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## Triple Bottom Line

*Environmental, social and financial benefits from managing our natural resources*

### NSPNR June 2023 Newsletter

**In this edition:**

Dates for your diary

Message from the committee - Stephen Simpson

NRM Officer update - survey

Event: Face -to-face 1080 Training for Fox and Rabbit Control

New Aboriginal Cultural Heritage laws from 1 July

Project Update: Sharing local knowledge to enrich the Curriculum

Forum review: Agriculture in Transition 23 March 2023

Opportunity: Soil testing opportunities to support better fertiliser decisions

Review: National Volunteer Week 2023 Grant Program - 'Hero Helpers'

NSPNR Staff Contact Details

The NSPNR office is generally open Tues/Wed/Thurs 9am-5pm.

Check the NSPNR Facebook page for updates.

Contact Caroline House Natural Resource Management Officer 0437 248 206 for assistance.

NSPNR acknowledges the Mineng and Goreng people as the traditional owners of the land where we live and work.

Learn about the Goreng / Koreng clan

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## Dates for your diary

See details later in the newsletter, or on the Grower Group Alliance [webpage](#).

6 July David Nicholson (Shire of Gnowangerup CEO) in NSPNR office for community consultations

25 July 1080 Training Jerramungup CRC (see details below)

26 July 1080 Training Borden Pavilion (see details below)

28 July School Plant a Tree Day

30 July National Plant a Tree Day

While the information was correct at time of publishing, please check the respective organisations for updates to ensure the event is going ahead.

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## Message from the committee



STEPHEN SIMPSON

NSPNR Committee Member

I have always loved this part of the world: the Stirling Ranges, the Porongurups, the South Coast and was delighted when providence intervened. My wife Cherie is the 4th generation of her family to farm at Borden, her Great Grandfather, George McKenzie Miller, pioneered *Barrabool* in 1912.

My father-in-law, Robin Argyle, had the foresight to esteem it a great privilege to farm this land - [in a region now described by UNESCO as one of only 34 biodiversity hotspots on the earth](#) - and considered himself a steward of the future. Biodiversity hotspots make up less than 3 percent of the Earth's land surface and refer to regions that are both rich with life and at high risk for destruction. Recognising this, Robin championed precursors to the NSPNR. On the arrival of the new District Agriculture Protection Board Officer in 1977 he supported Robin Mulder's pioneering work and they became lifelong friends, notably in 1980 inspecting a rare malleefowl mound in Ongerup. My father-in-law engaged early with Pallinup Land Care to revegetate fragile soils at *Barrabool* and was thrilled with the return in 1986 of the Bush Stone Curlew whose eerie call had not been heard since his childhood. Robin Argyle's worldview leaves a legacy I deeply respect; a heritage I wish to preserve.

Commencing my legal career at The Crown Law Department I have extensive experience over three decades in both State and Commonwealth Government prosecution roles. Since 2010 I have been a Senior Lawyer at the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation of Western Australia. As an advocate with extensive government administration experience, I seek to support strategic collaboration between sustainable agriculture leaders and stakeholders towards a prosperous future for farmers, rural communities and the environment. I value the opportunity to support the dedicated NSPNR staff and committee to fulfil the NSPNR mandate. I have been impressed with the

skill set at the NSPNR and Yongergnow and found Stevi Filipowski's presentation at the [2021 National Malleefowl & WA Threatened Species Forum](#) - in her roles as Natural Resource Management Officer at NSPNR and Zoological Project Officer at the Yongergnow Malleefowl Centre - an excellent showcase.

The future of our worldwide farming family is in danger due to regulatory overreach and unsustainable practices. Last year I facilitated former NSPNR Chair Jamie Spence and Stevi Filipowski meeting with soil health leader Brent Burns of [BioSoil Solutions](#) in Vasse. His leadership to support farmers to implement sustainable agricultural practices is extensive with notable projects in the Wheatbelt.

I look forward to meeting you and please feel welcome to contact me via the NSPNR.



## NRM Officer Update



WIN AN ACTIVE FARMERS VOUCHER!

All you have to do is complete this 5-10 minute survey by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> of June.

### [SURVEY](#)

The purpose of this survey is to collect data on knowledge of agricultural climate issues across the south coast of Western Australia. Your input into this survey will help to ensure projects, workshops and other activities are meeting local needs. Head to the link (above or in our bio) for your chance to win (if you have already done it you're automatically in the draw - 3 vouchers to be won and your choice of location - Borden, Gnowangerup, Ongerup, Needilup or Boxwood Hill).

This survey is supported by South Coast Natural Resource Management through the Australian Government's National Landcare Program (NLP).

Cheers,  
Caroline

Caroline House- Executive NRM Officer

Available: Monday - Thursday

P: (08) 9828 1086 | M: 0437 248 206 | E: [caroline@nspnr.com.au](mailto:caroline@nspnr.com.au)

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## **Face-to-face 1080 Training for Fox and Rabbit Control**

Farmers and staff who may wish to use 1080 poison under permit to control foxes and rabbits can gain their registered pesticide (RP) accreditation through face-to-face training with DPIRD in either Borden or Jerramungup this July.

To apply for a RP permit to use 1080 on a farm, all users must have already completed and passed RP training.

North Stirlings Pallinup Natural Resources (NSPNR) with DPIRD and Fitzgerald Biosphere Group (FBG) will offer free face-to-face RP training in July through NSPNR's project, *Expanded predator control program in the Fitz-Stirling Corridor*. Training will be held 8-12pm in Jerramungup on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July and in Borden on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July. Use this link to [Book Training](#) or contact Laura (below) to book your seat.

Farmers should look into applying for or amending Registered Pesticide (RP) permits early to be sure the permits are granted when they actually want to bait for foxes and rabbits with 1080, especially for the late winter and spring period

when fox baiting is most effective. It is too late to bait once there are young lambs on the ground. A permit may be granted for a period of up to 5 years.

DPIRD's website has more information on RP

permits [www.agric.wa.gov.au/baits-poisons/registered-pesticide-permits](http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/baits-poisons/registered-pesticide-permits)

NSPNR is also offering limited amounts of free fox baits supplied through the project for laying in summer/autumn 2024. [Download the form](#) or contact Laura 0401 553 285 or [laura@nspnr.com.au](mailto:laura@nspnr.com.au) for a copy of the form and email to Laura by **20 June 2023**.

The *Expanded predator control program in the Fitz-Stirling Corridor* project aims to reduce numbers of feral cats, foxes and rabbits in the area between the Stirling Range and Fitzgerald River national parks. This will reduce pressure on native animals including malleefowl, chuditch and Carnaby's black cockatoo. The project is supported by funding from the Western Australian Government's State NRM Program .

The project supported community and volunteer fox shoots across the broader region including Shires of Gnowangerup and Jerramungup earlier in 2023. The combined total was 590 foxes, 24 cats and 264 rabbits. Foxes have been known to travel up to 10km in a single night, so wide-spread and on-going coordinated control is important to slow re-infestation.

For more information contact Laura Page, Project Officer, [laura@nspnr.com.au](mailto:laura@nspnr.com.au) 0401 553 285 .

**Book your place for 1080 training**

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## **New Aboriginal Cultural Heritage laws from 1 July**

NSPNR staff have recently undergone some training on the new Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021. We've still got lots to learn but feel we might be able to help answer some questions you may have – so give us a call and we can work through it together. The important thing to remember, for farmers, is that your current every day/year activities (seeding, harvest, sheep grazing) are 'exempt' activities. These activities are considered 'like for like' and therefore are exempt activities (\*see below full definition of exempt activity). The Act is designed to prioritise consultation with Aboriginal people about any land use activities that may impact their cultural heritage.

The new Act will take effect from 1 July 2023 replacing the outdated 1972 Act and the controversial section 18 process to manage impacts to cultural heritage.

\*Exempt activities (extract from the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 Statutory Guidelines)

*Exempt activities are set out in the Act and the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulations 2022 (Regulations). An exempt activity that may harm ACH may be carried out provided it is not within a protected area (see the Directory) or is permitted by any conditions or regulations associated with a protected area. A DDA is not required. Advice should be sought from the Department as to whether the proposed activity is permitted. Consistent with the objects and principles of the Act, exempt activities are encouraged to be undertaken in a manner that avoids or minimises harm to ACH.*

LINK to Guidelines: [Gazette 64 of 2023 \(legislation.wa.gov.au\)](https://www.legislation.wa.gov.au/gazette/gazette64of2023)

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### Sharing local knowledge to enrich the Curriculum

Over the last couple of months NSPNR have been fortunate to meet up with local ecologists, Goreng elders and representatives, local educators and community members who are all imperative to the NSPNR project that will create several curriculum-linked education packages.

The packages will explore our rich local culture and environment connecting students with what is in their own backyard and aims to inspire and empower the next generation.

1. Goreng Connection to Country
2. Our Salty Rivers: Processes and Biodiversity
3. The Stirling Range National Park

These packages will be ready to use in our classrooms by 2024! Watch this space 😊

This project is supported by funding from the Western Australian Government's State NRM Program.









APRIL 2023

# AGRICULTURE IN TRANSITION FORUM REVIEW

23 MARCH 2023 - TAMBELLUP, WA

## THE ROLE OF NATURAL CAPITAL

### Overview

On the 23rd of March over 60 participants gathered at the Tambellup Hall to be part of the community-led forum, Agriculture in Transition: The Role of Natural Capital. The forum was developed by the Gillamii Centre and North Stirling Pallinup Natural Resource (NSPNR) and facilitated by Larissa Taylor from Savoir Consulting. The aim of the forum was to contribute to natural capital capacity building in the sub-region and help farmers navigate the challenges and opportunities for natural capital accounting, carbon and co-benefits and nature repair investment in response to the energy transition. The workshop also aimed to address climate risk and natural capital knowledge gaps by creating collaborative opportunities for individuals, businesses and organisations across the agricultural industry.

Participants, ranging from NRM groups, agricultural consultants, research institutions, finance sector local landholders, came together to hear an extremely dynamic set of presentations from a range of leading organisations such as the WA Biodiversity Science Institute, Accounting from Nature, Farmanco and Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.



*"The Calibre of speakers was incredible, and it was great to hear from people immersed in the field and into somewhat uncharted territories in Western Australia." - event attendee*



natural resource management program



SOUTHCOAST  
Natural Resource Management



National Landcare Programme

**Bendigo Bank**

This forum was supported by funding from the Western Australian Government's State NRM Program, South Coast Natural Resource Management, Bendigo Bank and the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme

## FEEDBACK

The event was rated by participants as

# 4.1/5 stars

Participant's highlights included:

- Networking
- Calibre of speakers
- Benchmarking
- First nations people's perspective - healing country as part of Natural Capital Accounting
- Natural Capital Accounting data

Areas of improvement included:

- Time management
- Neutral facilitation
- Real examples of farmers undertaking Natural Capital Accounting



## KEY TOPICS

- It Starts with Connection to Country: Caring for Boodja
- Biodiversity: Why you'll want to be talking about the 'Restoration Economy' too
- Measurement, Reporting and Verification of Environmental Condition for Natural Capital Reporting
- Farm Benchmarking to Make Natural Capital Practical: You have more than you think to work with

## WHERE TO NEXT

***"When the industry develops enough there will be the space to hold a landholder friendly forum to disseminate appropriate information. This industry forum held a brilliant place, and what a great opportunity for our region to have held it."***  
- event attendee

This forum was the first community-led Natural Capital event for the Gnowangerup, Cranbrook and Broomehill-Tambellup Shire's and surrounding communities. Natural Capital Accounting is a complex, exciting and immerging industry, one that is often confronting to discuss. Both NSPNR and the Gillamii Centre believe we achieved our purpose of beginning to build Natural Capital Accounting capacity within our sub-region, however recognise the long journey ahead in disseminating high-level research, information and policy into on-ground action. Both community groups are committed to continuing to navigate this industry in order to ensure our communities are informed and empowered, through further informative events and practical projects with meaningful industry collaboration.

For more information contact:

Freya Spencer: [admin@gillamii.org.au](mailto:admin@gillamii.org.au)

Tegan Knowles: [tegan@nspnr.com.au](mailto:tegan@nspnr.com.au)



natural resource management program



SOUTHCOAST  
SOUTH COAST NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



National Landcare Programme



This forum was supported by funding from the Western Australian Government's State NRM Program, South Coast Natural Resource Management, Bendigo Bank and the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme

## Soil testing opportunities to support better fertiliser decisions.

The program aims to support farmers to make informed fertiliser decisions to ensure nutrients stay on the farm and out of waterways and estuaries.

Go to <https://estuaries.dwer.wa.gov.au/strategies/sustainable-agriculture/soil-testing/> or contact NSPNR to find out more.





# Soil testing to support better fertiliser decisions

Expressions of interest now open!



Join more than 1600 farmers working to increase farm productivity and improve the health of our waterways!

### Can I apply?

The program is open through Healthy Estuaries WA to beef, dairy and sheep grazing enterprises that are over 40ha of arable land in one of the funding catchments: Peel-Harvey, Leschenault, Vasse-Wonnerup, Geographe, Hardy Inlet, Wilson Inlet, Torbay Inlet or Oyster Harbour. Farms that do not meet these criteria may be able to participate through Soil Wise and are encouraged to complete the EOI.

### What's included?

- Soil testing, advice and support valued at almost \$5000
- Soil sampling and chemical analysis of all eligible paddocks
- Results and advice at a local workshop
- One-to-one agronomic advice
- Plant tissue testing

Go to <https://estuaries.dwer.wa.gov.au/>

Contact [nspnr@nspnr.com.au](mailto:nspnr@nspnr.com.au) for more information



*This is a part of the State Government's Healthy Estuaries WA program and Soil Wise. Soil Wise is funded by the National Landcare Program Smart Farms Small Grants Initiative - an Australian Government program.*

## National Volunteer Week 2023 Grant Program - 'Hero Helpers'

We would like to thank everyone who popped into our "Hero Helpers" morning tea at the Pavilion and the Pop-Up Café at our office for a delicious barista coffee, while we celebrated National Volunteer Week. We even made a couple of stops to the Borden Primary School and Elders to deliver some treats to the busy working vollys! Thanks to all of you incredible volunteers for contributing

your time in all ways, we're so fortunate to have you in our community. Thank you to **Volunteering WA** and **Lotterywest** for their generous funding.



### NSPNR Staff Contact Details

Office: 19 Moir St, Borden

Caroline House Natural Resource Management Officer 0437 248 206

Tegan Knowles Project Officer 08 9828 1086

Stevi Filipowski 08 9828 1086

Laura Page Project Officer 08 9828 1086

Georgia Davies Administration 08 9828 1086

Check out our website! Find out about current projects, what is happening with natural resources, or become a NSPNR member.

[nspnr.com.au](http://nspnr.com.au)

We have a new-look Instagram! Follow us @nspnr for up-to-date information.

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