



Project Number: 05N118-01

Project Start Date: 1/1/2007

Project Completion Date: 30/06/2009

Project Description

The Project will enhance the conservation of priority eucalypt woodlands in the southern portion of the wheatbelt of the Northern Agricultural Region of Western Australia through working with landholders to negotiate and implement 'best practice' bush management and the delivery of a conservation incentive scheme, preferencing long-term voluntary management agreements (viz. nature conservation covenants). While a lesser priority than the long-term negotiations, the brokering of voluntary management agreements and additional schemes such as Land for Wildlife and Envirofunds will also form part of the Woodland Watch agenda. Voluntary land acquisition opportunities (as arranged through WWF's project partner networks) will also be brokered on an opportunistic basis.

The Project will identify regional woodland/mallee conservation priorities on private and non-state managed lands. Annual spring flora surveys of these priority remnant woodlands and/or mallee associations will be conducted with community consultation and participation. Building strong relationships and providing no-obligation, face-to-face extension advice is an essential process-tool in the Woodland Watch methodology.

The flora surveys will provide significant biodiversity data and form part of the foundation for negotiating best practice management and conservation agreements (including legal conservation covenants) with landholders and land managers of major woodland/mallee vegetation remnants. The Woodland Watch Project Officer will form part of the NRMO team in the NAR and empower local NRMOs to act as conservation brokers for fencing and bush management incentives, permanent legal protection agreements, and the delivery of best practice management advice at the farm-gate.

The Woodland Watch Project Officer (WWPO) would also harness the direct support of the CALM and National Trust covenanting schemes, CALM Land for Wildlife, CALM biodiversity support, and Greening Australia. The Project will also be supported by direct partnerships with the Shire of Dalwallinu, the Shire of Moora, the Moore Catchment Group, the Yarra Yarra Catchment Group, the Dept of Agriculture Three Springs, and the North Midlands VROC.

Geraldton

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Moora

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Perenjori

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The WWPO will continue to be based in Dalwallinu and service an area extending between the Midlands Road west to Lake Moore (including the majority of Moora Shire and the eastern most parts of Coorow and Carnamah Shires) and from the centre of Victoria Plains Shire in the south to Three Springs Shire (east of Midlands Road) and west encompassing all of Perenjori and Dalwallinu Shires.

Delivery Organisation: WWF Australia

Total IP2 Funding: \$385,000

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