

## Vision

The vision of the Swan Region Strategy for Natural Resource Management is:

***The natural resources of the Swan Region will be protected and managed sustainably in their own right and for the enhancement of the quality of life for present and future generations.***

The Swan Region contains and surrounds the City of Perth in Western Australia. The Region has an indigenous cultural history closely linked to the land. The Nyoongar traditional owners have a sense of place and a linkage to the land that the Swan Region Strategy for Natural Resource Management has built upon.

By using traditional management regimes the Nyoongar people managed the natural resources to sustain the people for 40,000 years. In just over two hundred years following European settlement the waterways are troubled with algal blooms, introduced weeds clog the native vegetation, most of the native mammals are regionally extinct and many other species are threatened with extinction.

To build on this, the challenge unique to the Swan Catchment Council is to create an opportunity and a process that will promote the sustainable use of natural resources to support a city of nearly one and a half million people.

Outlined below are the seven *Aspirational Targets* this Strategy sets out for the Region's natural resources and their sustainable management. These have been developed through a participative community consultation and stakeholder engagement process to reflect local, regional and institutional priorities, and achieve sustainable natural resource management outcomes.

- Improve land condition in the Region and ensure land use planning and development is sustainable and appropriate to the land capability and suitability.
- Improve the quality, ensure appropriate and environmentally sustainable use and minimise impacts to maintain water resources in all aquatic systems in the Region.
- Conserve, maintain and enhance the biodiversity and natural habitat of all species in the Region and the functionality of the ecosystems which contain these species.
- Conserve, maintain and enhance coastal and marine biodiversity, and improve marine water quality to ensure the ecological integrity of coastal and marine systems.
- Improve air quality in the Region to ensure healthy ecosystems.
- Protect, enhance and incorporate cultural heritage values within the Region to achieve sustainable natural resource management outcomes.
- Build regional capacity to promote attitudinal, behavioural and institutional change to achieve sustainable natural resource management outcomes.