

Swan Region Strategy

for

Natural Resource Management

Appendix 10

MOU Avon and Swan

For the purposes of natural resource management, areas of Western Australia have been designated as regions. Each region has established a formal organisation to guide its communities in achieving sustainable management of natural resources in the region, to better represent them in State and Commonwealth forums, and to form partnerships with government agencies and other organisations concerned with natural resource management.

In general the boundaries dividing regions are reasonably well defined. However, from time to time, a geographical area in one region may benefit by association with an adjoining region.

The Brockman River and Wooroloo and Ellen Brook Catchments (the Avon-Upper Swan Region) are geographically located within the Swan Catchment Council region.

This Memorandum of Understanding between

Avon Catchment Council Incorporated (ACC) of Lot 12 York Road, Northam,

Swan Catchment Council Incorporated (SCC) of PO Box 2206, Midland,

arises from a desire by the parties to efficiently manage processes arising out of the National Action Plan on Salinity and Water Quality (NAP) and the Inter-governmental Agreement between the State and Commonwealth Governments that identified a new "Avon-Upper Swan Region". The SCC and ACC agree to recognise this boundary arrangement when considering both State and Commonwealth funding arrangements.

The objectives of the ACC are:

- (a) To develop a comprehensive integrated Natural Resource Management Plan and to act as a coordinating body overseeing its implementation within the Avon, Yilgarn and Lockhart River sub-catchments which together comprise the Avon River Basin.
- (b) To coordinate and integrate physical, technical and financial resources in order to develop and promote best environmental and industry practice by all land managers, government agencies and authorities in or having jurisdiction over land and water resources in the Avon River Basin.
- (c) To provide leadership for and liaison with land managers, government agencies and authorities and other groups with allied interests in or having jurisdiction over land and water resources within the Avon River Basin.
- (d) To carry out or to initiate and cause to be carried out, projects for the benefit and improvement of land and for the benefit of natural resource management practices within the Avon River Basin.
- (e) To develop partnership arrangements and alliances with resource providers, sponsors or other parties for agreed provision of services of mutual benefit.

The goals of the SCC are:

- a) Integrate statutory processes, programs and strategies to improve natural resource management.
- b) Achieve improved natural resource management through increased understanding and changed behaviour in community, government, industry and individuals.
- c) Integrate local and catchment activities into regional priorities.

In pursuit of these objectives and goals the ACC agrees to:

- 1 Recognise that the Avon-Upper Swan area has large areas of rural land and significant water quality issues arising from a salinised landscape and from nutrient enrichment of surface water.
- 2 Adopt the issues and strategies within the Swan Regional NRM Strategy for the Avon-Upper Swan region that relate to the NAP.
- 3 Work with the SCC to develop those issues, especially as they relate to objectives contained within the Avon NRM Regional Strategy.
- 4 Accept strategies and projects from the SCC relating to NAP issues in the Avon-Upper Swan Region for inclusion into the ACC bid.
- 5 Consider priority project applications from the Swan Catchment Council that address regionally significant natural resource management issues in the Avon-Upper Swan region.

The SCC agrees to:

- 1 Identify priority strategies and actions that address significant issues in line with criteria and objectives of the NAP within the Avon-Upper Swan Region.
- 2 Liaise with the ACC in determining those priority strategies and actions, especially in relation to the Avon NRM Strategy.
- 3 Develop an investment proposal for those strategies and actions from the Avon-Upper Swan Region that could be funded from NAP (including, where appropriate, a process of seeking projects in line with the NRM Regional Strategy and NAP guidelines.
- 4 Provide this investment proposal to the ACC, and liaise with the ACC, to enable the ACC to develop an overall investment strategy for the whole of the Avon-Upper Swan Region, in line with NAP criteria.
- 5 Call for and assess applications for funding from the Avon-Upper Swan Region, in line with Swan regional priorities and NAP criteria.
- 6 Manage a process to provide the applications and a summary report to the ACC.

This agreement shall be reviewed in twelve months time unless requested earlier.

Signed by the parties:

Avon Catchment Council
Chairperson/.../...

Swan Catchment Council
Chairperson/.../...

Witnessed by
DEWCP Director/.../...

