

Appendix **One**



**Southern
Prospects**
2004 - 2009

*The South Coast Regional
Strategy For Natural
Resource Management*

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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The South Coast Regional Strategy for Natural Resource Management

Appendix 1

Glossary of Terms

Acid sulphate soils:	Naturally occurring soil and sediment containing iron sulphides, principally pyrite (FeS ₂), iron monosulphide or their precursors. These soils are naturally waterlogged and whilst undisturbed, do not pose a risk. When exposed to atmospheric oxygen, sulphuric acid is generated which can then leach acid and mobilise arsenic, iron, aluminium, manganese and other heavy metals from the soil (Department of Environmental Protection and Water and Rivers Commission, 2002).
Aquaculture:	Growing or harvesting of fish and shellfish for human use in freshwater or saltwater ponds, irrigation ditches and lakes or in cages or fenced areas of coastal lagoons and estuaries (Miller, 1996).
Aquifer:	An underground layer of soil, rock or gravel able to hold and transmit water. Bores and wells are used to obtain water from aquifers (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).
Aspirational Targets:	Aspirational statements about the desired condition of (the Region's) natural resources in the longer term (eg 50+ years). These goals or targets would guide regional planning and set a context for the measurable and achievable targets required under this framework. Examples could include: regional extent of vegetation cover to be increased to 30% cover; decrease in average salinity in regional streams (Commonwealth Government, 2002).
Ballast Water:	Water carried in tanks to maintain stability when a ship is lightly loaded; normally discharged to the sea when the ship is loaded with cargo (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).
Benthos (benthic):	Plant and animal life associated with aquatic floor and the sea bed (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).
Best Management Practice (BMP):	The best practicable methods of meeting natural resource management objectives (Environmental Protection Authority, et al. 1994).
Biodiversity:	The variety of life forms including the different plants, animals and micro-organisms, the genes they contain, and the ecosystems they form. Biodiversity is usually considered at three levels: genetic, species and ecosystem (Land and Water Resources, 2002).
Biota:	All of the organisms at a particular locality (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).
Bushcare:	One of the four federally funded Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) programs that establish the resource condition outcomes that will be sought through NHT investment. These programs include: 1. The Landcare Program will invest in activities that will contribute to reversing land degradation and promoting sustainable agriculture. 2. The Bushcare Program will invest in activities that will contribute to conserving and restoring habitat for our unique native flora and fauna, which underpins the health of our landscapes. 3. The Rivercare Program will invest in activities that will contribute to improved water quality and environmental condition in our river systems and wetlands. 4. The Coastcare Program will invest in activities that will contribute to protecting our coastal catchments, ecosystems and the marine environment (Environment Australia, 2004)
Carbon sequestration:	Refers to the uptake and storage of carbon by trees or plants (Pittock, 2003).
Catchment:	An area that drains all the precipitation that falls on it to a single point. Or the area of land drained by a stream or stream system. It can be simple, dealing with the water of one watercourse, or complex, having a number of internal sub catchments contributing to the whole. Catchment should not be confused with watershed (Land and Water Resources, 2002).
Cetaceans:	Whales, dolphins and porpoises (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).

Coastal zone:	Coastal waters to a depth of 30m, reefs, estuaries, tidal rivers and land which is presently subject to coastal processes such as mobile sand dunes, areas inundated by storm surge and vegetated foreshore areas exposed to onshore winds (Harvey et al, 2003).
Coastcare:	Refer to Bushcare for general description of the Natural Heritage Trust 'Care' programs.
Codes of practice:	Sets of agreed guidelines adopted by rural industries and the agricultural service sector to minimise the impacts of farming operations on the environment (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001).
Community:	The term "community" can have several meanings: it can refer to the whole regional community and include all the institutions, groups, departments and individuals within that region; it can refer to more localised communities within a catchment; or it can mean a particular social grouping, such as the landholders of an area. Unless otherwise qualified within the document, "community" is generally used in its widest sense to include all the stakeholders with an interest in the management of the Region's natural resources.
Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative Reserve System (CAR):	A reserve system to conserve all native forest types as well as the plants and animals that depend on them: comprehensive, the full range of forest communities recognised by an agreed national scientific classification at appropriate hierarchical levels; adequate, the maintenance of the ecological viability and integrity of populations, species and communities; representative, those sample areas of the forest that are selected for inclusion in reserves which should reasonably reflect the biodiversity of the communities (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).
Cultural heritage:	Means, in relation to a place, the relative value which that place has in term of its aesthetic, historic, scientific or social significance, for the present community and future generations (Australasian Legal Information Institute, 2004).
Drinking water:	Water that is intended primarily for human consumption, but can have other domestic uses.
Dryland salinity:	Where water balance has been altered due to changing land use (e.g. clearing of native vegetation for broad acre farming or grazing), excess water entering the water table mobilises salt which then rises to the land surface. Movement of water drives salinisation processes and may move the stored salt towards the soil surface or into surface water bodies (Land and Water Resources, 2002).
Eco-tourism:	Nature based tourism that involves education and interpretation of the natural environment and is managed to be ecologically sustainable.
Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD):	Using, conserving and enhancing the community's resources so that ecological processes, on which life depends, are maintained, and the total quality of life, now and into the future, can be increased (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).
Ecosystem:	A dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).
Endangered species:	Those species likely to become extinct unless actions are taken to remove the factors that threaten their survival (Environmental Protection Authority, 1997).
Endemic:	Native to a particular area and found nowhere else (Australian State of the Environment, 2001).
Environmental indicator:	Physical, chemical, biological or socio-economic measures that can be used to assess natural resources and environmental quality (State of the Environment Advisory Council, 1996).
Estuary:	An inlet or river mouth that is influenced by tides from the sea and fresh water from land. The area where fresh and salt waters mix (Land and Water Resources, 2002).

Eutrophication:	Process by which waters become enriched with nutrients, primarily nitrogen and phosphorus which stimulate the growth of aquatic flora and /or fauna (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).
Exotic species:	Introduced or alien plant or animal. Makes reference to all species not indigenous to the natural environment.
Extinct:	Species no longer in existence or not located in the wild during the past 50 years (Environmental Protection Authority, 1997).
Fauna:	The animals inhabiting an area, including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates (such as insects, spiders and crustaceans). Usually restricted to animals occurring naturally and excluding feral or introduced species, and including species that naturally migrate to an area on a seasonal basis (Conservation Commission of Western Australia, 2004).
Feral animal:	An animal that has reverted to a wild state from domestication (e.g. feral cats, pigs, donkeys).
Flora:	The plants growing in an area, including flowering and non-flowering plants, ferns and mosses. Usually restricted to species occurring naturally and excluding weeds (Conservation Commission of Western Australia, 2004).
Goal:	A desired outcome or end result.
Groundwater:	Water which occupies the pores and crevices of rock or soil (Water and Rivers Commission, 2000).
Habitat:	The place or type of site in which an organism naturally occurs.
Investment Plan:	Means the investment proposal prepared, conjointly with or subsequent to an accredited regional NRM strategy, that identifies the funding required to implement priority natural resource management actions (Commonwealth of Australia, 2002)
Joint Steering Committee:	The Joint Steering Committee was established to facilitate the implementation of the agreement of the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality between the Commonwealth of Australia and the State of Western Australia. Membership of the Steering Committee consists of representatives from the State and Commonwealth.
Land:	Physical resources, inclusive of soils, landform, geology, hydrology, vegetation, local climate and major modifications by man.
Land capability:	The ability to sustain a particular land use without the land suffering long-term damage. Land capability assessment compares the physical requirements of a land use with the qualities of the land.
Land holder:	Any individual, group of individuals or organisation which owns land and who may occupy or manage the land for any purpose.
Land manager:	Any individual, group of individuals or organisation directly involved in the management of rural public or private land. The role encompasses land husbandry through whole of landscape and biodiversity management (including land, soil, water and vegetation).
Land potential:	Matching land use to land capability. The outcome is selective land use resulting in increased sustainability (economic, environmental, and social). Information is generated by the application of tools and processes with local information sets (generated by remote sensing, local government and other information agencies together with primary production / land and water information).
Land suitability:	The potential uses of the land based upon consideration of prevailing physical, technical and socio-economic conditions (Agriculture Western Australia, 1998).
Land user:	All people who obtain their livelihood directly, either wholly or partly, from the land, e.g. farmers, foresters, pastoralists, staff of national parks.

Landcare:	Refer to Bushcare for general description of the Natural Heritage Trust 'Care' programs.
Macro corridor:	A linear assemblage of mainly continuous vegetation, functioning as a conduit for wildlife movement between protected areas and as habitat (non-continuous 'stepping stone' vegetation may also be included) (Watson and Wilkins, 1999).
Macro corridor network:	A system of macro corridors interconnected across a region of many thousands of square kilometres and managed to provide high-quality connectivity to many major landforms, vegetation communities, and regional microclimates to assist in maintaining overall landscape processes (Watson et al, 1999).
Macro invertebrates:	Invertebrates are animals without a backbone. Macro invertebrates are big enough to be seen with the unaided human eye though they can be very small. Aquatic invertebrates are termed macro invertebrates if they are retained on a 0.25mm mesh net. Major groups include worms, snails, crustaceans (eg. Prawns) and insects (Water and Rivers Commission, 2000).
Management action targets:	Short term (1-5 years) targets relating mainly to management action or capacity building. These targets contribute to progress towards the longer-term resource condition targets (Commonwealth of Australia unpublished).
Marine environment:	The maritime area extending, in the case of watercourses, up to the freshwater limit and including intertidal zones and the shoreline, estuary, bay, harbour, near shore and offshore waters (Zann, 1995).
Monitoring:	Routine counting, testing or measuring environmental factors to estimate their status or condition (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).
Monitoring activities:	Provide indicative information to track and review the performance of policies, strategies and programs at regular intervals to inform management decision-making. This indicative information must directly relate to the expected outcomes and outputs of the policy, strategy or program (Natural Resource Management Ministerial Council, 2002).
Native vegetation:	Any local indigenous plant community containing throughout its growth the complement of native species and habitats normally associated with that vegetation type or having the potential to develop these characteristics (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).
Natural Resources Management:	The ecologically sustainable management of land, water, marine and biodiversity resources for the benefit of existing and future generations and for the maintenance of the life support capability of the biosphere. It does not include mineral resources.
Near pristine rivers:	Rivers with at least 80% of catchment vegetated (where vegetation information available).
Non renewable resource:	Resource that exists in a fixed amount (stock) in various places in the Earth's crust and has the potential for renewal only by geological, physical and chemical processes taking place over hundreds of millions to billions of years. Examples include copper, aluminium, coal and oil. These resources are classified as exhaustible because we are extracting and using them at a much faster rate than the geological time scale on which they were formed (Miller, 1996).
Oligotrophic:	Water that is low in nutrients, with relatively low organic productivity.
Perennial:	Plants that live for more than one year.
Pest:	The term 'pest', used in conjunction with plants, animals or diseases, is all inclusive. It refers to both environmental and agricultural weeds, feral animals and problem native species, invertebrates and noxious diseases

Phase farming:	The practice of alternating periods of continuous cropping with a period of a perennial system (eg 4 years of continuous cropping followed by 5 years of perennial pasture)
Primary production:	Primary industries including agriculture, fisheries and forestry.
Prime agricultural land:	<p>Prime agricultural land includes land which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has most utility for agricultural purposes, • has soils with no physical and chemical limitation for agricultural use, • has a reliable water supply for irrigation, • is not subject to extremes of climate, • has little potential for degradation, or has been/is subject to significant public investment for service facilities, such as dams, irrigation schemes, drainage, factories, handling centers, • has physical or locational characteristics essential for a specific crop for the domestic or export market or to support processing industry. <p>In some circumstances land which has prime physical characteristics may have a higher community value for an alternative use and may, therefore, be excluded from the prime agricultural land classification.</p>
Productive agricultural land:	Land which is currently in production or has the potential to be productive for agricultural purposes based on soil quality, water quality and availability, climatic factors and access to specific infrastructure or processing facilities.
Ramsar Convention:	The Convention on Wetlands, signed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971, providing the framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).
RAP:	Regional Assessment Panel.
Register of the National Estate:	The national inventory of places of natural, historic and Indigenous heritage significance, which have been assessed by the Australian Heritage Commission and deemed to be worth conserving for present and future generations (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).
Resource Condition Targets:	Specific, time bound and measurable targets, relating largely to resource condition, which must be set for the minimum set of matters for regional targets (Commonwealth of Australia, unpublished).
Revegetation:	The planting of native species in areas that have been cleared or highly modified. The mix of species may not be the same as originally occurring in that patch of vegetation (Commonwealth of Australia, 2002).
Riparian vegetation:	Vegetation growing along banks of rivers or stream, including the brackish upstream reaches of an estuary (Water and Rivers Commission, 2000).
Riparian zone:	The zone along or surrounding a water body where the vegetation and natural ecosystems benefit from and are influenced by the passage and storage of water (Water and Rivers Commission, 2000).
River:	River as used in this strategy means any river, stream, or creek in which water flows in a natural or modified channel, whether permanently or intermittently and includes drains that connect to such systems.
Rivercare:	Refer to Bushcare for general description of the Natural Heritage Trust 'Care' programs.
Run-off:	Portion of rainfall not immediately absorbed into the soil and which becomes surface flow (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).
Salinity:	The concentration of salts in water and/or soil (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).

Sedimentation:	Material of varying size, both mineral and organic, deposited away from its site of origin by the action of water, wind gravity or ice (Environmental Protection Authority, 1997).
Soil acidification:	A gradual increase in the acidity of a soil as a consequence of a variety of natural processes and management actions (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).
Soil – Landscapes:	Soil-landscape is an area of land that has recognisable and specifiable topography and soils that is capable of being presented on maps, and of being described by concise statements. Soil-landscape mapping units are delineated from remote sense data (aerial photographs and satellite imagery) but the soils within them are identified and characterised by field soil survey work.
Sustainable Agriculture:	The use of farming practices and systems which maintain or enhance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • economic viability of agricultural production, • the natural resource base; and • c) other ecosystems which are influenced by agricultural activity.
Sustainable water use:	As defined in water allocation plans for specific areas.
Sustainability:	Simultaneous achievement of environmental, social and economic goals (Government of Western Australia, 2003).
Taxa:	The name classification unit to which individuals or sets of species are assigned, such as species, genus and order (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).
Threatened species:	A species of plant or animal threatened with extinction either locally or globally, without defining its formal status as to the degree of threat (Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001).
Vulnerable species:	Those that soon may become endangered if causal factors (habitat destruction, over exploitation, other environmental disturbances) continue (Environmental Protection Authority, 1997).
Water quality:	The physical, chemical and biological measures of water (Water and Rivers Commission, 2004).
Water resources:	Includes all wetlands, waterways and groundwater resources in the region. Includes reference to water supply, habitat and biophysical processes, and includes the biotic and abiotic elements of waterways, wetlands and groundwater.
Waterways:	All streams, creeks, rivers, estuaries, coastal lagoons, inlets and harbours (Water and Rivers Commission, 2004).
Wetland:	Area of seasonal, intermittent or permanent waterlogged soils or inundated land, whether natural or otherwise, fresh or saline, e.g. lake, swamp, damp land. (Waterways WA State-wide Policy)
Wild river:	Those rivers which are undisturbed by the impacts of modern technological society. They remain undammed, and exist in catchments where biological and hydrological processes continue without significant disturbance (Water and Rivers Commission, 1999).