

MIDGE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT – 2010 - 2015

1.0 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Partnership Agreement (2010-2015) for the management of nuisance midge within the wetland system of the Yellagonga Regional Park.

2.0 PARTNERS

The partners of the Midge Management Strategy Partnership Agreement 2010-2015 are:

**Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC)
City of Wanneroo (COW)
City of Joondalup (COJ)**

3.0 OBJECTIVES

The Midge Management Strategy Partnership Agreement is designed to encourage an effective and sustainable partnership for the purpose of managing nuisance midge within the wetland system of the Yellagonga Regional Park.

The Midge Management Strategy Partnership Agreement objectives are:

- 3.1** For control and management of nuisance midge within the wetland system of the Yellagonga Regional Park, through funding midge larval and water monitoring, nuisance reduction using pesticide application when required, other intervention strategies, research projects in an effort to better understand the factors contributing to the seasonal midge plagues and public information and education.
- 3.2** To arrange for the allocation, management and administration of funds for the strategy.

4.0 PARTNERSHIP PRINCIPLES

OVERARCHING PRINCIPLE

A commitment to improving cooperation, communication and collaboration between the local and state government agencies, to enhance sustainable social, environmental and economic outcomes for the management of nuisance midge within the wetland system of the Yellagonga Regional Park.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

A commitment to:

Partnerships

- Recognise that partnerships are essential to achieve sustainable social, environmental and economic outcomes for the control and management of nuisance midge within the wetland system of the Yellagonga Regional Park.
- Be flexible and open to new approaches in implementing the Midge Management Strategy.
- Be sensitive and responsive to the needs and constraints of all partners.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Identify and understand the roles and responsibilities of both spheres of government as detailed in Part 6 of this agreement.
- Ensure that these roles and responsibilities are considered and respected in all decisions.
- Recognise and respect the role that each plays in enhancing sustainable social, environmental and economic outcomes for the control and management of nuisance midge within the wetland system of the Yellagonga Regional Park.

Communication

- Open and timely communication on issues of relevance to the Midge Management Strategy.
- Recognise the need for confidentiality of discussions until a mutually agreed time.
- Recognise that State and Local Governments may use different processes to communicate with constituent groups.

Consultation

- Purposeful consultation at mutually agreed stages to facilitate understanding and agreement.
- Recognise and account for the different decision making processes of both spheres of government.

Service Delivery

- Continual improvement in the efficiency, effectiveness, timeliness and appropriateness of the Midge Management Strategy.

Outcomes

- Agreed actions and responsibilities as stated in the Implementation Plan.
- Promote a realistic approach to funding and resource issues.
- Contribute resources and expertise to the Midge Management Strategy.

Accountability

- A transparent approach where changes to roles, responsibilities and budgets are negotiated and mutually agreed and resources necessary to implement change are identified.
- Undertake open assessments of the effectiveness of the Midge Management Strategy.
- Have clearly defined reporting, dispute resolution and review mechanisms.

5.0 SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT

5.1 Responsibilities:

The Department of Environment and Conservation and the City of Wanneroo together with the City of Joondalup have shared responsibilities for the management of nuisance midge within the wetland system of the Yellagonga Regional Park.

5.2 Commitment:

The partners of the strategy have agreed to commit to a further period of five (5) years under the Midge Management Strategy Partnership Agreement, with all partners maintaining the existing shared cost agreement.

5.3 Funding Percentage:

The City of Joondalup and the City of Wanneroo will each contribute 25 percent of the funding. The Department of Environment and Conservation, on behalf of the State Government, will contribute the remaining 50 percent of the funding.

5.4 Budget:

The budget consists of an annual total of \$205,000 with the State Government contributing \$102,500 per annum and the Local Government partners each contributing \$51,250 per annum, comprising of the following:

5.4.1 Monitoring:

Funding to support a larval monitoring program to provide quantitative data. This will determine when treatments are required and ensure optimum effectiveness. This program will also involve a water-monitoring program to provide information on the physical and chemical characteristics of the lake water to determine the lake's nutrient status and habitat factors influencing the midge population.

Total Cost - \$30,000 per annum.

Monitoring also includes hovercraft maintenance/repair.

Total Cost - \$5,000 per annum.

5.4.2 Nuisance Reduction:

Funding for chemical treatment of the wetland system of the Yellagonga Regional Park. Lake Joondalup to have a maximum of four (4) treatments per year. Lake Goollalal to have a maximum of two (2) treatments per year. Any additional treatments will require approval from the Director General, Department of Environment and Conservation.

Total Cost - \$120,000 per annum.

Nuisance reduction will also involve other intervention strategies to reduce the reliance on chemical treatment.

Total Cost - \$15,000 per annum.

5.4.3 Research:

Funding for research projects to facilitate a better understanding of the factors contributing to seasonal midge plagues within the wetland system of the Yellagonga Regional Park, evaluating alternate intervention strategies for control of midge and an understanding of the nutrient contributors within the catchment.

Total Cost - \$30,000 per annum.

5.4.4. Public Information and Education:

Funding public information and education to assist the community with the management of nuisance midge. This will include responses to midge nuisance

complaints, maintaining an information package and conducting public education programs.

Total Cost - \$5,000 per annum.

6.0 MANAGEMENT

6.1 General Management:

6.1.1 A Midge Steering Group has been established between the Department of Environment and Conservation, the City of Wanneroo and the City of Joondalup. The purpose of the Midge Steering Group is to discuss and make recommendations on any issues pertaining to the Midge Management Strategy. Meetings will be held as required, to discuss the management process of the Midge Management Strategy.

6.1.2 The Manager of Regional Parks Branch, Department of Environment and Conservation and Principal Environmental Health Officers from both Local Government bodies are the representatives of each of the partner agencies and are responsible for exercising any decision making powers.

6.2 Financial Management:

6.2.1 On signing the Partnership Agreement, the partners will ensure the availability of the required funds for the duration of the strategy.

6.2.2 For the purpose of transparency in process and accountability, the City of Wanneroo will be responsible for coordinating the invoicing of expenditures incurred in implementation of the strategy. The remaining partners will provide an advance of funds and will be invoiced on all expenditures in accordance with the Implementation Plan, as outlined in the Partnership Agreement.

6.2.3 All funds are to be acquitted on an annual basis and not carried over.

7.0 REVIEW

7.1 Initiate a meeting inviting all partners of the Midge Management Strategy Partnership to discuss and make recommendations to the details regarding the Partnership Agreement and accompanying Implementation Plan.

Review date: **Annually**

7.2 An annual report is to be presented to all partners capturing all actions outlined in the Implementation Plan and related outcomes of each midge season. The report will provide feedback on the effectiveness of the strategy and also assist with the required ongoing annual review of the Partnership Agreement and Implementation Plan.

Review date: **Annually**

7.3 An annual financial report is to be produced by the City of Wanneroo and presented to all partners following each midge season, capturing all expenditures of the Midge Management Strategy. The report will assist in reviewing the financial management of the strategy and consider any funding arrangement increases for future budgets.

Review date: **Annually**

- 7.4** When the current five (5) year strategy expires on 30 June 2015, it will be required to initiate a meeting inviting all partners to review the possible renewal of the strategy for a further five (5) year period.
Review date: October 2014

8.0 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Please refer to the **Midge Management Strategy Implementation Plan (2010-2015)** attached, which incorporates **Actions, Responsible Bodies, Timing, Funding Arrangements and Procedures.**

9.0 DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS

Should a dispute arise between any of the partners of the Partnership Agreement on a particular issue, the following resolution process should be followed:

- 9.1** The partners are required to meet to discuss the issue and will use their best endeavours to negotiate a mutually acceptable resolution.
- 9.2** Where such a resolution is not successful, the Chief Executive Officers (Local Government parties) and the Director General (State Government party) or a nominee of each of these parties will meet to consider the areas of disagreement and seek a resolution.

10.0 BREAK CLAUSE

- 10.1** The Midge Management Strategy Partnership Agreement will operate from the date of signing to 30 June 2015.
- 10.2** Prior to this date the partners may elect to:
- 10.2.1** Modify the Partnership Agreement; or
 - 10.2.2** Terminate the Partnership Agreement;
- by written mutual agreement.
- 10.3** Any amendments/modifications or request for termination must be proposed in writing and addressed to all partners of the Partnership Agreement for review and possible adoption. The decision will need to be a unanimous vote amongst all the partners.

11.0 AGREEMENT IN GOOD FAITH

The partners of the Midge Management Strategy Partnership Agreement –2010-2015 will commit to an effective and sustainable partnership for the purpose of managing nuisance midge within the wetland system of the Yellagonga Regional Park.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
City of Joondalup**

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
City of Wanneroo**

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

**DIRECTOR GENERAL
Department of Environment and Conservation**

MIDGE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (2010 - 2015)
YELLAGONGA REGIONAL PARK

ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODIES	TIMING	FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS	PROCEDURES
1.0 COORDINATION				
1.1 Funding State and Local Governments have agreed to providing, allocating and managing funding for the Midge Management Strategy 2010-2015.	DEC, COW, COJ	2010-2015	Total annual cost \$205,000 50% - DEC (\$102,500) 25% - COW (\$51,250) 25% - COJ (\$51,250) As allocated below.	1.1.1 Funding Arrangements
1.2 Midge Steering Group A Midge Steering Group has been established between the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC), City of Wanneroo (COW) and City of Joondalup (COJ). The purpose of the Midge Steering Group is to discuss and make recommendations on any issues pertaining to the Midge Management Strategy.	DEC, COW, COJ	As required	Officer time paid within existing departmental budgets.	1.2.1 Decision Making Powers 1.2.2 Documenting Meetings
2.0 MONITORING				
2.1 Midge Larval Monitoring Undertake the midge larval monitoring program to better predict when treatments will be necessary and most effective. The monitoring program will be consistent with other programs on the Swan Coastal Plain in conjunction with the Midge Research Group.	DEC, COW, COJ	Lake Joondalup - weekly or as required Lake Goollelal - fortnightly or as required	Total annual cost \$30,000 \$15,000 - DEC \$7,500 - COW \$7,500 - COJ Including midge and water monitoring, equipment and labor costs.	2.1.1 Midge Monitoring 2.1.2 Midge Species Identification
2.2 Water Monitoring Physical and chemical characteristics of the lake water will be monitored at one site during the weekly and fortnightly midge larval monitoring process. Water monitoring will provide information to better understand the lake's nutrient status and habitat factors influencing the midge population.	DEC, COW, COJ	Lake Joondalup - weekly or as required Lake Goollelal - fortnightly or as required	Also includes helicopter hire.	2.2.1 Physical Water Monitoring 2.2.2 Chemical Water Monitoring
2.3 Hovercraft Maintenance/repair of hovercraft used for midge larval and water monitoring.	DEC, COW, COJ	Ongoing As required	Total annual cost \$5,000 \$2,500 - DEC \$1,250 - COW \$1,250 - COJ	
3.0 NUISANCE REDUCTION				
3.1 Chemical Treatment The Midge Steering Group has agreed on a maximum of four (4) chemical treatments per year for Lake Joondalup and a maximum of two (2) chemical treatments per year for Lake Goollelal.	DEC, COW, COJ	As required, based on procedure 3.1.1	Total annual cost \$120,000 \$60,000 - DEC \$30,000 - COW \$30,000 - COJ 4 Treatments per year @ \$30,000 per treatment. -Chemical (Abate) \$530/drum -Including personal protective equipment and labour costs.	3.1.1 Decision and Authority for Chemical Treatment 3.1.2 Contact List for Chemically Hypersensitive Residents 3.1.3 Chemical Treatment

3.2 Other Intervention Strategies Develop and implement other intervention strategies to reduce the reliance on chemical treatment for the purpose of nuisance reduction e.g. light traps.	DEC, COJ	COW,	Ongoing	Total annual cost \$15,000 \$7,500 - DEC \$3,750 - COW \$3,750 - COJ	
4.0 RESEARCH					
4.1 Research Projects Objectives of Research Projects; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research the influence of both water quality and habitat on the midge life cycle. • Develop a research program that will provide predictive capabilities for midge emergence for better control. • Develop an understanding of the nutrient budget of the lake and linkage with nutrient contributors within the catchment. • Evaluate feasibility for various intervention strategies. The strategy may undertake other research projects as required.	DEC, COJ	COW,	Ongoing	Total annual cost \$30,000 \$15,000 - DEC \$7,500 - COW \$7,500 - COJ	
4.2 Midge Research Group Liaise and partner with the metropolitan Midge Research Group. The strategy may also provide funding for the Midge Research Group to undertake mutually agreed projects that support the required research objectives.	DEC, COJ	COW,	Quarterly Meetings		4.2.1 Documenting Meetings 4.2.2 Funding Arrangements
5.0 PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION					
5.1 Response to Midge Nuisance Concerns Capture and respond to residents concerns regarding nuisance midge.	COW, COJ		As required	Total annual cost \$5,000 \$2,500 - DEC \$1,250 - COW \$1,250 - COJ	5.1.1 Midge Nuisance Complaints
5.2 Midge Management Information Package Produce a midge management information package, including a midge management pamphlet. To be accessed by the public via the website.	DEC, COJ	COW,			
5.3 Midge Management Education Encourage/educate landowners, managers and community groups to focus efforts towards the overall care of the catchment.	DEC, COJ	COW,	Ongoing		
6.0 SUPPORT FOR INTEGRATED CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT					
6.1 General Support of Integrated Catchment Management Plan Support the development and implementation of the Integrated Catchment Management Plan (ICMP) for the Yellagonga Regional Park.	DEC, COJ	COW,	Ongoing	Funds provided in existing agency budgets (separate project).	
6.2 Stormwater Quality Reduce the nutrient input from stormwater drainage.	COW, COJ		Ongoing	As required.	
6.3 Groundwater Quality Reduce the nutrient input from groundwater contamination.	COW, COJ		Ongoing	As required.	
7.0 REPORTING					
7.1 Annual Report Produce an annual report on all midge management actions and related outcomes for each midge season.	COW, COJ		Annually	Officer time paid within existing departmental budgets.	7.1.1 Report Proforma 7.1.2 Annual Reporting Responsibilities
7.2 Annual Financial Report Produce an annual report to capture all expenditures.	COW		Annually	Officer time paid within existing departmental budgets.	7.2.1 Annual Reporting Responsibilities

