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Media Release

Super results for Moore catchment saltbush project

The latest saltbush project delivered by the Moore Catchment Council and Moora-Miling Pasture Improvement Group, and supported by the Northern Agricultural Catchments Council, has seen many more seedlings planted in the Moore River catchment than originally budgeted. The project, funded through the federal Caring For Our Country Natural Resource Management program, promised to plant around 144,000 saltbush seedlings on salt and wind erosion affected farms in the eastern catchment. Instead over **176,000** saltbush seedlings were able to be planted over **270ha** thanks to the close involvement of Ian Pulbrook of Greenoil Nursery, Mingenew, who supplied seedlings and planting services.

Twenty farms were involved with installing the saltbush pastures, from Gunyidi down to Gabalong. Tony White, president of the MMPIG, says 'saltbush pastures are an important part of farming systems in this area. They will help drought proof your farm and protect the land from the natural elements whilst adding extra feed at critical times of the year.' The site preparation and planting methods are tipped to be the key for the good establishment seen even with the dry winter experienced. Tony explained 'we have had a great result all round due mainly to the mounding carried out in the saltier and lower lying areas, and this has helped transform previously unproductive areas into useful paddocks.' The project also hosted a successful saltland pastures workshop in March and was a feature part of the MMPIG spring field days in 2009 & 2010.

Rachel Walmsley of MCC says 'this is the second successful saltbush project delivered by the MCC in partnership with MMPIG. In the last three years, over **307,000** saltbush seedlings have been planted in the Moore River catchment through these federally funded projects. The combination of a NRM group, a grower group and a nursery has helped deliver another fantastic result this year.' A project booklet and DVD are available from the MCC office on 9653 1355. For an online taster – visit www.youtube.com/MooreCatchNRM0



Tony White & Ian Pulbrook



Don McKinley, Moora had a great establishment



Brendon Tierney, Walebing had over 90% survive