

## Why?

The freshwater systems of the Swan Coastal Plain have been significantly impacted by the introduction of feral fish. Carp and goldfish compete for food, severely degrade habitat and water quality, spread diseases, all of which directly impacts native aquatic biota.



## When?

**March to September 2025**

Collection of baseline data (water quality, aquatic habitat, macroinvertebrate) prior to undertaking pest fish control.

**September 2025 to March 2027**

Pest fish control and laboratory analysis.

**March – August 2027**

Native fish re-introductions into wetlands with low native fish abundance and diversity.

**January to June 2027**

Collection of data following the pest fish control work (water quality, aquatic habitat, macroinvertebrate) and assessment of native fish communities.

## How you can help:

1. Please help us to protect our freshwater systems and Don't Dump that Fish! Never dump your pet fish or aquarium contents in the local waterways, drains or the ocean. Instead contact your local aquarium retailer and/or humanely and safely dispose (visit [www.dpird.wa.gov.au](http://www.dpird.wa.gov.au) and search for "Don't Dump that Fish" for more information).
2. Report any pest fish you see in any freshwater system in WA to FishWatch on: **1800 815 507**.
3. Get in touch with 'Friends of' volunteer groups that work with their local or state government agencies to preserve, protect and manage their local natural areas (Visit your local LGA or DBCA – Parks and Wildlife websites).
4. Contact us if you would like us to provide more information or a presentation to your group on [fish@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:fish@murdoch.edu.au) or visit our website to get updates on our progress on: <https://murdochaquaticresearchcentre.yolasite.com/>

This project is being conducted on the lands and waters that have been nurtured by the Noongar people for thousands of years. The project team recognises and respects their enduring and dynamic culture and the leadership of Noongar elders past and present.



Australian Government



Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions



## WA Urban Carp and Goldfish Roundup

## and Native Fish Restoration Project

This project is funded by the Australian Government's Natural Heritage Trust under the Urban Rivers and Catchment Program and is supported by the Centre for Sustainable Aquatic Ecosystems (Murdoch University), OzFish Unlimited and local and State Government Authorities of Western Australia.



Australian Government



Centre for Sustainable  
Aquatic Ecosystems





Koi Carp caught on Lake Goollelal (April 2023)

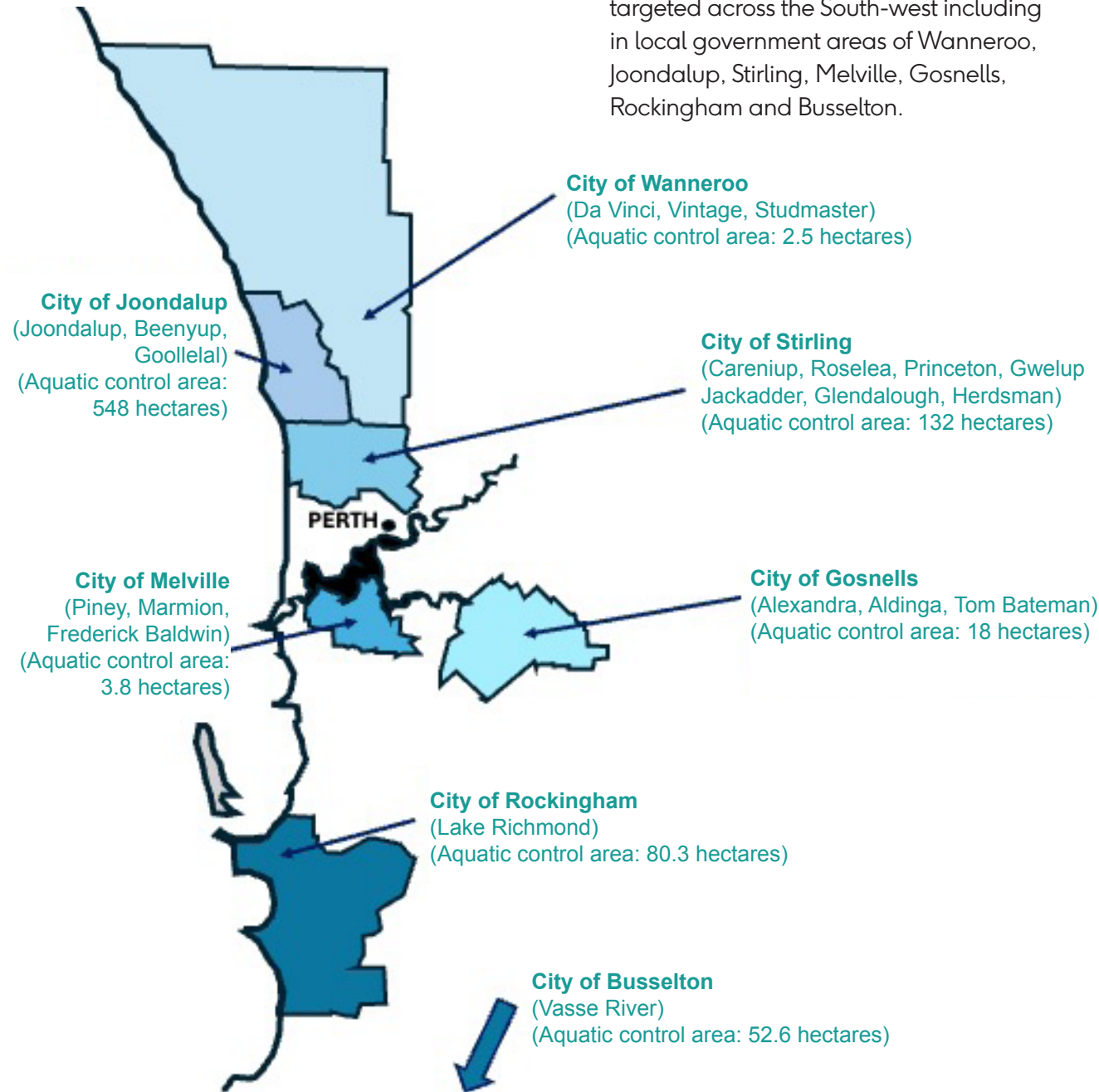
## Our Goals

Demonstrate the benefits of ongoing pest fish control programs on the health of urban wetlands on the Swan Coastal Plain, with specific objectives to:

- quantify the ecological benefits of pest fish removal and re-establishment of native species.
- update the distribution of pest fish and associated diseases.
- provide a cost benefit assessment and recommend on-going control programs.
- improve awareness of First Nations understanding and knowledge of wetlands.
- encourage public vigilance to prevent further pest fish incursions.
- enhance recreational opportunities.

## Where?

Twenty-one waterbodies will be actively targeted across the South-west including in local government areas of Wanneroo, Joondalup, Stirling, Melville, Gosnells, Rockingham and Busselton.



Red spot disease from a Koi Carp in Alexandria Lake (March 2022)



Anchor worm infestation on goldfish during laboratory trials (2015)



Asian Fish Tapeworm detected from Broz Park Wetlands (July 2023)



Goldfish caught in the Vasse River (2013)