

## Habitat and food planted for glossy black-cockatoos

A team of 21 volunteers joined Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) staff members to plant a total of 500 drooping sheoak seedlings in the Western River area on Kangaroo Island on June 15 to June 17.

The plants will eventually provide food resources for endangered glossy black-cockatoos.

According to DENR glossy black-cockatoo recovery project officer, Mike Barth, the event was "very successful".

"Despite heavy rain showers and gusting winds on June 15, it was very satisfying to look back at the end of the day and see how many seedlings had been planted," Mr Barth said.

"Along with drooping sheoak seedlings (*Allocasuarina verticillata*), 10 sugar gum seedlings were also planted to provide large nesting hollows.

"Volunteer planters were treated to beautiful weather conditions on June 16 to see remaining seedlings planted.

"First time volunteer Peter Mason, a new resident to the island, said the planting day was magnificent and allowed him to explore a different area of the island, as well as learning more about glossy black-cockatoos."

Mr Barth said the planting site is part of a successful revegetation project that has been taking place over the past three years as part of the Glossy Black-Cockatoo Recovery program, managed by DENR with assistance from dedicated volunteers.

"It was great to see the different aged trees and how they have successfully established," he added.

The DENR Glossy Black-Cockatoo Recovery program aims to:

- Protect nest hollows from possums, bees and other pest bird species.
- Monitor glossy black-cockatoo population, nesting success and survival.
- Work with landholders and government agencies to protect critical habitat.
- Provide information to the public through presentations, information packages, newspaper articles and the twice yearly *Chewings* newsletter.
- Undertake habitat restoration in key areas including revegetation with drooping sheoak, the cockatoo's main food resource.

Mr Barth said the glossy black-cockatoo habitat restoration project

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“demonstrates what can be achieved when government agencies and the community work together”.

The project was funded by the South Australian Natural Resources Management Program through the Kangaroo Island Natural Resources Management Board. The trees were provided by the Nature Foundation’s Glossy Black-Cockatoo Rescue Fund.

**Caption 1:** Planting seedling at Western River on Kangaroo Island for glossy black-cockatoos were Mike Barth (left), Penny Moon, Sarah Way, Peter Mason, Robyn Molsher and Julia Greenfield.

**Caption 2:** A team of 21 volunteers joined Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) staff members to plant drooping sheoak seedlings on Kangaroo Island for endangered glossy black-cockatoos (pictured) on June 15-17.

