



2017-18 ANNUAL REPORT



CONTENTS

1	CHAIR’S MESSAGE
3	2017-18 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS
5	2017-18 FINANCIAL REPORT
7	NATURE CONSERVATION’S VISION AND MISSION
9	NATURE CONSERVATION’S PROGRAMS
10	GIANT LIGHT STEPS
11	PEOPLE FOR NATURE
12	SCHOOLS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
13	CONSERVE THE MARGARET RIVER
14	COORDINATED WEED CONTROL
15	MANAGING BUSHLAND FOR WILDLIFE
16	THREATENED SPECIES PROTECTION
17	CARING FOR COAST
19	NATURE CONSERVATION SUPPORTERS
20	NATURE CONSERVATION BOARD AND STAFF
21	CONTACT US

In welcoming you to Nature Conservation’s 2017-18 Annual Report, I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the country in which we work, the Wadandi and Pibelman people, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.



CHAIR’S MESSAGE

During 2017-18 the Nature Conservation Board and staff have once again worked hard to achieve success towards our vision of maintaining a healthy and biodiverse natural environment in the Margaret River region- a special environment on which the livelihoods and lifestyles of our community depend. It is my intent here to reflect briefly on some of our achievements and provide a hint of what we have planned for the year ahead.

A key focus this year has been to develop effective collaboration with key community sectors and groups. This report identifies the wide range of groups with which we now engage, and the many forms of engagement that are creating strong, enduring partnerships. An outstanding initiative is the formation of Giant Light Steps, an alliance of groups representing major community sectors that have committed to lighten their own specific impacts on our regional ‘landscape’ and work collaboratively to address ‘landscape-wide’ issues.

Caroline Hughes and our committed team of highly experienced project officers have extended our core conservation programs, as detailed throughout this report. We are achieving an exciting level of community engagement through community events, citizen science participation, landowner partnerships and collaboration with State government agencies, universities and community groups. Our primary school programs led by Tracey Muir continue to model how diverse resourcing at the local community level can sustain our programs.

Although of lesser interest to readers, maintaining the ‘machine’ of management and administration is what enables Nature Conservation’s ‘on ground’ achievements. I have the privilege of chairing an extraordinarily capable voluntary Board that is providing the sound governance and strong strategic leadership needed to achieve our ambitious objectives.

Making operational ends meet is a thankless task for every not-for-profit group. We receive no base support from the State or Commonwealth governments. In transitioning from a traditional catchment group to Nature Conservation our organisation has recognised that we must break out of dependency on government grants, which traps community groups

into delivering stop-start projects funded at the ever-changing whim of government priorities. The limitations of grant-funded achievement were more apparent than ever in the past year at all levels of government. The alternative is to develop strong support and robust partnerships within the wider community while still taking every opportunity to win grants.

I wish to acknowledge here the Augusta-Margaret River Shire for its ongoing commitment to supporting Nature Conservation’s capacity through an annual contribution to our administration overheads. A significant, increasing number of individuals and businesses are supporting our work through donations and fund-raising opportunities.

Looking to the year ahead, three areas of special focus will be to:

- Make good on long-held aspirations to integrate indigenous values, knowledge and participation in all aspects of what we are and what we do;
- Consolidate and grow Giant Light Steps to realise the potential of this game-changing initiative;
- Foster a community-embraced understanding of what it is that makes this region special, as a basis for rallying the commitment of the energy and resourcing needed if we are to indeed pass on to future generations an enhanced rather than an impoverished natural legacy.

DR BOYD WYKES
CHAIR BOARD OF MANAGEMENT



Nature Conservation Margaret River Region is proud to report on the following key achievements against its organisational objectives during the 2017-18 financial year.



2017-18 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Nature Conservation Margaret River Region is proud to report on the following key achievements against its organisational objectives during the 2017-18 financial year. More details of key achievement in each of Nature Conservation's three engagement and five conservation programs is provided in the program pages of our 2017-18 Annual Report.

- Final changes were made to the Nature Conservation Rules of Association to meet government requirements and in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015*.
- A Draft Strategic Plan 2018-2021 was completed setting out the Nature Conservation's strategic direction for the next three years.
- A Nature Conservation Community Survey which received over 400 responses, provides a better understanding of what people think about the natural environment and how they would like to contribute to conservation. The results are now available and will shape our community engagement programs.
- Strategic partnership with key organisations within the Margaret River community were consolidated through the signing and review of Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) aimed at increasing business and community action and commitment to nature conservation in the region.
- Nature Conservation led formation of Giant Light Steps, a conservation stewardship alliance bringing together community, government and local industry to lead cultural change and drive concerted action to better manage the threats to our environment. The Foundation members of the alliance include Nature Conservation, Augusta Margaret River Shire, Margaret River Busselton Tourism Association, Margaret River Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Transition Margaret River and South West Catchments Council.
- A stronger role for local business in environmental management was fostered through a continued partnership with the Margaret River Chamber of Commerce and Industry. This partnership included Nature Conservation once again presenting the Environment Excellence Award in the 2017 Telstra Margaret River Business Margaret River Awards, co-hosting a Chamber Member Environmental Sundowner as well as developing fundraising partnerships with local businesses and organisations.
- A partnership was formed with the Margaret River Wine Association for the 50th Anniversary of Margaret River Wine Community Fair resulting in significant event fundraising to support nature conservation in the region.
- A partnership with the Shire of Augusta Margaret River aimed at protecting the long term ecological health of the Margaret River led to formation of the Margaret River Collaborative Management Group and commencement of the preparation of a Margaret River Protection Strategy.
- Profile raising of 'nature conservation' as a key community responsibility was undertaken through newsletters, social media, website enhancement, community events and strengthening of our engagement programs.



2017-18 FINANCIAL REPORT

Nature Conservation continues to source the majority of its program funding from a range of local, state and federal government grants programs, however increasing support from the Margaret River community is assisting to meet the organisations administrative and program needs.

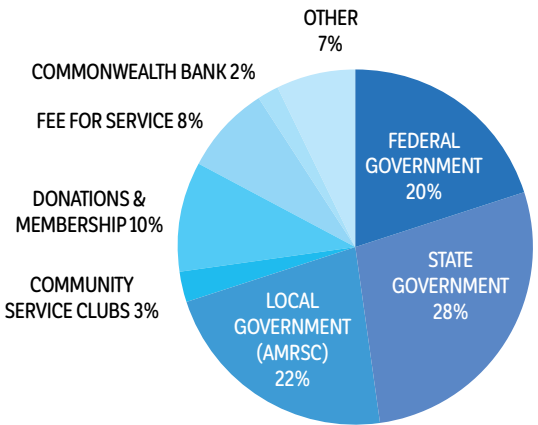


The Margaret River community provided significant contributions to Nature Conservation’s administrative costs during 2017-18. Increased support from the Augusta Margaret River Shire, significant fundraising contributions from the Margaret River Wine Association and continued community support through membership fees, donations, and fundraising were fundamental to meeting the organisation’s administrative needs.

Program funding continues to be sourced from a range of local, state and federal government grants programs. Additional financial contributions from the Rotary Club of Margaret River, Cowaramup Lions Club, Cullen Wines, participating ‘Our Patch’ schools, a private donor and the Commonwealth Bank supported the ‘Our Patch’ Environmental Education Program during 2017-18 whilst the Shire of Augusta Margaret River, Water Corporation, Main Roads Department and local landowners made a significant contribution to weed and feral animal control programs.

2017-18 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

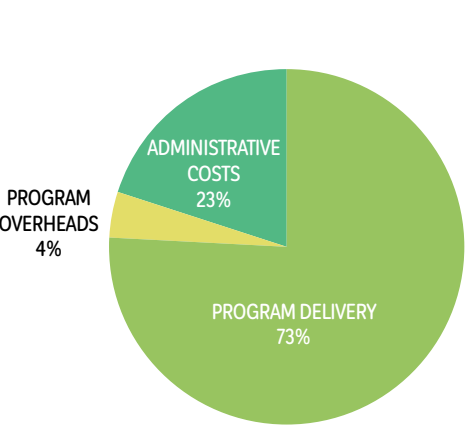
INCOME \$471,295



BREAKDOWN OF 2017-18 INCOME

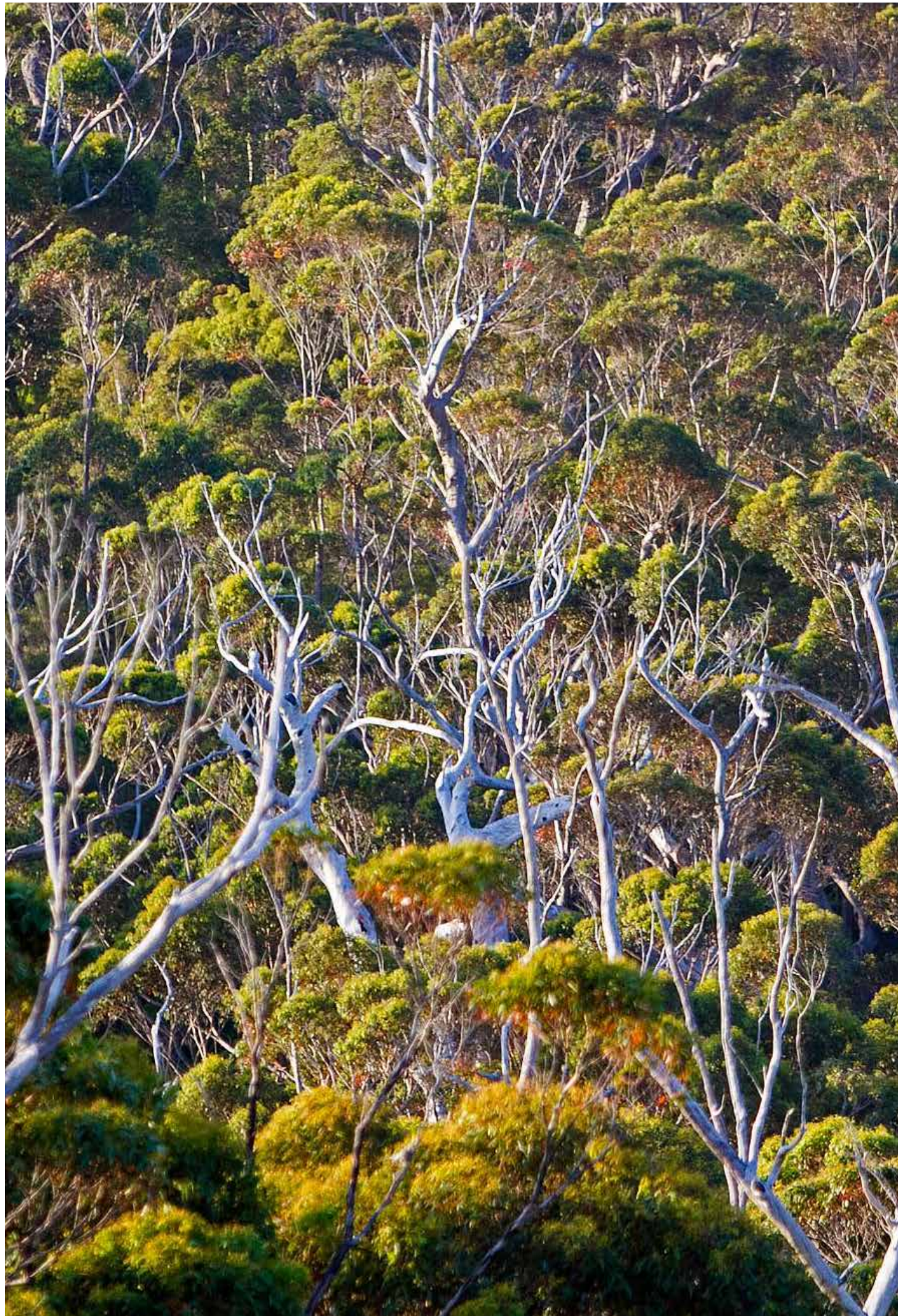
Membership Fees	\$1,432
Donations and Fundraising	\$47,110
Augusta Margaret River Shire	\$103,197
Rotary and Lions Clubs	\$14,000
State NRM Program	\$120,715
National Landcare Program via South West Catchments Council	\$91,403
Coastwest Grants Program	\$12,757
Commbank Centenary Grants	\$10,000
Water Corporation	\$8,000
Landholder Contribution	\$18,983
Main Roads	\$4,550
Fee For Service Contracts	\$35,871
Miscellaneous Income	\$2,046
Interest Income	\$1,232
TOTAL INCOME	\$471,295

EXPENDITURE \$467,747



BREAKDOWN OF 2017-18 EXPENDITURE

Administrative costs (salaries and oncosts)	\$78,134
Administrative costs (office expenses)	\$23,451
Administrative costs (vehicle expenses)	\$9,348
Program delivery (salaries and oncosts)	\$134,033
Program delivery (expenses)	\$204,964
Program overheads (program management, accounting)	\$17,817
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$467,747



Nature Conservation's reinvigorated vision, mission and conservation programs aim to inspire community support and a strong conservation culture in our region.

NATURE CONSERVATION'S VISION AND MISSION

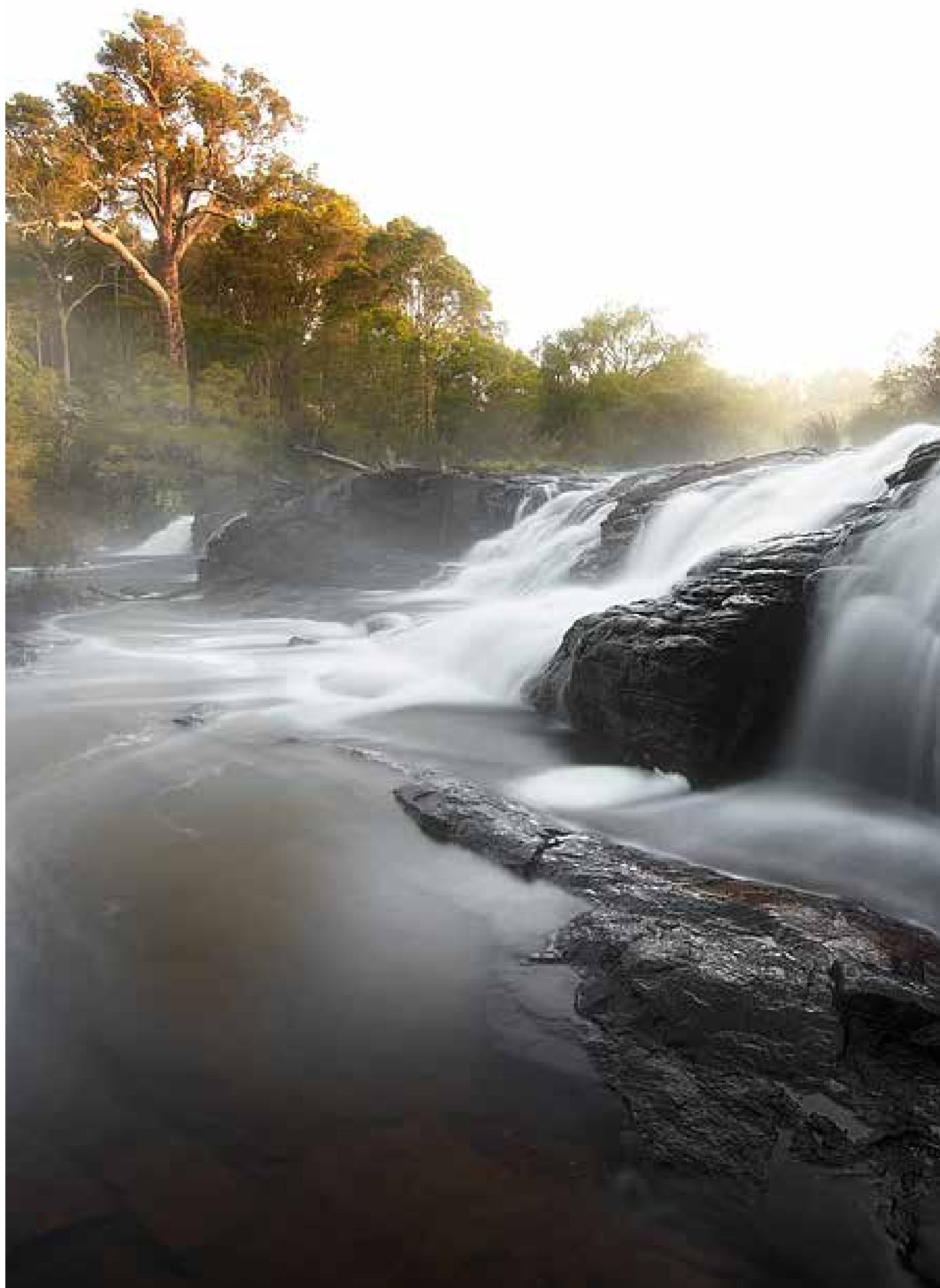
Nature Conservation's VISION for the Margaret River region is

A healthy and biodiverse natural environment supporting the livelihoods and lifestyles on which our community depends.

To achieve this vision Nature Conservation's MISSION is:

As the PREMIER nature conservation group, work with our community to protect and enhance the natural environment of the Margaret River region.





Our conservation programs are aimed at making the biggest difference to the key environmental challenges facing the Margaret River region, whilst helping to excite people's imagination and showing results on the ground.

NATURE CONSERVATION'S PROGRAMS

Inspiring a conservation culture

Nature Conservation aims to inspire and encourage a strong community conservation culture that values, supports and engages in nature conservation. Our engagement programs work at various levels within the community targeting a variety of community audiences and aiming to increase whole of community support for protection of the environment in the Margaret River region.

NATURE CONSERVATION'S ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

Giant Light Steps

Championing environmental stewardship with key community stakeholders as a core economic and lifestyle responsibility.

People for Nature

Inspiring community participation in environmental stewardship.

Schools environmental education

Developing ecological awareness and connecting young people to nature

Addressing the key challenges of the region

Nature Conservation's aim for the Margaret River region is to maintain a range of natural terrestrial, aquatic and coastal ecosystems that are healthy and resilient. Our conservation programs are aimed at making the biggest difference to the key environmental challenges facing the Margaret River region, whilst helping to excite people's imagination and showing results on the ground.

NATURE CONSERVATION'S CONSERVATION PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

Conserve the Margaret River

Protecting the unique values of the Margaret River

Coordinated weed control

Controlling environmental weeds to protect biodiversity

Managing bushland for wildlife

Building habitat resilience and linkages for fauna

Threatened species protection

Protecting wildlife at risk in the region

Caring for coast

Supporting community efforts to protect coastal ecosystems



Nature Conservation initiated Giant Light Steps, a conservation stewardship alliance bringing together community, government and local industry to lead cultural change and drive concerted action to better manage the threats to our environment.

GIANT LIGHT STEPS

During 2017-18 Nature Conservation led the formation of a conservation stewardship alliance known as Giant Light Steps (GLS). The alliance supported and chaired by Nature Conservation brings together community, local government and local industry to lead a cultural change and drive concerted action to better manage the threats to our environment. Through GLS our economic and community sectors will commit to lightening their own specific impacts or footprints to address landscape wide issues.

By June 2018, Nature Conservation, Shire of Augusta Margaret River, Margaret River Busselton Tourism Association, Margaret River Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Transition Margaret River, and the South West Catchments Council had agreed to become foundation members of the GLS alliance. As the alliance gets some runs on the board it is anticipated that additional organizations will join to harness collective energy and influence for the region's environment. Nature Conservation also prepared a draft GLS charter for consideration by foundation members with the view to kicking off the GLS with an agreed vision and objectives in the new financial year.

Funding Contributions 2017-18

	Amount
South West Catchments Council Grant	\$8,000 over two years 2017- 2019
Giant Light Steps Members	\$8,000 over two years 2017- 2019



Nature Conservation supported over 130 local volunteers and 5 local Friends of Reserve Groups undertaking on ground rehabilitation and citizen science activities in the region.

PEOPLE FOR NATURE

Nature Conservation conducted the Nature Conservation Community Survey in early 2018 receiving over 400 responses. The survey aimed to better understand what people think about the natural environment and how they would like to contribute to conservation. The results of the survey are now available and will shape our community engagement programs.

Nature Conservation maintained a registry of 130 Nature Conservation Volunteers and alerted volunteers to on ground rehabilitation and citizen science volunteer opportunities coordinated by Nature Conservation and other organisations throughout the year.

Nature Conservation continued to support Friends of Reserves Groups through funding from the Augusta Margaret River Shire's Environmental Management Fund. Support was provided to 5 established groups caring for the A Class Reserve, Barrett Street Reserve, Riverslea Reserve, Gracetown Foreshore and a section of the Wadandi Track in Cowaramup. A total of 15 on ground workdays were achieved with the 5 groups engaging 130 volunteers and completing 324 volunteer hours. A Friends of Reserves Forum was conducted in May 2018 in partnership with the Augusta Margaret River Shire. The Forum brought together a wider group of representatives from 12 Friends of Reserve groups to showcase their reserves, their work and provide an opportunity to network, share information and learn from each other.

In September 2017 Nature Conservation delivered its annual Margaret River Bioblitz at the Barrett Street Weir on the banks of the Margaret River. The School's Bioblitz Day catered for around 200 Year 3 students providing a half day of environmental activities in partnership with local scientists. The Community Bioblitz Day attracted 79 community members for a series of fauna trapping, bird watching, native fish and crustaceans, wildflower and indigenous activities. Nocturnal spotlighting and a chat with scientists about biodiversity of the region was also included in the event.

Funding Contributions 2017-18

	Amount
Augusta Margaret River Shire Council's Environmental Management Fund – Support to Friends of Reserves	\$17,468
South West Catchments Council - Community Capacity and Engagement Grant	\$1,000



Nature Conservation continued to foster the region’s future environmental stewards through its ‘Our Patch’ Environmental Education and ‘Adopt a Spot’ Programs engaging more than 500 students in 8 local primary schools across the region.

SCHOOLS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Nature Conservation’s ‘Our Patch’ Environmental Education Program has had another successful year delivering a coordinated environmental education program across local primary schools. 2017-18 began with 7 schools participating in the program. The new Rapids Landing Primary School coming on board in January 2018 brought the total to 8 schools and over 500 students. ‘Our Patch’ aims to increasing ecological awareness and understanding through real life experiences in the environment.

During 2017-18 ‘Our Patch’s’ learning modules worked with Year 3 students on wetland ecosystems and native fauna species and Year 6 students on catchment values and threats. The program delivered 66 classroom incursions, 52 field excursions, an ‘Our Patch’ Movie Matinee showcasing videos prepared by students documenting their catchment tours and a Schools Bioblitz Day. The ‘Our Patch’ Program was also promoted through 12 media releases and 20 Facebook posts showcasing student learning.

Complementary to ‘Our Patch’ Nature Conservation has conducted a second year of the successful “Adopt a Spot” Program rehabilitation activities for all Year 4 students across the 8 schools. Funded by the State NRM Program ‘Adopt a Spot’ aims to establish long term links between schools and local bushland, foreshore or coastal areas. Connected with volunteer groups, schools will care long term for their ‘adopted spot’ contributing to restoration and environmental management of these sites. During the 2017-18 the ‘Adopt a Spot’ program delivered 16 field excursions with 3570 native seedlings planted by students assisted by 59 local community volunteers.

Funding Contributions 2017-18		Amount
Rotary Club of Margaret River		\$10,000
Cowaramup Lions Club		\$4,000
Augusta Margaret River Shire Council’s Environmental Management Fund		\$10,000
Participating Schools		\$13,000
Cullen Wines		\$5,000
Private Donation		\$5,000
Commbank Centenary Grant		\$12,000
State NRM Community Action Grants – Adopt a Spot Program		\$30,660 over 18 mths 2017-2018



CONSERVE THE MARGARET RIVER

During 2017-18 Nature Conservation partnered with the Shire of Augusta Margaret River to take a closer strategic look at the future of the Margaret River. A Margaret River Collaborative Management Group was formed bringing together State, local and community organisations to increase communication, information sharing and collaboration. Nature Conservation was also tasked with preparing a Margaret River Protection Strategy on behalf of the Group to provide a blueprint for future management. A Draft Strategy is to be released to the community for comment early in the new financial year.

The year’s more strategic approach to river management also included Nature Conservation completing the Lower Margaret River Foreshore Action Plan on behalf of the Shire of Augusta Margaret River. The Action Plan details the condition of the foreshores of the lower reaches of the Margaret River from town to coast and provides guidance on management required to maintain the ecological health of foreshore ecosystems.

In parallel Nature Conservation’s on ground programs have continued with the completion of a three year project strategic groundworks program funded by the National Landcare Program through the South West Catchments Council. The project delivered significant work to build resilience in the riverine environment including a three year weed control program across 10 hectares of foreshore, planting of 5890 native seedlings at 8 sites and 9 community awareness and collaborative management events.



Nature Conservation consolidated its strategic approach to conserving the Margaret River, collaborating with key partners to determine actions to protect the long term ecological health of the river system.

Funding Contributions 2017-18		Amount
SWCC Strategic Groundworks Grant - Building resilience in the Margaret River		\$175,000 over 3 years 2015-18
Augusta Margaret River Shire Fee for Service contract		\$35,200



Nature Conservation is ramping up a campaign to get on top of arum lily infestations in the Margaret River region and has collaborated with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions to prepare a 10 year management plan.

COORDINATED WEED CONTROL

Nature Conservation completed 10 management plans for priority environmental weed species in December 2017 with the support of funding from the State NRM Program. The plans now complement the Capes Regional Environmental Weed Strategy developed in 2015 and guide coordinated weed control in the region. Nature Conservation continued to facilitate the Capes Regional Environmental Weed Management Group (CREWG) on a bimonthly basis to assist with coordinating priority control and community awareness raising activities across organisations and tenures.

2017-18 weed control programs were once again achieved through a shared funding arrangement involving grant funding from the State NRM Program and contributions from the Augusta Margaret River Shire, Water Corporation, Department of Main Roads and landowners. Programs focused on blackberry throughout the Margaret River foreshore reserve and adjacent private properties, pittosporum and African feather grass control in foreshore reserves and strategic arum lily control in Burnside, Kilcarnup, Margaret River, Redgate and Calgardup.

During 2017-18 Nature Conservation received support from the Hon Stephen Dawson MLC, Minister for Environment, to ramp up its focus on arum lily in the Margaret River region. Staff collaborated with the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attraction (DBCA) to prepare a coordinated management plan to control arum lily over the next 10 years. The draft management plan is nearing completion and establishes priorities for mapping and control as well as a coordinated communication strategy to foster involvement of the community. Nature Conservation has applied for funding to implementation the plan from the current round of State NRM Community Stewardship Grants.

Funding Contributions 2017-18		Amount
State NRM Community Action Grant		\$48,490 over 18 mths 2017-2018
State NRM Capability Grant – Enhancing NRM Outcomes in the Margaret River		\$49,835 over 3 years 2015-2018
Landowner contributions (50% cost share basis)		\$18,983
Water Corporation contribution to foreshore weed control		\$8,000
Augusta Margaret River Shire contribution to foreshore weed control		\$15,000
Main Roads Department contribution to weed control		\$4,550



Nature Conservation coordinated two rounds of fox baiting and monitoring across 860 ha of bushland and two landowner events in a long term strategic program to bring native wildlife back to high conservation value properties.

MANAGING BUSHLAND FOR WILDLIFE

During 2017-18 Nature Conservation engaged landowners on a number of high conservation value properties in the Cowaramup area in a program of monitoring and feral animal control. The focus is to establish a tenure blind, landscape scale approach to feral animal control with the aim of bringing back native wildlife to high conservation value bushland areas in the Margaret River region. A number of properties involved have Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) Conservation Covenants and are registered as Land for Wildlife properties with landowners keen to protect wildlife values.

During the year, two rounds of fox baiting across eight private properties was achieved with complementary baiting by DBCA in adjacent National Park blocks. Baiting was achieved through a 50% cost sharing arrangement with landowners and with in kind assistance from DBCA Blackwood District staff. In parallel monitoring using 20 motion cameras was conducted across a wider area of 860 ha to better understand populations of both feral and native wildlife. Monitoring revealed that there are healthy fox and feral cat populations across the area but also a wide range of native wildlife. Results of the program were delivered to landowners at two events during the year,

This work is now set to continue with Nature Conservation recently securing a 12 month National Landcare Program Small Environment Grant. Two further rounds of fox baiting will be undertaken and staff will aim to engage a greater number of landowners across the full 860 ha of high conservation bushland. The monitoring program will be refined to provide data on conservation outcomes and landowners will be assisted with other conservation issues on their properties.

Funding Contributions 2017-18		Amount
SWCC National Landcare Program Funding - Refugia and Linkages in the Capes Region		\$30,000



PHOTO BY KEITH LIGHTBODY



Nature Conservation strengthened citizen science programs to help better understand populations and guide conservation action to protect species most at risk in the Margaret River region.

THREATENED SPECIES PROTECTION

Conservation action to protect the critically endangered Margaret River Hairy Marron continued in partnership with the Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development (DPIRD). Four volunteer fish out events to remove smooth marron from the critical habitat of the hairy marron in the upper Margaret River were coordinated. A Hairy Marron Recovery Team decision in December 2017 has now shifted the conservation focus to the establishment of an insurance population (ark site) for the species and Nature Conservation is yet to determine its involvement.

Nature Conservation continued to deliver its Western Ringtail Possum Conservation Program in partnership with the Augusta Margaret River Shire Council. Citizen science survey training was undertaken in November 2017 and May 2018 and a methodology for surveying across 10 transects on the Wadandi Track developed. The Spring Possum Tally was conducted in September 2017 in conjunction with GeoCatch providing valuable information on ringtail populations across the region. Community awareness raising activities continued including the publication of a Western Ringtail Possum Landowner Guide and a Guide to Western Ringtail Possum Spotlighting. Community possum night stalks were also conducted as part of the Margaret River Bioblitz 2017 and again in April 2018.

Nature Conservation increased its focus on black forest cockatoo conservation through a partnership program with the Shire of Augusta Margaret River and the Capes Bird Group during 2017-18. A steering committee was established, and a Black Cockatoo Coordinator engaged to coordinate local participation in the Great Cocky Count in April 2018. 58 local volunteers participated in the 2018 Great Cocky Count counting cockatoos at 36 roost sites.

During 2017-18 Nature Conservation Board members Dr Boyd Wykes and Steve Castan initiated field investigations to locate local populations of the little known South West Masked Owl. Following a presentation by Edith Cowan University researcher, Dr Mike Lohr Nature Conservation also initiated a community call to action to reduce the use of second generation rat poisons to prevent severe impacts on owl populations and other native fauna in the region.

Funding Contributions 2016-17	Amount
State NRM Capability Grant – Enhancing NRM Outcomes in the Margaret River	\$47,158 over 3 years 2015-2018
Augusta Margaret River Shire’s Environmental Management Fund – Western Ringtail Possum Conservation	\$21,348
Augusta Margaret River Shire’s Environmental Management Fund – Black Cockatoo Conservation	\$5,000



Nature Conservation once again partnered with the Augusta Margaret River Shire and local volunteers to achieve significant coastal rehabilitation outcomes on the coastal strip at Gnarabup/Prevelly.

CARING FOR COAST

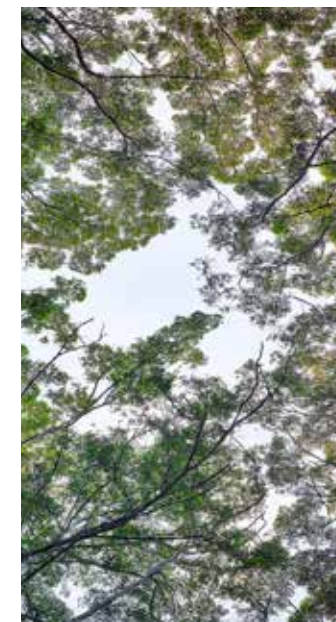
Significant coastal rehabilitation was achieved during 2017-18 on the coastal strip at Gnarabup/Prevelly through a continuing partnership between Nature Conservation, Augusta Margaret River Shire and Margaret River Coastal Residents Association volunteers. Coastwest grant funding supported volunteers, controlled pyp grass infestations and enabled erosion control activities to protect the fragile coastal ecosystem between the Margaret River mouth at Prevelly and Gas Bay south of Gnarabup.

Over the year volunteers undertook manual weed control targeting onion weed, sea spurge, purple groundsel and yellow pigface, brushing to control erosion at four sites and significant transplantation of pigface throughout the dunes. A total of 302 volunteer hours were undertaken by the dedicated Margaret River Coastal Residents Association volunteers working weekly on Thursday mornings. One community brushing session was also held at the Rivermouth with 25 adults and loads of children contributing to brushing activities.

Two rounds of commercial pyp grass control on the dunes between Gnarabup and the Rivermouth were achieved through the year. This invasive weed dominated many parts of the dunes following the November 2011 Margaret River fires. A coordinated program of control over the past six years has reduced the problem to a level that is now manageable by Shire annual weed control programs. A temporary access fence for the summer months and 55m of access fencing at the Gnarabup lookout were also installed.

In partnership with the South West Catchments Council Nature Conservation continued to collaborate with local friends groups at Redgate Beach and Gracetown assisting with beach cleanups and volunteer rehabilitation activities.

Funding Contributions 2016-17	Amount
Coastwest Grants Program – On ground action in the Gnarabup/Prevelly Coastal Environment	\$14,175



Nature Conservation seeks to leverage the strength of the community to protect the environment of the Margaret River region. It does this by developing robust strategic partnerships and nurturing support from all sectors of the community.

NATURE CONSERVATION SUPPORTERS

During 2017-18 Nature Conservation received funding and support from a range of grant programs, organisations, businesses and individuals. We wish to thank all those who partnered with and supported Nature Conservation to achieve a year of extraordinary collaboration focusing conversing the values of our Margaret River region.

Strategic Partners

Augusta Margaret River Shire Council
 South West Catchments Council
 Margaret River Busselton Tourism Association
 Margaret River Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Margaret River Wine Association
 Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
 Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
 Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
 Gondwana Link
 Murdoch University Freshwater Fish Group and Fish Health Unit
 Edith Cowan University
 Lower Blackwood Land Conservation District Committee
 Geographe Catchments Council
 Birdlife WA and Cape to Cape Bird Group

Community and Business Supporters

Nature Conservation Members and Donors	Brewhouse Margaret River
Nature Conservation Volunteers	Commonwealth Bank
Friends of Reserves	Busselton Possum Centre
Rotary Club of Margaret River	Settlers Tavern
Cowaramup Lions Club	Margaret River Distilling Company
'Our Patch' Participating Schools	Proactive Taxation Solutions
Voyager Estate	The Larder, Margaret River
Cape Mentelle Wines	Sustainable Settlements Pty Ltd
Cullen Wines	Grape Escape SW Tours
Hairy Marron Café	

Grant Programs

Shire of Augusta Margaret River's Environmental Management Fund
 State Natural Resource Management Program
 Federal Government National Landcare Program

A special thank you also to Christian Fletcher for use of a number of his stunning photographs of the Margaret River region in this document and on www.natureconservation.org.au.



NATURE CONSERVATION BOARD



Dr Boyd Wykes
CHAIR



Stuart Hicks AO
DEPUTY CHAIR



John McKinney
SECRETARY



Margaret Moir
TREASURER



Carmen Lawrence



Steve Harrison



Steve Castan

NATURE CONSERVATION STAFF

Part time personnel during 2017-18 equated to 2.7 full time personnel and included:

Caroline Hughes	Executive Officer, Strategic Partnerships and Projects
Fran Dohring	Administration and Finance
Genevieve Hanran-Smith	Coordinated Weed Control and Margaret River Protection
Drew McKenzie	Biodiversity Protection and Volunteer Support
Lyndsey Cox	Research, Citizen Science and Threatened Species Protection
Chiara Danese	Landowner Engagement, Managing Bushland for Wildlife
Tracey Muir	Schools Environmental Education
Sacha Papalia	Giant Light Steps
Shapelle McNee	Black Cockatoo Citizen Science



JOIN WITH NATURE CONSERVATION

We need your help to protect the unique and special natural environment of the Margaret River region.
Visit our website www.natureconservation.org.au to find out how you can help.

- DONATE**

Make a 100% tax deductible donation to help protect nature in the Margaret River region.
- BECOME A MEMBER**

Nature Conservation membership started on 1 July 2018 so join now.
A strong membership base helps us demonstrate our level of community support.
- SUBSCRIBE**

to our Nature Conservation Newsletter and receive email updates on our work and invitations to events.
- VOLUNTEER**

Join our Nature Conservation Volunteers and get involved in on ground conservation action or citizen science activities.
- FOLLOW US**

Like our Facebook page and learn about our activities and events.

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION

PO Box 1749 33 Tunbridge Street,
Margaret River WA 6285
Phone: 08 9757 2202
Email: info@natureconservation.org.au
www.natureconservation.org.au
Find us on **Facebook**