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Help protect Wandoo and Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo

Restoring and protecting precious Wandoo woodlands and the habitat of the Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo are the focus of South Coast NRM's new Southern Incentives Small Grants Scheme round.

Landholders in Wandoo woodland locales such as Mt Barker, Cranbrook, Broomehill, Tambellup, North Stirlings Pallinup, and Kojonup are encouraged to start thinking about what they can do on their properties to help conservation efforts.

Applications for Southern Incentives grants will open in July this year and projects to be considered include fencing off remnant Wandoo woodlands to exclude stock, strategic revegetation and invasive weed removal activities.

The continuation of the successful Southern Incentives program for 2010-11 was made possible after South Coast NRM received \$140,000 in the latest State Government NRM funding round, specifically to invest in high priority biodiversity assets such as Wandoo remnants and associated areas where Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo frequent, nest and feed.

South Coast NRM Southern Incentives project officer Pip Tilbrook said the deaths in January this year of more than 150 Carnaby's Black-Cockatoos near Hopetoun placed the species in a more perilous position and highlighted the urgency of protecting their breeding and feeding habitats.

Ms Tilbrook said this endemic cockatoo was once seen in large flocks but numbers had declined dramatically to the point where they were now federally listed as Endangered.

"The Wandoo species is recognised as the foundation upon which many animals including the Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo rely. While the South Coast NRM region is rich in natural assets, much of it is still impacted by extensive clearing from the past. In the Wheatbelt area where the majority of Wandoo woodlands occur, it is estimated that less than 10% of the original Wandoo cover remains," she explained.

Landholders keen to take part in the program will be able to download application forms and guidelines from the South Coast NRM website in July.

For further information and/or to express an interest in the program, contact Pip Tilbrook on (08) 9845 8540 or speak to local project officers at the Gillamii Centre in Cranbrook, North Stirlings Pallinup Landcare Centre in Borden, Shire of Kojonup office, and the Community Agriculture Centre in Mount Barker.

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For related images or to arrange interviews contact:

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South Coast Natural Resource Management Inc. is the leading regional group for natural resource management in the South Coast region of Western Australia. As an independent not-for-profit organisation, we work with the community to improve the environment by preserving and protecting unique plants and animals, managing land and waterways, and sharing knowledge and skills in natural resource management.