



# Moore Catchment Council

## **Futures Workshop Input**

# State of the Moore River & its Catchment Lands

- How is the river changing?
  - Increasing sediment
  - Changes in drainage therefore changing depth etc
  - Changes in rainfall
  - Salinity
  - Rising water table
- Research urgently needed on the above issues, for the entire Moore River system
- Population pressure in southern region (around where estuary is at Guilderton) increasing – city-based lifestyle farmers

# Needs of the Moore River & its catchment lands

- Health of the river; environment
- **Research required**
- Routes of underground water flows
- Document history of area/river etc
- Baseline information needed
- Large & diverse group of stakeholders
- Raise profile of river and catchment lands, both inland and coastal
- Whole river as backbone of catchment lands

# Needs of the Moore River & its catchment lands

- Social differences around region, e.g., impact on usage and attitudes from differing rainfalls
- Impact of visibility – better where it looks like a river
- Research with users re how they use the river, what it means to them, etc.
- Education throughout river region
- Only 3 major urban areas – Moora, Guilderton, Gingin

# Needs of the River

- Use of underground water routes, where this is used, impact on river of lower water flow
- Old river meandering system – needs of valley areas, increased salinity, cropping with higher nutrient impact on river
- NATURAL resource management

# Stakeholders

Broadacre farmers	Indigenous peoples (incl. Sacred sites)
Shire Councils	Landowners / family landowners
NGO's	Government depts; state & C'wealth (DEC, Water, Ag, Health, Planning etc)
Interest groups – recreational users, etc	Mining industry, gas, oil, mineral sands, bauxite, dolomite, granite, haemotite
<b>Environment (land, flora, fauna, river)</b>	Business owners / managers
Developers	Environmental groups, including LCDC's, Friends of Moore R, etc
Communities along the river	Metropolitan population
Schools / students	Tourism industry

# Moore Catchment Council Overview

- Need for solid grant management skills
- Need for solid business & financial admin skills
- Need for excellent stakeholder engagement skills
- Need for effective organisational structure and governance (shire structure for membership?)
- Issue of independence – extent to which funding sources influence decision-making of group
- Instability of grant funding
- Need for grants to be under separate contracts
- Relationship with NACC

# MCC Group Input

- Strong environmental focus
- Community awareness / education / communication needed
- Higher level of involvement needed – yet reticence re how much will be asked of people
- Grow membership base – charge for membership?
- To grow revenue, work towards a rates levy?
- Structure is cumbersome – restructure needed, should be smaller
- Relationships with other agencies - partnerships



# MCC Group Input

- Good at making community contact
- Some crossover into 'grower group territory'
- Lost contact with government agencies due to funding and staffing changes
- Moore River not on the high priority list
- 300 members – good communication, still room to improve

# What has the MCC got to sell?

- An honest broker in Carbon Trading
- Environmental offset management
- Waste management expertise
- Project management for environmental issues
- Expertise in managing roadside revegetation, biodiversity, monitoring these (asset management)
- Biosecurity – fee for service, project management
- Events relating to NRM

# Future Needs & Options

- Research – need to understand profile of the Moore River system; gather research findings already available; coordinate on-going research; raise research questions
- Monitoring the condition of the river and its catchment
- Lobbying – a voice for the river and its catchment
- Educate people; skilled communication
- **Protect & preserve the Moore River**

# Future Needs & Options

- Review / restructure the Committee of the MCC
- Lift MCC profile; coordinate groups within MC system
- Source additional funding options, including fee-for-service
- Promote respectful, appropriate use of the river & catchment, whether social or economic/industrial
- Provide sound input, especially to government bodies, into future development of the entire MC region

# Values

- Appreciation of the river & catchment
- Sound environmental management
- Protection of the river & catchment
- Openness, accessibility, involvement for members and supporters

# Committee - how to restructure

- 21 at present, yet ~5 attend meetings
- Have agencies as consultants to committee, not members
- Only 2 of these are shire reps
- Option of one per shire, with backup option
- All members are appointed, not elected
- Executive / office bearers are elected
- Meetings are moved around, usually include speaker, tour, etc.
- Committee may need different skill set
- Use videoconferencing, teleconferencing
- Cumbersome committees - overlap