

Impact Report

2025-26



GeoCatch





ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Geographe Catchment Council recognises the Traditional Owners of the lands on which we live and work.

We pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging. We acknowledge the on-going connection Wadandi and Bibbulmun people have with Country.

We respect the Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the region and acknowledge that in southwestern Australia, Aboriginal cultural heritage spans deep time back to at least 48,000 years ago.

We acknowledge and value the on-going contribution First Nations people make to the sustainable management of the environment.



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CHAIR'S REPORT

VICKY WINTON

CHAIR
GEOGRAPHE CATCHMENT COUNCIL

It is a great pleasure and honour to present GeoCatch's achievements for the year 2025-2026. There is so much to celebrate in this year's work towards a Geographe Catchment where water, land and biodiversity are healthy, protected and supported by an engaged and involved community.

GeoCatch is proud of its achievements as the organisation funded by the State Government to continue rolling out the Healthy Estuaries WA program in the Geographe catchment from 2025 through to 2028. Working in partnership with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, GeoCatch co-ordinates on-ground works with the community, targeting intervention where it is most needed and growing communities around caring for our waterways and environment.

Through Healthy Estuaries WA, GeoCatch also provides vital communications support to the Vasse Taskforce, ensuring the Taskforce knows what is important to us all and that the community is kept up to date with initiatives to improve the health of Geographe waterways. The newly revamped GeoCatch website is a great tool for that, and it now also provides the facility to seamlessly register for GeoCatch workshops and events.

Healthy Estuaries WA includes a budget specifically for engaging First Nations people in project work. This year, Karri Karrak Aboriginal Corporation Rangers, Undalup Association Rangers and Gnaala Karla Booja Rangers all took up opportunities to work on GeoCatch sustainable agriculture projects.

Working together, from the ground up, is a great way to build strong, trusting relationships between individuals and our respective organisations. GeoCatch is committed to working respectfully and meaningfully with First Nations people to make the most of our combined energies and knowledge.

Outside Healthy Estuaries WA, GeoCatch has leveraged its strong reputation, healthy professional network, creativity and skills in securing substantial new funding, fee for service work and collaborations with stakeholders such as South West NRM, Busselton Water and Water Corporation. Our federally-funded, Resilient Farms project continues to empower local farmers to enhance soil health, biodiversity and climate resilience as part of the Climate Smart program. GeoCatch owes this success to the extraordinary people on the staff and board.



2025 to 2026 saw some significant shifts in staff as we said a fond farewell to the energetic and gifted Stream Restoration Officer, Olivia Tunney and innovative, long-serving Biodiversity Officer and western ringtail possum advocate, Nicole Lincoln. Both part-time roles have been taken up by the highly competent Kim Loveridge, who comes to GeoCatch from Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

We also bid the GeoCatch Coordinator, Harriet Wyatt, a very happy retirement and were delighted to welcome Drew McKenzie into the role of Executive Manager. Drew brings a wealth of experience, a well-developed professional network and great new energy to the operations team leader role. Thanks to all the staff for their continued dedication to GeoCatch's vision, mission and principles.

The board of Geographe Catchment Council maintained a healthy balance of old and new blood and a wide range of expertise and community perspectives. Thanks to John Fergusson, our out-going Shire of Capel representative and welcome to Terri Sharp, who is a passionate advocate for the northeast end of the Geographe catchment, and who wasted no time in organising board site visits with Capel LCDC and the Revive Five group. We wished Robin Belford all the best and many thanks after serving two terms on the board, much of that as Deputy Chair.

Bill Biggs has since been appointed to the board, bringing a much-needed long-term perspective on local Natural Resource Management issues. Bill was part of the 1990s Geographe Bay Advisory Committee that preceded Geographe Catchment Council and he is a former Chair of South West NRM. Thank you to everyone who sat on the Geographe Catchment Council over the last year. In particular, thanks to Charmaine Treasure as Secretary/Treasurer, Andrew Weinert as Deputy Chair and Steve Pursell as Deputy Secretary/Treasurer and South West NRM representative.



In the coming year, you can expect the same proficient roll out of catchment care and community engagement initiatives from GeoCatch alongside the exploration of new horizons. GeoCatch has recently obtained ACNC registration and is now a registered charity. In 2026 to 2027, the organisation hopes to obtain Deductible Gift Recipient status to encourage the support of stakeholders and community in funding our increasingly vital work.

GeoCatch is also pleased to announce that it has secured new premises from which to operate in the heart of the community at the Busselton Community Garden on Roe Terrace. This new space provides for synergies with like-minded community groups and individuals and expanded opportunities for growth, mirroring the growth in the catchment's population and environmental pressures.

We look forward to catching up with you in the coming year, as GeoCatch continues to work in-step with state agencies, the federal government, local governments, First Nations organisations and subject area specialists on science-led, best practice and cutting-edge waterways and environmental care across the Geographe catchment.



GeoCatch

The Environment – in Our Hands

VISION

A Geopraphe catchment where water, land and biodiversity are healthy, protected and supported by an engaged and involved community.

MISSION

To provide leadership, raise awareness and collaborate with our partners, stakeholders and the community to protect and enhance the natural values and support sustainable growth of the Geopraphe catchment.

KEY THEMES



HEALTHY WATERWAYS, WETLANDS AND GEOGRAPHE BAY



- Healthy Waterways and Geopraphe Bay
- Wetlands
- Drainage Systems



SUSTAINABILITY



- Sustainable Agriculture
- Urban Development
- Tourism



BIODIVERSITY



- Native Vegetation
- Wildlife
- Coastal Foreshore



COMMUNITY AND PARTNERS



- Awareness Raising
- Community and Partner Engagement
- Cultural Heritage

OUR PRINCIPLES

• Leadership • Community • Collaboration • Resilience • Science • Climate Change

We show leadership in natural resource management in the Geopraphe catchment.

We engage, inform and involve the community in natural resource management issues.

We foster a collaborative approach and seek partnerships with the community and stakeholders.

We show resilience and flexibility in a changing NRM environment.

We use the best available science to guide project planning and implementation.

We incorporate environmental resilience to climate change into project design, development and implementation.

Our Impact

2025 - 2026



170

Farmers engaged in sustainable agriculture programs

1314

Attendees across

50

events



20,000

Native seedlings planted



39

Landholders supported stream restoration projects

40

Farms soil tested



27km

Of stream restoration fencing completed or underway



ACNC

Registered Charity Status granted

57

Ringtail Tally citizen scientists



7

Events partnered with cultural groups



15



Years of supporting seagrass monitoring in Geopraphe Bay

32



Catios constructed with the catio rebate

3958

Social media followers



3749



GeoCatch newsletter subscribers

70



Newspaper articles and adverts

Partners and Supporters

GeoCatch's work relies on collaboration and partnerships with a broad range of organisations, stakeholders, the broader community and landholders. As an independent Not for Profit organisation we are reliant on funding and support from a range of organisations and sources.

We are proud to acknowledge and thank the following organisations for their support during the year.

KEY FUNDING PARTNERS



Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development



Revitalising Geopraphe Waterways
VASSE TASKFORCE



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry



natural resource
management program



STRATEGIC PARTNERS

- City of Busselton
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
- Edith Cowan University
- Geopraphe Community Landcare Nursery
- Gnaala Karla Booja Aboriginal Corporation
- Karri Karrak Aboriginal Corporation
- Leschenault Biosecurity Group
- Leschenault Catchment Council
- Lower Blackwood LCDC
- Murdoch University
- Nature Conservation Margaret River Region
- Revitalising Geopraphe Waterways
- Shire of Augusta Margaret River
- Shire of Capel
- Shire of Donnybrook – Balingup
- South West NRM
- Undalup Association
- Vasse Taskforce
- Western Beef
- Western Dairy
- Western Ringtail Action Group

COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

- Broadwater Resort
- Bunnings Warehouse
- Busselton Community Gardens
- Busselton Jetty
- Busselton Men's Shed
- Busselton Senior High School
- Busselton Vet Hospital
- Capes Fauna
- Cape Naturaliste Conservation Enterprise
- Capel Primary School
- Cat Runs WA
- Dunsborough Coast and Land Care
- Dunsborough Fire Brigade
- Dunsborough Primary School
- FAWNA
- Friends of Meelup Regional Park
- GeoVets Busselton & Capel
- Geopraphe Bay Primary School
- Geopraphe Community Landcare Nursery
- Georgiana Molloy Anglican School
- Heritage Vets
- Juniper Estate
- Mitre 10 Margaret River
- Naturaliste Landscape Supplies
- Nutrien Water
- Red Bluff Productions
- Rocky Ridge Brewing Co
- Soils Busselton and Dunsborough
- South West Cat Enclosures
- Toby Inlet Catchment Group
- Tonic by the Bay
- Yolk Property Group (Embark Estate)



PROTECTING BIODIVERSITY

The Geographe catchment is nestled within the South West WA International Biodiversity Hotspot, recognised for its high number of rare and endemic plants and animals. There are an abundance of endemic plant species and less than 37% of the pre-European vegetation remains in the catchment, including 24 Declared Rare flora species and 13 threatened ecological communities.

GeoCatch is dedicated to preserving and enhancing biodiversity within the Geographe catchment through a range of innovative projects.

By undertaking activities such as revegetation, invasive species management, and habitat restoration, we work to improve ecosystem health and resilience, ensuring that these vital areas continue to thrive.

Our biodiversity initiatives also involve close collaboration with local landholders, community groups and stakeholders to amplify the impact of our projects.

Through these partnerships, we aim to expand and maintain restored habitats, enhance water quality, and provide better living conditions for native wildlife. These combined efforts are essential for sustaining the rich biodiversity of the Geographe catchment and ensuring a balanced and vibrant ecosystem for future generations.

"RAISING FUNDS AND GETTING THEIR HANDS DIRTY TO HELP PLANT OVER 100 NATIVE TREES WAS SUCH A REWARDING EXPERIENCE, AND IT'S GIVEN THE STUDENTS A REAL SENSE OF PRIDE AND CONNECTION TO CARING FOR THEIR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT." ANDREW BLAND, GEORGIANA MOLLOY ANGLICAN SCHOOL

Protecting the Broadwater Wetlands from Feral Animals

This project aims to protect the ecological and cultural values of the Broadwater Wetlands by reducing feral animal threats (foxes, feral cats and rabbits) through community engagement, building awareness and through coordinated control efforts.

Project overview

GeoCatch officers have been engaging with residents through a community information event and an online community survey to launch the project and gain insights of feral animal activity across the Broadwater Wetlands and surrounding areas. GeoCatch has been promoting community reporting through Feral Scan and is working with landholders to host a GeoCatch wildlife sensor camera - which will help inform priority areas for feral animal management.

GeoCatch has contracted a feral pest control service to assist private property owners to reduce numbers of feral cats, foxes and rabbits in the project area to start from Spring 2026.



State NRM Community Stewardship Grant



2026-2029



City of Busselton, Capes Fauna, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Leschenault Biosecurity Group, Karri Karrak Ranger Aboriginal Corporation, Line in the Sand, Local residents of Broadwater

Key Achievements

- A project launch information event was hosted by GeoCatch in June 2026 for community and stakeholders, with 60 attendees.
- An online Community Input Survey launched to gather interest and engage with local landholders on feral animal issues.
- 14 cameras established in key locations constantly monitoring wildlife and feral animals.



Protecting Nguraren Western Ringtail Possum

This project aims to raise awareness of the critically endangered Western Ringtail Possum, reduce threats to improve the species recovery, and enhance habitat and canopy connectivity within the Geopraphe catchment.

Project overview

We have engaged community through community and school planting events, workshops, citizen science, school incursions, and responsible pet ownership campaign 'Pets Away, Possums Play' targeting both cat and dog owners to keep their pets contained to keep possums and wildlife safe.

This project relies strongly on collaboration with our target audience and key stakeholders.



State NRM 2023-25,
Busselton Water 2024-
25, Busselton Toyota
2025, Shire of Augusta-
Margaret River 2024-
25, C 2024-25, Shire of
Capel 2024-25



2023-2025



City of Busselton, Shire of
Augusta-Margaret River,
Shire of Capel, Shire of
Donnybrook-Balingup,
Western Ringtail Possum
Action Group, Department
of Biodiversity, Conservation
and Attractions, Department
of Water and Environmental
Regulations, vets, wildlife
carer groups, Busselton
Water, schools and
community, Busselton
Toyota

**11 years of the
Ringtail Tally!**

Key Achievements

- 28 catio rebate registrations, across four local government areas (City of Busselton, Augusta-Margaret River, Capel and Donnybrook-Balingup Shires).
- Community Planting Day, with 900 seedlings in the ground.
- Citizen Science Ringtail Tally with 57 participants.
- DIY Catio Building Workshop held in Peppermint Grove Beach.
- Possum Avoidance Training for Dogs, held in Busselton.
- Six school incursions to raise awareness of Western Ringtail Possum.
- Four school tree planting events.



KeepWatch Seagrass Monitoring

The KeepWatch Seagrass Monitoring program was initiated to monitor the health of seagrass meadows in Geographe Bay.

Project overview

KeepWatch Seagrass Monitoring is designed to measure potential impacts from nutrients coming from the catchment. The program aims to monitor near-shore seagrass meadows annually to detect changes in seagrass health.

Seagrass shoot density is monitored at seven sites across Geographe Bay as an indicator of seagrass health. Observations and measurements help interpret changes over time.



Water Corporation



2012-2031



Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Edith Cowan University

The Keep Watch annual seagrass monitoring program in Geographe Bay represents a collaboration between GeoCatch, ECU and Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions funded by Water Corporation.

15 years of seagrass monitoring in Geographe Bay!

Key Achievements

- 2026 represents the 15th year of consecutive monitoring reinforcing the value of this ongoing monitoring program.
- This year all *Posidonia sinuosa* sites showed a decline in shoot density, the indicator used to assess seagrass condition.
- This is the first time that all sites have shown a decline. The greatest declines occurred at Buayanup, Vasse Diversion, Busselton Jetty and Port Geographe where shoot density declined by 30-40%.
- Continued monitoring in 2027 and beyond will be critical to determine if the declines recorded in 2026 continue and trigger management actions.
- We are pleased to announce that Water Corporation have come on board and committed funding to continue the program for another five years through to 2031.





OUR URBAN ENVIRONMENT

GeoCatch's urban projects are pivotal in integrating environmental sustainability into the growing urban landscapes of the Geographe catchment.

These initiatives focus on enhancing urban green spaces, managing nutrients effectively, and promoting water and fire-wise practices in rapidly developing areas.

Our efforts contribute to creating healthier, more livable urban environments while addressing key environmental challenges posed by urbanisation.

Through educational programs, workshops, and collaborative projects, GeoCatch works to empower residents and businesses to adopt practices that support urban stewardship, which is essential in creating urban areas that improve quality of life while also safeguarding and preserving the natural environment.

**"WE WOULDN'T BE WHERE WE ARE WITH OUR GARDEN IF WE DIDN'T HAVE GEOCATCH. WE'VE GOT LOTS OF BIRDS COMING IN AND WE'VE EVEN GOT POSSUMS! I'M ALWAYS CURIOUS TO LEARN MORE AND EVERY TIME I GO TO AN EVENT, I ALWAYS DO LEARN MORE."
ANNE COSGROVE, WEST BUSSELTON RESIDENT**

Bay OK Program

This project supports sustainable gardening that helps to protect waterways and improve water quality.

Project overview

By raising awareness of waterways issues in the community and fostering behaviour change in gardeners, Bay OK has reduced fertiliser use, runoff, and leaching of nutrients from urban areas.

This will contribute to improved water quality in waterways, and increased adoption of sustainable gardening using low nutrient and waterwise principles.



Healthy Estuaries WA, Busselton Water, Water Corp, business sponsorship, Busselton Community Bank (Bendigo)



2025-28



Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Water Corporation, Busselton Water, Norcape Tree Services, Busselton Jetty, Origins Market, Bunnings Warehouse, Embark, Geographe Community Landcare Nursery, Busselton Community Bank (Bendigo)

Key Achievements

Held a series of events including:

- 752 attendees at Bay OK events.
- Presentations to community interest groups, 2 school youth groups, 2 community gardens, and Bunnings Garden Club.
- Activities for Dunsborough Primary School's Bay OK Day.
- 2 Bay OK garden workshops - New Gardens with Trevor Cochrane, New to Gardening with Geographe Community Landcare Nursery.
- 1 Bay OK peri-urban workshop - Heavenly Hectares with Chris Ferreira.
- Rejuvenation of Vasse Diversion demonstration Bay OK garden with Bunbury Prison pre-release crew.
- 3x garden visits, then support of resident's lawn conversions to verge gardens (information & species), garden inspections.
- Presence in local media regarding growing healthy soil, fertiliser wise, and water-wise gardening.
- Bay OK Gardens activity & displays - Plant and Paint at Origins Market, Father's Day Pot a Plant at Bunnings.
- Collaboration with Busselton Water - Bay OK Gardens activities and display at Busselton Water Open Day, workshop/meeting waterwise gardening with Darren Seinor.
- Convened Bay OK project team meeting one.

The Bay OK Program has been transforming gardens since 2012!



A man wearing a light-colored hat and a dark blue polo shirt is using a soil testing tool in a grassy field. He is holding a black bucket in his left hand and the tool in his right. The tool has an orange handle and a silver metal head. The background shows a clear blue sky and a line of trees in the distance.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Sustainable agriculture is at the heart of GeoCatch's mission to promote environmental stewardship and enhance land management practices in the Geographe catchment.

Our approach to sustainable agriculture focuses on implementing strategies that improve soil health, optimise nutrient use and reduce environmental impact.

By providing farmers with practical tools and knowledge, we support the adoption of practices that promote nutrient efficiency, minimise runoff, and enhance biodiversity.

Through initiatives like the Fertiliser Best Practice Program, Stream Restoration projects and collaborations with local farmers, we support efforts to protect Geographe Bay and its waterways. These programs not only aim to boost farm productivity but also ensure that agricultural practices contribute positively to the health of local waterways and ecosystems, aligning with our goal of fostering a resilient and sustainable environment for current and future generations.

"WE FOUND THE SOIL TESTING PROGRAM TO BE EXTREMELY USEFUL WHEN MAKING DECISIONS ON THE FARM REGARDING PASTURE MANAGEMENT.

IT PROVIDES INFORMATION THAT DIRECTLY RELATES TO OUR INDIVIDUAL PADDOCKS AND ALSO CONNECTS US TO A GREAT NETWORK OF PEOPLE TO LEARN NEW INFORMATION TO IMPROVE OUR FARMING PRACTICES."
SUE MILDWATERS, GEOGRAPHE FARMER

Fertiliser Best Practice

This project is designed to support farmers to make informed fertiliser decisions to ensure nutrients stay on-farm and out of waterways, as well as engage farmers to be part of the Geographe farming network.

Project overview

The Geographe Fertiliser Management Program supported 40 farmers in undertaking soil sampling of their paddocks to determine nutrient status. With training, tools and support, over 80% of farmers chose to sample their soils themselves (DIY), while the remaining farms were sampled by a contractor. Accredited agronomists then provided nutrient advice based on soil and plant tissue results.

Additional capacity-building activities were also delivered, including an Accu-Spread Field Day, which assisted farmers with testing and calibrating their spreaders for optimal efficiency, and Soil Health activities focused on understanding and building the biological productivity of agricultural soils. The Nutrient Management Workshop, a core component of the program, also supported farmers to interpret their soil test results and provided guidance on soil and plant nutrition.



Healthy Estuaries WA, Revitalising Geographe Waterways



2025-28



Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, farmers, agronomists

We have been supporting farmers in soil sampling since 2009!

Key Achievements

- Soil and plant tissue testing and whole farm nutrient maps for 40 farmers.
- 640 farm paddocks sampled across more than 7000 hectares.
- Farmer workshop presenting soil test results, plus online and in person sessions on nutrient and lime calculators.
- Landholder surveys (undertaken before and after program) monitoring behaviour change of participants.
- Soil Health workshop and online sessions delivered.
- Activities shared through local print networks, social media, and 'Kicking the Dirt' newsletter.



Stream Restoration: Fencing and Revegetating

This four-year project involves implementing riparian management on grazing properties in the Geographe catchment, with the aim of reducing nutrient load on Geographe waterways.

Project overview

Landholders across the Geographe catchment are supported with incentives to fence off their waterways, revegetate riparian zones with local native species, and install off-stream watering points for stock.

Excluding livestock from waterways plays a vital role in improving water quality by limiting nutrient runoff, protecting the integrity of existing vegetation and reducing bank erosion. Once fencing is installed, farmers are supported to undertake revegetation in riparian zones which improves bank stability, filters pollutants, promotes native biodiversity and enhances the overall ecological function of the waterway.



Healthy Estuaries WA



2025-28



Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Geographe catchment landholders

GeoCatch has been supporting RiverCare Action in the catchment since 1997!



Key Achievements

- 6.58km of fencing has been completed across the catchment.
- An additional 21km of fencing is currently contracted and underway.
- 16 revegetation projects are underway this winter with over 19,000 seedlings going in the ground.
- 39 landholders supported stream restoration projects in 2025-26.



Geographe Resilient Farms

Geographe Farmers Protecting Geographe Bay

This project has been designed to provide a comprehensive suite of capacity-building activities designed to boost awareness, and enhance skills and knowledge to build a more resilient, connected and sustainable local agriculture community.

Project overview

The Resilient Farms project aims to encompass a range of sustainable agriculture themes, empowering local farmers to build on-farm capacity with activities in:

- Soil health
- Biodiversity on farms
- Invasive species
- Grazing management
- Traditional ecological knowledge
- Sustainable agricultural practices

The project aligns with the GeoCatch initiative 'Geographe Farmers Protecting Geographe Bay' established in 2021, recognising the importance of farmers working collectively to make a difference – improving our natural resources, looking after the environment and supporting a thriving agriculture industry.



GEOGRAPHE FARMERS
Protecting Geographe Bay



Climate-Smart
Agriculture
Program under the
Natural Heritage
Trust



2024-2028



Farmers,
agronomists, First
Nations groups,
topic experts

Key Achievements

- Building 'Geographe Farmers Protecting Geographe Bay' community through activities such as 'Rural Women Connect' event series and 'Farmers After 5' learning network.
- Customised Nutrient Plans that align with Best Management Practices for farmers.
- Two Heavenly Hectares workshops delivered and a follow up webinar.
- Geographe Farmers Protecting Geographe Bay exhibition at the Grounded Festival, supporting local farmers and GeoCatch Board members in attendance.
- Cultural Awareness Training for GeoCatch Board and staff members.
- Cultural Fire Management workshop delivered with 40 people attending.
- Production of the 8-part 'Restoring Our Waterways' Video Series.
- Delivery of the 'Reboot Your Soils' program by Soil Land Food and the Landscape Rehydration Program by the Mulloon Institute.
- Activities shared through local print networks, social media, and 'Kicking the Dirt' newsletter.

Farm Efficiencies and Sustainability Towards (FEAST) 2030

In collaboration with South West NRM, GeoCatch will deliver the FEAST project in the Geographe catchment (as a fee for service), including Enhancing Farm Dams, Perennial Pastures and Water Security projects, with our local farmers.

Project overview

The Enhancing Farm Dams component aims to support biodiversity, improve water quality for stock and reduce methane emissions from dams. Enhancing dams involves fencing to exclude stock and revegetating fringes. The practice supports biodiversity and animal production.

The Perennial Pastures component aims to demonstrate and monitor the success of perennial pasture establishment on farm. The objective is to monitor success through flora (pasture composition) surveys and share outcomes with farmers at events.

The Water Security component hosts field days to showcase examples of local landholders who have invested in practices to increase water security on their farm.

GeoCatch will connect with local landholders who have made positive change and host events at these farms.



GEOGRAPHE FARMERS
Protecting Geographe Bay



Natural Heritage Trust, through South West NRM, as a fee for service by GeoCatch



2025-2028



South West NRM, farmers, agronomists and experts

Key Achievements

- Established two farm dams in Capel for the Enhancing Farm Dams project. These have had site preparation undertaken, revegetation, stock proof fencing installed and weed control undertaken.
- Produced the brochure 'Planning and Preparation' of the Enhancing Farm Dams brochure series.
- Perennial Pastures Field Day delivered, with 30 people attending, to share results of the flora surveys and trials of perennial species with local farmers. Three local farmers are involved in the perennial pastures trials.
- Planning of Water Security events for 2027.

Communications and Engagement

The Communications and Engagement Plan continues to be implemented in 2026 and aims to showcase GeoCatch's work to the local community, raise awareness about the Geographe catchment's importance, and highlight how individuals can contribute to enhancing our natural environment and make a collective impact.

Project overview

The Communications and Engagement team utilises different channels to share GeoCatch's work and messages, including its website (geocatch.asn.au), electronic direct mail, social media, print media, radio, paid advertising and in-person events such as community days, workshops and presentations.

Geographe Catchment Council, along with other key agencies, forms part of the Vasse Taskforce, providing a link between the community and water asset managers to improve waterway health.

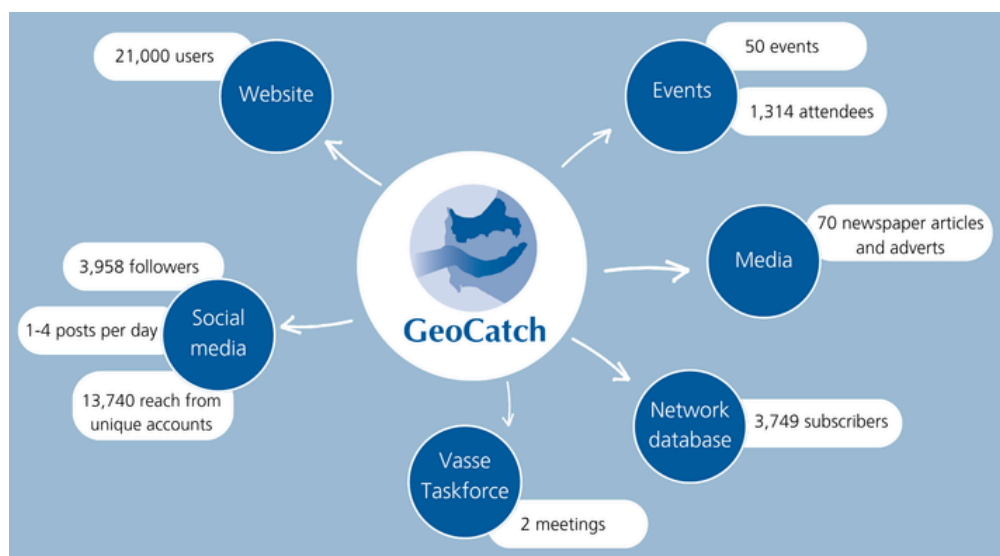


Ongoing across all projects



Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, City of Busselton, Water Corporation, local media, businesses, farmers, schools, gardeners, landholders

Key Achievements





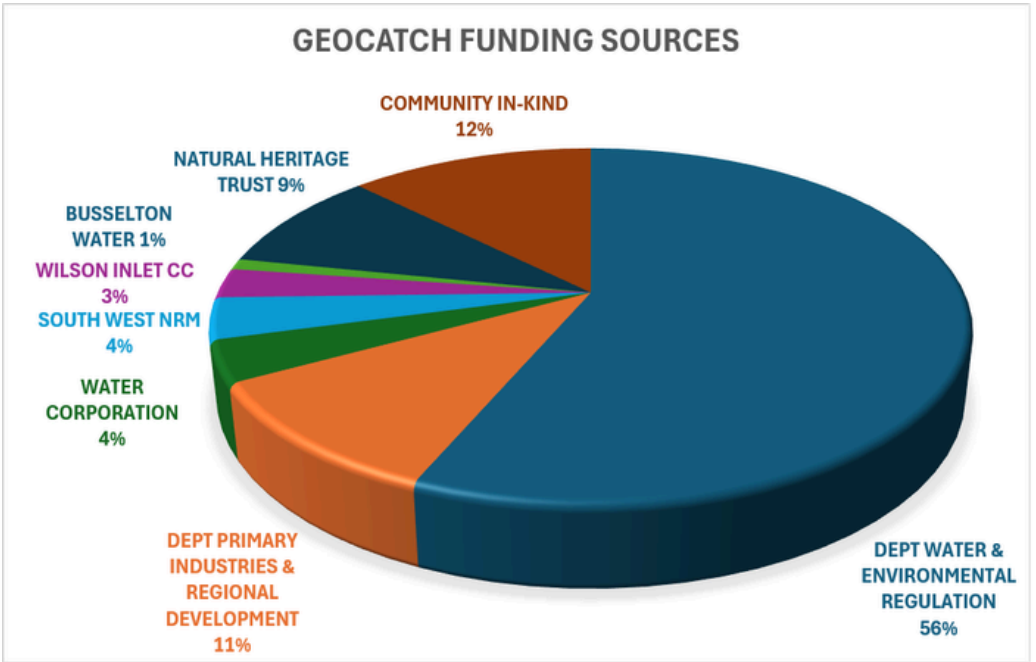
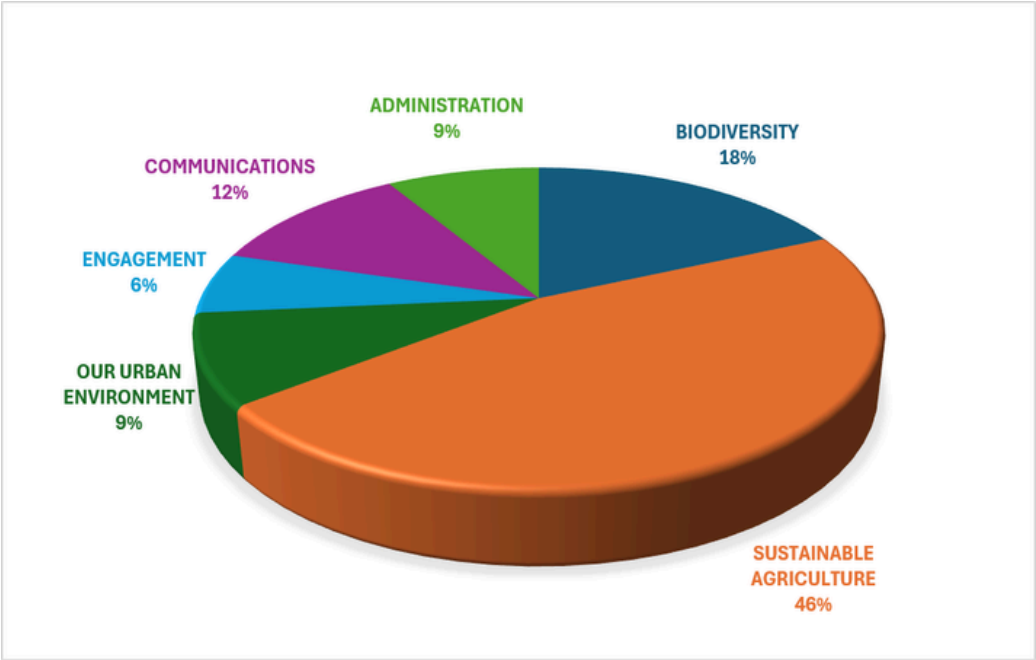
Financial Management

For the 2025-26 Financial Year, Geographe Catchment Council continued to rely on external funding sources to support our projects and operations.

Grants and partnerships with government agencies and industry groups along with support from local businesses and community in-kind support played a critical role in enabling us to carry out our mission.

GeoCatch was granted Charity status in 2026 and will progress DGR status to encourage business and industry to further support our work.

GeoCatch delivers fee for service projects in addition to grant funded projects.



STAFF MEMBERS



DREW MCKENZIE
EXECUTIVE MANAGER



CAROLYN NEWMAN
FINANCE OFFICER



JENELLE SCHULT
SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE
COORDINATOR



MICHELLE PRIEST
RIVERCARE/SUSTAINABLE
AGRICULTURE



KIM LOVERIDGE
SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE/
BIODIVERSITY



LISA MASSEY
BAY OK PROJECTS



MAYA BREEN
COMMUNICATIONS AND
ENGAGEMENT

BOARD MEMBERS



VICKY WINTON
CHAIR



ANDREW WEINERT
DEPUTY CHAIR



CHARMAINE TREASURE
SECRETARY-TREASURER



STEVE PURSELL
DEPUTY
SECRETARY-TREASURER



ANNETTE BATLEY
COMMUNITY MEMBER



ROSS BROMELL
COMMUNITY MEMBER



CR PETER MCCLEERY
COMMUNITY MEMBER



IAN TO WARD
COMMUNITY MEMBER



CR PHILL CRONIN
CITY OF BUSSELTON



JOSH JACKSON
WATER CORP



TERRI SHARP
SHIRE OF CAPEL



ADAM MASKE
DWER



LEON VAN WYK
DPIRD



CLARE FORWARD
DBCA

Working together to improve
the health of our waterways



GEOGRAPHE FARMERS
Protecting Geographe Bay



GeoCatch



Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Revitalising Geographe
Waterways

WASSE
WATERFORCE



#WAestuaries



GeoCatch



50 Strelly Street
Busselton WA 6280
(08) 9754 4000
info@geocatch.asn.au
www.geocatch.asn.au