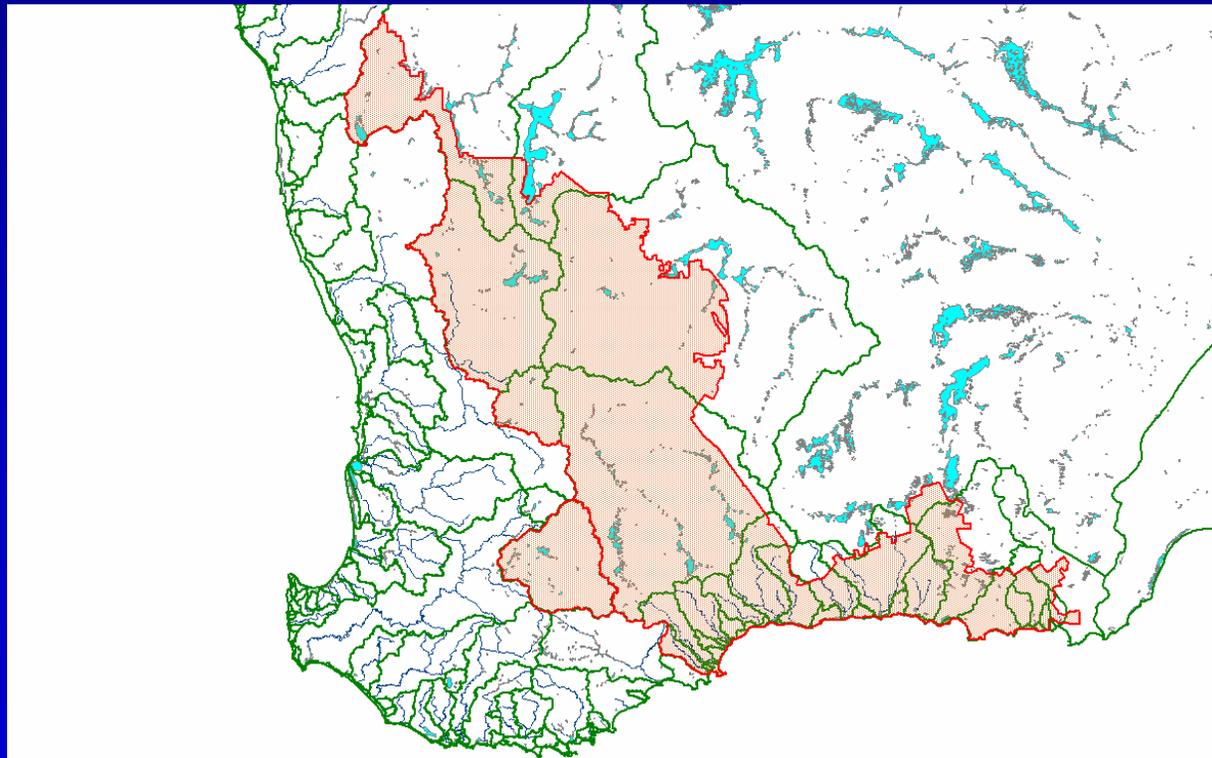
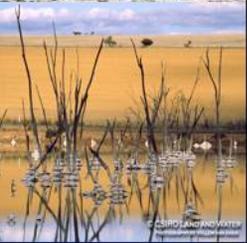
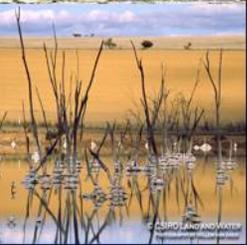


A Coordinated Approach to Dryland Salinity in the West Australian Wheatbelt

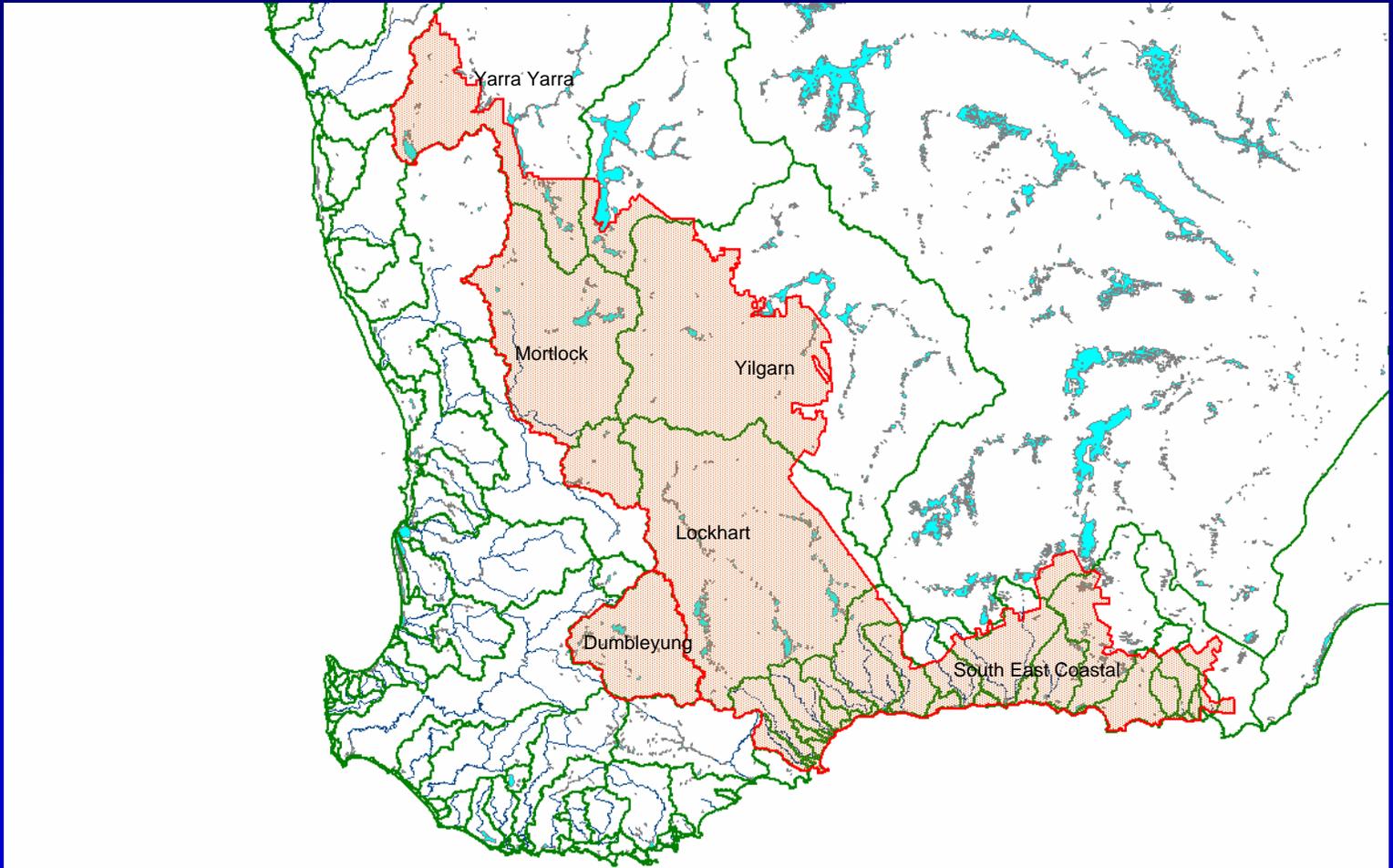
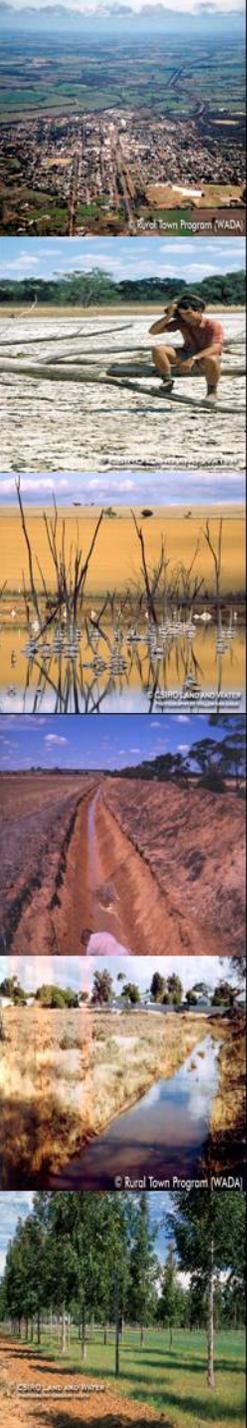


Points To Consider

- Managers of Dryland Salinity in the Wheatbelt need to establish a united front.
- Let's look at the National Action Plan
- How do we sit with the Regional delivery of this plan
- Is the Salinity Investment Framework working for us?
- Governance by the stakeholders is a top priority



Catchment Managers in the Wheatbelt of WA have formed the Wheatbelt Drainage Alliance so that they can present a united front to funding and regulatory bodies at both State and Federal level.



Establishment of Wheatbelt Governance Zone

- The Wheatbelt of WA lies almost entirely in the Yilgarn Block and is dominated by a landscape of low relief harbouring vast salt lake systems.
- This environment is most fragile and has deteriorated since clearing due to lack of management.
- This area needs specific management strategies as distinct from non-Wheatbelt areas, hence the need for the Wheatbelt Governance Zone.
- No statutory body or Government agency has taken the responsibility for managing these drainage systems since the beginning of settlement.
- The Wheatbelt Drainage Alliance have resolved that the time has come for the stake holders to take a stand and provide the necessary governance by forming a drainage management board run by the people.



National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality

- At the COAG Conference in October 2000, the Prime Minister committed \$700 million to address salinity and water quality problems over a period of 7 years.
- Following this conference, the Premier at that time Richard Court negotiated an allocation of \$158 million for WA.
- However, breakdowns in negotiations have delayed the commitment to this agreement until the latter part of 2004. The combined Federal and State money now available over the ensuing four years is \$316 million.

