

Swan River Trust Annual Report 2007–08



Caring for the Swan and Canning rivers



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The Swan River Trust: Facing the challenge

The new river legislation is driving the Trust's approach to involve the people of Perth in greater protection for the Swan and Canning river system.

COVER: This image, taken by Perth's Glen Stoddart, was named the winner of The West Australian newspaper's *Scenes from our Spectacular State* photography competition.

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Government goals and strategic outcomes

The Trust operates in accordance with the Government's goals, priorities and policy direction as defined in September 2006, *Better Planning: Better Futures – A Framework for the Strategic Management of the Western Australian Public Sector*.

Government vision

The best opportunities for current and future generations will be provided. Western Australia will be a creative, sustainable and economically successful state that embraces the diversity of its people and values its rich natural resources. The Western Australian public sector will work towards providing the best opportunities for current and future generations to live better, longer and healthier lives.

It is the responsibility of the public sector to make decisions for tomorrow, not just for today.

Government goals

- 1 Better Services
- 2 Jobs and Economic Development
- 3 Lifestyle and the Environment
- 4 Regional Development
- 5 Governance and Public Sector Improvement

The Trust's work contributes to Government Goal 3 – Lifestyle and the Environment, protecting and enhancing the unique Western Australian lifestyle and ensuring sustainable management of the environment.

The Trust's performance management framework contributes to the Government's strategic outcomes.

- A unique lifestyle that is maintained and enhanced
- Biodiversity and ecosystems that are well maintained
- Impacts on the environment are responsibly and sustainably managed
- World class national parks, marine parks and conservation reserves

Overview – strategic approach

The Swan River Trust was established in 1989 to protect, manage and provide appropriate planning for the Swan and Canning rivers and associated land.

The Swan River Trust:

- manages and protects the Swan Canning river system and works with State and local government and other bodies to provide facilities around the rivers;
- advises the Minister for the Environment on development proposals in the Development Control Area;
- controls and prevents pollution of the rivers and keeps them clear of rubbish;
- advises on and controls erosion of riverbanks;
- provides advice to local governments and the Western Australian Planning Commission on town planning issues affecting the rivers; and
- promotes community awareness of issues affecting the health of the river system and actively engages community involvement in river protection and restoration.

The Trust secures staff and services from Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) and receives technical services from the Department of Water.

The principles and values in the Swan River Trust Strategic Plan 2006–09 are based on:

Swan River Trust vision

The Swan and Canning rivers are a valued part of our environment and a source of enjoyment for the community forever.

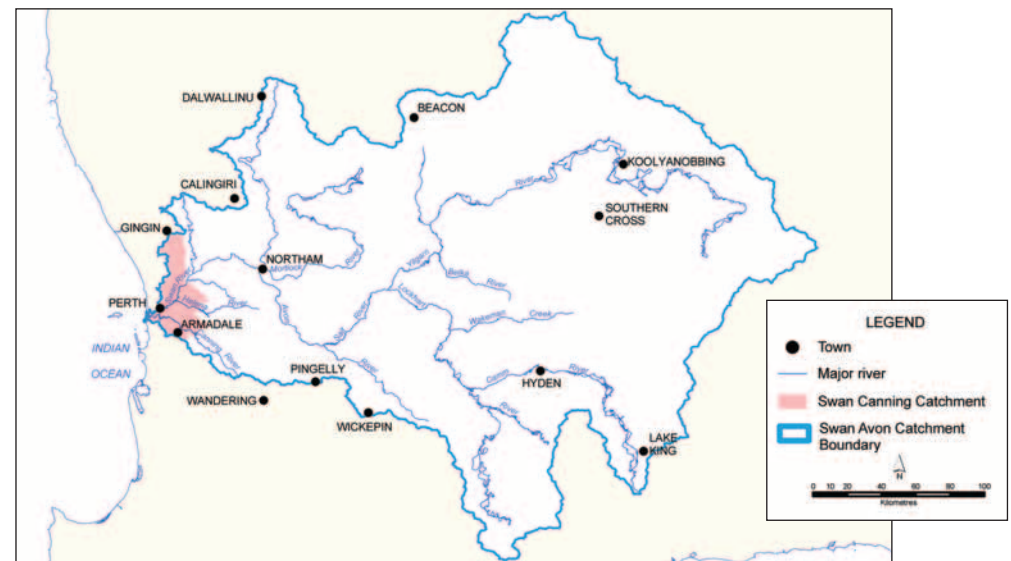
Swan River Trust mission

To work with local, State and Commonwealth governments and the community to protect the Swan and Canning rivers and associated land to ensure ecological health and community benefits are enhanced.

Swan River Trust 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.

Figure 1 Swan Avon Catchment



The Swan Avon Catchment is about 125,000 square kilometres, which includes the Swan Canning Catchment of 2,126 square kilometres



Letter to the Minister for the Environment

To the Hon. Donna Faragher MLC
Minister for Environment; Youth

I have pleasure in submitting the 20th Annual Report on the operations of the Swan River Trust for the period 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008, in accordance with the *Swan River Trust Act 1988*, *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006* and *Financial Management Act 2006*.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Freemantle', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jim Freemantle
Acting Chairman
8 September 2008

Chairman's report



New legislation is now in place to protect the rivers. The *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006*, proclaimed in September 2007, gives clearly defined responsibilities and a firmer legislative base for better managing the rivers, their water quality, amenity and immediate environments.

Under the new legislation, a new Trust Board was appointed and the previous Trust positions vacated. I thank the former members for their magnificent service to the rivers. Under their watch, significant progress was made in improving the rivers' environmental quality. The Healthy Rivers Program and enactment of the new legislation were significant milestones for the Trust in 2007 and 2008. I acknowledge in particular the former chairman Charlie Welker, who resigned in June 2008. Mr Welker has made an outstanding contribution in his five years as chairman, overseeing major changes in the Trust's structure, its strategic focus and its resource base.

The new Trust members are a group of very dedicated people with a varied and relevant array of skills. The new Board has settled in well and has come to grips with the task it faces. It has developed a good relationship with the Environment Minister, and has the backing of a dedicated and enthusiastic staff.

Approaching the complex task of restoring and managing our waterways is always made more challenging by the limited resources available to the Trust. This situation is somewhat alleviated by the Trust's ability to draw external funding to its cause. The \$6 million Burswood gaming machine levy available in the year ahead will enable many necessary projects to be undertaken to improve the rivers' health. But the pressure will remain to secure adequate funds for the Trust to deliver on its role of returning the Swan and Canning rivers to a state of health that is sustainable in the long term. Perth people expect the rivers to be maintained as an environmental, aesthetic and social asset. Put simply, to do so takes money.

There are certain issues that continue to plague the rivers. Water quality and low oxygen levels – and climate change impacts – are ongoing problems that the Trust is working to resolve through the Healthy Rivers Program and other strategic plans and programs. This year a number of significantly effective programs, detailed in this report, have been implemented in line with the Trust's Strategic Plan 2006–09, to bring our goals to fruition. Providing an adequate response to development proposals – and leading the debate where necessary – are critical challenges for the Trust.

The Trust has been recognised for its efforts this year, with the Healthy Rivers Program winning the Lifestyle and Environment category of the Premier's Awards 2007, and being short-listed as a finalist for the 2008 national and international Thiess Riverprizes, two of the most highly regarded river restoration awards worldwide.

At a local level, tree vandalism on the foreshores continues to be a deep concern and will not be tolerated. It is often motivated by selfishness and lack of respect for the environment and others' enjoyment. This year the Trust has worked hard on this issue, and with success, but the problem is far from solved for the long term.

Partnerships are central to the Trust's approach to river management. We have been able to develop and maintain excellent working relationships with various other State and local government agencies, and the natural resource management community. We have been encouraged by the way in which most local governments have embraced the new legislation and the way our partnerships are developing. We are always open to suggestions of new ways to develop closer working relationships with the many private and public bodies whose activities impact on the Swan Canning river system.

We are also working harder to involve and provide more information for the public. In developing the River Protection Strategy, which is required under the new legislation, the Trust sought extensive and genuine public and stakeholder input before beginning to draft the strategy. The launch of the River Guardians Pilot Program in June 2008 was another significant step in bringing the public closer to the rivers. In the coming year, we will set up a foundation to help raise money and to embrace everyone who has an interest and connection with our iconic river system.

We recognise that our role is that of a manager and custodian. We can only carry out these functions satisfactorily in partnerships with others. Effective partnership outcomes are highlighted throughout this Annual Report, demonstrating that the rivers themselves belong to all of us and all of us must share responsibility for their well-being.

Jim Freemantle
Acing Chairman
8 September 2008



Legislation development

The *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006* and *Swan and Canning Rivers (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2006* were proclaimed on 25 September 2007. On the same day, the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Regulations 2007* and *Swan and Canning Rivers (Transitional) Regulations 2007* were gazetted. The new legislation provides a mechanism to better protect the rivers and set up a coordinated management framework to deal with commercial and recreational activities, and urban and rural influences on the rivers.

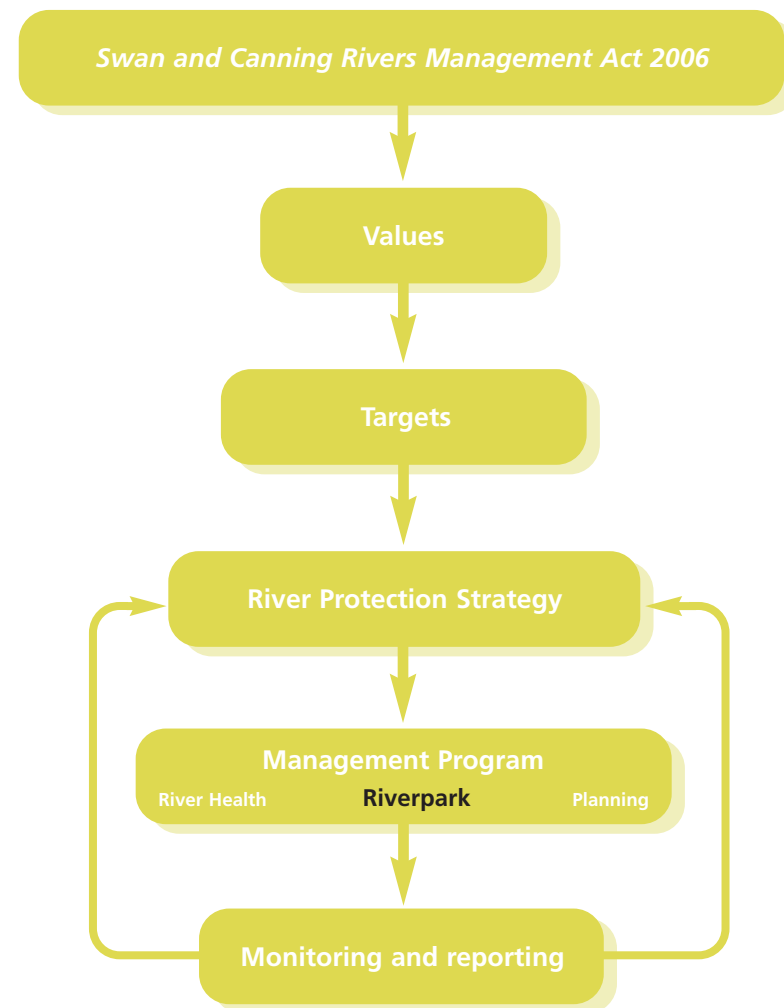
The new legislation recognises the rivers' importance as an icon and establishes the Swan Canning Riverpark, consisting of the waterways and adjacent public land of the Swan, Canning, Helena and Southern rivers. It establishes the Trust as the park management agency and recognises Riverpark as a valuable entity for the community.

Under the new legislation a River Protection Strategy is being developed to set out what needs to be done to manage the rivers and who needs to do it. The Trust has set new standards in public consultation in the way in which it has approached the community regarding the River Protection Strategy, ensuring true public ownership of this new strategy.

The new Act recognises increasing community expectation for improved and holistic river system management to be led by the Trust throughout the Swan Canning Catchment. It heightens the Trust's responsibility in several management areas including:

- coordination of all management efforts undertaken by numerous stakeholder organisations;
- joint responsibility for maintaining walling and other structures along the Riverpark shoreline; and
- River Reserve leases, including yacht clubs and marinas.

Figure 2 Legislation framework



Significant issues and trends

The Swan Canning river system is a wonderful social, environmental and scenic resource for all Western Australians. However, like many waterways around the world, it is showing signs of environmental stress. The outward signs of this stress are not always obvious; the beautiful expanse of blue water generally gives no indication of the lack of oxygen in the depths and the problems it can cause. The reality is that the river system is under great stress, with some fish and prawn species having all but disappeared from the rivers.

Environmental stress

- Excess nutrients, such as phosphorus and nitrogen, enter the Swan Canning river system from backyards, drains and rural lands. Nutrients feed algae which can cause algal blooms. When a bloom dies, its decomposition reduces oxygen levels resulting in nutrient release from the sediment which often favours toxic algae. The low oxygen and toxic algae may lead to fish deaths and unhealthy conditions for recreation.
- The environmental condition of the Swan and Canning rivers varies from the Darling Scarp to the coast, and changes throughout the year. Seasonal changes in river flow, temperature and exchange with the ocean affect the ability of the rivers to assimilate nutrients.
- Reducing nutrients is a priority throughout the river system. Problems due to nutrient enrichment are exacerbated by erosion and sedimentation, reduced river flow, and historic loss of fringing vegetation and mudflats that can remove nutrients.
- To maintain and improve river health, nutrient inputs must be reduced by long-term action on many fronts. Oxygenation of parts of the rivers and river remediation will be required for some time to come.

Human impact

- Population growth, accelerated by the vibrant economy, causes increased recreational pressure on the rivers, with activities such as recreational fishing and boating and on-river tourist-based development.
- The Trust remains under pressure to approve marina expansions or other boating storage and launching facilities, which must be balanced with other community values for the rivers.
- Contamination of river water and sediments, possibly from historic boating maintenance practises, continues to be an issue requiring management from the Trust in collaboration with yacht clubs and marinas.
- Demand for residential land in the metropolitan area continues to be high. Land that has been difficult or uneconomic to use for urban purposes in the past because of drainage issues is now being developed. Stormwater and groundwater from the future development of residential riverside areas need careful management to prevent more nutrients entering the river system.

Climate change

- Recent studies have shown that the effects of climate change, including reduced rainfall and stream flow and increased marine water intrusion, will further increase the rivers' vulnerability to oxygen depletion, nutrient enrichment and other pressures. As groundwater levels decrease, climate change may increase the risk of acidification and heavy metal contamination that can result from disturbance of acid sulphate soils.
- These are crucial issues for all environmental managers. The rivers will not escape the influence of climate change and are likely to experience changes in the waterflow regime due to altered seasonal rainfall and storm surge.



Community expectations

- The community continues to place a very high value on the Swan and Canning rivers and demand for information about the rivers and opportunities for community involvement in their protection remains high.
- The new Act recognises increasing community expectation for improved and holistic river system management to be led by the Trust throughout the Swan Canning Catchment.
- Community research undertaken by the Trust confirms that Perth residents consider the Swan and Canning rivers to be 'iconic', as an important community asset that is strongly valued as a key feature of Perth's recreational, social and cultural landscape.
- The past year has seen an escalation in tree vandalism on the foreshores and river reserves. This is an ongoing problem for the Trust which continues to take a strong stance on this issue. It is generally a selfish act performed in the interest of 'improving' views of the water for the land holders, with disregard for the environmental impact it causes.
- Restoration of foreshore vegetation and river walling continues to be an issue for the Trust, demanding a high level of effort and resources.

Management trends

- Western Australia's strong economic and population growth has caused costs to escalate in many areas, including many aspects of river restoration work.
- The Trust has sought to secure external funding to augment its finances and project partners are sought as appropriate. For example in the coming year \$6 million will be available from the Burswood gaming machine levy.
- The economic boom has created problems in staff recruitment for the Trust, as it has for many other organisations. At times it is difficult to attract and retain staff in the shadow of larger salaries on offer in the private sector.

Response

In response to these increasing pressures the Trust's actions include continued work in the catchment with community catchment groups, nutrient removal from drains and tributaries, foreshore restoration works, application of river-friendly fertilisers and riverside remediation in the waterways themselves.

The Trust is working with planning authorities and local governments to ensure sound planning of riverfront development and that development in the catchment does not increase nutrient export to the rivers.

The Trust is working to ensure that developments are planned to maintain and enhance the health, amenity and landscape values of the rivers. Developments need to ensure adequate open space and should not alienate the foreshore from general community access.

Under the new Act, the Trust is working with river stakeholders and the public to develop targets for critical values for the community, and to devise a River Protection Strategy and management programs to maintain and protect those values.

The Trust, in consultation with the public and river stakeholders, has developed a draft Boating Management

Strategy to provide a means to better manage recreational impacts on the rivers. The strategy aims to provide a coordinated and collaborative approach between local and State governments, the boating industry, and community and river care groups.

The Trust has entered a new phase of indigenous input and celebration of culture. Ways to further engage the Perth public, including indigenous people, are being implemented and further explored and will be a focus of future management.

The Trust is coordinating the Swan Canning Coastal Catchments Initiative (CCI) in partnership with Federal, State and local governments, and working with the community on four component projects to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus inputs to the Swan Canning river system.

The Healthy Rivers Program consists of eight program areas delivering a 'catchment to coast' approach.

- Coordination
- Healthy Catchments
- Land Use Planning
- Drainage Nutrient Intervention
- Riverbank
- River Health
- Community and Partners
- River Science

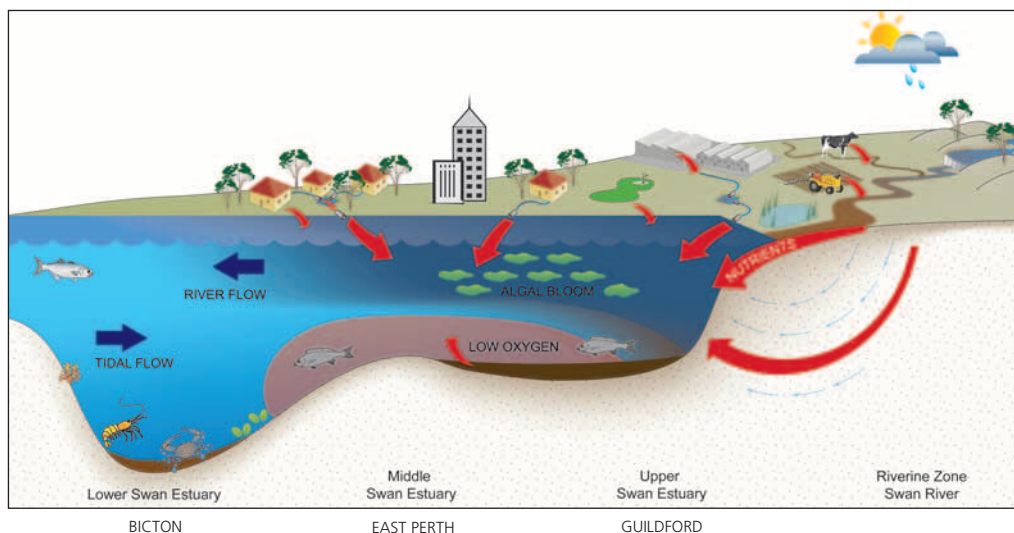


Figure 3a Health of the Swan Canning river system 2007–08

Excess nutrients, including nitrogen and phosphorus, flow into the tributaries from the catchment and have serious impacts on river health. The nutrients fuel algal growth in the water, and bacterial growth in the sediments. Excessive algal growth leads to the formation of algal blooms.

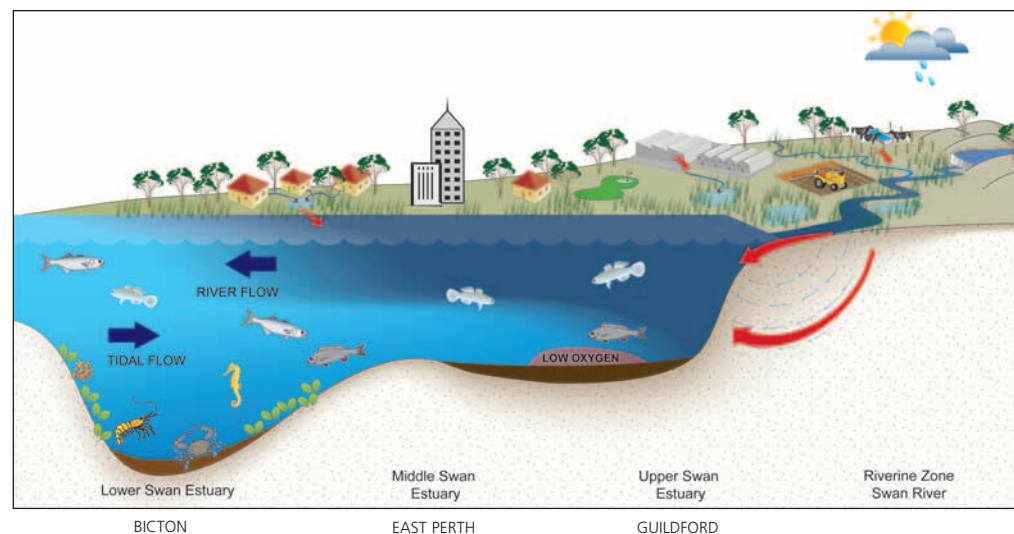
When a bloom dies, its decomposition by bacteria consumes oxygen. Low oxygen conditions can cause nutrients to be released from river sediments. These conditions favour toxic algal blooms. Low oxygen levels and toxic algal blooms may result in the death of fish and other fauna. Low oxygen levels are exacerbated by reduced river flows, as seen in the upper Swan and Canning rivers during autumn.

The Trust's recent paper 'Potential impacts of climate change on the Swan and Canning rivers' suggest that poor river conditions, currently experienced in autumn, are likely to extend further upstream and for longer periods in the future.



Figure 3b Desired health of the Swan Canning river system

The goal of the Healthy Rivers Program is to move towards a healthier system. Reducing nitrogen, phosphorus and organic carbon entering the rivers will reduce the incidence of algal blooms and low oxygen levels. Improved oxygen levels in the bottom waters can reduce nutrient release from sediments and favour beneficial algae. A healthier river system has greater resilience to withstand the pressures of changes associated with climate change and an increasing population.



Organisational structure

Trust members

The Swan River Trust has eight members who meet monthly. Following the proclamation of the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006*, the Environment Minister appointed a new Board, bringing together expertise in conservation, natural resource management, recreation, tourism, planning, development and matters of interest to rural and Nyoongar communities.

Mr Charlie Welker

Chairman: Mr Welker has been principal and managing director of Strategen, an environmental company, since 1994, and previously held senior positions in environmental agencies in WA and Victoria, including more than two years as the full-time deputy chairman of the WA Environmental Protection Authority. Mr Welker has been involved in environmental impact assessment and the development of environmental legislation and policies. He is a certified lead environmental auditor with the Quality Society of Australia. Mr Welker was chairman of the Trust Board for almost five years. He served on the former Board and was reappointed after the new legislation was proclaimed. In March 2008 Mr Welker took three months leave of absence and regrettably resigned from his position effective 16 June 2008, due to other time commitments.

Mr Jim Freemantle

Deputy Chairman, 2008 Acting Chairman: Mr Jim Freemantle holds a Bachelor of Economics and a Master of Administration from Monash University. He is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Australian Institute of Banking and Finance. Mr Freemantle was Home Building Society chief executive officer from 1995–2003. He previously held senior positions in banking and corporate consulting. Mr Freemantle holds the positions of Dairy Western Australia chairman, Western Australian Planning Commission Central Perth Planning Committee member, Anglican Diocese of Perth trustee, Racing and Wagering WA deputy chairman, Prostrate Cancer Foundation (WA Division) chairman, MDA national group director and chairman of its Capital committee. Mr Freemantle was re-appointed to the Trust Board in September 2007 and appointed acting chairman on Mr Welker's resignation.

Mr Noel Nannup

Member: Mr Nannup is employed as a senior Aboriginal heritage officer for the Aboriginal Tourism, Education and Training Unit in Department of Environment and Conservation. Twenty years ago he became one of Australia's first Aboriginal park rangers. During his 11 years as a ranger (1978–1989), Mr Nannup actively participated in managing and conserving areas with strong links to Aboriginal culture, such as the Geikie Gorge National Park and Millstream Chichester National Park. He studied cultural heritage in Canberra for two and a half years. Mr Nannup has been instrumental in the development of land management courses for indigenous people at TAFE colleges in Perth and the South West. Mr Nannup is dedicated to teaching and sharing indigenous information about the rivers and his people's rich cultural heritage. He is linked to the Swan River through his father, Charles William Nannup who was born near Mundaring Weir. Mr Nannup was appointed to the Trust Board in September 2007.

Dr Jane Chambers

Member: Dr Jane Chambers is a senior lecturer in Aquatic Ecology in Environmental Science, Murdoch University. She has more than 25 years experience in research relating to algae and aquatic plants, nutrient dynamics and eutrophication of freshwater and estuarine systems. She has been active in developing technology for the creation and restoration of wetlands and riparian vegetation, and investigating the impact of secondary salinisation on wetlands in the Avon Catchment and mechanisms to restore aquatic plants and reduce algal blooms in the Canning and lower Vasse rivers. Dr Chambers is a strong advocate of making science available for community education and has published a field guide on emergent aquatic plant restoration and *Scumbook: A Guide to Common Algae and Aquatic Plants in Wetlands and Estuaries of South Western Australia*. Dr Chambers was re-appointed to the Trust Board in September 2007.

Ms Dorte Ekelund

Member: Ms Ekelund is the deputy director general of the WA Department for Planning and Infrastructure and is responsible for land, transport and infrastructure planning and regulation across Western Australia. She is also a member of the Western Australian Planning Commission. Ms Ekelund holds a Bachelor of Urban and Regional Planning (Class 1 Honours) from the University of New England, NSW and a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Canberra. She has more than 25 years urban and regional planning experience, and has worked in State, Territory and local government authorities in a range of strategic and statutory planning roles. Ms Ekelund is an active member of the Planning Institute of Australia and was appointed to the Trust Board in September 2007.

Cr Dudley Maier

Member: Cr Maier holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the Australian National University and has served as committee member and community representative on the Hyde Park Precinct Group, Water Corporation Customer Advisory Council, and Claise Brook Catchment Group. He is a Councillor with the Town of Vincent and was appointed to the Trust Board in September 2007.

Ms Barbara Morrell

Member: Ms Morrell has membership or affiliation with Greening Australia (WA), Friends of Kings Park, Katanning Golf Club and Wanneroo Golf Club. She is the policy officer at the State NRM Office and was community representative on the State NRM Council. She was also the community member on the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP) and Natural Heritage Trust Australian and State Governments Bilateral Negotiation Committee, and a member of the State Assessment Panel (NAP and NHT2). She was a member of the Avon Catchment Council and the State Salinity Council. Ms Morrell was appointed to the Trust Board in September 2007 and resigned in March 2008.

Ms Carolyn Jakobsen

Member: Ms Jakobsen is completing her postgraduate (PhD) studies at Murdoch University and is a former member of the University Senate. She has been a community and consumer activist in the Perth metropolitan area for more than 30 years. In the early 1970s concern about the health effects of pesticides on people and the environment led to her involvement in backyard permaculture, organic gardening, composting, poultry-keeping and apiary. Experience with all levels of Government in Australia culminated in her election as the inaugural MHR for the Federal electorate of Cowan in 1984. From 1990–1993 she chaired the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party Caucus. She is chair of the Board of Women's Health Care Association, independent chair of Woodman Point Waste Water Treatment Plant's Community Reference Group and a member of the Waste Authority (having been a member of the previous Waste Management Board since 2003). Ms Jakobsen was appointed to the Trust Board in September 2007.

Mr Michael Poole

Member: Mr Poole holds a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture from the University of Western Australia and is a Fellow of the Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology. During a distinguished career in agriculture, he has held positions with the Western Australian Department of Agriculture and CSIRO. He has been a visiting professor and professorial fellow at the University of Western Australia and has participated in many international research projects. Mr Poole has been awarded a Centenary Medal of Australia, an Urrbrae Medal and the John Thompson Prize in Agricultural Economics. He was appointed to the Trust Board in May 2008.



Ms Jan Star AM

Member: Ms Jan Star was a Councillor with the Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire for 23 years, with four years as President (1999–2003). Jan has worked in areas of sustainability, water (drainage, law reform), climate change, biodiversity, land use planning, environment, sustainable agriculture and regional development at State, regional and national level. Ms Star is chair of the Peel Harvey Catchment Council and vicechair of South West Catchments Council. She represents local government on the NRM Council and on the WA/Australian Government Joint NRM Steering Committee. Since retiring from Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire Council last year she spends more time on her farm and with the Landcare Serpentine Jarrahdale Board and the Land Conservation District Committee. She was appointed to the Trust Board in June 2008.

Col Rod Willox AM

Member: Col Willox was deputy chairman of the Trust until September 2007. He is a graduate of the Australian Defence College and has degrees in medical science (microbiology and biochemistry) and pathology. He has a Diploma in Occupational Health and Safety Management, and is a former company director in a risk management consultancy. Col Willox is active in community organisations, particularly related to environmental health and waste management, and in local government where he is a councillor for the City of Stirling. He is chairman of the Mindarie Regional Council and chairman of the Department of Water Audit and Risk Management Committee. Col Willox is WA chairman of the National Order of Australia Association.

Mr Neil Foley

Member: Mr Foley has qualifications in urban and regional planning, property, real estate and information management. He has more than 25 years experience in town planning at State and local government levels in WA. He is a Department for Planning and Infrastructure project director and was a member of the Trust Board until September 2007.

Cr Pat Hart

Member: Cr Hart is a retired business proprietor with more than 30 years involvement in rural and urban community organisations. She has served on numerous committees involved with catchment management and has been chair of the Swan Catchment Council and Swan Avon Integrated Catchment Management Group. Cr Hart was a member of the Swan-Canning Cleanup Program Taskforce. She is chair of the South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare, and member of the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority Board and Armadale Gosnells Landcare Group. Cr Hart is a councillor with the City of Armadale and was a member of the Trust Board until September 2007.

Mrs Barbara Cook

Member: Mrs Cook brought to the Trust strong skills and experience in community consultation following 18 years in the public service. Now retired, Mrs Cook has an environmental background in policy, planning, and community relations and has been an advisor to numerous Government ministers in Western Australia. She was a member of the Trust Board until September 2007.

Mr Steve Jenkins

Member: Mr Jenkins is the Coastal Facilities Business Unit general manager in the Department for Planning and Infrastructure. He is responsible for the strategic leadership of the business of coastal facilities management. Mr Jenkins provides high level advice to the Department for Planning and Infrastructure director general and executive on matters relating to coastal facilities. He manages the operational performance of the business unit involving the department's coastal facilities, including the ports of Derby and Wyndham. Mr Jenkins is also a board member of the Ministerial Fishing Industry Advisory Committee. He was a member of the Trust Board until September 2007.



Swan River Trust members June 2007 – September 2007: (left to right) Neil Foley, Pat Hart, Steve Jenkins, Barbara Cook, Jane Chambers; (sitting) Charlie Welker (chairman); Rod Willox (deputy chairman) and absent Jim Freemantle



Swan River Trust members September 2007 – June 2008: (left to right) Dudley Maier, Carolyn Jakobsen, Jan Star, Dorte Ekelund, Jane Chambers; (sitting) Jim Freemantle, Michael Poole and absent Noel Nannup

Figure 4 Swan River Trust operational structure



Report on Operations

Strategic Policy and Planning

River Protection Strategy

The *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006* requires the development of a River Protection Strategy to coordinate the management arrangements necessary for protecting the ecological and community benefit and amenity of the rivers. The strategy must be agreed to by relevant Ministers. Until the strategy is completed, Riverplan, which was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Protection (Swan and Canning Rivers) Policy 1997* (EPP), will remain in effect.

The River Protection Strategy will guide the future direction of all Trust business. The Trust has gathered information for the strategy through extensive consultation, including planning workshops, local area meetings and focus groups. More than 70 organisations were consulted, including local government authorities, universities, recreational clubs and indigenous groups. This consultation began before work started on writing the draft strategy and was designed to provide genuine input into the strategy.

Table 1 River Protection Strategy Public Involvement

Date	Consultation	Purpose	Number of participants
Throughout April 2008	Individual key stakeholder interviews	Initial scoping of key points to be considered in the strategy	20
17 April 2008	Trust staff workshop	Gather knowledge and experiences of Trust staff	44
22 April 2008	High-level round table discussion	Harness expertise from key stakeholders with global experience of pressures and trends in river protection, and aim to develop a framework for the strategy and management program	12
12 May 2008	Briefing workshop	Introduce local and State Government, cultural heritage and community stakeholders to the process, and gain feedback on results of first consultation stages	140
13 May 2008	Nyoongar representatives - special interest meeting	Brief and gain feedback from the Metro Working Party with the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (SWALSC)	7

Date	Consultation	Purpose	Number of participants
28 May 2008	Natural and cultural heritage special interest meeting	Gain input from key stakeholders with specific interests on issues and opportunities	34
29 May 2008	Recreation and commercial use special interest meeting	Gain input from key stakeholders with specific interests on issues and opportunities	45
30 May 2008	Sustainable development special interest meeting	Gain input from key stakeholders with specific interests on issues and opportunities	24
3 June 2008	Local government planners special interest meeting	21 riverside local government planners invited	15
4 – 28 June 2008	Five local area meetings	Gain public input from the North, South, Central, Canning, and upper Swan and Helena communities	66

State of the Rivers reports for ecological health and community benefit targets are being developed to measure future management progress. Planning processes in the Development Control Area are being reviewed and gaps identified.

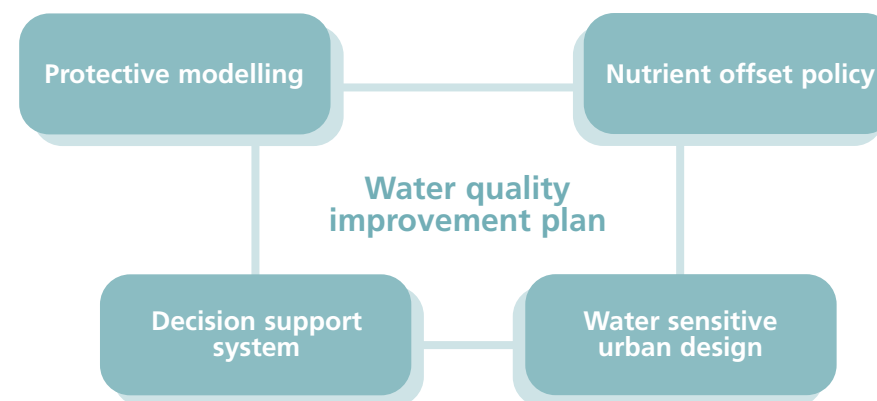
An advisory committee of 27 members has been approved by Cabinet to bring together representatives of seven State government agencies; six local government authorities from lower, middle, and upper Swan and Canning rivers; and people with indigenous, scientific, and community interests.

A management program will be developed after the River Protection Strategy is finished.

Coastal Catchments Initiative

In June 2006 the Federal Government's Coastal Catchments Initiative identified the Swan Canning river system as a hotspot for water quality issues. The Trust is preparing the Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP) for the Swan Canning river system which comprises four component projects delivered by other State government agencies.

Figure 5 Swan Canning Coastal Catchments Initiative – components projects



The Trust coordinates cooperation between project partners. There are two other priority catchments in Western Australia on the Swan Coastal Plain – the Peel Harvey and Vasse Wonnerup. WQIPs are being developed for each of these catchments to address nutrient management issues, prepared in accordance with the Framework for Marine and Estuarine Water Quality Protection.

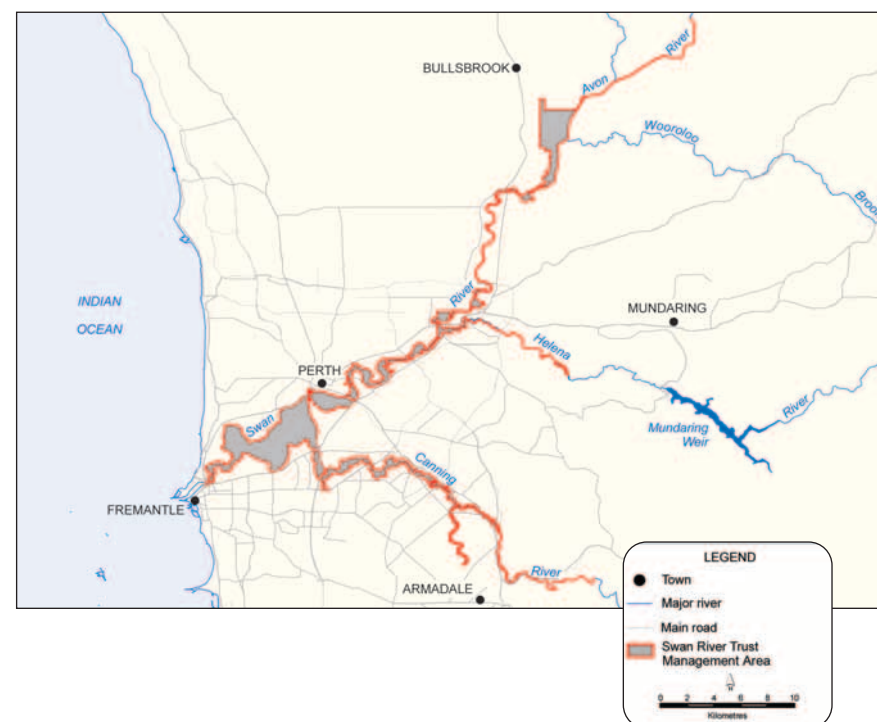
The Swan Canning WQIP focuses on reducing nitrogen and phosphorus loads to the river system. Nutrient reduction load targets will be achieved through planning, behaviour change and structural management actions (e.g. constructed wetlands). Predictive catchment modelling for the WQIP will serve as a tool to incorporate this information, using the following management scenarios:

- climate change;
- changes in fertiliser type and application rates;
- application of soil amendment;
- conversion from septic tanks to sewer;
- reuse of wastewater treatment plant effluent;
- urban expansion under the Metropolitan Regional Scheme;
- rural land use changes, including feedlot management, cattle management, perennial pastures, horticulture; and
- implementation of management actions (including constructed wetlands) in major drains.

Nutrient load reduction targets will be based on changed land use scenarios.

The Swan Canning WQIP will be finalised in June 2009, following extensive stakeholder consultation. Regular stakeholder updates are distributed and available on the Trust's website.

Figure 6 The Trust Management Area was redefined in the *Swan Canning Rivers Management Act 2006*, as the Trust Development Control Area



Statutory Planning

Implementing the new legislation

Statutory Planning officers prepared new procedures and guidelines for assessing applications under Part 5 of the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006*, Metropolitan Region Scheme and new Regulations. The new legislation had a significant impact on Trust workloads.

In the initial period of adjustment to the new legislation, Trust officers' time was occupied with interpreting the new legislation and providing advice to stakeholders. The Trust conducted well-attended briefing sessions for local government and State government agencies.

The new legislation clarified the types of activities requiring approvals, which caused an increase in applications for permits, notably for activities that may have previously been carried out without permits.

There are now several more assessment streams for matters requiring consideration by the Trust and Environment Minister. The new legislation changed the levels of assessment required for some activities. Some activities that previously required Part 5 applications are now subject to a lower level of assessment and only require permits.

Statutory assessments

This year, 331 applications were assessed relating to development in and next to the Development Control Area, including:

- 54 applications for Ministerial Determination, eight determined under Part 5 of the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006* and 46 under Part 5 of the *Swan River Trust Act 1988*;
- 57 Metropolitan Region Scheme Clause 30A applications, 39 provided as Ministerial Advice before the new Act was gazetted and 18 as Trust Advice after the new Act was gazetted;

- 109 statutory referrals to the Trust for advice in relation to applications for subdivision or development;
- 99 permits issued under the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Regulations 2007*; and
- 5 licences issued under the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Regulations 2007*.
- 7 applications to hold spectator events in the Development Control Area were approved under Regulation 8 of the *Swan River Trust Regulations 1989*.

Major proposals considered

A major extension of the East Fremantle Yacht Club was approved subject to conditions, which included improvements to the club's environmental management systems. As part of the development the club has also removed an over-water slipway which appeared to be the source of anti-foul pollutants.

An application by the City of Bayswater to construct three new floating jetties was approved. Two of the new jetties are next to existing boat ramps and will help meet the demand for better boating facilities in the Swan River. A new retaining wall to be built by the East Perth Redevelopment Authority to prevent leachates from the toxic waste containment cell under Mardalup Park entering the river was approved.

The Trust provided advice to the Western Australian Planning Commission on major land development proposals in the cities of Gosnells, Swan and Armadale which were affected by complex drainage and nutrient management issues.

Consideration of a proposal to redevelop the Belmont Race Course and the provision of advice to the proponents and various agencies was another major task undertaken this year.

Planning policy and strategies

Statutory Planning officers continued the review of the Trust's 27 statutory assessment policies which began in 2006–07. In the past year the Trust has adopted four revised policies and advertised another three policies for public comment. An additional draft policy has been adopted for public comment which will be undertaken next year. A guideline in relation to Section 84 of the new Act was prepared and adopted by the Trust.

The revised Restaurant and Development Setback Policy and an amendment relating to floating boat lifts in the Jetties Policy were released for a three-month comment period at the beginning of December 2007. It is expected that these policies, a policy concerning the use of land in the Development Control Area to manage stormwater from privately owned land, and a new policy on rubbish disposal sites will be completed in the coming year. Further policy revision and development will depend on staff resources.

A compendium of model development conditions to be used in providing recommendations to the Environment Minister and advice to other planning agencies has been completed this year. The model conditions will increase the efficiency and consistency of advice provided by the Statutory Planning branch.

Compliance and audit

Since the proclamation of the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006*, the Statutory Planning branch has taken responsibility for compliance audit functions to ensure conditions placed on development approvals are met. This means that for complex applications the same Trust officers may be involved from the initial assessment to the final clearance of conditions, making the process simpler for applicants. A new position has been created specifically to assist with the process and to deal with the majority of the compliance work.

Fees and charges

A review has begun to examine the feasibility of the Trust charging fees for administering and assessing the various applications under the new Act.

Strategic planning

The land use planning component of the Healthy Rivers Program is carried out by the Statutory Planning Branch. Major tasks achieved in response to public comments received on the draft Healthy Rivers Action Plan (HRAP) include:

- providing advice regarding the management of water to reduce nutrient inputs from five major urban development proposals;
- overseeing the development of a policy position paper on a nutrients offsets contributions scheme for the Swan Canning Catchment;
- overseeing a project by the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) to assist local governments to implement the Better Urban Water Management model; and
- assisting Department of Water (DoW) to develop best management practices for managing urban stormwater to reduce nutrients entering the river system.

It is expected that this work will be ongoing in the coming year.



Courtesy of the Community Newspaper Group



River System Management

Healthy Rivers Program

The Healthy Rivers Program builds on the work of the Swan-Canning Cleanup Program 1999–2006 and provides an integrated approach as defined by the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006*. The draft Healthy Rivers Action Plan was released by the former Environment Minister in December 2006. The draft Action Plan underwent an extensive period of public consultation. Submissions were reviewed and the final Action Plan was endorsed by the Environment Minister in 2007.

The Action Plan's central goal is to protect the environmental health and community benefit of the Swan and Canning rivers by improving water quality. Completion and release of the final Action Plan was delayed this year pending funding from the Burswood Park Board being permitted through an amendment to the *Casino (Burswood Island) Agreement Act 1985*.

However, the Trust continued to implement the award-winning Healthy Rivers Program to maintain the momentum gained through the development of the draft Action Plan. The delayed release of the final Action Plan has provided opportunities to update the plan on adaptation strategies for climate change and strengthen linkages to the developing River Protection Strategy. Amendments to the *Casino (Burswood Island) Agreement Act 1985* were passed by Parliament in April 2008 and the Burswood Park Board approved a \$6 million contribution towards the Action Plan in 2008–09. It is expected that the Burswood Park Board will contribute \$3 million each year. Total proposed investment in implementing the Action Plan from 2007–2013 will be more than \$41 million.

Figure 7 The Healthy Rivers Program continues to improve the health of the Swan Canning river system. It takes a 'catchment to coast' approach through implementing eight specific programs. The Trust has developed operational plans and performance and evaluation frameworks for each of the eight programs.



Environmental monitoring

The Swan Canning river system is monitored weekly, with data collected on nutrient and chlorophyll concentrations, physical parameters and phytoplankton groups. Compliance with water quality targets for chlorophyll-a and dissolved oxygen is also tested.

Under the monitoring program:

- data are verified and loaded onto a central database;
- environmental conditions are reported weekly on the Trust website;
- a weekly Algae Activity Report is provided on the Trust website, channel Nine Television news and weather report (Friday evening) and *The West Australian* newspaper weather page (Saturday edition); and
- a weekly phytoplankton report is available internally for the Trust, and supplied to the Department of Health and Department of Fisheries as conditions dictate.

Data on nutrients, temperature and conductivity are collected fortnightly for 15 of the 31 major Swan Canning catchments. Compliance with Healthy Rivers Program water quality targets for total nitrogen and phosphorus water quality targets is tested.

Heavy rainfall in April 2008 contributed a large amount of freshwater to the upper and middle Swan Canning river system. Strong stratification resulted, whereby the denser saltwater layer at the bottom of the water column was effectively sealed off from oxygen exchange with the surface. A large area of hypoxic (low oxygen) bottom water was present from April until June, for up to 20 kilometres of the upper and middle reaches of the Swan River. The oxygen levels are expected to increase during the winter when rainfall and riverflow increase.

This \$575,000 monitoring project is funded by the Trust and delivered by the Department of Water.

Figure 8 Swan and Canning rivers monitoring sites

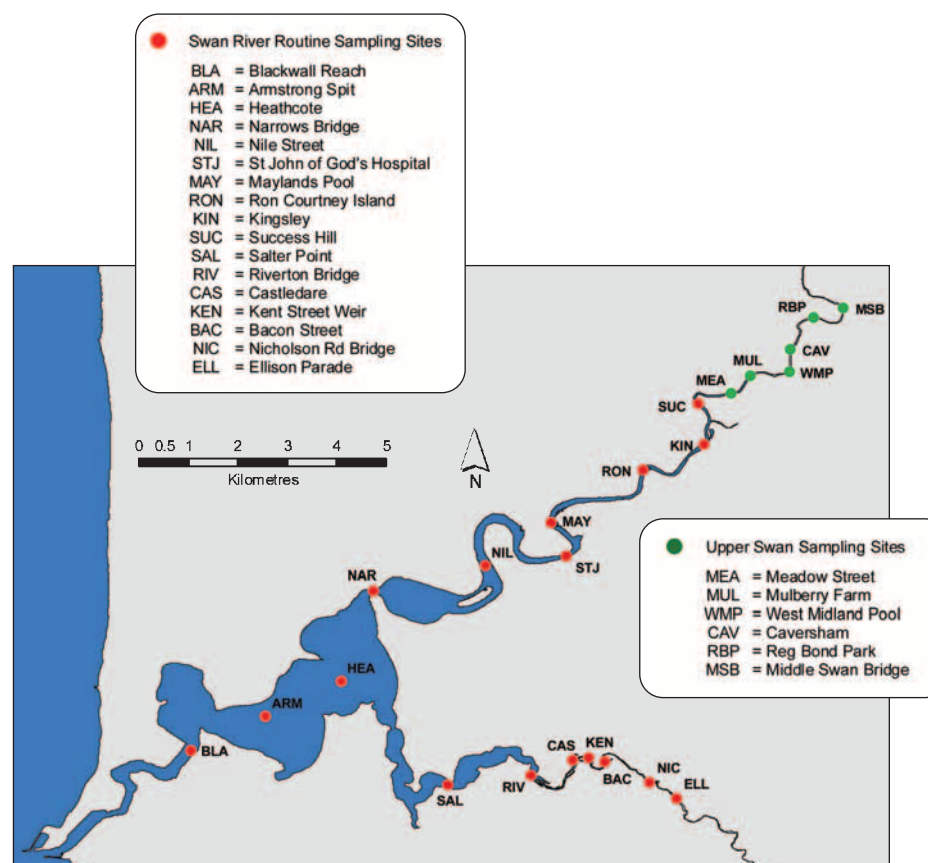
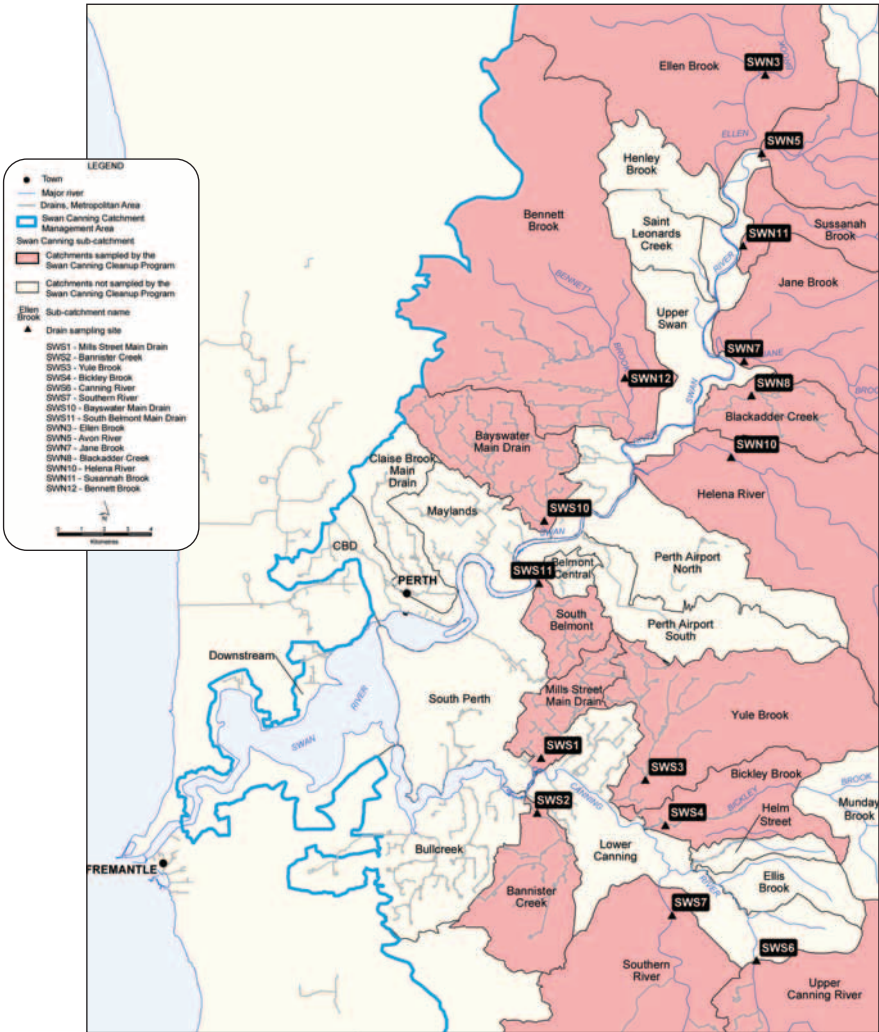


Figure 9 Swan Canning Catchment water quality sampling sites

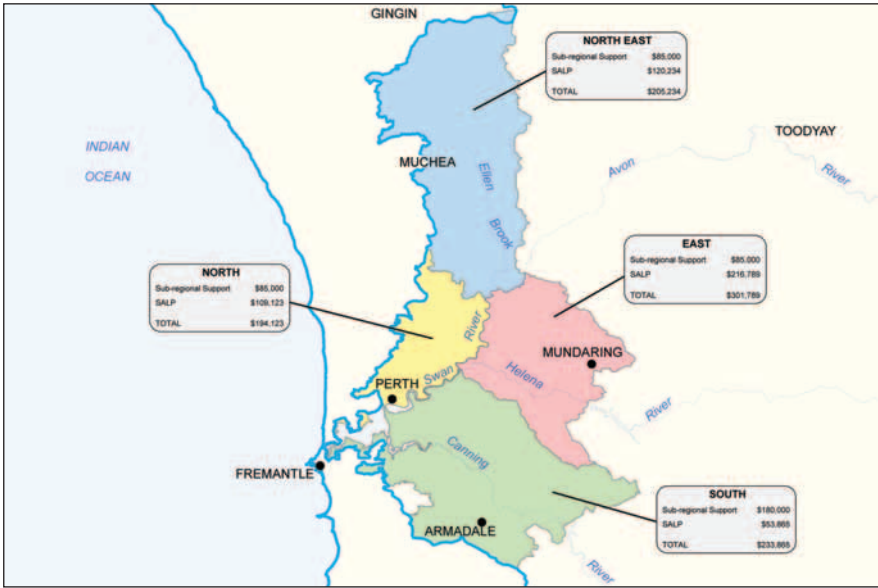


Sub-regional Support Program

This program supports four sub-regional Natural Resource Management (NRM) groups in the Swan region to work with the community and coordinate projects that reduce nutrients entering the Swan Canning river system. It complements the Swan Catchment Council's Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) program.

In 2007–08 the four sub-regional groups received a total of \$435,000. Investing in the four sub-regional NRM groups also provides capacity for other initiatives of the Healthy Rivers Action Plan to be delivered at a local level with the community, particularly those in the Healthy Catchments, Drainage Nutrient Intervention and Riverbank programs. South sub-regional support includes \$95,000 to implement Phosphorus Action Group activities across the four sub-regions (2,126 square kilometres).

Figure 10 Swan Canning Catchment sub-regional support and SALP funding



Swan Alcoa Landcare Program

The Swan Alcoa Landcare Program (SALP) is administered by the Swan Catchment Council on behalf of the Trust and Alcoa of Australia Limited. The program funds on-ground community-led restoration projects.

In February 2008, \$625,000 was distributed to 22 community groups for 28 projects. Of these, eighteen projects totalling \$500,011 were directly funded for water quality related outcomes. The Trust contributed \$350,000 to the program this year, bringing its total contribution to \$2.4 million during the past ten years.

Local Water Quality Improvement Plans (WQIP)

Using the same framework as the regional water quality improvement plan, the Trust is developing WQIPs for catchments that do not meet long-term water quality goals. These include Bayswater Brook, Bickley Brook, Bennett Brook, Bannister Creek, Mills Street Main Drain, Southern River, South Belmont, and Ellen Brook.

In April 2008 the Bayswater Brook WQIP was released and \$100,000 provided to the City of Bayswater as the Trust's contribution to the design of a nutrient-stripping wetland at the Eric Singleton Bird Sanctuary. The wetland will be designed to improve the quality of water flowing from the brook into the Swan River.

Tributary Foreshore Assessment

The Swan Canning Tributary Foreshore Assessment Project began in June 2005 and was delivered by the Department of Water, through an agreement with the Swan Catchment Council that provides funding through the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) program. From 1 July 2007, the Trust took over delivery of the project. Foreshore assessment methods were maintained in accordance with those used by Department of Water and applied to Ellen, Bennett and Wooroloo brooks.

An interactive computer-based tool detailing the foreshore condition and restoration priorities of 33 tributaries in the Swan Canning Catchment has been produced. It will be used by sub-regional groups, local government, community groups and the Trust.

Local Government Natural Resource Management (NRM) Support

The Local Government NRM Support project is a partnership between the Trust and Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) to help local government reduce nutrients and other pollutants going into the Swan Canning river system. The project aims to improve decision-making, land use planning and operations such as managing parks, reserves and stormwater.

This year the Trust together with the EMRC developed and launched an updated Natural Resource Management Manual primarily for local council staff and councillors, though it is also relevant for landowners and land managers.

Oxygenation

In summer and autumn the Swan River typically experiences low oxygen levels caused by the breakdown of organic matter. This low oxygen is recognised as a major cause of nutrient release from river sediments. It causes loss of ecological function and increases the risk of fish deaths.

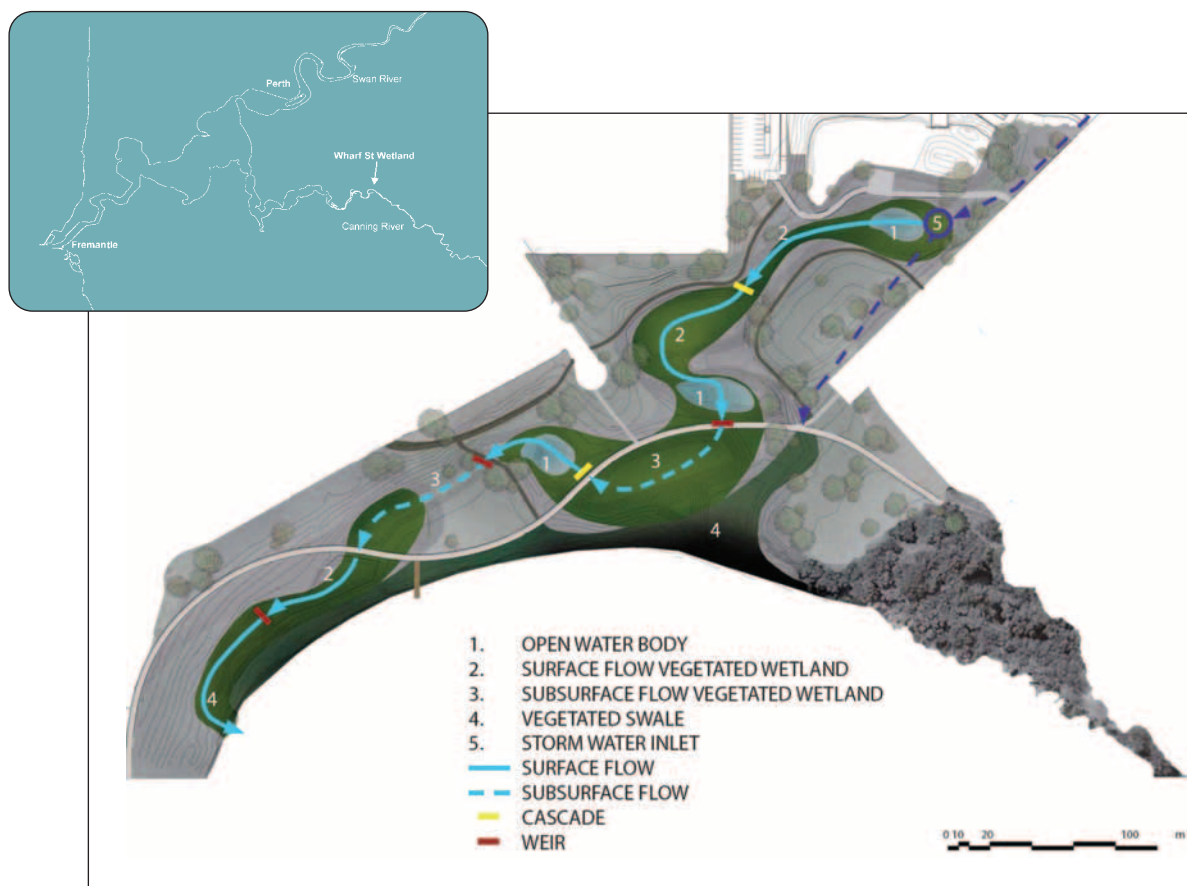
Since the oxygenation program in the Swan River began in 2006–07, the majority of work has been in designing, constructing and operating the temporary Vitox oxygenation unit, at Guildford Road Bridge, Guildford. More information is required to understand oxygen depletion in the upper Swan and the amount of oxygen intervention needed. Based on this, the Trust continued work on the feasibility study in 2007–08. In 2008–10 work will focus on long-term oxygenation design, construction and operation.

The oxygenation plant on the Swan River at Guildford has been upgraded to an alternative technology called Turbolox, which is anticipated to provide oxygen along a longer stretch of river.

The Trust has two oxygenation plants on the Canning River that generally operate between 10pm and 6am each night throughout summer. The plants were upgraded and automated in May 2008. They now switch on and off automatically in response to oxygen levels in the river, making them more efficient and effective. The plants can also be switched on remotely, in response to low oxygen levels, which gives a greater level of control for operators.



Figure 11 Wharf Street Wetlands stormwater treatment concept plan (design by Syrinx Environmental PL)



Drainage Nutrient Intervention Program

Canning Plain and Belmont Catchments

During 2007 – 08 the constructed Liege Street Wetland in Cannington was evaluated by an independent environmental consultant. The evaluation showed that, in the critical flow periods, the wetland is reducing the total nitrogen entering the Canning River from the Liege Street Main Drain by 27 per cent and total phosphorus by 45 per cent. Trust officers are refining the monitoring program and investigating improvements to management, such as aeration, to address the low dissolved oxygen conditions.

In partnership with the City of Canning and South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare (SERCUL), a bioretention trench was built from a compensating basin in Manley Street, Cannington.

Construction has begun on Wharf Street Wetlands and Civic Parkland in an area of public open space between the City of Canning offices and the Canning River, Cannington. The major \$1 million project will create an urban parkland and divert stormwater from the nutrient-enriched Wharf Street Main Drain into a meandering wetland chain, to improve water quality, before discharge into the Canning River.

A feasibility review and concept plan has been developed for two potential nutrient intervention sites along the Central Belmont Main Drain in consultation with project partners including the City of Belmont. Initial site selection and potential nutrient intervention methods are being investigated for the South Belmont Main Drain.

Ellen Brook Catchment

A nutrient filter for Ellen Brook at Muchea has been designed and partnerships to undertake works signed. Other nutrient intervention sites in the catchment were identified and designs for two of these sites are being developed.

Inner City catchments

Trust officers are working with the Claise Brook Catchment Group to develop a Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP) for the Mounts Bay Main Drain Catchment, in consultation with the other stakeholders.

Non-nutrient Contaminant Program

The Non-nutrient Contaminant Program (NNCP) is a three-year program to determine the nature of contaminants (other than nutrients) discharged to, and present in, the Swan Canning river system. Four separate studies make up the NNCP:

- a sediment and surface water quality assessment in the Swan Canning river stormwater drainage system;
- a groundwater quality assessment at three disused waste disposal sites (Woodbridge Riverside Park, Bayswater Riverside Gardens and Adenia Park) in the vicinity of the Swan Canning system's waterways and drains;
- a low-level organic contaminants in surface waters assessment using passive sampling devices in drains; and
- a sediment contamination assessment in the Swan and Canning rivers.

The NNCP will conclude in late 2008.

As an additional component to the NNCP, a report titled *Tributyltin and Heavy Metal Survey in the Swan River – Swan Yacht Club and Mussel Tissue Quality* was completed. Results indicated that metal concentrations in sediments were below

environmental guidelines. At sites immediately next to potential point sources of contamination, metals were generally below the guideline values. The guideline for tributyltin (TBT) was exceeded at most sites. Mussel tissue collected from various sites was analysed for TBT. The results were highly variable, but generally indicated a low to moderate risk for mussel health and a low risk to human health.

Fish research

The Trust is working with Murdoch University, Department of Fisheries and the Department of Water in funding a study on fish communities in the Swan River. The study, which is supervised by Murdoch University, will use an extensive archive of fish abundance data to determine how fish communities have changed since the late 1970s and whether any such changes are directly linked to changes in water quality. The study began in July 2007 and will conclude in July 2010.

Feral fish

A feral cichlid species *Geophagus brasiliensis* was first observed in Bennett Brook in March 2006. The Trust has been working with other agencies, including the Department of Fisheries, to control the fish. Ongoing surveillance and control are required and the Trust is endeavouring to ensure the feral species is eradicated.

Technical Advisory Panel

In 2006 the Trust established a Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) comprised of relevant experts to provide guidance and assist decision-making across the Trust.

Climate change

As its first priority task, the TAP formed a sub-committee to investigate and report on the potential impact of climate change on the Swan Canning river system. The paper titled *Potential impacts of climate change on the Swan and Canning rivers* was released in December 2007. It provided scenarios projecting the main components of change, possible systemic interactions and management implications for Western Australia.



Five key adaptation strategies were identified to help mitigate the potential impacts of climate change. These are:

- assessing foreshore vulnerability;
- improving water quality through oxygenating water, trapping nutrients and ensuring adequate river flow;
- using modelling and monitoring to predict future changes;
- managing biodiversity; and
- protecting infrastructure.

The major findings were disseminated to local government authorities in the form of a summary paper, presentations and direct discussions.

Swan Canning Research and Innovation Program

The Technical Advisory Panel has contributed to developing the Swan Canning Research and Innovation Program (SCRIP). A discussion paper was produced on future priorities for research and innovation to increase the Trust's scientific knowledge of river management. The need to address these gaps in knowledge and provide a better understanding was identified under the Healthy Rivers Program.

Research areas include technical aspects, community values and river behaviour.

The Trust has provided \$189,479 to 11 research projects.

Table 2 Trust funded SCRIP research projects

Department of Fisheries	\$12,500	Threat to native freshwater fish of an introduced species of cichlid into Bennett Brook: reproductive biology, diet and salinity tolerance
	\$20,000	Development of fish larvae and zooplankton as indicators of ecosystem health in the Swan Canning river system
Curtin University	\$19,972	Strategic communications to influence user behaviour in the Swan Canning river system
	\$10,331	Creating community 'barometers' of change using images of the Swan and Canning rivers
	\$18,105	Endocrine disruption in urban drains
CSIRO	\$20,000	Historical characterisation of sediments in the Swan Canning river system
Edith Cowan University	\$17,778	Impact of drift algae on seagrass health and associated biodiversity
University of Western Australia	\$20,000	Integration of bio-molecular and nutrient data to determine controls on algal bloom dynamics and support water quality model validation
	\$19,293	The chiton fauna of the Swan River and their role in indicating environmental contamination
	\$11,500	Vertical mixing processes in the upper Swan River using tracers
Murdoch University	\$20,000	Research plan for trials of enzyme media for waterbody treatment

Riverpark Management

Swan Canning Riverpark

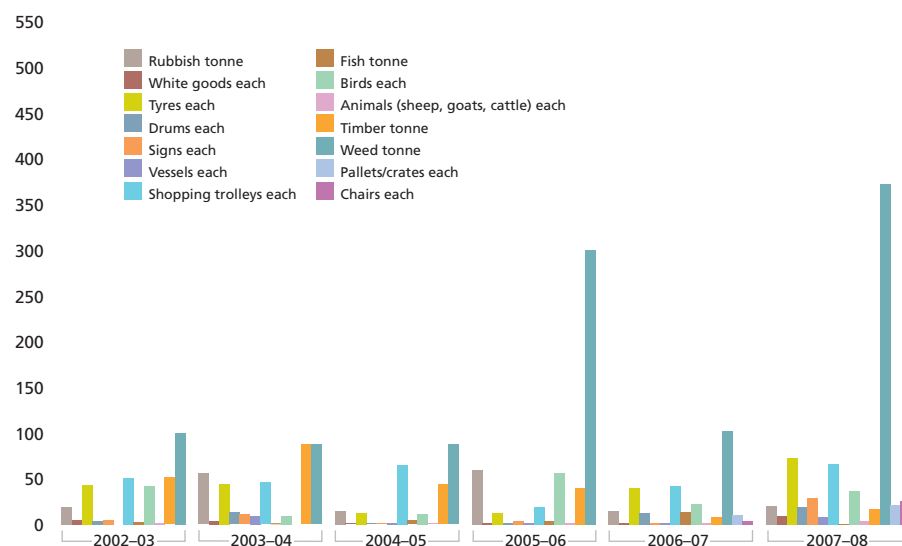
The *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006* established the Swan Canning Riverpark, covering the river reserve and adjacent foreshore and recreational reserves, and gave the Trust responsibility as the park management agency.

A Riverpark Management Program, required under the new Act, is being developed to help the Trust implement the River Protection Strategy. This will promote sustainable management of Riverpark experiences such as cycling, fishing, picnics and boating.

The program includes foreshore management and restoration, incident response, river reserve leases management (yacht clubs and marinas), regulation compliance, local government and community liaison, logistical support for the Healthy Rivers Program, and waste and hazard removal.

Materials	Unit	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Rubbish	Tonne	22	55.5	20.1	58.77	20.5	19.11
White goods	Each	8	5	1	2	4	8
Tyres	Each	46	34	16	18	34	72
Drums	Each	7	18	1	4	18	18
Signs	Each	8	12	1	7	2	28
Vessels	Each	0	9	3	1	2	7
Shopping trolleys	Each	51	45	69	22	32	65
Fish	Tonne	4.5	2.2	5.8	6.6	18.5	0.08
Birds	Each	41	9	14	54	24	36
Animals (sheep, goats, cattle)	Each	3	0	1	3	2	2
Timber	Tonne	53	85	34	39	8	16.07
Weed	Tonne	102	85	85	300	107	374
Pallets/crates	Each					12	21
Chairs	Each					7	25

Table 3 Summary of materials removed from waterways and foreshores



River reserve leases

When the new legislation was proclaimed in September 2007, the River Reserve was vested in the Trust. Leases – for example, yacht clubs and marinas – are now held with the Trust. The Department for Planning and Infrastructure acts as an agent of the Trust and undertakes day to day management of these leases.

A generic lease document that strengthens the environmental and social amenity provisions of river reserve leases to reflect the provisions of the new Act is now applied to all new river reserve leases.

Events, incidents and enforcement

For major events, such as the Red Bull air races and Australia Day Skyshow, the Trust plays a support role, with officers attending pre-event meetings and providing facilities and incident support services.

Trust officers respond to various complaints and incidents in the Riverpark management area and take action as appropriate. Trust officers followed up 258 complaints this year compared to 263 last year.

The Trust installed signs to raise public awareness at sites in the Swan Canning Riverpark where tree damage has occurred, including Attadale bushland reserve; Minim Cove, Mosman Park; Riverside Drive, Shelley; and Bardon Park, Bayswater.

The Trust received 25 complaints relating to vegetation damage of which 17 resulted in action being taken. There were:

- eight incidents of vegetation damage directly attributable to enhancing river views, although two of these seem to be part of the same incident;
- three incidents of State or local government undertaking works without a permit;
- one incident of the Sea Scouts removing a tree from their lease area, for risk management reasons, without a permit;
- one of a resident undertaking a rehabilitation project without approval;
- one of tree damage occurring during an event set up on Heirisson Island; and
- three incidents of damage to reeds by people launching vessels or storing vessels inappropriately.

Eight other complaints related to vessels chained or tied to trees in a way that could have caused damage if left.

Table 4 Swan Canning Riverpark complaints and incidents summary

	Total
Algal blooms	5
Aquatic deaths	12
Chemical spills	5
Cutting	2
Destruction of vegetation	25
Foreshore damage	20
General complaints	68
Hazardous material	2
Herbicide/pesticide spraying	3
Industrial discharge/dewatering	13
Liquid waste	1
Offensive odour	3
Oil slicks/fuel spills	26
River discolouration	4
Sewage discharge	11
Unauthorised discharge	2
Unauthorised development	17
Waste/rubbish dump	17
Watercraft nuisance	21
Weed	1
Total	258

Trust officers responded to 26 incidents involving fuel and oil slicks. These included several minor spills that dissipated naturally through wind and UV sunlight. Three incidents required clean-up actions by Trust staff. On 7 April 2008 a minor spill of unknown origin was attended by Trust officers in East Fremantle. Officers deployed two absorbent booms in an effort to soak up the diesel. On 23 April 2008 a stolen vessel was set alight and left adrift in Maylands. The Fire and Emergency Services Authority and Water Police extinguished the fire and Trust waterways officers later placed booms around the vessel to contain the fuel and oil.

A vessel refuelling at Royal Perth Yacht Club on 25 May 2008 spilt 250 litres of diesel into the Swan River. Trust staff coordinated a multi-agency clean up of the area with assistance provided by the Department for Planning and Infrastructure and DEC. The spill was contained with booms and a sucker truck was used to remove the emulsified diesel. The operation took two days and cost a total of \$17,200, including staff time and equipment use.

The Trust received 11 complaints related to potential sewage spills into the Swan and Canning rivers. Only one actually involved sewage overflowing from the sewer. The incident occurred near Black Adder Creek on 11 March 2008 and was reported by Water Corporation. However, the sewage did not reach the waterway as it was contained and the reserve next to the waterway was cleaned up.

The Trust's compliance capacity has been strengthened with a senior investigator appointed and two Riverpark operations officer positions created.

The Local Environmental Enforcement Group (LEEG) process and the Trust's incident response framework were audited by Stamfords, as part of the Strategic Audit Plan, resulting in a review and improvements to LEEG record keeping processes.

Prosecutions

All prosecutions went through the LEEG for consideration before any formal action was taken.

The Trust issued ten letters of warning, five were for incidents of tree removal without authority that occurred the previous financial year.

Table 5 Trust warning letters issued for unauthorised tree removal 2006–07

Offender	Offence date	Location	Trust letter sent
City Of Canning	8 June 2007	Rivermoor Loop Drive	18 August 2007
Individual	16 May 2007	Bindaring Pde	19 November 2007
Flying Squadron Yacht Club	10 November 2006	Flying Squadron Yacht Club	28 November 2007
City of Swan	6 March 2007	9 Johnson Street Guildford	22 November 2007
City Of Bayswater	11 October 2006	Claughton Reserve	28 November 2007

The Trust issued three letters for tree removal without authority that occurred during the past year, including: City of Perth, Heirisson Island, September 2007; Department of Main Roads, Milyu Nature Reserve, October 2007; and DEC, Matilda Bay Reserve, December 2008.

The Trust issued a letter of warning to Matilda Bay Restaurant, Crawley, October 2007, for unauthorised development, consisting of paving alongside the restaurant.

PH3 Property Development (Barrack Square Hotel Development) was issued a warning letter for unauthorised discharge into the Swan River in July 2007. This was followed by a \$250 fine for a second incident of unauthorised discharge in September 2007. A second infringement of \$500 was issued in March 2008 for a third incident of unauthorised discharge. Any further breaches may result in prosecution under the *Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004*.



Another unauthorised discharge regulation infringement was issued to Cliffs Fire Service for discharging fire extinguishers into the Swan River on 13 July 2007.

Two infringements were issued by Trust officers under the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Regulations 2007*. These were issued to a Western Power contractor for littering in the Development Control Area, February 2008, and to Jam Records for damage to vegetation on Heirisson Island as a result of the setup of the Good Vibrations Concert, February 2008.

Plant and equipment replacement

To increase the speed and efficiency of its response to pollution incidents, the Trust upgraded its pollution response trailer. The slipway at the Ellam Street depot was overhauled to extend the life of the facility by 15 years.

It is planned to house Riverpark operational staff in a semi-permanent demountable building at Ellam Street depot by December 2008. Funding has been provided for the building, and approvals sought.

Boat Management Strategy

The Trust released the draft Boat Management Strategy for three months' public comment which ended 4 April 2008. The draft document was sent to all key stakeholders for comment. More than 40 submissions were received, with comments generally supportive. Vessel noise is an emerging area of concern and the final strategy will address this issue in greater detail. A survey was conducted to ascertain usage, ownership and future management options regarding dinghy storage on foreshores.

Riverbank Program

This program protects and enhances the environmental, cultural and public amenity values of the foreshores, ensuring the rivers can be enjoyed by everyone now and in the future. Robust foreshores and vegetation are essential to the health of the rivers and must be maintained, protected and enhanced.

Since January 2002, the Trust has initiated and funded shoreline protection and rehabilitation works through the Riverbank Grants Scheme. To date, 112 projects have been funded and \$4.35 million expended through grants. This translates to an estimated \$9.5 million in foreshore actions, when project partners' contributions are included. Projects include: erosion control; revegetation and weed control; and wall construction and maintenance. Projects are based on partnership arrangements with local governments and State government agencies and involve community participation wherever possible.

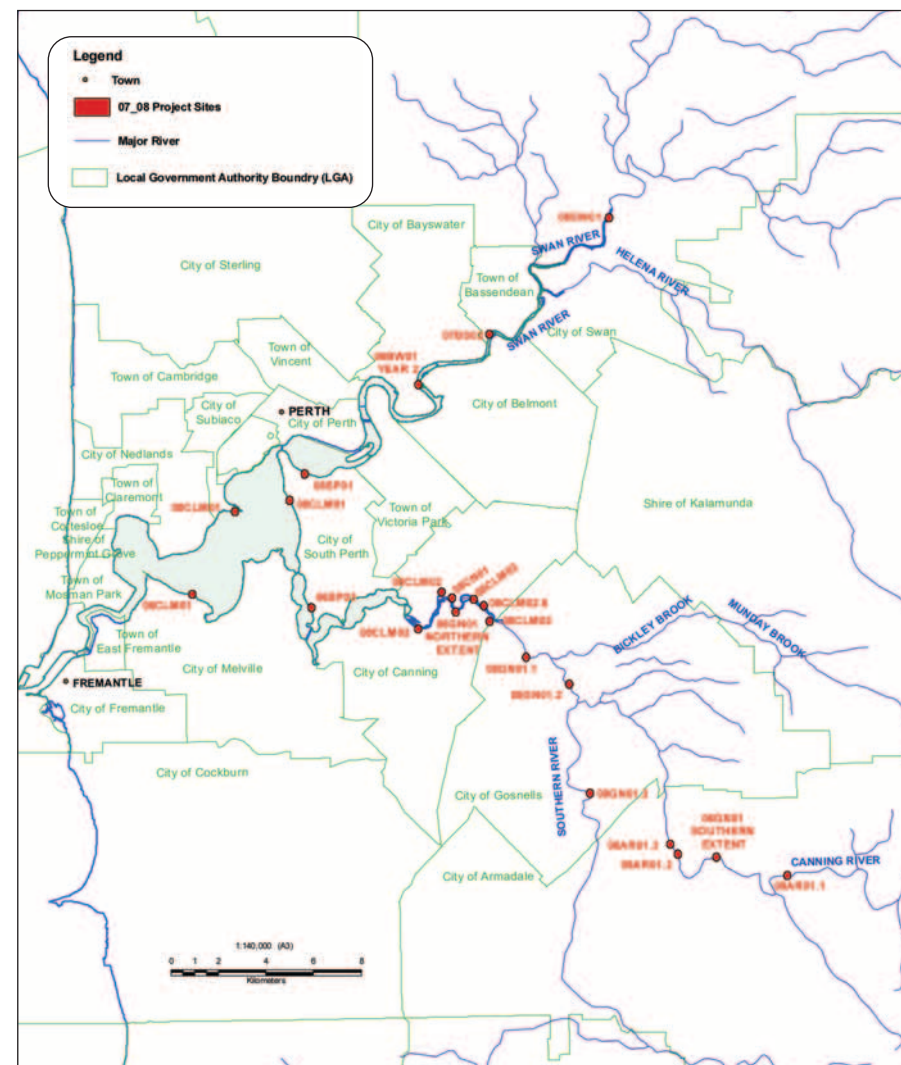
In 2007–08, Riverbank distributed \$1,083,020 through its Grant Scheme.



Table 6 2007–08 Riverbank Grants Scheme

Applicant	Project name	Project location	Funding (ex GST)
City of Bayswater	Tranby Foreshore restoration project phase 2	Swan River, Tranby foreshore, Maylands	\$58,000
City of Gosnells	Control of Taro on the Canning River and tributaries Year 3	Canning River and tributaries	\$3,850
City of Canning	EcoEducation demonstration site	Canning River Regional Park	\$23,375
City of Swan	Foreshore rehabilitation (Viveash), Swan Riverside Regional Park	Swan River, Viveash	\$149,571
Town of Bassendean	Ashfield Parade foreshore restoration project	Swan River Ashfield Parade	\$97,168
City of South Perth	Cloisters Foreshore erosion control	Cloisters Reserve Swan River Salter Point	\$84,636
City of Gosnells (three sub-projects)	Restoration works on the Canning River	Three sites along the Canning River Gosnells	\$15,175
City of Armadale (three sub-projects)	Restoration works on the Canning River	Three sites along the Canning River Armadale	\$23,900
City of South Perth	Sir James Mitchell Park Beach creation project	Sir James Mitchell Park Swan River South Perth	\$510,000
Department of Environment and Conservation	Foreshore rehabilitation works at Masons Landing	Canning River Regional Park Masons Landing	\$14,360
Department of Environment and Conservation	Environmental restoration of three sites	1 Swan Estuary Marine Park 2 Alfred Cove 3 Milyu & Pelican Point	\$17,985
Department of Environment and Conservation	Weed control and infill planting	Three sites in Canning River Regional Park	\$85,000

Figure 12 2007–08 Riverbank Projects



Foreshore Assessment and Management Strategy

A Foreshore Assessment and Management Strategy was completed. It is the outcome of a partnership with the Swan Catchment Council and was developed in consultation with key stakeholders. The strategy:

- identifies foreshore condition and pressures along the Swan and Canning rivers;
- makes recommendations for management response;
- identifies priority areas for investment; and
- provides a benchmark for evaluation.

The strategy is available on the Trust's website.

A high priority area identified for action in the Foreshore Strategy was the shoreline at Point Walter. The area was badly eroded by severe storms in July 2007. The erosion undermined part of the Burke Drive boat ramp and adjacent carpark. The Trust jointly funded repairs, which included filling voids under the boat ramp and building a limestone wall and revetment. The shoreline next to the kiosk was renourished to protect foreshore vegetation from erosion. Further work towards developing a long term approach for stabilizing the Point Walter shoreline is proposed by the City of Melville. It is anticipated that the City of Melville will apply for funding in the 2008–09 Riverbank Grants Scheme to develop this plan.

Works to address erosion were also completed along Mounts Bay Road, where the river wall was collapsing; at Bassendean where a private jetty was removed; and adjacent to the Swan and Curtin rowing clubs.

Communications

Corporate and Media Relations Program

The corporate and media relations program aims to ensure the Trust and river system receive positive media coverage, building on relationships with river stakeholders, the media and the Perth public, through communicating changing river conditions.

In its Strategic Communications Plan 2007–08, the Trust focused on improved relationship management, with a clear imperative for the Trust to deliver new strategies to 'let people in'. The plan aimed to deliver communications that would increasingly engage Perth people in river restoration activities, and provide opportunities for them to learn ways in which to change their behaviour for the long-term benefit of the rivers and foreshores.

Communications officers release media statements on behalf of the Trust and prepare statements on behalf of the Minister. This year 174 media stories were generated from 56 media statements, with a diverse range of river management issues receiving ongoing media enquiries through the year.

Media training was organised for Trust executive and program managers, and for the first time this year the Trust hosted a cadet journalists event from The West Australian Newspapers Ltd. The cadets spent a day with the Trust, learning Trust business and issues, and engaging in hands-on river protection activities.

More than 46 different environmental education resources for the public were produced this year, including: brochures, postcards, calico bags, display materials, DVDs, publications, the Trust's quarterly newsletter (*RiverView*) and more than four program-specific newsletters.

The third Mayoral Forum was held with the City of Bayswater in September 2007 and the fourth with the City of Perth in March 2008. These six-monthly local government forums with mayors and chief executive officers in the Swan Canning Catchment identify and manage shared critical issues, open communications channels and build stronger working relationships.

Corporate Care Days continued to be an important component of the Trust's corporate and media relations program. This year, 13 Corporate Care Days were held, with 670 volunteers assisting catchment community groups plant 38,000 native seedlings. Corporate Care Days provide a team-building experience for community and corporate staff. They help build better relationships between the Trust and its corporate partners and help catchment groups achieve important on-ground outcomes.

Trust managers gave presentations to a range of specific user groups this year including the Urban Development Institute of Australia, Rotary groups, Sustainability on the Swan, Sarawak Rivers Board and Inland Waterways Transit Study Group from Malaysia (an international delegation on a fact-finding tour investigating best practice river management models). Talks were also given about the Swan Canning river system to community and school groups throughout the year.

The Trust hosted numerous stakeholder forums and briefings this year associated with the releases of strategies such as the River Protection Strategy, Draft Boating Management Strategy, Foreshore Assessment Strategy and Climate Change Strategy. There were also events associated with the proclamation of the new legislation leading up to its release in September 2007.

Trust support was provided to a range of river activity clubs and for a number of events, including the City of Perth Australia Day celebrations and the Algal Bloom Leighton Offshore Invitational Yacht Race.

The weekly Algae Activity Report, provided each Friday evening on the Channel Nine television news and weather report, published in *The West Australian* weather report each Saturday, and on the Trust's website, continued to provide the community with information on changing river conditions.

Feature articles were published in several publications, including scientific journals, *Landscape*, the RAC's *Horizons* magazine, *Intersector*, the Garden Gurus newspaper and several yacht club publications, including the Royal Perth Yacht Club newsletter and *Boating WA*.

All Trust staff have received Aboriginal learning opportunities this year attending a Protocol Day provided by the DEC Aboriginal Heritage Unit.

Behaviour Change Program


The Trust seeks to work beyond raising public awareness to achieve long-term community behaviour change by providing river-based environmental education. The Trust is working with Curtin University through the Healthy Rivers and Swan Canning Research Innovation Program to identify key behaviours that need to be changed. This work will be used to inform and develop a social science-based Behaviour Change Framework in the catchment, to ensure the Healthy Rivers Program behaviour change outcomes are achieved.

In June 2008, the Environment Minister and the Racing and Gaming Minister launched the new River Guardians Pilot Program recognising 75 Honorary River Guardians for their existing commitment to protect and care for the rivers. Since that date more members have signed up to the program, which is providing a new avenue for individuals, groups, and corporate members to participate in river events, networking, volunteering and training to help protect and restore the Swan and Canning rivers. The program is engaging more and more people and connecting the community with the rivers across the catchment.

The Western Australian Gaming Community Trust provided the Trust with a one-off grant of \$500,000 this year. Securing these external funds enabled the Trust to deliver two improved community engagement and environmental education programs to benefit the Perth community and their rivers.

These two programs included the new River Guardians Pilot Program and the Sustainable Gardening Project, which includes the Great Gardens Workshop series and support for the new Sustainable Gardening Australia project, delivered in Western Australia for the first time in 2007. These projects provided river-friendly sustainability education for the general community and gardening industry. The Great Gardens Workshop Program targets urban gardeners and the Sustainable Gardening Australia Project educates professional gardeners, nursery staff, retailers, landscape designers and managers. As a result of this program, the Sustainable Gardening project certified eight garden centres in Western Australia this year, with five in the Swan Canning Catchment.





The Trust's continued support for the highly successful Great Gardens, Heavenly Hectares and Property Planning workshop series enabled 63 environmental education activities to be delivered in the Swan Canning Catchment this year. These free workshops teach urban gardeners and owners of small rural properties river-friendly practices aimed at reducing water and nutrient leakage from their properties. They provide participants with specific information on how to become water-wise and fertilise-wise to keep our Swan and Canning rivers healthy. This year more than 5000 people attended these local community workshops. Market research has demonstrated that more than 90 per cent of people attending the Great Gardens workshops intend to change their behaviour as a result.

The Trust hosted the Healthy Rivers Community Expo as part of the 2008 Autumn River Festival in April. The festival is a multicultural annual event held in celebration of the rivers, the Swan Valley and surrounding hills. The Trust presented environmental education information for the public at two locations this year, in Riverside Gardens, Bayswater and Garvey Park, Belmont. Information provided by the organisers, CMS Events, demonstrated that a record number of more than 10,000 Perth people attended the one-day festival.

The Trust continues to support the Phosphorus Action Group (PAG) to raise awareness of the health of the Swan and Canning rivers and Perth metropolitan wetlands. PAG distributes information and represents the Trust at various forums including Garden Week, Triple S Science Fair, Araluen School Holiday Activities, Perth Zoo, Australian Association of Environmental Education National Conference, World of Energy, WA Education Expo, Pioneer Park National Tree Day, Have a Go Day, and community fairs and festivals. PAG presented to more than 150 school and community groups this year.

The Swan Canning Catchment Ribbons of Blue program delivers environmental education to schools to raise awareness and understanding, provide learning opportunities, develop skills and promote behaviour change through water quality activities. This year contact with more than 2500 students, 250 teachers and 3000 community members has been achieved. Contact with more than 300 teachers is ongoing through the Trust's distribution each quarter of the Ribbons of Blue newsletter.

Two Catchment Activity Days were held this year, involving more than 650 students from 16 schools from priority catchment areas. Professional development sessions are held for teachers before the event to ensure ongoing learning before and after the Catchment Activity Days. A new curriculum framework and website (www.ribbonsblue.wa.gov.au) was released by the Environment Minister in February 2008 to better integrate Ribbons of Blue into schools. A series of professional development workshops was conducted to engage teachers in this new curriculum-based resource.

The Trust was represented by the Weld Square Primary School at the International River Health Youth Conference, Canberra in October 2007. With the Trust's support, the school provided a Swan River presentation, including indigenous aspects, to students from around Australia and overseas. The conference will be hosted in Perth in 2008 and will provide a positive opportunity for engagement with local schools, promoting increased involvement in education about local river health issues.

Business Management

Three-year strategic plan

The Trust works to a three-year (2006–09) strategic plan. The Trust monitored its progress against planned three-year achievements outlined in the strategic plan, and used this as a basis for developing the Annual Business Plan 2008–09. The three-year strategic plan will be reviewed next year.

Business plan

The Trust works to an Annual Business Plan structured around the management and support programs, and informed by the Trust's strategic plan 2006–09 and relevant organisational documents.

Staff training

Branch managers undertook a 'Leadership Development Program', as recommended by the Department of Premier and Cabinet. The intention is that all senior staff will do this course, which focuses on strengthening management and leadership skills.

Reporting requirements

Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) provided Trust with staff, facilities and corporate services under Section 31 of the *Swan River Trust Act 1988*. This arrangement continued with the introduction of the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006*. However, an external consultant was engaged to review the Service Level Agreement.

As staff working at the Trust are provided by DEC, the department's outcomes for disability access and inclusion, equal employment, substantive equality, cultural diversity and language services, corruption prevention, youth, compliance with public sector standards and ethical codes are applicable to the Trust. These outcomes can be found in DEC Annual Report 2007–08.

Conflict of interest

The Trust has procedures for identifying, preventing and resolving conflicts of interest. The procedures are outlined in DEC Code of Conduct (revised April 2007).

All Trust personnel with duties related to the negotiation of a contract must disclose current or prospective interests to their immediate supervisor. The interest of a member's immediate family must be disclosed, if known. Where a person possesses an interest, either the basis of that interest should be discontinued or the person should cease duties involved or obtain management permission to continue.

Trust members are required to declare conflicts of interest. This year, Trust members declared a conflict of interest in nine items.

Freedom of information

This year there were two requests under the provisions of the *Freedom of Information Act 1992*. For the purposes of the *Freedom of Information Act*, the Swan River Trust is a 'related agency' to DEC.

Record keeping

DEC provides record keeping support services to the Trust. The department has a record keeping practices program for staff. A record keeping practice module has been incorporated into DEC induction system. The Trust, through trained staff, has taken on and maintains some of its own record keeping practices. All Trust staff completed an on-line record keeping awareness course, to inform them of the latest best practices and provide a better understanding of the TRIM system.

Advertising and marketing

Expenditure was incurred by the Trust in 2007–08 in relation to Section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*.



Table 7 Advertising and marketing expenditure

Class of expenditure	Supplier	Expenditure \$
Print advertising and production agency	Marketforce	\$1,973.29
Government Media Office advertising and production agency	Media Decisions	\$4,437.72
Market research organisations	Research Solutions	\$14,383.00
Direct mail organisations	Northside Logistics	\$1,453.07
Digital production agency – DVD	Solo Films	\$15,377.91
Total		\$36,436.30

Public comment

The Trust actively encourages public comment on issues throughout the year using the media, website and newspaper advertising.

Table 8 Public comments received for development regulation applications and management plans advertised in newspapers

Item for public comment	Letters	Emails	Total
Draft Boating Management Strategy	15	26	41
Construct Boat Ramp and Hardstand – Boat Launching and Fingers – Car Parking Facilities – South of Perth Yacht Club – Coffee Point Applecross	1	0	1
Demolition of Existing Kiosk and Construction of New Café / Kiosk – Riverton Jetty Park – Lots 800 & 2134 Fern Road Wilson	(same person)	0	(same person)
Construction of three Floating Jetties – Claughton Reserve and Riverside Gardens Bayswater – Tranby House Maylands	1	0	1
Draft Policy Development Setback Requirements	7	1	8
Restaurants, Cafes, Kiosks and Tearooms Policy	6	1	7
Floating Lifts – amendment to Jetties Policy	5	0	5

Corporate Governance

Trust compliance, remuneration and attendance

The Trust operates in accordance with Schedule 6 of the *Swan Canning Rivers Management Act 2006*, *Public Sector Management Act 1994*, and *DEC Code of Conduct 2007*.

Ministerial approval was given for the following remuneration levels effective as of 1 January 2007.

Chairman	\$26,800 / annum
Swan River Trust member only	\$7,400 / annum
Board plus one committee	\$10,500 / annum
Board plus two committees	\$13,600 / annum
Board plus three committees	\$16,700 / annum

There were 14 Trust meetings during 2007–08.

The last meeting of the former Trust Board before proclamation of the new legislation was held 10 September 2007. The following Trust members attended.

- Mr Rod Willox
- Mr Neil Foley
- Mr Jim Freemantle
- Dr Jane Chambers
- Mr Steve Jenkins

Table 9 Trust meeting attendance 2007–08

Trust Member	Trust meetings		River Protection Strategy & Riverpark Committee meetings		Finance & Audit Committee meetings	
	Attended	Held	Attended	Held	Attended	Held
Mr Charlie Welker	10	12			4	4
Mr Rod Willox	2	3				
Dr Jane Chambers	11	12	3	3		
Mr Neil Foley	2	3				
Mr Jim Freemantle	11	12	3	3	4	4
Mrs Pat Hart	1	3				
Mrs Barbara Cook	1	3				
Mr Steve Jenkins	3	3				
Mr Noel Nannup	9	9	3	3		
Ms Dorte Ekelund	7	9	–	3		
Cr Dudley Maier	9	9			4	4
Ms Barbara Morrell	2	5				
Ms Carolyn Jakobsen	8	9			4	4
Mr Michael Poole	1	1				
Ms Jan Star	n/a	nil				



The first meeting of the new Trust Board was 3 September 2007, with the following Members attending.

- Mr Charlie Welker
- Dr Jane Chambers
- Mr Jim Freemantle
- Ms Dorte Ekelund
- Mr Noel Nannup
- Ms Carolyn Jakobsen
- Cr Dudley Maier
- Ms Barbara Morrell

Dr Jane Chambers, at the request of the Chairman, took on duties additional to those of a normal member. This entailed chairing the Swan Canning Steering Committee – a cross-agency committee overseeing development and implementation of projects in the joint state-federal Coastal Catchments Initiative (CCI). Dr Chambers sits on the main Board, one committee and chairs the Swan Canning Steering Committee. The Department of the Premier and Cabinet approved an annual fee of \$15,000 be paid to Dr Chambers to take effect from 1 July 2007.

Mr Charlie Welker was granted a leave of absence on 10 March 2008 for three months. Mr Jim Freemantle assumed the role of acting chairman as defined in Schedule 6 (6) of the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006*. This was noted by Cabinet on 5 May 2008.

Ms Barbara Morrell resigned from the Trust Board on 5 March 2008

Mr Michael Poole was appointed as a temporary Member to the Trust Board by the Environment Minister on 5 May 2008

Ms Jan Star was appointed to the Trust Board by the Environment Minister with Cabinet approval on 23 June 2008. No Trust meetings were held prior to 30 June 2008 following her appointment.

There were no meetings of the Park and Riverplan Committee in 2007 with the former Trust Board. A new River Protection Strategy and Riverpark Committee was established, as defined by Section 36 of the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006* on 12 November 2007.

There was one meeting of the Development and Regulation Committee in 2007–08 with the following attendees.

- Mr Charlie Welker
- Mr Rod Willox
- Mrs Pat Hart
- Mr Neil Foley

Sustainability

The Trust complies with the State Government's Energy Smart Policy and supports Department of Environment and Conservation's Sustainability Action Plan 2005–07, as defined by the Government's Sustainability Code of Practice for Government Agencies and Resource Guide for Implementation. The Trust's vehicle fleet is carbon neutral.

Since January 2008 the Trust has worked with the department's DECrease committee members to ensure the Trust complies with minimising negative environmental impact in respect of its activities and operations, while incorporating the principles of sustainability in all decision-making processes.

Indigenous Traineeship Program

Recognising the importance of the Swan and Canning rivers to the indigenous community, the Trust is looking to support indigenous trainees to develop natural resource management qualifications and gain employment in waterways and catchment management careers. This year the Trust's first indigenous graduate was employed to work on Riverpark.

Internal audit

The Trust relied on the internal audit of DEC financial records for assuring compliance with the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985*, *Financial Management Act 2006*, Regulations and Treasurer's Instructions. The chief finance officer function, previously provided by the Department of Water, is now provided by a Trust officer. Under the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006*, the Trust has set up a Finance and Audit Committee with members from the Board. An audit charter has been developed. These arrangements will give the Trust greater autonomy.

Asset management

The carry forward value of Trust property, plant and equipment was \$647,904 this year.

Risk management

The Trust's approach to risk management is guided by Department of Environment and Conservation risk management policies and strategies. The Trust developed a risk register in 2005–06 which was used during the past year to inform a Strategic Audit Plan to assess key identified risks during a four-year period. The 2005–06 risk register is still being used and will be reviewed in 2008–09. The audit process is conducted by independent consultants, Stamfords. The audit includes issues such as the Trust's management of grants, provision of technical advice, incident response and public liability.

Performance monitoring and reporting

Trust officers provide written monthly reports on activities and financial statements to the Trust 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 the Environment.

Compliance with Public Sector Standards and ethical codes

Trust officers operate under DEC 2007 Code of Conduct, as required by the Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics. All officers have access to the Code of Conduct on DEC intranet and in hard copy and are regularly reminded of its application. The code is comprehensive and covers a wide range of issues. These include corporate and individual responsibilities, confidentiality and security, occupational safety and health, conflict arising in the course of employment, equal opportunity, dealing with discrimination, paid and unpaid activities, industrial and political participation, corruption and discipline.

Ministerial directions

Under Section 7(3) of the *Swan River Trust Act 1988* and Section 34 of the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006*, 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. There was one Ministerial direction this year regarding a condition relating to a development application from the South of Perth Yacht Club. The Minister's direction was to change a condition of approval to not prejudice the possible future acquisition of a portion of land in the club grounds. This land may be needed in the future as part of the Point Heathcote Reserve, for public recreation and enjoyment.

Delegations

Section 26 of the *Swan River Trust Act 1988* and Section 33 of the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006* allow for the delegation of Trust functions. In September 2007 a notice of delegation was published in the Western Australian Government Gazette. This notice granted delegated powers to the Trust general manager, Riverpark manager, Statutory Assessments manager and Riverpark Operations manager.

Industrial agreements

Trust officers are provided by DEC and are subject to industrial agreements negotiated with these bodies. Executive remuneration is paid in accordance with public service conditions, and reflects the department's industrial agreements.

Workers compensation statistics

As Trust officers are provided by DEC, workers compensation statistics are included in DEC Annual Report 2007–08.



Auditor General

INDEPENDENT AUDIT OPINION

To the Parliament of Western Australia

SWAN RIVER TRUST FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

I have audited the accounts, financial statements, controls and key performance indicators of the Swan River Trust.

The financial statements comprise the Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2008, and the Income Statement, Statement of Changes in Equity and Cash Flow Statement for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory Notes.

The key performance indicators consist of key indicators of effectiveness and efficiency.

Board's Responsibility for the Financial Statements and Key Performance Indicators

The Board is responsible for keeping proper accounts, and the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Treasurer's Instructions, and the key performance indicators. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and key performance indicators that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances; and complying with the Financial Management Act 2006 and other relevant written law.

Summary of my Role

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators based on my audit. This was done by testing selected samples of the audit evidence. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion. Further information on my audit approach is provided in my audit practice statement. Refer "<http://www.audit.wa.gov.au/pubs/Audit-Practice-Statement.pdf>".

An audit does not guarantee that every amount and disclosure in the financial statements and key performance indicators is error free. The term "reasonable assurance" recognises that an audit does not examine all evidence and every transaction. However, my audit procedures should identify errors or omissions significant enough to adversely affect the decisions of users of the financial statements and key performance indicators.

In my opinion,

- (i) the financial statements are based on proper accounts and present fairly the financial position of the Swan River Trust at 30 June 2008 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date. They are in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Treasurer's Instructions;
- (ii) the controls exercised by the Trust 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; and
- (iii) the key performance indicators of the Trust are relevant and appropriate to help users assess the Trust's performance and fairly represent the indicated performance for the year ended 30 June 2008.

GLEN CLARKE
ACTING AUDITOR GENERAL
22 September 2008

Performance Management

Key Performance Indicators for the year ended 30 June 2008

Certification of performance indicators

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

We 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 represent the performance of the Swan River Trust for the financial year ended 30 June 2008.

Jim Freemantle
Acting Chairman
Accountable Authority
8 September 2008

Dudley Maier
Member
Accountable Authority
8 September 2008

Key effectiveness performance indicator

The extent to which management water quality targets are achieved in the Swan and Canning rivers and catchments

The Effectiveness Indicators are:

- total nitrogen (N) and total phosphorus (P) concentration in 15 tributaries of the Swan Canning Catchment compared to targets levels; and
- chlorophyll-a (chl-a) concentration and dissolved oxygen (DO) saturation in surface waters of the Swan Canning river system compared to target levels.

Excess N and P 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.

The Swan Canning Catchment targets

Table 10 Targets for median TN and TP in catchment tributaries of the Swan Canning river system

Target	TN	TP
Short-term	2.0 mg/L	0.2 mg/L
Long-term	1.0 mg/L	0.1 mg/L

Table 11 Swan River Trust outcomes, services and performance structure

Government Goal – Lifestyle and the Environment Protecting and enhancing the unique Western Australian lifestyle and ensuring sustainable management of the environment Government Strategic Outcomes A unique lifestyle that is maintained and enhanced Biodiversity and ecosystems that are well maintained Impacts on the environment are responsibly and sustainably managed World class national parks, marine parks and conservation reserves			
Desired outcomes	Services	Effectiveness Performance Indicators	Efficiency Performance Indicators
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
The long-term community benefit of the Swan Canning river system is protected and enhanced	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
	Statutory assessment of development proposals	Percentage of development recommendations which have attracted negative responses from the community	Average cost per application assessed
	Waterways management	Percentage of developments audited in full compliance with approval conditions	Average cost of audit compliance
			Average cost per tonne of waste removed

Monitoring in the Swan Canning Catchment

The 15 monitored catchments were sampled each fortnight from June to November (many tributaries only flow during the winter / spring months). The calculation of the 2008 catchment target compliance incorporated three years of data up to and including October 2007, given 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 had met the short-term target then it was assessed against the long-term target. If the tributary passed the short and long-term targets then it was assessed to ensure that the water quality had not deteriorated.

Key to catchment performance indicator results




-  Tributary is being assessed against the short-term target.
-  Tributary has met the short-term target and is being assessed against the long-term target.
-  Tributary has met the short and long-term targets and is being monitored to ensure that it continues to meet the long-term target.

Table 12 Compliance of monitored tributaries discharging into the Swan Canning river system with short and long-term nitrogen targets

Tributary	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Ellen Brook	(12) 30	(11) 30	(11) 32	(10) 29	(18) 20
Mills Street Main Drain	(12) 25	(12) 22	(12) 25	(12) 25	(12) 25
Bannister Creek	(12) 27	(12) 27	(12) 29	(12) 29	(12) 27
Bayswater Main Drain	(12) 21	(11) 21	(12) 21	(12) 20	(12) 21
Southern River	(12) 22	(12) 26	(12) 28	(12) 20	(12) 18
Bickley Brook	(12) 18	(12) 20	(12) 23	(12) 18	(12) 20
Bennett Brook	(12) 23	(12) 27	(11) 27	(11) 22	(11) 17
Yule Brook	(12) 15	(12) 12	(21) 15	(21) 14	(21) 19
Blackadder Creek	(21) 13	(21) 15	(21) 18	(20) 15	(20) 14
Canning River	(21) 7	(21) 6	(21) 6	(21) 2	(21) 3
Helena River	(19) 10	(19) 6	(21) 9	(20) 8	(20) 11
South Belmont Main Drain	(21) 6	(21) 4	(21) 7	(21) 5	(21) 5
Avon River	(21) 4	(21) 5	(21) 10	(21) 8	(21) 13
Susannah Brook	(19) 3	(19) 4	(21) 8	(18) 8	(17) 8
Jane Brook	(21) 7	(21) 8	(21) 8	(19) 6	(19) 5
Short-term target met (%)	100	100	100	100	93*
Long-term target met (%)	47	53	53	53	53

*In 2008 Ellen Brook failed to meet its short-term target.

Table 13 Compliance of monitored tributaries discharging into the Swan Canning river system with short and long-term phosphorus targets

Tributary	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Ellen Brook	(12) 29	(11) 29	(11) 31	(10) 27	(10) 25
Mills Street Main Drain	(12) 27	(12) 27	(12) 29	(12) 26	(12) 26
Southern River	(12) 30	(12) 32	(12) 32	(12) 23	(12) 18
South Belmont Main Drain	(12) 15	(12) 15	(12) 17	(12) 14	(12) 10
Bannister Creek	(21) 7	(21) 2	(21) 3	(21) 5	(21) 7
Yule Brook	(21) 6	(21) 3	(21) 2	(21) 9	(21) 11
Bayswater Main Drain	(21) 3	(21) 2	(21) 2	(21) 4	(21) 4
Bickley Brook	(21) 7	(21) 5	(21) 4	(21) 3	(21) 2
Blackadder Creek	(21) 2	(21) 2	(21) 1	(20) 1	(20) 0
Jane Brook	(21) 0	(21) 0	(21) 0	(19) 0	(19) 0
Avon River	(21) 1	(21) 2	(21) 2	(21) 2	(21) 1
Bennett Brook	(21) 1	(21) 2	(21) 2	(21) 3	(21) 2
Canning River	(21) 2	(21) 2	(21) 2	(21) 1	(21) 1
Helena River	(19) 0	(19) 0	(21) 0	(20) 0	(20) 0
Susannah Brook	(19) 0	(19) 0	(21) 0	(18) 0	(17) 0
Short-term target met (%)	93	93	93	93	93
Long-term target met (%)	73	73	73	73	80

Interpretation of the catchment tables

The colour of the cells in the tables indicates the target that the catchment was compared with. A **red** 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. **Blue** means that the tributary had previously passed the short-term target but failed the long-term target and was therefore being assessed against the long-term target. A **yellow** cell means that the tributary passed both targets, and the data were used to make sure that the tributary continued to meet the long-term target. The number within the brackets indicates the maximum number of 'high' samples permitted to occur if the target was met (derived statistically). The number outside the bracket was the actual number of samples from the tributaries that had higher concentrations of nitrogen or phosphorus than the target levels shown in Table. If the number outside the bracket was 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) is statistically derived using the binomial distribution curve and is dependent on the percentile used (median for TN and TP – see next paragraph) and the hypothesis tested (compliance or breach).

The data is 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 14).

Table 14 Examples of decision rules for catchment nutrient median targets using 30 samples

Prior condition	Decision rule
Passing target	20 or more samples above target level means the tributary has failed to comply with the target (failed)
Failing target	11 or fewer samples below target level means the tributary has complied with the target (passed)

Catchment results

Total nitrogen concentration

Since 2004 all tributaries achieved the short-term target, but in 2008 Ellen Brook failed to maintain its short term target. This means that in the next compliance period it will be assessed against the short term target (i.e. the cell will be coloured red).

The number of tributaries passing the long-term target has improved since 2004 when 47 per cent of tributaries achieved the long-term target. An improvement in the condition of the monitored tributaries was noted in 2005 with 53 per cent meeting the long-term compliance target, and that has continued to the present.

Total phosphorus concentration

From 2004 to present, 93 per cent of tributaries have met the short-term target. Ellen Brook was the only tributary where P concentrations were higher than the short-term target.

In 2004, 73 per cent of the monitored tributaries complied with the long-term P target. That increased to 80 per cent of monitored tributaries in 2008, with South Belmont Main Drain achieving compliance with the long-term P target for the first time.

The nitrogen and phosphorus concentrations in the Swan Canning tributaries are low to moderate and have generally remained steady throughout the 2004 to 2008 reporting period.

These results are encouraging, however there is the possibility that they may have been influenced by the reduction of total annual rainfall in the past five years. This impact of climate change 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 flow reduction in the short term (20 years) and longer term (70 years).

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 2008 data suggest that that Ellen Brook is unlikely to meet the short-term target soon, with 25 of 28 samples having TP concentrations greater than 0.2mg/L. Furthermore, nitrogen concentrations in Ellen Brook have increased to the point that the catchment failed to maintain compliance against the short term target.

Swan Canning estuary targets

Key performance indicators are chlorophyll-a and dissolved oxygen concentrations in the surface one metre of water (Table 15). The targets for the middle and upper basins represent a first management objective for chlorophyll-a and dissolved oxygen. Once these targets are met, new targets will be set in a series of benchmarks until quality in the basins is acceptable.

Table 15 Chlorophyll-a and dissolved oxygen targets for the Swan Canning estuary

Estuary basin	Chl-a Target (µg/L)	Surface DO (% 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, a sample is taken weekly between January and May from each of the four estuary basins. This results in the collection of about 20 samples in each basin per year. These are pooled with the previous two years of data to provide a total of about 60 samples with which to test compliance.

Key to interpreting estuary performance indicator results in tables 16 and 17:

	Target not met
	Target met

Table 16 Chlorophyll-a concentration in the basins of the Swan Canning estuary compared to the targets

Basin	2005	2006	2007	2008
Upper Swan	(3) 10	(3) 24	(3) 25	(3) 28
Middle Swan	(3) 13	(3) 21	(3) 25	(3) 32
Lower Swan Canning	(10) 4	(10) 7	(10) 8	(10) 14
Middle Canning	(3) 6	(3) 14	(3) 14	(3) 19

Table 17 Dissolved oxygen saturation in the basins of the Swan Canning estuary compared to the targets

Basin	2005	2006	2007	2008
Upper Swan	(1) 12	(1) 9	(1) 23	(1) 33
Middle Swan	(1) 6	(1) 7	(1) 11	(1) 16
Lower Swan Canning	(6) 5	(6) 3	(6) 3	(6) 4
Middle Canning	(1) 8	(1) 6	(1) 12	(1) 12

In tables 16 and 17 the first number (in brackets) is the maximum allowable number of samples that can exceed the target before failing. The second number is the actual number of samples that exceed the target.

Results

Chlorophyll-a concentration

The lower basin of the Swan Canning estuary met the chlorophyll-a target during 2005–2007, however the target was exceeded in 2008 (Table 16). The middle and upper basin of the Swan estuary and the middle basin of the Canning estuary failed to meet the target in all four years.

Oxygen saturation

The lower basin of the Swan Canning estuary met the dissolved oxygen target in every year evaluated (Table 17). The upper and middle Swan, and the middle Canning, failed to meet the dissolved oxygen targets in all four years.

Water quality in the lower basin was generally good with the exception of chlorophyll-a concentrations in 2008. The targets for the lower estuary were developed so that they could be met under current conditions, with a failure to do so indicating that the water quality had deteriorated. Dissolved oxygen and chlorophyll-a concentration in the middle basins of the Swan and Canning estuary and the upper basin of the Swan estuary, was unacceptable in terms of these targets. These basins are expected to fail their targets until there is an improvement in water quality.

Algal biomass and dissolved oxygen concentrations in the summer are primarily influenced by the seasonal and long-term store of nutrients in the estuarine sediments. A reduction in algal blooms and the restoration of bottom water 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 and achieving the catchment targets and observing the desired change in the estuary.

Interpreting the estuary tables

The monitoring data from each of the estuary basins are compared to the targets in Table 15. There are only two possible outcomes, pass or fail. Blue cells indicate that the target was not met, whereas yellow cells indicate that the target was achieved (Tables 16 and 17). Note that for chlorophyll-a, a region failed when a sample had a higher concentration than the target, while for dissolved oxygen, a region failed when a sample had a lower concentration than the target.

Key effectiveness performance indicator

Percentage of foreshores protected and rehabilitated in relation to total area

Table 18

2006–07 Actual	2007–08 Target	2007–08 Actual
85.9% with foreshore assessment	10% without foreshore assessment	4.8% without foreshore assessment

The Trust has an important role facilitating foreshore protection and rehabilitation through the provision of operational work capacity, technical expertise and grant funding for foreshore plans and rehabilitation projects undertaken by local governments in partnership with community groups. This work contributes significantly to the mitigation of riverbank erosion, restoration of foreshore vegetation and the protection of associated ecological, aesthetic and social values.

This indicator measures the percentage of the total foreshore area that has been subject to management effort during the year. The total foreshore area is 22,282,198m². In 2006–07 a total of 19,150,697m² were involved in some way with management efforts facilitated by the Trust, equating to 85.9 per cent of the total area. Much of that area was included in an assessment of foreshore conditions that began in 2005–06 and completed in 2006–07. The purpose of the Foreshore

Assessment project was to provide extensive baseline data to inform future management decisions and is not expected to be repeated. Inclusion of this discrete project resulted in the incongruous result of 85.9% for the year of 2006–07 whereas without this project the core, ongoing program would have given a result aligned to the target of 10%.

In 2007–08 the foreshore area subject to direct protection was lower (1,071,190 m²) equating to 4.8 per cent of the total area.

Key effectiveness performance indicator

Percentage of people attending environmental education programs who change their behaviours as a result

Table 19

2006–07 Actual	2007–08 Target	2007–2008 Actual
78.5%	80%	94.5%

The Trust's environmental education programs provide the Perth community with the tools and information to change their behaviour to protect the Swan Canning river system. The Great Gardens Workshop program is the most effective of these. At the conclusion of every workshop participants are surveyed about their intention to change their behaviour in regard to improving soil, planting natives, garden design, water efficiency/irrigation, using river friendly fertilisers, green-waste recycling/mulching, garden, pest and lawn management.

Key effectiveness performance indicator

Percentage of development recommendations which have attracted negative responses from the community

Table 20

2006–07 Actual	2007–08 Target	2007–08 Actual
3%	2%	0%

Until the proclamation of the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006* in September 2007 it was the Trust's practice to post reports and recommendations on the Trust website to allow comment by the public before recommendations were forwarded to the Environment Minister for his decision. In this way a measure of the alignment of the Trust's recommendation with community expectations could be estimated by monitoring the response.

This practice was followed for those applications received prior to the proclamation but was discontinued for applications received and dealt with following proclamation. During this period, 10 recommendations were advertised on the Trust website. No negative responses were received from community members. The measure does not include responses from applicants.

The new Act provides for public comment to be made on draft reports prior to them being finally considered by the Trust. This process allows the Trust the opportunity to consider submissions on the draft from the public, applicants and referral agencies before making its recommendation to the Minister. Strictly, comments received following this process do not relate to recommendations made by the Trust to the Minister, because at that point they have not been considered by the Trust Board.

From the date of proclamation of the new Act to the end of the financial year, nine draft reports have been posted on the website. None of those reports received negative responses from the community and none of the reports and

recommendations were substantially altered by the Trust when considered at its meetings. For these reasons, although there has been a change in process, the measure remained a valid indication of community satisfaction and that is reflected in the 0% measure recorded in Table 20.

There may be a need to modify the performance indicator to allow for the change in process so that it continues to measure the alignment of Trust decisions with expectations in relation to the protection and enhancement of community benefit.

Key effectiveness performance indicator

Percentage of developments audited in full compliance with approval conditions

Table 21

2006–07 Actual	2007–08 Target	2007–08 Actual
100%	100%	100%

Developments approved under Part 5 of the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006* are usually subject to conditions. The protection of the environmental and amenity values of the rivers and foreshores is dependent on developers complying with those conditions which can be ongoing, limited to pre-construction, or required during construction works.

The effectiveness of the approval conditions is measured as a percentage of developments audited that are in full compliance with approval conditions at the time.

Developments are checked at various stages of works dependent on the conditions set and the likely impacts.

In 2007–08 all of the 37 Part 5 developments that were checked were in full compliance with relevant conditions. Of the 37 developments, 12 had been completed and the remaining 25 were at various stages of construction with further compliance checks needed as construction proceeds.



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 22 Key efficiency performance indicators

Desired outcomes	Services	Key efficiency performance indicators	2006-07 Actual \$	2007-08 Budget \$	2007-08 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)	421	783	734	
		Average cost per square metre of foreshore undergoing protection and rehabilitation works	0.25	2.12	3.84	Cost increase due to more concentrated efforts on smaller foreshore area
	Communication of environmental information	Average cost per person attending an environmental education program	320	277	334	
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	2,725	4,361	2,408	Reduced costs due to process change under the new Act (i.e. permits and licences)
		Average cost of audit compliance	9,636	9,038	1,595	This function is delivered through a different service allowing more direct allocation of costs
	Waterways management	Average cost per tonne of waste removed	4,608	3,451	4,034	Waste collection activities continue along with other Riverpark priorities such as regulatory offence follow-up



Auditor General

INDEPENDENT AUDIT OPINION

To the Parliament of Western Australia

SWAN RIVER TRUST FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

I have audited the accounts, financial statements, controls and key performance indicators of the Swan River Trust.

The financial statements comprise the Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2008, and the Income Statement, Statement of Changes in Equity and Cash Flow Statement for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory Notes.

The key performance indicators consist of key indicators of effectiveness and efficiency.

Board's Responsibility for the Financial Statements and Key Performance Indicators

The Board is responsible for keeping proper accounts, and the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Treasurer's Instructions, and the key performance indicators. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and key performance indicators that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances; and complying with the Financial Management Act 2006 and other relevant written law.

Summary of my Role

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators based on my audit. This was done by testing selected samples of the audit evidence. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion. Further information on my audit approach is provided in my audit practice statement. Refer "<http://www.audit.wa.gov.au/pubs/Audit-Practice-Statement.pdf>".

An audit does not guarantee that every amount and disclosure in the financial statements and key performance indicators is error free. The term "reasonable assurance" recognises that an audit does not examine all evidence and every transaction. However, my audit procedures should identify errors or omissions significant enough to adversely affect the decisions of users of the financial statements and key performance indicators.

In my opinion,

- (i) the financial statements are based on proper accounts and present fairly the financial position of the Swan River Trust at 30 June 2008 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date. They are in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Treasurer's Instructions;
- (ii) the controls exercised by the Trust 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; and
- (iii) the key performance indicators of the Trust are relevant and appropriate to help users assess the Trust's performance and fairly represent the indicated performance for the year ended 30 June 2008.

GLEN CLARKE
ACTING AUDITOR GENERAL
22 September 2008

Financial Statements

Disclosures and Legal Compliance for the year ended 30 June 2008

Certification of financial statements

The accompanying financial statements of the Swan River Trust have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006* from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the financial year ending 30 June 2008 and the financial position as at 30 June 2008.

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.

Jack Wong
Chief Finance Officer
8 September 2008

Jim Freemantle
Acting Chairman
Accountable Authority
8 September 2008

Dudley Maier
Member
Accountable Authority
8 September 2008



Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

SWAN RIVER TRUST INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

	Note	2008 \$	2007 \$
COST OF SERVICES			
Expenses			
Employee benefits expense	4	3,374,973	2,786,417
Finance costs	5	6,204	8,088
Supplies and services	6	6,565,459	4,672,218
Depreciation expense	7	108,153	97,816
Accommodation expenses	8	480,286	257,507
Capital user charge	9	-	126,000
Other expenses	10	148,615	39,992
Grants and subsidies	11	1,960,321	2,017,389
Total cost of services		12,644,011	10,005,427
Income			
Revenue			
User charges and fees	12	21,849	59,645
Commonwealth grants and contributions	13	346,364	84,636
Other revenue	14	700,799	458,645
Total revenue		1,069,012	602,926
Total income other than income from State Government		1,069,012	602,926
NET COST OF SERVICES		11,574,999	9,402,501
INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT	15		
Service appropriation		12,616,000	10,873,000
Resources received free of charge		-	8,335
Total income from State Government		12,616,000	10,881,335
SURPLUS FOR THE PERIOD		1,041,001	1,478,834

See also note 36 'Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service'

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

SWAN RIVER TRUST BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2008

	Note	2008 \$	2007 \$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	25	1,160,662	2,622,641
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	16	365,696	131,354
Receivables	17	1,932,503	1,092,394
Amounts receivable for services	18	90,000	150,000
Total Current Assets		3,548,861	3,996,389
Non-current Assets			
Amounts receivable for services	18	296,000	251,000
Property, plant and equipment	19	647,905	713,984
Total Non-current Assets		943,905	964,984
TOTAL ASSETS		4,492,766	4,961,373
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	21	167,778	1,668,005
Borrowings	22	-	9,028
Other current liabilities	23	10,000	10,000
Total Current Liabilities		177,778	1,687,033
Non-current Liabilities			
Borrowings	22	-	119,353
Total Non-current Liabilities		-	119,353
Total Liabilities		177,778	1,806,386
NET ASSETS		4,314,988	3,154,987
EQUITY	24		
Contributed equity		227,000	108,000
Accumulated surplus		4,087,988	3,046,987
TOTAL EQUITY		4,314,988	3,154,987

The Balance Sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

SWAN RIVER TRUST			
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY			
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008			
	Note	2008 \$	2007 \$
Balance of equity at start of period		3,154,987	1,668,153
CONTRIBUTED EQUITY	24		
Balance at start of period		108,000	100,000
Capital contribution		119,000	8,000
Balance at end of period		227,000	108,000
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	24		
Balance at start of period		3,046,987	1,568,153
Surplus for the period		1,041,001	1,478,834
Balance at end of period		4,087,988	3,046,987
Balance of equity at end of period		<u>4,314,988</u>	<u>3,154,987</u>
Total income and expense for the period ^(a)		1,041,001	1,478,834

(a) The aggregate net amount attributable to each category of equity is: surplus \$1,041,001, (loss)/gain from asset revaluation nil (2007 surplus \$1,478,834, (loss)/gain from asset revaluation nil. The gain from asset revaluation \$28,000 is included as a reversal of a prior year decrement.

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

SWAN RIVER TRUST			
CASH FLOW STATEMENT			
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008			
	Note	2008 \$	2007 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT			
Service appropriation		12,481,000	10,712,000
Capital contributions		119,000	8,000
Holding account drawdowns		150,000	100,000
Net cash provided by State Government		<u>12,750,000</u>	<u>10,820,000</u>
Utilised as follows			
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Employee benefits		(3,392,720)	(2,789,322)
Supplies and services		(7,907,724)	(3,354,639)
Finance costs		(7,951)	(6,341)
Grants and subsidies		(3,097,156)	(1,851,431)
Capital user charge		-	(126,000)
Accommodation		(480,286)	(257,507)
GST payments on purchases		(1,118,950)	(287,322)
Other payments		(147,072)	(37,042)
Receipts			
User charges and fees		276,794	59,645
Commonwealth grants and contributions		310,000	211,000
GST receipts on sales		128,051	5,912
GST receipts from the taxation authority		929,033	398,612
Other receipts		700,799	104,182
Net cash (used in) operating activities	25	<u>(13,807,182)</u>	<u>(7,930,253)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of non-current physical assets		(42,074)	(162,333)
Net cash (used in) investing activities		<u>(42,074)</u>	<u>(162,333)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Repayment of borrowings		(128,381)	(6,643)
Net cash (used in) financing activities		<u>(128,381)</u>	<u>(6,643)</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash held		<u>(1,227,637)</u>	<u>2,720,771</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of period		2,753,995	33,224
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF PERIOD	25	<u>1,526,358</u>	<u>2,753,995</u>

The Cash Flow Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

1. Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards

General

The Trust's financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2008 have been prepared in accordance with Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS), which comprise a Framework for the Preparation and Presentation of Financial Statements (the Framework) and Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations).

In preparing these financial statements the Trust has adopted, where relevant to its operations, new and revised Standards and Interpretations from their operative dates as issued by the AASB and formerly the Urgent Issues Group (UIG).

Early adoption of standards

The Trust cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard or Australian Accounting Interpretation unless specifically permitted by TI 1101 'Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements'. No Standards and Interpretations that have been issued or amended but are not yet effective have been early adopted by the Trust for the annual reporting period ended 30 June 2008.

2. Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) General Statement

The financial statements constitute a general purpose financial report which has been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board 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 2006* and the Treasurer's instructions are legislative provisions governing the preparation of financial statements and take precedence over the Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

Where modification is required and has 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, modified by the revaluation of land, buildings and infrastructure 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 rounded to the nearest dollar.

(c) Reporting Entity

The reporting entity comprises the Trust and entities listed at note 34 'Related bodies'.

(d) Contributed Equity

UIG Interpretation 1038 'Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-owned Public Sector Entities' requires transfers in the nature of equity contributions 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 (appropriations) have been designated as contributions by owners by Treasurer's Instruction (TI) 955 'Contributions by Owners made to Wholly-owned Public Sector Entities' and have been credited directly to Contributed Equity.

Transfer of net assets to/from other agencies are designated as contributions by owners where the transfers are non-discretionary and non-reciprocal. See note 24 Equity

(e) Income

Revenue recognition

Revenue is measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable. Revenue is recognised for the major business activities as follows.

Sale of goods

Revenue is recognised from the sale of goods and disposal of other assets when the significant risks and rewards of ownership control transfer to the purchaser and can be measured reliably.

Rendering of services

Revenue is recognised on delivery of the service to the client or by reference to the stage of completion of the transaction.

Interest

Revenue is recognised as the interest accrues.

Service appropriations

Service Appropriations are recognised as revenues at nominal 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 holding account held at Treasury. See note 15 Income from State Government

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.

Where contributions recognised as revenues during the reporting period were obtained on the condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period, and those conditions were undischarged as at the balance sheet date, the nature of, and amounts pertaining to, those undischarged conditions are disclosed in the notes.

Gains

Gains may be realised or unrealised and 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.

Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

(f) Borrowing Costs

Borrowing costs for qualifying assets are capitalised net of any investment income earned on the unexpended portion of the borrowings. Other borrowing costs are expensed when incurred.

The capitalisation rate used to determine the amount of borrowing costs to be capitalised is the weighted average interest rate applicable to the Trust's outstanding borrowings during the year. The Trust does not currently have any borrowings.

(g) Property, Plant and Equipment

Capitalisation/Expensing of assets

Items of property, plant and equipment costing \$1,000 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 \$1,000 are immediately expensed direct to the Income Statement (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 their fair value at the date of acquisition.

Subsequent measurement

After recognition as an asset, the revaluation model is used for the measurement of land, buildings and the cost model for all other property, plant and equipment. Land and buildings are carried at fair value less accumulated depreciation on buildings and 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 and buildings is determined on the basis of current market buying values determined by reference to recent market transactions. When buildings are revalued by reference to recent market transactions, the accumulated depreciation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount restated to the revalued amount.

Where market-based evidence is not available, the fair value of land and buildings is determined on the basis of existing use. This normally applies where buildings are specialised or 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, ie. the depreciated replacement cost. Where the fair value of buildings is dependent on using the depreciated replacement cost, the gross carrying amount and the accumulated depreciation are restated proportionately.

Independent valuations of land and buildings are provided annually by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuation Services) and recognised with sufficient regularity to ensure that the carrying amount does not differ materially from the asset's fair value at the balance sheet date.

The most significant assumptions in estimating fair value are made in assessing whether to apply the existing use basis to assets and in determining estimated useful life. Professional judgement by the valuer is required where the evidence does not provide a clear distinction between market type assets and existing use assets. *Refer to note 19 'Property, plant and equipment' for further information on revaluations.*

Derecognition

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

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	3 years
Furniture and fittings	7 to 10 years

(h) Impairment of Assets

Property, plant and equipment, infrastructure and intangible assets are tested for any indication of impairment at each balance sheet date. 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. 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 asset's future economic benefits and to evaluate any impairment risk from falling replacement costs.

*Refer to note 20 'Impairment of assets' for the outcome of impairment reviews and testing.
Refer to note 2(m) 'Receivables' and note 17 'Receivables' for impairment of receivables.*

(i) Financial Instruments

In addition to cash and bank overdraft, the Trust has two categories of financial instrument.

- Loans and receivables
- Financial Liabilities measured at amortised cost

These 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

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

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.

(j) Cash and Cash Equivalents

For the purpose of the Cash Flow Statement, 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.

(k) Accrued Salaries

Accrued salaries (*see note 21 'Payables'*) represent the amount due to staff but unpaid at the end of the financial year, as the pay date for the last pay period for that financial year does not coincide with 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 net fair value.

(l) Amounts Receivable for Services (Holding Account)

The Trust receives funding on an accrual basis that recognises the full annual cash and non-cash cost of services. The appropriations are paid partly in cash and partly as an asset (Holding Account receivable) that is accessible on the emergence of the cash funding requirement to cover items such as leave entitlements and asset replacement. *See also note 15 'Income from State Government' and note 18 'Amounts receivable for services'.*

(m) Receivables

Receivables are recognised and carried 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(i) 'Financial Instruments' and note 17 'Receivables'.*

(n) Payables

Payables are recognised at the amounts payable 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 they are generally settled within 30 days. *See note 2(i) 'Financial Instruments' and note 21 'Payables'.*

(o) Borrowings

All loans are initially recognised at cost, being the fair value of the net proceeds received. Subsequent measurement is at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. *See note 2(i) 'Financial Instruments' and note 22 'Borrowings'.*

(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 each balance sheet date.

(i) Provisions – Employee Benefits

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

(q) Superannuation Expense

The following elements are included in calculating the superannuation expense in the Income Statement:

- defined contribution plans – employer contributions paid to the GSS, the WestState Superannuation Scheme (WSS), and the GESB Super Scheme (GESBS).

The superannuation expense does not include payment of pensions to retirees, as this does not constitute part of the costs of services provided in the current year.

(r) Resources Received Free of Charge or for Nominal Cost

Resources received free of charge or for nominal cost that can be reliably measured are recognised as income and as assets or expenses as appropriate, at fair value.

(s) Comparative Figures

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

3. Disclosure of changes in accounting policy and estimates

Initial application of an Australian Accounting Standard

The Trust has applied the following Australian Accounting Standards and Australian Accounting Interpretations effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2007 that impacted on the Trust:

1. AASB 7 'Financial Instruments: Disclosures' (including consequential amendments in AASB 2005-10 'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [AASB 132, AASB 101, AASB 114, AASB 117, AASB 133, AASB 139, AASB 1, AASB 4, AASB 1023 & AASB 1038]'). This Standard requires new disclosures in relation to financial instruments and while there is no financial impact, the changes have resulted in increased disclosures, both quantitative and qualitative, of the Trust's exposure to risks, including enhanced disclosure regarding components of the Trust's financial position and performance, and changes to the way of presenting certain items in the notes to the financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

AASB Standards and Interpretations

101	'Presentation of Financial Statements' (relating to the changes made to the Standard issued in October 2006)
2005-10	'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (AASB 132, AASB 101, AASB 114, AASB 117, AASB 133, AASB 139, AASB 1, AASB 4, AASB 1023, & AASB 1038)'
2007-1	'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB Interpretation 11 [AASB 2]'
2007-4	'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from ED 151 and Other Amendments (AASB 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 102, 107, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 136, 137, 138, 139, 141, 1023 & 1038)'. The amendments arise as a result of the AASB decision to make available all options that currently exist under IFRSs and that certain additional Australian disclosures should be eliminated. The Treasurer's instructions have been amended to maintain the existing practice when the Standard was first applied and as a consequence there is no financial impact.
2007-5	'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standard – Inventories Held for Distribution by Not-for-Profit Entities [AASB 102]'
2007-7	'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [AASB 1, AASB 2, AASB 4, AASB 5, AASB 107 & AASB 128]'
ERR	Erratum 'Proportionate Consolidation [AASB 101, AASB 107, AASB 121, AASB 127, Interpretation 113]'
Interpretation 10	'Interim Financial Reporting and Impairment'
Interpretation 11	'AASB 2 – Group and Treasury Share Transactions'
Interpretation 1003	'Australian Petroleum Resource Rent Tax'

Future impact of Australian Accounting Standards not yet operative

The Trust cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard or Australian Accounting Interpretation unless specifically permitted by TI 1101 'Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements'. Consequently, the Trust has not applied the following Australian Accounting Standards and Australian Accounting Interpretations that have been issued and which may impact the Trust but are not yet effective. Where applicable, the Trust plans to apply these Standards and Interpretations from their application date.

Title

Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after

AASB 101 'Presentation of Financial Statements' (September 2007). This Standard has been revised and will change the structure of the financial statements. These changes will require that owner changes in equity are presented separately from non-owner changes in equity. The Trust does not expect any financial impact when the Standard is first applied.

Review of AAS 27 'Financial Reporting by Local Governments', 29 'Financial Reporting by Government Departments' and 31 'Financial Reporting by Governments'. The AASB has made the following pronouncements from its short term review of AAS 27, AAS 29 and AAS 31:

1 January 2009

AASB 1004 'Contributions' (December 2007)

1 July 2008

AASB 1050 'Administered Items' (December 2007)

1 July 2008

AASB 1051 'Land Under Roads' (December 2007)

1 July 2008

AASB 1052 'Disaggregated Disclosures' (December 2007).

1 July 2008

AASB 2007-9 'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the review of AASs 27, 29 and 31 [AASB 3, AASB 5, AASB 8, AASB 101, AASB 114, AASB 116, AASB 127 & AASB 137] (December 2007).

1 July 2008

Title

Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after

Interpretation 1038 'Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities (revised) (December 2007).

1 July 2008

The existing requirements in AAS 27, AAS 29 and AAS 31 have been transferred to the above new and existing topic-based Standards and Interpretation. These requirements remain substantively unchanged. AASB 1050, AASB 1051 and AASB 1052 only apply to government departments. The other Standards and Interpretation make some modifications to disclosures and provide additional guidance (*for example, Australian Guidance to AASB 116 'Property, Plant and Equipment' in relation to heritage and cultural assets has been introduced*), otherwise, there will be no financial impact.



Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

SWAN RIVER TRUST NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

	2008 \$	2007 \$
4 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS EXPENSE		
Wages and salaries (a)	2,816,700	2,708,076
Superannuation - defined contribution plans (b)	315,524	78,341
Annual leave	242,749	-
	<u>3,374,973</u>	<u>2,786,417</u>
(a) Includes the value of the fringe benefit to the employee plus the fringe benefits tax component.		
(b) Defined contribution plans include WestState and Gold State and GESB Super Scheme (contributions paid).		
Officers are employed by DEC. All entitlements are provided for within the DEC accounts.		
5 FINANCE COSTS		
Interest paid	<u>6,204</u>	<u>8,088</u>
6 SUPPLIES AND SERVICES		
Consultants and contractors	6,148,393	4,395,173
Travel	14,178	10,758
Materials	110,097	118,697
Audit fees	13,000	14,500
Communications	18,514	17,082
Other	261,277	116,008
	<u>6,565,459</u>	<u>4,672,218</u>
7 DEPRECIATION EXPENSE		
Office fixtures and fittings	1,210	1,445
Computer hardware	14,981	12,380
Plant, machinery and equipment	91,962	83,991
Total depreciation	<u>108,153</u>	<u>97,816</u>

SWAN RIVER TRUST NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

	2008 \$	2007 \$
8 ACCOMMODATION EXPENSES		
Lease rental	464,445	155,760
Power expenses	15,841	17,915
Other lease expenses	-	83,832
	<u>480,286</u>	<u>257,507</u>
9 CAPITAL USER CHARGE	<u>-</u>	<u>126,000</u>
The charge was a levy applied by Government for the use of its capital. The final charge was levied in 2006/07.		
10 OTHER EXPENSES		
Repairs and maintenance	148,615	67,992
Asset revaluation decrements (a)	-	(28,000)
	<u>148,615</u>	<u>39,992</u>

(a) A parcel of land owned by the Trust was revalued down by the Valuer General by \$145,000 in 2006. The land was subsequently revalued upwards by \$28,000.

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

SWAN RIVER TRUST		
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS		
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008		
	2008	2007
	\$	\$
11 GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES		
RECURRENT		
CMS Events	18,411	-
Campbell Management Services	-	14,000
City of Armadale	-	20,115
City of Bayswater	100,000	70,100
City of Canning	803,500	57,500
City of Gosnells	-	32,396
City of Melville	-	18,206
City of Perth	-	101,483
City of Swan	20,000	70,218
Claisebrook Catchment Group	27,613	-
Department of Environment and Conservation	7,500	99,888
Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council	213,404	85,000
Ellen Brockman Integrated Catchment Group	95,000	110,267
Garden Gurus	-	8,000
North Metro Catchment Group	85,000	85,000
South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare	239,893	394,853
Swan Catchment Council	350,000	350,000
Town of Bassendean	-	328,104
Town of Vincent	-	172,059
Other	-	200
Expenses incurred for the year	<u>1,960,321</u>	<u>2,017,389</u>
12 USER CHARGES AND FEES		
User charges	<u>21,849</u>	<u>59,645</u>
	<u>21,849</u>	<u>59,645</u>

SWAN RIVER TRUST		
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS		
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008		
	2008	2007
	\$	\$
13 COMMONWEALTH GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS		
The Natural Heritage Trust	346,364	71,000
Department of Environment and Water Resources (Canberra)	-	13,636
	<u>346,364</u>	<u>84,636</u>
Included in the amount shown for the Natural Heritage Trust in 2008 are grants for 2 projects.		
A grant of \$146,364 was received for the preparation of a water quality improvement plan for the Swan and Canning Estuarine system and the Ellen Brook Management Plan. The terms of the grant are that it must be used to determine targets for nutrient loads to the waterways and river flows for the purpose of achieving the water quality objectives, nutrient loads and environmental flow objectives. The grant has been recognised in its entirety upon receipt as the conditions set by the grantor relates to how the grant can be expended and there are no performance measures in terms of service delivery. At 30 June 2008, \$68,299 of the grant remained unspent.		
A grant of \$200,000 was received for the preparation of a nutrients offsets policy to improve water quality in the Swan-Canning River system, with particular reference to the Ramsar Wetlands. The terms of the grant are that it must be used to undertake a consultancy to scope the potential to develop and implement a draft nutrient offset policy for the Swan-Canning catchment. The grant has been recognised in its entirety upon receipt as the conditions set by grantor relates to how the grant can be expended and there are no performance measures in terms of service delivery. At 30 June 2008, \$21,182 of the grant remained unspent.		
14 OTHER REVENUE		
Sundry revenue and contributions	<u>700,799</u>	<u>458,645</u>

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

SWAN RIVER TRUST NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

	2008 \$	2007 \$
15 INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT		
Appropriations received during the year		
Service appropriation ^(a)	12,616,000	10,873,000
	<u>12,616,000</u>	<u>10,873,000</u>
Resources received free of charge ^(b)		
Determined on the basis of the following estimates provided by agencies		
State Solicitors Office	-	8,335
	<u>-</u>	<u>8,335</u>
	<u>12,616,000</u>	<u>10,881,335</u>

- (a) Service appropriations are accrual amounts reflecting the full cost of services delivered. The appropriation revenue comprises a cash component and a receivable (asset). The receivable (holding account) comprises the depreciation expense for the year and any agreed increase in leave liability during the year.
- (b) Where assets or services have been received free of charge or for nominal cost, the Trust recognises revenues equivalent to the fair value of assets and/or the fair value of those services that can be reliably determined and which would have been purchased if not donated, and those fair values shall be recognised as assets or expenses, as applicable. The exception occurs where the contribution of assets or services are in the nature of contributions by owners, in which case the Trust makes the adjustment direct to equity.

SWAN RIVER TRUST NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

	2008 \$	2007 \$
16 RESTRICTED CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Current		
Funds under contract ^(a)	355,696	121,354
Developer bonds ^(b)	10,000	10,000
	<u>365,696</u>	<u>131,354</u>

- (a) Amount held in the account is to be used only for the purposes defined under contractual arrangements.
- (b) The cash held in this account is to be used in fulfilling the condition of preparing foreshore management plans.

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

SWAN RIVER TRUST		
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS		
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008		
	2008	2007
	\$	\$
17 RECEIVABLES		
Current		
Current receivables	160,674	374,215
Accrued revenues	-	44,085
GST receivable	135,494	174,594
	296,168	592,894
Prepayments	1,636,335	499,500
	<u>1,932,503</u>	<u>1,092,394</u>
Credit Risk		
Aging of receivables past due but not impaired based on the information provided to senior management, at the balance sheet date;		
Not more than 3 months	137,069	374,215
More than 3 months but less than 6 months	22,664	-
More than 6 months but less than a year	941	-
	<u>160,674</u>	<u>374,215</u>
The Trust does not hold any collateral as security or other credit enhancements relating to receivables.		
<i>See also note 2(m) 'Receivables' and note 31 'Financial Instruments'</i>		
18 AMOUNTS RECEIVABLE FOR SERVICES		
Current	90,000	150,000
Non-current	296,000	251,000
	<u>386,000</u>	<u>401,000</u>
Represents the non-cash component of service appropriations. (See note 2(l) 'Amounts receivable for services (Holding Account)'). It is restricted in that it can only be used for asset replacement or payment of leave liability.		

SWAN RIVER TRUST		
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS		
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008		
	2008	2007
	\$	\$
19 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Freehold land at fair value (a)	153,000	153,000
	<u>153,000</u>	<u>153,000</u>
Plant and equipment at cost	814,187	785,829
Accumulated depreciation	(358,125)	(266,163)
Accumulated impairment losses	-	-
	<u>456,062</u>	<u>519,666</u>
Information technology assets	83,193	69,478
Accumulated depreciation	(46,275)	(31,295)
Accumulated impairment losses	-	-
	<u>36,918</u>	<u>38,183</u>
Furniture and fittings	10,139	10,139
Accumulated depreciation	(8,214)	(7,004)
Accumulated impairment losses	-	-
	<u>1,925</u>	<u>3,135</u>
	<u>647,905</u>	<u>713,984</u>
(a) Land and buildings were revalued as at 1 July 2007 by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuations Services). The valuations were performed during the year ended 30 June 2008 and recognised at 30 June 2008. In undertaking the revaluation, fair value was determined by reference to market values for land: \$153,000. See note 2(g) 'Property, Plant and Infrastructure'.		
Valuation Services, the Office of the Auditor General and the Department of Treasury and Finance assessed the valuations globally to ensure the final valuations provided (as at 1 July 2007) were compliant with fair value at 30 June 2008.		



Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

SWAN RIVER TRUST NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment

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

2008	Furniture and Fittings \$	IT Assets \$	Plant and Equipment \$	Freehold Land \$	Total \$
Carrying amount at start of year	3,135	38,183	519,666	153,000	713,984
Additions	-	13,716	28,358	-	42,074
Depreciation	(1,210)	(14,981)	(91,962)	-	(108,153)
Carrying amount at end of year	1,925	36,918	456,062	153,000	647,905

2007	Furniture and Fittings \$	IT Assets \$	Plant and Equipment \$	Freehold Land \$	Total \$
Carrying amount at start of year	4,580	34,178	457,709	125,000	621,467
Additions	-	16,385	145,948	-	162,333
Revaluation increments/(decrements)	-	-	-	28,000	28,000
Depreciation	(1,445)	(12,380)	(83,991)	-	(97,816)
Carrying amount at end of year	3,135	38,183	519,666	153,000	713,984

SWAN RIVER TRUST NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

	2008 \$	2007 \$
20 IMPAIRMENT OF ASSETS		
There were no indications of impairment of property, plant and equipment as at 30 June 2008.		
The Trust held no goodwill or intangible assets with an indefinite useful life during the reporting period and at balance sheet date there were no intangible assets not yet available for use.		
All surplus assets at 30 June 2008 have either been classified as assets held for sale or written-off.		
21 PAYABLES		
Trade payables	37,817	1,092,078
Accrued expenses	104,170	544,484
Accrued salaries	25,791	31,443
	<u>167,778</u>	<u>1,668,005</u>
See note 2(n) 'Payables' and note 31 'Financial Instruments'.		
22 BORROWINGS		
Current		
Borrowings from WA Treasury Corporation (WATC)	-	9,028
Non-current		
Borrowings from WATC (a)	-	119,353
	<u>-</u>	<u>128,381</u>
(a) The loan held with WA Treasury Corporation was retired in March 2008.		
23 OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Developer bonds	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

SWAN RIVER TRUST		
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS		
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008		
	2008	2007
	\$	\$
24 EQUITY		
Equity represents the residual interest in the net assets of the Trust. The Government holds the equity interest in the Trust on behalf of the community. The asset revaluation reserve represents that portion of equity resulting from the revaluation of non-current assets.		
Contributed equity		
Balance at start of year	108,000	100,000
Contributions by owners		
Capital contributions	119,000	8,000
Balance at end of year	<u>227,000</u>	<u>108,000</u>
Accumulated surplus		
Balance at start of year	3,046,987	1,568,153
Result for the period	1,041,001	1,478,834
Rounding	-	-
Income and expense recognised directly to equity	-	-
Balance at end of year	<u>4,087,988</u>	<u>3,046,987</u>

SWAN RIVER TRUST		
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS		
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008		
	2008	2007
	\$	\$
25 NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT		
<u>Reconciliation of cash</u>		
Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Cash Flow Statement is reconciled to the related items in the Balance Sheet as follows:		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,160,662	2,622,641
Restricted cash and cash equivalents (<i>see note 16</i>	365,696	131,354
<i>'Restricted cash and cash equivalents')</i>	<u>1,526,358</u>	<u>2,753,995</u>
<u>Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows (used in) operating activities</u>		
Net cost of services	(11,574,999)	(9,402,501)
Non-cash items		
Depreciation expense	108,153	97,816
Resources received free of charge	-	8,335
Revaluation decrement	-	(28,000)
(Increase) in assets		
Current receivables	(879,209)	(98,342)
Increase in liabilities		
Current payables	(1,500,227)	1,479,777
Change in GST Liability		
Net GST receipts (I)	(61,866)	117,202
Change in GST in receivables and payables (II)	100,966	(104,540)
Net cash (used in) operating activities	<u>(13,807,182)</u>	<u>(7,930,253)</u>

Non-cash financing and investment activities

During the year there were no assets transferred/assumed from other Government agencies not reflected in the Cash Flow Statement.

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

SWAN RIVER TRUST NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

	2008 \$	2007 \$
26 RESOURCES PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE		
During the year there were no resources provided to other agencies free of charge for functions outside the normal operations of the Trust.		
27 COMMITMENTS		
<u>Lease Commitments</u>		
Non-cancellable operating lease commitments		
Commitments for minimum lease payments are payable as follows		
Within 1 year	402,883	1,782
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	602,599	1,005,189
	<u>1,005,482</u>	<u>1,006,971</u>

These commitments are all inclusive of GST.

28 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS

The Trust has no contingent liabilities and contingent assets as at 30 June 2007.

29 EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

The North Metro Conservation Group has gone into liquidation with work not completed as a condition of a grant made by the Trust. A claim has been made for \$20,692.63 for the value of the grant that should be returned to the Trust under the conditions of the grant.

SWAN RIVER TRUST NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

30 EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Significant variations between estimates and actual results for income and expenses are shown below. Significant variations are considered to be those greater than 10% and \$200,000.

(i) Significant variances between estimated and actual results for 2008

Cost of Services		2008 Estimate \$'000	2008 Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
	Note			
Employee benefits expense	(a)	2,745	3,375	(630)
Supplies and services	(b)	7,364	6,565	799
Accommodation expenses	(c)	9	480	(471)
Commonwealth grants and contributions	(d)	76	346	270
Other revenue	(e)	272	701	429

- (a) The variance is due to hiring of more employees to undertake new initiatives the funding for which was finalised post the budget process. This is evident in the variance to the budgeted Commonwealth grants and other revenue.
- (b) This variance is due to the time taken to receive approvals limited amounts being spent.
- (c) The variance is due to the estimate not reflecting the expenditure for the year.
- (d) The variance is due to an increase in progress payments for the Water Quality Improvement Plan and additional funding for the Swan Canning Nutrient Offset Policy (not finalised until Nov 2007).
- (e) The variance is due to additional funding being sourced for new initiatives.

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

SWAN RIVER TRUST NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

(ii) Significant variances between actual results for 2007 and 2008

	Note	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000	Variance \$'000
Employee benefits expense	(a)	3,375	2,786	(589)
Supplies and services	(b)	6,565	4,672	(1,893)
Accommodation expenses	(c)	480	258	(222)
Commonwealth grants and contributions	(d)	346	85	261
Other revenue	(e)	701	459	242

- (a) The variance is due to hiring of more employees to undertake new initiatives. This is evident in the increase in Commonwealth grants and other revenue.
- (b) The variance is due to significant increases experienced in consultancies & professional services, other services & contracts and maintenance. Increases in these areas are due to the overall increase in new initiatives undertaken by the Trust such as Best Practice Development, River Guardians Pilot Program, Swan Canning Rivers Foundation, website redevelopment, Swan Oxygeneration Project, Drainage Nutrient Intervention Program and the need to undertake emergency works and other capital projects.
- (c) The variance is due to an increase in the rate for the lease of Level 1, 20 Terrace Road in January 2008. The rate increase was also back dated to January 2007. The 12 months of back dated charges were \$132,160. The variance in the increased rate from January 2008 to June 2008 was \$66,080. There was also a general increase in outgoings.
- (d) The variance is due to an increase in progress payments for the Water Quality Improvement Plan and additional funding for the Swan Canning Nutrient Offset Policy.
- (e) The variance is due to additional funding being sourced for new initiatives.

31. 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, borrowings, finance leases, Treasurer's advances, 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 their contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Trust. The Trust measures credit risk on a fair value basis and monitors risk on a regular basis.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at balance sheet date in relation to each class of recognised financial assets is the gross carrying amount of those assets inclusive of any provisions for impairment as shown in the table at Note 31(c).

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. There are no significant concentrations of credit risk.

Provision for impairment of financial assets is calculated based on past experience, and current and expected changes in client credit ratings. For financial assets that are either past due or impaired, see to Note 17 'Receivables'.

Liquidity risk

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

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.

Market risk

The Trust does not trade in foreign currency and is not materially exposed to other price risks. The Trust's exposure to market risk for changes in interest rates relate primarily to the long-term debt obligations. Other than as detailed in the Interest rate sensitivity analysis table at Note 31(c), the Trust is not exposed to interest rate risk because apart from minor amounts of restricted cash, all other cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash are non-interest bearing and have no borrowings other than the Treasurer's advance (non-interest bearing), WATC borrowings and finance leases (fixed interest rate).

If there are any changes from the previous period in respect of the exposures to risk, how they arise, how they are managed and the methods used to measure such risks, these changes must be disclosed for each type of risk.

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

(b) Categories of Financial Instruments

In addition to cash and bank overdraft, the carrying amounts of each of the following categories of financial assets and financial liabilities at the balance sheet date are as follows

	2008 \$000	2007 \$000
Financial Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,160	2,623
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	366	131
Loans and receivables (a)	1,798	918
Financial Liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	—	128

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

SWAN RIVER TRUST NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

c) Financial instrument disclosures

Credit Risk, Liquidity Risk and Interest Rate Exposure

The following table details the exposure to liquidity risk and interest rate risk as at the balance sheet date. The Trust's maximum exposure to credit risk at the balance sheet date is the carrying amount of the financial assets as shown on the following table. The table is based on information provided to senior management of the Trust. The contractual maturity amounts in the table are representative of the undiscounted amounts at the balance sheet date. An adjustment for discounting has been made where material.

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

The Trust does not hold any financial assets that had to have their terms renegotiated that would have otherwise resulted in them being past due or impaired.

	Weighted average effective interest rate %	Variable interest rate	Non- interest bearing	Contractual Maturity Dates:						Carrying amount
				1 year or less	1 to 2 years	2 to 3 years	3 to 4 years	4 to 5 years	More than 5 years	
2008										
Financial Assets										
Cash and cash equivalents		-	1,160	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,160
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		-	366	-	-	-	-	-	-	366
Receivables ^(a)		-	1,798	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,798
		-	3,324	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,324
Financial Liabilities										
Payables		-	168	-	-	-	-	-	-	168
		-	168	-	-	-	-	-	-	168

	Weighted average effective interest rate %	Variable interest rate	Non- interest bearing	Contractual Maturity Dates:						Carrying amount
				1 year or less	1 to 2 years	2 to 3 years	3 to 4 years	4 to 5 years	More than 5 years	
2007										
Financial Assets										
Cash and cash equivalents		-	2,623	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,623
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		-	131	-	-	-	-	-	-	131
Receivables ^(a)		-	918	-	-	-	-	-	-	918
		-	3,672	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,672
Financial Liabilities										
Payables		-	1,668	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,668
WATC Borrowings	6.20	-	-	9	9	9	10	10	81	128
		-	1,668	9	9	9	10	10	81	1,796

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

The amounts disclosed are the contractual undiscounted cash flow of each class of financial liabilities.

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

Interest rate sensitivity analysis

The following table represents a summary of the interest rate sensitivity of the Trust's financial assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date on the surplus for the period and equity for a 1% change in interest rates. It is assumed that the change in interest rates is held constant throughout the reporting period.

	Carrying amount \$000	-1% change		+1% change	
		Profit \$000	Equity \$000	Profit \$000	Equity \$000
2008					
<u>Financial Assets</u>					
Cash and cash equivalents	1,526	-21	-21	21	21
<u>Financial Liabilities</u>					
	Carrying amount \$000	-1% change		+1% change	
		Profit \$000	Equity \$000	Profit \$000	Equity \$000
2007					
<u>Financial Assets</u>					
Cash and cash equivalents	2,754	-14	-14	14	14
<u>Financial Liabilities</u>					

Fair Values

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

SWAN RIVER TRUST NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

2008
\$

2007
\$

32 REMUNERATION OF MEMBERS OF THE ACCOUNTABLE AUTHORITY AND SENIOR OFFICERS

Remuneration of members of the accountable authority

The number of members of the accountable authority, whose total of fees, salaries, superannuation, and other benefits for the financial year, fall within the following bands are.

	\$	2008	2007
0	- 10,000	5	1
10,001	- 20,000	2	3
20,001	- 30,000	1	1

The total remuneration of members of the accountable authority is 90,488 73,931

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

No senior officers 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 of fees, salaries, superannuation, and other benefits for the financial year, fall within the following bands are.

	\$	2008	2007
130,001	- 140,000	1	1

The total remuneration of senior officers is 135,116 130,175

The superannuation included here represents the superannuation expense incurred by the Trust in respect of senior officers other than senior officers reported as members of the Trust.



Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

SWAN RIVER TRUST NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

	2008	2007
	\$	\$

No senior officers are members of the Pension Scheme.

33 REMUNERATION OF AUDITOR

Remuneration of the Auditor General for the financial year is as follows

Auditing the accounts, financial statements and performance indicators	13,000	14,500
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The expense is included at note 6 'Supplies and services'

34 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 Treasurer's Instruction 951.

SWAN RIVER TRUST NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

35 SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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.

Losses through theft, defaults and other causes

The Trust had no losses through theft, defaults and other causes during the financial year.

Gifts of public property

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

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008

SWAN RIVER TRUST NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008										
36 SCHEDULE OF INCOME AND EXPENSES BY SERVICE										
	Statutory Assessment of Development Proposals		Waterways Management		Development and Implementation of Environmental Management Programs		Communication of Environmental Information		Total	
	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
COST OF SERVICES										
Expenses										
Employee benefits expense	518	424	818	622	1,535	1,335	504	406	3,375	2,787
Finance costs	-	-	1	1	4	6	1	1	6	8
Supplies and services	278	91	1,088	381	4,145	3,536	1,055	664	6,566	4,672
Depreciation expense	8	5	24	10	63	72	13	11	108	98
Accommodation expense	34	14	72	27	312	188	62	28	480	257
Capital user charge	-	6	-	13	-	93	-	14	-	126
Other expenses	6	2	69	3	59	30	15	5	149	40
Grants and subsidies	-	-	-	-	1,942	1,975	18	42	1,960	2,017
Total cost of services	844	542	2,072	1,057	8,060	7,235	1,668	1,171	12,644	10,005
Income										
Revenue										
User charges and fees	-	-	22	60	-	-	-	-	22	60
Commonwealth grants	14	-	30	-	276	84	26	-	346	84
Other revenue	1	-	29	-	517	40	154	419	701	459
Total income other than income from State Government	15	-	81	60	793	124	180	419	1,069	603
NET COST OF SERVICES	829	542	1,991	997	7,267	7,111	1,488	752	11,575	9,402
INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT										
Service appropriation	839	810	1,650	1,413	8,466	7,391	1,661	1,259	12,616	10,873
Resources received free of charge	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	1	-	8
Total income from State Government	839	810	1,650	1,414	8,466	7,397	1,661	1,260	12,616	10,881
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	10	268	(341)	417	1,199	286	173	508	1,041	1,479



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