opening of the Coastal Conference, held in Mandurah, of which Perth NRM were a sponsor. Capitalising on this type of technology enables Perth NRM to better manage the changes and effects our rehabilitation work has on the Perth coastline.

6. WATER

In November 2014, the Urban Water Program delivered a workshop with the purpose of building the capacity of community groups and local governments for on-ground restoration of water drains.

– Greer Gilroy, Environment Program Manager



Planting tress on the Canning River foreshore. Photo credit Preeti Castle

The facts

- The Sediment Taskforce has met **7 times**, with stakeholders from across government, community and industry showing a high level of commitment to solving the problem of sediment run-off from building sites into waterways.
- The Urban Water Program delivered a Living Drains workshop to **54 attendees** with the purpose of building the capacity of community groups and local governments for on-ground restoration of water drains.
- YouTube videos for Living Drains and Forrestdale Lake have had **388 views** since being uploaded.



Lake Forrestdale. Photo credit Belinda O'Brien

How we did it

Sediment Taskforce

Following on from the highly successful Shifting Sands Forum held in April 2014, the Sediment Taskforce was established, which has continued to build momentum behind the issue of sedimentation in the Swan and Canning Rivers. The Taskforce has now met 7 times, with stakeholders from across government, community and industry showing a high level of commitment to solving the problem of sediment run-off from building sites into waterways. Stakeholders represented include the housing and building industry, state government agencies, local government, and non-government environment organisations.

Wetlands

A review of the Management Plans for the Swan Region's three Ramsar wetlands, Becher Point, Forrestdale Lake and Thompson's Lake, was undertaken in collaboration with the Department of Parks and Wildlife, three local governments and community groups. Perth NRM is using the results of the review to inform the development of the Living Wetlands Grants launched in June 2015. Perth

NRM also supported a successful State NRM grant application with the Friends of Forrestdale Lake to undertake a project at Forrestdale Lake in 2015.

Living Drains

The Urban Water Program delivered a workshop with the purpose of building the capacity of community groups and local governments for on-ground restoration of water drains. Perth NRM partnered with SERCUL and the Department of Water to address the environmental aspects of converting a water drain into a living stream. There were 54 attendees at the event, representing local governments, regional groups, State Government and community groups.

This project also produced the Swan View Primary School Drain to Livings Stream Video, which showcases the restoration of a water drain by Swan View Primary School. The School has adopted their local water drain at Woodbridge Creek, and over a number of years the drain has been transformed into a living stream. Andy Durant is the champion of this great project and has worked tirelessly over the years, removing weeds and litter from the drain to replace with local native plant species.

The children at Swan View Primary enjoy the project and are keen to get outside and spend a few hours mulching, planting, weeding, picking up litter and enjoying walking along the creek. An excellent outcome from the project has been that local residents have stopped using the drain as a dumping point for rubbish and the bird species have increased from three to sixteen different types of birds. Funding for the mulch and plants has been provided through the [Swan Alcoa Landcare Program \(SALP\)](#). A video has been posted on YouTube and has had 211 views.

Forrestdale Lake video

The traditional ecological knowledge video that was made with Traditional Owners Vivienne and Mort Hansen at Forrestdale Lake has been promoted through Perth NRM's social media network and newsletters. The YouTube video has had 700+ views and was screened at the Wetlands Conference and Perth NRM Annual General meeting.

Light Industry

The establishment of the Light Industry Working Group has provided an important forum for government agencies and industry groups to develop practical solutions for reducing the impact of industry waste on water quality. Much of this important work has been built into the Swan River Trust's (SRT) Light Industry Project (funded under CFOC) which is due to commence in July 2015. The SRT commented that the Working Group provided "a great start to scope the draft project brief to a wider local government and industry audience to see their thoughts first hand regarding the priorities for the CFoC funded project".

7. BIODIVERSITY

The Dieback Management Plan for the “Phytophthora Dieback management in Carnaby’s Black-Cockatoo habitat” project was delivered in February 2015, allowing the strategic selection of target sites and management activities, ensuring the delivery of efficient and appropriate outcomes at strategic high-value sites. **82.6 ha of critical habitat** was subsequently managed for dieback impacts.

– Lisa Potter, CEO



Crushed limestone is spread along a path to reduce the spread of dieback which is inhibited by the high pH. Photo credit Jo Roshkov

The facts

- **409ha** of Weeds of National (WoNS) and Regional Significance managed. **246ha surveyed** and all Bitou (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* ssp. *rotundata*) plants and seedlings hand removed and destroyed at Kwinana Industrial area, 5ha Spiny rush (*Juncus acutus*) plants controlled at the Julimar Corridor zone, 108ha Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* ssp. *monilifera*) plants and seedlings hand pulled at 38 sites in the Perth Hills and Swan Coastal Plain and 50.67ha of Brooms (*Genista* sp.) mapped and monitored in the Perth Hills.
- Continued implementation of threat management plans at 3 Threatened Ecological Communities, controlling 15 invasive weed species over 35ha at Neaves Rd Nature Reserve, Muchea Nature Reserve and Mirrabooka Nature Reserve.
- **3561 seedlings** planted over 20ha to improve condition and connectivity, 76.1ha of partially degraded remnant vegetation protected by fencing installation within the Julimar Corridor zone.
- The 2015 Great Cocky Count and Carnaby’s Black Cockatoo nesting tree survey in the Julimar Corridor.
- **1227 people** participated in events and activities.

The program delivered **22 events** to increase awareness and capacity related to Phytophthora dieback management, the Great Cocky Count, Weeds of National Significance and the Living Landscapes EOI program.

– Greer Gilroy, Environment Program Manager



How we did it

\$1 million boost for iconic Swan and Canning Rivers

Perth NRM is managing a \$1 million investment from the [National Landcare Program](#) over two years, working in partnership with the local environmental community to deliver the [Swan-Canning River Recovery Programme](#). The programme aims to eradicate the hydrocotyle weed, provide support for practical community environmental action and help people understand how their actions affect the river. A local steering group has been established, consisting of people with experience in delivering local environmental projects. The initiative provides \$100,000 for practical actions to help people identify ways they can contribute towards the rivers' long-term health through education workshops and engagement with schools and \$400,000 to support community groups to undertake on-ground environmental activities such as boosting native vegetation resilience and planting native species.

Dieback Management

Perth NRM continued its work with the Dieback Working Group, working to manage infested bushland and reduce contamination into new areas. One such project was at Black Cockatoo Reserve, a 31 Ha bushland reserve in Mundaring. Unfortunately, areas of the reserve are infected with *Phytophthora Dieback*. Regular treatment with Phosphite tree injection has helped to control the disease in the reserve but a new infestation was found on a well-used walk trail within the reserve. As it is easily spread on boots and shoes this posed a risk of spread to other areas in the reserve. To minimise the chance of further spreading the disease, paths can be covered with a layer of crushed limestone which, due to its high pH, inhibits the *Phytophthora* organisms.

Seventeen Years of SALP

The Swan Alcoa Landcare Program, established in 1998, has funded more than 1100 projects worth over \$7 million across the metropolitan area since inception.

The funds target revegetation of priority waterways, bush land restoration, dieback management, the installation of fencing, weed control and the removal and management of feral pests. A joint initiative of Perth NRM, the [Swan River Trust](#) and [Alcoa of Australia](#), the funds have helped volunteers across the Swan Canning Catchment plant more than two million trees.

- In the 2014 funding round, 20 community groups received a total of \$368,500 SALP funding for 56 projects.
- Weed control was carried out over a total of 192 hectares, 113,991 plants were installed and a total of 9,594 volunteer hours contributed.
- In 2014, estimated funding support and in-kind contributions from local government and other partners was in excess of \$323,850 (note: this figure excludes the dollar value of volunteer hours contributed).

The future

Perth NRM, through the Biodiversity Program, aspires to continue and increase our role in managing the region's natural assets and threats. We will continue to build community capacity, seek opportunities to work in partnerships on priority areas and deliver real outcomes on the ground. 2015 will see the launch of the Living Landscapes program and new biodiversity projects across our region.

Perth NRM's Biodiversity program continues to protect high priority threatened ecological communities and species, and manage key threats such as weeds of national significance, invasive animals and dieback.

8. SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

The support we provide is based on outcomes from discussions with industry representative organisations to ensure we meet industry needs while integrating these with our NRM objectives.

– Keith Pekin, Sustainable Agriculture Program Manager



Karragullen Expo is a great opportunity to meet with local residents and growers and share our knowledge on sustainable agriculture. Photo credit Erin Devlin

The facts

- Numerous industry focused workshops, improving knowledge and skills, with **159** participants and **35** new entities being involved.
- Development of the Healthy Soils Healthy Rivers project, with **45** entities now participating in the project.
- Improved community awareness through field days, workshops and road shows with an estimated **9,000** people engaged.
- Improved the knowledge & skills of **1,922 land managers**.
- Trialling more sustainable land management practices with 250 entities over **4,166 hectares**.
- Adopting more sustainable land management practice 151 entities over **3,588 hectares**.

We have achieved these great results through a collaborative approach with peak industry bodies including Vegetables WA, Wines of Western Australia, Grape Wine and Research Development Corporation, WA Citrus Improvement Group and the Hills Orchard Improvement Group.

– Graham McAlpine, Rural Landcare Facilitator



Field demonstrations and workshops are essential to engage with growers and share best practice management techniques. Photo credit Sandy Pate

How we did it

Engaging growers

A series of workshops and field days were run in 2014/2015, including Karagullen, Gidgegannup, Citrus and horse events to name a few. WA producers took the opportunity to step out from their farmgate and gain inspiration and knowledge from other successful commercial horticultural industries. The road trip was organised by Perth NRM and the WA Citrus value chain coordinator from the Department of Agriculture and Food WA (DAFWA) and included a visit to Fruitico table grape, Advanced Packing and Marketing avocado packing shed, Newton Brothers apple orchard and packing shed and Harvey Fresh.

Healthy Soils Healthy Rivers

A joint initiative between Perth NRM, [Wheatbelt NRM](#) and the [Swan River Trust](#), the program assists landholders and community groups to implement on-ground activities that will improve soil health and contribute to improved water quality in the Swan-Avon river system. The program is funded by the Australian Government [National Landcare Programme](#) and Western Australian Government through the Swan River Trust. Round one saw 45 grower entities successfully apply for funding with round two opened in late 2015.

Agricultural factsheets

A number of [factsheets](#) were released through Perth NRM's Sustainable Agriculture Program in 2014/2015. These included the [Citrus Factsheet](#) providing information on assessing soil quality and interpreting soil test results for citrus production in Western Australia. The [Vegetable Factsheet](#) was developed to help understanding of nitrogen fertilisers for vegetable production on sands. This factsheet offers a greater understanding of nitrogen fertilisers so that growers can develop a fertiliser program that suits their situation.

Trial sites

On ground work helped to demonstrate best practice management to local growers. A new trial site was initiated at West Gingin 'evaluating and demonstrating the use of composts as a means of improving orchard water and fertiliser use efficiencies'. The trial, in partnership with the WA Citrus Improvement Group (WACIG) and the property owner, aims to provide citrus producers with a greater understanding of compost utilisation in the orchard. The trial has been set up with equipment to monitor soil moisture, soil temperature, rainfall events and electrical conductivity in the trial rows and a control row. The outcomes from the trials will be documented and delivered to the citrus industry at their annual industry workshop in October 2015 with a follow up in 2016.



A new demonstration site is set up at an orchard. Photo credit Keith Pekin

The future

We will continue with our existing information extension program and also develop a number of new initiatives.

Development of the 'food future' brand and an online hub is underway and will be launched in a few months. This will link and support producers and industry for improved 'beyond farm gate impacts' in our fresh food supply chain. We will continue to work collaboratively with industry to create 'sufficient, safe and healthy food for everyone'.

9. CULTURAL HERITAGE

We aim to help, engage and mentor young Noongar people and teach them practical skills whilst enhancing local communities and bushland.

– Diana Neuweger, Cultural Heritage Program Manager



Students learnt about Phytophthora Dieback during a classroom talk before venturing forth with drills and syringes to a local bushland reserve, known to be infested with the disease. Working in groups of six they injected a range of Banksia species trees with phosphite to protect them against infection. Photo credit Sharon Munro

The facts

- **Ten** cultural heritage events held in the region.
- Events and workshops engaged **141 indigenous people**.
- Two school programs were run over 5 weeks for over **360 children**. Aged 4 to 13, the students were taught about language, culture, bush tucker and the six Noongar seasons.

How we did it

[Guide to Aboriginal consultation and engagement](#)

The [Guide to Aboriginal Consultation and Engagement in the Swan Region](#) aims to increase the understanding of the landcare community about Noongar history, culture and land management practices and the value it adds to protecting and managing our land and its history.

This guide was written for volunteers, community groups, non-profit organisations and small businesses who are involved in managing land in the Swan Region. It provides a simple overview of the steps to be taken before you plan a project or conduct work on a site in the Swan region.

[Noongar language and culture](#)

The [Noongar Education Resources](#) web page was developed for teachers and students on Noongar language and culture and was used during classroom education sessions. Nine short educational videos were created (and are available on [YouTube](#)) providing insight into Noongar country, animals, the flag, seasons, foods and tools. A series of downloadable and printable activity sheets and history information sheet were also created for teaching professionals. The program was a great success and highly recommended by the schools involved.

Traditional Noongar Lore stories

Perth NRM with local Noongar community elder Noel Nannup spent a day in the recording studio, undertaking a recording of Traditional Noongar Lore Stories. Three Noongar stories were recorded, stories that in the past would have been handed down around the camp fire to each new generation. These stories are creation tales of how the Noongar people came to be responsible for the land and the animals. The three stories on the audio CD will include The Carers of Everything, When the Sea Level Rose and The Coming of Colours. These stories will be available for the public to purchase from Noel.

Community and school workshops

Dieback workshops were held to help improve understanding of the disease in the community. One event involved a group of seventy-two Year Six students from Ellen Stirling Primary School. The students learnt all about the Phytophthora Dieback during a classroom talk before venturing forth with drills and syringes to a local bushland reserve, known to be infested with the disease. Working in groups of six they injected a range of Banksia species trees with phosphite to protect them against infection.

Another workshop taught a group of 'Wirrpanda Foundation, The New Opportunities for Women (NOW)' students about recognising and managing Phytophthora Dieback. Working at Bibra Lake Reserve participants learnt to treat Jarrah, Casuarina and Banksia trees with Phosphite.

Healthy habitats

Showcasing successful transformations of drains to living streams, students from the [Wirrpanda Foundation](#) Kwinana program participated in a tour and lecture of three drains in various states of rehabilitation. Brett Kuhlman and Dan Friesen from [SERCUL](#) led the tour for the participants, providing information as well as the theory and methods behind these projects successes. Three projects were visited,

1. The Brentwood drain, which is a new project just underway, and involves multiple stakeholders including industry, local government and community organisations. This project has also included a component of Aboriginal engagement and interpretation.
2. The Bulls Creek project that has been underway for more than 18 months, where the participants helped the weeding process with a practical exercise.
3. And finally the Bannister Creek project that has been in progress for a number of years and is now providing an amazing habitat for animals and is an invaluable community amenity.

Demonstrating the process of conversion, students were able to take this practical information and knowledge into future drain conversion projects they may become involved with.



Black Cockatoo at Kanyana Wildlife Park. Photo credit Sharon Munro

Carnaby's Black Cockatoo

Twenty-eight Noongar youths from the Wirrpanda Foundation program and the HALO Leadership programs attended an education and weeding event. Participants were given a talk about the black cockatoos and were introduced to two birds that are recovering at the centre after being hit by vehicles. There are three species of Black Cockatoo in our region: the Carnaby's Black Cockatoo, listed as an endangered species under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, and the Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo and Baudin's Black Cockatoo, both listed as vulnerable.

Learning land management

Noongar students from the [Wirrpanda Foundation in Kwinana](#) joined with the [City of Kwinana](#) and [Perth NRM](#) to progress towards Certificates 1 & 2 in Horticulture at Central TAFE. Steve McCabe from the City of Kwinana along with Dr Diana Neuweger and Sharon Munro from Perth NRM worked with students in wetland and bushland environments addressing the identification and management of weed species.

The students spent time on-site with Steve and Sharon, identifying wetland and bushland weed species, assessing how they affect local biodiversity, agriculture, and native fauna as well as proper control and removal techniques. Diana, the class facilitator, then led the students in the practical removal of *Euphorbia terracina* and various other weeds.



Hands-on training has been pivotal to the success of the Cultural Heritage workshop program.

Working together for the future

Our focus will remain on engaging Noongar people in natural resource management in the region. Next year the Cultural Heritage program is looking to integrate our expertise, events and connections through the range of services we offer. We will continue our educational workshops increasing NRM knowledge in the Noongar community.

The future will also see us expand our Threatened Ecological Knowledge database and increase the number of services we offer with the development of a Heritage Consulting service and a Noongar membership opportunity.

10. HOME RIVER OCEAN

The campaign is an innovative way to convince people about simple ways to reduce the impact of urban nutrients and help protect things we love: like crabs in garlic butter!

– Lisa Potter, CEO



The facts

- Run over the winter months, our “Save the crabs, then eat them” social media campaign had an audience reach of well over **105,000 people** ensuring that the message was heard by our local community.
- Facebook likes **1,600+**.
- Dedicated campaign website [Home River Ocean](#) received **2,170** hits (93% were new visitors to the site).
- Interviews about the campaign were featured on radio stations 6PR & 100.1fm.
- The campaign was featured in the “Inside Cover” section of The West Australian newspaper.
- Radio station 94.5fm featured live reads and advertisements generating significant public awareness and subsequent online traffic.

How we did it

Perth received its first taste of the hilarious “**Save the Crabs Then Eat Them**” campaign this winter featuring Blue Swimmer crabs Crusty and Chrisso.

The quirky campaign encouraged householders to hold off applying fertiliser until spring and explained how winter rains cause fertiliser to leach and run-off into rivers and oceans. This causes decaying algal blooms which remove vital oxygen from our waterways and harm wildlife like Blue Swimmer crabs.

Perth NRM ran a concentrated campaign on radio, Facebook, YouTube, LinkedIn and through our newsletters to raise awareness in the Perth region. We also ran a campaign on radio and had an article in The West Australian newspaper.

Would you like phosphorus with that?

Hold off on the fertiliser till spring



The campaign was part of the [Home River Ocean](#) project run by Perth NRM and [South West Catchments Council](#) with funding from the Australian Government's [National Landcare Program](#).

The future

The campaign will recommence in Autumn 2016 with a school education program and targeted marketing in river catchments. The social media campaign will again be run in the lead up to winter and spring.

8. LEADERSHIP

Our Board of Directors

Our **skills-based board** ensures good governance and oversees our ongoing focus on the delivery of sustainable outcomes with certainty and transparency. All of our Board Directors are members of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD), including the CEO as a non-executive Director. We model our governance practices on the advice provided in the AICD's 'Good Governance Principle and Guidance for NFP's', which reflect the 'ASX Corporate Governance Council's Principles and Recommendations'. Our governance framework is supported by documented strategies, plans and policies.

Mariyon Slany – Chairperson

Mariyon is the Director of her Communications and Art consultancy and is a recognised Art Coordinator. Mariyon has both a Graduate Certificate in Law and post graduate Psychology qualifications. Mariyon has over 15 year's governance experience on Boards including current roles on the DCA Peer Review Panel and the Mandurah Performing Arts Centre Board.

Rod Henderson – Deputy Chairperson, Chairperson Finance Committee.

Rod brings strong financial management and audit skills to our board. He is founder and current Chairman of the Swan Valley Progress Association Inc., a Board member of Ballajura Community College and deputy CEO of the Combined Small Business Alliance of WA.

Lorica Storey – Independent Chairperson, Audit Committee

Lorica has more than 10 years' experience as a senior executive reporting to boards and various sub committees. She has held various finance roles in mining and resources, manufacturing and education and is currently a Director at Bioelectric Pty Ltd. Lorica is a Certified Practising Accountant.

Garry English – Independent Chairperson, Nominations Committee

As a recipient of the 2002 Commonwealth McKell Medal for achievements in natural resource management and a 1991 National Landcare Award, Garry has been a broad acre farmer on the south coast of Western Australia for the last 40 years and is the current Chair of the State NRM Panel.

Lisa Potter – Executive Director, Chief Executive Officer, Perth Region NRM

With previous experience in the private and not-for-profit sector, Lisa has an outstanding record in the review, development and implementation of operational effectiveness of organisations through strategic planning, project management and quality management.

Lisa has held a range of senior roles in medium to large organisations from Managing Director, General Manager to Chief Financial Officer.

Lucy Stocker – Director

Lucy trained as a mining engineer completing her Honour's in mine-site rehabilitation. She was offered Rio Tinto's first senior leadership job-sharing role as General Manager of Business Improvement for Rio Tinto iron ore. Lucy has a Bachelor's degree in engineering and an MBA.

Pat Cesare – Director

Pat is a consultant with more than 20 years experience in the mining industry. With operational roles in Australia and south-east Asia, Pat has managed technical and multi-disciplinary teams. Pat holds a Masters of Science (Mineral Economics) and is a member of the Geostatistical Association of Australia.

Steve Dobson – Director

Steve is a qualified Financial Planner and Director of Mal Dobson & Associates. He is a serving Justice of the Peace and volunteer firefighter with Jandakot Volunteer Bushfire Brigade. Steve holds an MBA, a Bachelor of Business (Financial Planning), Advanced Diploma of Public Safety (Police Investigation), Advanced Diploma of Financial Services (Financial Planning) and a Certificate IV in Training & Assessment.

Matt Taylor – Director

As a Chartered Professional Engineer, Matt has global experience in project engineering across the oil and gas industry. He brings strong governance, risk management and strategic planning skills to our board. He is a National Congress Representative, an active member of Engineers Australia and is on the Industry Advisory Council for Edith Cowan University.

Steve Vanstan – Director

Steve has extensive experience in corporate governance, strategy, risk management and finance. He sits on committees at Curtin University, Department of Agriculture & Food WA, Department of Parks & Wildlife, Perth Zoo and the Royal Perth Hospital. Steve holds a Bachelors Degree in Business (Mgt.).

12. FINANCIALS

Directors Report

The Directors have pleasure in submitting the financial report of the Perth Region NRM Inc. for the financial year ended 30 June 2014.

Board of Management

The names of Board members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Pasquale Cesare Steven

Dobson Douglas Hall

Rodney Henderson

Sally Lake

Lisa Potter

Mariyon Slany

Lucia Stocker

Matthew Taylor

Stephen Vanstan

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the year were to provide coordination of natural resource management in the Perth region.

Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Operating Result

The surplus for the year amounted to \$18,993 (2013, \$469,889).

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Mariyon Slany – Chairperson

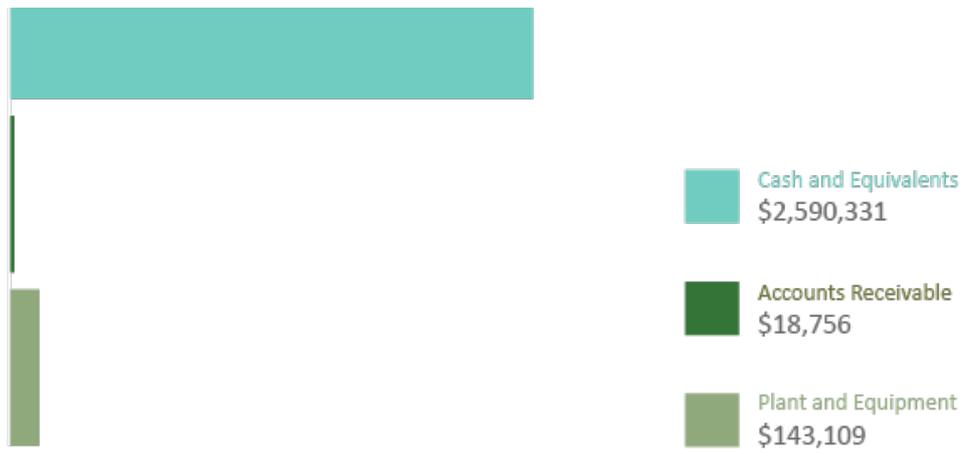
Rodney Henderson – Finance Committee Chairperson

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2014

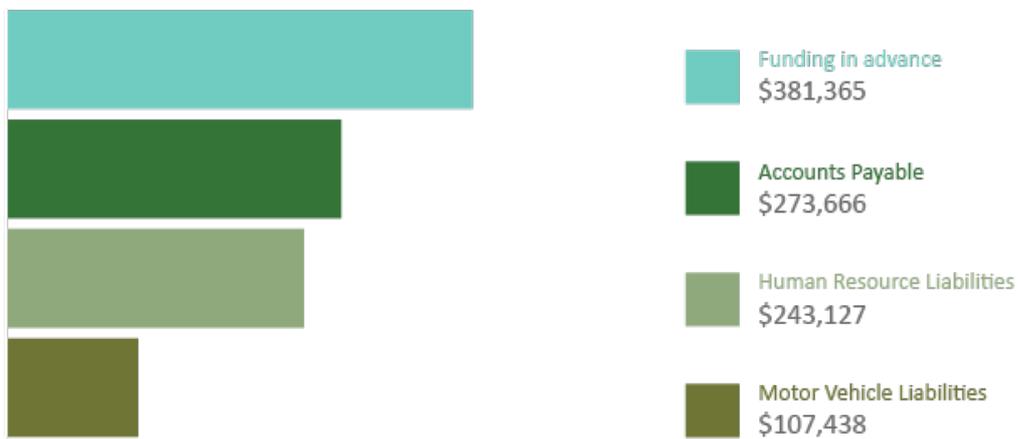
Assets





as at 30 June 2014

Liabilities



Income Statement

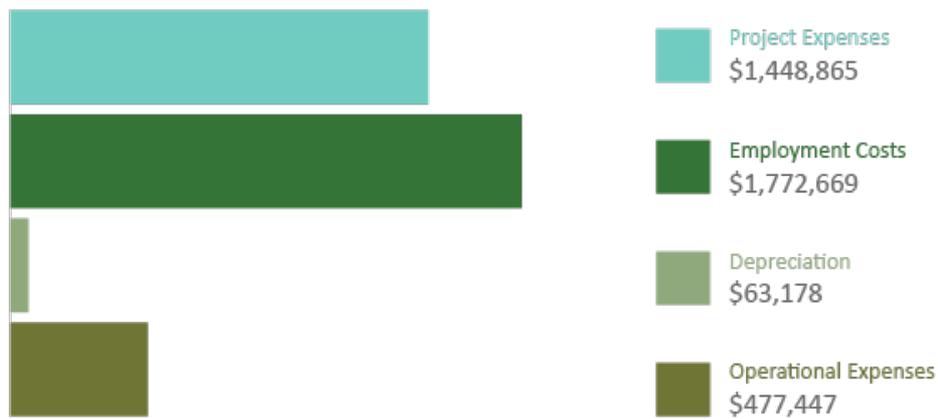
for the year ended 30 June 2014

Income





for the year ended 30 June 2014
Expenses



Notes to Accounts

The financial report covers Perth Region NRM Inc. as an individual entity ('Association'). Perth Region NRM Inc. is an association incorporated in Western Australia under the Associations Incorporation Act 1987.

The principal activities of the association are to provide co-ordination of natural resource management Perth region.

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

a) General Statement

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (WA) and have not been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Australian accounting interpretations of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB).

The Board has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity.

b) Basis of Preparation

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (WA), and the Association's accounting policies.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis of accounting using the historical cost convention. The changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets were not taken into account.

The financial report is presented in Australian dollars.

The following material accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this special purpose financial report.

c) Income

Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised as follows:

Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions

Revenue is measured at the fair value of contributions received or receivable. Income arising from the contribution of an asset to the association is recognised when all of the following conditions are met:

- › The Association obtains control of the contribution or the right to receive the contribution
- › It is probable that the economic benefits comprising the contribution will flow to the entity, and
- › The amount of the contribution can be measured reliably

Interest

Revenue is recognised as the interest accrues. There is a prior year reduction to the 2012/13 Interest amount of \$30,375.22.

d) Financial Instruments

In addition to cash and cash equivalents, the Association has two categories of financial instrument:

- › Receivables; and
- › Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost

These have been disaggregated into the following classes:

Financial Assets

- › Cash and cash equivalents
- › Receivables and prepayments

Financial Liabilities

- › Payables
- › Finance lease liabilities

Initial recognition and measurement of financial instruments is at fair value which normally equates to the transaction cost or the face value. Subsequent measurement is at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The fair value of short-term receivables and payables is the transaction cost or the face value because there is no interest rate applicable and subsequent measurement is not required as the effect of discounting is not material.

e) Income Tax

The Association is a non-profit organisation and thus exempted from income tax by virtue of section 23(3) of the Income Tax Assessment Act.

f) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of expense. Receivables and payables in the Statement of Financial Position are shown inclusive of GST.

g) Property, Plant and Equipment (Note 3)

As per Sec. 31 of the Constitution, Net assets (after all other costs are paid) are to be passed over to a like organisation on winding up and in case of the leasehold improvements; these will be abandoned when Perth Region NRM vacates the premises. Until 30 June 2012, the Association's policy was to expense all capital expenditure assets.

The Association has changed its accounting practice in respect of recognition of Property, Plant and Equipment. As from 1 July 2012, it recognises its Property, Plant and Equipment as Non-current assets in the Statement of Financial Position (Note 1g). These assets, which would previously have been expensed to the Statement of Comprehensive Income, are now recognised in the Statement of Financial Position as non-current assets.

All non-current assets having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their estimated useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their future economic benefits.

Depreciation on assets is calculated using the straight line method, using rates which are reviewed annually. Estimated useful lives for each class of depreciable asset are:

Furniture and fittings	4 years
Motor Vehicles	4 years

h) Provisions

Provisions are liabilities of uncertain timing or amount and are recognised where there is a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event and when the outflow of resources embodying economic benefits is probable and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are reviewed at the end of each reporting period.

Provisions – employee benefits

Annual leave and long service leave

The liability for annual and long service leave that is expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the reporting period is recognised and measured at the undiscounted amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Long service leave expected to be settled more than 12 months after the reporting period is measured at the present value of amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. Leave liabilities are in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period. When assessing expected future payments consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels including non-salary components such as employer superannuation contributions.

Note 2: Property, Plant and Equipment

Note 2

Property, Plant and Equipment

2014 at Cost	Cost (\$)	Accumulated Depreciation (\$)	Carrying Amount (\$)
Furniture and Equipment	37,980	(9,144)	28,836
Vehicles	173,576	(59,303)	114,273
Total	211,556	(68,447)	143,109

Note 3: Change in Accounting Policy

The Association has changed its accounting policy in respect of recognition of property, plant and equipment. As from 1 July 2012, it recognises its property, plant and equipment as non-current assets in the Statement of Financial Position (Note 1g). These assets, which would previously have been expensed to the Statement of Comprehensive Income, are now recognised in the Statement of Financial Position as non-current assets.

Management believes that the above change in accounting policy results in the financial report providing reliable and more relevant information about the effects of transactions and conditions on the Association's financial position and financial performance.

Note 4: Funding received in advance

Note 4

Funding received in advance

	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
Balance brought forward	217,006	748,847
Less: unspent funds from prior years transferred to income statement	0	(387,559)
Less: funding received in advance transferred to income statement	(217,006)	(361,288)
Add: funding received in advance for current year carried forward	381,365	217,006
Balance carried forward	381,365	217,006

Officers' Assertion Statement

The Board has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements. In the opinion of the Board the financial report:

- . Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Perth Region NRM Inc. at 30 June 2014 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
- . At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Perth Region NRM Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by: Mariyon Slany – Chairperson Rodney Henderson – Finance Committee Chairperson

Independent Audit Report

[Independent Auditor's Report 2014](#)