

The Moore Catchment Council is the peak body charged with conserving the Moore River and its catchment. Serving the region encompassing the Moore River system for over 15 years, MCC has a proven track record of attracting natural resource management grants and successfully completing projects that improve the river and its catchment lands.

One of the four regions within the Northern Agricultural Region, the Moore River gathers much of its water from the eastern side of its main route and enters the Indian Ocean at Guilderton, north of Perth. 80% of the lands surrounding it are in agricultural use, though some other industries including tourism developing. Townships within its catchment include Moora, Gingin, New Norcia, Yerecoin, Coorow, Watheroo, Bunjil, Seabird and Wubin. Eight shires have land within the Moore catchment: Gingin, Victoria Plains, Moora, Dandaragan, Coorow, Carnamah, Perenjori and Dalwallinu, with the population of the Catchment region being ~16,000.

Projects successfully completed by the Moore Catchment Council in the last five years include:

- \$459,500 for Brushwood Industry Development on Saline Land;
- \$209,000 for Control of rising groundwater and salinity in the Koojan–Gillingarra region;
- \$100,592 for Creating Productive Saltbush Pastures on Saline Land;
- \$246,500 for Increased Adoption of Sustainable Brushwood Production;
- \$199,800 for Recovery and Protection of Moore River Catchments Threatened Natural Assets;
- \$159,000 for Wind Erosion Strategies.

In all, the Moore Catchment Council has attracted over \$4 million in state and commonwealth grant funds since 2000, all of which have been successfully completed and acquitted.

The MCC is a non-profit incorporated association, with a growing membership base of over 300. With its office in Moora, the MCC employs two qualified natural resource management officers and a part-time executive officer and is managed by an executive committee that meets monthly.

The MCC's core objectives are to:

- Conserve and improve the catchment's natural assets
- Develop new and/or alternative sustainable farming practices
- Successfully integrate land use and environmental management

It achieves these objectives by working in a collaborative way with landholders and land users, government departments and local authorities, residents, businesses and schools. It has been successful in engaging the efforts of volunteers to supplement initiatives that can be delivered through the grants secured.

As the peak body overseeing the wellbeing of the Moore River and its catchment, the MCC has identified key needs that must be addressed:

- Secure research funds to carry out research on the Moore River and its Catchment;
- Collate research that has been undertaken to guide conservation and usage practices;
- Secure grants to undertake conservation and restoration projects throughout the Moore River system;
- Provide a public voice promoting responsible and sustainable management and usage of the Moore River system;
- Conduct educational public awareness programmes throughout the Catchment region to encourage responsible usage and enjoyment of the Moore River.

To learn more about the Moore Catchment Council and its projects or become a member, visit [www.moorecatchment.org.au](http://www.moorecatchment.org.au) or phone 9653 1355. The MCC is keen to secure partners and funding support from those who wish to work towards the conservation and improvement of the Moore River system.

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