

# *Annual Report*

**2018 –2019**

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## CHAIR'S MESSAGE

I am extremely proud to be chairman of this group. As a farmer at Miling, I deal daily with the challenges mother nature throws at us and then combine them with a fragile landscape to have a profitable and sustainable agriculture business.

The issues of a drying landscape, salinity, our natural capital and our people are always on my mind while I work the farm. I then look at the work the great people of our Moore Catchment group are doing. Some paid but much of it voluntary. It is done on a shoestring budget with help from many grants and funding sources but the results from our projects are amazing.

*I am extremely proud to be chairman of this group.*

*As a farmer at Miling, I deal daily with the challenges mother nature throws at us and then combine them with a fragile landscape to have a profitable and sustainable agriculture business*

From projects like the Carnaby black cockatoo conservation, to engaging with local school children, to winning awards for the Last Stand project, to conserving our natural capital and to our partnerships with local farmer grower groups the Moore Catchment Council has been working alongside many people to make a better place for us all to live in.

In the future I want our group to be the go to agency for local shire councils for all of their environment works and planning, I want us to continue to be well respected and create long lasting partnerships with the mineral sands miners out west and I want us to be a respected partner to any business or landowner that is in the Moore catchment region. I hope we can develop relationships with land developers close to our Moore rivers mouth and work with the expanding intensive livestock industries that are moving into our region.

Our group values the close connections we have now we are in the DPIRD office in Moora. I thank the many volunteers for their time and contribution to our group and I welcome any new faces in the future.

The hard work and passion that Rachel and Helen provide is invaluable. The time the committee give up is much appreciated.

So keep up the energy and passion and stay open minded to all things relating to our natural capital and have fun doing it.

Tony White  
3rd December 2019



## Key Achievements

The Moore Catchment Council (MCC) is a not-for-profit organisation focussing on the protection and enhancement of the Moore River and its catchment.

MCC has a 24 year history of attracting natural resource management grants and successfully completing projects that improve the Moore River catchment.

This financial year MCC has attract \$154,300 in new grants spread over 3 projects. 3 projects have been successfully completed and acquitted.

### Finalist in the National Landcare Awards

As State winners of the prestigious and much coveted Fairfax Community Landcare Group in 2017, Moore Catchment Council were invited to the National Landcare Conference in October to compete for the National award in Brisbane. MCC staff Helen Watkins and Rachel Walmsley, and MCC Secretary Sarah Mason attended the event to see if MCC could clinch the award from the other worthy finalists. Unfortunately not National winners this time but still very proud of the group for being in the final.

### Outstanding Effort:

- 40,000 native seedlings planted to improve biodiversity in the catchment;
- Directly engaging 814 members of the community to take part in landcare projects;
- 16,588 hours of volunteer labour contributions equating to approximately \$814,150 in-kind support (including \$15,250 from children <18);
- Management (juggling) of 10 projects during the year;
- Lead organisation in planning and running 5 day Last Stand event in Moora 5-9th September;
- Winner Regional NRM Leadership Award 2018 - Outstanding NRM Community Group award Winner.

### Showcase

- National Landcare Conference where MCC staff presented a Poster Presentation;
- Moora Show native plant display and giveaway;
- Showcasing Moora as a successful Carnaby's Black Cockatoo conservation location;
- Shire of Moora 2019 Event of the year Winner for 'The Last Stand'.





Balga country, north of Moora

## 2018-2019 Financial Report

Moore Catchment Council has had a successful year with receiving new grants from Iluka, Lotterywest, Families and Communities Program Volunteer Grants, Membership from Shire Councils within the Catchment, Donations from community, and fee for service.

These grants were enhanced by the State NRM Capability grants which helped with the employment of Staff, allowing MCC to employ a Community Landcare Co-ordinator and a part time Executive Officer. For the full financial report <http://www.moorecatchment.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/20180630-Audit-Report.pdf>

### BREAKDOWN OF 2018-2019 INCOME

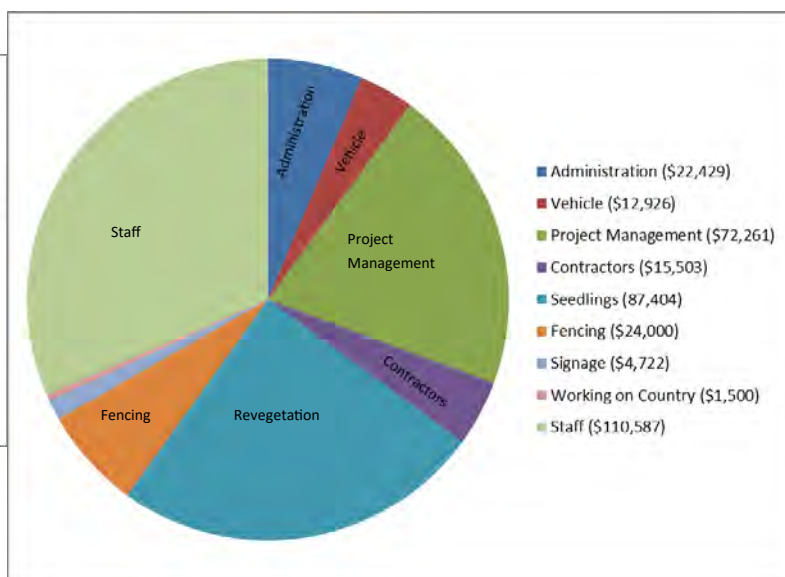
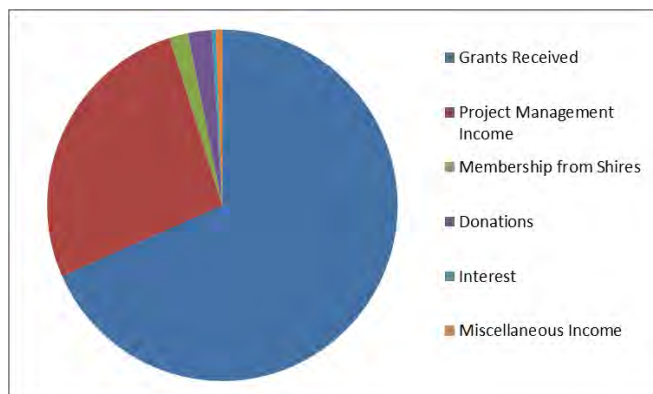
Grants Received	\$ 239,388
Interest	\$ 1,214
Membership from Shires	\$ 6,000
Donations	\$ 7,722
Project Management Income	\$ 93,473
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 2,127
	<u>\$349,924</u>

### BREAKDOWN OF 2018-2019 EXPENDITURE

Administration	\$ 22,429
Vehicle	\$ 12,926
Project Delivery/Management	\$ 72,261
Contractors	\$ 15,503
Revegetation	\$ 87,404
Protection fencing	\$ 24,000
Signage	\$ 4,722
Working on Country team	\$ 1,500
Staff Costs	\$110,587
Total	<u>\$351,332</u>

2018-2019 INCOME

2018-2019 EXPENDITURE







Fix up your creek day

## PROGRAMS

### Carnaby's Black Cockatoos conservation

Carnaby's Black Cockatoo conservation projects funded through State Natural Resource Management Program, National Landcare Program and Iluka – involving planting native species, erecting artificial log nests, camera monitoring of nests, new signage for reserves and towns, school planting and information events, Yued engagement through revegetation and fencing activities, information booklets and videos;

### Conserving Moore Natural Assets

Conserving Moore natural assets funded through State Natural Resource Management Program and National Landcare Program – involving revegetating degraded farm land, fencing creeks and bushland, information events, new signage for reserves, roadside vegetation monitoring, increasing population of rare Eucalypt, Yued engagement through seed collection, revegetation, nature reserve fencing activities, and video interviews with farmers;

### The Last Stand project

THE LAST STAND: a large interactive community environmental awareness raising event held in Moora 5-9th September highlighting the wonders and woes of wheatbelt wildflower country. Organised by Moore Catchment Council and a small group of local community volunteers;

### Improving Capability

Moore community capacity in Landcare project funded through State Natural Resource Management Program – involving liaising and helping Moore community NRM groups function and apply for grants, creating planning tools including a Moore revegetation guide and Shire NRM guide, planning and running events including biodiversity project tours and bush tucker workshops.





Carnaby pair

## CARNABY'S BLACK COCKATOO CONSERVATION

20MTR3-70 - "Carnaby Habitat in the Moore Catchment" funding **\$100,000** Project Total **\$213,700**

A16130 - "Conservation of Carnaby's Black Cockatoo in Moora and Boonanarring" funding **\$55,000** Project Total **\$140,300**

A17122 - "Carnaby's Black Cockatoo conservation in the Moore catchment" funding **\$40,000** Project Total **\$92,446**

Ikuka Resources - "Supporting the Community to Conserve Carnaby's Black Cockatoo Project" funding **\$129,300** Project Total **\$260,003**



**12** land managers planted **18,000** native trees and shrubs which are priority species for Carnaby's forage and breeding habitat. Species included Eucalyptus, Hakeas, Grevilleas, Acacias, Melaleucas and Banksias.

Community planting activities: **1 school** group (Butler) , **1 university** group (John Curtin) and 1 caravanning **community group** engaged to plant at Gillingarra, and **Yued Aboriginal community** engaged to plant natives on a farm near Moora, in partnership with the landholders, Trees4Change, and Gillingarra Sport & Rec.



## Landcare activities making a difference



Wow ! What a difference 7 years make. This lake west of Moora is on its way to be **rehabilitated** from a degraded - flogged-by-sheep-dusty-hell-hole to something a lot more stable and creation of new habitat for native critters. Its taken a change in ownership, different management practices and some **landcare know-how**. In the first photo, the lake was still being used for grazing and so hardly any plants are growing around the edge. It was a **wind blown hell** especially in summer. Change of ownership was around 2014. The present owners destocked and stabilised the adjacent paddock through cropping. They have been working on the **lake fringe rehabilitation** ever since. A bit of planting here and there, then a trial of NyPa grass in 2015, a few more natives poked in then in winter 2018, MCC used funding through the National Landcare Program to rip and mound 2/3 of the lake fringe and **plant 12,000 native trees** and shrubs to stabilise the edge, boost biodiversity, and provide Carnaby habitat (if you look in the lake picture close ups, you can see the rip lines).





Revegetation crew

## CARNABY'S BLACK COCKATOO CONSERVATION

**5 new artificial nesting logs** constructed and located at Gillin-garra Town Reserve. Working in partnership with Kerkhof Carnaby Group, Yued group and Gillingarra Sport & Rec to carry out



Comprehensive **camera monitoring** of artificial nesting logs in Moora. Of the 33 artificial nest logs monitored, 25 produced 1 fledged chick each plus 1 set of twins (below) (**79% success**).



**1 new information booklet** published helping the community in the Gingin Shire find out more about Carnaby's Black cockatoo and what to plant for them on each soil type.

Download here:

<http://www.moorecatchment.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Carnabys-Gingin-shire-info-flyer.pdf>



**2 Carnaby's Black Cockatoo awareness events** including collaboration with Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre to share Carnaby knowledge cross-regional.







## CONSERVING MOORE NATURAL ASSETS

A15006 - "Enhancing Mogumber Town Reserve as a local natural asset" Grant **\$34,815** Project total **\$77,985**

A16055 - "Conserving and enhancing the Moore's natural biodiversity assets Stage 2" Grant **\$55,000** Project Total **\$158,180**

A17079 - "Conserving and enhancing the Moore's natural biodiversity assets Stage 3" Grant **\$45,000** Project Total **\$133,787**

**3** land managers planted **18,000** native trees and shrubs including Eucalypts, Melaleucas, Acacias, Hakeas, Grevilleas, Callothamnus and Atriplex species. **18ha** of degraded farmland rehabilitated. **5** landholders protected **94ha** of native bush and creek lines through installation of stock proof fencing.



**1** nature reserve protected at Koojan through bollard installation installed by **Yued Works crew**.



**1** farmer video interview sharing revegetation planning and planting on the Yadgena Brook with 3 farmers. Link here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bSjkh5EXI9g&t=340s>



**2** Landcare Ladies video documentaries showcasing revegetation projects in Calingiri and Moora

Sarah Mason (Calingiri): [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=63dbjiPAMKw&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=63dbjiPAMKw&feature=emb_logo)

Rachel Walmsley (Moora): [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWEs0AZ2OLU&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWEs0AZ2OLU&feature=emb_logo)



**3** community awareness events held at 2 schools in the Moore region. **1** micro bat education and bat box construction day, and night stalk held at Calingiri Primary school. **2** Aboriginal culture knowledge sharing and bush tucker garden construction at Calingiri and Lancelin Primary schools.







Last Stand displays

## THE LAST STAND

Funding by Lotterywest, Shire of Moora, Donations, Volunteers

Lotterywest - "The Last Stand - a community awareness raising event" Grant **\$7,754** Project total **\$65,254**

People from all over Australia flooded to Moora between the 5th and 9th September to visit The Last Stand, a free environmental awareness event aiming to highlight the wonders and woes of Midwest wheatbelt native vegetation. The Last Stand was the brainchild of a frustrated group of ladies (and lad) living between Calingiri and Carnamah who wanted to do something to show off all the amazing natural assets here in the Midwest but also highlight the threats which are continuing to decimate them including introduced weeds, and roadside clearing. It was decided that something novel and exceptional needed to be organised and 'open eyes' to the natural environment, and so this 5 day event was conceived and organised on a shoestring budget as utmost urgency was needed.

**The Last Stand**  
5th-9th September  
Moora Performing Arts Centre  
Open daily Wed-Sun 10-5pm (Sun 9th 10-3pm)  
Highlighting the wonders & woes of wheatbelt wildflower country  
A free to attend community awareness event

**Program of events**

**Wed 5th Sep**

- The Last Stand Symposium** 10-5pm Speakers and discussion on the Wheatbelt natural environment. More info and registration here: <http://www.moorecatchment.org.au/events/category/upcoming-events/>

**Thurs 6th Sep**

- 11am John Horsfall (Co-author of the book Noongar Bush Medicine) talk on Bush Medicine of the South-west
- All day - Supervised children's creative nature art activities. 3/4hrs sessions starting on the hour with Juanita Farley (DOT teacher).
- 1-2pm Discover local natural assets: Candy's Reserve **Bush walk**

**Friday 7th Sep**

- All day **Spineless Wonders**: interactive invertebrate exhibition for kids and older, which incorporates hands-on activities using live animals and static displays.
- All day - Supervised children's creative nature art activities. 3/4hrs sessions starting on the hour with Juanita Farley (DOT teacher).
- 1-2pm Discover local natural assets: Candy's Reserve **Bush walk**
- 5:30-7:30pm **Sundowner** - Chamber of Commerce

**Saturday 8th Sep**

- All day **Spineless Wonders**: interactive invertebrate exhibition for kids and older, which incorporates hands-on activities using live animals and static displays.
- 11am John Kinsella and friends reciting wheatbelt poetry
- All day - Supervised children's creative nature art activities. 3/4hrs sessions starting on the hour with Juanita Farley (DOT teacher).
- 1-2pm Discover local natural assets: Candy's Reserve **Bush walk**

**Sunday 9th Sep**

- Last chance to view: Close at 2pm
- All day - Supervised children's creative nature art activities. 3/4hrs sessions starting on the hour with Juanita Farley (DOT teacher).

Venue: Moora Performing Arts Centre, Padbury St, Moora  
For more info contact Moora Catchment Council [info@moorecatchment.org.au](mailto:info@moorecatchment.org.au) or 9553 1355



The event included a symposium on the 5th which attracted 70 people from around the State who came to listen to a plethora of excellent environmental speakers including former Premier and current Conservation Council Chair Carmen Lawrence. The message coming from the talks was clear and unified – we need to conserve our natural environment now or lose it forever. For the remaining 4 days, The Last Stand played host to over 300 members of the public who visited the event to look at the extensive information displays and art, get up close to native bugs, admire and create bush art, claim free native trees and shrubs, add thoughts to the 'Tree of Life' and learn about bush medicine. The event was a huge success and helped open eyes to the real lack of remnant vegetation left and continuing decline in native biodiversity.





Photo: R Kelly

Last Stand Symposium

## THE LAST STAND <http://www.moorecatchment.org.au/tslr-sermon/the-last-stand/>

Feedback was overwhelming positive and plans are being made to hold The Last Stand again in September 2020, as the event served as a good drawcard to attract visitors to Moora as well as educating about local environmental wonders and woes.



### The Last Stand

5th-9th September  
Moora Performing Arts Centre  
Open daily Wed-Sun 10-5pm (Sun 9th 10-2pm)  
*Highlighting the wonders & woes of wheatbelt wildflower country.*  
*A free to attend community awareness event*

**The Last Stand Symposium Wednesday 5th September**

- Carmen Lawrence (Conservation Council) "Why should we bother about the bush in the wheatbelt?"
- Tony Hughes-d'Aeth (UWA) "The Wheatbelt: A Literary History of Environmental Change"
- Malcolm French "Preserving the Farm Asset Value"
- Eddy Wajon (Wildflower Society) "Watching our Wheatbelt Wildflower Wonders - Will We Win or Weep?"
- Yued community "Yued Boadja"
- Paul Barbor (Arbor carbon) "Wheatbelt rail reserve management"

- Adam Peck - (Birdlife) "Will our Carnaby's survive in the wheatbelt?"
- Rob Boase (Landcare volunteer winner 2017) "Our Biodiversity Crisis"
- Aaron Gove (Astron) "Agroforestry to Support Wheatbelt Biodiversity"
- Jenny Borger (Wheatbelt flora advisor) "The unique vegetation complexes on rocky hills in the wheatbelt: description, management and restoration"
- Declan Doherty (Environmental Defenders Office) "What's wrong with the environmental laws?"



Photo: E Wajon

The event couldn't have happened without the input from the volunteer committee – seen here top l-r: Alison Doley, Pam Toster, Fiona Falconer, Lyn Phillips, Peter Wittwer.  
Bottom l-r: Paulina Wittwer, Sarah Mason, Marie Carter and MCC's Rachel Walmsley.

**Sponsors**



The Last Stand has been organised by the  
**Moore Catchment Council**  
and several local volunteer Landcarers



This event could not have happened without the contributions (cash, time, information, materials, ideas) from the volunteer organising committee and the in-kind contributions from all the speakers at the Symposium and other days. Thank you all!

THANKS

The Last Stand committee thank the following for their cash and in-kind contributions which allowed the event to run



Cash help towards display board hire, materials & speakers



In kind support with venue hire



Cash help towards displays, speakers, catering, and seedlings



Equipment and promotion

Extra note: Alison Doley, a long time supporter of the Moore Catchment Council and co-organiser of The Last Stand, passed away on 20th February 2019.

Alison was particularly passionate about the demise of roadside native vegetation especially the Buntine-Marchagee road which she has been monitoring for years and kept notes of native species that had disappeared and weeds which had taken over. We are all thankful for Alison's efforts in Landcare. RIP





## IMPROVING CAPABILITY

CCGL15456 - "Improving natural resource management capability in the Moore River Catchment"

Grant **\$210,000** Project Total **\$520,695**

This grant has increased MCC's ability to improve NRM capability in the catchment by employing **2 staff** members - a Community Landcare Coordinator and an Executive Officer, and maintaining an office in Moora to run the group. **6 MCC committee meetings** were held to help direct activities. MCC staff communicated its work through e-newsletters, social media articles, newspapers, annual report, a display and native plant giveaway at the Moora show, and attending community and one-to-one meetings.



### 1 new native revegetation

**booklet** produced. Link here:

<http://www.moorecatchment.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Moore-revegetation-guide.pdf>



### 1 Planting tips event and 2

**biodiversity tour events** to

inspire and help the community plan their own native revegetation projects.



This project enabled MCC staff to **attend meetings** of stakeholders and NRM community groups in the catchment to **offer advice or plan projects**, and also attend **knowledge gaining and networking** events to help increase capability of group. Groups engaged included Kerkhof Carnaby Group, Gillingarra LCDC, Moora-Miling Pasture Improvement Group, Guilderton Community Association, WA Landcare Network, Gingin Water Group, Central Midlands High School, Primary schools, Community Resource Centres, Yued community, Gunduwa RCA and Last Stand event planning committee.

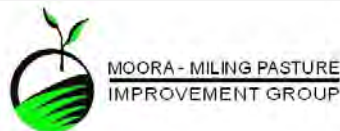




## Supporters of Moore Catchment Council



natural resource  
management program



Birdlife Australia

Carrah Wildflower Walks

Chittering Landcare

Cookies for Landcare

Des & Catherine Mills

Fiona Falconer

Friends of Moore River Estuary

Friends of the Moora Woodland

Greenoil Nursery

Guilderton Community Association

Jenny Borger

Kerkhof Carnaby Group

Ledge Point Coastcare

Lower Coastal Group

Muchea Nursery

West Koojan-Gillingarra LCDC

Yarra Yarra Catchment Management  
Group

Yued Group

Thank you to all the Members, Supporters,  
Volunteers and Funding Partners of the Moore  
Catchment Council without such support the  
Moore Catchment Council would not exist.  
A special thanks to all those volunteers who  
helped organise or presented at The Last Stand  
2018.

Photos in this publication taken by Rachel  
Walmsley unless otherwise indicated.

Annual Report adopted at the Annual General  
Meeting 11th December 2019