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Farmers fence bush for Carnabys

Carnaby's Black Cockatoo received an extra boost to their habitat range with five farmers around the Moore region fencing off nearly 65ha of native remnant bushland as well as recently revegetated land. Rachel Walmsley, Moore Catchment Council's NRM Officer said "This was all made possible with funding received through Northern Agricultural Catchment Council's biodiversity program funded through the Australian Government's National Landcare Program. Fencing is an expensive job and so to receive a financial incentive from the Government ensures these projects are carried out."

Projects were located at Piawaning, Roundhill, Calingiri and Beermullah and featured the fencing off of breeding and forage habitat mainly aimed at endangered Carnaby's Black Cockatoo. "Carnaby's are having it rough," said Rachel, "Birdlife Australia have just released their 2017 Cocky Count report which shows yet another decline in the total population in WA. With generous estimates of around 11,000 birds left, projects like this are helping towards Carnaby conservation in the Moore region where, unfortunately, could become one of the last remaining sanctuaries for the bird species if Carnaby's habitat clearing continues in the Perth area."

Additional reasons for fencing include preserving chunks of the Moore's native remnant bush which included a near pristine Wandoo remnant near Calingiri undisturbed by farm animals. Rachel said "With only 14% of the Victoria Plains Shire remnant vegetation remaining, protecting bush from stock damage is important in retaining the Moore's biodiversity for the future. Trees are good but looking after the understory and ground dwelling plants is also very important for biodiversity." Another project allowed help with fencing a newly revegetated paddock buffer at Beermullah planted out to Carnaby's priority species of Marri, Hakeas and Banksias.

Rachel concluded "I thank all the farmers involved and NACC for providing the funds for MCC to deliver this worthy project."



Fencing a new corridor for Carnabys



Carnaby hen in a nest



Fabulous native remnant vegetation protected



Finalist in the 2014 CSBP Environmental Awards – Western Australian Regional Achievement and Community Awards
 Finalist in the 2015 Fairfax Media Community Group Award Finalists – Western Australian Landcare Awards
 Finalist in the 2015 LandCorp Sustainability Award - Western Australian Regional Achievement and Community Awards
 Semi-Finalist in the 2016 LandCorp Sustainability Award - Western Australian Regional Achievement and Community Awards

The Moore Catchment Council promotes Natural Resource Management in the Moore River Catchment