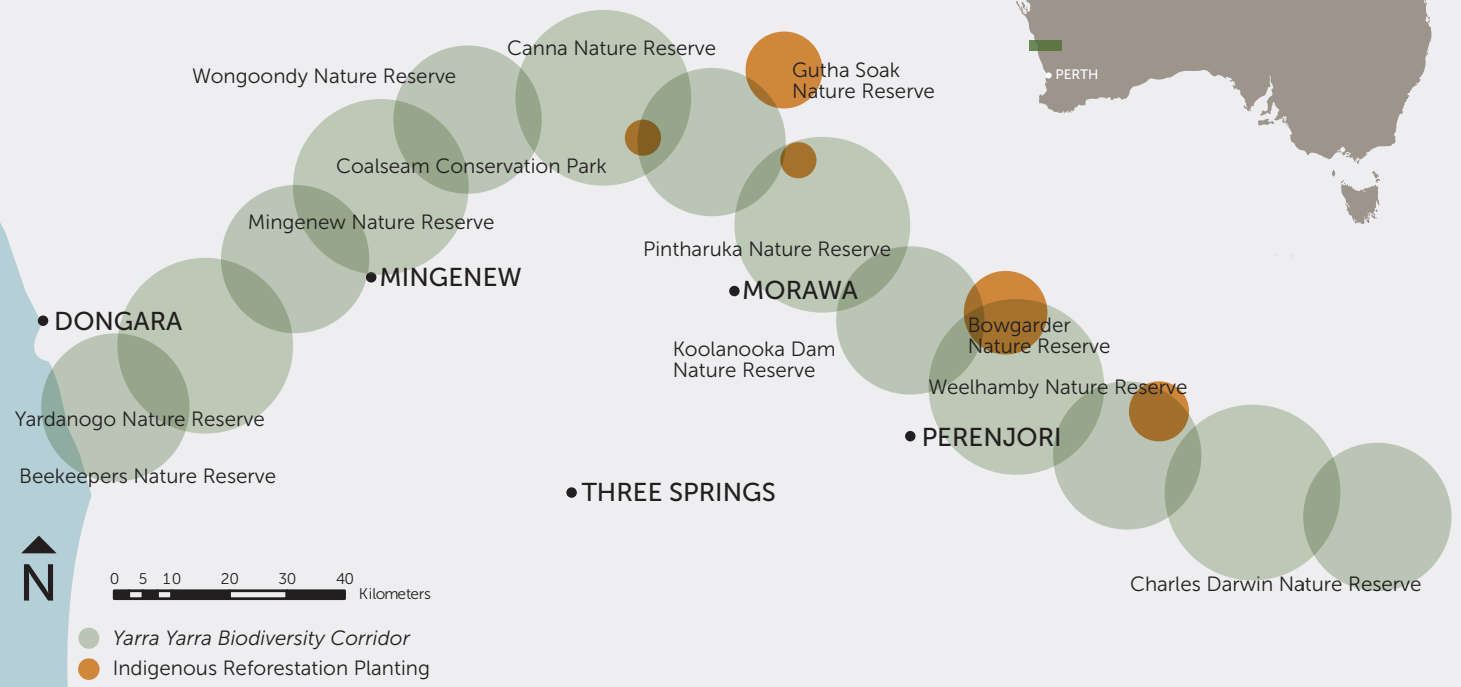


# Plant-a-Tree **NATIVE** REFORESTATION



## YARRA YARRA BIODIVERSITY CORRIDOR



## HOTSPOT

Conservation International, a world authority on biodiversity conservation, identified Southwest Australia as one of only two globally significant biodiversity hotspots in Australia. These are regions that have an exceptionally high number of plant and animal species found nowhere else in the world. Only 35 of these hotspots occur worldwide and they account for 90% of all species on earth. It is therefore imperative that these 'megadiverse' areas be protected to ensure their survival and restoration. The *Yarra Yarra Corridor* includes private and public lands which provide critical habitat for wildlife.

## WHY IS BIODIVERSITY IMPORTANT

Native plants and animals thrive in large, well-connected patches of high quality habitat that meet their life cycle needs – food, shelter and reproduction. However, some reforesters plant only a single species on their land. Carbon Neutral plants a diverse range of native plant species that once grew in the area before it was cleared for farming and other uses. This helps to provide habitat or future forests and woodlands for our very special flora and fauna.

To date, Carbon Neutral has planted in the *Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Corridor* 22+ million, mixed native species trees and shrubs on over 11,700 ha.

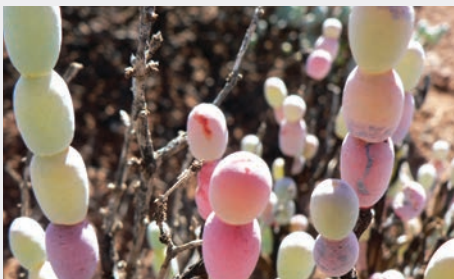


MAJOR MITCHELL'S COCKATOO

OUR WORK HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE RETURN OF NUMEROUS THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES.



MALLEEFOWL



KARARA TECTICORNIA BULBOSA



GOLDEN WATTLE



THORNY DEVIL

## BIODIVERSITY CORRIDOR

About 90% of the northern Wheatbelt was cleared for agriculture from the early 1900s. This removed so much native habitat that many plant and animal species became extinct locally or regionally. Others, however, hung on in woodland and shrubland remnants usually on rocky ridges and commercially less productive upper valley slopes. We aim to reconnect these valuable remnants by planting trees, shrubs and ground cover at selected key sites, mostly non-productive farmland. This will help establish habitat stepping stones and

links for biodiversity to move and disperse through the landscape. By reconnecting drier inland habitats with their coastal counterparts, the *Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Corridor* will help protect and recover our endangered and declining woodland and shrubland fauna such as Malleefowl, Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo, Crested Bellbird, Western Yellow Robin and Western Spiny-tailed Skink. This is Australia's largest revegetation project based on biodiversity and carbon capture.





## MEASURING BIODIVERSITY

Depending on planting sites, Carbon Neutral plants 20 to 50 different tree, shrub and ground cover species, predominantly drought-tolerant Eucalypts and woody-stemmed Acacias.

Carbon Neutral will measure and monitor flora and fauna diversity and density changes in the *Yarra Yarra* revegetation project over time against a baseline survey of the land before it was planted. The Australian Government's Clean Energy Future Biodiversity Fund has provided funding towards restoration and biodiversity monitoring.

## THE LIE OF THE LAND

The *Yarra Yarra Corridor* is located in Western Australia's northern agricultural region about 400 km north of Perth. The *Corridor* features diverse ancient landscapes, from heavily weathered forming sandplains to heavier, more fertile red brown clay loams. It supports extensive woodlands of York gum and Salmon gum, much of which was cleared for agricultural purposes. The ancient Yarra Yarra drainage line flows intermittently from the east to the Yarra Yarra lakes near Three Springs. Most of the lakes and channels are saline, some naturally and some because of the massive clearing of the Wheatbelt which has led to rising hypersaline groundwater tables.



RIP AND SCALP



PLANTING TEAM



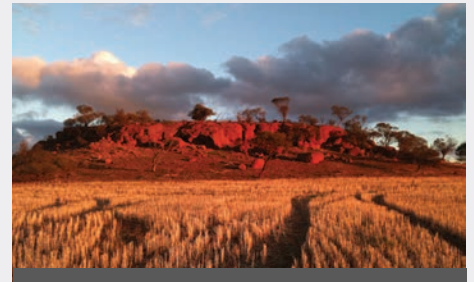
HAND PLANTING



HAND PLANTED SEEDLING



SEEDLING MIX



CAVE ROCK (ABORIGINAL HERITAGE)

## EVERYTHING TO GAIN

As well as enhancing biodiversity and sequestering greenhouse gas emissions, trees planted by Carbon Neutral contribute towards reducing soil salinity; save and restore water quality; cut soil and water erosion and provide windbreaks. Researchers have identified a correlation between widespread land clearing and less rainfall in Western Australia's South West region. This implies that reforestation may well have a positive effect on rainfall.



## PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS

Carbon Neutral acknowledges the support from a number of stakeholders in its biodiverse restoration in the *Yarra Yarra* project: traditional owners the Widi Mob, WWF, BirdLife Australia, Australian Government's Clean Energy Future Biodiversity Fund, Shire of Morawa, Shire of Perenjori, Bush Heritage, Department of Parks and Wildlife, NACC, Auscarbon, InSight Ecology and the Yarra Yarra Catchment Group.

The project (has and) will continue to provide a number of socio-economic benefits to nearby communities. More than 80 local businesses engaged for goods and services as a direct result of Carbon Neutral and its partners in the *Yarra Yarra* revegetation program. We acknowledge and thank Peter Waterhouse for the Major Mitchell's Cockatoos and Malleefowl images, and Keith Lightbody for the Carnaby's Black-Cockatoos image.

## CERTIFICATION AND PROTECTION

Our Australian Native Reforestation carbon credits have been certified by The Gold Standard Foundation, a globally recognised premium carbon standard.

The Gold Standard's rigorous certification process ensures credibility, honesty, integrity and robustness of the credits and our brand.

Gold Standard certification ensures our carbon credits deliver climate benefit, promote sustainable development and protect the environment.

Trees are legally protected for 100 years by a registered Carbon Right and Carbon Covenant.

Australian Native Reforestation VERs are eligible offset units under NCOS.



CARNABY'S COCKATOOS



NURSERY



DIRECT SEEDED PLANTING

### Gold Standard<sup>®</sup> Issuance certificate

Gold Standard certifies that  
**1,257,550 validated CO<sub>2</sub>-certificates**  
were approved for issuance on **20 November 2015**  
for the **Australian Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Project (GS3039)** based in **Australia**  
in accordance with the **Gold Standard**

Marion Vorles CEO



Climate security and sustainable development for all

The Gold Standard Foundation | Avenue Louise-Casa 79, CH 1216, Geneva, Switzerland | goldstandard.org, +41 22 788 70 80, info@goldstandard.org



Carbon Neutral's Yarra Yarra plantings are helping to re-establish habitats for endangered Carnaby's Black-Cockatoos

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