

Setting new standards in conservation and environmental management

The State Government is investing more than \$5 million in on-site conservation programs and environmental initiatives at Fiona Stanley Hospital and a further \$2.3 million in off-site programs.

Work includes fauna relocation, flora and seed collection, top soil removal and reuse, and the preservation of natural bushland on the site.

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.

Collection of trees, plants and seeds

More than 300 Grasstrees and Zamias were removed from the Fiona Stanley Hospital site prior to clearing. Native plants which are difficult to grow from seeds, including 1,700 orchid and other plants, have also been recovered from the site. The majority of these will be propagated and reused in future on-site landscaping, with the remainder to be planted at rehabilitation sites in nearby Beelihar Regional Park and in local reserves.

Seed collection has been an important part of the Fiona Stanley Hospital environmental program, with over seven kilograms of seed collected from 31 different species from the site since 2008. More than 27 kilograms of Australian native seed has also been collected from bushland within the Beelihar Regional Park and will be used for rehabilitation of degraded land within the park.



Quenda relocation



Grass tree relocation

Fauna relocation

Quenda (small marsupials also known as the Southern Brown Bandicoot) were collected prior to the two stages of clearing of the Fiona Stanley Hospital site. In total, 61 Quenda were transferred to the Department of Environment and Conservation for relocation to Julimar Conservation Park – an area of more than 28,000 hectares located between Bindoon and Toodyay which is renowned for successful Quenda relocation.

More than 4,500 reptiles and amphibians such as frogs, snakes and lizards have been successfully relocated to Beelihar Regional Park since 2008.

Timber re-use

More than 80 of the trees felled during clearing have been relocated to Beeliam Regional Park, to provide habitat for local fauna. Banksias, Jarrahs and Marris have also been salvaged and milled into useable timber, which will be used by the designers in the future landscaping, finishes and furnishings in the hospital and throughout its surrounds.

Topsoil relocation

Topsoil from the Fiona Stanley Hospital site was stripped, relocated and spread across four rehabilitation sites in Beeliam Regional Park and other areas near the Fiona Stanley Hospital site. The topsoil removed from the Fiona Stanley Hospital site contains seed which has started to germinate since the topsoil was relocated to the rehabilitation areas – providing an excellent source of seed revegetation, particularly of native species.

Protecting natural bushland

Two natural bushland areas have been retained on the Fiona Stanley Hospital site and will be protected into the future. The two bushland conservation areas, which total approximately three hectares, include high quality Jarrah-Banksia and Marri woodland.



Seed collection



Timber milling for re-use

Onsite landscaping and streetscaping

Future landscaping on the Fiona Stanley Hospital site will include:

- **greenways and open space** – these areas will, with the exception of some small sections of lawn for recreational use, be planted with native plants. The greenways will also include pockets of densely planted trees and shrubs which will link and enhance the function of the retained bushland areas on the site;
- **streetscapes** – the major roads throughout the site will be lined with native trees, such as Banksia, Marri and Tuart; and
- **other areas of open space** – the urban plazas, courtyards and roof gardens will be planted with a mixture of native and exotic plantings.



Community planting day

Rehabilitating Beeliam Regional Park

A five-year, \$1.1 million investment from the Fiona Stanley Hospital project will see approximately 50 hectares of land within Beeliam Regional Park rehabilitated. This will include restoration and revegetation activity, intensive replanting at particular sites and infill planting of seedlings.

Construction Environmental Management Plan

A Construction Environmental Management Plan has been endorsed to identify and manage environmental issues during construction of Fiona Stanley Hospital.

The plan covers a range of areas including dust, odour and air quality; traffic management; noise and vibration; waste management; fire prevention; water management; and Aboriginal heritage management.

Dieback management

Dieback is a plant disease caused by a microscopic 'water mould' which survives on the roots and stems of living plants. It can be spread through the movement of contaminated vegetation or soil, including the movement of soil on vehicles, equipment and footwear. Dieback destroys vegetation and, ultimately, native fauna through a reduction in food and habitat.

A dieback affected area was identified in the south west corner of the Fiona Stanley Hospital site in early 2008. This area has been fenced and cleared with all infected plant material and soil disposed of appropriately. More generally, hygiene measures have been in place at the site including the requirement of vehicles to be clean on entry and washed on exiting dieback areas to ensure dieback is not spread around the site or beyond.

Land purchase for long-term conservation

The Fiona Stanley Hospital project has provided \$250,000 to the Department of Environment and Conservation towards the purchase of a parcel of land in the Wheatbelt region for conservation purposes. The 44.6-hectare parcel of land is located at Clackline, 80 kilometres north-west of Perth. The site is a significant refuge for wildlife within the district and is ideal foraging and breeding habitat for the Carnaby's Black Cockatoo. The site also contains large old trees (Wandoo and Powderbark Wandoo) which provide a range of nesting hollows for native fauna.

The State Government 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 the Carnaby's Black Cockatoo.

Plants in the Challenger Institute of Technology greenhouse to be used in site landscaping



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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 also providing:

- \$275,000 for research to increase the knowledge and assist in the recovery of the Carnaby's Black Cockatoo; and
- \$50,000 for a research program which will examine the factors that influence the success of the Banksia woodland rehabilitation projects.



Government of Western Australia
Department of Health