



Wheatbelt NRM
Annual Report 2015/16



wheatbelt
natural resource
management

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National
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Cover image: Emma & Ben Wilson with
their daughter.

Who we are

Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Incorporated (Wheatbelt NRM) is an independent community-based organisation involved with natural resource management (NRM) endeavours within the Avon River Basin. The organisation operates from its Northam office, Western Australia, and exists as the second largest of the six NRM regional organisations in the state, with responsibility for the 12,000,000 hectares of the Avon River basin.

Wheatbelt NRM has a team of about 25 staff who work delivering projects in partnership with the community. Our team includes NRM and communications professionals as well as a support group with strengths in administration, finance and governance. Project management is a core strength of the organisation with over half of the staff having formal project management qualifications.

The Wheatbelt NRM succinct strategy statement for 2015-18 is:

By 2018, have 25% of the Wheatbelt community actively improving the Wheatbelt environment through our multi-disciplinary strategies and programs.

The Wheatbelt NRM vision is: **A vibrant Wheatbelt community creating healthy environments and livelihoods.**

This vision is supported by Wheatbelt NRM's mission to:

1. be a leader in NRM through strong governance, a dedicated team and investment in the NRM Regional Strategy for the Avon River Basin;
2. build partnerships to deliver the vision;
3. advocate for NRM and the Wheatbelt to national, state and local government;
4. identify and support innovative and beneficial research;
5. promote and coordinate improvements in environmental, cultural, social and industrial practices beneficial to NRM;
6. engage with Aboriginal people and assist with the incorporation of their culture and beliefs within the Wheatbelt;
7. build capacity within the community to create healthy environments and livelihoods; and
8. advocate for the Regional NRM Strategy to be part of our partners work.

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James Sullivan

Chairperson

2016 has seen Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management really get things done. The team have been busy delivering our work across the Avon River Basin, actively involving community in environmental management.



Karla Hooper was the recipient of the 2016 Wheatbelt NRM Board Scholarship

3 Year Plan

This was the first year of delivering Wheatbelt NRM's 3 Year Plan (2015-2018). We've challenged ourselves with the target of involving 25% of the Wheatbelt (or 11,000 people) in environmental management over the next three years. In 2015/2016, we engaged nearly 2000 people. It's not bad, but there is still a long way to go!

Regional NRM Strategy and NRM Dashboard

Last year we launched the NRM Dashboard to demonstrate our progress towards achieving the priorities listed in the Regional Natural Resource Management Strategy for the Avon River Basin.

This year, we accessed a wide range of additional data from partner organisations to develop



The Wheatbelt NRM Board of Directors, Back row (l-r): Bruce Wittber, Debra Rule, Simon Whitehouse, Colin Cable, Chris Wyhoon. Front row (l-r): Natarsha Woods (CEO), Jan Trenorden, Jim Sullivan and Cec McConnell.

a range of ‘indicators’ for the natural resources in our region.

These indicators (or thresholds of potential concern), will be used to track the progress being made towards ensuring a sustainable future for the Wheatbelt, by our organisation and by the community.

Finances

Wheatbelt NRM achieved an unqualified pass for our organisational audit this year. We continue to prioritise strong financial management as a cornerstone of the organisation and have established strong

governance processes to ensure this. Our ongoing business continuity planning places the organisation in a strong position to make independent investment decisions, that will ensure the long term future of the organisation, and allow us to continually invest in the Wheatbelt environment.

Our work

Outstanding on-ground achievements for 2015/16:

- Over 12,000 hectares of remnant vegetation under improved management.
- Over 200 land managers directly engaged in program activities.
- Over 100 feral cats removed from the periphery of a Department of Parks and Wildlife managed reserve, to help EPBC listed Black-flanked Rock-wallabies.
- Over 100,000 seedlings provided to establish sustainable and profitable farm production systems using perennial plants.
- 26 innovative sustainable agriculture trial sites managed with landholders and grower groups.
- 34 farms participated in improved nutrient management demonstration sites.



Long term

As a community organisation that is predominantly funded by government programs, it is tempting to think of our work outcomes as short term, i.e. one or two years.

However, we should not lose sight of the benefits we achieve by having a longer term strategic approach. This includes learning from each project, maintaining partnership relationships, and linking up benefits from one project to the next.

Our success in tackling feral cats around populations of endangered Black-flanked Rock-wallabies is a case in point. It was initially funded by State NRM and was then extended with additional support from the National Landcare Programme, allowing for a larger overall outcome for the wallabies and the community. The next step in our ‘Coordinated Predator Control’ program is to help community members gain skills in feral animal control and assist them in applying for their own State NRM grants, so they can continue the work with our support.

The Noongar Boodja Rangers project is another great example that follows a clear message from the



community about what they want, and is a great credit to the strong Aboriginal Elders Advisory Group. This year saw twenty Ballardong Noongar community members (mostly men) working ‘on country’ and building on ten years of successfully delivering Aboriginal NRM with the community. As the rangers’ skills improve and the outcomes of their work becomes evident, the possibilities will continue to grow.

Youth

Our 3 Year Plan articulates a strategic objective to, “Grow the connection our youth have with the Wheatbelt environment”. I have been pleased with the efforts of our staff to embrace this in their project work. We have seen Men’s Sheds working with schools to install bird boxes, staff supporting the Department of Education’s Wheatbelt Science Forum, the Youth Environment



Photo
Competition, and family friendly events like the Toodyay BioBlitz and the Merredin Bat workshop.

Wheatbelt NRM’s Board of Directors has also taken action to advance this strategic objective by setting up a Youth Scholarship for an interim board member. It is one thing to say you want to engage youth, but you have to make sure that there is room around the decision making table to let that engagement have a lasting effect.

Board

Thank-you to all board members for their diligence and work over the last year. The Wheatbelt NRM Board

is highly engaged and committed to the business of this organisation. I would especially like to thank our newest and youngest member Karla Hooper.

Karla joined us as the successful youth scholarship winner. The scholarship provided training and mentorship to help Karla improve her leadership skills. She has brought with her a new energy and perspective and we thank her for the time she has spent us.

Thank-you also to our independent committee chairmen – Murray McGregor and Peter McConnell – for their work and knowledgeable leadership.

State and national level

On a state level, NRM WA has strengthened its position to advocate on behalf of natural resource management in Western Australia. As Chairperson of NRM WA, I have been pleased to see results from our cross regional collaboration with several successful projects in Carbon Farming, Feral Animal Control, and Nutrient Use Efficiency.

I also represented Western Australia at the National Working Group Meetings, and at the National NRM Knowledge Conference. While I have long been

confident that our NRM work in WA is of high quality, learning more about the projects happening around Australia has increased my confidence in the national collective and cemented my understanding of how important the work that regional groups do is.

Staff

I would like to thank Wheatbelt NRM's dedicated staff who are so committed to the mission and vision of this organisation and to the community of the Wheatbelt.

Their dedication to continual improvement of our projects based on local knowledge means our work is relevant and important to the community.

Wheatbelt NRM's CEO Natarsha Woods continues to provide great leadership in a time of change and challenges. A special thank-you for your efforts which have made my job much easier, with your knowledge and skills putting Wheatbelt NRM in the great position it is in today.

James Sullivan





Natarsha Woods

Chief Executive Officer

2015-16 has been what I call a ‘work horse’ year. It is year one of a new 3 Year Plan, and mid-contract for our delivery of the National Landcare Programme.



Winners of the 2016 Youth Environmental Photography Competition at the 2016 Dowerin Field Days with the Hon Mia Davies MLA (centre).

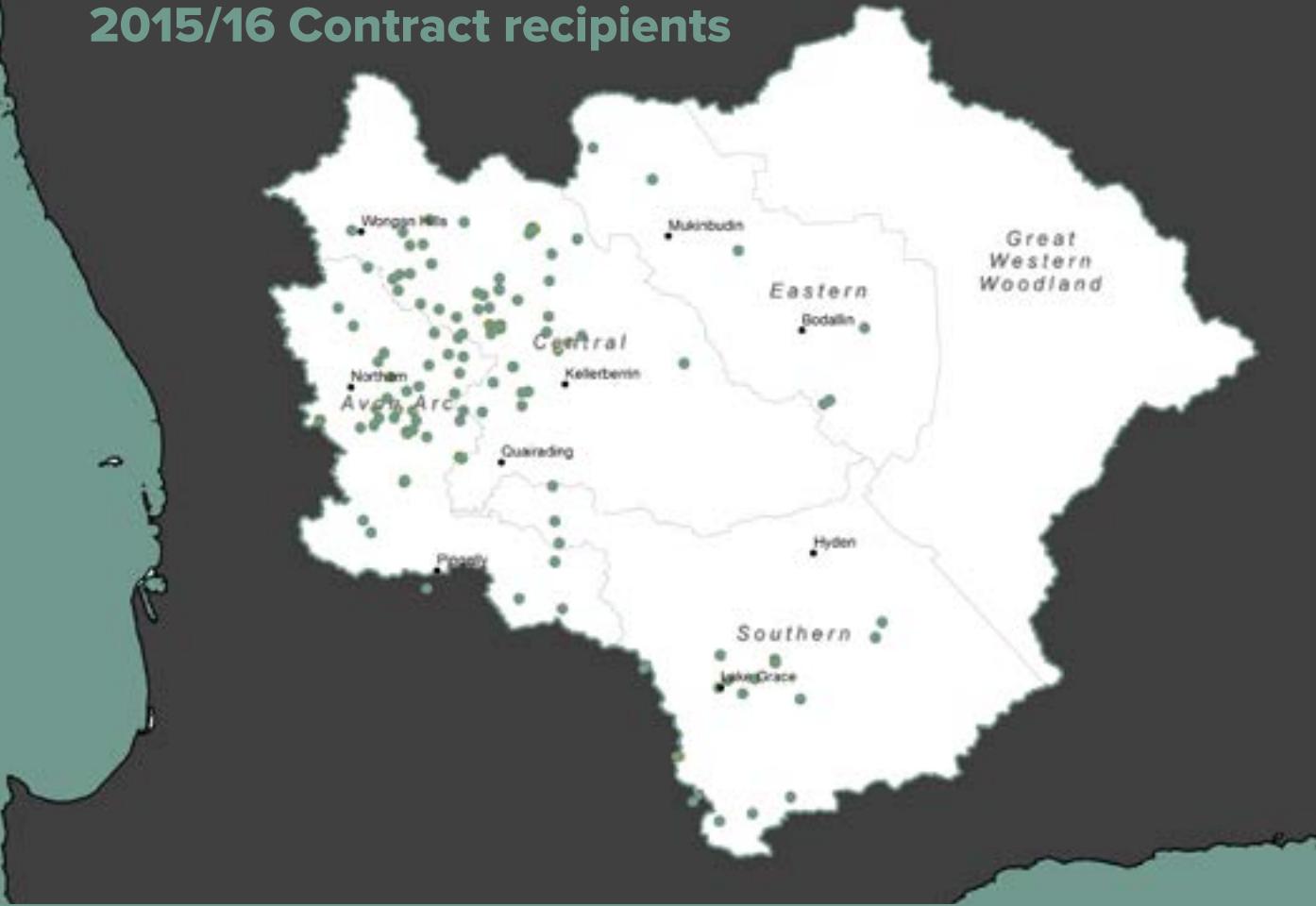
Community contracts

One of my favoured indicators of how well we are doing is the number of delivery contracts that have been set up with the community to do NRM work, in their patch, that they value. In 2015/16, this figure was 120 contracts with over \$722,000 going directly to community based work.

I also like to check the geographical spread of contracts to ensure that we are having an impact right across the Avon River Basin.

This year’s successful contract recipients are shown on the map opposite (page 6), with the results giving me confidence that we are on track to achieving the succinct

2015/16 Contract recipients



strategy statement from our 3 Year Plan:

“25% of the community actively improving the Wheatbelt environment through our multi-disciplinary strategies and programs”.

Strengthening partnerships

Delivery of the Regional NRM Strategy for the Avon River Basin will involve many players – some of our traditional partners, as well as others new to the region.

In 2015/16, Wheatbelt NRM strengthened its partnership with the University of Queensland by providing support for their Integrated Diploma of Agriculture program at Muresk Institute.

We also now have an agreement with the Department of Parks and Wildlife to take on a role with Land for Wildlife.

NRM WA

At the state level, there has been a great strengthening with NRM WA developing the maturity needed

for presenting united messages for natural resource management in Western Australia.

This maturity has shone through in the delivery of cross regional projects such as: Carbon Farming Awareness, Healthy Soils Healthy Rivers, and Red Card for Rabbits and Foxes where funding is now secured for its future.

Developing key messages for the State Government, agreeing on our value proposition in sustainable agriculture, and presenting a strong WA position at



the national level, are all better done collaboratively across the regional groups.



NRM Dashboard

The NRM Dashboard which presents 12 key measures on the health of the Wheatbelt system, alerting us to whether the system is approaching any thresholds of potential concern.

Since launching the NRM Dashboard at last year's AGM, our partner organisations have contributed 44 additional datasets to reflect the current state of the system.

Already this year we have seen positive outcomes, including a decrease in the debt-to-equity ratio reported for farms in each rainfall zone by the Planfarm Bankwest Benchmarks.

Financial management

One of my roles as CEO is steering the bus, managing the team and ensuring the organisation's sustainability.

From our balance sheet, you will see that our equity

remains healthy, allowing us to offer staff contracts beyond the current round of National Landcare Programme funding. This important achievement lets us prepare for the inevitable gap in funding between programs.

Historically, staff in NRM organisations have faced contract uncertainty, causing disruption in the organisation, and losses in key staff, community relationships, and organisational knowledge. It is a testament to the organisation's maturity and prudent financial management that we are now able to prepare for and manage this risk ourselves.

On the balance sheet you will see that Wheatbelt NRM has \$500,000 of retained earnings. This is money the organisation has generated outside of government contracts,



that can be used to make independent investment decisions

During 2015/16, the Board undertook business continuity planning and worked on its investment strategies. This has put us in the position of knowing what money can be invested to hit our dual objectives of advancing the regional strategy and of generating income.

Business continuity

Another significant achievement this year is the mapping of a business continuity plan all the way to 2022 based on our current equity. This is such a significant deviation from the organisation's

“25% of the community actively improving the environment of Wheatbelt through our multi-disciplinary strategies and programs.”



traditional and key risk of being dependent upon a single funder. While we will still get the vast majority of our funding from the National Landcare Programme, even if that dries up we will not shut our doors. Meaning that our work of getting the Wheatbelt community active in managing the environment would continue.

When facing the issues that all organisations do from time to time – a need to improve systems, a project that hasn't met

its targets, a stakeholder that doesn't agree with the strategy, or changes in funders' priorities – I am progressively more confident in facing those issues calmly and building win:win solutions.

“..we are already strong”
Barrack Obama 2016

Natasha Woody



Rowan Hegglin

Biodiversity

Wheatbelt NRM's Regional NRM Strategy for the Avon River Basin guides future understanding and priorities for natural resource management in the Avon River Basin. It is key to setting the direction of our Biodiversity program.



Ross Crute from Wyalkatchem Men's Shed with students from Wyalkatchem District High School and some of the nestboxes they are monitoring.

When delivering Biodiversity projects, we consider site specific requirements like production focus, soil type, remnant vegetation and proximity to other habitats. We also look at the project's location in the landscape and how it might interact with other project sites and remnants. Proposals are then developed for landholders to consider the possible biodiversity management actions.

During 2015/16, the Biodiversity program made several key contributions to the organisation's strategic objective of increased system resilience.

Increasing perennial vegetation cover

Revegetating the landscape is one of the ways we hope to help achieve a healthier and more



resilient environment. This year the Biodiversity team engaged landholders across the Wheatbelt to plant 140,000 biodiverse seedlings over 200 hectares of the Avon River Basin.

Our initiative around planting community trees and biodiverse gardens encourages community action to improve landscape biodiversity in urban environments. It included activities on National Tree Day where Wheatbelt schools and local governments were supported to engage their community in tree planting.

Promoting fit-for-purpose land use

While ‘connectedness’ helps native species traverse the landscape and be more resilient to change, it does not have to be contiguous. Patches of remnant vegetation across the Wheatbelt are

also important, providing habitats for many unique species and helping them persist in a changing environment.

This year the Biodiversity program funded over 100 kilometres of fencing to secure such safe havens. Fencing is used to exclude stock from remnant vegetation areas, helping promote recovery of the valuable understory and creating a more effective habitat and ecosystem.

Other activities have included ‘buffer’ plantings to help boost sites where required. Our current Biodiversity projects support the use of riparian areas in creating connectivity across the landscape with a minimal impact on land productivity. Working with landholders and land managers to identify areas that are performing economically poorly, allows us to embrace opportunities to improve the overall condition of the landscape.

Key achievements

- 57 applications for community Bushcare Grants Round 4
- 49 Bushcare Grants projects to improve management of over 23,000ha, putting over \$550,000 into the Wheatbelt economy
- More than 100 feral cats removed from the 23 kilometres periphery of DPaW managed reserve to support the EPBC listed Black-flanked Rock-wallaby
- Over 12,000 hectares of remnant vegetation under improved management
- More than 200 land managers directly engaged in program activities
- Community helping community – local Men’s Sheds working with schools to provide habitat for native species
- State funding secured to ensure continuation of the Red Card for Rabbits and Foxes program
- More than 200 hectares of biodiverse revegetation
- Further funding secured to help achieve the Regional NRM Strategy for the Avon River Basin
 - Green Army weed control
 - 20 Million Trees



Coordinating fire and invasive species management in conservation and agricultural systems

Invasive pests threaten many of our native species and place significant stress on their populations. To help counter this, each of our Biodiversity projects contains components to address the risks presented by non-native plants and animals. While Australian flora and fauna have evolved alongside a range of native predators and competitors, they have been less successful in adapting to the hunting habits of introduced species like the cat which differ considerably. Interactions between predators and prey and their influence on ecosystem balance is not well understood, so through our Biodiversity projects we attempt to consider the top line predators and the species that support them. Equally important, is the community's capacity to undertake pest species management as part of their farming practices.

Rabbit bait stations

The Biodiversity program currently has 1079 rabbit



bait stations deployed across its projects in the Wheatbelt where they are used to deliver '1080' poison to rabbits. '1080' toxin is found naturally in some native plant species in Western Australia and most native animals in the state have evolved a high resistance to the poison. The bait stations are designed to prolong the life of oat baits treated with '1080' and reduce access to the baits by non-target species.

It is expected that decreased rabbit numbers will reduce the carrying capacity of top line predators and achieve secondary poisoning when those predators eat the poisoned rabbits. It is important to implement the '1080' poisoning in tandem with other control methods to avoid prey switching by predators.

Coordinated predator control

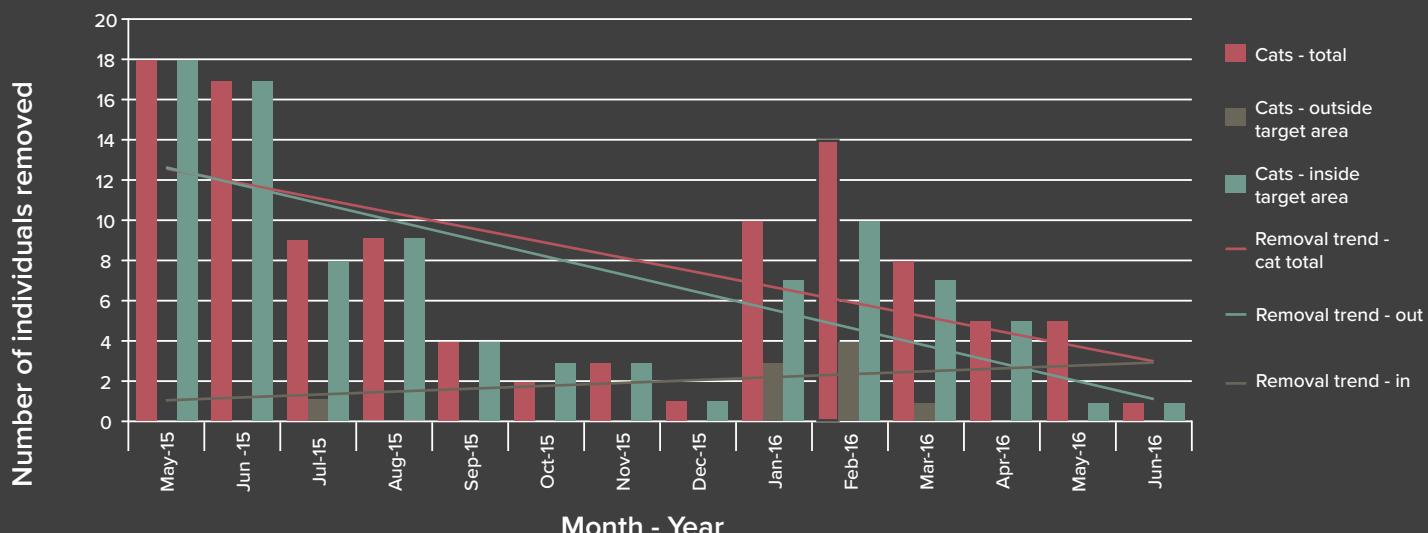
A good example of an effective targeted approach



in one of our projects is the coordinated predator control in the central Wheatbelt to help secure the Black-flanked Rock-wallaby.

Having a targeted approach to managing predators surrounding 23 kilometres of Department of Parks and Wildlife reserves has resulted in over 100 feral cats and 200 foxes being removed from the system. Most importantly, we are confident that we were able to remove the residential feral cats from the project area. As the graph opposite shows, the trend in feral animal capture is sloping downward nicely. Sustained effort through staying on top of rabbit numbers while maintaining an effective trap regime has resulted

Cat removal totals by month, inside and outside the target area



in increased security for these populations of these wallabies, who are listed as 'vulnerable' in the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Anecdotally, the Black-flanked Rock-wallaby monitoring teams have encountered significantly more individuals than in previous years. Landholders in the project area are seeing more wallabies and most excitingly we've had wallabies moving from one granite outcrop to another unpopulated location. While we would clearly need more than 14 months of data to confirm that this is the direct result of our feral control work, it is a very encouraging start!

We are very grateful to the landholders on the edges of these reserves who have agreed to undertake invasive species

management on their properties to help maintain the gains made so far.

Where to from here?

In line with Wheatbelt NRM's strategic objectives, we are making biodiversity management relevant to landholders in a site specific, local context. We are working with people to ensure that management activities work for them and the environment, with the tools that are readily available. From here, we will work with the community to broaden the existing project footprint throughout the Avon River Basin by supporting community to secure those parts of the Wheatbelt landscape that make it unique.

Keep an eye out for our next round of Wheatbelt NRM's Hotspot Heroes Enviro-Stories books which will be available from our website

very soon. These are stories written and illustrated by primary school children around the Wheatbelt that highlight some of the environmental issues the region is facing.

The Biodiversity program's focus remains on getting the Wheatbelt community actively helping address the key threats to remaining habitat. While on the face of it we are supporting people to achieve tangible conservation gains on individual properties, collectively the projects contribute to quality conservation outcomes for the entire Avon River Basin.

The Biodiversity team looks forward to working with as many of you as possible very soon to create meaningful change across our region.

Ronan Hegglum



Dr Guy Boggs

Sustainable Agriculture

Wheatbelt NRM's Sustainable Agriculture program continues to go from strength to strength, with an extremely busy year and a number of projects reaching critical periods in their life cycle.



The Perennials for Profit funding program focuses on the adoption of forage shrub based grazing systems and sandalwood agroforestry plantations.

Carbon Farming Awareness

The Royalties for Regions funded Carbon Farming Awareness project wrapped up this year, bringing together project activity delivered by six of Western Australia's NRM regions, in partnership with the Department of Agriculture and Food, WA.

For the Wheatbelt community this project delivered workshops and field days, developed demonstration sites, and produced information about our understanding of the inherent risks and opportunities of carbon farming for Wheatbelt farms.

At a state scale, this project has demonstrated the value of collaborating between regional NRM groups, when delivering sustainable agriculture activities that reach across WA.

Key achievements

- 26 innovative sustainable agriculture trial sites being managed with landholders and grower groups
- 34 farms participating in improved nutrient management demonstration sites
- Over 100,000 seedlings provided to establish sustainable and profitable farm production systems using perennial plants
- Major Talkin' Soil Health Conference and Soil Health Champions Identified with other WA NRM regions
- 38 field days and workshops supported highlighting sustainable agriculture farming practices



WANTFA extension

Our partnership with WANTFA to deliver extension and outreach activities as part of the Australian Government's Carbon Farming Futures program has been in full swing, delivering numerous events, webinars and one-on-one discussions. The 'Nutrition Compaction, Rotations' workshop series has been bringing leading farmers and researchers together to discuss the role of carbon farming for profitability and soil health.

eConnect

Over the past year, Wheatbelt NRM were one of 12 grower groups selected for DAFWA's eConnected Grainbelt project which is funded through Royalties for Regions.

National Landcare Programme

During 2015/16, two projects being delivered as part of the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme gathered momentum and established significant on-ground activity.

The Trials and Demonstrations project supported 26 innovative sustainable agriculture trial sites across the region, and the Nutrient Management project worked with 34 growers to improve nutrient use efficiency on farms. Both projects have delivered a number of extension activities over the past year to facilitate sharing of knowledge across our project participants, with the broader community and experts from the research and development (R&D) sector.



Supporting chemical use efficiency in Agriculture industry for better soil health

The Sustainable Agriculture program has been working with the community, industry and R&D sector to improve chemical use efficiency and improve soil health. This key objective helps address some of the big resource issues facing our region, including improving soil productivity, water quality and river function, agricultural industry viability, catchment water availability and salinity driven system viability.

On-farm trials

This year, we've been supporting on-farm trials led by our community to address soil health and efficient chemical use including:

- compost from large scale waste material
- brown manuring
- crop rotations
- organic carbon based biostimulants
- deep ripping
- lime incorporation
- precision agriculture.



Modelling suggests that nitrogen and phosphorous use efficiency could be improved on Wheatbelt farms by 15% (N) and 27% (P).

In 2015/16, the Healthy Soils Healthy Rivers Nutrient Use Efficiency project began working closely with 20 farmers to reduce nutrient wastage on their farm. Activities included better integrating soil testing, plant tissue analysis, nutrient balance calculations and historical nutrient use efficiency information in farm practices. The Department of Agriculture and Food, WA also provided expert support on this project.

Increasing perennial vegetation cover

In an extensively cleared catchment like the Wheatbelt, perennial based vegetation is an important tool for boosting NRM values.



While there are a growing number of options for incorporating perennial vegetation into productive farming systems, our Perennials for Profit funding program focuses on the adoption of forage shrub based grazing systems and sandalwood agroforestry plantations.

This year, the first round of the program was designed to address some of the barriers to broad scale adoption, by:

- providing seed funding for growers new to these systems, with a commitment by participants to privately invest (7 farmers took part in 2015/16)
- supporting a peer mentor network of

- landholders or industry leaders who have successfully worked with broad scale systems (4 peer mentors identified in 2015/16)
- linking participants with the latest research on planting design and management to optimise profitability
- expanding the understanding of how these systems can complement Wheatbelt wheat/sheep farming systems
- developing whole scale farm plans that optimise plantations for each farm by integrating soil and past cropping information with forage shrub/sandalwood economic analyses.

Trials and Demonstrations

Innovative Trial and Demonstrations sites have been established to evaluate new techniques for improving productivity in perennial production systems, including;

- creating a dual purpose biodiverse sandalwood and forage grazing shrub system
- improving *Casuarina obesa* agroforestry plantings on saline land using nitrogen fixing *Frankia*
- fertiliser response in

- mid-rotation sandalwood plantations
- successfully growing Australian bushfoods without irrigation
- integrating a native grass perennial pasture within a direct seed sandalwood plantation
- optimising carbon sequestration and productivity values in forage shrub and/or sandalwood systems.

Promoting fit for purpose landuse

In Sustainable Agriculture, the concept of 'fit for purpose landuse' focuses on evaluating current agricultural production on different parts of farms and looking at whether an alternative use would be more beneficial.

For example, the growth of precision agriculture tools, such as yield mapping, provides an opportunity to analyse which parts of a farm are under performing. Identifying why areas are under performing, evaluating the cost of treating these and then considering alternative uses for these areas.

This year, we focused on supporting on-farm trials, demonstration sites, knowledge development and transfer activities to enhance our ability to identify areas fit for alternative uses. We also

grew the range of options available for farmers to use in these areas. Achievements included:

- 3 trials evaluating the use of new technology for mapping sub-paddock scale variation in soils and production
- working with 20 farmers to incorporate past yield mapping, soils information and paddock inspections in developing soil zoning maps
- 9 trials evaluating alternative perennial forage grazing and agroforestry systems
- supporting 6 workshops demonstrating new farm monitoring technology, alternative perennial grazing and agroforestry options for lower production areas
- 2 new fact sheets on the trade-off of carbon revenue versus production value of different style forage shrub and agroforestry plantings.

Where to from here?

Maintaining and increasing the agricultural productivity of the Wheatbelt can be achieved while addressing the key soil, ecosystem, aquatic, community and whole-of-system health issues facing the region.

Dr Guy Boygs

NRM Planning for Climate Change

NRM 5-year Strategic Objective: Adapt to a Changing Climate



The NRM Planning for Climate Change project was completed in 2015/16.

It was funded by the Australian Government's Clean Energy Futures Program and further develops our Regional NRM Strategy for the Avon River Basin.

NRM Strategy website

The main outcome of this project was the creation of a website showcasing our Regional NRM Strategy for the Avon River Basin.

The NRM Strategy website primarily features our systems based analysis of the Avon River Basin region. It also provides improved access to maps and information describing regional climate change, and looks at the impact of climate change on local biodiversity and agriculture.

Key features:

- **NRM Dashboard** for tracking regional environmental change

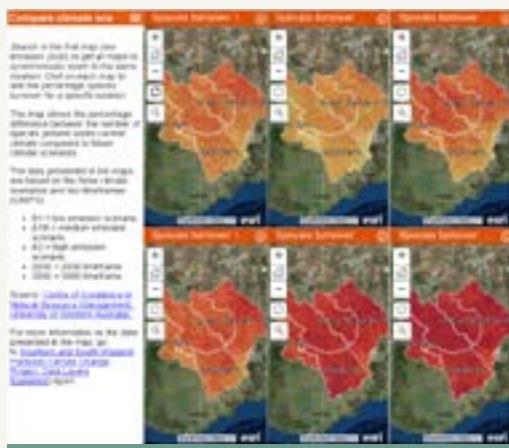
- **Carbon Planning Tool** for mapping priorities relating to carbon plantings in the region
- **Climate Change Portal** for regional climate change information.

NRM Dashboard

The NRM Dashboard provides simple infographic representations of how the region is fairing with changes in the climate. It is fundamental in embedding an adaptive management approach to NRM in the region.

The dashboard was developed using existing data from private and public sectors, and we value the contribution of key stakeholders to our collective understanding of NRM in the region.

The NRM Dashboard presents 12 key measures of the Wheatbelt system's health, alerting us to whether it is approaching any thresholds of potential concern (TPC). The dashboard also includes



secondary indicators of the processes driving change in each TPC.

Data on the NRM Dashboard will continue to be updated based on availability and the rate of change associated with each variable (e.g. slow or fast moving).

Carbon Planning Tool

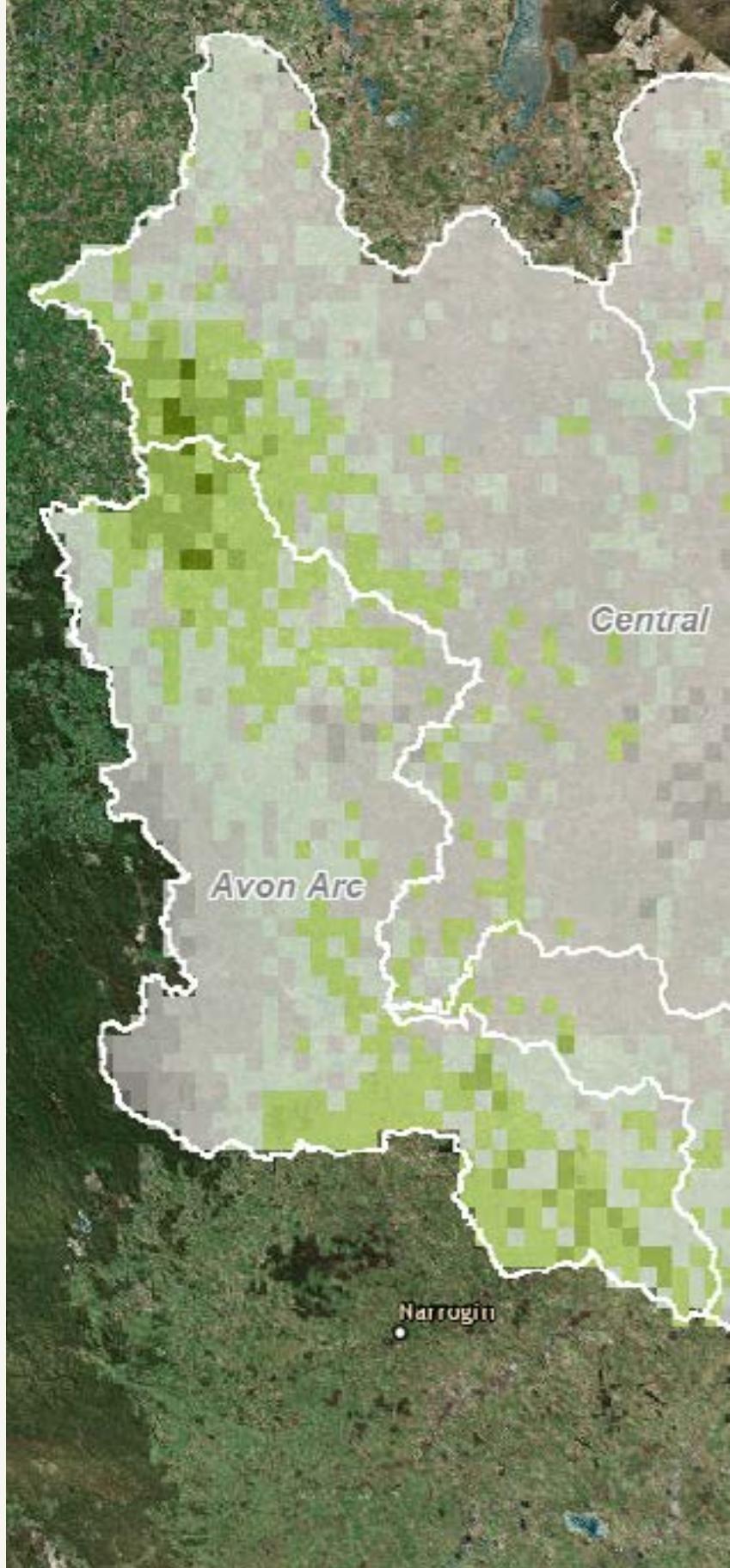
The Carbon Planning Tool allows landholders to use carbon prioritisation mapping through an interactive mapping interface (developed using ArcGIS Online). The tool also provides access to the recommendations for carbon plantings developed through the project and associated with the user's proposed planting area.

Climate Change Portal

The Climate Change Portal presents a series of 33 interactive maps prepared to showcase the current and projected state of the regional climate and how changes may impact on biodiversity and agricultural production.

Summary infographic

An analysis of the current policy environment affecting NRM has been completed in this project, and a summary infographic developed to assist when communicating with key stakeholders on NRM issues and opportunities in the region.





Dr Elizabeth Kington

Sustainable Communities

Wheatbelt NRM's Sustainable Communities program aims to build initiatives for a sustainable regional community. The program seeks to increase community understanding and involvement in natural resource management within the region.



Community members learn how to build nest boxes at the Merredin Bat Workshop

The Sustainable Communities program seeks to boost the Wheatbelt community's capacity to undertake NRM activities in our region, by actively engaging and working with the community, local Aboriginal community members, and young people.

The program does this through the work of the Regional Landcare Facilitator, the Aboriginal Natural Resource Management team, and the Marketing and Communications team.

Regional Landcare Facilitator

The role of the Regional Landcare Facilitator has been broadened this year to engage the farming and regional community in NRM by providing opportunities for community groups to be involved in NRM, active networking and NRM events.



The **2015 Toodyay BioBlitz** was the tenth BioBlitz held in the Wheatbelt and was jointly organised by Wheatbelt NRM and the Toodyay Naturalists' Club. The collaborative, community-based, biological survey was conducted over a weekend in September 2015 at four private properties on the Bindoon-Dewars Pool Road in the Shire of Toodyay, totalling almost 360 hectares of remnant vegetation and farmland. Surveys were also conducted in the adjacent Julimar State Forest. Over 60 participants took part and attended the weekend's activities.

Professional and amateur biologists, ecologists and naturalists conducted fieldwork with members of the local Toodyay community and other participants from across the South West to help discover more about biodiversity in the area while sharing each other's knowledge, interest and experience.

Another event highlight for the RLF program was the **Merredin Bat Night** in May 2016 where community got to build bat boxes with bat expert Joe Tonga, and enjoyed a night walk to detect and identify nocturnal bats around Merredin Reserve.

Key achievements

- The Toodyay Bioblitz
- The Merredin Bat Night
- Assistance with regional events e.g. The Great Cocky Count, Soil Restoration Farming workshop in York, e-connect field-day and the Wheatbelt Science Forum
- 12 Ranger days employing 20 Aboriginal Rangers including:
 - Trapping the Black-flanked Rock wallabies
 - Ste visit to Nangeen Hill Nature Reserve
- Conducted a new round of Community Capacity Building Grants
- 5.33 ha planted with traditional bush tucker species
- 2 culturally significant sites improved
- 2212 Associate Members*
- 15 local Landcare groups funded via community capacity and equipment grants

*As at June 30th, 2016



Aboriginal NRM

The Aboriginal NRM program works with the local Aboriginal community to grow their capacity in natural resource management and assist in the Aboriginal people's reconnection to Country. Through the program's work an understanding of the importance of various sites of cultural and ecological significance in the Avon River Basin is being developed.

The **Aboriginal Elders Advisory Group** continues to guide Aboriginal NRM activities in the region and to provide cultural advice. The Elders guide the use of traditional knowledge and are actively involved across the region through various project sites.

Traditional and contemporary Aboriginal knowledge of culturally significant sites in the region has been explored through a series of publications this year.

'The Twines Storybook', celebrates the huge granite outcrop near Narembeen that is a culturally special place, from the perspective of one of the region's



respected Noongar Elders, Theo Michael.

'The Pumphrey's Bridge Storybook' is a celebration of an historically important place between York and Narrogin where Noongars traditionally lived.

This year's calendar, 'Keeping the campfires burning', celebrates the resilient spirit and culture of the Noongar people across the Wheatbelt. Each month explores the traditional Noongar seasons, accompanied by historic photographs and recollections of living life in the region.

The **Noongar Boodja Rangers** program was initiated in 2014 and has been very successful this year, with many young, local Aboriginal men and women taking the opportunity to work 'on country' in an environmental NRM capacity. On-the-job training for the rangers covers weed management, tree-



planting, seed collecting and dispersal, signage, cultural site recording, and site management.

The **Mooditj Boodja website** has been upgraded to improve access for iPhone and iPad users and to better appeal to the younger generation. It contains stories from the Recording Traditional Knowledge work we do, providing a growing library of cultural stories for the community to share.

The **Bush Tucker Project** has been working with the local Aboriginal community to prepare and plant Aboriginal held properties with bushfoods. This year saw several locations prepared for sandalwood and quandong plantings

with the assistance of the rangers. The establishment of bush potato trials is next on the agenda.

Marketing and Communications

This year the strength of the Marketing and Communications team's work has been seen through significant growth in youth engagement in NRM activities in the region, along with professional delivery of relevant NRM information.

This year's Youth Environment Photography Competition

challenged the region's under 35s to capture the wonders of the Wheatbelt environment. Over 200 submissions were received with all photographs exhibited at the Dowerin Field Days in Wheatbelt NRM's megatent.

The Marketing and Communications team also keep our members and broader community up-to-date with natural resource management issues during the year and promote related activities and events. This is done via quarterly newsletters, fortnightly eNews bulletins, promotional materials, social media, and our website.

A recent survey of our newsletter recipients revealed that readers were impressed with its content and quality, and that they

would like it to continue as a quarterly publication in its current hardcopy format.

The organisation's social media presence continues to expand with various platforms now providing digital connection to our supporters, via Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, and Pinterest. Our fortnightly eNews recently had its 220th issue with subscriber numbers continuing to trend upwards along with associate members.

Wheatbelt NRM maintains a high profile in state and regional media with media releases and newspaper articles highlighting NRM activities, initiatives and information, as well as extensive advertising through Community Resource Centre newsletters. This all combines to lift the organisation's rural profile and the community's understanding of NRM issues across the region.

The organisation's brand and profile also continues to grow in the region via numerous workshops and field days, and involvement in large scale events showcasing the organisation's NRM activities and knowledge.

Where to from here?

The Aboriginal community's opportunity to care for country grows

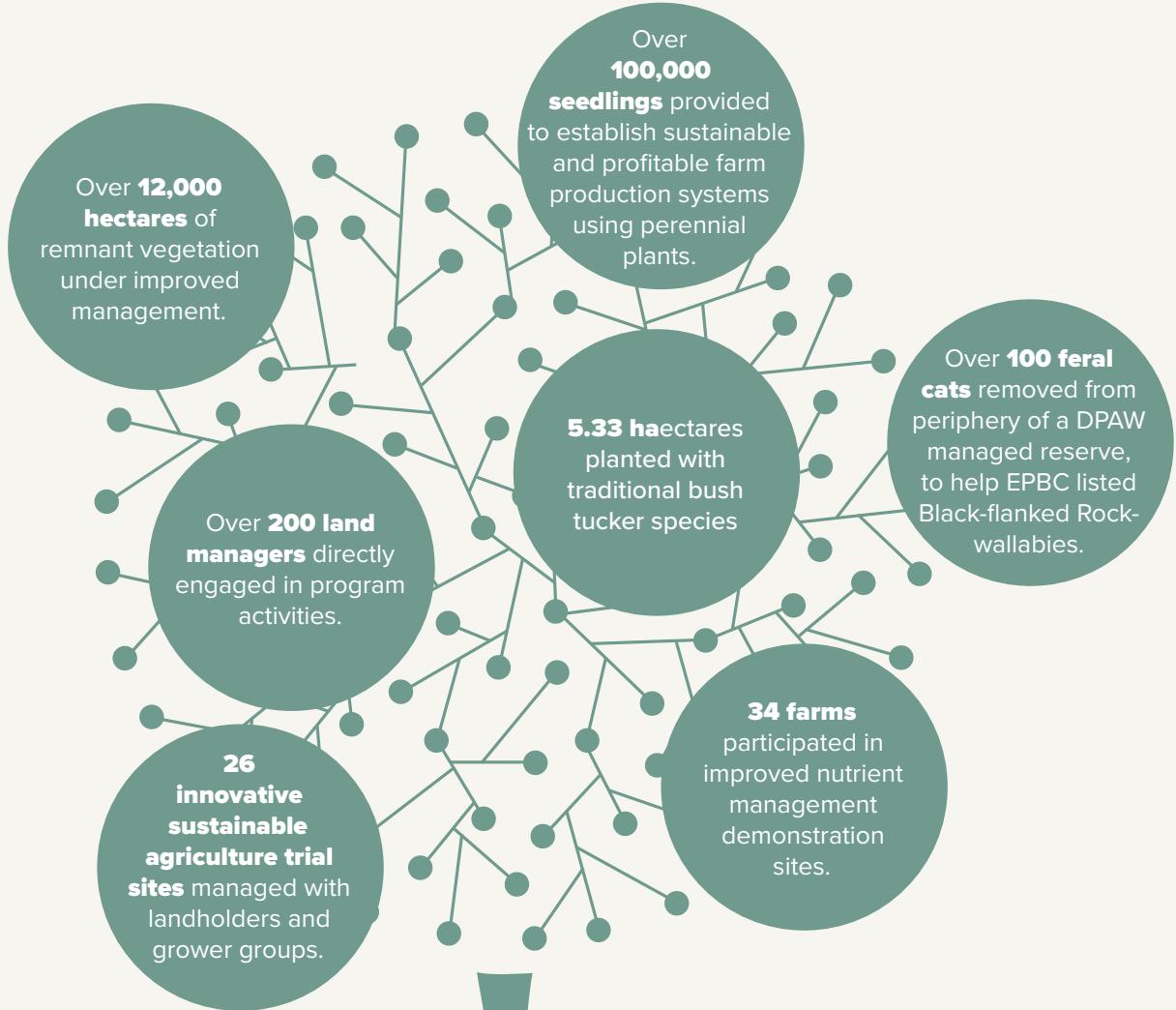


steadily and the Moorditj Boodja Rangers program initiative is providing positive employment opportunities.

The broader community continues to engage in Wheatbelt NRM events showing a positive interest in the region's environment.

Dr Liz Kingston

Some on-ground achievements in 2015/16



Risk Appetite Statement

As a community based not-for-profit organisation predominately using government funding, Wheatbelt NRM has a low tolerance for reputational risk. In alignment with the ‘precautionary principal’, Wheatbelt NRM has a high tolerance for strategic risk as it is acknowledged that the complexity and lack of knowledge about environmental management means strategic decisions must be made using the best available information. The projects that Wheatbelt NRM take on will have a worthwhile and meaningful outcome while taking a level of considered risk. While there will be a high level of confidence in projects being successful, Wheatbelt NRM is willing to prematurely cancel a project if it is not going to yield appropriate outcomes.

Financial risk tolerances for the organisation vary according to the origin of the funding and its intended use.

Wheatbelt NRM is conservative in financial management. It is of paramount importance that funding for business continuation be maintained. The elevated importance of business continuity funding is due to the historical dependence on a limited number of funders. Business continuity funding requirements change with external funding round and are reviewed regularly. The use of government funds for project delivery has a low risk tolerance; the use of the organisation’s fund for business development has a higher risk tolerance, in line with the intent of developing on-going revenue streams.

Wheatbelt NRM strives to reduce exposure to operational and strategic risks through continuous improvement management approaches. Wheatbelt NRM considers risk which may cause serious injury to staff or violate Australian laws to be unacceptable.



ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FINANCIAL YEAR 2015-2016

ABN 61 661 518 664

1 Balance Sheet

Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Inc.

ASSETS	NOTE	2016 \$	2015 \$
Current Assets		6,303,745	6,718,514
Non Current Assets		35,702	-
Total Assets	12	6,339,447	6,718,514
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities		3,660	5,868
Credit Cards		23,734	453,656
Accounts Payable	13	72,590	35,785
GST Liabilities	13	231,610	390,889
Payroll Liabilities	14	1,429,463	1,753,861
Deposits Collected	15		
Total Current Liabilities		1,761,057	2,640,058
Non-Current Liabilities			
Payroll Liabilities (LSL)		164,938	131,898
Total Non-Current Liabilities		164,938	131,898
Total Liabilities		1,925,995	2,771,956
Net Assets		4,413,452	3,946,558
EQUITY			
Retained Earnings	9	519,665	515,724
Consolidated Funds	10	3,893,786	3,430,834
Total Equity	16	4,413,452	3,946,558

The Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

2 Profit and Loss

Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Inc.

Statement of Income As at 30 June 2016

INCOME	NOTE	2016 \$	2015 \$
Grants Received		4,009,312	5,046,004
Other Income		363,318	408,989
Income from FY14/15	17	286,000	-
Total Revenue	17	4,658,630	5,454,993
EXPENSES			
Board of Directors		114,236	89,845
Community Funding		701,742	767,793
Project Contractors and Events	18	778,194	2,091,617
Employment and Staff Development	19	2,287,767	2,137,753
Operating and Administration	20	309,798	376,182
Total Expenses		4,191,737	5,463,191
OPERATING POSITION			
Net Position	10	466,893	(8,198)

The Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

3 Cash Flow

Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Inc.

Statement of Cash Flow As at 30 June 2016

	NOTE 21	2016 \$	2015 \$
Cash flows from Operating Activities			
Grant		3,943,967	4,639,596
Interest		145,896	203,243
Other		286,000	151,368
Employment Expenses		(2,437,725)	(2,286,297)
Payment to Suppliers		(2,250,260)	(2,910,749)
Net Cash Provided by (used in) Operating Activities		(391,617)	(202,821)
Cash flows from investing Activities			
Asset Purchases		(35,702)	-
Net Cash Provided by (used in) Investing Activities		(35,702)	-
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash Held		(427,319)	(202,821)
Cash at Beginning of Year		6,661,674	6,864,495
Cash at End of Year		6,234,355	6,661,674

The Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

4 Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30th June 2016.

Basis of Preparation and Significant Accounting Policies

Wheatbelt NRM's primary purpose as constituted is of a not-for-profit nature. Therefore Wheatbelt NRM is a not-for-profit entity under the Tax Assessment Act, and holds a number of tax concessions and endorsements. As such, Wheatbelt NRM is required to publish financial statements to its members.

Wheatbelt NRM is a not-for-profit organisation and its activities do not generate profit or losses for distribution to members. The financial report is a special purpose financial report (SPFR), prepared for the use by Wheatbelt NRM to satisfy the requirements of the Wheatbelt NRM Constitution and the Associations Incorporations Act; material accounting policies adopted by Wheatbelt NRM in preparation of the annual SPFR are applied on a consistent basis, unless otherwise stated specifically in the financial statements.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act (WA) and the following Australian Accounting standard:

- AASB 1031 Materiality
- AASB 110 Events After the reporting date

No other applicable accounting standards, Australian Interpretations or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards board have been applied.

The SPFR is prepared on an accrual basis and based on historical cost modified by the revaluation of selected non-current assets; and financial assets and financial liabilities for which the fair value basis of accounting has been applied.

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

1. Assets and Liabilities

Assets will be recognised at fair value at a time when a resource from a past event from which future economic benefit is expected, and adequate provision is made for any permanent diminution in the value on non-current assets; carrying amounts of all non-current assets are reviewed at least annually to determine whether they are in excess of their recoverable amount and amended accordingly to present value.

Adequate provision will be made for allowances which may be given and for losses which may be sustained, in connection with collection of accounts receivable and non-trade receivables; deficiencies and encumbrances attached to title of Wheatbelt NRM will be reflected in the SPFR; Contingent Asset will be recognised at a time when the asset realisation of income associated with it, is virtually certain; Liabilities which have arisen or which will arise out of the activities of Wheatbelt NRM will be recognised and included in the SPFR.

Material commitments for capital expenditure will be included in the notes to the SPFR; Contingent Liabilities including guarantees or assets including those arising under derivative financial instruments, will be recognised at a time when the liability is probable, and disclosed in the SPFR.

2. Capitalisation of Fixed Assets

The principles of accrual accounting includes the recommendation that the costs of Fixed Assets such as plant and equipment and certain structural improvements be written off over their useful lives.

As per terms of the constitution, on winding up all assets are to be passed over to a like organisation and in the case of leasehold improvements these will be abandoned when Wheatbelt NRM vacates its premises. As such it is the practice of Wheatbelt NRM to expense most capital expenditure assets excepting items based on policy deemed as recognised assets over \$5,000 with a useful life of more than 12 months.

3. Income

The Organisation's principal receipts are funds provided for specific projects and not available for general activities. Revenue is measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable.

4. Depreciation

Depreciation of a Recognised Asset is on a straight line basis over the asset's useful life, commencing from the time of acquisition. The assets' residual value and useful life are reviewed, and adjusted as appropriate, at each balance sheet date. Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in the income statement.

5. Cash and Cash Equivalent

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, including short term highly liquid investments.

6. Goods and Services Tax

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST. Receivables and payables in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

7. Cash Flows

Cash Flows are presented in the cash flow statement on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

8. Employee Entitlements

The provision for employee benefits relates to the amount liable to be paid for the long service leave and annual leave resulting from the employees services provided to balance date. All entitlements are calculated at their nominal amounts using remuneration rates and expected to be settled within one year.

9. Retained Earnings

Retained earnings represent income received over time that is not specifically allocated to a project, and can be used in the future for projects or initiatives at the organisation's discretion.

10. Consolidated Funds

Consolidated funds represent income received that is specifically allocated to project outcomes and can only be used for the purposes described in the contractual agreements for the delivery of NRM services and organisational operation. During times of funding discontinuity, consolidated funds are provisional for ongoing essential NRM work, through organisational continuity. The character of the funding is to be retained.

11. Tax Concessions and Endorsements

Income Tax Exemption

Wheatbelt NRM is a not-for-profit organisation and thus exempt from income tax liability by virtue of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (ITAA).

Tax Concession Charity

Under the Fringe Benefit Tax Assessment Act 1986, and the Taxation Administration Act 1953, tax concession charity endorsement has been granted to Wheatbelt NRM as a charitable institution. Wheatbelt NRM is a not-for-profit entity that operates for the public benefit to protect, preserve, care for, and educate the community about the environment and charities.

Payroll Tax Exemption

For the purpose of Payroll Tax Assessment Act 2002, and the Taxation Administration Act 2003, Wheatbelt NRM is granted exemption from payroll tax for the purpose of section 40 (2) (n) of the Act effective 2007 financial year.

Deductible Gift recipient / Register of Environmental Organisations

Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Public Fund has received endorsement as a deductible gift recipient. Entry has been granted onto the Register of Environmental Organisations 27th April 2012. Under the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 item 6.1.1 of subsection 30-55(a) Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Public Fund is entitled to receive tax deductible donations.

The Details

12. Total Assets

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Cash at Bank	6,231,714	6,659,962
Public Fund	1,807	1,356
Petty Cash	834	246
Accounts Receivable	69,280	56,840
Deposits Paid	110	110
Total Current Assets	<u>6,303,745</u>	<u>6,718,514</u>
Furniture and Fixtures	22,475	-
Plant and Equipment	<u>13,227</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Non Current Assets	35,702	-
Total Assets	<u>6,339,447</u>	<u>6,718,514</u>

Substantial funds are held in trust on behalf of third party entities. These funds are established under contractual agreements for the delivery of NRM services. Balances may only be used for the purpose described in the contractual agreements and are not available to meet other Wheatbelt NRM liabilities or commitments.

13. Events After Balance Sheet Date

Payables completed in July and August 2016.

14. Total Payroll Liabilities

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Provision for Employment	2,700	183,166
Leave Provisions	157,679	167,001
PAYG Withholding Payable	63,168	40,722
Superannuation Payable	7,194	-
Novated Lease Clearing Account	869	-
Total Payroll Payable	<u>231,610</u>	<u>390,889</u>

In FY2013/14 unique circumstances identified in project funder commitments deemed it prudent to apply employment provision expenses in particular projects. This provision has been spent down over FY2014/15 and FY2015/16 financial year and is almost diminished. Employment provision treatment has not been adopted organisation wide and is in line with Accounting Treatments Procedure. The provision for employee leave relates to the amount liable to be paid for the long service leave and annual leave resulting from the employees services provided to balance date.

15. Total Deposits Collected

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Reimbursements from staff	314	-
Premises Provision	50,000	25,000
Prepaid Income	1,379,149	1,728,861
 Total Deposits Collected	 <u>1,429,463</u>	 <u>1,753,861</u>

Grant funds are recognised as prepaid on the balance sheet under the matching principle and reported in the profit and loss in the period in which the related expense is incurred. Premises provision recognises a \$100k commitment which will arise in 2019 for premises upgrade. The provision is increasing to relevant amount as outcome becomes probable.

16. Change in Equity

	Retained Earnings	Consolidated Funds	Total Equity
	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1st July 2015	<u>515,724</u>	<u>3,430,834</u>	<u>3,946,558</u>
Changes in Equity for FY1516			
Surplus / Deficiency (-) from Operating	3,941	(252,301)	(248,360)
Income received in arrears - FY1415 expenses	-	286,000	286,000
Payroll Provisions	-	88,540	88,540
Prepaid grant reinstated from Liability to Income	-	1,094,712	1,094,712
Unexpended grant reinstated from Income to Liability	-	(745,000)	(745,000)
Capital Assets reinstate from Equity to Asset	-	(8,999)	(8,999)
Net Change in Equity	<u>3,941</u>	<u>462,952</u>	<u>466,893</u>
 Balance at 30th June 2016	 519,665	3,893,786	4,413,452

17. Total Income

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
CWTH Grants Received	3,553,900	3,825,382
SNRMO Grants Received	107,212	146,565
OTHER Grants Received	<u>348,200</u>	<u>1,074,057</u>
Grants Received	4,009,312	5,046,004
Miscellaneous Income	10,917	54,377
Interest Earned	145,896	203,243
Business Stream	<u>206,505</u>	<u>151,368</u>
Other Income	363,318	408,989
Income received from FY1415	<u>286,000</u>	-
Total Revenue	<u>4,658,630</u>	<u>5,454,993</u>

Income received from FY1415 inflates the net position of the organisation this FY and is offset against losses received in FY1415.

18. Project contractors and events

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Agricultural Supplies	145,558	259,841
Contractors and Consultants	453,627	1,529,964
Events Marketing and Communications	179,009	301,812
Total	<u>778,194</u>	<u>2,091,617</u>

Significant reduction in contractors and consultants is representative of close out in projects works with local shires on stormwater harvesting.

19. Employment Expenses and Staff Development

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Wages and Salaries	1,998,884	1,827,232
Superannuation	203,410	200,647
Provision for Employment	23,718	65,130
Training/Uniforms/Other	61,755	44,744
 Total	<u>2,287,767</u>	<u>2,137,753</u>

All provisions are calculated based on the capability of being measured reliably in respect of probable future economic settlement, appropriate consideration to current organisation provision values and workforce plan. Nominal increase in Wages and Salaries is a result of workforce plan terminations for project funding reduction sustainability, while maintaining ability to resource funding opportunity as they arise.

20. Operating and Administration

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Depreciation Expense	3,669	-
Operating and Administration	306,129	376,182
 Total	<u>309,798</u>	<u>376,182</u>

Depreciation of a Recognised Asset is on a straight line basis over the asset's useful life commencing from the time of acquisition.

21. Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows provided by / (used in) operating activities

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Net Cost of Service	466,893	(8,198)
(Increase)/ Decrease in Assets		
Trade Debtors	(12,550)	(55,828)
GST Refundable	-	-
Pre-Paid Income	-	-
Increase (Decrease) in Liabilities		
Credit Cards	(2,206)	5,844
Other Liabilities	25,314	24,846
Payroll Liabilities	(148,685)	(146,226)
Trade Creditors	(429,922)	383,866
GST Payable	59,251	(134,415)
Pre Paid Income	(349,712)	(272,710)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	<u>(391,617)</u>	<u>(202,821)</u>

Financial Instruments

22. Financial Risk Management

Wheatbelt NRM financial instruments consist of deposits with banks, accounts receivable and payable. The

Organisation does not have any derivative instruments at 30th June 2016.

Treasury Risk Management: There are no significant concentrations of treasury risk.

Financial Risk exposure and Management: Primary risk exposures are through financial instruments:

- **Interest rate risk:** Wheatbelt NRM is exposed to interest rate risk relating to cash balances held at variable rates. Wheatbelt NRM has no borrowings.
- **Liquidity risk:** Wheatbelt NRM manages liquidity risk by frequently monitoring forecast cash flows and finance plans to ensure that funds are available to meet its commitments overseen by audit committee.
- **Credit Risk:** Primary receivables are derived from both State and Commonwealth Government resulting in minimal risk of bad debt.

23. Capital Management

The CEO and the SFO oversee the management of capital. The process in place requires cash to be moved on an as needs basis. Funds surplus to operating are held in fixed cash investments monitored by Finance Committee.

24. Contingent Liabilities

No Contingent Liabilities.

25. Leasing Commitments

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Payable - minimum lease payments		
- not later than 12 months	86,677	84,688
- between 12 months and 5 years	62,651	74,688
	<hr/> 149,329	<hr/> 159,376

Committed operating leases of vehicle, equipment and premises contracted for, but not capitalised in the financial statements.

End of notes.

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF WHEATBELT NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT INC.

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Inc., which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2016, and the Statement of Income, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement by members of the Board.

Board's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Board of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (WA) and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Board's responsibilities also include establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 4, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Board, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Board's financial reporting under the Associations Incorporation Act (WA).

Byfields Pty Ltd ACN 150 608 398

DIRECTORS: Andrew Northcott B.Com CPA • Craig Lane B.Com CPA • Dale Woodruff B.Bus CPA • Jon Bush B.Com CPA
Leanne Oliver B.Com CPA • Neil Hooper B.Com CPA • Simon Northey B.Bus CPA • Glenn Waldock B.Bus CPA • Roger Thomson B.Bus CA
ASSOCIATES: Ian Jones B.Com CPA • Lea Williams B.Com CA • Brant Jansen B.Bus CPA • Ryan Naughton B.Bus CPA • Tony Umbrello B.Bus CA

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We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion the financial report Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Inc. presents fairly, in all material respects the financial position Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Inc. as of 30 June 2016 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 4 to the financial statements.

Emphasis of Matter

The financial report is prepared in accordance with a special purpose framework and accordingly may not be suitable for other purposes. The opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.



DALE WOODRUFF CPA
Director

Dated: 19th September 2016



Our Ref: F01002v2
Date: 19th September 2016

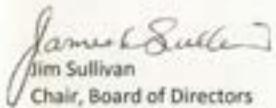
STATEMENT BY DIRECTORS

For the Year Ended 30 June 2016

The Board has determined that the accompanying financial report of Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management (Inc) has been prepared in accordance with the Associations Incorporations Act (WA) from proper accounts and records, to present fairly the financial transactions for the financial year ended 30 June 2016.

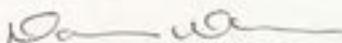
In the opinion of the Board, the financial report fairly presents the financial position and performance of Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management (Inc) as at 30 June 2016. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management (Inc) will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is signed for, on behalf of the Board by:



Jim Sullivan
Chair, Board of Directors

Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management



Natarsha Woods
Chief Executive Officer

Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management



Barking Gecko at the 2015 Toodyay BioBlitz. Image courtesy Wayne Clarke.





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