



20 Million Trees Project 2018-2020

PROJECT CODE: HE2TMTC and HE2TMTM

Project Overview

Through the Australian Government
20 Million Trees Program.

Outcomes:

Central Avon - By 30 June 2020, the project will establish 40,000 trees (species above 2 metres when mature) and 20,000 species below 2 metres when mature, over at least 141 hectares of land.

Mortlock - By 30 June 2020, the project will establish 40,000 trees (species above 2 metres when mature) and 20,000 species below 2 metres when mature, over at least 184 hectares of land.

What this means:

20 landholders across the two projects planting a total of 182,613 seedlings across 354 hectares.

April to June 2019

- Nursery management to ensure species list diversity and appropriate numbers are allocated to each project
- nursery hygiene inspections to mitigate risk of phytophthora (and other potential pathogen/ diseases)
- supporting land managers in site preparation activities
- the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) planted 16,500 seedlings as part of the Central Avon 20 Million Trees project
- The Autumn 2019 seedling survival surveys were completed, with an overall seedling survival rate of 73%
- Of the 54,510 seedlings planted in 2018, 40,029 survived their first long dry summer



Nigel Morrison is a farmer from Jelcobine.

Nigel Morrison, a farmer from Jelcobine, has been working with Wheatbelt NRM since 2016 to protect remnant vegetation on his property and connect Brookton Nature Reserve with the Jarrah forests. As much of Nigel's property is bounded by DBCA reserves, approvals were sought for installation of boundary fencing. The plan to connect the Jarrah forest and nature reserve inspired the DBCA officer who visited the property and he offered a team to help plant 16,500 seedlings in June 2019 as part of the Central Avon 20 Million Trees project.

Nigel's other activities, undertaken in partnership with Wheatbelt NRM, include protecting 130ha of remnant vegetation, including areas of the TEC listed Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt.

Lessons Learnt and Improvements

- We have to plan to over plant - more trees than we are contracted for to tackle the risk of site failures
- We have supported the fencing and feral control at these sites through other projects – value adding
- Species selection and position of planting is important to improve seedling survival
- Planting over multiple seasons allows us to adaptively manage individual planting techniques (if necessary) and minimise the potential impact of poor climatic conditions for individual years - for example an extended dry season when seedlings are establishing