



Monday 30 May 2011

There's a lot happening in our backyard

Over the past year landholders have helped protect and revegetate more than four million hectares of land in Western Australia.

This has involved almost 9000 individuals and 700 groups, who have worked closely with the state's six regional natural resource management (NRM) groups, including South Coast NRM.

These six groups are now celebrating their achievements in conjunction with World Environment Day on June 5 and want to encourage people to find out what conservation and landcare activities are happening in their backyard, across forests and farms, to rivers, deserts, bushland and coast.

By working in partnership with other community groups, state agencies, farmers and industry, the NRM sector and its partners around WA have helped to protect and restore more than four million hectares of land and several rare flora and fauna species through projects such as:

- South Coast NRM protecting biodiversity in the region by controlling invasive weed and animal species like Gorse, Bridal Creeper, Knot Weed, Lantana and feral pigs.
- Wheatbelt NRM using motion sensor cameras to help discover rare and protected wildlife in the region.
- South West Catchment Council protecting and revegetating four Ramsar wetlands of international significance including the Peel Yalgorup, Vasse Wonnerup, Lake Toolibin and Lake Muir.
- Perth Region NRM planting more than one million plants, fencing 300 kilometres of riverbank and removing 200 hectares of weeds along the Swan River.
- Rangelands NRM West Kimberley Nature Project helping to sustainably manage wildfires and weeds threatening the Peninsula Monsoon Vine Thickets and wetlands.
- Northern Agricultural Catchment Council helping more than 200 farmers plant 4000 hectares of perennial grasses, 62,000 saltbush seedlings and 1.2 million native seedlings.

Most of these projects would not be possible without the help of passionate individuals and groups working closely with their local NRM organisation.

The majority of NRM funding comes from the Commonwealth government's Caring for our Country program, with additional assistance from the state government's NRM Program and the private sector.

As part of World Environment Day, the six NRM groups in WA will join with their 50 counterparts across Australia to raise awareness of natural resource management.

To find out what's happening in your backyard visit www.southcoastnrm.com.au

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