



NATURE CONSERVATION DIVISION

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To: Distribution Below

Subject: **SALINITY STRATEGY – ALLOCATION OF 2010-11 BUDGET**

In framing the salinity budgets for 2010-11, the following points have been taken into consideration:

- As foreshadowed in the 2001 review of the salinity programs, funding for general works through the Crown Reserves Program will continue to be reduced and allocated to more targeted expenditure. In the current financial environment, this targeting will largely be achieved through re-allocation to recovery catchment work; and
- As far as practicable, hydrological work and recovery plan writing should be undertaken centrally through contracted employees, rather than through consultants. For hydrological work in particular, this is proving to be a far more cost-effective approach.

The allocation for the 2010-11 financial year from the \$4.65 million set aside for the Salinity Strategy is as follows. Please note that this allocation may be subject to review along with other Departmental budgets during the financial year, depending on Government financial decision making.

1. Management of Crown remnants including Conservation Reserves

Swan	\$0
South West	\$0
Warren	\$0
Wheatbelt	\$800,000
South Coast	\$10,000
Midwest	<u>\$120,000</u>
	\$930,000

2. Natural Diversity Recovery Catchments Program

Drummond (Swan)	\$20,000
Toolibin (Wheatbelt)	\$360,000
Muir-Unicup (Warren)	\$235,000
Lake Warden (South Coast)	\$260,000
Lake Bryde (Wheatbelt)	\$430,000
Buntine-Marchagee (Midwest)	\$545,000
Specialist Planning/hydro (see NRB Budget)	<u>\$350,000</u>
	\$2,200,000

3. Land for Wildlife

\$400,000 (Species and Communities Branch)

4. Wetland Monitoring

\$250,000 (Science Division)

5. Nature Conservation Covenant Program

\$80,000 (Species and Communities Branch)

6. Threatened Species and Communities

\$130,000 to continue the work on species and communities threatened by salinity (Species and Communities Branch)

7. Natural Resources Branch

\$510,000 to cover salaries, contracts and other costs of the branch. Note that, given the critical importance of centrally coordinating hydrological work and completing draft recovery plans, the following amounts in addition to the above amount will be managed by the branch to facilitate planning:

- \$60,000 to complete the recovery plan for the Drummond Natural Diversity Recovery Catchment. Note that it is anticipated that the plan will be adopted in 2010-11 and remaining planning funds would be transferred to the Swan Region for implementation; and
- \$290,000 for modelling, planning and hydrological work in recovery catchments.

Note that the \$350,000 encompassed in the above two items is counted under the recovery catchments (see previous page).

Branch expenditure and budgets, where expended on specific recovery catchments, will be re-allocated against the appropriate recovery catchment at the end of the financial year to ensure that project budgeting principles are followed.

8. DEC Cash Contribution to the Future Farm Industries CRC

\$150,000



Gordon Wyre
DIRECTOR, NATURE CONSERVATION

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Distribution

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