protecting the natural resources in the Moore River Catchment
Moore River catchment starts an hour north of Perth

The Moore Catchment Council (MCC) boundary aligns closely with the River catchment boundary

MCC area is part of the Northern Agricultural Region (NAR)
MCC region is one of the 4 sub regions of the NAR

Other sub regions are:
- West Midlands
- Yarra Yarra
- Greenough

Northern Agricultural Catchment Council (NACC) is NARs regional NRM body based in Geraldton
Environment
Moore River catchment covers 1.38 million hectares from Bunjil down to Bolgart and across to Guilderton.

Moore River is named after George Fletcher Moore (explorer) and is 196km long.

Moore River is fed by nine sub-catchments and has numerous tributaries, lakes and wetlands feeding it.
Climate

Climate is Mediterranean – cool wet winters & warm dry summers

Annual rainfall varies from 800mm near the mouth to around 350mm at the headwaters
Geology

Catchment covers two major geological regions – Perth Basin (west) and Yilgarn Craton (east)

Perth Basin is a deep trough of sedimentary deposits whilst Yilgarn Craton is granitic continental crust (>2.5 billion yrs old)

Darling Fault line marks the divide

Deep sand, Sandy earth and Ironstone gravelly soil represent 60% of catchment
Vegetation

Based on soil – major types:

- York Gum/Salmon Gum woodland
- York Gum/Wandoo woodland
- Sandplain heath/shrub land

Approximately one-quarter of the original vegetation has been retained. This vegetation contains more than 80 species of priority flora and nearly 40 species of rare flora. Over 10 per cent of the remnant vegetation occurs in low lying areas.
Vegetation

Number of National Parks including Watheroo National Park

Many DEC identified Priority Woodlands and Last Stands which need to be protected
Moore River catchment is important habitat for many threatened fauna species including Mallee fowl, Western Spiny Tailed Skink and Carnaby’s Black Cockatoo.

Birdlife Aus have identified 7 Important Bird Areas for Carnaby’s Black Cockatoo in MCC region.
Salinity issues

One-quarter of the catchment east of the Darling Fault is low-lying with potential for developing shallow watertables.

One-third of bores in the catchment have groundwater levels at less than 2 m and the majority of these contain moderately to highly saline groundwater.
Shires

MCC region covers 8 Shires

- Gingin
- Victoria Plains
- Moora
- Dandaragan
- Coorow
- Carnamah
- Perenjori
- Dalwallinu

Approximately 16,000 residents in MCC area
Indigenous

Moore River catchment is of high importance to the Yued people.

Many sites of Indigenous heritage significance including the Moore Important Indigenous area including Mogumber, Regans Ford, Guilderton and Walebing ... and the Moore River itself (Wagyl – dream serpent)
Environmental groups

Lots of groups including LCDCs, Friends of groups, Coastcare groups, Moore River estuary groups, Moora-Miling Pasture Improvement Group, NACC

MCC has collaborated with a lot of these groups for events and projects
Economy
Farming

2150 registered farming properties in MCC region

80% of the land use is classed as agricultural. Crops include wheat, lupins and barley. Livestock include wool, sheep meat, and weaner and steer production.

Horticulture enterprises – several orchards & also market gardens in the south

Many lifestyle blocks in south around Gingin and towards coast
Tourism

Moore River region attracts many tourists to coastal towns of Guilderton, Seabird and Ledge Point

Tourists also visit catchment for wildflowers and to visit New Norcia
The MCC aims to improve and maintain the health of the whole Moore River Catchment by promoting and encouraging sustainable natural resource management.

- Conserve and improve the catchment’s natural assets
- Develop new and/or alternative sustainable farming practices
- Successfully integrate land use and environmental management
Thank you for listening!

Rachel Walmsley
MCC Natural Resource Management Officer

Facts and Figures taken from DAFWA's Moore River Catchment Appraisal 2002