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Australian Government

**NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR SALINITY AND WATER QUALITY (NAP)
NATURAL HERITAGE TRUST (NHT)
NATIONAL LANDCARE PROGRAMME (NLP)**

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT – SUBMITTED TO SOUTH COAST NRM INC

Period 1 April to 30 June 2007

Project ID	033146a
Project Title	State-Wide seed conservation strategy for threatened species, threatened communities and biodiversity hotspots
Contact	Ms Anne Cochrane
Delivery Organisation	Department of Environment and Conservation
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PART A

Summary of Funding

ALL FIGURES ARE GST EXCLUSIVE

Total Funding Approved (GST Excl)	A	259500	
Funding paid to 31 Mar 2007	B	137750	
Funding paid 1 Apr to 30 Jun 2007	C	32000	
Funding paid to date	D	169750	B+C
Funds yet to be distributed	E	89750	A-D

TO BE COMPLETED BY PROPONENT

Acquittal of Funding

Amount on hand as at 31 Mar 2007 (Pls refer to previous report)	F	11,931.81	
Amount received from South Coast NRM 1 Apr to 30 Jun 07	G	32000	
Amount received from other sources 1 Apr to 30 Jun 2007	H	320.91	
Expenditure Amt for 1 Apr to 30 Jun 2007	I	38,051.10	
Funds on Hand as at 30 Jun 2007	J	6,201.62	F+G+H-I

Figure (H) to include interest accrued.

Funds Required

Estimated Expenditure 1 Jul to 30 Sep 2007	K	36,000	
Estimated Funds from other sources 1 Jul to 30 Sep 2007	L		
Funds on Hand as at 30 Jun 2007 (same as above)	J	6,201.62	
Net Funds Required	M	30000	K-L-J
Scheduled funding as per Payment Schedule (Quarter Commencing 1 Jul 2007)	N	30000	*

Figure (M) may be negative.

* Please note that a variation must be applied for if Net Funds Required (M) is greater than the Scheduled payment (N) by more than 5%. If Funds Required is a negative or less than the Scheduled payment, then a formal variation is not required. Only invoice for the required amount (rounded to nearest thousand is acceptable). If the amount is very close the scheduled payment, you may invoice for the scheduled amount.

PART B

04SC1-01e

Period 1 April to 30 June 2007

Project summary (copied by South Coast NRM Inc from the current Project Schedule)

Project description:

The activity outcomes will improve the status of threatened ecological communities, biodiversity hotspots and flora throughout the State, providing material for in situ recovery actions and further seed research. The work undertaken will be consistent with completed, draft or proposed Interim Recovery Plans and Recovery Plans that describe management actions. The work will be undertaken by skilled staff from the Department of Conservation and Land Management's Threatened Flora Seed Centre with assistance from Departmental Conservation Officers and community members. This activity offers a multi-regional, multi-year approach to delivering a major biodiversity conservation outcome. The results will be communicated to all NRM Regional Groups and can provide the template for a national seed conservation approach.

Key Investment Areas:

- Increase the level of protection of native flora by obtaining seed for long term conservation of 100 species per annum across the identified target areas.
- The implementation of fundamental recovery processes for threatened flora, ecological communities and biodiversity hotspots by providing seed-based genetic resources for future in situ restocking.
- Provide important data for recovery plans and interim recovery plans for threatened flora, ecological communities and biodiversity hotspots through seed acquisition.
- Gain understanding of biological process underpinning recovery and rehabilitation of plant species through seed investigation studies.
- Improve the skill-base of community members and stakeholders in seed conservation.
- Improve public awareness of seed conservation.
- Implement an integrated and consistent approach to collecting seed, taking into account seasonal influences across the regions.
- Use existing data and resources to more effectively collect and conserve seed material.
- Instigate regular monitoring of material to understand the biology of native species from threatened communities and biodiversity hotspots.
- Provide training to community members in correct methods for seed collection.
- Foster an appreciation and awareness of ex situ conservation and its role in the recovery of threatened species and communities.
- Develop work plan and seed collection strategy building on existing data and resources.
- Field collection of 100 species per annum across the identified target areas.
- Gather data on seed biology and ecology.
- Process and store seed under safe seed bank conditions.
- Implement seed investigation studies in the laboratory.
- Involve community members from all regions in seed collection activities.
- Instigate public and community awareness for seed conservation activities through development of promotional material and media releases.

Milestone for quarter ending 30 June 2007

Milestone for next quarter ending 30 September 2007

Monitoring and evaluation of collections.

Subprogram Leader/South Coast NRM Inc Project Liaison Officer

Deon Utber

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Section 1: Progress for the quarter

1a: Summary

Provide a brief summary of activity for the quarter in relation to the Project's deliverables - including the Project's Objectives, Outputs and Key Investment Areas as listed above. Provide up to 1/2 of a page. Do not use acronyms.

Between 1 April and 30 June 2007 twenty-four new collections of seeds of rare, threatened, poorly known and other significant flora were made under this project. These collections represent 12 species from 3 families and 5 genera and were made from

the South Coast and Avon Regions. This included seeds of almost all populations of the critically endangered *Banksia cuneata* from the Narrogin/Katanning areas. The majority of previously made seed collections were processed for storage during the past quarter and data on the collections incorporated into the WASEED database. Seedlings derived from seeds collected under this current project (*Lambertia fairallii*, *Banksia brownii* and *Dryandra anaton*) were used in recovery actions during the past quarter. Seed studies commenced on a number of species collected under this project. These laboratory-investigations aimed to gain knowledge on species response to temperature during germination and early seedling growth. These investigations are on-going and the preliminary results will be presented at an international Seed Ecology conference in Perth in September 2007.

1b: Milestone for quarter

State if the milestone has been achieved or to what extent it has not been achieved. Also briefly describe the progress against the milestone and any outcomes.

Monitoring and evaluation of collections provided the major milestone for the quarter. Of the 368 collections made between September 2005 and June 2007, 231 (63%) have now been cleaned to pure seed. The total amount of pure seed conserved to date is over 5.6kg. One hundred and sixteen collections have been processed, quantified and stored in-country in Perth at the Department of Environment and Conservation's Threatened Flora Seed Centre. Eighty-one of these collections have had duplicate material sent to the Millennium Seed Bank (MSB) in the UK for safe-keeping. Germination results are available for 17 collections so far. Processing and storage of seed is ongoing over the winter months.

1c: Outputs for period (1 Jan – 30 Jun 2007)

State if the Outputs have been achieved or to what extent they have not been achieved. Also briefly describe the progress against the total Outputs.

Training in seed collection activities and awareness-raising of the benefits of seed conservation provided the most significant outputs for the period. Both outputs have been achieved through dissemination of information, formally and informally. Formal output to the scientific community has been in the form of a journal article (*Australian Journal of Botany*) that details the significance of *ex situ* conservation to flora recovery in Western Australia. A newsletter article (*Samara*) is currently in press detailing achievements towards Target 8 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (*ex situ* seed conservation and reintroduction). Informally, contact with community members on a constant basis through emails and face to face contact with seed collection volunteers and through seed collection training (see below) has increased the profile of seed conservation within the community.

Section 2: Lessons learned to date

Briefly describe the lessons that have been learned to date - if not reported previously. (Up to 1/4 of a page).

As previously reported in end June 2007 report.

Section 3: Promotional opportunities and highlights

Briefly describe any promotional opportunities and highlights - including good news stories.

Please send any promotional documents (e.g. Media releases sent to the paper, Brochures etc.) as a separate file (MS Word or compressed PDF is preferred).

Samara magazine will be forwarded when available.

Section 4: Impact on the community to date

Briefly describe the impact that this project has had on the community to date – only include impacts that have not been reported previously under this section. (Up to 1/4 of a page).

Training in seed collection activities occurred for a number of community members in the past quarter: four people from the Avon Region had one days training and one person had 3 days training in the field. One collection was made in conjunction with two members of the Badjaling Aboriginal Community. Three flora officers from the Department of Environment and Conservation who are stakeholders in this project were also trained in seed collection, principally of the critically endangered *Banksia cuneata*.

Section 5: Unresolved project issues or risks that need mitigating

Briefly list any unresolved project issues that require attention or risks that need mitigating (by either the Delivery Organisation, South Coast NRM Inc or other partners/stakeholders)

Section 6: Performance checklist (black or white reporting)			
Deliverable/Service	YES / NO only	Action required if "NO"	Notes: (Notes are required only if the answer is "NO." Briefly explain reasons why and planned actions following discussions with Subprogram Leader/Project Liaison Officer to rectify situation)
Is the project on track for the successful completion of its objectives by the project end date - as per the contract?	YES	Discuss with Subprogram Leader/Project Liaison Officer	
Is the project on track for the successful delivery of its Key Investment Areas by the project end date - as per the contract?	YES	Discuss with Subprogram Leader/Project Liaison Officer	
Have all contracted Outputs been fully achieved to date - as per the contract's Output Table?	YES	Variation	
Have the Milestones for the quarter been fully achieved?	YES	Variation	
Based on current knowledge, will the next quarter's Milestones be fully achieved?	YES	Discuss with Subprogram Leader/Project Liaison Officer	
Is financial expenditure on track (within or under budget) according to the contracted Budget?	YES	Discuss with Subprogram Leader/Project Liaison Officer	
Are all planned M&E arrangements established?	YES	Discuss with Subprogram Leader/Project Liaison Officer	
Section 7: Project Personnel			
Please provide information on the personnel for which this project provides funding.			
How many FTE did this project originally intend to engage or employ?		1.0	
For those currently employed staff or currently engaged consultants/contractors, please list full time equivalency (FTE), full name and contact details. Please list the key (primary) project contact in the first row.			
FTE	Full Name	Phone / Mobile	Email
0.2	Anne Cochrane	98424500	anne.cochrane@dec.wa.gov.au
1.0	Todd Erickson	93340502	todd.erickson@dec.wa.gov.au
0.5	Niall Sheehy	93340502	niall.sheehy@dec.wa.gov.au
If applicable, please describe the arrangements to fill, and/or the timeframe for filling, any vacant positions or consultancies?			
Section 8: Project locations			
Provide the specific GPS coordinates of project sites for projects with less than 11 specific sites or the specific names of the subcatchment(s) or catchments for the locations of the project's main activities (if more than 10 sites).			
This is a Cross Regional Project and as such seed collections during this past quarter have been made across the South Coast and Avon Regions.			
Projects that are basically funding support positions or facilitators and who work across an entire subregion (eg NRMOs) or the entire South Coast NRM Region (e.g. the Regional Biodiversity Facilitator) may state the name of the subregion or "Region wide".			
NB: Quarterly Reports will not be accepted if this section is not correctly completed.			
Section 9: Is a variation to the current Project Schedule, Outputs Table or Budget required?			NO
If the project has not fully achieved the Milestones or Outputs for the reporting period then a request to vary the Project Schedule or Outputs table MUST be submitted with this report. NB: Any reduction or change to these deliverables is likely to affect the Budget also (refer below).			

- If the project wants to move funds between budget line items and the total of the budget line will increase by 5% or \$1000 or more (whichever is greater) then a request to vary the approved Budget **MUST** be submitted with this report.
- Any proposed change to planned expenditure on Capital costs (Assets and Equipment) must include a request to vary the Budget and an Asset purchase approval must be submitted if over \$5000. This **MUST** be submitted with this report.
- It is recommended that any forecasted variation to the contract be discussed with Subprogram Leader or Project Liaison Officer.

Please contact the South Coast Natural Resource Management Inc office to obtain a variation form and an electronic copy of your contract documents so that you can amend the documents (in track changes mode) to reflect this new information. Please prepare these required documents in consultation with South Coast NRM's Subprogram Leader or Project Liaison Officer.

IMPORTANT:

- It is a contractual requirement to notify South Coast NRM's at the earliest opportunity if the project is not on track. This requirement is not necessarily tied to the quarterly reporting process; processing these variations in advance of the quarterly reporting period is preferred.
- Variations will NOT be considered unless adequate information is provided and the prescribed process is followed. We have had many instances in the past where inadequate information has been provided which significantly delay decisions.
- Failure to report factually on project performance, including the need for variations, will be deemed as a serious breach of contract conditions and appropriate action will be taken.

Section 10: Have you purchased any approved assets with Funding during the last quarter? **NO**

If **YES**, please list here individual items that cost \$500 or more and the date the item was purchased. Do not list items under leasing arrangements.

Section 10: In your opinion, has any intellectual property been created that has the potential for exploitation and/or commercialisation, and for which the Intellectual Property Rights should be legally protected under Statutory and/or Common Law? **NO**

If **YES**, please describe here.

DECLARATION BY DELIVERY ORGANISATION

In my opinion the amounts shown on this financial report were spent in accordance with the terms of the Contract Agreement.

Anne Cochrane

Senior Research Scientist

4 July 2007

Signature of Authorised
Representative

Name

Position

Date

**IMPORTANT
NOTE:**

Please ensure that both an e-copy of your Final version is sent to reports@southcoastnrm.com.au and a signed hard-copy of this report is submitted by mail or fax to the South Coast Natural Resource Management Inc Office
444 Albany Hwy, ALBANY WA 6330
Fax: 9841 2707 Attn: Reports
(accompanied by a tax invoice if appropriate)
by the due date stated in the covering letter