



Swan River Trust  
**Final Report**  
**2014-15**



TRUST  
LBNST

# Welcome to the Swan River Trust

*Wandju Wandju Nitja Derbal Yerrigan  
Beelier Mart*

## SWAN RIVER TRUST

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**Cover page** The Black-winged Stilt is a large black and white wader with long orange-red legs and a straight black bill. The bird has a wide range, including Australia, Central and South America, Africa, southern and south-eastern Asia and parts of North America and Eurasia and this one was photographed at Alfred Cove on the Swan River. **Photographer** Melissa Zapelli

**Right** Back Swans feed on the Canning River overlooking the city. **Photographer** Nicole Tien



# Letter to the Minister for Environment

To the Hon Albert Jacob MLA  
Minister for Environment

I submit the Final Report on the operations of the Swan River Trust for the period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015, in accordance with the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006* and the *Financial Management Act 2006*.

With amendments to the Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act taking effect from 1 July 2015, the Swan River Trust does not continue as an Accountable Authority and will no longer be required to report under the Financial Management Act. Therefore, in accordance with the Financial Management Act, the Treasurer has appointed me as reporting officer for the purposes of this Final Report.

The Swan River Trust continues as an advisory body and will produce future annual reports on its proceedings.



**Rod Hughes**

Director, Rivers and Estuaries Division  
Department of Parks and Wildlife

28 August 2015

## Swan Canning Riverpark Highlights of 2014-15

**\$305,000**

**distributed to Natural Resource Management groups**

to deliver 25 restoration projects through the Swan River Trust and Alcoa Landcare Program

PAGE 25

**890**

**trained Dolphin Watch volunteers,**

an increase of 23 per cent on last year, now monitoring Riverpark dolphins

PAGE 35

**2894**

**River Guardians members,**  
an increase of 31 per cent on 2014

PAGE 34

**\$545,000**

**was provided to sub-regional NRM groups**

to reduce the amount of nutrients entering the Riverpark

PAGE 24

**99 per cent**

**of people surveyed in the Trust's 2015 Visitor Satisfaction survey said they were satisfied,**

a strong endorsement of the management and amenity of the Riverpark

PAGE 19

**924**

**students from 17 schools in the Swan Canning Catchment took part in Junior Dolphin Watch**

which was launched this year to complement the highly successful Dolphin Watch program

PAGE 35

**415**

**statutory planning**

assessments were completed by the Trust, an increase of 23 per cent on the previous year

PAGE 10



**4341kg**  
of general rubbish  
was removed from the  
Riverpark

including six shopping trolleys  
and one vessel

PAGE 18

**60,000**  
native plants were  
planted at the Ellen  
Brook Nutrient  
Stripping Wetland

PAGE 28

**1.92**  
million

juvenile prawns released  
into the Riverpark as part  
of the Western School  
Prawn Restocking Project,

bringing the total number of  
prawns released since the project's  
inception in 2012 to 2.5 million

PAGE 27

**\$2M**

distributed by the Trust's  
Riverbank grants scheme

for 29 priority projects addressing  
erosion control, revegetation,  
weed control, riverwall repair  
and preparation of foreshore  
management plans

PAGE 20

**25**

fishing line disposal  
units installed

at Riverpark jetties, fishing  
platforms and traffic bridges,  
collected over 8788m of fishing line,  
1743 hooks and sinkers and 1508  
bait bags in 12 months

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## Chairperson's report



On behalf of the Board, I am pleased to present the Trust's Final Report. The report provides an insight into the key projects and programs managed by the Trust in fulfilling its mandate to protect and preserve the Riverpark.

The Swan and Canning rivers are a Western Australian treasure and securing the long-term future of these iconic waterways is the focus of dedicated Trust staff, project partners and the community.

A highlight of the year was the latest Fish Community report which is based on an eight-year partnership between the Trust and Murdoch University. The project uses a range of metrics including diversity and number of fish species to evaluate estuarine health and this year's report found that the waterway was in good shape.

It's a great outcome and adds to the growing body of evidence that the key elements of the health of the Swan and Canning rivers are continuing to improve since the 1990s when the system was plagued by serious algal blooms and fish kills.

These gains are based on the coordinated management of ongoing State and Federal government investment and the Trust's catchment to coast approach. This includes a treatment train of

landcare projects, nutrient stripping wetlands, light industry audits, riverbank restoration, oxygenation, water quality testing, research, community engagement and collaborations with the community and stakeholders.

The Swan River Trust and Alcoa Landcare Program (SALP) continues to deliver and this year it saw 25 community groups share \$305,000 to roll out 58 landcare projects in the Swan Canning Catchment focused on improving water quality. It follows a proud legacy which has seen more than \$7.35 million invested in more than 1200 projects over the program's 17 year history.

Intervention also remains a key pathway forward. The Trust is poised to commission the Ellen Brook Nutrient Stripping Wetland. The State and Federal governments' \$4.05 million investment has seen more than 60,000 native plants planted and once fully operational, the wetland will remove more than 270kg of phosphorus and 330kg of nitrogen per year.

This project is led by the recent commissioning of an additional oxygenation plant on the Canning River, increasing the State Government's oxygenation program to two plants on the Swan River and three on the Canning. This additional plant has increased oxygen relief on the Canning River from 2.3km to 4.5km. The facility is part of a \$2.8 million State Government investment that will also enable one of the existing oxygenation plants that is more than 15 years old, to be upgraded with the same technology.

The State Government has also invested \$1.2 million to construct a nutrient stripping wetland at the Eric Singleton Bird Sanctuary. The joint project between the Trust and the City of Bayswater will reduce sediment, rubbish, phosphorus and nitrogen entering the river from the Bayswater Brook. This will prevent almost 40 tonnes of sediment and rubbish, 1.3 tonnes of nitrogen and 200kg of phosphorus from entering the Swan River each year and will help restore bird and animal habitat at the degraded sanctuary.

These projects are supported by the Trust behaviour change program. This year the River Guardians team joined forces with the Water Corporation and implemented the RiverWise-WaterWise Gardens Project. This project recognises the connection between high water use and high fertiliser use and targeted the suburbs of South Perth and Como to help reduce water consumption and fertiliser use.

The program was a resounding success with participating households saving almost 100 litres of water per day or nine million litres over six months. The project engaged more than 500 households in the target zone and more than 398 home garden

visits focused on reducing fertiliser usage were undertaken to meet the project's target to reduce nutrient inputs into the river by 25 per cent.

The Trust has also continued its involvement in major riverfront developments in an era which has seen a spike in new projects in our growing city. Projects such as Elizabeth Quay, Barrack Square Hotel, Waterbank near the Causeway and the new Perth Stadium are part of the State Government's development revitalisation program. The Trust, through its statutory planning function, has been actively involved in these transformational projects to help protect public access and mitigate environmental risks for the Riverpark.

The Trust continues to engage riverside councils and this year the Cities of Belmont and Bassendean were the focus of the Swan and Canning Rivers Precinct Planning Project. These plans will guide the future use and management of the Riverpark foreshore by identifying nodes of recreational activity and commercial use, connectivity and landuse within a precinct. As the Trust continues to develop these plans, it will provide context and certainty for developers and the community.

Change has also come to the Trust. Legislation passed in the Western Australian Parliament to amalgamate the agency with the Department of Parks and Wildlife. These changes will improve the management of the iconic city rivers and will bring the management of the state's national parks and conservation estate into one department.

I will take this opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of the Trust Board's outgoing Department of Planning nominee Lindsay Baxter. Lindsay joined the board in January 2012 and shared 30 years of experience in Government planning which enabled her to make an outstanding contribution.

I must also acknowledge the committed and professional staff at the Trust. Their passion and commitment to the Riverpark shines through in all the work the small and dedicated team undertakes.

Heartfelt thanks must also be issued to our volunteers, river care groups, community groups, corporate partners and colleagues in Federal, State and local governments. Our university partners at Curtin, Edith Cowan and Murdoch universities and the University of Western Australia have also provided invaluable input into our programs and projects. Together we are ensuring the Riverpark can be protected and enjoyed into the future.



**Hamish Beck**

Chairperson

19 August 2014

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**Opposite page** Yachting is an extremely popular pastime in the Swan Canning Riverpark. There are 12 yacht clubs and marinas, 18 boat ramps and 43 jetties to support the burgeoning boating and canoeing communities. **Photographer** Dianne Kelsey





# Agency Overview

# About the Swan River Trust

## OUR PURPOSE

To work with others to protect the Riverpark and enhance its ecological and community benefits and amenity.

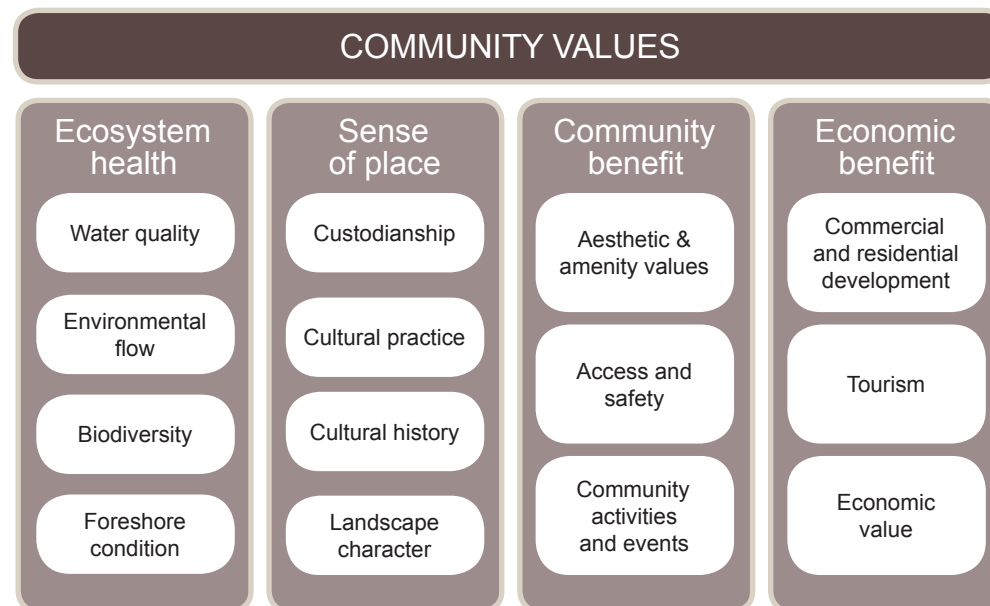
## OUR VISION

Our vision is a healthy river for all, forever, which is resilient to climate change, population and development pressures and is enjoyed, shared and nurtured.

## DESIRED OUTCOMES

The ecological health of the Swan Canning river system is protected and enhanced.

The long-term community benefit of the Swan Canning river system is protected and enhanced.



### HOW WE FUNCTION

The Trust operates in accordance with State Government goals. Its work delivers on the Social and Environmental Responsibility goal – ensuring that economic activity is managed in a socially and environmentally responsible manner for the long-term benefit of the state.

The Trust was established in 1989 to protect, manage and provide appropriate planning for the Swan and Canning rivers and associated land. It operates under the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006* (the Act) and its functions are to:

- protect and enhance the ecological and community benefits and amenity of the Development Control Area (DCA) and to control activities and development in that area;
- protect and enhance the ecological and community benefits and amenity of the Riverpark;
- carry out works and provide facilities for the purposes of protecting and enhancing the ecological and community benefits and amenity of the Riverpark, establish targets for the ecological and community benefits and amenity of the Riverpark, and mechanisms for evaluating the achievement of those targets;
- coordinate and promote the development and implementation of strategic documents defined by the Act;
- coordinate and promote the activities of other bodies that have functions in relation to the catchment area, insofar as those functions may affect the Riverpark, including the implementation of any strategic documents applicable to the catchment area;
- monitor and report to the Minister on the state of the DCA and development on and adjoining the DCA;
- provide advice and assistance to planning authorities so that in relation to the Riverpark, proper provision is made in planning schemes for – the reservation of land for protection and future acquisition; river foreshores; the protection and public use of land and waters; and the protection of wildlife habitat;
- provide advice to the WAPC on state planning policies and planning scheme provisions relating to any matter within its functions, and publish other statements of policy relating to any matter within its functions;
- provide advice and promote public education on any matter within its functions;
- perform such functions as are delegated to it under any other written law;
- otherwise undertake the administration and enforcement of the Act; and
- perform any other functions vested in it by the Act or any other written law.

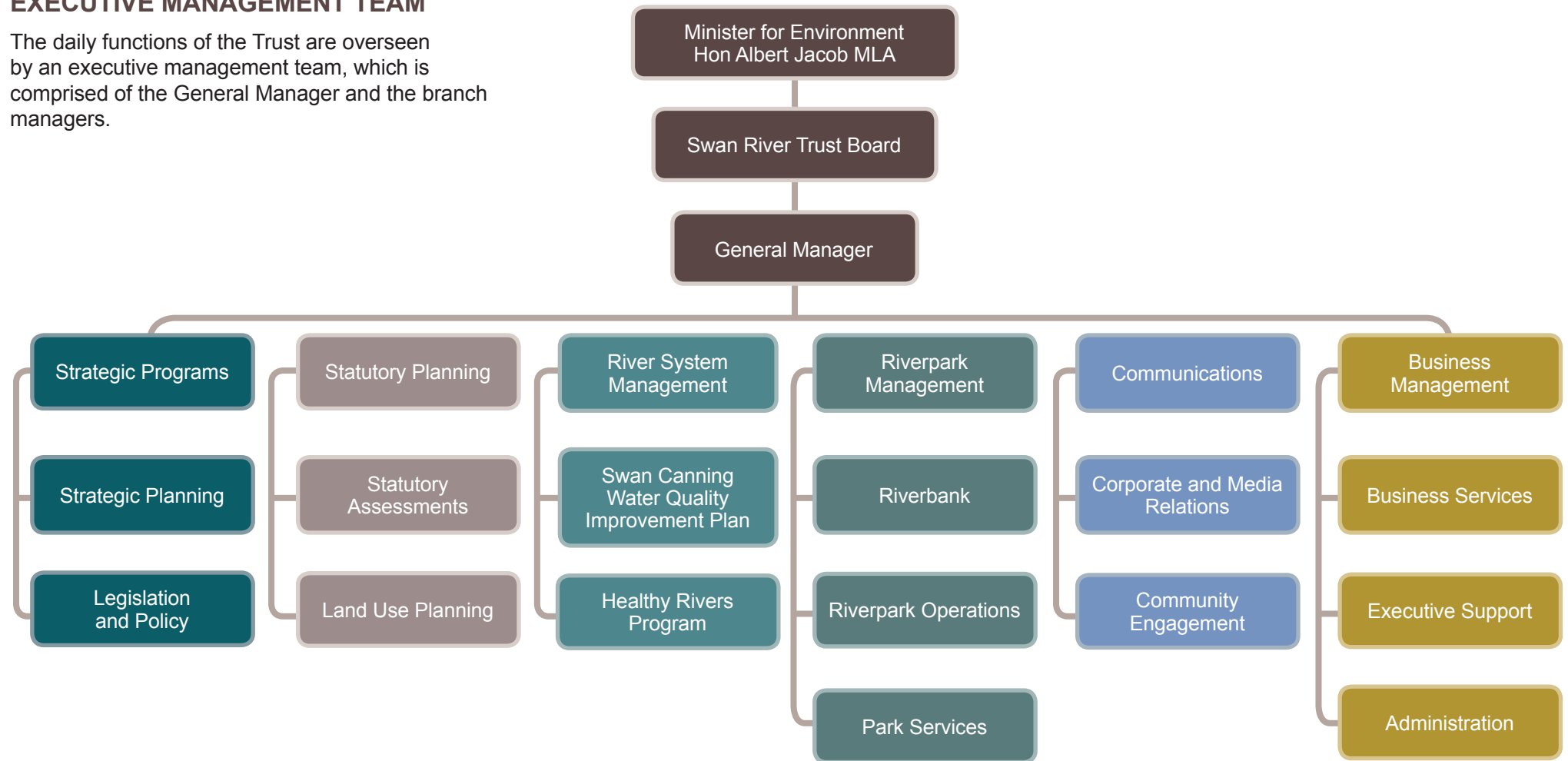
# Management Framework



# Operational Structure

## EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM

The daily functions of the Trust are overseen by an executive management team, which is comprised of the General Manager and the branch managers.





## Swan River Trust Board



**MR HAMISH BECK  
(CHAIRMAN)**

Mr Beck is Managing Director of Beck Advisory, a property development advisory and asset management business. He was formerly a Board Member of the Art Gallery

of Western Australia, Chairperson of the Art Gallery of Western Australia Foundation, Chairperson of the Property Education Foundation, Division Councillor of the Property Council of Australia, Chairperson of the Curtin University Property Studies Advisory Committee, Member of the University of Western Australia Urban and Regional Planning Advisory Committee, Member for the Rottnest Island Marine Advisory Committee and Rear Commodore of Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club. Mr Beck was appointed to the Trust Board in June 2011 and as Chairman in June 2014 for a term of three years.



**MS BARBARA  
WATROBA  
(DEPUTY CHAIR)**

Ms Watroba is a Senior Associate in the Litigation and Regulatory team at DLA Piper Australia, working mainly in construction related litigation

matters. She has a LLB Honours degree (Macquarie University), MA Women's Studies (Deakin University) and Bachelor of Environmental Design (UWA). Ms Watroba was appointed to the Trust Board in February 2012 and as Deputy Chairperson in June 2014 and recently was reappointed in 2015 for another three year term.



**MR DAVID SAUNDERS**

Mr Saunders is the Executive Director Regional Planning and Strategy at the Department of Planning. He holds a Bachelor in Applied Science (Environmental Management). Mr Saunders

brings experience in protected area management in Commonwealth, State and local government along with strategic and statutory planning experience. Mr Saunders was appointed to the Trust Board in April 2015 for a three year term.



**MS SHELLEY  
TAYLOR-SMITH**

Ms Taylor-Smith is director and founder of Champion Mindset Consulting. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education from the University of Arkansas, USA and works as

a motivational keynote speaker, performance and swim coach, workshop facilitator and author. Following a distinguished international sporting career in marathon swimming (achieving seven-times Women's World No.1 Marathon Swimming Champion 1988-1995); Shelley serves as a committee member and advisor for a number of bodies including Burswood Park Board, FINA Fédération Internationale de Natation, Swimming Australia Limited and Swimming WA. She is ambassador of the Esther Foundation, a women's community and leadership program in Perth. She was appointed to the Trust Board in June 2011 and reappointed in 2014 for another three years.



**MS VICKI RASMUSSEN**

Ms Rasmussen has spent 20 years working in the not-for-profit sector in Western Australia, New South Wales and South Australia with some of the nation's largest and most respected charities.

Regarded as one of Western Australia's most experienced and successful strategic and big gift fundraisers, she is the Managing Consultant for Xponential Philanthropy. She is a Fellow of the Fundraising Institute of Australia and the immediate past State Chair. She also is accredited as a Certified Fund Raising Executive. Ms Rasmussen was appointed to the Trust Board in June 2014.



**MS VANESSA DAVIES**

Ms Davies is an Aboriginal woman who has traditional links to the Wongai and Noongar people in Western Australia. She has comprehensive executive management experience

in government relations, justice, employment, training and education, health, community and Indigenous relations. In 2000, Ms Davies completed a postgraduate Masters Degree in Management and Leadership at Curtin University. Ms Davies was appointed to the Trust Board in December 2009 and reappointed in 2012 for another three years.



**CR ROBERT HAWES**

Cr Hawes from the Shire of Chittering is the Western Australian Local Government Association nominee. He is also the President of the Shire and Chairman of Ellen Brockman Integrated Catchment Group. He

serves as a committee member and community representative on a number of bodies including the Avon Midland West Australian Local Government Authority Zone, Avon Regional Organisation of Councils, a member of Wannamal Lake Catchment Group, Chittering Valley Land Conservation District Committee and Main Roads Northlink Steering Committee. Cr Hawes was appointed to the Trust Board in June 2014.



**MR JEFFREY STONE**

Mr Stone has more than 30 years of experience as an educator and brings strong leadership skills and a commitment to learning. He holds a Bachelor of Education and a Diploma in

Teaching (WACAE, Nedlands Campus). He has worked in a range of educational contexts with a focus on engagement with the wider community, promotion of school culture and the development of staff. Mr Stone was appointed to the Trust Board in June 2014.



**MS LINDSAY BAXTER**

Ms Baxter is the Planning Director of the Metropolitan South area in the Perth and Peel Planning Division of the Department of Planning. She holds a Bachelor of Arts (Urban and Regional Studies)

from Western Australian Institute of Technology and Graduate Diploma in Arts (Recreation Studies) Edith Cowan University. Ms Baxter has 30 years experience in planning in State Government and oversees a team of planners dealing with, inter alia, subdivision, development, structure plans and town planning schemes. Ms Baxter was appointed to the Trust Board in January 2012. Ms Baxter's term expired in January 2015.

# Significant Issues and Trends

The Riverpark provides a stunning backdrop to Perth. It also offers a unique recreational setting for residents and visitors and a vital habitat for native wildlife. Continuing reduced rainfall in recent years has focused pressures on the Swan Canning river system. This has reinforced the importance of the Trust's role to manage and deliver strategic long-term responses.

## CHALLENGES

- Population growth causing increased demand for riverside residential and commercial development, increased waste and use of the river for competing recreational activities.
- Improving community understanding of problems facing the river and their responsibility to help deliver solutions.
- The Swan River drains the large rural Avon Catchment contributing significantly to sedimentation, acidification and nutrient input.
- The Swan and Canning rivers also drain urban land with increasing residential and industrial use contributing to nutrient input, low oxygen levels and non-nutrient contamination.
- Understanding and protecting social and cultural significance of the Riverpark.
- The effects of climate change, including reduced rainfall, storm surges and stream flow and increased marine intrusion, increases the rivers' vulnerability.
- Shoreline erosion, vegetation loss and ageing river walls continue to put additional pressure on the Riverpark's ecological and community values.

## MANAGEMENT APPROACH

The Trust management approach to meet these challenges is to:

- provide a whole of system, intergenerational perspective to policy, planning and management;
- take an adaptive, risk-based approach to prioritise work programs;
- adapt our strategies to meet emerging challenges and changing priorities;
- base our management on sound science;
- influence others to take up their responsibilities;
- collaborate with others to increase return on investment;
- monitor, evaluate and communicate our successes and failures;
- use community expertise in problem solving; and
- demonstrate innovative strategies.

**Opposite page** *Sarcocornia samphire* is common in the Swan River. It can be found in habitats such as estuaries, salt marshes, tidal flats, seacliffs, salt pans, and saline sediment in seasonal desert waterways. **Photographer** Matt Kleczkowski





# Agency Performance

# Statutory Assessment of Development

The Statutory Planning service assesses proposed developments within and adjacent to the Riverpark and ensures that amenity, public access and environmental values are given due consideration in the assessment process.

## STATUTORY ASSESSMENTS

In its statutory assessment role under the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006* and Regulations, and the Metropolitan Region Scheme, the Swan River Trust assesses and determines, or provides advice to the Minister for Environment, the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) and local governments on a range of development proposals in and adjacent to the Development Control Area (DCA). During 2014-15, the Trust determined or provided advice on 415 proposals. This represents a substantial increase of 23 per cent on the previous year.

## COMPLIANCE AND AUDIT

The total number of compliance actions taken for the year was 400. This was a decrease on the number of actions taken in the previous year. The percentage of works in full compliance this year was 79 per cent, which was a significant improvement on the previous year. Most of the non-compliant situations were remedied as a result of the Trust's involvement.

A significant achievement this year was the resolution of past unauthorised development at the Swan Yacht Club. Since 2012, the Trust, with the cooperation of the club, had been working to resolve all outstanding issues of non-compliance through remedial approvals and repairs. During the year, as a result of these processes, the issue of unauthorised works was satisfactorily resolved and the matter closed.

The overall reduction in proactive compliance effort was due to the Trust's compliance officer spending the first half of the year assisting with the compliance effort for the Elizabeth Quay project. The subsequent increase in works audited being in full compliance is directly linked to this reduction in the number of proactive audits in conjunction with a new focus on voluntary compliance which was achieved through proactive education of proponents and contractors.

The WAPC has delegated to the Trust the responsibility for overseeing compliance with the WAPC's conditions of approval for the Elizabeth Quay project that affect the river. Senior Trust officers have been engaged in working groups and the assessment of development applications and various management plans during the year. The Trust's compliance and environmental advisory officer dedicated a significant amount of time to a review of the construction methodology and environmental controls relating to the excavation of the inlet.



### MAJOR PROPOSALS CONSIDERED

The Trust assessed and provided advice to the Minister for Environment on 14 development applications, in accordance with Part 5 of the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006*. This was a significant increase of 133 per cent on the previous year.

Three of these applications involved major expansion and redevelopment works at two yacht clubs. The Swan Yacht Club received Ministerial approval for the replacement and realignment of the end of Jetty 2 and associated finger jetties and boat pens. It also received separate Ministerial approval for the refurbishment and extension of its existing club house. The South of Perth Yacht Club sought and gained approval for the replacement of Jetty 4 and 5, replacement of boat maintenance and slipway facilities, reclamation of approximately 1100m<sup>2</sup> of riverbed and construction of a seawall.

The Department of Transport (DoT) gained approval for the replacement of the western jetty at the Marine Education Boatshed in East Fremantle. A proposal by the Department of Defence for the major refurbishment of Preston Point Wharf, also located in East Fremantle, was also assessed and approved.

Other assessments and recommendations by the Trust, and subsequent approvals by the Minister, included a new boardwalk within the Ayers Bushland in Ascot, a new commercial jetty adjacent to Mandoon Estate in Caversham, an emergency operation centre for the State Emergency Service and Bush Fire Brigade near the Canning River in Beckenham, the refurbishment of the Matilda Bay Tea Rooms in Crawley, the replacement of a private boatshed in Freshwater Bay, Peppermint Grove and a new public promenade adjacent to the Swan River in South Perth.

The Trust also granted approval for the relocation of the trial seaplane landing area on the Swan River, from Melville Water to a more central location on Perth Water. Public comment has been sought on the trial, which runs until 10 June 2017 and will inform any subsequent application for ongoing and long-term use of the river for the commercial landing of seaplanes.

### LAND USE PLANNING PROGRAM

This year, as part of the Healthy Rivers Action Plan, the land use planning program provided advice on 28 strategic planning proposals likely to impact on water quality in the Swan Canning river system. These included urban water management plans and local water management strategies for the Hazelmere Enterprise Area, Southern River and the Wungong Urban Water Master Plan area. It also provided advice on district water management strategies for the Bullsbrook Industrial Precinct.

The land use planning program works on major developments around the river to ensure nutrient inputs to the river are reduced where possible. The Trust's advisory role on the new Perth Stadium ensured that opportunities for the implementation of water sensitive urban design have been maximised across the site. The design includes basins, swales and biofiltration areas and interpretive signage will be provided to engage the community. It will detail how these systems function and how they can improve river health.

New WAtEr Ways showcases water sensitive urban design solutions and builds the capacity of government and industry to deliver water sensitive cities. With the Trust's support, New WAtEr Ways developed a new training module on biofilters and fact sheets on tree pits and retrofitting, as well as hosted water industry nights and water sensitive bus tours in the northern and southern development corridors of the Swan Canning Catchment. These additional activities and programs were made possible through additional funding provided by the Trust through the Federal Government's Caring for our Country funding.

The Trust continued its support of the Cooperative Research Centre for Water Sensitive Cities to address knowledge gaps and support management decisions on urban water planning and nutrient reduction. Data collected at Trust sites is informing the understanding of hydrology and nutrient transport processes on the Swan Coastal Plain, and the key role of groundwater in these processes.

## PLANNING POLICY AND STRATEGIES

The Trust supports water quality protection and water sensitive urban design in the Swan Canning Catchment through the land use planning program. The Trust provided input to the Department of Planning on the development of the Government Sewerage Policy consultation draft. The Trust also provided advice to the Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority (MRA) on its Wungong Urban Water Management Policy and its monitoring guidelines for developers.



**Above** The historic Florence Hummerston building, which was originally in the north east corner of the site, has been rebuilt at Elizabeth Quay. **Right** Three years into construction Elizabeth Quay is starting to take shape and the dark area in the centre will eventually become the inlet. **Photographer** Bart Peters





# Shaping the future of Perth's rivers

Perth's riverscape is undergoing one of its most significant periods of development in recent history as projects such as Elizabeth Quay, Waterbank and the new Perth Stadium rise up along the Swan River.

Swan River Trust Statutory Planning Manager Glen McLeod-Thorpe said the Trust was closely involved in the planning processes of these projects and the agency's role varied from providing advice to decision-making authorities, to issuing Trust approvals, and making recommendations to the Environment Minister.

"The Trust helps to set environmental conditions and mitigation strategies for developers on issues such as site dewatering and public access," Mr McLeod-Thorpe said.

Mr McLeod-Thorpe said these projects were set to transform the way Western Australians interacted with Perth's rivers as would the agency's Swan and Canning Rivers Precinct Planning project.

To date, the Trust has developed precinct plans with the City of Belmont and the Town of Bassendean and is working on a vision for Perth Water with relevant local and state authorities.

"The plans are another area where the Trust gets involved to shape the future use and management of foreshore areas in the Swan Canning Riverpark," Mr McLeod-Thorpe said.

"We are setting out a vision by identifying nodes of activity and commercial use, areas for conservation, connectivity and landuse within a precinct to ensure certainty for developers and the community into the future."

# Riverpark Management

The Riverpark management program focuses on shoreline restoration, compliance, incident response, operations, and recreational and commercial activities in the Riverpark to help protect the natural environment and enhance community benefit and amenity.

## BOATING MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

In 2014-15, the Trust continued to manage issues and implement recommendations arising from the Boating Management Strategy. The Swan Canning Riverpark Mooring Management Program, was developed and finalised, in collaboration with the Department of Transport (DoT), in line with the agencies' legislative roles relating to moorings.

The program defined mooring area boundaries, determined the capacity for moorings in the Riverpark and established agreed management processes. This has ensured that increasing demand for moorings has been balanced with the competing demands of the Riverpark's many aquatic recreational activities.

The Trust continues to work with foreshore land managers to enable the implementation of the Dinghy Management Policy. This policy aims to manage dinghy storage along the river shoreline to achieve environmental protection and improve amenity and community enjoyment of the Riverpark. The policy position requires that all dinghies on the Riverpark shoreline will be stored in an approved managed system as designated by the relevant foreshore land manager.

Almost 60 per cent of key local government foreshore managers have identified suitable management approaches. A number of councils have already allocated areas for dinghy storage while other councils have decided to ban dinghy storage on the foreshore. The Trust will continue to support and assist local governments with enforcing any policy and legislation relating to dinghies being stored in the Riverpark.

## LAND MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The Trust has a direct management role related to the river reserve and a planning role relating to the Development Control Area. Field surveys identified encroachment issues on the reserve that included the installation of fences extending to the waterline, building unauthorised structures, storing materials, construction of bridges over the river itself, construction of dams and grazing animals in the DCA. The Trust has been working with landholders and relevant agencies to address these compliance issues.

In the first stage of the land management strategy in the upper Canning River area, the Trust identified 48 non-compliance issues. In 2014-15, 80 per cent of the issues were resolved. All outstanding matters relate to dam structures and the implications of these on the modified stream ecology. Scientific investigations are underway to inform decision-makers about the most appropriate management response for dealing with these structures in the future.



## Riverbank mends South Perth foreshore

The Swan River Trust and the City of South Perth joined forces and replaced crumbling river walling around Mends Street Jetty in an exciting Riverbank project which has transformed the popular destination.

The Riverbank Funding program is a partnership between State and local government and the community and it invests in projects focused on protecting and improving environmental, amenity and community infrastructure values in the Swan and Canning rivers.

Swan River Trust Riverbank Manager Stephen Lloyd said the Mends Street project included the replacement of 355m of river walling and included a \$1 million investment from the State Government and a \$1.3 million contribution from the City of South Perth.

“The walling around Mends Street had completely collapsed and the whole structure had to be replaced including the footings,” Mr Lloyd said.

“It was a significant engineering project and its completion has addressed significant safety, access and amenity issues.”

Mr Lloyd said the works had a 50-plus year lifespan and its completion had revitalised the foreshore, giving residents and visitors full continuous access to the river.

Since 2008, the State Government has contributed almost \$9.5 million in riverbank projects.

This has been matched by riverside local governments across 104 project sites, and in total represents almost \$19 million investment in the health and amenity of the Swan and Canning rivers.

**Right** The popular Mends Street Jetty area is set to be transformed in an exciting Riverbank project which will revitalise the gateway to South Perth from the Swan River.

**Photographer** Miranda Holker





## EVENTS, COMPLAINTS, INCIDENTS AND COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES

Each year, the Trust responds to a variety of incidents and complaints in and around the Riverpark and takes action when appropriate. This year, the Trust responded to 270 complaints compared with 234 last year.

There was also an increase in reported incidents of vegetation damage with 20 incidents recorded during 2014-15 in comparison with 15 incidents the previous year.

The Trust installed two vegetation damage signs and removed six other signs from four locations throughout the Riverpark this financial year.

These signs are installed to highlight any significant act of deliberate vegetation damage in the Riverpark. They have proven to be a successful tool to help educate the public about acts of deliberate vandalism and to warn that it is an offence to cut or destroy foreshore vegetation without required approvals.

During the year, Trust officers responded to three reports of dolphin entanglements and one dolphin death. The dolphin carcass was believed to have floated into the Riverpark from Fremantle Harbour.

*(See Table 2, page 17)*

Commercial tourism operations require licences to operate in the Riverpark. In some cases, commercial operations may also require permits or leases as part of their businesses. In response to increasing complaints about the behaviour of some commercial operations, compliance activities involving education and enforcement actions were initiated and resulted in a number of infringements and a 42 per cent increase in licences being issued.

Trust officers conducted five jetty based compliance activities, three as part of joint operations with DoT's Marine Safety branch. A further four joint boat patrols were conducted targeting speeding vessels in the Riverpark. Over the year, a total of 370 vessels were stopped, with 29 infringement notices and 33 written cautions issued, along with 128 verbal cautions for a variety of offences.

## MAINTAINING THE RIVERPARK AMENITY

The Trust undertakes an annual program of removing rubbish, waste and dumped materials, reshaping eroded beaches, foreshore protection works and responding to incidents such as fish kills, algae blooms, stranded wildlife, sewage spills and other illegal discharges. In 2014-15, the Trust responded to seven minor fish kill and three algal bloom incidents.

**Table 1: Tonnes of materials removed from Riverpark waterways and foreshores**

TONNES REMOVED PER YEAR						
MATERIAL	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Rubbish	6.76	6.577	9.27	6.88	2.65	4.341
Fish	0.001*	0.03*	0.01*	0*	0.02*	0.0002*
Timber	19.42	7.378	2.08	1.26	0.795	0.62
Weed	112.8	0	53.3	0	6.7	40.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>138.98</b>	<b>13.98</b>	<b>64.6</b>	<b>8.14</b>	<b>10.165</b>	<b>45.361</b>

\*Does not include fish removed as part of fish kill events.

Table 2: Incident and complaints management summary

SUBCATEGORIES	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Algal blooms	6	5	9	8	2	3	4	2	3
Aquatic deaths	10	12	23	15	10	6	13	9	7
Chemical spills	3	5	4	0	3	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
Vegetation destruction	30	23	30	42	42	28	32	15	20
Foaming	8	0	1	4	4	4	4	2	2
Foreshore damage	8	19	13	8	1	5	4	5	3
General complaints	82	68	79	82	46	54	65	33	68
Herbicides/pesticide spraying	1	3	2	1	3	1	1	Nil	Nil
Industrial discharge/dewatering	11	14	14	16	5	11	19	12	7
Offensive odour	10	3	5	4	Nil	2	Nil	2	Nil
Oil slicks/spills	32	26	34	27	23	22	26	33	19
Proactive compliance	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	67	34
River discolouration	3	4	6	10	16	10	3	3	4
Sewage discharge	10	11	12	9	5	6	7	8	10
Unauthorised development	13	16	13	11	9	13	48	9	49
Waste/rubbish dump	13	17	21	18	18	14	8	12	24
Watercraft nuisance	19	21	34	12	37	42	58	18	14
Weeds	5	1	7	4	1	1	Nil	Nil	2
Other							8	3	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>270</b>

**Table 3: Summary of materials removed from waterways and foreshores**

MATERIAL	UNITS	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Rubbish	Kg	6765	6577	9270	6880	2665	4341
White goods	Each	7	0	0	0	0	4
Tyres	Each	16	46	48	35	15	7
Drums	Each	20	7	16	4	1	0
Signs	Each	13	10	19	4	4	2
Vessels	Each	2	1	0	4	0	1
Shopping trolleys	Each	49	48	9	6	18	6
Fish	Kg	1*	30*	10*	0*	20*	0.2*
Birds	Each	6	2	1	0	0	0
Other animals	Each	2	1	0	0	2	0
Timber	Kg	19416	7378	2081	1265	795	620
Weed	Tonnes	112.8	0	53.3	0	6.7	40.4
Pallets/ crates	Each	37	20	12	15	1	8
Chairs	Each	0	0	0	0	0	39

\*Does not include fish removed as part of fish kill events.

Note: in tables 2 and 3 rubbish includes all general refuse and may also include rubble and remnants of old structures demolished and removed from the Riverpark.

## MANAGEMENT OF COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

Significant progress continued to be made to ensure commercial operators and activities in the Riverpark have the relevant permits and licences. A targeted compliance effort identified numerous unauthorised operators who were approached and subsequently sought the relevant licence or permit.

This action has resulted in 45 commercial operators, 22 commercial vessel and 23 recreation related activities being licensed during 2014-15 compared with 32 in the previous year. There was also an increased focus on operators' compliance with licence and permit conditions to ensure environmental protection, amenity and community enjoyment of the Riverpark was maintained.

A study to investigate recreational carrying capacity and to develop a methodology that assists in determining an acceptable level of commercial recreation operations at popular recreation sites in the Riverpark was completed in 2013-14. This was prompted mainly by concerns with the rapid increase in commercial operations, combined with high general recreational use at Point Walter in Melville.

The study provided valuable insights into recreational carrying capacity. Further monitoring of specific activities by the Trust has subsequently been undertaken over the summer and autumn of 2014-15 to augment the broader carrying capacity report. This information will be used to develop an agreed framework to assist with the management of commercial operations at high use recreation sites.

## **ABORIGINAL INVOLVEMENT**

The Trust in collaboration with the City of Canning initiated an Aboriginal training program through co-sponsoring an Aboriginal trainee for two years. A training program was developed to allow the trainee to gain practical experience while completing assessments and competencies required to gain tertiary qualifications in Conservation and Land Management. The Aboriginal trainee provides an opportunity for both the Trust and City of Canning to incorporate indigenous knowledge, culture and values into land management activities in the Riverpark.

## **VISITOR SATISFACTION OF THE RIVERPARK**

A visitor satisfaction survey was completed in 2014-15 to provide information about Riverpark use and experience to the Trust. It is the fourth time the Trust has conducted a visitor satisfaction survey since 2011.

Surveys of 432 visitors were conducted across 29 Riverpark locations. The overwhelming majority of visitors, 95 per cent, were from Perth and surrounding suburbs and more than half of the respondents, 55 per cent, visited that particular location on at least a monthly basis. A large number of land and water based activities occur within the Riverpark with the highest activities being picnicking, meeting family and friends, walking, jogging and cycling.

A high proportion of visitors, 86 per cent, indicated they highly valued the location they visited, which closely aligned with previous years. These findings support the importance of the Riverpark as a valued community asset.

The overall satisfaction level of respondents surveyed in the Riverpark was 99 per cent. This result is a strong endorsement of the successful management of the environment, amenity and community values by the Trust and its partners.

The survey also identified demand for more interpretation on natural, cultural and social information in the Riverpark. The Trust is responding to this demand through implementation of the “marli” Riverpark Interpretation Plan.

## **MARLI RIVERPARK INTERPRETATION PROJECTS**

Since the completion of the interpretation plan for the Riverpark Trails proposal which was completed in April 2014, work has gone into the design and development of three interpretation nodes on the Melville foreshore at Point Walter, Bicton Baths and Heathcote.

These nodes were designed in collaboration with Parks and Wildlife and the City of Melville. These interpretation nodes will be wooden deck structures designed to create a multi-use space providing opportunities for multimedia interpretation, seating and foreshore access.

Another project closely associated with the nodes has been the development of trail markers along Blackwall Reach Reserve to create a Whadjuk Cultural Heritage Trail Guide. The information was developed in collaboration with Aboriginal elders. Each trail marker station will host a different Whadjuk Noongar story and provide an opportunity for Riverpark users to learn about local Aboriginal heritage.



### RIVERBANK

Riverbank Funding is a partnership between the State Government and relevant local governments that results in significantly improved river shoreline conditions while providing major benefits to river health. Since 2002, the State Government's Riverbank program has contributed more than \$15 million for river restoration projects.

Funding for 2014-15 was shared across Proactive and Grants streams. This enabled the Trust to target a variety of foreshore issues in the Riverpark. Now in its fourth year, the Riverbank Proactive Funding is successfully targeting river-wide high priority, multi-year projects with the aim of meeting Riverbank objectives to:

- protect and enhance riverbanks and shorelines to mitigate threats to environmental, recreational, aesthetic or cultural values;
- protect, enhance and manage fringing indigenous vegetation and habitat; and
- improve enjoyment of the foreshore by addressing risk to public amenity values, safety, infrastructure and environment.

During 2014-15, more than \$2 million was distributed to 29 priority projects across 14 foreshore land managers.

These projects include erosion control, revegetation, weed control, river wall repair and preparation of foreshore management plans. All Riverbank projects have a designated project officer who works in partnership with foreshore land managers. Projects funded in 2014-15 are underway or on track.

The Riverbank program has received \$1 million annually from the Burswood Gaming Levy. As part of a \$3 million State Government Riverbank Funding commitment the Trust received an additional \$1 million in 2014-15 for foreshore protection and rehabilitation.

### ASSET MANAGEMENT

Under the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006*, the Trust has shared responsibility, with the State and local government, for both natural and built assets within the river shoreline zone.

The Trust's Asset Management System (AMS) has been developed to help manage foreshores by providing up to date condition assessments of foreshore assets within the Riverpark. These assessments support prioritisation criteria for the Riverbank funding schemes by identifying high value and threatened sites.

In 2014-15, the Trust collected data for over 300 built foreshore assets, including river walls and revetments. This data set has been applied immediately to inform the 2015-16 Riverbank funding programs. Data on natural assets will be collected in 2015-16.

**Right** Crested terns put on a show in South Perth with the city as a backdrop. Terns are small to medium-sized seabirds closely related to the gulls, skimmers and skuas.  
**Photographer** Sue Harper

“Since 2002, the State Government’s Riverbank program has contributed more than \$15 million for river restoration projects.”



# Environmental Management

The environmental management services are delivered by the River System Management Branch to improve our understanding of the rivers' function and health to inform management of the Riverpark.

## HEALTHY RIVERS PROGRAM

Eight integrated programs continued to deliver improved water quality throughout the Swan Canning river system using a catchment to coast approach. An allocation of \$1.57 million of the \$3 million in funding provided by the Burswood Park Board delivered a suite of projects in the Swan Canning Catchment.

The independent evaluation of the Healthy Rivers Action Plan 2008-13 (HRAP) was completed and found that the plan was effective with good progress achieved across the six action areas focused on improving water quality. Overall, 78 per cent of the targeted actions were accomplished, 21 per cent were partly accomplished and 1 per cent was beyond the control of the program to address.

The Office of the Auditor General (OAG) completed its audit on the health of the Swan and Canning rivers in August 2014 and recommendations from this work and the HRAP evaluation will guide future planning and delivery of the programs through the River Protection Strategy.

## SWAN CANNING WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SCWQIP)

The implementation of the Swan Canning Water Quality Improvement Plan (SCWQIP) has continued through State and Federal Government funding.

A steering committee, comprising representatives from the departments of Water (DoW), Parks and Wildlife, Planning, and Agriculture and Food WA (DAFWA), Water Corporation, Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) and Perth Region NRM continued to oversee the plan's rollout.

In 2014-15, a midway review of the progress of the SCWQIP was finalised. This review detailed the funding invested, the outputs achieved and the progress of each of the 20 SCWQIP projects completed during the period of assessment.

A major project completed through the SCWQIP, the modelling of flow and nutrient loads in the Avon River Catchment, was finalised in 2014-15. The Department of Water, in partnership with the Trust, produced and released a detailed report on this project in early 2015. This modelling identified the importance of addressing nutrient management in broadacre farming, particularly in those sub-catchments in the higher rainfall zone in the Avon River Catchment.

The Trust addressed the broadacre farming nutrient issue by partnering with Perth Region NRM and Wheatbelt NRM to implement the Healthy Soils Healthy Rivers program in the Swan Avon catchments for community groups and landholders. The grants range from \$2,000-\$10,000 and will be delivered over a three year period. The grants will fund activities that will improve the understanding and application of soil testing to help improve soil and nutrient management practices and provide funding for fencing and revegetation of waterways.

The soil amendment trial in the Ellen Brook Catchment continued to be intensively monitored during 2014-15. The soil amendment trial is being completed to determine the effectiveness of several soil amendment products in reducing phosphorus leaching in sandy soils. The project is being delivered in partnership with DAFWA, ChemCentre and the Water Corporation. A detailed project evaluation will occur in 2015-16 with a summary report to be prepared by June 2016.

In partnership with DoW, the Trust has made significant progress monitoring the effectiveness of Stormwater Best Management Practices. A guide to the planting of biofilter systems in the south west of WA was released in 2014-15 following a series of well attended training workshops.

The Trust also continued to work with local government authorities, industry and community groups to improve fertiliser management in urban areas. The *Environmental Guidelines for the Establishment and Maintenance of Turf and Grassed Areas* was revised in early 2015.



## Case Study

# Breathing life into the Canning

The health of the Canning River received a boost this year with the completion of a third oxygenation plant to help reduce the impact of algal blooms.

Swan River Trust River Health Program Manager Alex Hams said the new plant at Nicholson Road doubled the capacity to provide oxygen relief to the environment upstream of the Kent Street Weir.

“It ensures that an extra 2.2km of river can have adequate oxygen levels at times when levels drop to a point which harms aquatic life,” Mr Hams said.

“Low oxygen levels mainly occur in summer and autumn and are caused by decomposition of excess organic matter and nutrients.”

Mr Hams said the State Government invested almost \$3 million to provide oxygenation relief in the Canning River which includes \$1.4 million to upgrade the two existing oxygenation plants upstream of the Kent Street Weir.

The new plant, when combined with the existing two, will provide oxygen relief to a 4.5km stretch of the Canning River.

“The older plants, which are now more than 15 years old, will be upgraded to the same technology used in the new Nicholson Road plant,” Mr Hams said.

“Efficiency gains of the new technology may allow the two older plants to be replaced with one functional facility.”

Mr Hams said improving oxygen levels in the river helped to provide a refuge for fish, improve nutrient cycling, speed up the breakdown of organic matter and prevent offensive odours.

“The oxygenation program is one component of the State Government’s catchment to coast approach to protect and improve the health of the Swan Canning Riverpark,” he said.

**Top right** Swan River Trust Board Chairman Hamish Beck, Environment Minister Albert Jacob MLA, Department of Water Environmental Officer Zoe Goss and Trust River Health Program Manager Alex Hams discuss the benefits of oxygenation at the Nicholson Road plant on the banks of the Canning River. **Photographer** Jennifer Eliot

**Right** Nicholson Road oxygenation plant. **Photographer** Alex Hams



## HEALTHY CATCHMENTS PROGRAM

The Healthy Catchments Program continued to provide support to sub-regional Natural Resource Management (NRM) groups in the Swan region to coordinate community projects that reduce the amount of nutrients entering the Swan Canning river system. This year, \$545,000 was provided to sub-regional NRM groups.

The Canning Pools Critical Habitat Project has continued. The project's scope covers a distance of approximately 20km between the Canning Dam Wall to Pries Place in Kelmscott and 106 pools were identified. A collaborative arrangement was signed with University of Western Australia (UWA) to develop a methodology to classify pools and undertake a study of accumulated sediment composition in approximately 15 pools in the upper reaches of the Canning River.

## LOCAL WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLANS

The Trust continued to implement the 10 local Water Quality Improvement Plans (WQIPs) that have been developed for priority catchments across the Swan Canning Catchment in partnership with local government, community groups, residents and other state government departments.

Through the Bannister Creek Catchment WQIP, the redesign and revegetation of the Tom Bateman Wetlands inlet is almost complete with only a minor amount of additional plantings to be done. Targeted water quality monitoring was completed in the catchment with particular focus on the Canning Vale light industrial area. This data, among other water quality data collected in and near light industrial areas in the Swan Canning Catchment, has been used to guide the prioritisation of where audits will be conducted.

Detailed planning on a new project to reduce the impact of light industry on the Swan and Canning rivers has been undertaken and funding from the Caring for Our Country Program has been secured.

The project will be delivered in partnership with the Department of Environment Regulation (DER). The project will run over two years and will increase the capacity for compliance activities to be undertaken in accordance with the Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharge) Regulations 2004,

administered by DER and under delegated authority by officers under the *Local Government Act 1995*.

The project will also ensure best practice policies, guidelines, conditions and local laws are accessible to all local governments. It will also establish the parameters required for a uniform GIS enabled database for local governments, conduct training events with local government officers, and co-ordinate communication activities directly with industrial premises operators.

The Bull Creek Catchment WQIP focused on the construction of a living stream at the Brentwood Main Drain at Bateman Park. Investigations, planning, stakeholder consultations, pre-construction monitoring and approvals have been completed and works have started on site. Construction and the bulk of the revegetation will be completed in 2015 with infill planting and weeding continuing for several years.

Main Roads WA, in partnership with the Trust, has also agreed to redesign a compensation basin upstream of the Brentwood Main Drain to reduce the impact of poor quality water entering the living stream project from the basin at the corner of Leach Highway and the Kwinana Freeway.

The Brentwood living stream project included extensive engagement with the Noongar community and its transformation into a living stream. Traditional materials have been collected for use in artwork, ceremonies and tool making and a sign has been installed which includes a Noongar name for the site - *Kaalitj* – *ngort Koondaam* which translates to Dragonfly Dreaming. Noongar monitors will be present during the main construction phases of the project and a traditional owner artist will be used to design totems and artwork for use in interpretation signage throughout the site.

Other stakeholders have also been proactive in supporting the implementation of the Bull Creek WQIP. The City of Melville commissioned the draft Stormwater Environment Management Plan to investigate and recommend stormwater management treatment measures throughout the city and have scoped the redesign of several inlet structures to key wetland and river assets.



The cities of Melville and Canning have also supported catchment quality monitoring to allow coverage of the entire Bull Creek Catchment. This data will inform decision making about priorities for WQIP implementation in the coming years.

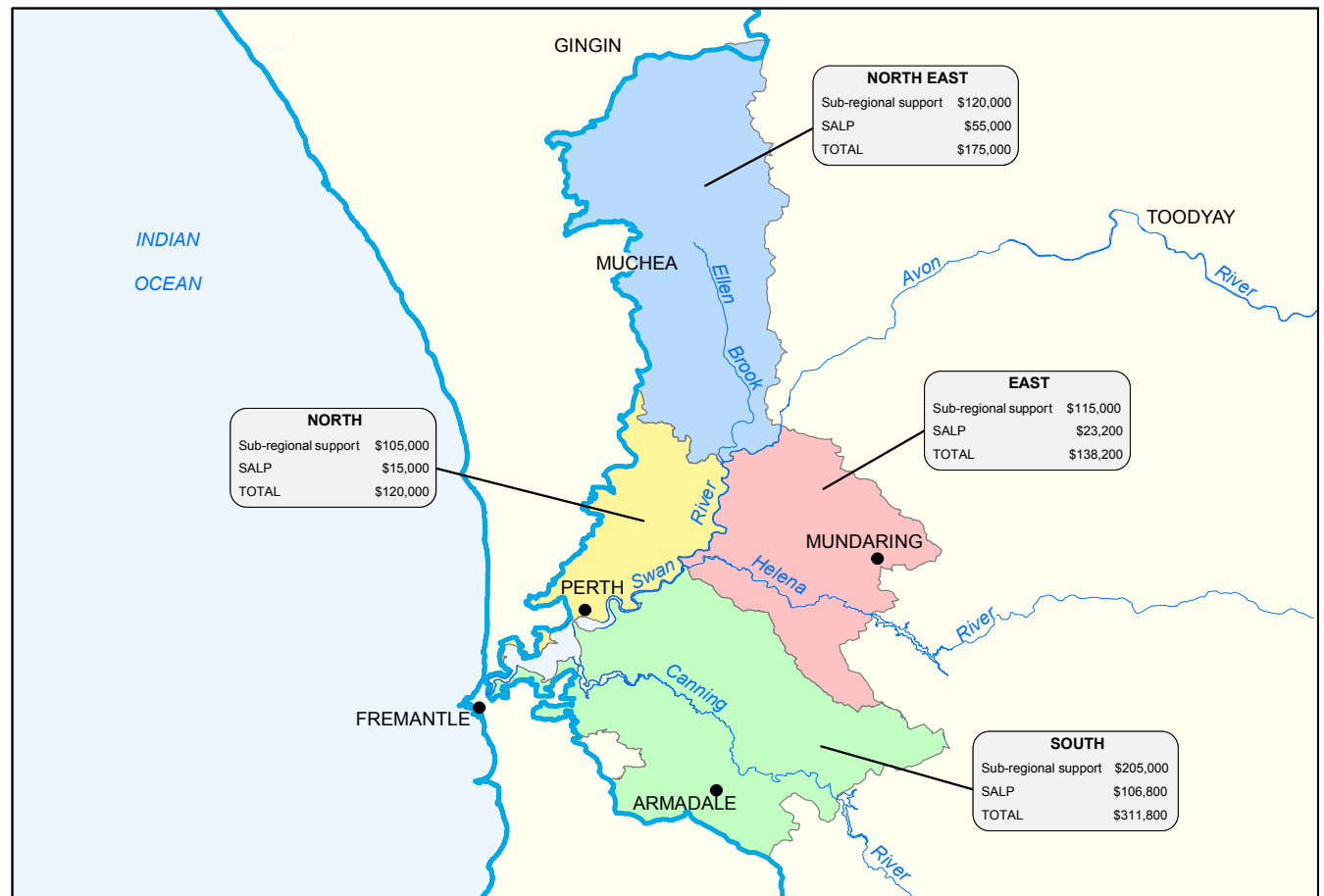
The Trust has completed sediment and water quality analysis along the Bickley Brook to compare with data from 2006-08. Edith Cowan University (ECU) students completed an investigation along the Bickley Brook to determine if the outfalls along the brook are a potential source of pollutants. The outcomes of these reports will inform and support implementation of WQIP actions in this catchment.

### SWAN RIVER TRUST AND ALCOA LANDCARE PROGRAM (SALP)

The Swan River Trust and Alcoa Landcare Program (SALP), administered by Perth Region NRM on behalf of the Trust and Alcoa Australia Limited, celebrated 17 years of delivering funding to community groups.

The program provided \$305,000 to 25 community groups to implement 58 on ground restoration projects throughout the Swan Canning Catchment in 2014-15. Supporting the program since 1999, the Trust has provided more than \$3.46 million to SALP with a further \$200,000 investment this year including \$50,000 from the Federal Government as part of the Caring for our Country Program.

**Figure 1: Swan Canning Catchment sub-regional support and Swan River Trust and Alcoa Landcare Program (SALP) funding.**







## Case Study

# Fish results shed light on river health

Research into the ecological health of the Swan and Canning rivers has found that the fish communities are in good shape.

Swan River Trust Principal Scientist Dr Kerry Trayler said the 2014 Fish Community Index showed that fish communities in the Swan and Canning rivers had improved since the mid-2000s.

The fish index was developed by Murdoch University and is based on a 30 year dataset.

It uses a range of metrics including diversity and number of fish species to evaluate the fish community as one measure of estuary health. Other measures that contribute to an overall picture of health include water quality, seagrass and foreshore condition.

“The 2014 Fish Community Index assessment for the estuary as a whole is consistent with the pattern of good-fair condition assessments in recent years,” Dr Trayler said.

“In total, 35 species and more than 30,825 fish were caught and released in shallow waters and 21 species and 1601 fish were caught and returned in deeper waters by the university scientists.

“While the number of species caught in deeper water was similar to previous years, the number in the shallows was notably higher than the 29 species recorded in either 2012 or 2013.”

Dr Trayler said the Swan and Canning rivers, like all urban waterways, were under pressure from climate change, historical land use and development, but the fish community results suggested the rivers were stable.

“This year’s results reflect high and stable salinity in the rivers, higher oxygen levels and the absence of toxic algal blooms across much of the waterway,” Dr Trayler said.

**This page** Thirty-five species and more than 30,825 fish were caught and released in shallow waters and 21 species and 1601 fish were caught and returned in deeper waters as part of the Fish Community Index research. **Photographer** Jennifer Eliot

## RIVER SCIENCE

In 2014, River Science investigations continued to build sound scientific knowledge into the management of the Swan and Canning rivers in alignment with the Trust's Research Strategy 2013-18. Consistent with the Riverpark management function in the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006*, the strategy also addresses river usage, community engagement and planning.

## INDICATORS OF CHANGE – ECOLOGICAL HEALTH

The Trust continued to apply existing indicators and developed new ones for reporting on the ecological health of the Swan and Canning rivers. The Trust continued to work with Murdoch University to use a fish community index as one measure of ecological health. The index, which draws on a 30 year dataset, was developed by Murdoch in collaboration with the Trust, DoW and the Department of Fisheries.

Reporting has occurred annually since 2012 and the 2014 report shows similar results to previous years with an overall improvement in fish community index in both mid-river and nearshore waters since the mid-2000s. This year's results reflect the high and stable salinities and absence of widespread hypoxia and harmful algal blooms across much of the waterway. The exception to this was an area in the lower Canning which was affected by a harmful algal bloom and hypoxia in late April and the index showed poor scores for the fish communities in deeper waters as a result.

The Trust and DoW continued to develop a seagrass index as an additional measure of river health. To date, the work suggests that seagrass condition as measured by distribution, productivity, cover and reproductive output can be reported based on three key pressures of light-stress, sediment-stress and eutrophication. Ongoing monitoring is required to validate the approaches.

In 2014, the Trust and Murdoch University continued to investigate dolphin health and behaviours in the Swan and Canning rivers. The university undertook pathology assessments on deceased dolphins where required and continued to progress a longer-term research investigation into the relationship between contaminant exposure in live dolphins and effects on physiological systems.

## DECISION SUPPORT – ESTUARINE RESPONSE MODELLING

This year, there was a significant focus on building on the hydrodynamic-biogeochemical model developed in 2013 which supports the operational management and evaluation of the oxygenation program in the Swan and Canning rivers. The new effort, undertaken by UWA, in partnership with DoW and the Trust, has involved the expansion of the existing model domain so that it extends from Fremantle to the upper river reaches of the Swan and Canning rivers and improving model script for better prediction of both physico-chemical conditions and phytoplankton dynamics. Work has continued to validate the model and the development of a science plan to provide a consensus view on the parameters and complexity of the model.

## ICONIC SPECIES - ADDRESSING THE DECLINE OF THE WESTERN SCHOOL PRAWN

Prawn Watch currently has 180 volunteers who independently log their prawn catch into a database via the Prawn Watch app which was developed this year. Volunteers received free training and surveys from these training sessions which showed participants improved their understanding of the issues facing the river and the fishing regulations.

To date, volunteers have contributed more than 800 hours to the collection of Western School Prawn broodstock for culture purposes. They also helped to facilitate the restocking of prawns back into the fishery. This effort, coupled with improvements in culture techniques for the Western School Prawn allowed the Australian Centre for Applied Aquaculture Research at Challenger Institute to release 1.92 million juvenile prawns into the Riverpark during the 2014-15 season. Over 2.5 million Western School Prawns have been released since the start of this project in 2012.

The data collected by Prawn Watch volunteers added to our understanding of river prawns and this data is also being included in a research program undertaken by Murdoch University which is looking at improving Western School Prawn culture and restocking success as well as factors that naturally limit the recruitment of this species.



More than 1400 otter and hand trawl samples were taken to date to evaluate stock status and distribution relative to an array of environmental factors. In addition, both laboratory and field investigations took place to examine temperature, salinity and sediment preferences. This work, along with predation investigations are continuing.

A preliminary bio-economic model has been used to evaluate the cost and benefits of releasing Western School Prawns and will be revised and updated using a suite of biological parameters generated from the extensive monitoring program.

### **TOWARDS IMPROVED ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES - INVASIVE FISH CONTROL**

The Trust continued to support the Department of Fisheries to control invasive aquatic fish species in the Swan and Canning rivers through the development of education tools in line with the department's *Don't dump that fish* campaign.

An educational video was developed and made available via YouTube to other organisations for promotion. In addition, poster boards and pamphlets were prepared for educational display purposes at venue partners and events to reach a wider sector of the community. Support was also provided towards a school video competition in order to raise awareness of this issue.

### **DRAINAGE NUTRIENT INTERVENTION PROGRAM (DNIP)**

Environment Minister Albert Jacob MLA visited the \$4.05 million Ellen Brook Wetland project on 10 July 2014. The Minister took part in revegetation activities and was given a tour of the wetland site. Trust staff participated in a planting day in July 2014, where 10,000 native seedlings were planted at the project site. The 60,000 plus seedlings planted since July 2014 are doing well with an estimated survival rate of 90 per cent. Some localised erosion repairs were undertaken in January and May 2015 to ensure the wetland is ready to be commissioned once there is sufficient flow in the brook. This first stage of the wetland is expected to remove about 270kg of phosphorus and 330kg of nitrogen from the Ellen Brook each year.

Construction works for the Eric Singleton Bird Sanctuary Wetland began in January 2015. The \$3 million project between the State Government and the City of Bayswater will see a portion of the Bayswater Brook flow diverted through a gross pollutant trap into the existing wetland which has been re-configured so that it comprises of a series of open water and densely vegetated surface flow zones of varying depths.

The wetland will prevent almost 40 tonnes of sediment and rubbish, 1.3 tonnes of nitrogen and 200kg of phosphorus from entering the Swan River each year. Major civil works were completed in July 2015 and this will be followed by an extensive revegetation effort which will see more than 150,000 native plants planted during winter and spring in 2015.

The Trust commissioned UWA to undertake performance assessments on the Wharf Street Wetland and the Anvil Way living stream project. The reports found that the wetland and living stream are removing significant quantities of nutrients and the assessment has helped to further refine monitoring for the coming year.

Last financial year, Amazon Frogbit, a highly invasive aquatic weed, was found in Bannister Creek and the Liege Street Wetland. Containment lines were set up and all visible vegetative material was removed prior to winter. Surveys recommenced last November and by February 2015, no further plants were found either in Bannister Creek, its confluence with the Canning River or Liege Street Wetland.

### **OXYGENATION PROGRAM**

The Trust currently operates five oxygenation plants in the river system to combat low oxygen levels in summer and autumn, with two plants on the Swan River and three on the Canning River located upstream of the Kent Street Weir. The operation of these plants during 2014-15 has been successful with unprecedented dissolved oxygen conditions being experienced within the zones of influence.

Construction of a third oxygenation plant on the Canning River was finalised in 2014 with testing and commissioning of the plant highlighting the benefits they can provide to the Kent Street Weir pool. The new plant provides oxygen relief to 2.2km of the Canning River extending the range of artificial oxygenation to a 4.5km stretch of the Canning River.



“The Brentwood living stream project included extensive engagement with the Noongar Community.”

**This page** The Bull Creek Catchment WQIP focused on the construction of a living stream at the Brentwood Main Drain at Bateman Park. The Brentwood living stream project included extensive engagement with the Noongar community and its transformation into a living stream. **Photographer** Jennifer Eliot





Given the success of the new technology used in the new plant, the Trust and DoW are now investigating the best way to upgrade the two existing plants or replace the oxygenation plants with one functional facility, as part of a \$2.8 million State Government investment to increase the capacity of the oxygenation program in the Canning River.

Oxygenation plants at Caversham and Guildford continued to provide oxygenation relief to a 10km stretch in the upper Swan River in 2014-15 during low oxygenation events. More than 94 per cent of monitoring data points collected during the year were above the target dissolved oxygen concentration of 4mg/L, while more than 99 per cent of the data was greater than the critical 2mg/L threshold. The design for the compound at the Caversham oxygenation plant is now complete, with construction to coincide with the winter off season and is expected to be completed before the end of 2015.

### **KENT STREET WEIR MANAGEMENT**

In 2014-15, the Kent Street Weir boards were removed for a total of 11 weeks between July and October, allowing fish movement into upstream habitats and the Canning River to be flushed with freshwater flows.

The Trust is working in collaboration with DoW and the City of Canning in planning a major upgrade to the Kent Street Weir on the Canning River. The upgrade includes replacement of the walkway and the piers supporting it, as well as providing a modified gate system that allows for better control of tidal movements and river flows. The upgrade is expected to be completed in 2015-16.

### **NON-NUTRIENT CONTAMINANTS PROGRAM**

Phase III of the Non-Nutrient Contaminants Program (NNCP) continued during 2014-15 and has now been finalised. A report focusing on an investigation into sediments and surface water adjacent to a disused waste disposal site on the Canning River was released and an investigation on contaminants in the drainage networks discharging to the Kent Street Weir pool has been completed.

The Trust, with the support of the Departments of Health and Fisheries, has undertaken a pilot study and developed a robust methodology for determining consumption guidance for wild-caught seafood in the Swan and Canning rivers. The pilot study focused on the most popular recreational angling species in the estuary, Black Bream *Acanthopagrus butcheri* and confirmed that metal and organic contaminants found within the system do not restrict the consumption of this species by recreational anglers.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL FLOWS**

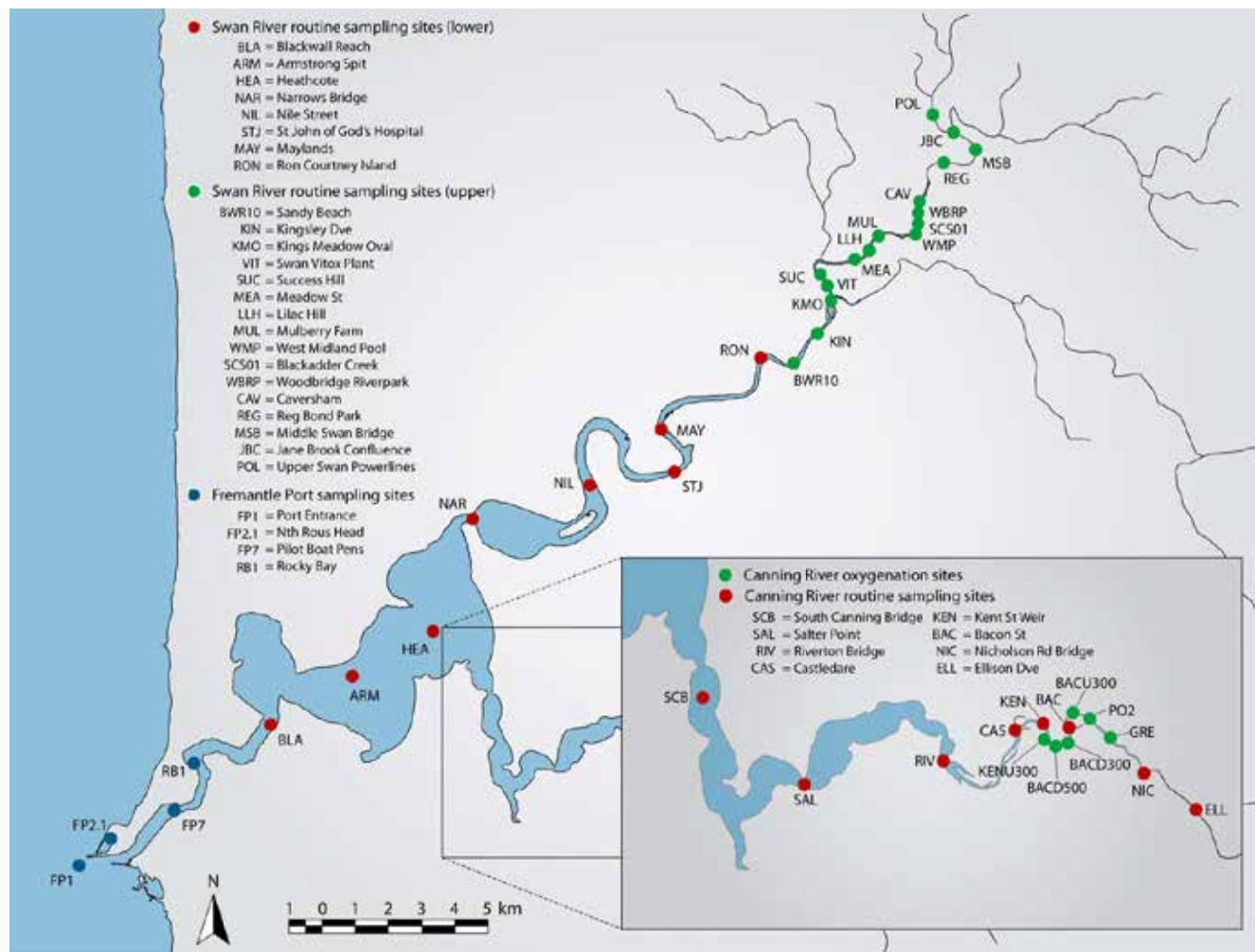
Several of the tributaries of the Swan and Canning rivers are dammed for the public water supply. The resulting changes to river flows are recognised as a disturbance to the environmental value of ecosystems downstream of major dams.

The Trust provides support to DoW to investigate the environmental water requirements of these downstream environments and to prescribe environmental water provisions (flow regimes) that maintain or restore ecological processes and protect their environmental value.

An environmental water release program for the lower Helena River is incorporated into DoW and the Water Corporation's operational strategy to manage releases from water supply dams. The program was again applied during the 2014-15 summer and autumn to maintain the values of the river's summer pools as refuge for river biota during the hottest period of the year.

A study investigating the aquatic fauna of the Helena River below and upstream of the release point was completed in 2014 and this information, along with data collected over the last four years of water releases has assisted with the ongoing management of water releases. Monitoring of fish populations in the upper Canning River is planned for 2015-16 to determine the impacts of environmental flows and in-river barriers.

Figure 2: Swan Canning Riverpark sampling sites



## ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

The Trust, in partnership with DoW continued its weekly monitoring program of the Swan Canning estuary. Thirty-two routine sampling sites are monitored throughout the estuary and water samples collected are subjected to a range of water quality analyses including nutrients, temperature, salinity, chlorophyll-a (algae), pH and dissolved oxygen.

Samples are collected across a range extending 1km upstream of the Jane Brook confluence on the Swan River, to the top of the Kent Street Weir pool, near Ellison Drive, on the Canning River and downstream to Fremantle. In addition to the Swan Canning estuary sampling, the Trust provides funding to the DoW to monitor water quality within the 31 sub-catchments that feed into the Swan and Canning rivers. Catchment data is collected fortnightly when there is water flowing in the tributaries.

Data collected in the environmental monitoring program helps the Trust to target specific areas within the catchment that require particular responses and to determine the effectiveness of the management actions we already have in place.

The data collected also allows the Trust to provide timely warnings about potentially hazardous conditions, such as harmful algal blooms and improves the long-term understanding of the way the Swan Canning river system functions.



# Communication of Environmental Information

The Communications team promotes the Trust's activities and encourages the community to protect and preserve the long-term future of the Riverpark through community engagement, behaviour change programs and environmental education.

## **MEDIA AND CORPORATE RELATIONS**

The Trust maintains a steady flow of information through traditional communications channels including print media, brochures, websites, media statements and social media.

Communications staff continued to provide strategic media advice on critical issues and developed detailed communication plans for Trust staff and stakeholders on the agency's projects. The branch also produced the majority of the Trust's internal and external publications providing in-house editorial, graphic design, project management and photographic services to the agency.

The Trust developed integrated communications campaigns across all media channels including print, web, television, radio, social media and mobile education displays. These mobile displays were used at a variety of large public events such as the Autumn River Festival, the Perth Royal Show and the Kings Park Festival and were exhibited at Scitech and other key partner venues.

Communications also developed a new marketing model to help grow River Guardians and Dolphin Watch membership, increased Great Gardens workshop attendance and diversity and improved community engagement activities.

The Trust's social media networking strategy has expanded the Swan River Trust and River Guardians websites and YouTube presence by producing a series of short videos showcasing some of the Trust's community engagement projects. This broadcast quality footage has proved invaluable in securing significant television coverage on the Dolphin Watch, Prawn Watch, Fishing Line Bin and River Rangers projects. This year, the team developed another smartphone application with the introduction of the Prawn Watch app.

Communications focused on proactive media by servicing and building strong relationships with all media outlets and journalists. This solid media rapport was supported by marketing activities to help deliver consistent messaging about the Trust's services and brands. This helped maximise media exposure and increased awareness of the Trust, River Guardians and associated project brands.

This year, the Trust formed important new stakeholder relationships with the Fremantle Port Authority, Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority, Perth Zoo and the WA Museum. This helped deliver key RiverWise education messages through mobile media displays and special events at key public venues.

## **CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP**

During the year, the partnerships team secured \$450,000 for the Swan River Trust and Alcoa Landcare Program (SALP) and attracted significant funding from Recfishwest and local governments for the Fishing Line Bin project. A funding application was also made to Recfishwest to continue the Western School Prawn Restocking program.

The Communications branch also produced sponsorship marketing materials to help attract expressions of interest for funding the Dolphin Watch project and wrote submissions for the Australian Riverprize 2015 and the West Australian Premier's Awards.

## Case Study

# Reeling in fishing waste

The Swan River Trust has successfully piloted its fishing line bin project Reel It In on the Swan and Canning rivers to help reduce the impact of discarded fishing line and tackle on dolphins, water birds and other animals.

During the 12 month trial, the project's 22 fishing line bins installed at popular jetties, fishing platforms, traffic bridges and foreshores removed more than 8788 metres of fishing line, 1743 hooks and sinkers, 1508 bait bags and 254 items such as lures and tackle packets.

Swan River Trust Community Engagement Program Manager Jason Menzies said Reel It In had forged partnerships with seven local councils and there were now 37 units installed which are expected to remove up to 20 kilometres of discarded fishing line from the Swan Canning Riverpark each year.

The project has also attracted support from the Fremantle Port Authority and City of Cockburn with bins being installed at the North and South moles.

“The Fishing Line Bin project is a cost effective solution to a serious problem and has delivered significant benefits to the dolphins, birdlife and the community,” Mr Menzies said.

Mr Menzies said the Trust had also invested in a Reel It In education campaign including a series of special events to help alert the public to the location of the bins and raise community awareness of the dangers of discarded fishing tackle.

“Dolphins and waterbirds have been severely impacted by discarded fishing line and this project is a simple way of minimising the number of entanglements that animal rescuers are dealing with on a weekly basis,” Mr Menzies said.

The project is delivered in partnership with Recfishwest, Native Animal Rescue and Keep Australia Beautiful Clean Marine program.

**Top right** Gizmo the dolphin beat the odds and Water Police were able to rescue him and disentangle the fishing line but the sad reality is that most animals die from injuries caused by entanglements. **Photographer** Richard Gorman

**Right** Keen Perth fisherwoman Helen Cross puts a discarded fishing rig in a dedicated fishing line bin. **Photographer** Stewart Allen





## WEBSITES

The branch transitioned the design and functionality of the Trust and River Guardians websites in preparation for the amalgamation with Parks and Wildlife. The Trust's website continued to expand its influence with 44,349 unique visitors, an increase of 21 per cent from the previous year.

The River Guardians website provides the Trust's online community engagement platform. The site has generated positive public feedback attracting 15,623 unique visitors during the reporting year, an increase of 43 per cent.

The Trust's website and social media platforms were promoted across key publications, videos and marketing materials. A new Instagram category was introduced for the River Guardians photo competition and attracted more than 300 entries. The Trust's Facebook account has 936 followers, its Twitter account has 1217 followers and the new River Guardians Instagram account has 89 followers.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### River Guardians

The River Guardians program has 2894 members, an increase of 31 per cent on 2014. Over the last year, the River Guardians team worked with 33 stakeholder groups and was actively involved in 63 environmental education events with a combined attendance of more than 17,973 people.

The River Guardians program continues to provide RiverWise training, volunteering opportunities and presentations from leading scientific and behaviour change experts addressing the significant issues facing our rivers.

**Right** Swan River Trust staff Markus Nordstrom and Jason Menzies plant native sedges at Eric Singleton Bird Sanctuary. The Trust and the City of Bayswater are building a nutrient stripping wetland at the site to improve water quality in the Swan River.

**Photographer** Miranda Holker





### **Dolphin Watch**

The River Guardians flagship project, Dolphin Watch, continues to flourish and celebrated its sixth year in June. The project's volunteer base has increased by 23 per cent over the last 12 months with 890 trained volunteers. More than 15,886 reports have now been recorded by volunteers since the project began in 2009. A total of 2396 hours were contributed by Dolphin Watch volunteers for 2014-15.

The project took a significant technical leap forward this year following several upgrades of the Dolphin Watch app. This technology has simplified the data collection process so now Dolphin Watchers can share dolphin sightings, photos and video in real time. A total of 929 reports have been received through the app with over 258 volunteer hours being recorded since the app's inception.

The annual Dolphin Watch Day event was held in June 2015. It was attended by the Trust Board, General Manager and staff and the Director General of Parks and Wildlife alongside 85 Dolphin Watch and WILDCARE Helpline volunteers. The popular event included the presentation of awards for volunteers and the release of the fifth edition of FinBook.

The Dolphin Watch project continues to foster relationships with other citizen science dolphin based projects, their volunteers and staff, including Parks and Wildlife's Monkey Mia Dolphin Experience and the Kangaroo Island Dolphin Watch project. The project has also given guidance and helped connect groups and individuals in the Mandurah region wishing to establish a similar project.

Building on the success of Dolphin Watch, the River Guardians team launched Junior Dolphin Watch this year and to date, 924 students from a total of 17 schools have engaged in the project. Students connect with the environment and Perth's dolphin population in a fun and informative way. Participating schools are provided with free national curriculum-linked dolphin lessons and the free loan of educational materials as well as ongoing incursions and excursions.

### **EXTERNAL PRESENTATIONS**

This year, Trust communications officers delivered 21 presentations to external stakeholders. These included universities, local government, volunteer groups and community events. The presentations reached 1564 people.

### **RIVERWISE-WATERWISE BEHAVIOUR CHANGE PROJECT**

The RiverWise-Waterwise behavior change project was delivered in the City of South Perth in 2014-15 and built on the success of the RiverWise Bennett Springs project in 2013.

A partnership between the Trust and the Water Corporation, the project used a personalised coaching approach, combined with on-site garden consultations to offer households alternative gardening practices and products. The behaviour change project aimed to reduce water consumption and fertiliser use.

Evaluation of the program highlighted strong water consumption reductions of 10.7 per cent, which equates to 102L per household per day, across participating households. Modest fertiliser reductions of 6.5 per cent were also achieved for participants who took up the garden consultation, but no overall fertiliser reduction was recorded through coaching only services. There was also a 15 per cent uptake of soil improvement and soil wetter from households across all participant groups.

## RIVER GUARDIANS SCHOOLS EDUCATION PROJECT

The Trust's Schools Education and River Rangers projects were successfully delivered across the Swan Canning Catchment.

The Schools Education project engaged 3122 students from 86 schools. As part of the project, the Trust delivered two RiverWise Youth Forums in partnership with Millennium Kids involving 180 students from eight schools. The events were supported by local governments and a variety of community groups including the Environment Resource Management Foundation and the Western Metropolitan Regional Council.

Four professional learning workshops were run by the Trust in partnership with the Canning River Eco Education Centre, the South East Regional Centre of Urban Landcare and the Geography Association of Western Australia

The River Rangers project expanded this year. It has engaged 683 students from 15 schools. A total of 35 activities were organised to support the schools, and included excursions to Walyunga National Park, planting days and a fauna release event at the Perth Cultural Centre Wetland.

To assist the teachers in running the project, leaders were invited to attend the Bush Rangers annual two day conference. In total, 82 leaders from 48 schools from around the state attended, with 19 of those leaders coming from River Ranger units. Further to this, two more leader workshops were held exclusively for River Ranger units.

**Right** Swan River Trust School Education Officer Linley Brown and River Rangers students from Weld Square Primary School test water on the Swan River as part of a school activity day at the Eric Singleton Bird Sanctuary Wetland. **Photographer** Jennifer Eliot



## GREAT GARDENS WORKSHOPS

The Great Gardens team continued to deliver free environmental education to the community. This year, the Trust funded 15 events, extending the project's reach to 2670 people.

The Trust trialled several new workshop formats and venues, including having a presence at large events like the Garage Sale Trail and the City of Belmont's Autumn River Festival, which led to an average attendance rate of 178 people per event.

Surveys and a home audit program indicate 74 per cent of participants made positive behavioural changes as a result of attending the autumn series of workshops including adopting RiverWise behaviours such as reducing fertiliser use or planting native plants. The surveys revealed 59 per cent of attendees switched to the use of slow-release fertiliser and 54 per cent have reduced the amount of fertiliser they use.

## FISHING LINE DISPOSAL UNITS

The Reel it In Fishing Line Bin project was successfully piloted during 2014 to help reduce the impact discarded fishing line has on dolphins, pelicans and other wildlife in the Riverpark.

At the end of December 2014, the project's 25 fishing line bins installed at popular Riverpark jetties, fishing platforms, traffic bridges and foreshores had removed more than 8788 metres of fishing line, 1743 hooks and sinkers and 1508 bait bags during the year.

The Fishing Line Bin project has forged partnerships with seven local councils and has since expanded to 37 units. Made from 100 per cent recycled materials, the bins are now expected to remove up to 20km of discarded fishing line from the Riverpark each year.

Fishing line bins have been installed at Garratt Road Bridge, Canning Bridge, the Narrows Bridge, Riverton Bridge, Applecross Jetty, Point Walter Jetty and other popular fishing platforms on the Canning River. The Fremantle Port Authority is also trialling the project and has installed six units at the North and South moles. Cockburn City Council has installed two units at beachfront locations.


The Fishing Line Bin project partners include Recfishwest, Native Animal Rescue, Keep Australia Beautiful Clean Marine Campaign and seven riverfront councils. Native Animal Rescue empty and audit the fishing line bins by boat and car on a weekly basis.

## PHOSPHORUS AWARENESS PROJECT

The Phosphorus Awareness Project (PAP) seeks to achieve a decrease in nutrient loads and algal blooms through changes in community and industry behaviour. The PAP delivers fertiliser and environmental education to the wider community and the position is funded by the Trust and State NRM and achieved the following results in 2014-15:

- 262 school presentations to 6725 school students
- 17 community presentations to 395 community members
- 22 displays with 6110 people spoken to
- Five Fertilise Wise Fertiliser Training sessions with 88 turf managers trained (supported by State NRM funding)
- 21 planting sessions with 4055 plants planted by 625 school students (610 volunteer hours)
- One drain stencilling session with 30 drains stencilled by 20 volunteers (20 volunteer hours)
- Production of the Mozzie Wise School Education Package for students from kindergarten to Year 10.





“The Trust worked with the Department of Parks and Wildlife and 14 government agencies to review and finalise the draft River Protection Strategy.”



# Servicing the Agency: Strategic Programs

The Strategic Programs Branch implements a planning and policy framework to guide the Trust and others to achieve collaborative and coordinated management of the Riverpark.

## DRAFT RIVER PROTECTION STRATEGY

The Trust worked with the Department of Parks and Wildlife and 14 government agencies to review and finalise the draft River Protection Strategy. The strategy took into account the changes arising from the merger of the operational functions and staff of the Trust with Parks and Wildlife from 1 July 2015. The draft strategy aims to achieve better coordination between management organisations on strategic and priority issues and recommends actions to protect Riverpark values.

## LEGISLATION

The Swan and Canning Rivers Management Amendment Bill 2014 passed in the Legislative Council on 26 February 2015. Following the assent of the Governor in Executive Council, it was gazetted on 19 June 2015. The Bill supported the transfer of operational functions and Trust staff to Parks and Wildlife. The Swan and Canning Rivers Management Regulations 2007 were also reviewed to align the Regulations with the revised operational responsibilities contained in the Act. These and two other sets of regulations were amended to reflect the changing responsibilities of the Trust and Parks and Wildlife. The amendments to the Act and the changes to the Regulations came into effect on 1 July 2015.

## LEGAL ADVICE

Strategic Programs coordinated critical legal advice across several of the Trust's largest projects including the Ellen Brook Wetland, as well as several complex statutory assessment matters.

## CHANGE MANAGEMENT AND RELOCATION

In December 2015, the staff of the Trust relocated from the Fortescue Centre, East Perth to offices at Parks and Wildlife in Kensington. It has allowed Trust and Parks and Wildlife staff to work closely with relevant divisions, resolve critical issues and ensure a smooth and efficient integration of functions.

An internal working group was established to manage the process. The group included representatives from all branches ensuring that staff communication and involvement was an ongoing focus as the merger progressed.

## RESEARCH STRATEGY

A strategic focus of the Trust is to inform river management through a coordinated research program that incorporates environmental, social, and planning research needs. A working group with Trust-wide representatives met to support annual budget decisions for 2015-16 planning and facilitate agreement on research project priorities.





“The Trust encourages public comment on river management issues during the year and actively works to provide the Perth community with opportunities to participate in decision making.”



# Serving the Agency: Business Management

The Business Management Branch ensures accountability, good governance and financial sustainability by improving management systems within the Swan River Trust. Work has continued this year to improve the internal financial reporting processes in line with the *Financial Management Act 2006* and Treasurer's Instructions.

## REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Parks and Wildlife provides the Trust with staff, facilities and corporate services as defined by the Act. The Service Level Agreement between Parks and Wildlife and the Trust has been reviewed and updated for financial year 2014-15. Outputs pertaining to Parks and Wildlife disability access and inclusion plan, equal employment, substantive equality, cultural diversity and language services, corruption prevention, youth, compliance with public sector standards and ethical codes applicable to the Trust are incorporated in the outcomes reported in the Parks and Wildlife Annual Report 2014-15.

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Trust has procedures for identifying, preventing and resolving conflicts of interest, as outlined in the Parks and Wildlife Code of Conduct (February 2014). Trust Board members are required to declare conflicts of interest. This year, three Trust members declared a conflict of interest in five items.

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

This year, there was one request under the provisions of the *Freedom of Information Act 1992*. For the purposes of the Act, the Trust is a 'related agency' to Parks and Wildlife.

## RECORD KEEPING

Record keeping was centralised to the Trust in 2009-10 and Record Keeping practices are in accordance with the State Records Office approved Trust's Record Keeping Plan, which includes retention and disposal schedules.

**Opposite page** Kite surfing continues to grow in popularity on the Swan River, with Point Walter being a focal point. **Photographer** Matt Kleczkowski

## ADVERTISING AND MARKETING

The Trust does not conduct campaign advertising for this activity.

**Table 4: Advertising and marketing expenditure**

CLASS OF EXPENDITURE	SUPPLIER	CONSOLIDATED FUND EXPENDITURE
Advertising of revised Regulations	State Law Publisher	\$221.73
Advertising of amended <i>Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006</i>	State Law Publisher	\$1309.00
Marketing	Various	\$95,197.51
Total		\$96,728.24

## PUBLIC COMMENT

The Trust encourages public comment on river management issues during the year and actively works to provide the Perth community with opportunities to participate in decision making. Matters of significant public interest are advertised to seek submissions from the community. This financial year the trial landing of commercial seaplanes in Melville Water was advertised. This was paid for by the proponent.

## DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE

The Trust's Finance and Audit Committee was disbanded at the August 2014 Board meeting due to proposed amendments to the Act. The Department of Treasury confirmed that the Trust Board had discretion to deal with any matters formerly considered by the Finance and Audit Committee. The Trust approved updated financial delegations at its April 2015 Board meeting. The Trust has an exemption from the Department of Treasury and Finance to employ an in-house Chief Financial Officer if there is support by an approved external accountancy firm.

Under Section 34 of the Act, the Environment Minister may give directions in writing to the Trust, generally with respect to the performance of its functions. The Trust is to give effect to any such direction. This year, there were no Ministerial directives.

## CAPITAL PROJECTS

The Trust took delivery of a new work vessel, the 'Kepa' (meaning 'Water') at the cost of \$57,848.18. The price included the vessel, fit-out and outboard motor. The Ellam Street Work Centre upgraded its slipway to allow for launching of jinker-based and trailerable vessels (dual use). The total cost of the Slipway Upgrade Project was \$139,009.68. The Ellen Brook Wetland project was completed and included \$230,010.30 for hydraulic infrastructure (pumps and pipes). Two photocopiers were replaced at a combined price of \$30,932.00. The latest land valuations realised a parcel of river reserve land, which was valued at \$1,650,000.00

## EMPLOYEES

Trust officers are employed by Parks and Wildlife and are subject to its industrial agreements. Executive remuneration is paid in accordance with public service conditions and reflects Parks and Wildlife industrial agreements. There was one workers' compensation incident to report for 2014-2015.

## GOVERNANCE MATTERS

The Trust operates in accordance with Schedule 6 of the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006*, *Public Sector Management Act 1994*, and Parks and Wildlife Code of Conduct (February 2014). Board members received the following remuneration. Board members who are public servants are not remunerated.

**Table 5: Board members remuneration**

POSITION	COMMITTEE	FY 2014-15
Chairman Hamish Beck	Board	\$29,252
Deputy Chairperson Barbara Watroba	Board	\$14,401
Member Shelley Taylor-Smith	Board	\$8,077
Member Vanessa Davies	Board	\$8,077
Member Lindsay Baxter	Board	NIL*
Member Vicki Rasmussen	Board	\$8,357
Member Jeffrey Stone	Board	NIL*
Member Robert Hawes	Board	\$8,721**
Member (from 20 April 2015) David Saunders	Board	NIL*

\*Member is a public servant and therefore does not receive remuneration

\*\* Includes travel allowance

There were 11 Trust Board meetings during 2014-2015.

**Table 6: Trust Board meeting attendance**

MEMBER	TOTAL	ATTENDED
Hamish Beck	11	11
Barbara Watroba	10	9
Shelley Taylor-Smith	11	7
Vanessa Davies	11	6
DoP rep – Lindsay Baxter (Department of Planning)	9	8
Vicki Rasmussen	11	10
Jeffrey Stone	11	10
Robert Hawes	11	10
DoP rep – David Saunders (Department of Planning)	2	1

## DELEGATIONS

No changes to the delegations were made during 2014-15.

## PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

Trust officers provide written monthly reports on activities and financial statements to the Trust Board and its committees. Performance against the strategic and business plans is evaluated quarterly. Annual performance is reported in the Trust Annual Report to Parliament and the Minister for Environment.

## ASSET MANAGEMENT

The carry forward value of Trust property, plant and equipment was \$28,875,943.

## OTHER LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Trust does not conduct campaign advertising.

## COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC SECTOR STANDARDS AND ETHICAL CODES

Trust officers are subject to the Parks and Wildlife Code of Conduct (February 2014) and *Public Sector Management Act 1994*, as required by the Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics.

## GOVERNMENT POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Trust officers are subject to the Parks and Wildlife Code of Conduct (February 2014) and *Public Sector Management Act 1994*, including corruption prevention and substantive equality.

## OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY, HEALTH AND INJURY MANAGEMENT

The Trust maintains an active OSH committee with a safety officer and two Safety and Health representatives, one from each work centre (i.e. Kensington and Ellam Street, Victoria Park). The committee met twice and actively promotes a culture of safety and health in the workplace. A Safety and Health Representative participated in a five day introductory course and all staff participated in a Health and Safety Introduction Training Course. There was one Occupational Safety and Health incident reported. Workstation ergonomic assessments have continued to be undertaken and manual handling training has also been implemented.

OSH is a standing item at weekly executive management team meetings, weekly operational work group meetings, program management meetings and at six-weekly staff meetings.

Under the Public Sector Commissioner's circular 2012-05, WA public sector agencies are required to report on OSH performance indicators in their annual reports. Results are shown in Table 7 below.



**Table 7: Swan River Trust OSH Performance Indicators**

MEASURE	ACTUAL RESULTS		RESULTS AGAINST TARGET	
	2012-13	2014-15	TARGET	COMMENT ON RESULT
Number of Fatalities	0	0	0	Target achieved
Lost Time Injury and/or disease incident rate	0	0	0 or 10% reduction	Target achieved
Lost Time Injury and/or disease severity rate	0	0	0 or 10% reduction	Target achieved
Percentage of injured workers returned to work: i) within 13 weeks	100	100	Greater than or equal to 80%	Target achieved
ii) within 26 weeks	100	100		Target achieved
Percentage of managers trained in occupational safety, health and injury management responsibilities	0	>80%	Greater than or equal to 80%	Target achieved

\* In accordance with the Public Sector Commissioner's Circular 2012-5

**Opposite page** Recreational fishers and tourists enjoy a spectacular sunset at the Como Jetty. **Photographer** Dianna Kelsey



# Disclosures and Legal Compliance

# Independent Auditor's Report



Auditor General

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Parliament of Western Australia

### SWAN RIVER TRUST

#### Report on the Financial Statements

I have audited the accounts and financial statements of the Swan River Trust.

The financial statements comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2015, the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service for the year then ended, and Notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### *Reporting Officer's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

The Swan River Trust ceased to exist as a statutory authority under the Financial Management Act 2006 on 30 June 2015. The Treasurer appointed a Reporting Officer under section 68 of the Act who was responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Treasurer's Instructions that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### *Auditor's Responsibility*

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on my audit. The audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those Standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Reporting Officer's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Reporting Officer, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

#### **Opinion**

In my opinion, the financial statements are based on proper accounts and present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Swan River Trust at 30 June 2015 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended. They are in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Treasurer's Instructions.



### **Report on Controls**

I have audited the controls exercised by the Swan River Trust during the year ended 30 June 2015.

Controls exercised by the Swan River Trust are those policies and procedures established by the Board to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions.

#### *Board's Responsibility for Controls*

The Board was responsible for maintaining an adequate system of internal control to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of public and other property, and the incurring of liabilities were in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2006 and the Treasurer's Instructions, and other relevant written law.

#### *Auditor's Responsibility*

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the controls exercised by the Swan River Trust based on my audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the adequacy of controls to ensure that the Trust complies with the legislative provisions. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement and include an evaluation of the design and implementation of relevant controls.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

### **Opinion**

In my opinion, the controls exercised by the Swan River Trust are sufficiently adequate to provide reasonable assurance that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions during the year ended 30 June 2015.

### **Report on the Key Performance Indicators**

I have audited the key performance indicators of the Swan River Trust for the year ended 30 June 2015.

The key performance indicators are the key effectiveness indicators and the key efficiency indicators that provide information on outcome achievement and service provision.

#### *Reporting Officer's Responsibility for the Key Performance Indicators*

The Reporting Officer is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2006 and the Treasurer's Instructions and for such controls as the Reporting Officer determines necessary to ensure that the key performance indicators fairly represent indicated performance.

#### *Auditor's Responsibility*

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the key performance indicators based on my audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the key performance indicators. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the key performance indicators. In making these risk assessments the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Reporting Officer's preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the relevance and appropriateness of the key performance indicators for measuring the extent of outcome achievement and service provision.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

### **Opinion**

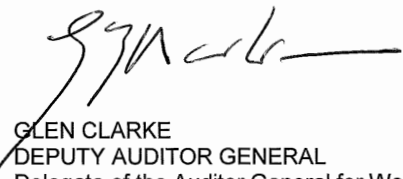
In my opinion, the key performance indicators of the Swan River Trust are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the Trust's performance and fairly represent indicated performance for the year ended 30 June 2015.

### **Independence**

In conducting this audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of the Auditor General Act 2006 and Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards, and other relevant ethical requirements.

### **Matters Relating to the Electronic Publication of the Audited Financial Statements and Key Performance Indicators**

This auditor's report relates to the financial statements and key performance indicators of the Swan River Trust for the year ended 30 June 2015 included on the Trust's website. The Trust's management is responsible for the integrity of the Trust's website. This audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the Trust's website. The auditor's report refers only to the financial statements and key performance indicators described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from these financial statements or key performance indicators. If users of the financial statements and key performance indicators are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial statements and key performance indicators to confirm the information contained in this website version of the financial statements and key performance indicators.



GLEN CLARKE  
DEPUTY AUDITOR GENERAL  
Delegate of the Auditor General for Western Australia  
Perth, Western Australia  
31 August 2015

# Endorsement of Key Performance Indicators

## Key Performance Indicators for the year ending 30 June 2015

Certification of performance indicators

I hereby certify that the performance indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess the Swan River Trust's performance and fairly represents the performance of the Trust for the financial year ending 30 June 2015.



### **Rod Hughes**

Reporting Officer, Rivers and Estuaries Division  
Department of Parks and Wildlife

26 August 2015



## Summary of key performance indicators

The following table illustrates the relationship between the agency's services and desired outcomes and the government goal it contributes to.

The key effectiveness indicators measure the extent of impact of the delivery of the service on the achievement of desired outcomes.

The key efficiency indicators monitor the relationship between the service delivered and the resources used to produce the service.

### GOVERNMENT GOAL - SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY: ENSURING THAT ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IS MANAGED IN A SOCIALLY AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE MANNER FOR THE LONG-TERM BENEFIT OF THE STATE

Desired outcomes	Services	Effectiveness performance indicators	Efficiency performance indicators
The long-term community benefit of the Swan Canning river system is protected and enhanced	Statutory assessment of development proposals	Percentage of development recommendations which have attracted negative responses from the community	Average cost per application assessed
	Riverpark management	Percentage of developments audited in full compliance with approval conditions	Average cost of audit compliance Average cost per tonne of waste removed
The ecological health of the Swan Canning river system is protected and enhanced	Development and implementation of environmental management programs	The extent to which management water quality targets are achieved in the Swan and Canning rivers and catchments	Average cost of river monitoring per kilometre of river managed (approximately 156km)
		Percentage of foreshores protected and rehabilitated in relation to total area	Average cost per square metre of foreshore undergoing protection and rehabilitation works
	Communication of environmental information	Percentage of people attending environmental education programs who change their behaviours as a result	Average cost per person attending an environmental education program

**Table 8: Percentage of development recommendations which have attracted negative responses from the community**

2011-12 ACTUAL	2012-13 ACTUAL	2013-14 ACTUAL	2014-15 TARGET	2014-15 ACTUAL
0%	0%	17%	2%	0%

In accordance with Part 5 of the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006*, draft reports on proposed developments are approved by the Trust for comment by the public. The draft reports are published on the Trust website for three weeks to allow for this to occur. The process allows the Trust to consider the public's response to the decisions it makes before a final recommendation is made to the Minister. Importantly it allows the Trust to gauge its alignment with community values on development matters within the Development Control Area.

In 2014-15, 14 applications were determined under Part 5, none of which attracted a negative response from the community. This is reflected in the zero per cent measure recorded in Table 8.

**Table 9: Percentage of developments audited in full compliance with approval conditions**

2011-12 ACTUAL	2012-13 ACTUAL	2013-14 ACTUAL	2014-15 TARGET	2014-15 ACTUAL
69%	66%	67%	100%	79%

The effectiveness of the Trust's development control process is measured as a percentage of developments found to be 100 per cent compliant with those approval conditions relevant at the time of audit.

Of the 400 compliance actions conducted on developments approved under Part 5 of the Act, or by way of permit under the Swan and Canning River Management Regulations 2007, 84 were found to be non-compliant with one or more relevant approval conditions at the time of the compliance action.

There was an overall decrease in the number of audit actions carried out from 462 in 2013-14 to 400 in 2014-15, which was a direct result of the need for the Trust's compliance officer to spend the first half of the year assisting with the compliance effort for the Elizabeth Quay project. The percentage of full compliance improved to 79 per cent from 67 per cent in the previous year, largely due to a new focus on voluntary compliance which is achieved through the upfront education of proponents and contractors.

In addition to the audits conducted on Trust approvals, 93 compliance checks were also carried out on projects approved by local government or the Western Australian Planning Commission with advice from the Trust. Of those projects 62 per cent of audits revealed full compliance with conditions recommended by the Trust. This was an increase from 52 per cent compliance in 2013-14.

### KEY EFFECTIVENESS PERFORMANCE INDICATOR

**Table 10: Percentage of foreshore protected and rehabilitated in relation to total area**

2011-12 ACTUAL	2012-13 ACTUAL	2013-14 ACTUAL	2014-15 TARGET	2014-15 ACTUAL
2.1%	2.64%	1.54%	0.4%	6.2%

The Trust has an important role in facilitating foreshore protection and rehabilitation. It provides operational work capacity, technical expertise, and grant funding for foreshore plans and rehabilitation projects undertaken by State and local governments in partnership with community groups. This work contributes significantly to mitigating riverbank erosion, restoring foreshore vegetation and protecting associated ecological aesthetics and social values.

This indicator measures the percentage of the total foreshore area subject to management effort as supported by the Trust during the year. The total foreshore area is 22,282,198m<sup>2</sup>.

In 2014-15 an estimated area of 81,100m<sup>2</sup> or 0.4 per cent of the foreshore was to receive some form of management by the Trust. The actual achieved was significantly higher at 1,391,002m<sup>2</sup> or 6.2 per cent of foreshore benefiting from some form of management. Foreshore management included increased areas under planning and assessment at local government and across local government level. The cost of works per m<sup>2</sup> for planning is significantly less than for works such as foreshore revegetation and construction projects thus showing a significant increase in outcome above target.

The extent to which management water quality targets are achieved in the Swan Canning estuary and catchments is measured by the following Effectiveness Indicators:

- Total nitrogen (TN) and total phosphorus (TP) concentration in 15 tributaries of the Swan Canning Catchment compared to targets levels.
- Chlorophyll-a (chl-a) concentration and dissolved oxygen (DO) saturation in surface waters of the Swan Canning estuary compared to target levels.

Excess nitrogen and phosphorus entering the Swan Canning river system have contributed to nuisance and toxic algal blooms. Controlling nutrients entering the system from the catchments is essential to reduce the frequency of algal blooms and prevent further deterioration of estuarine water quality. In recognition of the long timeframes required for catchment management to affect nutrient levels in tributaries, both short and long-term targets have been developed Table 11.

### THE SWAN CANNING CATCHMENT TARGETS

**Table 11: Targets for median total nitrogen and total phosphorus in catchment tributaries of the Swan Canning river system**

TARGET	TOTAL NITROGEN (TN)	TOTAL PHOSPHORUS (TP)
Short-term	2.0 mg/L	0.2 mg/L
Long-term	1.0 mg/L	0.1 mg/L



## MONITORING IN THE SWAN CANNING CATCHMENT

The 15 monitored catchments were sampled each fortnight from January to December, although targets were only assessed against data collected between June and October, as many tributaries only flow during the winter/spring months. The calculation of the 2015 catchment target compliance incorporated three years of data up to and including October 2014, which included a total of around 30 samples. Some catchments remained dry in the early winter months resulting in fewer than 30 samples for compliance testing in some cases.

If a tributary met the short-term target then it was assessed against the long-term target. If the tributary passed both short and long-term targets then it was assessed against the more stringent long-term target again. This is to ensure that the water quality had not significantly deteriorated.

## PERFORMANCE 2014: SWAN CANNING CATCHMENT TARGETS

**Table 12: Key to Catchment Performance Indicator results**

	The tributary failed the short-term target in the previous year and was therefore assessed against the short-term target in the current year.
	The tributary previously passed the short-term target but failed the long-term target and was therefore assessed against the long-term target in the current year.
	The tributary previously passed both short-term and long-term targets and the data in the current year was compared against the more stringent long-term target to ensure the water quality has not deteriorated.

## INTERPRETATION OF THE CATCHMENT TABLES

The colour of the cells in Tables 14 and 15 indicates the target (Table 11) that each catchment was compared against in the current year. The darkest shade cell indicates that the tributary failed the short-term target in the previous year and was therefore assessed against the short-term target in the current year.

Medium shade cell means that the tributary passed the short-term target in the previous year and is therefore being assessed against the long-term target in the current year. The lightest shade cell means that the tributary had passed both targets and the data was compared against the more stringent long-term target in the current year to ensure water quality had not deteriorated.

The number within the brackets in Tables 14 and 15 indicates the maximum number of samples above the target levels in Table 11 permitted to occur to meet the target (derived statistically - see following section on compliance). The number outside the bracket is the actual number of samples from the tributaries that had concentrations of total nitrogen or total phosphorus higher than the target levels shown in Table 11. If the number outside the bracket is higher than the number inside the bracket the Trust concluded that the target had not been achieved.

### COMPLIANCE DECISIONS

The maximum allowable excursion rate (e max) was statistically derived using the binomial distribution curve and was dependent upon the percentile used (median for TN and TP) and the threshold value applied to the hypothesis being tested (dependant on compliance or breach in the previous year).

The data was collected at intervals, rather than continuously, and consequently the true rate of excursion above a target value can only be estimated. Decision rules were developed using a 90 per cent confidence interval around the sample excursion rate. Samples above the 90 per cent confidence interval were determined to breach the target, whereas those below the 90 per cent confidence interval were determined to be compliant. Using this information decision rules were developed. See Table 13.

**Table 13: Examples of decision rules for catchment nutrient median targets using 30 samples.**

PRIOR CONDITION	DECISION RULE
Pass	19 or fewer samples above the target level means the tributary has continued to comply with the target (pass).
Fail	12 or more samples above the target level means the tributary has continued to fail to comply with the target (fail).

**Table 14: Compliance of monitored tributaries discharging into the Swan Canning estuary with short-term and long-term total nitrogen targets**

TRIBUTARY	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Ellen Brook	(9) 16	(8) 17	(8) 13	(9) 16	(10) 18
Mills Street Main Drain	(12) 25	(12) 21	(12) 19	(12) 21	(12) 21
Bannister Creek	(12) 27	(12) 28	(12) 26	(12) 27	(12) 28
Bayswater Main Drain	(12) 27	(12) 27	(12) 29	(12) 27	(12) 27
Southern River	(12) 27	(12) 29	(12) 28	(12) 28	(12) 28
Bennett Brook	(12) 29	(12) 26	(12) 23	(12) 21	(12) 24
Bickley Brook	(12) 16	(12) 14	(12) 13	(12) 13	(12) 13
Yule Brook	(21) 10	(21) 9	(21) 7	(21) 12	(21) 13
Blackadder Creek	(18) 14	(18) 15	(18) 11	(20) 16	(21) 16
Canning River	(21) 4	(21) 5	(21) 4	(21) 6	(21) 5
Helena River	(17) 6	(15) 6	(17) 5	(19) 10	(21) 10
South Belmont Main Drain	(21) 5	(21) 2	(21) 1	(21) 1	(21) 1
Avon River	(21) 15	(21) 18	(21) 14	(21) 13	(21) 11
Susannah Brook	(15) 5	(14) 10	(16) 13	(17) 12	(18) 7
Jane Brook	(18) 7	(16) 10	(17) 8	(19) 8	(21) 6
Short-term target met (%)	93	93	93	93	93
Long-term target met (%)	53	53	53	53	53

**Table 15: Compliance of monitored tributaries discharging into the Swan Canning estuary with short-term and long-term total phosphorus targets**

TRIBUTARY	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Ellen Brook	(9) 24	(8) 23	(8) 23	(9) 22	(10) 25
Mills Street Main Drain	(12) 26	(12) 18	(12) 15	(12) 14	(12) 12
Southern River	(12) 24	(12) 25	(12) 21	(12) 18	(12) 17
South Belmont Main Drain	(21) 19	(21) 18	(21) 13	(21) 7	(21) 12
Bannister Creek	(21) 3	(21) 4	(21) 6	(21) 3	(21) 4
Yule Brook	(21) 3	(21) 6	(21) 5	(21) 5	(21) 4
Bayswater Main Drain	(21) 0	(21) 1	(21) 3	(21) 4	(21) 4
Bickley Brook	(21) 1	(21) 1	(21) 2	(21) 2	(21) 3
Blackadder Creek	(18) 1	(18) 0	(18) 1	(20) 3	(21) 3
Jane Brook	(18) 0	(16) 0	(17) 0	(19) 0	(21) 0
Avon River	(21) 0	(21) 0	(21) 0	(21) 0	(21) 0
Bennett Brook	(21) 1	(21) 0	(21) 0	(21) 0	(21) 0
Canning River	(21) 0	(21) 0	(21) 0	(21) 0	(21) 0
Helena River	(17) 0	(15) 0	(17) 0	(19) 0	(21) 0
Susannah Brook	(15) 0	(14) 0	(16) 0	(17) 0	(18) 0
Short-term target met (%)	93	93	93	93	93
Long-term target met (%)	80	80	80	80	87

## CATCHMENT RESULTS 2011-2015

### Total nitrogen concentration

Since 2008 all catchments except Ellen Brook have achieved the short-term target and have been assessed against the long-term target. Ellen Brook is assessed against the short-term target and the catchment appears unlikely to achieve the short-term TN target in the foreseeable future.

In 2011, 53 per cent of the monitored tributaries were meeting the long-term compliance target, and that has continued to the present. For the third consecutive year, Bickley Brook finished just one data point above the allowable excursion rate that would have seen it achieve the long term TN target for the first time.

### Total phosphorus concentration

From 2001 to present, 93 per cent of tributaries monitored for compliance have met the short-term target and have been assessed against the long term-target. Ellen Brook was the only tributary where TP concentrations were higher than the short-term target and it appears unlikely to achieve the short-term TP target in the foreseeable future.

Since 2011, 80 per cent of the monitored tributaries have complied with the long-term TP target with that trend continuing to present. Mills Street Main Drain achieved compliance with the long-term TP target for the first time in 2015 and will be assessed against the long-term target from next year. This means that the percentage of tributaries achieving compliance with the long-term TP target is now 87 per cent.



**Summary of catchment results**

The nitrogen and phosphorus concentrations in the Swan Canning tributaries range from low to moderate and have remained generally steady over the 2011 to 2015 reporting period.

These results are encouraging, however, there is the possibility that the reduction of total annual rainfall in recent years is a significant contributing factor. This has most likely reduced the amount of nutrients entering the Swan Canning tributaries from the catchments. The trend is likely to continue, with predictions of significantly less rainfall in the Swan Canning Catchment and further reduction of flow in the short-term (20 years) and longer-term (70 years). This was evident recently with 2010 being a very dry year resulting in the Swan River from January to October 2010 experiencing the lowest stream flows on record since 1975.

It is significant that phosphorus levels in Ellen Brook remain high. This tributary discharges directly into the upper Swan River during the winter months and has a significant influence on phytoplankton growth in the middle and upper basins of the Swan estuary. The current data suggests that Ellen Brook is unlikely to meet the short-term target soon, with 25 out of 29 samples used to calculate target compliance having TP concentrations greater than 0.2mg/L.

**SWAN CANNING ESTUARY TARGETS**

Key performance indicators are chlorophyll-a (Chl-a) and dissolved oxygen (DO) concentrations in the surface waters to a depth of one metre (Table 16). The targets for the middle and upper basins represent a first in a series of targets for chlorophyll-a and dissolved oxygen. Upon meeting these targets, new targets will be set in a series of benchmarks until quality in the basins is acceptable.

**Table 16: Chlorophyll-a and dissolved oxygen targets for the Swan Canning estuary**

ESTUARY BASIN	CHL-A TARGET (Mg/L)	SURFACE DO (PER CENT SATURATION)
Upper Swan	19.98	81.2
Middle Swan	8.75	75.1
Lower Swan Canning	3.55	82.1
Middle Canning	11.67	49.1

**MONITORING IN THE SWAN CANNING ESTUARY**

To calculate compliance with the estuary targets, samples are taken weekly between January and May inclusive from each of the four estuary basins, resulting in the collection of about 20 samples in each basin per year. This data is pooled with the previous two years of data to provide a total of approximately 60 samples with which to test compliance.

**PERFORMANCE 2014: SWAN CANNING ESTUARY TARGETS**

**Table 17: Key to interpreting the Estuary Performance Indicator results in Tables 18 and 19**

	Target not met
	Target met

**Table 18: Chlorophyll-a concentration in the basins of the Swan Canning Estuary compared to the targets**

BASIN	2012	2013	2014	2015
Upper Swan	(3) 39	(3) 31	(3) 26	(3) 18
Middle Swan	(3) 53	(3) 40	(3) 30	(3) 18
Lower Swan Canning	(3) 25	(3) 25	(2) 16	(2) 9
Middle Canning	(3) 32	(3) 28	(3) 30	(3) 28

**Table 19: Dissolved oxygen saturation in the basins of the Swan Canning Estuary compared to the targets**

BASIN	2012	2013	2014	2015
Upper Swan	(1) 26	(1) 26	(1) 18	(1) 17
Middle Swan	(1) 5	(1) 18	(1) 16	(1) 15
Lower Swan Canning	(6) 0	(6) 0	(6) 0	(6) 0
Middle Canning	(1) 8	(1) 12	(1) 9	(1) 15

In Tables 18 and 19, the number within the bracket indicates the maximum allowable number of individual samples that can fail to meet the target before an overall 'fail' for the year is recorded. The number outside the bracket is the actual number of samples that failed to meet the target.

## ESTUARY RESULTS 2012-2015

### Interpreting the Estuary Tables

The monitoring data from each of the estuary basins are compared to the targets in Table 16. There are only two possible outcomes, pass or fail. Dark cells in Tables 18 and 19 indicate that the target was not met, whereas light cells indicate that the target was achieved. Note that for chlorophyll-a, a basin failed when a sample had a higher concentration than the target for dissolved oxygen, a basin failed when a sample had a lower concentration than the target.

### Chlorophyll-a concentration

The lower basin of the Swan Canning estuary failed the chlorophyll-a target for the first time in 2008 and has continued to exceed the target since then (Table 18). The middle and upper basins of the Swan estuary and the middle basin of the Canning estuary failed to meet the chlorophyll-a target in all four years of the reporting period.

### Oxygen saturation

The lower basin of the Swan Canning estuary met the dissolved oxygen target in every year evaluated (Table 19). The upper and middle Swan and the middle Canning, failed to meet the dissolved oxygen targets in all four years of the reporting period.

**Summary of estuary results**

The targets for the lower estuary were developed so that they could be met under the conditions experienced at the time of setting these targets in 2001. Failing these targets indicates that the water quality has deteriorated. Since the lower basin of the Swan Canning estuary failed to meet the chlorophyll-a target in 2008, compliance is now assessed using a different decision rule, under which the basin is expected to fail the chlorophyll-a target until there is an improvement in water quality.

Dissolved oxygen and chlorophyll-a concentrations in the middle basins of the Swan and Canning estuary, the upper basin of the Swan estuary and chlorophyll-a in the lower basin, are currently unacceptable in terms of these targets. These basins are expected to fail their targets until there is an improvement in water quality above the conditions experienced at the time the targets were set.

A reduction in algal blooms and the restoration of dissolved oxygen levels in the estuary will largely depend on the capacity to reduce the sediment store of nutrients. Consequently, there will most likely be a time lag between implementing appropriate management actions and observing the desired change in the estuary.

**KEY EFFECTIVENESS PERFORMANCE INDICATOR**

**Table 20: Percentage of people attending environmental education programs who change their behaviours as a result**

2011-12 ACTUAL	2012-13 ACTUAL	2013-14 Actual	2014-15 Target	2014-15 Actual
71.9%	75%	75%	70%	74%

The Trust’s community engagement program delivers environmental education projects that provide the Perth community with the tools and information to change their behaviour to help protect the Riverpark.

The Great Gardens workshop series is the most effective of these and is used as the effectiveness indicator for the entire community engagement program.

During 2014-15, the Trust funded 15 Great Gardens workshops and events that were attended by 2792 people. An additional five State NRM funded Great Gardens workshops and four Heavenly Hectares workshops were delivered across the Swan Canning Catchment and attended by 655 people. The Trust funding leveraged a further 79 workshops attended by 3248 people.

Great Gardens workshop participants who were surveyed and underwent home audits demonstrated a 74 per cent RiverWise behaviour change – slightly down on the previous year. The surveys revealed 59 per cent of attendees switched to the use of slow-release fertiliser and 14 per cent stopped using fertiliser completely.

When compared to average industry behaviour change rates of 30-40 per cent, it would appear the Great Gardens workshop series has effectively empowered the community towards sustainable behaviour adoption.

The Great Gardens behaviour change surveys were sent to all 2792 participants on the new Great Gardens database. Of these, 329 participants (12 per cent) responded within the one-week time limit for the surveys to be evaluated.



Since 2003, more than 36,000 people have attended one of the 345 Great Gardens workshops funded by the Trust. The Trust continues to work closely with Great Gardens to continually improve and refine the workshop formats to ensure key messages are delivered, including the new messages and delivery mechanisms that have been identified through research and focus groups coordinated by external experts.

The Trust Strategic Plan 2010-15 outlines a Communications KPI to provide community education and involvement leading to behaviour change. The Trust will continue to work with our specialist behaviour change team to positively influence participants attending these workshops and events.

The Trust also promotes river-friendly behavioural change through a variety of RiverWise workshops and community engagement projects delivered through the River Guardians program.

The Communications Branch recently concluded its RiverWise-Waterwise Gardens Behaviour Change project in South Perth.

In 2014, the Trust approached the Water Corporation to scope the potential to combine elements of the RiverWise and Waterwise programs, with the aim of delivering the same outcomes at a lower cost to each agency. Areas of high water use and sensitive river catchment were identified and riverside suburbs in the City of South Perth were selected for a demonstration project.

This project followed on from the successful RiverWise Bennett Springs pilot that was successfully delivered in 2012-13. A personalised coaching approach to engaging with households was again adopted for this project because research into behaviour change techniques suggests that broad reach media is ineffective at rapidly changing behaviour.

The Trust conducted pre and post program surveys of the attitudes, perceptions and behaviours of South Perth residents, in order to measure the impacts of the RiverWise-Waterwise South Perth program on household gardening behaviours; and to provide insights into the quality of the RiverWise services.

The project was successful and resulted in some positive outcomes. Participants:

- reduced water usage by 10.7 per cent (102 litres per day)
- reduced total fertiliser use by 7.1kg (6.5 per cent) per annum
- decreased use of high nitrogen and general fertiliser
- increased use of slow release fertiliser
- switched to more eco-friendly fertiliser products (16 per cent uptake)
- switched some garden area to more waterwise plantings (14 per cent uptake)
- started soil improvement practices (19 per cent uptake)
- started mulching (4 per cent uptake)
- started using sand remedy or clays (34 per cent uptake)
- reduced high frequency (more than every few months) lawn fertilising (3 per cent ceased this poor practice)
- reported increased understanding of waterwise gardening (28 per cent moved into the 'Detailed' or 'More than most' category)
- reported increased understanding of fertiliser wise gardening (32 per cent moved into the 'Detailed' or 'More than most' category).

**KEY EFFICIENCY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

The Trust's key efficiency performance indicators are calculated to include appropriated corporate costs and other costs not directly attributed to the specific service.

**Table 21: Key efficiency performance indicators**

DESIRED OUTCOMES	SERVICES	KEY EFFICIENCY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	2011-12 ACTUAL \$	2012-13 ACTUAL \$	2013-14 ACTUAL \$	2014-15 TARGET \$	2014-15 ACTUAL \$	COMMENTS
The ecological health of the Swan Canning river system is protected and enhanced	Development and implementation of environmental management programs	Average cost of river monitoring per kilometre of river managed (approximately 156km)	772	624	620	481	410	The lower actual cost of monitoring per kilometre reflects the decreased funding profiles in 2014-15 from Commonwealth Caring For our Country, State Natural Resource Management and appropriation associated with Bayswater and Ellen Brook Nutrient Intervention Systems provided in 2011-12 Budget
		Average cost per square metre of foreshore undergoing protection and rehabilitation works	7.05	9.03	18.28	90.94	2.98	The average cost varies considerably depending on the type of work undertaken. During the year the Trust partnered with Local Governments to develop the WESROC Foreshore Management Plan for the Swan River Estuary, the City of Nedlands' River Wall Foreshore Restoration Detailed Designs and the Town of Victoria Park's Foreshore Management Plan. These plans, which are included as expenses of this program, cost considerably less per square metre than walling reconstruction or re-vegetation.
	Communication of environmental information	Average cost per person attending an environmental education program	1,072	1,086	448	897	723	The number of people attending the Trust's Great Gardens environmental education workshops fell during 2014-15 therefore increasing costs per person. However, the Trust trialed new environmental education activations at special events to help reach new audiences.
The long-term community benefit of the Swan Canning river system is protected and enhanced	Statutory assessment of development proposals	Average cost per application assessed	3,972	4,205	4,361	4,609	3,247	The overall development activity around the rivers continues to remain high each year. Target based on 350 applications, actual being 415
	Riverpark management	Average cost of audit compliance	401	354	297	448	304	The number of compliance audits in 2014-15 was lower (493) than in 2013-14 (552).
		Average cost per tonne of waste removed	39,244	313,963	248,503	117,029	86,965	The average cost can vary considerably, principally depending on the environmental conditions that determine the amount of weed that washes ashore and whether it has been possible to stockpile it to dry prior to removal to landfill.

**CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015**

The accompanying financial statements for the Swan River Trust have been prepared in compliance with the provision of the Financial Management Act 2006 from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the financial year ended 30 June 2015 and the financial position as at 30 June 2015.

At the date of signing we are not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.



**Rod Hughes**

Reporting Officer, Rivers and Estuaries Division  
Department of Parks and Wildlife

26 August 2015



# Swan River Trust Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

## STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>COST OF SERVICES</b>			
<b>Expenses</b>			
Employee benefits expense	5	5,251,759	5,558,812
Supplies and services	6	3,104,923	6,049,221
Depreciation and amortisation expense	7	201,519	202,973
Accommodation expenses	8	488,618	675,668
Other expenses	9	125,428	213,104
Grants and subsidies	10	6,187,341	5,229,698
<b>Total cost of services</b>		<b>15,359,588</b>	<b>17,929,476</b>
<b>Income</b>			
<i>Revenue</i>			
Commonwealth grants and contributions	11	550,000	1,375,000
Grants and contributions	12	3,720,345	4,474,389
Other revenue	13	63,919	9,331
<b>Total revenue</b>		<b>4,334,264</b>	<b>5,858,720</b>
<i>Gains</i>			
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	14	3,166	25,032
<b>Total Gains</b>		<b>3,166</b>	<b>25,032</b>
<b>Total income other than income from State Government</b>		<b>4,337,430</b>	<b>5,883,752</b>
<b>NET COST OF SERVICES</b>		<b>11,022,158</b>	<b>12,045,724</b>
<b>Income from State Government</b>	15		
Service appropriation		12,446,000	12,182,000
Services received free of charge		18,428	7,989
<b>Total income from State Government</b>		<b>12,464,428</b>	<b>12,189,989</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD</b>		<b>1,442,270</b>	<b>144,265</b>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>			
<b>Items not reclassified subsequently to profit or loss</b>			
Changes in asset revaluation surplus	25	1,268,600	3,275,700
<b>Total other comprehensive income</b>		<b>1,268,600</b>	<b>3,275,700</b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD</b>		<b>2,710,870</b>	<b>3,419,965</b>

See also note 38 'Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service'.

The Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# Swan River Trust Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	26	1,319,450	3,054,413
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	16	1,284,462	1,486,874
Receivables	17	177,718	164,796
Prepayments	18	5,792,889	4,524,815
Amounts receivable for services	19	171,000	150,000
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>8,745,519</b>	<b>9,380,898</b>
<b>Non-current Assets</b>			
Amounts receivable for services	19	521,000	505,000
Property, plant and equipment	20	28,875,943	25,703,311
Intangible assets	21	-	-
<b>Total Non-current Assets</b>		<b>29,396,943</b>	<b>26,208,311</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>38,142,462</b>	<b>35,589,209</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Payables	23	195,399	1,716,144
Other Current Liabilities	24	849,488	968,164
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>1,044,887</b>	<b>2,684,308</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>1,044,887</b>	<b>2,684,308</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>37,097,575</b>	<b>32,904,901</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Contributed equity	25	22,217,402	20,735,600
Reserves		5,295,600	4,027,000
Other reserves		-	-
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)		9,584,573	8,142,301
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>37,097,575</b>	<b>32,904,901</b>

The Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015**

	Note	Contributed equity \$	Reserves \$	Accumulated surplus/(deficit) \$	Total equity \$
<b>Balance at 1 July 2013</b>	25	20,735,600	751,300	7,998,036	29,484,936
Correction to prior period		-	-	-	-
<b>Restated balance at 1 July 2013</b>		20,735,600	751,300	7,998,036	29,484,936
Surplus/(deficit)			-	144,265	144,265
Other comprehensive income		-	3,275,700	-	3,275,700
Total comprehensive income for the period		-	3,275,700	144,265	3,419,965
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Transfer of net assets from owners		-	-	-	-
<b>Balance at 30 June 2014</b>		<b>20,735,600</b>	<b>4,027,000</b>	<b>8,142,301</b>	<b>32,904,901</b>
<b>Balance at 1 July 2014</b>		20,735,600	4,027,000	8,142,301	32,904,901
Surplus/(deficit)		-	-	1,442,272	1,442,272
Other comprehensive income		-	1,268,600	-	1,268,600
Total comprehensive income for the period		-	1,268,600	1,442,272	2,710,872
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Other contributions by owners		1,650,000	-	-	1,650,000
Distribution to owners		(168,198)	-	-	(168,198)
Total		1,481,802	-	-	1,481,802
<b>Balance at 30 June 2015</b>		<b>22,217,402</b>	<b>5,295,600</b>	<b>9,584,573</b>	<b>37,097,575</b>

The Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



# Swan River Trust Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT</b>			
Service appropriation		12,259,000	11,983,000
Distribution to owners		(168,198)	-
Holding account drawdowns		150,000	40,000
<b>Net cash provided by State Government</b>		<b>12,240,802</b>	<b>12,023,000</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Payments</b>			
Employee benefits		(5,329,833)	(5,541,731)
Supplies and services		(4,444,219)	(4,513,483)
Grants and subsidies		(7,471,415)	(5,431,984)
Accommodation		(483,537)	(682,874)
GST payments on purchases		(1,026,565)	(1,125,795)
GST payments to the taxation authority		-	(28,292)
Other payments		(199,454)	(301,930)
<b>Receipts</b>			
Commonwealth grants and contributions		550,000	1,375,000
Grants and contributions		3,601,309	4,119,625
GST receipts on sales		75,213	208,534
GST receipts from the taxation authority		937,407	1,035,052
Other receipts		65,302	65,948
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	26	<b>(13,725,792)</b>	<b>(10,821,930)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Payments</b>			
Purchase of non-current physical assets		(470,726)	(62,239)
<b>Receipts</b>			
Proceeds from the sale of non-current physical assets		18,341	27,273
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</b>		<b>(452,385)</b>	<b>(34,966)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(1,937,375)	1,166,104
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		4,541,287	3,375,183
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD</b>	26	<b>2,603,912</b>	<b>4,541,287</b>

The Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## 1 AUSTRALIAN ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

### General

The Swan River Trust's (the Trust) financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2015 have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. The term 'Australian Accounting Standards' includes Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standard Board (AASB).

The Trust has adopted any applicable, new and revised Australian Accounting Standards from their operative dates.

### Early adoption of standards

The Trust cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard unless specifically permitted by Treasurer's Instruction TI 1101 *Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements*. Partial exemption permitting early adoption of AASB 2015-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Fair Value Disclosures of Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities has been granted. Aside from AASB 2015-7, there has been no early adoption of any other Australian Accounting Standards that have been issued or amended (but not operative) by the Trust for the annual reporting period ended 30 June 2015.

## 2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### (a) General statement

The Trust is a not-for-profit reporting entity that prepares general purpose financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the AASB as applied by the Treasurer's instructions. Several of these are modified by the Treasurer's instructions to vary application, disclosure, format and wording.

The *Financial Management Act* and the Treasurer's instructions impose legislative provisions that govern the preparation of financial statements and take precedence over Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the AASB.

Where modification is required and has had a material or significant financial effect upon the reported results, details of that modification and the resulting financial effect are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

**(b) Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting using the historical cost convention, except for land and buildings which have been measured at fair value.

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements have been consistently applied throughout all periods presented unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest dollar.

Note 3 'Judgements made by management in applying accounting policies' discloses judgements that have been made in the process of applying the Trust's accounting policies resulting in the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

**(c) Reporting entity**

The reporting entity comprises the Swan River Trust.

**(d) Contributed equity**

AASB Interpretation 1038 *Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities* requires transfers in the nature of equity contributions, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, to be designated by the Government (the owner) as contributions by owners (at the time of, or prior to transfer) before such transfers can be recognised as equity contributions. Capital contributions have been designated as contributions by owners by TI 955 *Contributions by Owners made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities* and have been credited directly to Contributed equity.

The transfers of net assets to/from other agencies, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, are designated as contributions by owners where the transfers are non-discretionary and non-reciprocal.

**(e) Income**

**Revenue recognition**

Revenue is recognised and measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable. The following specific recognition criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised for the major business activities as follows:

*Provision of services*

Revenue is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the transaction.



*Service appropriations*

Service Appropriations are recognised as revenues at fair value in the period in which the Trust gains control of the appropriated funds. The Trust gains control of appropriated funds at the time those funds are deposited to the bank account or credited to the 'Amounts receivables for services' (holding account) held at Treasury.

*Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions*

Revenue is recognised at fair value when the Trust obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions, usually when cash is received.

Other non-reciprocal contributions that are not contributions by owners are recognised at their fair value. Contributions of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would be purchased if not donated.

*Gains*

Realised and unrealised gains are usually recognised on a net basis. These include gains arising on the disposal of non-current assets and some revaluations of non-current assets.

**(f) Property, plant and equipment**

**Capitalisation/Expensing of assets**

Items of property, plant and equipment costing \$5,000 or more are recognised as assets and the cost of utilising assets is expensed (depreciated) over their useful lives. Items of property, plant and equipment costing less than \$5,000 are immediately expensed direct to the Statement of Comprehensive Income (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

**Initial recognition and measurement**

All items of property, plant and equipment are initially recognised at cost.

For items of property, plant and equipment acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, the cost is the fair value at the date of acquisition.

**Subsequent measurement**

Subsequent to initial recognition as an asset, the revaluation model is used for the measurement of land and historical cost for all other property, plant and equipment. Land is carried at fair value less accumulated impairment losses. All other items of property, plant and equipment are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Where market-based evidence is available, the fair value of land is determined on the basis of current market buying values determined by reference to recent market transactions.

In the absence of market-based evidence, fair value of land is determined on the basis of existing use. This normally applies where land use is restricted. Fair value for existing use assets is determined by reference to the cost of replacing the remaining future economic benefits embodied in the asset, i.e. the depreciated replacement cost.

Fair value for restricted use land is determined by comparison with market evidence for land with similar approximate utility (high restricted use land) or market value of comparable unrestricted land (low restricted use land).

Land and buildings are independently valued annually by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuation Services) and recognised annually to ensure that the carrying amount does not differ materially from the asset's fair value at the end of the reporting period.

The most significant assumptions in estimating fair value are made in assessing whether to apply the existing use basis to assets. Professional judgement by the valuer is required where the evidence does not provide a clear distinction between market type assets and existing use assets.

#### **Derecognition**

Upon disposal or derecognition of an item of property, plant and equipment, any revaluation surplus relating to that asset is retained in the asset revaluation surplus.

#### **Asset revaluation surplus**

The asset revaluation surplus is used to record increments and decrements on the revaluation of non-current assets as described in note 20 'Property, plant and equipment'.

#### **Depreciation**

All non-current assets having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their estimated useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their future economic benefits.

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is calculated using the straight line method, using rates which are reviewed annually. Estimated useful lives for each class of depreciable asset are:

Plant and equipment	5 to 20 years
Information technology assets	2 to 4 years
Furniture and fittings	7 to 10 years

**(g) Intangible Assets**

**Capitalisation/expensing of assets**

Acquisitions of intangible assets costing \$5,000 or more and internally generated intangible assets costing \$25,000 or more are capitalised. The cost of utilising the assets is expensed (amortised) over their useful life. Costs incurred below these thresholds are immediately expensed directly to the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, the cost is their fair value at the date of acquisition.

The cost model is applied for subsequent measurement requiring the asset to be carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation for intangible assets with finite useful lives is calculated for the period of the expected benefit (estimated useful life which is reviewed annually) on the straight line basis. All intangible assets controlled by the Trust have a finite useful life and zero residual value.

The expected useful lives for each class of intangible asset are:

Software<sup>(a)</sup> 2 to 5 years

(a) Software that is not integral to the operation of any related hardware

**Computer software**

Software that is an integral part of the related hardware is recognised as property, plant and equipment. Software that is not an integral part of the related hardware is recognised as an intangible asset. Software costing less than \$5,000 is expensed in the year of acquisition.

**(h) Impairment of assets**

Property, plant and equipment and intangible assets are tested for any indication of impairment at the end of each reporting period. Where there is an indication of impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated. Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to the recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised. Where an asset measured at cost is written down to recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss. Where a previously revalued asset is written down to recoverable amount, the loss is recognised as a revaluation decrement in other comprehensive income.

As the Trust is a not-for-profit entity, unless an asset has been identified as a surplus asset, the recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and depreciated replacement cost.

The risk of impairment is generally limited to circumstances where an asset's depreciation is materially understated, where the replacement cost is falling or where there is a significant change in useful life. Each relevant class of assets is reviewed annually to verify that the accumulated



depreciation/amortisation reflects the level of consumption or expiration of the asset's future economic benefits and to evaluate any impairment risk from falling replacement costs.

Intangible assets with an indefinite useful life and intangible assets not yet available for use are tested for impairment at the end of each reporting period irrespective of whether there is any indication of impairment.

The recoverable amount of assets identified as surplus assets is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and the present value of future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset. Surplus assets carried at fair value have no risk of material impairment where fair value is determined by reference to market-based evidence. Where fair value is determined by reference to depreciated replacement cost, surplus assets are at risk of impairment and the recoverable amount is measured. Surplus assets at cost are tested for indications of impairment at the end of each reporting period.

**(i) Leases**

The Trust holds operating leases for its head office building, motor vehicles and photocopiers. Lease payments are expensed on a straight line basis over the lease term as this represents the pattern of benefits derived from the leased property, motor vehicles and photocopiers.

**(j) Financial instruments**

In addition to cash, the Trust has two categories of financial instrument:

- Loans and receivables; and
- Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost.

Financial Instruments have been disaggregated into the following classes:

Financial Assets

- Cash and cash equivalents
- Restricted cash and cash equivalents
- Receivables
- Amounts receivable for services

Financial Liabilities

- Payables

Initial recognition and measurement of financial instruments is at fair value which normally equates to the transaction cost or the face value. Subsequent measurement is at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The fair value of short-term receivables and payables is the transaction cost or the face value because there is no interest rate applicable and subsequent measurement is not required as the effect of discounting is not material.

**(k) Cash and cash equivalents**

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalent (and restricted cash and cash equivalent) assets comprise cash on hand and short-term deposits with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and which are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

**(l) Accrued salaries**

Accrued salaries (see note 23 'Payables') represent the amount due to staff but unpaid at the end of the financial year. Accrued salaries are settled within a fortnight of the financial year end. The Trust considers the carrying amount of accrued salaries to be equivalent to its fair value.

**(m) Amounts receivable for services (holding account)**

The Trust receives income from the State Government partly in cash and partly as an asset (holding account receivable). The accrued amount appropriated is accessible on the emergence of the cash funding requirement to cover asset replacement.

**(n) Receivables**

Receivables are recognised at original invoice amount less an allowance for any uncollectible amounts (i.e. impairment). The collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis and any receivables identified as uncollectible are written-off against the allowance account. The allowance for uncollectible amounts (doubtful debts) is raised when there is objective evidence that the Trust will not be able to collect the debts. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value as it is due for settlement within 30 days. See note 2(j) 'Financial instruments' and note 17 'Receivables'.

**(o) Payables**

Payables are recognised when the Trust becomes obliged to make future payments as a result of a purchase of assets or services. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value, as settlement is generally settled within 30 days.

**(p) Provisions**

Provisions are liabilities of uncertain timing or amount and are recognised where there is a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event and when the outflow of resources embodying economic benefits is probable and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are reviewed at the end of each reporting period.

**Provisions - employee benefits**

All employees performing the functions of the Trust are employees of the Department of Parks and Wildlife. Therefore the Trust has no liability in relation to employee benefits. Liability for employee entitlements rests with the Department of Parks and Wildlife.

**(q) Superannuation expense**

The superannuation expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income comprises employer contributions paid to the Gold State Superannuation Scheme (GSS) concurrent contributions, the West State Superannuation Scheme (WSS), the GESB Super Scheme (GESBS), or other superannuation funds.

The GSS is a defined benefit scheme for the purposes of employees and whole of government reporting. However, it is a defined contribution plan for agency purposes because the concurrent contributions (defined contributions) made by the Trust to GESB extinguishes the Trust's obligations to the related superannuation liability.

**(r) Services received free of charge or for nominal cost**

Assets or services received free of charge or for nominal cost that the Authority would otherwise purchase if not donated, are recognised as income at the fair value of the assets or services where they can be reliably measured. A corresponding expense is recognised for services received. Receipts of assets are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position.

Assets or services received from other State Government agencies are separately disclosed under Income from State Government in the Statement of Comprehensive Income

**(s) Comparative figures**

Comparative figures are, where appropriate, reclassified to be comparable with the figures presented in the current financial year.

**3 JUDGEMENTS MADE BY MANAGEMENT IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements about the application of accounting policies that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The Trust evaluates these judgements regularly.

**Operating lease commitments**

The Trust held a lease for headquarters until 31 December 2014. It has been determined that the lessor retains substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership. Accordingly, this lease has been classified as an operating lease. The Trust has relocated to the Department of Parks and Wildlife Kensington site in December 2014

#### 4 DISCLOSURE OF CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICY AND ESTIMATES

##### Initial application of an Australian Accounting Standard

The Trust has applied the following Australian Accounting Standards effective for annual reporting periods, or adopted, beginning on or after 1 July 2014 that impacted on the Trust.

AASB 11	<p><i>Joint Arrangements</i></p> <p>This Standard issued in August 2011, supersedes AASB 131 <i>Interests in Joint Ventures</i>, introducing new principles for determining the type of joint arrangement that exists, which are more aligned to the actual rights and obligations of the parties to the arrangement.</p> <p>There is no financial impact for the Trust as the new standard continues to require the recognition of the Trust's share of assets and share of liabilities for the unincorporated joint operation.</p>
AASB 1031	<p><i>Materiality</i></p> <p>This Standard supersedes AASB 1031 (February 2010), removing Australian guidance on materiality not available in IFRSs and refers to guidance on materiality in other Australian pronouncements. There is no financial impact.</p>
AASB 1055	<p><i>Budgetary Reporting</i></p> <p>This Standard requires specific budgetary disclosures in the financial statements of not-for-profit entities within the General Government Sector. The Trust will be required to disclose additional budgetary information and explanations of major variances between actual and budgeted amounts, though there is no financial impact.</p>
AASB 2011-7	<p><i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Consolidation and Joint Arrangements Standards</i> [AASB 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 2009-11, 101, 107, 112, 118, 121, 124, 132, 133, 136, 138, 139, 1023 &amp; 1038 and Int 5, 9, 16 &amp; 17]</p> <p>This Standard gives effect to consequential changes arising from the issuance of AASB 10, AASB 11, AASB 127 <i>Separate Financial Statements</i> and AASB 128 <i>Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures</i>. There is no financial impact for the Trust.</p>



AASB 2012-3	<p><i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities [AASB 132]</i></p> <p>This Standard adds application guidance to AASB 132 to address inconsistencies identified in applying some of the offsetting criteria, including clarifying the meaning of “currently has a legally enforceable right of set-off” and that some gross settlement systems may be considered equivalent to net settlement. The Trust does not routinely hold financial assets and financial liabilities that it intends to settle on a net basis, therefore there is no financial impact.</p>
AASB 2013-9	<p><i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Conceptual Framework, Materiality and Financial Instruments</i></p> <p>Part B of this omnibus Standard makes amendments to other Standards arising from the deletion of references to AASB 1031 in other Standards for periods beginning on or after 1 January 2014. It has no financial impact.</p>
AASB 2014-1	<p><i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards</i></p> <p>Part A of this Standard consists primarily of clarifications to Accounting Standards and has no financial impact for the Trust.</p> <p>Part B of this Standard has no financial impact as the Trust contributes to schemes that are either defined contribution plans, or deemed to be defined contribution plans.</p> <p>Part C of this Standard has no financial impact as it removes references to AASB 1031 Materiality from a number of Accounting Standards.</p>
AASB 2015-7	<p><i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Fair Value Disclosures of Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities</i></p> <p>This Standard relieves not-for-profit public sector entities from the reporting burden associated with various disclosures required by AASB 13 for assets within the scope of AASB 116 that are held primarily for their current service potential rather than to generate future net cash inflows. It has no financial impact.</p>

**Future impact of Australian Accounting Standards not yet operative**

The Trust cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard unless specifically permitted by TI 1101 *Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements* or by an exemption from TI 1101. By virtue of a limited exemption, the Trust has early adopted AASB 2015-7 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Fair Value Disclosures of Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities*. Where applicable, the Trust plans to apply the following Australian Accounting standards from their application date.

		<b>Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after</b>
AASB 9	<p><i>Financial Instruments</i></p> <p>This Standard supersedes AASB 139 <i>Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement</i>, introducing a number of changes to accounting treatments.</p> <p>The mandatory application date of this Standard is currently 1 January 2018 after being amended by AASB 2012-6, AASB 2013-9 and AASB 2014-1 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards</i>. The Trust has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.</p>	1 Jan 2018
AASB 15	<p><i>Revenue from Contracts with Customers</i></p> <p>This Standard establishes the principles that the Trust shall apply to report useful information to users of financial statements about the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from a contract with a customer. The Trust has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.</p>	1 Jan 2017
AASB 2010-7	<p><i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2010)</i> [AASB 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 101, 102, 108, 112, 118, 120, 121, 127, 128, 131, 132, 136, 137, 139, 1023 &amp; 1038 and Int 2, 5, 10, 12, 19 &amp; 127]</p> <p>This Standard makes consequential amendments to other Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as a result of issuing AASB 9 in December 2010. The mandatory application date of this Standard has been amended by AASB 2012-6 and AASB 2014-1 to 1 January 2018. The Trust has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.</p>	1 Jan 2018

## Swan River Trust Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

AASB 2013-9	<p><i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Conceptual Framework, Materiality and Financial Instruments.</i></p> <p>Part C of this omnibus Standard defers the application of AASB 9 to 1 January 2017. The application date of AASB 9 was subsequently deferred to 1 January 2018 by AASB 2014-1. The Trust has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of AASB 9.</p>	1 Jan 2015
AASB 2014-1	<p><i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards</i></p> <p>Part E of this Standard makes amendments to AASB 9 and consequential amendments to other Standards. It has not yet been assessed by the Trust to determine the application or potential impact of the Standard.</p>	1 Jan 2015
AASB 2014-4	<p><i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards</i></p> <p>The adoption of this Standard has no financial impact for the Model Authority as depreciation and amortisation is not determined by reference to revenue generation, but by reference to consumption of future economic benefits.</p>	1 Jan 2016
AASB 2014-7	<p><i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2014)</i></p> <p>This Standard gives effect to the consequential amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (including Interpretations) arising from the issuance of AASB 9 (December 2014). The Trust has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.</p>	1 Jan 2018
AASB 2014-8	<p><i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2014) – Application of AASB 9 (December 2009) and AASB 9 (December 2010) [AASB 9 (2009 &amp; 2010)]</i></p> <p>This Standard makes amendments to AASB 9 Financial Instruments (December 2009) and AASB 9 Financial Instruments (December 2010), arising from the issuance of AASB 9 Financial Instruments in December 2014. The Trust has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.</p>	1 Jan 2015

		<b>Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after</b>
AASB 2015-2	<p><i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards –Disclosure Initiative: Amendments to AASB 101 [AASB 7, 101, 134 &amp; 1049]</i></p> <p>This Standard amends AASB 101 to provide clarification regarding the disclosure requirements in AASB 101. Specifically, the Standard proposes narrow-focus amendments to address some of the concerns expressed about existing presentation and disclosure requirements and to ensure entities are able to use judgement when applying a Standard in determining what information to disclose in their financial statements. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jul 2016
AASB 2015-3	<p><i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Withdrawal of AASB 1031</i></p> <p>Materiality This Standard completes the withdrawal of references to AASB 1031 in all Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, allowing that Standard to effectively be withdrawn. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jul 2015
AASB 2015-6	<p><i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards –Extending Related Party Disclosures to Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities [AASB 10, 124 &amp; 1049]</i></p> <p>The amendments extend the scope of AASB 124 to include application by not-for-profit public sector entities. Implementation guidance is included to assist application of the Standard by not-for-profit public sector entities. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jul 2016



## Swan River Trust Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<b>5 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS EXPENSE</b>		
Wages and salaries <sup>(a)</sup>	4,774,616	5,085,366
Superannuation - defined contribution plans <sup>(b)</sup>	477,143	473,446
Superannuation - defined benefit plans	-	-
Long service leave	-	-
Other related expenses	-	-
Other personnel costs	-	-
	<b><u>5,251,759</u></b>	<b><u>5,558,812</u></b>

(a) Includes the value of the fringe benefit to the employee plus the fringe benefits tax component as well as the superannuation contribution component.

(b) Defined contribution plans include West State, Gold State and GESB Super Scheme (Contributions paid).

Officers are employed by the Department of Parks and Wildlife (the Department). All entitlements are provided for within the Department's financial statements.

Employment on-costs expenses, such as workers' compensation insurance, are included in note 9 'Other expenses'.

## 6 SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

Consultants and contractors	2,480,691	5,338,013
Travel	13,008	11,252
Materials	152,097	347,308
Audit fees	18,000	14,200
Communications	133,457	145,035
Other	307,670	193,413
	<b><u>3,104,923</u></b>	<b><u>6,049,221</u></b>

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<b>7 DEPRECIATION AND AMORTISATION EXPENSE</b>		
<u>Depreciation</u>		
Furniture and fittings	1,138	1,138
Information technology assets	6,660	9,021
Plant and equipment	193,721	186,282
<b>Total depreciation</b>	<b>201,519</b>	<b>196,441</b>
<u>Amortisation</u>		
Intangible assets	-	6,532
<b>Total amortisation</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,532</b>
<b>Total depreciation and amortisation</b>	<b>201,519</b>	<b>202,973</b>
<b>8 ACCOMMODATION EXPENSES</b>		
Lease rentals	483,537	655,915
Electricity, power and water	5,081	19,753
	<b>488,618</b>	<b>675,668</b>
<b>9 OTHER EXPENSES</b>		
Repairs and maintenance	91,748	151,857
Employment on-costs	33,681	46,048
Other establishment materials	-	15,199
	<b>125,428</b>	<b>213,104</b>

## Swan River Trust Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<b>10 GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES</b>		
<u>Recurrent</u>		
ChemCentre	118,559	-
City of Armadale	28,015	23,300
City of Bayswater	1,116,639	282,364
City of Belmont	168,713	243,228
City of Canning	112,518	-
City of Fremantle	747	3,837
City of Gosnells	19,596	20,314
City of Melville	-	252,160
City of Nedlands	20,614	-
City of South Perth	279,511	-
City of Swan	166,255	73,405
CRC for Water Sensitive Cities	34,000	93,000
Curtin University of Technology	(7,169)	10,316
Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia	-	19,000
Department of Parks and Wildlife	80,087	30,273
Department of Water	2,633,963	2,762,761
Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council	115,000	95,000
Ellen Brockman Integrated Catchment Group	257,616	199,461
Fauna Rehab Foundation	-	5,000
Monash University	75,000	-
Murdoch University	105,333	182,964
Perth Region NRM	225,000	200,000
South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare	599,844	463,592
The Western Australian Horse Council Inc	-	-
Town of Bassendean	-	85,596
Town of Victoria Park	30,000	-
Town of East Fremantle	7,500	184,127
	<b>6,187,341</b>	<b>5,229,698</b>

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>11 COMMONWEALTH GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS</b>		
Caring for Our Country <sup>(a)</sup>	550,000	1,375,000
	<b>550,000</b>	<b>1,375,000</b>

- (a) In 2013-14 the Trust entered into a second agreement with the Commonwealth Government for \$1.99 million of Caring for our Country funding and the first payment of \$450,000 was received in 2013-14. The work, which will be undertaken over four years, aligns with management actions for the Swan Canning Water Quality Improvement Plan, including in stream nutrient intervention, improving land management practices and soil quality, undertaking extension activities and on-ground actions through community and landholder engagement.

**12 GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

Burswood Casino Levy <sup>(a)</sup>	2,899,605	3,408,764
State Natural Resource Management <sup>(b)</sup>	529,821	625,000
Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority <sup>(c)</sup>	184,119	192,125
Department of Communities <sup>(d)</sup>	35,000	42,500
Water Corporation	-	125,000
Department of Transport	-	18,000
Whiteman Park	-	5,000
Local Government <sup>(e)</sup>	71,800	58,000
	<b>3,720,345</b>	<b>4,474,389</b>

- (a) Revenue from the Burswood Casino Levy arose initially in 2009-10 from the passage through State Parliament of Legislation to amend the Agreement Act between the State and the Burswood Island Casino. Electronic gaming machine levy funds are made available to the Trust subject to it providing a range of programs to the Burswood Park Board for management and protection of the Swan and Canning Rivers.

- (b) During the 2014-15 year the State Government provided \$529,821 through the State Natural Resource Management (NRM) program to continue implementation of the Swan Canning Water Quality Improvement Plan (SCWQIP). This is the second instalment of a \$1.5 million commitment of State NRM funds over three years for SCWQIP implementation and forms part of the State Government's overall investment in the Fertiliser Partnership 2012-2016. The funding received in 2014-15 was to implement a series of SCWQIP management actions including revegetation and fencing along the Ellen Brook, stormwater drainage improvement works in the Bayswater Brook catchment, soil amendment trials in the Southern River catchment and the delivery of Fertilise Wise training.



## Swan River Trust Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
(c) The \$184,119 received from the Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority was to fund a Trust compliance officer for the Elizabeth Quay development.		
(d) The \$35,000 received from the Department of Communities was for the River Rangers program.		
(e) The \$71,800 received from Local Government was for the Bull Creek Water Quality Improvement Program and a Youth Forum with Millennium Kids.		

### 13 OTHER REVENUE

Other	63,919	9,331
	<u>63,919</u>	<u>9,331</u>

### 14 NET GAIN ON DISPOSAL OF NON-CURRENT ASSETS

<u>Proceeds from disposal of non-current assets</u>		
Property, plant and equipment	18,341	27,272
<u>Carrying amount of non-current assets disposed</u>		
Property, plant and equipment	(15,175)	(2,240)
<b>Net Gain</b>	<u><b>3,166</b></u>	<u><b>25,032</b></u>

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<b>15 INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT</b>		
Appropriation received during the period:		
Service appropriation <sup>(a)</sup>	12,446,000	12,182,000
	<u>12,446,000</u>	<u>12,182,000</u>
Services received free of charge from other State government agencies during the period:		
Department of Finance	-	7,809
State Solicitor's Office	18,428	180
Department of Water	-	-
	<u>18,428</u>	<u>7,989</u>
	<b><u>12,464,428</u></b>	<b><u>12,189,989</u></b>

(a) Service appropriations fund the net cost of services delivered. Appropriation revenue comprises a cash component and a receivable (asset). The receivable (holding account) comprises the budgeted depreciation expense for the year and any agreed increase in leave liabilities during the year.

**16 RESTRICTED CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

<u>Current</u>		
Funds under contract <sup>(a)</sup>	1,284,462	1,486,874
	<u>1,284,462</u>	<u>1,486,874</u>

(a) Only for the purposes defined under contractual arrangements.

**17 RECEIVABLES**

<u>Current</u>		
Receivables	16,463	17,485
GST receivable	161,255	147,311
<b>Total current receivables</b>	<b><u>177,718</u></b>	<b><u>164,796</u></b>

The Trust does not hold any collateral as security or other credit enhancements relating to receivables.

## Swan River Trust Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<b>18 PREPAYMENTS</b>		
Grants and subsidies	5,792,889	4,472,041
Other services and contracts	-	52,774
	<u>5,792,889</u>	<u>4,524,815</u>

### 19 AMOUNTS RECEIVABLE FOR SERVICES

Current	171,000	150,000
Non-current	521,000	505,000
	<u>692,000</u>	<u>655,000</u>

Represents the non-cash component of service appropriations. It is restricted in that it can only be used for asset replacement or payment of leave liability.

### 20 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

#### Land - Reserves

At fair value <sup>(a)</sup>	27,523,700	24,605,100
	<u>27,523,700</u>	<u>24,605,100</u>

#### Plant and equipment

At cost	2,087,752	1,680,480
Accumulated depreciation	(752,527)	(613,702)
	<u>1,335,225</u>	<u>1,066,778</u>

#### Plant and equipment under construction

Construction costs	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

## Swan River Trust Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<u>Information technology assets</u>		
At cost	27,566	39,341
Accumulated depreciation	(16,334)	(14,835)
	<u>11,232</u>	<u>24,506</u>
<u>Furniture and fittings</u>		
At cost	11,384	16,423
Accumulated depreciation	(5,598)	(9,496)
	<u>5,786</u>	<u>6,927</u>
	<b><u>28,875,943</u></b>	<b><u>25,703,311</u></b>

- (a) Land was revalued as at 1 July 2014 by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuations Services). The valuations were performed during the year ended 30 June 2015 and recognised at 30 June 2015. Fair value was determined on the basis of existing use. See note 2(f) 'Property, plant and equipment'.



## Swan River Trust Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

### 20 (Continued)

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the reporting period are set out in the table below.

	Land Reserves \$	Plant and equipment \$	Plant and equipment under construction \$	IT assets \$	Furniture and fittings \$	Total \$
<b>2015</b>						
Carrying amount at start of period	24,605,100	1,066,779	-	24,506	6,925	25,703,310
Additions	1,650,000	470,726	-	-	-	2,120,726
Other disposals	-	(8,561)	-	(6,614)	-	(15,175)
Revaluation increments	1,268,600	-	-	-	-	1,268,600
Depreciation	-	(193,720)	-	(6,660)	(1,138)	(201,518)
<b>Carrying amount at end of period</b>	<b>27,523,700</b>	<b>1,335,224</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,232</b>	<b>5,787</b>	<b>28,875,943</b>

	Land - Reserves \$	Plant and equipment \$	Plant and equipment under construction \$	IT assets \$	Furniture and fittings \$	Total \$
<b>2014</b>						
Carrying amount at start of period	21,329,400	1,054,047	157,481	15,062	8,063	22,564,053
Additions	-	199,014	(157,481)	20,706	-	62,239
Disposals	-	-	-	(2,241)	-	(2,241)
Revaluation increments	3,275,700	-	-	-	-	3,275,700
Depreciation	-	(186,282)	-	(9,021)	(1,138)	(196,441)
<b>Carrying amount at end of period</b>	<b>24,605,100</b>	<b>1,066,779</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,506</b>	<b>6,925</b>	<b>25,703,310</b>

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<b>21 INTANGIBLE ASSETS</b>		
<u>Computer Software</u>		
At cost	98,518	98,518
Accumulated amortisation	(98,518)	(98,518)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Reconciliation:		
<u>Computer Software</u>		
Carrying amount at start of period	-	6,532
Amortisation expense	-	(6,532)
<b>Carrying amount at end of period</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

## 22 IMPAIRMENT OF ASSETS

There were no indications of impairment of property, plant and equipment or intangible assets at 30 June 2015.

The Trust held no goodwill or intangible assets with an indefinite useful life during the reporting period. At the end of the reporting period there were no intangible assets not yet available for use.

There were no surplus assets at 30 June 2015, therefore no assets were held for sale and none were written-off.

## 23 PAYABLES

<u>Current</u>		
Trade payables	-	1,538,783
Accrued expenses	26,005	37,155
Accrued salaries	169,394	140,206
<b>Total current</b>	<u><b>195,399</b></u>	<u><b>1,716,144</b></u>

## Swan River Trust Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<b>24 OTHER LIABILITIES</b>		
<u>Current</u>		
Revenue in advance <sup>(a)</sup>	849,488	968,164
<b>Total current</b>	<b>849,488</b>	<b>968,164</b>

(a) The amount held in this account is from Burswood funding (see note 12) and is to be used only for the programs approved by the Burswood Park Board.

## 25 EQUITY

Equity represents the residual interest in the net assets of the Trust. The Western Australian Government holds the equity interest in the Trust on behalf of the community. The asset revaluation surplus represents that portion of equity resulting from the revaluation of non-current assets.

### Contributed equity

Balance at start of period	20,735,600	20,735,600
Other contributions by owners	1,650,000	-
Distribution to owners	(168,198)	-
Balance at end of period	<b>22,217,402</b>	<b>20,735,600</b>

### Reserves

#### Asset revaluation surplus

Balance at start of year	4,027,000	751,300
Net revaluation increments:		
Land	1,268,600	3,275,700
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<b>5,295,600</b>	<b>4,027,000</b>

### Accumulated surplus

Balance at start of period	8,142,301	7,998,036
Result for the period	1,442,272	144,265
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<b>9,584,573</b>	<b>8,142,301</b>
<b>Total equity at end of period</b>	<b>37,097,575</b>	<b>32,904,901</b>

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<b>26 NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS</b>		
<b>Reconciliation of cash</b>		
Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,319,450	3,054,413
Restricted cash and cash equivalents (note 16 'Restricted cash and cash equivalents')	1,284,462	1,486,874
	<u>2,603,912</u>	<u>4,541,287</u>
<b>Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows used in operating activities</b>		
Net cost of services	(11,022,158)	(12,045,724)
<u>Non-cash items:</u>		
Depreciation and amortisation expense (note 7)	201,519	202,973
Services received free of charge (note 15)	18,428	7,989
Net gain on disposal of non-current assets (note 14)	(3,166)	(25,032)
<u>(Increase)/decrease in assets:</u>		
Current receivables <sup>(a)</sup>	1,024	27,978
Current prepayments	(1,268,074)	(209,492)
<u>Increase/(decrease) in liabilities:</u>		
Current payables	(1,520,745)	1,484,642
Other current liabilities	(118,676)	(354,764)
Net GST receipts/(payments) <sup>(b)</sup>	(13,944)	89,500
Change in GST in receivables/payables <sup>(c)</sup>	-	-
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	<u>(13,725,792)</u>	<u>(10,821,930)</u>

(a) Note that the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) receivable in respect of GST is not included in these items as they do not form part of the reconciling items.

(b) This is the net GST paid/received, i.e. cash transactions.

(c) This reverses out the GST in receivables and payables.



	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<b>27 SERVICES PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE</b>		

During the year there were no services provided to other agencies free of charge for functions outside the normal operations of the Trust.

**28 COMMITMENTS**

**Lease commitments**

Non-cancellable operating leases:

Commitments in relation to leases contracted for at the end of the reporting period but not recognised in the financial statements are payable as follows:

Within 1 year	111,988	472,659
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	162,960	120,498
	<u>274,948</u>	<u>593,157</u>

The property lease is a non-cancellable lease with a two year and six month term, with rent payable monthly in advance. Contingent rent provisions within the lease agreement require that the minimum lease payments shall be increased based on a regular market rent review or CPI increase. The lease expired on 31 December 2014 and was not renewed.

The vehicle leases are non-cancellable and the terms vary depending on the vehicle. The lease payments are fixed for the term of the lease and are payable monthly in advance. There is no option to renew the lease at the end of the lease term.

	2015	2014
	\$	\$

The commitments below are inclusive of GST.

**Capital expenditure commitments**

Capital expenditure commitments, being contracted capital expenditure additional to the amounts reported on the financial statements, are payable as follows:

Within 1 year

	-	-
	-	-
	-	-

The capital commitments include amounts for:

Plant and equipment

	-	-
	-	-
	-	-

**29 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS**

The Trust has no contingent liabilities and contingent assets as at 30 June 2015

**30 EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD**

As part of the Government reform initiatives the staff and functions of the Swan River Trust will merge with the Department of Parks and Wildlife from 1 July 2015. The Department has created a new Rivers and Estuaries Division which will work with the other established divisions. The Swan River Trust will remain as an advisory body, providing planning and other advice to the Minister for Environment and to the Director General of the Department. The River Reserves and land parcels will remain vested with the Trust and will be managed by the Department.

**31 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS**

Assets measured at fair value:	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Fair Value at end of period
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>2015</b>				
Land	-	-	27,523,700	27,523,700
	-	-	<b>27,523,700</b>	<b>27,523,700</b>

Assets measured at fair value:	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Fair Value at end of period
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>2014</b>				
Land	-	-	24,605,100	24,605,100
	-	-	<b>24,605,100</b>	<b>24,605,100</b>

There were no transfers between Levels 1, 2 or 3 during the current & previous periods.

**Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)**

<b>2015</b>	Land
	\$
<b>Fair Value at start of period</b>	24,605,100
Additions	1,650,000
Revaluation increments/(decrements) recognised in Profit or Loss	-
Revaluation increments/(decrements) recognised in Other Comprehensive Income	1,268,600
Transfer (from/(to) Level 2)	-
Disposals	-
Depreciation Expense	-
<b>Fair Value at end of period</b>	<b>27,523,700</b>
Total gains or losses for the period included in profit or loss, under Other Gains	-

**Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)**

<b>2014</b>	<b>Land</b>
	<b>\$</b>
<b>Fair Value at start of period</b>	21,329,400
Additions	-
Revaluation increments/(decrements) recognised in Profit or Loss	-
Revaluation increments/(decrements) recognised in Other Comprehensive Income	3,275,700
Transfer (from/(to) Level 2)	-
Disposals	-
Depreciation Expense	-
<b>Fair Value at end of period</b>	<b>24,605,100</b>
Total gains or losses for the period included in profit or loss, under Other Gains	-

**Valuation processes**

There were no changes in valuation techniques during the period. Transfers in and out of a fair value level are recognised on the date of the event or change in circumstances that caused the transfer. Transfers are generally limited to assets newly classified as non-current assets held for sale as Treasurer's instructions require valuations of land, buildings and infrastructure to be categorised within Level 3 where the valuations will utilise significant Level 3 inputs on a recurring basis.

Fair value for restricted use land is based on comparison with market evidence for land with low level utility (high restricted use land). The relevant comparators of land with low level utility is selected by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuation Services) and represents the application of a significant Level 3 input in this valuation methodology. The fair value measurement is sensitive to values of comparator land, with higher values of comparator land correlating with higher estimated fair values of land with low level utility (high restricted use land).



**Basis of valuation**

In the absence of market-based evidence, due to the specialised nature of some non-financial assets, these assets are valued at Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy on an existing use basis. The existing use basis recognises that restrictions or limitations have been placed on their use and disposal when they are not determined to be surplus to requirements. These restrictions are imposed by virtue of the assets being held to deliver a specific community service and the Trust's enabling legislation.

**Information about significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) in fair value measurements**

Description and fair value as at 30 June 2015	Fair Value 2015 \$	Fair Value 2014 \$	Valuation technique(s)	Unobservable inputs
Land	25,873,700	24,605,100	Market approach	Selection of land with similar approximate utility

32 EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Major variances between estimates (original budget) and actual results for 2015, and between the actual results for 2014 and 2015 are shown below. Major variances are considered to be those greater than 10% or \$10 million.

	Variance Note \$000	Original Budget 2015 \$000	Actual 2015 \$000	Actual 2014 \$000	Variance between estimate and actual \$000	Variance between actual results for 2015 and 2014 \$000
<b>Statement of Comprehensive income (Controlled Operations)</b>						
Employee benefits expense	1	6,473,000	5,251,759	5,558,812	1,221,241	(307,053)
Supplies and services	2,A	4,625,000	3,104,923	6,049,221	1,520,077	(2,944,298)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		187,000	201,519	202,973	(14,519)	(1,454)
Accommodation expenses	3,B	750,000	488,618	675,668	261,382	(187,050)
Other expenses	4,C	385,000	125,428	213,104	259,572	(87,676)
Grants and subsidies	5,D	5,649,000	6,187,341	5,229,698	(538,341)	957,643
<b>Total cost of services</b>		<b>18,069,000</b>	<b>15,359,588</b>	<b>17,929,476</b>	<b>2,709,412</b>	<b>(2,569,888)</b>
<b>Income</b>						
<i>Revenue</i>						
Commonwealth grants and contributions	E	550,000	550,000	1,375,000	-	(825,000)
Grants and contributions	F	3,646,000	3,720,345	4,474,389	(74,345)	(754,044)
Other revenue	6,G	145,000	63,919	9,331	81,081	54,588
<b>Total revenue</b>		<b>4,341,000</b>	<b>4,334,264</b>	<b>5,858,720</b>	<b>6,736</b>	<b>(1,524,456)</b>
<i>Gains</i>						
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	7,H	10,000	3,166	25,032	6,834	(21,866)
<b>Total Gains</b>		<b>10,000</b>	<b>3,166</b>	<b>25,032</b>	<b>6,834</b>	<b>(21,866)</b>
<b>Total income other than income from State Government</b>		<b>4,351,000</b>	<b>4,337,430</b>	<b>5,883,752</b>	<b>13,570</b>	<b>(1,546,322)</b>
<b>NET COST OF SERVICES</b>		<b>13,718,000</b>	<b>11,022,158</b>	<b>12,045,724</b>	<b>2,695,842</b>	<b>(1,023,566)</b>
<b>Income from State Government</b>						
Service appropriation		12,446,000	12,446,000	12,182,000	-	264,000
Services received free of charge	8,I	45,000	18,428	7,989	26,572	10,439
<b>Total income from State Government</b>		<b>12,491,000</b>	<b>12,464,428</b>	<b>12,189,989</b>	<b>26,572</b>	<b>274,439</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD</b>		<b>(1,227,000)</b>	<b>1,442,270</b>	<b>144,265</b>	<b>(2,669,270)</b>	<b>1,298,005</b>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>						
Items not reclassified subsequently to profit or loss						
Changes in asset revaluation surplus	J		1,268,600	3,275,700	(1,268,600)	(2,007,100)
<b>Total other comprehensive income</b>			<b>1,268,600</b>	<b>3,275,700</b>	<b>(1,268,600)</b>	<b>(2,007,100)</b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD</b>		<b>(1,227,000)</b>	<b>2,710,870</b>	<b>3,419,965</b>	<b>(3,937,870)</b>	<b>(709,095)</b>

Swan River Trust Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

	Variance Note \$000	Original Budget 2015 \$000	Actual 2015 \$000	Actual 2014 \$000	Variance between estimate and actual \$000	Variance between actual results for 2015 and 2014 \$000
<b>Statement of Financial Position (Controlled Operations)</b>						
<b>ASSETS</b>						
<b>Current Assets</b>						
Cash and cash equivalents	9,K	2,294,000	1,319,450	3,054,413	974,550	(1,734,963)
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	L	-	1,284,462	1,486,874	(1,284,462)	(202,412)
Receivables	10	278,000	177,718	164,796	100,282	12,922
Prepayments	11,M	3,115,000	5,792,889	4,524,815	(2,677,889)	1,268,074
Amounts receivable for services	N	171,000	171,000	150,000	-	21,000
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>5,858,000</b>	<b>8,745,519</b>	<b>9,380,898</b>	<b>(2,887,519)</b>	<b>(635,379)</b>
<b>Non-current Assets</b>						
Amounts receivable for services		521,000	521,000	505,000	-	16,000
Property, plant and equipment	12,O	22,414,000	28,875,943	25,703,311	(6,461,943)	3,172,632
<b>Total Non-current Assets</b>		<b>22,935,000</b>	<b>29,396,943</b>	<b>26,208,311</b>	<b>(6,461,943)</b>	<b>3,188,632</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>28,793,000</b>	<b>38,142,462</b>	<b>35,589,209</b>	<b>(9,349,462)</b>	<b>2,553,253</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
<b>Current Liabilities</b>						
Payables	13,P	4,000	195,399	1,716,144	(191,399)	(1,520,745)
Other Current Liabilities	14,Q	1,609,000	849,488	968,164	759,512	(118,676)
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>1,613,000</b>	<b>1,044,887</b>	<b>2,684,308</b>	<b>568,113</b>	<b>(1,639,421)</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>1,613,000</b>	<b>1,044,887</b>	<b>2,684,308</b>	<b>568,113</b>	<b>(1,639,421)</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>27,180,000</b>	<b>37,097,575</b>	<b>32,904,901</b>	<b>(9,917,575)</b>	<b>4,192,674</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>						
Contributed equity		20,736,000	22,217,402	20,735,600	(1,481,402)	1,481,802
Reserves	15,R	751,000	5,295,600	4,027,000	(4,544,600)	1,268,600
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)	16,S	5,693,000	9,584,573	8,142,301	(3,891,573)	1,442,272
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>27,180,000</b>	<b>37,097,575</b>	<b>32,904,901</b>	<b>(9,917,575)</b>	<b>4,192,674</b>

# Swan River Trust Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

	Variance Note \$000	Original Budget 2015 \$000	Actual 2015 \$000	Actual 2014 \$000	Variance between estimate and actual \$000	Variance between actual results for 2015 and 2014 \$000
<b>Statement of Cash Flows (Controlled Operations)</b>						
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT</b>						
Service appropriation		12,259,000	12,259,000	11,983,000	-	276,000
Distribution to owners	T	-	(168,198)	-	168,198	(168,198)
Holding account drawdowns	U	150,000	150,000	40,000	-	110,000
<b>Net cash provided by State Government</b>		<b>12,409,000</b>	<b>12,240,802</b>	<b>12,023,000</b>	<b>168,198</b>	<b>217,802</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>						
<b>Payments</b>						
Employee benefits	17	(6,473,000)	(5,329,833)	(5,541,731)	(1,143,167)	211,898
Grants and subsidies	18,V	(5,049,000)	(7,471,415)	(5,431,984)	2,422,415	(2,039,431)
Supplies and services		(4,504,000)	(4,444,219)	(4,513,483)	(59,781)	69,264
Accommodation	19,W	(750,000)	(483,537)	(682,874)	(266,463)	199,337
GST payments on purchases	20	(917,000)	(1,026,565)	(1,125,795)	109,565	99,230
GST payments to the taxation authority			-	(28,292)	-	28,292
Other payments	21,X	(468,000)	(199,454)	(301,930)	(268,546)	102,476
<b>Receipts</b>						
Commonwealth grants and contributions	Y		550,000	1,375,000	(550,000)	(825,000)
Grants and contributions	22,Z	4,196,000	3,601,309	4,119,625	594,691	(518,316)
GST receipts on sales	23,AA	920,000	75,213	208,534	844,787	(133,321)
GST receipts from the taxation authority	AB		937,407	1,035,052	(937,407)	(97,645)
Other receipts	24	138,000	65,302	65,948	72,698	(646)
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>		<b>(12,907,000)</b>	<b>(13,725,792)</b>	<b>(10,821,930)</b>	<b>818,792</b>	<b>(2,903,862)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>						
<b>Payments</b>						
Purchase of non-current physical assets	25,AC	(160,000)	(470,726)	(62,239)	310,726	(408,487)
<b>Receipts</b>						
Proceeds from the sale of non-current physical assets	26,AD	10,000	18,341	27,273	(8,341)	(8,932)
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</b>		<b>(150,000)</b>	<b>(452,385)</b>	<b>(34,966)</b>	<b>302,385</b>	<b>(417,419)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>						
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities		-	-	-	-	-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(648,000)	(1,937,375)	1,166,104	1,289,375	(3,103,479)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		2,942,000	4,541,287	3,375,183	(1,599,287)	1,166,104
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD</b>		<b>2,294,000</b>	<b>2,603,912</b>	<b>4,541,287</b>	<b>(309,912)</b>	<b>(1,937,375)</b>



### Major Estimate and Actual (2015) Variance Narratives for Controlled Operations

- 1) Due to restrictions placed on hiring new staff, lower FTE numbers resulted in a decreased employee benefit expense payable by \$1,221,241 (18.9%).
- 2) Funding from Supplies and Services was lower than estimated by \$1,520,077 (32.9%) and some funding was reallocated to Grants and Subsidies to meet operational demands in 2015.
- 3) The Trust co-located to Kensington during 2014-15 which reduced expenditure on leased accommodation, \$261,382 (34.9%).
- 4) Reduced FTE numbers and the relocation to the co-located site at Kensington significantly reduced actual costs in 2014-15 by \$259,572 (67.4%).
- 5) Funding from Supplies and Services was reallocated to Grants and Subsidies to meet operational needs. Expenditure exceeded the estimate by \$538,341 (9.5%).
- 6) The most significant component of the Other Revenue classification is contributions from Local Government, State and Commonwealth. These contributions are usually negotiated during the financial year and are therefore difficult to forecast. Actual expenditure was \$81,081 (56%) lower than estimated.
- 7) Anticipated gains on small assets sold in 2014-15 were lower than estimated by \$6,834 (68.3%).
- 8) Anticipated estimates relating to services received free of charge were lower than anticipated in 2014-15 by \$26,572 (59.1%).
- 9) Cash and Cash Equivalents were \$974,550 less than budgeted, which was mainly due to the reduction in Payables. The reduction was a consequence of winding up the Trust and reducing liabilities wherever possible. No budget is loaded for Restricted Cash, as it is intended that all funding will be expensed within the financial year. The overall increase in cash was due to the reduced Payments for operating activities for all classifications except Grants.
- 10) As expenditure on Supplies and Services was lower than originally anticipated, the GST receivable is commensurately lower. The actual Receivables was \$100,282 (36.1%) lower than estimated.
- 11) The pre-paid element of Grants and Subsidies increased as Collaborative Agreements issued towards the end of the financial year relate to work programmed for 2015-16 and beyond. Prepayments were \$2,677,889 (86%) higher than estimated.
- 12) The actual figure reflects the increase in land valuations prior to Landgate's June 2015 land valuations.
- 13) The actual 2014-15 figure includes salary and expense accruals. The Estimates figure is \$191,399 (4,785%) lower as the accrual estimate had been incorrectly captured under the "Other Current Liabilities" heading of the Original Budget.

### Major Estimate and Actual (2015) Variance Narratives for Controlled Operations (continued)

- 14) The actual figure reflects the revenue in advance from Burswood Source funding for programs approved by the Burswood Park Board. More of the programmed activity than was estimated occurred in 2014-15.
- 15) The actual figure reflects the increase in land re-valuations since Landgate's June 2015 land valuations.
- 16) The actual 2014-15 figure is \$3,891,573 (68%) higher than the estimated owing to the reduced Total Cost of Service.
- 17) Due to restrictions placed on hiring new staff, lower FTE numbers resulted in a decreased employee benefit expense.
- 18) Funding from Supplies and Services was reallocated to Grants and Subsidies to meet operational demands in 2015.
- 19) The Trust co-located to Kensington during 2014-15 which reduced expenditure on leased accommodation.
- 20) GST Payments on purchases were 12% (\$109,565) greater than forecast.
- 21) Other Payments were \$268,546 less than expected, due to the relocation of the Trust to Kensington, which resulted in a significant reduction in lease payments and building maintenance expenses. There was some uncertainty whether the move would occur and the budget was calculated on that basis.
- 22) Grants and Contributions were 14% (\$594,691) less than forecast. These contributions are applied for and not all applications are successful.
- 23) Estimate was based on invoices being raised for all grants receipts. A significant proportion was received from GST free sources.
- 24) Other receipts are an estimate of non-grant contributions to Trust programs. As the contributions are negotiated during the financial year, it is difficult to forecast at the time of budget preparation.
- 25) Asset purchases were 194% (\$310,726) greater than forecast. This was mainly due to the earlier than expected replacement of office equipment and a significantly increased scope of works for the slipway upgrade.
- 26) Proceeds from the sale of assets were 83.4% (\$8,341) greater than forecast, due to higher than expected proceeds from the sale of a vessel.

### Major Actual (2015) and Comparative (2014) Variance Narratives for Controlled Operations

A The 2013-14 higher expenditure relates to the Ellen Brook Wetland Project which was completed in early 2014-15.

B The Trust co-located to Kensington during 2014-15 which reduced expenditure on leased accommodation.

C The 2013-2014 expenditure reflects higher Workers Compensation Insurance, vehicle lease/hire charges and additional car bay rental charges for accommodation at the Fortescue Centre prior to the Trust co-locating to the Kensington site.

D The variance predominantly reflects the additional funding given to the City of Bayswater for construction of the Eric Singleton Bird Sanctuary in 2014-15 - see Note 10

E The reduction reflects the final payment in 2013-14 of the 2009-10 Commonwealth Government's four year Caring for Our Country program which totalled \$2.5M. The Trust entered into another four year program (totalling \$1.99M) in 2013-14 receiving \$550,000 in 2014-15.

F Reflects the reduced level of funding income from Burswood, State Natural Resource Management, Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority, Water Corporation, Department of Transport, Department of Communities and Whiteman Park in 2014-15 - see Note 12.

G The 85% (\$54,588) increase in 2014-15 was mainly due to a \$35,000 contribution towards the River Rangers Program.

H Gains on small assets sold in 2014-15 were lower than achieved in 2013-14 when the Trust sold the Noel Robins Vessel.

I The major increase from 2013-14 to 2014-15 reflects free legal advice from the State Solicitor's Office pertaining to planning matters and commercial contracts associated with Ellen Brook Wetland.

J Reduced revaluation surplus figures relate to land revaluations which are supplied by Landgate.

K Cash and Cash Equivalents were \$1,734,963 less than 2013-14, which was mainly due to the reduction in Payables. The reduction was a consequence of winding up the Trust and reducing liabilities wherever possible.

L This funding is for purposes defined under contractual arrangements and fluctuates depending on the program of work - see note 16

M The increase is predominantly related to prepayments to local governments for Riverbank Grants for which the Trust received an additional \$1 million dollars appropriation in 2014-15. The Trust also established several collaborative arrangements with Murdoch University, SERCUL and EBICG across May and June for projects that are yet to begin. Murdoch University will undertake fish surveys and monitoring which occur in Spring, Summer and Autumn seasons. EBICG and SERCUL require cashflow from 1 July for Community projects throughout 2015-16.

N Amounts receivable for Services reflects drawdowns from the Holding Account for Capital purchases in line with the Ministerially approved Strategic Asset Plan and vary each year - see Note 19.

O Landgate advised land additions and revaluations account for the increase in 2014-15 - see note 20.

P Trade payables were paid on immediate terms in 2014-15 as the Trust is merging with the Department of Parks and Wildlife on 1 July 2015 and bank accounts are to be closed. The 2013-14 figure reflected invoices waiting to be paid on payment terms.

Q Other current liabilities reflects revenue in advance for programs approved by the Burswood Park Board - see Note 24.

**Major Actual (2015) and Comparative (2014) Variance Narratives for Controlled Operations (continued)**

R Increase in 2014-15 relates to land revaluation reserve - see Note 20.

S The Accumulated Surplus/(deficit) position increased by \$1,442,272 (15%) predominantly due to the decrease in supplies and service expense explained in narrative A.

T The Distribution to Owners was connected with the winding up of the Trust. The payment was to eliminate a liability for accrued salaries and to ensure there were sufficient funds to pay the first pay.

U Increase in 2014-15 relating to Capital purchases in line with the Ministerially approved Strategic Asset Plan and vary each year - see Note 19.

V The variance predominantly reflects the additional funding given to the City of Bayswater for construction of the Eric Singleton Bird Sanctuary in 2014-15 - see Note 10.

W The Trust relocated to Kensington during 2014-15 which reduced expenditure on leased accommodation.

X Other Payments were \$268,546 less than expected, due to the relocation of the Trust to Kensington, which resulted in a significant reduction in lease payments and building maintenance expenses. There was some uncertainty whether the move would occur and the budget was calculated on that basis.

Y The reduction reflects the final payment in 2013-14 of the 2009-10 Commonwealth Government's four year Caring for Our Country program which totalled \$2.5M. The Trust entered into another four year program (totaling \$1.99M) in 2013-14 receiving \$550,000 in 2014-15.

Z Reflects the reduced level of funding income relating to Note 12.

AA The 177.3% (\$133,321) reduction in GST on sales from 2013-14 was due to a reduction in the amounts invoiced and a greater than anticipated funding from GST exempt sources.

AB The 10.4% (\$97,645) reduction in GST Receipts from 2013-14 is due to reduced expenditure in 2014-15.

AC Increase in 2014-15 relating to Capital purchases in line with the Ministerially approved Strategic Asset Plan and vary each year - see Note 19.

AD Proceeds from the sale of smaller assets in 2014-15 were less than achieved in 2013-14 when the Trust sold the Noel Robins vessel.



### 33 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

#### (a) Financial risk management objectives and policies

Financial instruments held by the Trust are cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash and cash equivalents, loans and receivables, and payables. The Trust has limited exposure to financial risks. The Trust's overall risk management program focuses on managing the risks identified below.

##### Credit risk

Credit risk arises when there is the possibility of the Trust's receivables defaulting on its contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Trust.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period in relation to each class of recognised financial assets is the gross carrying amount of those assets inclusive of any allowance for impairment as shown in the table at note 33(c) 'Financial instrument disclosures' and note 17 'Receivables'.

Credit risk associated with the Trust's financial assets is minimal because the main receivable is the amounts receivable for services (holding account). For receivables other than government, the Trust trades only with recognised, creditworthy third parties. The Trust has policies in place to ensure that sales of products and services are made to customers with an appropriate credit history. In addition, receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that the Trust's exposure to bad debts is minimal. At the end of the reporting period there were no significant concentrations of credit risk.

##### Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises when the Trust is unable to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Trust is exposed to liquidity risk through its trading in the normal course of business.

The Trust has appropriate procedures to manage cash flows including drawdowns of appropriations by monitoring forecast cash flows to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet its commitments.

**33 (Continued)**

*Market risk*

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices such as foreign exchange rates and interest rates that will affect the Trust's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments.

The Trust does not trade in foreign currency and is not materially exposed to other price risks.

**(b) Categories of financial instruments**

In addition to cash, the carrying amounts of each of the following categories of financial assets and financial liabilities at the end of the reporting period are:

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Financial Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,319,450	3,054,413
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	1,284,462	1,486,874
Receivables <sup>(a)</sup>	16,463	17,485
Amounts receivable for services	692,000	655,000
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	195,399	1,716,143

(a) The amount of loans and receivables excludes GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

33 (Continued)

(c) Financial instrument disclosures

Credit risk

The following tables disclose the Trust's maximum exposure to credit risk and the aging analysis of financial assets. The Trust's maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period is the carrying amount of financial assets as shown below. The table discloses the aging of financial assets that are past due but not impaired and impaired financial assets. The table is based on information provided to senior management of the Trust.

The Trust does not hold any collateral as security or other credit enhancement relating to the financial assets it holds.

Aged analysis of financial assets

	Carrying Amount \$	Not past due and not impaired \$	Past due but not impaired					Impaired financial assets \$
			Up to 1 month \$	1-3 months \$	3 months to 1 year \$	1-5 years \$	More than 5 years \$	
<b>2015</b>								
Cash and cash equivalents	1,319,450	1,319,450	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	1,284,462	1,284,462	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receivables <sup>(a)</sup>	16,463	16,463	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amounts receivable for services	692,000	692,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>3,312,375</b>	<b>3,312,375</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>2014</b>								
Cash and cash equivalents	3,054,413	3,054,413	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	1,486,874	1,486,874	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receivables <sup>(a)</sup>	17,485	-	17,485	-	-	-	-	-
Amounts receivable for services	655,000	655,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>5,213,772</b>	<b>5,196,287</b>	<b>17,485</b>	-	-	-	-	-

(a) The amount of receivables excludes the GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

33 (Continued)

Liquidity risk and interest rate exposure

The following table details the Trust's interest rate exposure and the contractual maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities. The maturity analysis section includes interest and principal cash flows. The interest rate exposure section analyses only the carrying amounts of each item.

**Interest rate exposure and maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities**

	Weighted average effective %	Carrying Amount \$	Interest rate exposure			Nominal Amount \$	Maturity dates				
			Fixed interest rate \$	Variable interest rate \$	Non-interest bearing \$		Up to 1 month \$	1-3 months \$	3 months to 1 year \$	1-5 years \$	More than 5 years \$
<b>2015</b>											
<u>Financial Assets</u>											
Cash and cash equivalents	2.70	1,319,450	-	-	1,319,450	1,319,450	1,319,450	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		1,284,462	-	-	1,284,462	1,284,462	1,284,462	-	-	-	-
Receivables <sup>(a)</sup>		16,463	-	-	16,463	16,463	16,463	-	-	-	-
Amounts receivable for services		692,000	-	-	692,000	692,000	-	-	171,000	521,000	-
		<b>3,312,375</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,312,375</b>	<b>3,312,375</b>	<b>2,620,375</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>171,000</b>	<b>521,000</b>	<b>-</b>
<u>Financial Liabilities</u>											
Payables	-	195,399	-	-	195,399	195,399	195,399	-	-	-	-
		<b>195,399</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>195,399</b>	<b>195,399</b>	<b>195,399</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>2014</b>											
<u>Financial Assets</u>											
Cash and cash equivalents	2.81	3,054,413	-	-	3,054,413	3,054,413	3,054,413	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		1,486,874	-	-	1,486,874	1,486,874	1,486,874	-	-	-	-
Receivables <sup>(a)</sup>		17,485	-	-	17,485	17,485	17,485	-	-	-	-
Amounts receivable for services		655,000	-	-	655,000	655,000	-	-	150,000	505,000	-
		<b>5,213,772</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,213,772</b>	<b>5,213,772</b>	<b>4,558,772</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>505,000</b>	<b>-</b>
<u>Financial Liabilities</u>											
Payables	-	1,716,144	-	-	1,716,144	1,716,144	1,716,144	-	-	-	-
		<b>1,716,144</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,716,144</b>	<b>1,716,144</b>	<b>1,716,144</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

(a) The amount of receivables excludes the GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

Fair Values

All financial assets and liabilities recognised in the Statement of Financial Position, whether they are carried at cost or fair value, are recognised as amounts that represent a reasonable approximation of fair value unless otherwise stated in the applicable notes.



### 34 REMUNERATION OF MEMBERS OF THE TRUST AND SENIOR OFFICERS

#### Remuneration of members of the Trust

The number of members of the Trust, whose total of fees, salaries, superannuation, non-monetary benefits and other benefits for the financial year, fall within the following bands are:

	2015	2014
\$		
0 - 10,000	6	6
10,001 - 20,000	2	2
20,001 - 30,000	1	1
	\$	\$
Base remuneration and superannuation	87,933	68,166
<b>The total remuneration of members of the Trust</b>	<b>87,933</b>	<b>68,166</b>

The total remuneration includes the superannuation expense incurred by the Trust in respect of members of the Trust.

No members of the Trust are members of the Pension Scheme.

#### Remuneration of senior officers

The number of senior officers, other than senior officers reported as members of the Trust, whose total fees, salaries, superannuation, non-monetary benefits and other benefits for the financial year fall within the following bands are:

	2015	2014
\$		
150,001 - 160,000	-	1
190,001 - 200,000	1	-
	\$	\$
Base remuneration	164,435	160,993
Annual leave and long service leave accruals	(7,764)	(44,526)
Adjustment for accruals	664	689
Other benefits	35,082	35,512
<b>The total remuneration of senior officers</b>	<b>192,417</b>	<b>152,668</b>

The total remuneration includes the superannuation expense incurred by the Trust in respect of senior officers other than senior officers reported as members of the Trust.

No senior officers are members of the Pension Scheme.

2015	2014
\$	\$

**35 REMUNERATION OF AUDITOR**

Remuneration paid or payable to the Auditor General in respect to the audit for the current financial year is as follows:

Auditing the accounts, financial statements and key performance indicators.

<b>18,000</b>	<b>17,500</b>
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**36 RELATED AND AFFILIATED BODIES**

The Trust does not provide any assistance to other agencies which would deem them to be regarded as related or affiliated bodies under the definitions included in TI 951.

**37 SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**(a) Write-offs**

The Trust did not write off any bad debts, revenue, debts due to the State, public or other property during the financial year.

**(b) Losses through theft, defaults and other causes**

Losses of public money and other public property through theft or default.

749	400
<b>749</b>	<b>400</b>

**(c) Gifts of public property**

The Trust had no gifts of public property during the financial year.

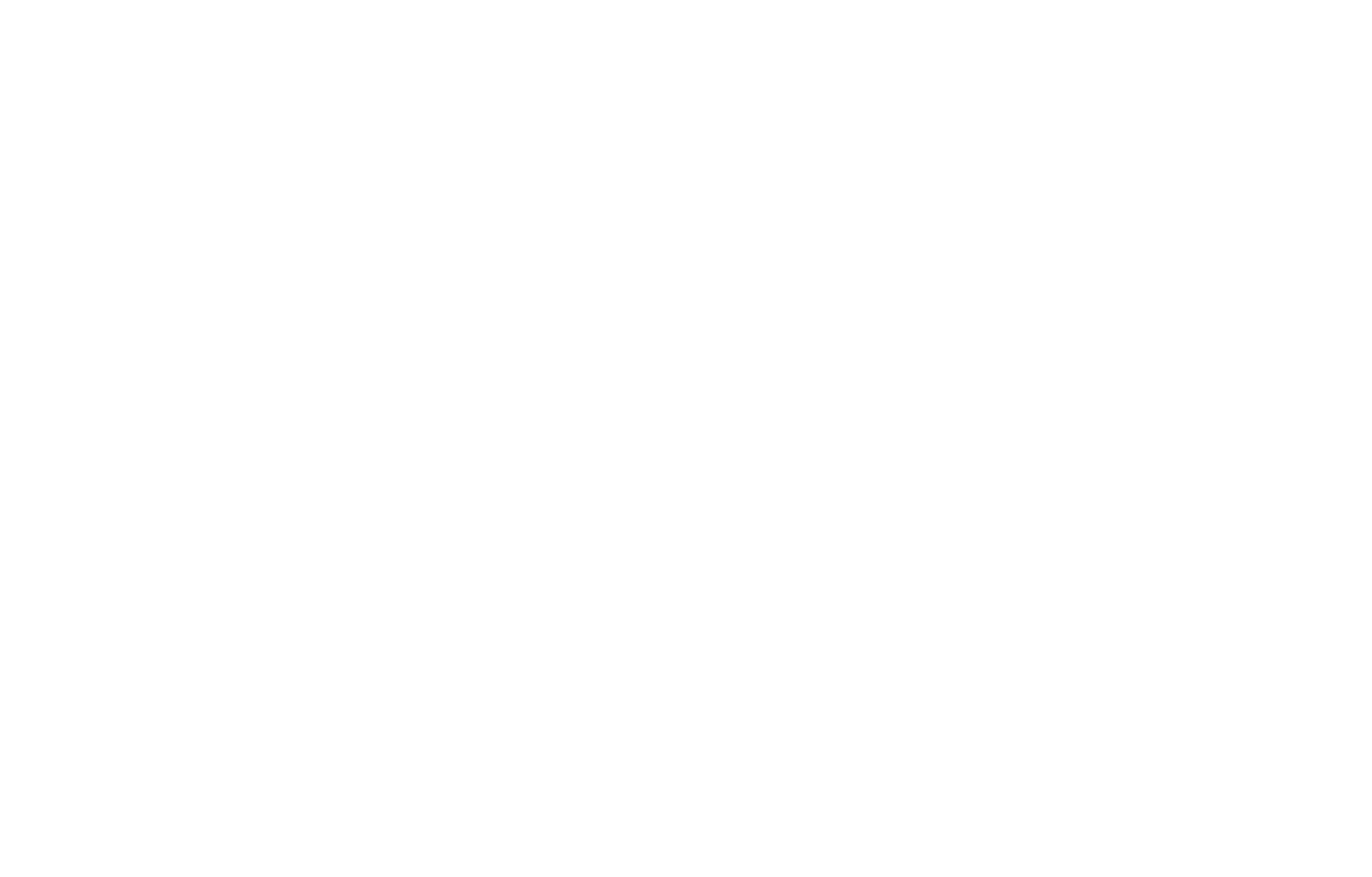
# Swan River Trust Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

### 38 SCHEDULE OF INCOME AND EXPENSES BY SERVICE

	Statutory assessment of development proposals		Riverpark management		Development and implementation of environmental management programs		Communication of environmental information		Total	
	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>COST OF SERVICES</b>										
<b>Expenses</b>										
Employee benefits expense	796,168	1,112,416	1,535,780	1,500,770	2,088,011	2,205,040	831,800	740,586	5,251,759	5,558,812
Supplies and services	468,269	322,705	384,566	193,428	1,378,043	4,656,758	874,045	876,330	3,104,923	6,049,221
Depreciation and amortisation expense	1,195	1,252	193,682	193,675	5,262	7,045	1,380	1,001	201,519	202,973
Accommodation expenses	52,820	72,430	144,940	137,838	229,862	407,522	60,996	57,878	488,618	675,668
Grants and subsidies	139,000	108,000	1,538,815	460,079	4,409,999	4,661,620	99,527	-	6,187,341	5,229,699
Other expenses	39,592	20,836	115,644	40,243	(129,223)	126,798	99,415	25,226	125,428	213,103
<b>Total cost of services</b>	<b>1,497,044</b>	<b>1,637,639</b>	<b>3,913,427</b>	<b>2,526,033</b>	<b>7,981,954</b>	<b>12,064,783</b>	<b>1,967,163</b>	<b>1,701,021</b>	<b>15,359,588</b>	<b>17,929,476</b>
<b>Income</b>										
<i>Revenue</i>										
Commonwealth grants and contributions	50,000	50,000	-	-	500,000	1,325,000	-	-	550,000	1,375,000
Grants and contributions	(150,185)	264,305	424,150	905,364	3,363,718	2,622,541	82,662	682,179	3,720,345	4,474,389
Other revenue	574	35	(908,999)	(922,692)	931,650	924,961	40,694	7,027	63,919	9,331
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	(1,485)	-	12,901	25,032	(6,536)	-	(1,714)	-	3,166	25,032
<b>Total income other than income from State Government</b>	<b>(101,096)</b>	<b>314,340</b>	<b>(471,948)</b>	<b>7,704</b>	<b>4,788,832</b>	<b>4,872,502</b>	<b>121,642</b>	<b>689,206</b>	<b>4,337,430</b>	<b>5,883,752</b>
<b>NET COST OF SERVICES</b>	<b>1,598,140</b>	<b>1,323,299</b>	<b>4,385,375</b>	<b>2,518,329</b>	<b>3,193,122</b>	<b>7,192,281</b>	<b>1,845,521</b>	<b>1,011,815</b>	<b>11,022,158</b>	<b>12,045,724</b>
<b>INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT</b>										
Service appropriation	1,338,023	1,305,873	3,671,603	2,485,168	5,891,233	7,347,436	1,545,141	1,043,523	12,446,000	12,182,000
Services received free of charge	1,981	856	5,436	1,630	8,723	4,818	2,288	684	18,428	7,989
<b>Total income from State Government</b>	<b>1,340,004</b>	<b>1,306,729</b>	<b>3,677,039</b>	<b>2,486,798</b>	<b>5,899,956</b>	<b>7,352,254</b>	<b>1,547,429</b>	<b>1,044,207</b>	<b>12,464,428</b>	<b>12,189,989</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD</b>	<b>(258,136)</b>	<b>(16,570)</b>	<b>(708,336)</b>	<b>(31,531)</b>	<b>2,706,834</b>	<b>159,973</b>	<b>(298,092)</b>	<b>32,392</b>	<b>1,442,270</b>	<b>144,265</b>

The Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.





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*Caring for the Swan Canning Riverpark*