

# PHYTOPHTHORA *dieback* MAPPING IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

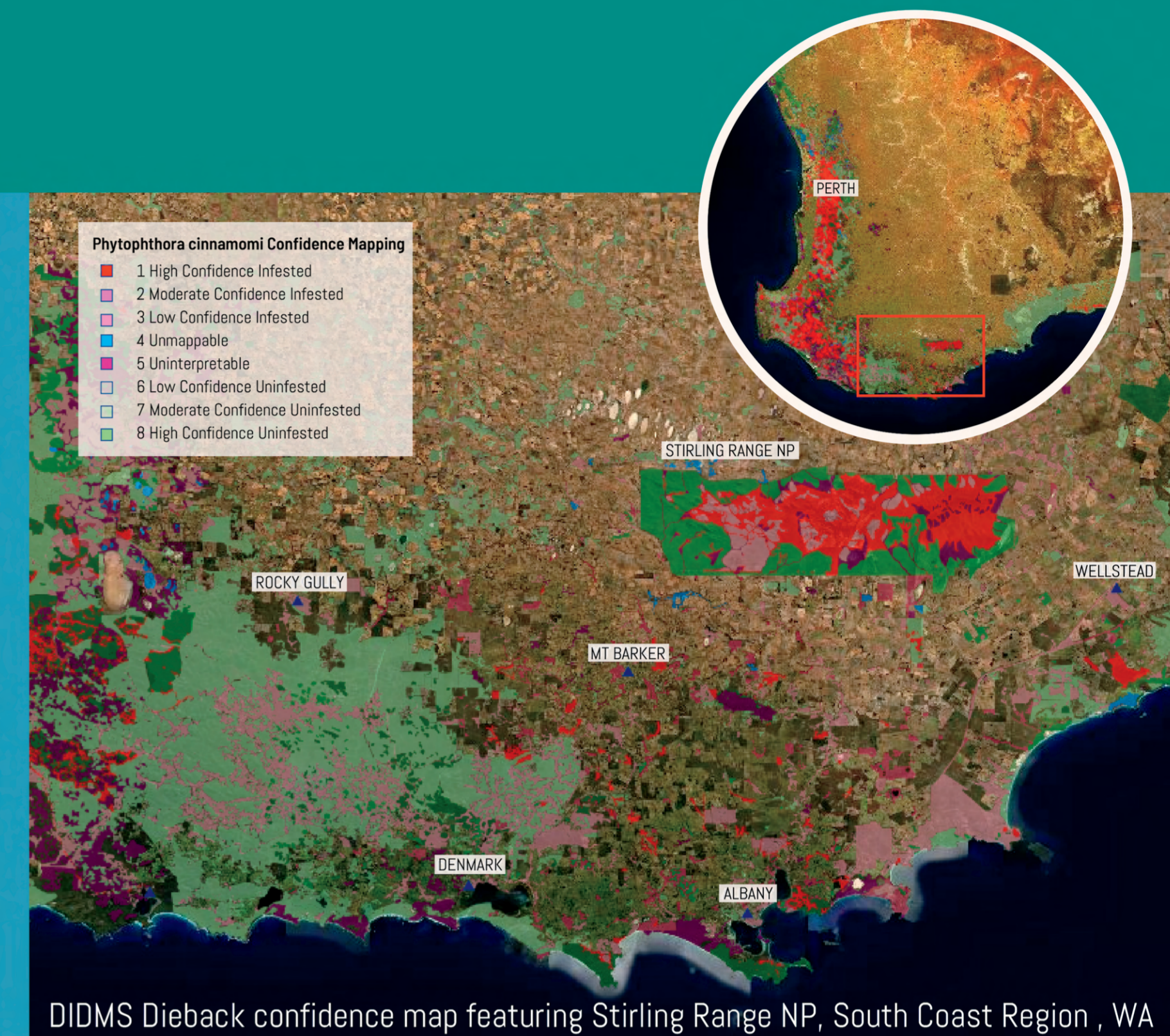
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Southwestern Australia is a global *biodiversity* hotspot for wildlife and plants. The region contains more than 6,000 species of native plants and has the highest concentration of rare and endangered species on the entire continent.

Phytophthora cinnamomi is a highly destructive, easily transmissible plant pathogen causing Phytophthora dieback which leads to disease and death in susceptible plants. Over 225 threatened taxa listed in the Environment Biodiversity and Conservation Act are negatively impacted by the dieback pathogen.

There is no cure for Phytophthora dieback which causes negative, permanent and irreversible impacts to native ecosystems including reduced biodiversity, reduced biomass and loss of habitat for native animals. The pathogen moves by autonomous spread, through water, soil and plant material. Humans are the main vector for transmitting the disease by moving infected soil and plant material over vast areas.

South Coast NRM's leadership in managing dieback has been recognised with receiving the 2021 Australian Environmental Biosecurity Award.

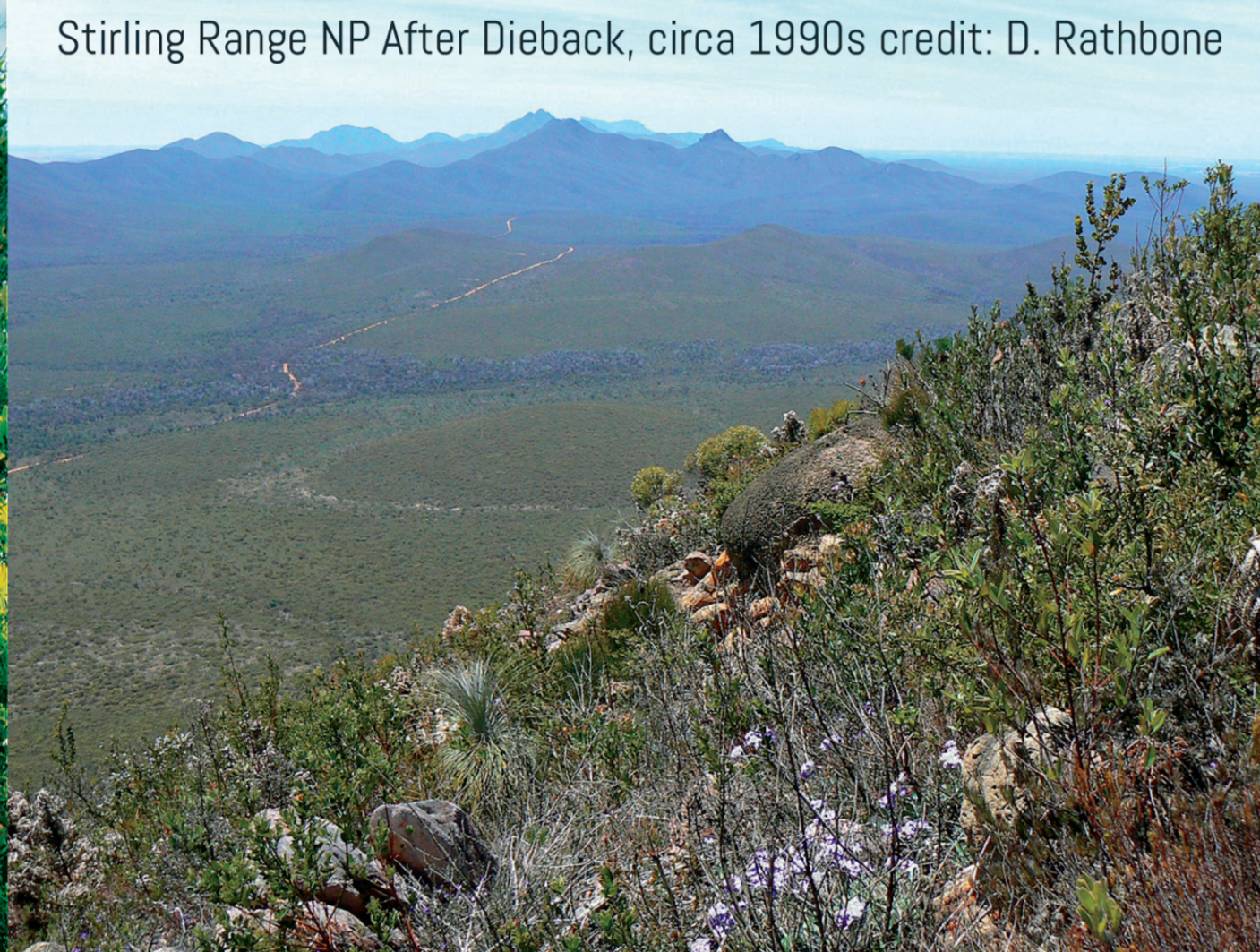


DIDMS Dieback confidence map featuring Stirling Range NP, South Coast Region, WA

Stirling Range NP Before Dieback, circa 1960s credit: D. Oliver



Stirling Range NP After Dieback, circa 1990s credit: D. Rathbone



Early detection and mapping of Phytophthora dieback infestations are important for mitigating spread of the disease. In 2005, South Coast NRM developed the Dieback Information Delivery and Management System (DIDMS), a public repository for spatial dieback data, to help improve management of the disease in the southwest of Western Australia.

DIDMS is moving to a new platform to meet the needs of contemporary practitioners. Do you deal with dieback in your patch? Please help us to improve the design of DIDMS to better meet your needs. Scan the QR code to get involved.

DIDMS SURVEY



## Arrive *clean*, leave *clean*

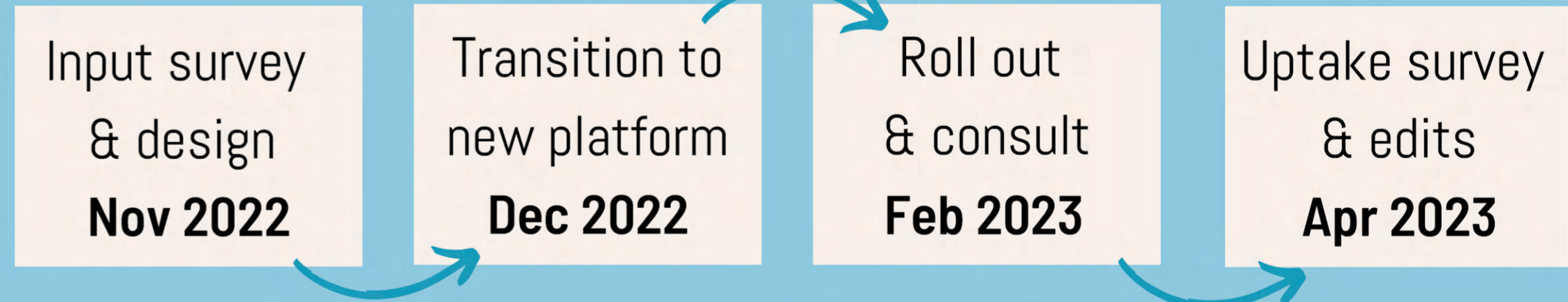
- Remove soil from tools and footwear with a brush and sanitise by spraying with 70% methylated spirits or bleach.
- Ensure vehicles are cleaned, pay attention to wheel arches, chassis, mud flaps, side steps, engine bay and cabin.
- Avoid driving through the wash-down effluent (run-off) as you leave.

## Want to *learn* more

Visit Project Dieback website for more information and resource <https://dieback.net.au/> or contact South Coast NRM's Dieback Project Officer (p) (08) 9845 8537



## *Timeline* for the DIDMS platform upgrade project



natural resource management program



<sup>1</sup> State of the Environment Committee (2021). Australia State of the Environment 2021, Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment, Canberra

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We acknowledge the Noongar peoples of the south coast region as the traditional custodians of the land where we work and live, and we pay our respect to their Elders past and present