



Natural Resource Management Update Issue 8 Spring 2007

Moore Catchment Council 19 Dandaragan Road, PO Box 337 Moora WA 6510

Chairman's Report



Hello to the readers of Moore Catchment Council's (MCC) 8th *Moore to the Point* quarterly newsletter.

Staff changes over the last quarter are Melissa Treloar replacing Indi McCulloch as Finance/Administration Officer and Christel Schrank has left us to join the Northern Agricultural Catchments Council (NACC) as a Targeted Investment Program (TIP) Officer, thank you for your efforts. Bronwyn Williams has taken on the role of Project Officer for the Control of Rising Groundwater and Salinity in the Koojan-Gillingarra Region project.

MCC has had the opportunity to get more involved with environmental issues and the shire councils to provide a better service for the monies gratefully received from them. Laurie Rive who thanked the MCC at the AGM on the 31st of August for MCC's input in the implementation of the Mogumber emergency water supply, is one way in which the MCC has been able to assist local communities. We are also lucky to have the support of Moora Department of Agriculture and Food WA, Forrest Products Commission, and others who have donated many items. We must also do more to involve schools, business, service bodies, clubs etc. The environment affects all Australians.

I am looking forward to MCC having an expanded influence in all areas including natural resource management, Local Government and all environmental aspects affecting all Australians in the MCC area.

Geoff Erickson Chairman MCC

Project Dieback

Project Dieback is a cross regional natural resource management (NRM) project which is fighting a serious invasive disease *Phytophthora Dieback*. With assistance from NACC and funding from State and Federal Governments we are mapping dieback disease occurrence in the Northern Agriculture Region for publication in the **Dieback Atlas**.



What is *Phytophthora Dieback* ?

Phytophthora Dieback is a fungal disease which is a major threat to the remnant bushland in the Southwest of WA by killing many of our iconic plant species. It attacks the root systems of susceptible species and starves them to death. At present there is no cure.

How you can help??

We need help locating *Phytophthora Dieback* infections. In this region dieback is likely to occur between Irwin and Gingin, west of the Midland Highway.

- Please tell us about patches of dying vegetation, particularly banksias.
- Take care when going bush – clean your machinery, vehicles and boots BEFORE you leave home. Mud can carry the disease and spread infections into disease free areas.
- Avoid driving or walking through wet areas.

For more information or to report possible sites of infection please contact:

Jenna Brooker, Tel 0417960737

The Dieback Project Officer (NAR)

Email dieback@nacc.com.au



AGM Results:

The Moore Catchment Council AGM was held recently on the 31st of August and there were a few additions and changes to office-bearers and community representatives.

Geoff Erickson has been re-elected as Chair. Laurie Short has been elected as Vice-Chair. Cynthia McMorran was elected as Treasurer. Barry Johnson was elected as Secretary. John Longman was elected as the community representative for Dandaragan, Barry Johnson for Victoria Plains, and Merrel Pond for Moora. Vacancies still exist for Coorow, Dalwallinu and Gingin.

Upcoming MCC meetings:

OGM 26th October 2007, 22nd February 2008, 2nd May, 4th July.

Upcoming NACC meetings:

AGM and Regional Forum-25th September 2007, Geraldton

Moore River Sub-region Strategies and Action Plan



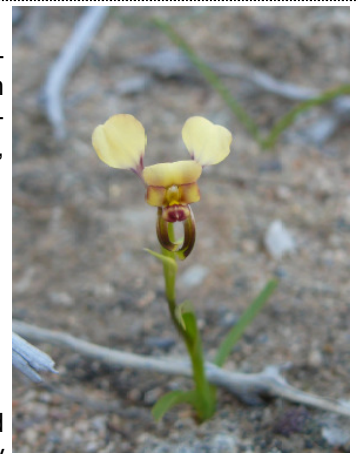
Northern Agriculture Integrated Management Strategy

The Great Moora Orchid Hunt a success!

Over 50 people from around the state converged on Candy's Bush Reserve in the Northern Agricultural Region township of Moora on the first Sunday of August, to track down and identify native orchids. The WA Native Orchid Conservation and Study Group regularly visits Candy's Reserve because it is so prolific with a wide range of native orchids, according to Eddy Wajon, the group's Conservation Officer.

There have been 17 native species of orchids found in this remnant bushland including:

- § Moora Spider Orchid *Caladenia exilis* subsp *vanleeuwenii*
- § Daddy Log Legs Spider Orchid *Caladenia longicauda* subsp *borealis*
- § Cowslip Orchid *Caladenia flava* subsp *flava*
- § Brown-veined Shell Orchid *Pterostylis aspera*



Moore Catchment Council invited Donna Rayner, NACC Biodiversity Support Officer, and Department of Conservation officers Fiona Falconer (Land for Wildlife) and Renee Hartley (Back from the Brink) Project Officer as guest speakers on the day. "We all learnt something from each other today" said Christel Schrank, Natural Resource Management Officer with Moore Catchment Council. The Great Moora Orchid Hunt was one of Christel's last activities before commencing duties as a Targeted Investment Program Officer with NACC.

NACC Regional Forum

On Tuesday, 25th September NACC will be holding a Regional Forum in Geraldton. The Regional Forum will bring together people from across the region, and beyond, to highlight the proactive and achievable actions towards the sustainability of our region, providing an opportunity to landholders, community and industry to learn more about the innovations, research and projects.

Speakers will include Colin Seis from Gulong, NSW on how he's changed his farming practices and increased his profitability by 25%; Rob Youl from the Landcare CarbonSMART office to talk about the first national carbon pool project, and Patrick Smith from the CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems division will demonstrate that we can have production and conserve our biodiversity. The Regional Forum will also include a 'Topical Tables' (concurrent sessions) looking at various topics and projects relevant to the region.

For more information contact Tracy Antrobus on 9964 9774 or Liz Easton on 0427 791 573 or go to www.nacc.com.au to download a registration form.

Upcoming Events...

September:

- ☞ Friday 14th - *Community Information Day - Property Management For Farmers*, Granville Civic Centre, Gingin.
- ☞ Thursday 20th-21st - *Lions Mingenew Expo*.
- ☞ Friday 21st (Fireworks) and 22nd - *Moora Agricultural Show*.
- ☞ Friday 21st - *Moora-Miling Pasture Improvement Group Spring Field Day*, Miling.
- ☞ Tuesday 25th - *NACC AGM and Regional Forum*, Queens Park Theatre, Geraldton.
- ☞ Tuesday 25th - *Half Day to Have Your Say Women's Workshop*, Dalwallinu.
- ☞ Tuesday 25th - *Saltland Pastures Association 10 Year Forum & Dinner*, Narrogin.

October:

- ☞ Thursday 11th - *Wongan Hills Research Station Field Day*.
- ☞ Wednesday 17th - *Badgingarra Research Station Field Day*.
- ☞ Friday 19th-21st - *John Curtin Volunteer Weekend*, old Gillingarra school site, Gillingarra. Contact Rebecca Kelly on 9651 5070.
- ☞ Saturday 20th - *Liebe Group Annual Dinner*, Dalwallinu.

2008:

- ☞ 31st March - 3rd April - *West Australian Natural Resource Management Conference*, Bridgetown.

Moore Catchment Council Team:



Australian Government

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