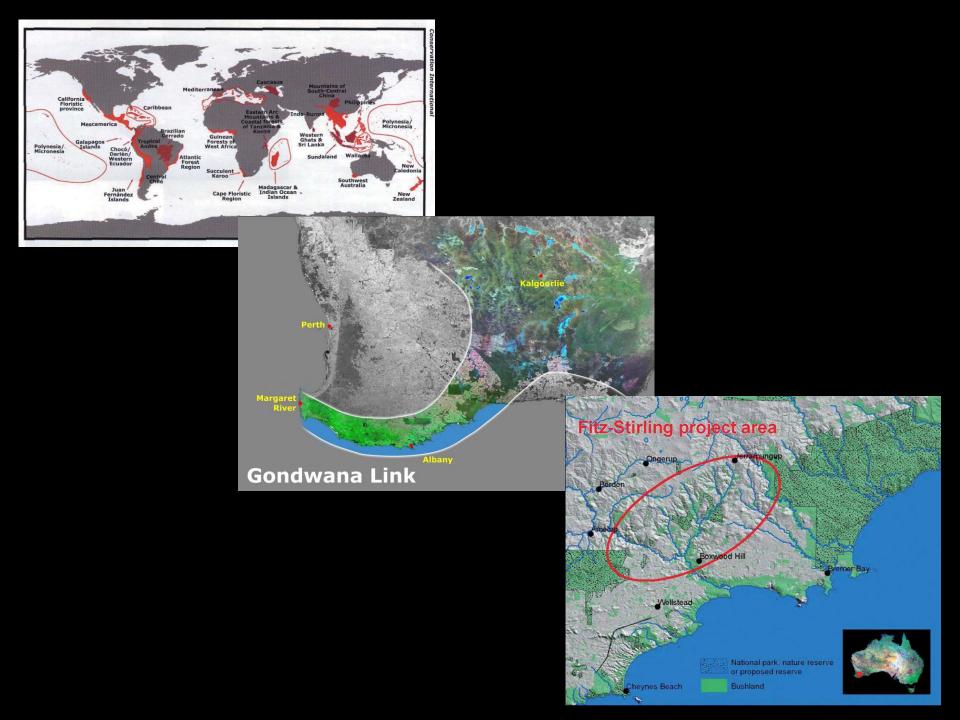


COLLABORATION FOR RESILIENCE AT LANDSCAPE SCALE

The Gondwana Link Project in the Global Biodiversity Hotspot of South-western Australia





The Southwest Australia Ecoregion is characterised by an exceptional concentration of biodiversity – more than 4,000 species of endemic plants and 100 endemic vertebrates.



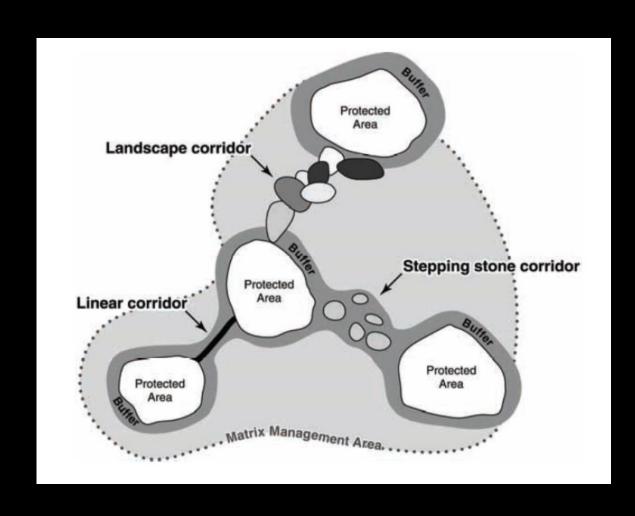








Elements of connectivity conservation spatial planning



- Core habitat patches
- Native vegetation that serves as 'stepping stones' and linear corridors of native habitat
- The landscape-wide matrix management area

(adapted from Bennett 2004)

Connectivity Conservation in the FitzStirling

3 key components:

- 1) enhanced management of existing habitat
- 2) restoration to consolidate existing habitat and rebuild connectivity
- 3) supportive natural resource management in the wider landscape matrix (particularly upper catchments)

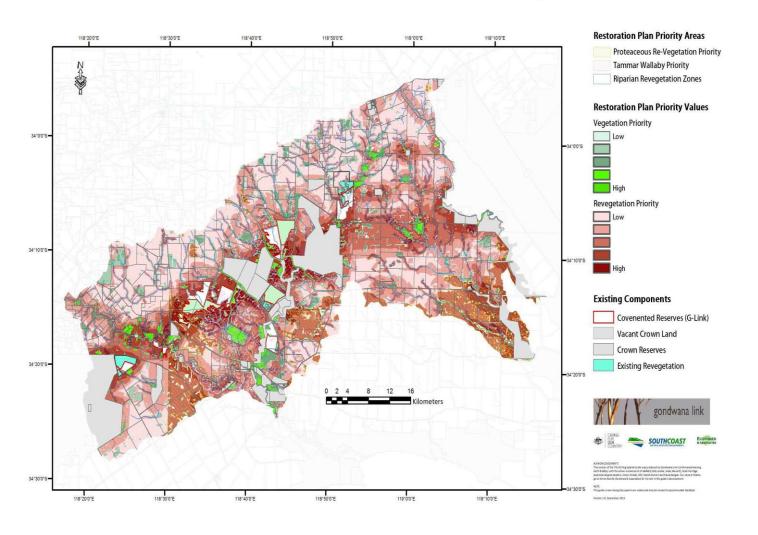
Component 2) restoration to rebuild connectivity distinguishes connectivity conservation from more traditional approaches.



Fitz-Stirling Section of Gondwana Link

Spatial Guide for the Functional Landscape Plan

Figure 62 – Spatial Guide for the Functional Landscape Plan



Enhanced management of existing habitat





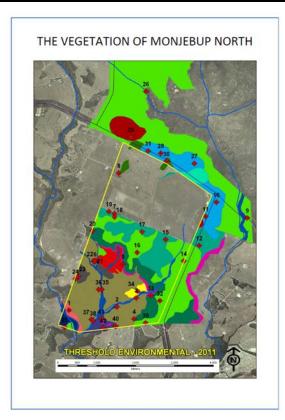
Restoration to consolidate existing habitat and rebuild connectivity

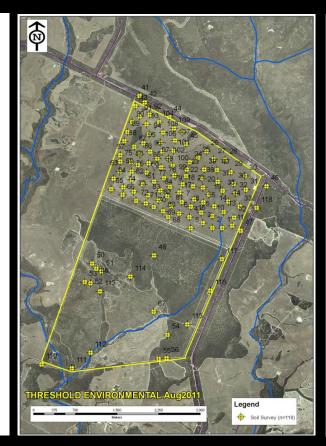


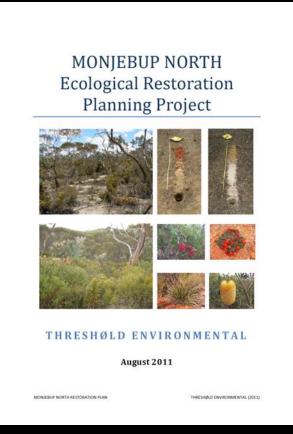


Restoration Planning and Design

Objective is re-establishment of self-replicating, diverse plant systems that are consistent with the heterogeneous mosaic of plant associations found in the FitzStirling landscape.....

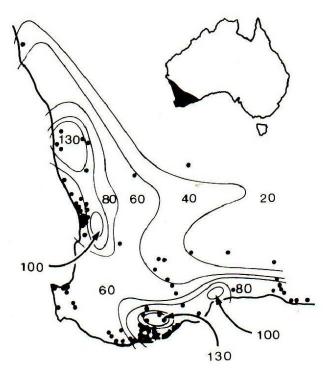






....ensuring that all functional groups are represented or, if they are not, the missing groups have the potential to colonise by natural means.







Plan the Work, Work the Plan









Accelerating the natural processes of restored ecosystem development by establishing habitat nodes for target groups and species.



Complementary land uses in the buffer, and supportive NRM in the wider landscape.









Monitoring and Evaluation



Fauna monitoring

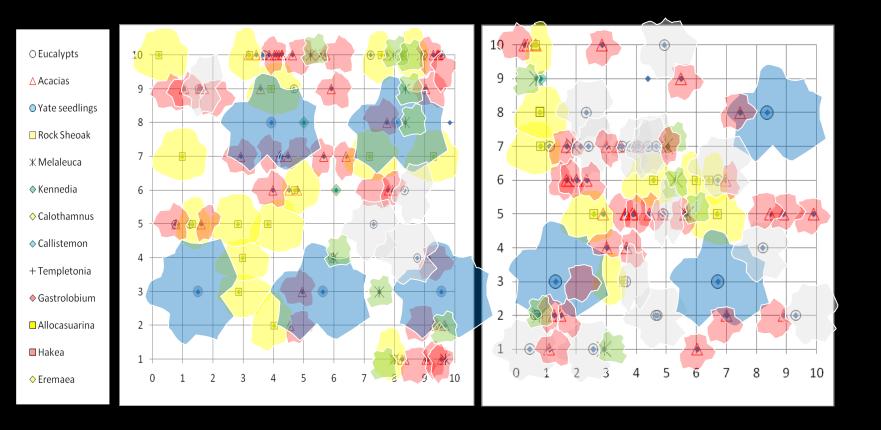
- Pitfall trapping.
- Camera monitoring.
- Bird counts.
- Bat call analysis.







Vegetation monitoring (Threshold Environmental Ltd)



Data collected periodically at the restoration site are plotted to establish trends. Trends that lead towards the reference condition confirm that the restoration is following its intended trajectory.





Connectivity conservation operates at landscape scale.

Landscape comprises people and place.

Involve people in as many aspects of the work as possible, and keep them informed and enthused.

