

# Programs to improve our natural environment

More than \$2.3 million in environmental rehabilitation and protection programs are underway as part of the Fiona Stanley Hospital project.

These off-site programs include the rehabilitation of regional park lands, the purchase and protection of native bushland, investment into community-based conservation programs and funding for Carnaby's Black Cockatoo research.

## Rehabilitating Beeliar Regional Park

A five-year, \$1.1 million investment will see approximately 50 hectares of land within Beeliar Regional Park rehabilitated as part of the Fiona Stanley Hospital project's environmental program.

Twenty-five hectares across five sites, including South Lake and Kogalup Lakes, will be restored and revegetated through:

- weed management;
- the relocation and spreading of topsoil taken from the Fiona Stanley Hospital site;
- broadcast seeding and/or planting;
- translocation of Grasstrees and Zamias from the Fiona Stanley Hospital site;
- the placement of habitat logs using trees from the Fiona Stanley Hospital site; and
- ongoing management, including monitoring and weed management.

A further 25 hectares of land in Beeliar Regional Park will also be rehabilitated, including intensive replanting of a five hectare area at Kogalup Lakes and infill planting of seedlings over a 20 hectare area around North Lake.

The Fiona Stanley Hospital team is working closely with the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) to ensure the best possible outcomes for all of the rehabilitated areas.

A further investment of \$75,000 will see approximately one hectare of degraded land located between the Fiona Stanley Hospital site and Farrington Road protected under a Conservation Agreement.

## Land purchase for long-term conservation

The Fiona Stanley Hospital project has provided \$250,000 to DEC towards the purchase of a parcel of land in the Wheatbelt region for conservation purposes (*pictured below*).



The 44.6-hectare parcel of land is located at Clackline, 80 kilometres north-west of Perth. It is high-quality natural bushland bordered on three sides by the Clackline Nature Reserve.

The site is a significant refuge for wildlife within the district. It is also ideal foraging and breeding habitat for Carnaby's Black Cockatoo and is known to be used by the species. The site also contains large old trees (Wandoo and Powderbark Wandoo) which provide a range of nesting hollows for native fauna.

The property had the potential to be cleared for development, in turn, reducing native habitat and threatening both flora and fauna. Instead, the land is now vested in the State of Western Australia and will be transferred into the Clackline Nature Reserve.

The Fiona Stanley Hospital project has set aside 4.9 hectares of land immediately south of Farrington Road for the purpose of conservation. This land, which is made up of Jarrah-Banksia woodland, is in excellent condition and provides local foraging habitat for Carnaby's Black Cockatoo. Currently zoned 'urban', the land has been set aside for conservation purposes and, in the longer term, will be rezoned to 'parks and recreation' and be managed as a Conservation Reserve.

## Conservation Agreement

A Conservation Agreement will be entered into with the Commonwealth Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts for the area of land located between the Fiona Stanley Hospital site and Farrington Road – which will reserve a further 2.5 hectares of bushland for conservation purposes.

The land consists mostly of Jarrah-Banksia woodland in very good to excellent condition except for some degraded areas, has already started to be rehabilitated with topsoil and seed collected from the Fiona Stanley Hospital site.

## Community programs

The Fiona Stanley Hospital project is providing \$575,000 for community-based conservation programs, including:

- \$75,000 for rehabilitation and care facilities for the Carnaby's Black Cockatoo;
- \$200,000 over five years for the *Healthy Parks, Healthy People* program;
- \$150,000 over five years for the Regional Parks Community Grants Scheme; and
- \$150,000 to support the operation of the Wildcare Helpline, which provides round-the-clock advice for the care of sick and injured wildlife.



## Research funding

The Fiona Stanley Hospital project is providing \$275,000 for research to increase the knowledge and assist in the recovery of Carnaby's Black Cockatoo.

The research – which will focus on food resources and habitat use – will provide information that will assist in conservation planning for the species in the Swan Coastal Plain. It will identify critical habitat areas and allow for more sensitive urban development and improved planning – ensuring the long-term survival of the species in the region.

The Fiona Stanley Hospital project is also providing \$50,000 for a research program which will examine the factors that influence the success of the Banksia woodland rehabilitation projects.

## For more information

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