



Media Release

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Partnership will create Bibra Lake oasis for threatened cockatoos and other native bird life

An oasis for threatened cockatoos and other native birdlife will be created on an 8000sqm site in Bibra Lake in a joint project between the City of Cockburn and BirdLife Western Australia.

The organisations have gathered \$35,000 in grants after qualifying for \$10,000 from Impact 100 WA and \$25,000 from the State Government's National Resource Management program.

A degraded area of Banksia woodland on the eastern side of Bibra Lake will be revegetated starting this winter, using local native species including those favoured by Carnaby's Black-Cockatoos and Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoos.

City of Cockburn Environmental Officer Linda Metz said the site would provide food, water, shelter and roosting/nesting opportunities for birds and other native fauna.

"It will also serve as a demonstration and education site to show people, and other local governments, what they can do in their own backyard and community to attract and foster native birds and fauna, even on small sites," Ms Metz said.

BirdLife WA consultant Project Manager Christine Groom said studies showed Black-Cockatoos and small insectivorous birds were struggling to survive in urbanised areas.

"The people of Perth care passionately about bushland and birds. A good example is the fact that about 1,500 people across 470 sites took part in BirdLife's 2017 Great Cockey Count, including many in the City of Cockburn," Dr Groom said.

"The new habitat will include careful plant selection and design, of which we have a great deal of experience through our previous project work over many years.

"For example, forage trees for both Carnaby's Black Cockatoos and Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoos will be Banksia, Hakea, Grevillea, Sheoak and Eucalyptus.

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“Watering spots for the birds will be installed and plumbed to automatically top up. Large eucalypts will serve as potential roosts and even nests in the future.”

The project will incorporate interpretive signage to educate visitors about plant species selection and design elements to help promote the protection of endemic birds in Perth and stop their declining populations.



Caption: A Carnaby's Black Cockatoo feeding on bottlebrush. Picture: Chris Tate BirdLife WA.

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