

DEATH BY THOUSAND CUTS...

If the pictures below look familiar that is because the same thing is happening everywhere. During the past few months more and more dissatisfied residents contacted the Urban Bushland Council office seeking advice on how to prevent the loss of mature trees in our suburbs. Most of these areas cannot be classified remnant bushland, usually they are stands of mature trees with some understorey or they are weed infested. However, as we are all witnessing the rapid loss of bushland due to urban development, the values of any remaining greenery are growing accordingly.

This seems to be happening everywhere. Mature trees are being cleared to give way to a new housing at the former Edith Cowan University campus at Churchlands, mature trees are being lost during redevelopment of the Gosnells golf course, Town of Kwinana is considering redeveloping some of its Public Open Space areas for housing, proposals for the AK Reserve, and the list could go on and on. A number of these proposals would not even be assessed under the Clearing Regulations, even though that does not seem to have much of an impact as the Department of Environment is granting Clearing Permits not only to clear



Photos by Bill Karoll



The pictures document the destruction of less than 1 ha remnant vegetation adjoining a nature reserve for extension of existing sporting facilities and car parking in Giddegannup. Exempt from assessment under the Clearing Regulations of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, the local authority deemed it to be more important to provide the required facilities at a cheapest possible way, removing mature, probably few hundred year old trees because of their potential to cause nuisance or safety risk. While we were assured that the planners tried to minimise the area that would need to be cleared, the fact is that vegetation has been cleared, including mature trees on the edge of the development, disturbing an area uphill from a nature reserve that is already affected by dieback, potentially exacerbating the risk of further spread of dieback.

mature trees but also Declared Rare Flora.

There seems to be an obvious ignorance of values of individual trees or small stands of vegetation in urbanised landscape. They not only dramatically improve an amenity of densely built up places, but they also have an important role as linkages or stepping stones between isolated patches of bushland reserves in the city. The decision makers still base their decisions on the restricting factors of short term budgets, with a complete lack of foresight or considerations for future generations that will have to live in concrete suburbs. There is an urgent need for introduction of new strategies that would force development to accommodate existing vegetation. There are ways to build around trees. Can we find a will to apply them?

INSIDE

- What has been achieved five years into implementation of Bush Forever ?
- Post - fire management in urban bushland
- What protection bushland listed on the Register of National Estate receives?
- Perth Urban Bushland Fungi Project update

and more...

Editorial

What protection bushland listed on the Register of National Estate receives?

On May 8, 2006, The West Australian published an article about the efforts by the Westralia Airport Corporation to protect Declared Rare Flora, *Macarthuria keigheryi*, at Perth Airport by covering individual specimens to stop their destruction by rabbits.

To many this article might have seem as good news, a Corporation is helping to save an endangered species. But to those that really care about the future of the remaining natural heritage in our City, it is only a cheap way to justify the destruction of significant parts of bushland at Perth Airport for commercial purposes.

The significance of bushland at Perth Airport is recognised by the State Government and the Commonwealth, as over 500 ha of bushland at Perth Airport are listed on the Register of National Estate. There are not that many areas that have this status. However, as we are witnessing, this status does not guarantee protection.

The Westralia Airports Corporation seems to be satisfied with allocating only about 300 ha of land for conservation in two isolated patches within their 2105 ha empire. One would think there was plenty of land suitable for aviation as well as commercial development outside the bushland and wetland areas. It is really hard to understand why more land needs to be cleared at Perth Airport, destroying unique plant communities, habitats for a large number of animals and our natural heritage.

In fact, this latest “good news story” from the Perth Airport very conveniently coincides with clearing of another significant section of bushland listed on the Register of the National Estate. A large parcel of bushland at the northern end of the *Forrestfield Bushland* RNE area has been cleared without any Major Development Plan being released, without any consultation with the community, and - as far as we are aware- without any consultation with relevant State agencies. In raising protests over this issue with the Commonwealth and with WAC, we have been advised that WAC and its consultants deemed the bushland in question to be “mostly degraded” and that the Australian Heritage Commission had “agreed” to the proposal that the bushland be cleared some time ago. We did simply present the factual information that this bushland was in very good condition and that its proximity to the *Munday Swamp* RNE area made it a particularly valuable ecological link between the *Forrestfield Bushland* area and the *Munday Swamp and surrounding bushland* remnants. We have members who knew this area very well for decades so our outrage over this latest destruction of a large and irreplaceable expanse of nationally significant habitat is not going to be assuaged by any assessments dismissing its worth presented by Westralia Airports Corporation or its consultants.

The assignment of conservation values and the development of so called environmental “mitigation” strategies is apparently left exclusively to Westralian Airports Corporation and its consultants. This is an absurdly inappropriate situation and it has produced appalling environmental outcomes.

How long do we need to wait for relevant agencies to realise the international significance of the bushland areas in our region and for corporations take real responsibility for the land they are entrusted? We are still waiting for a response from the Australian Heritage Council....

BUSH FOREVER IMPLEMENTATION - FIVE YEARS ON

Bush Forever is now half way through its 10 year implementation program. On 9 June, representatives from the Urban Bushland Council attended a workshop organised by the Bush Forever office, *Bush Forever Implementation—Where Have We Been and Where Are We Going!*, which aimed to address progress and outstanding issues.

A summary report prepared by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure provided some information on the current status of implementation and listed the key future priorities. According to the report it is estimated that about 92% of Bush Forever would have some level of protection to date, including rural lands, government lands and agreed urban lands with some level of protection. This is assuming that the long awaited MRS Amendment is gazetted.

To date, over \$50 million, out of \$100 million set aside to acquire sites over 10 years, has been spent acquiring Bush Forever Sites covering about 800 hectares.

The report conceded that some bushland identified in Bush Forever as regionally significant will be lost for urban or industrial development and through resource extraction operations.

The following key future priorities were identified:

- Continue to develop and progress management initiatives and requirements
- Complete rural lands audit and develop implementation approaches for outstanding sites
- Proactive engagement of remaining rural lands
- Update remnant vegetation mapping
- Complete an audit report to government on election commitments and site status
- Ongoing land acquisition
- Develop guidelines to SPP 2.8 and capacity build planners at both State and local level on the implementation of Bush Forever as part of the normalisation of the program as part of core business
- Monitoring and adaptive management of key implementation mechanisms
- Establish detailed processes and strategic reviews of outstanding government lands affected by Bush Forever
- Local government (and WALGA) to continue the development of local biodiversity strategies and action plans

However, we believe that the lack of government leadership and commitment to Bush Forever and inadequate funding are causing the delays in implementation. A package of statutory planning measures for Bush Forever Sites was released for public comment back in 2004, with hearings in May 2005. One year on, we are still waiting for them to become legal! Some key actions that are still not implemented include:

- **The major Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment for Bush Forever, including statutory protection for all Bush Forever Sites as ‘Bush Forever Protection Areas’ and rezoning of most Bush Forever Sites to ‘Parks and Recreation’ reservation**
- **The Statement of Planning Policy for urban bushland, including a requirement for local governments to prepare local bushland protection strategies**
- **Promised actions to secure rural zoned sites**
- **The education program to raise awareness and understanding of Bush Forever.**

Western Australian Weeds Committee

The WAWC are able to move forward into the 06/07 financial year with an assured budget and positive support from Ministers Chance and McGowan, and the Director Generals of Department of Agriculture and Food and Department of Conservation and Land Management. We will be shortly advertising for an Executive Officer.

WAWC facilitated a Weed Forum of State Government Departments on November 1st 2005. The Minister for Agriculture and Forestry; the Midwest and Wheatbelt the Honorable Kim Chance MLC opened the Forum for the WAWC. The day was very well attended with both Ministers Chance and Edwards, Minister for the Environment and Science, present when the day's key findings were presented. Dr Guy Preston Chair and Programme Leader of the Working for Water Programme in South Africa and John Thorp the National Weeds Facilitator provided our attendees with an International and National perspective.

The day was specifically focused on co-ordination of State Government departments and ways to better address barriers and gaps which were identified within the Survey conducted of 71 Government Departments earlier in the year. We had a very positive response to the Survey with 55 Government Departments providing information which helped to direct the manner in which the Forum progressed. Both Ministers Chance and Edwards were very supportive and indicated their desire to continue to work with the WAWC to implement the actions identified by participants. The WAWC will be preparing a paper outlining the major points and identified tasks from the Forum which will be provided to all Government Ministers and Departments. The WAWC has committed to continue to make contact with all participants on a monthly basis to gain feedback from participants. Once the Report of the Forum has been completed the WAWC will provide the community with a written update on the outcomes of the Forum. The WAWC would like to thank Department of Agriculture, Department of Conservation and Land Management, Natural Heritage Trust, Weeds Society of Western Australia, the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority and wineries from the Ferguson Valley for their sponsorship of the day.

During the late 2005 the WAWC and WALGA worked together to survey Local Government and have prepared a summary of these responses. We have also surveyed Tertiary Institutions to gain information on weed related courses and projects being conducted. During the next year we will continue to develop relationship with these groups.

Following our June 2006 meeting the WAWC has confirmed its role as a Strategic Group working towards activities that will be of a State-wide benefit, providing advice to Ministers and Government on weed related matters. The recently released State of the Environment Report identified weeds as one of the eight

serious threats to our State. The WAWC is currently facilitating a Report into the Economic and Environmental Costs of Weeds to Western Australia in conjunction with the CRC for Weeds, University of Western Australia, the Department of Agriculture and Food, Department of Conservation and Land Management and the Department of Environment. This Report will be valuable in providing advice to Government on effective future management of weeds in Western Australia.

During the year the WAWC has provided advice as a member of the Overarching Reference Group for the new Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Bill (BAM Bill) which should be introduced to the Legislative Assembly this year. We have also been represented on the Reference Group for the Biosecurity Review which is currently under preparation.

The WAWC also took part in a workshop with the Weeds CRC to develop a toolkit specifically for NRM Groups to assist in the development of a Strategic Approach to Weeds within their regions. We also see this as having importance for Local Government. The WAWC has initiated talks with WALGA and NRM Groups on a weed related project and we will wait to see the outcome of this.

The Draft Australian Weeds Strategy is currently open for public comment until the 17th July and provides the WAWC and all members of the Western Australian community an opportunity to provide feedback into National Weed Management, which will impact on activities at a State level (www.weeds.org.au/aws/).

The WAWC had a very positive and productive meeting with the Nursery Industry during June 2006 and will continue ongoing discussions regarding invasive species. A successful *Weeds in the Media* workshop organized by the CRC for Weeds was recently held and incorporated the Nursery and Horticulture Industries.

We recently attended a Starling Workshop held by the Department of Agriculture and Food which outlined the importance of containing Starlings which have the potential to spread weeds at an alarming rate, they particularly enjoy berries, which would make bridal creeper and blackberries ideal food. A submission is currently being made to Cabinet for additional funds to halt their spread in Western Australia. Community and Industry support for this proposal is vital.

I hope this report has provided people with a snapshot of the activities of the WAWC. We look forward to a positive 06/07 and welcome all feedback on weed matters to ensure we are adequately representing the views of the community to the decision makers.

Judy Fisher
Chair WAWC 0407 984 091
judyf@cyllene.uwa.edu.au

REVIEW OF CLEARING REGULATIONS

The Office of Development Approvals Coordination is heading a review of Native Vegetation Clearing Regulations. The Minister for the Environment has begun the review to streamline the efficiency of the native vegetation clearing provisions with the current process being considered complex and time consuming.

A group of stakeholders consisting of industry, government and conservations groups has been formed. However, there might not be an opportunity for the general public to comment on any proposed changes.



Perth Urban Bushland Fungi

The record dry spell we are having has affected the fungi that are fruiting this season. However, despite this, the PUBF team leaders and community members are still out there in the urban bushland managing to find some interesting fungi.

At the Koondoola bushland walk on Saturday 10 June, our first public walk for the season, we were very surprised and delighted to find quite a number of interesting and large fungi. Some of the fungi found, particularly interesting ones that Neale put names to, were *Russula erumpens*, *Russula neeri-mea* group, *Trichoderma* sp., *Amanita umbrinella* and *Amanita* sp.

By our first workshop at Whiteman Park, on Sunday 18 June, it still had not rained. Despite this, there was great excitement when the Volvate Cortinar, *Cortinarius phalaris* was found. This is the Gondwanan relic fungus, a really exciting find. This is the second time it has been found at a PUBF event. The first time was at our Forrestdale Lake workshop in 2004. The Perth Urban Bushland Fungi Project website contains more information about this most interesting fungus.

The Fungi leaders were really challenged this time and still came up well, not only finding fungi but finding fungi new to the project. One new fungus that PUBF has not collected before was *Xylaria hypoxolon*, the candle snuff fungus. Another new record for PUBF was *Paxillus infundibuliformis*, recognized by its funnel shaped ginger coloured velvety caps with decurrent, forking gills.

It was most unusual to be so hot and dry at a fungi workshop. So much for hot drinks needed to warm us up. We needed cooling down. One group at Whiteman Park had the unusual and fun experience of catching the Whiteman Park train back from their foray walk. Many of the fungi found are already in the PUBF Field book, and so they could be easily referred to. Most groups recorded the Brick Red Laccaria, a mycorrhizal fungus, and the Dog Poo Fungus - which is also featured on our poster.

Our "Common Fungi of the Perth Region" Poster is still available for sale for \$5.

Public walks still to come are at Modong in Oakford, on Sunday 9th July, Maida Vale bushland on Sunday 16 July and Queens Park bushland on 23 July. Details are on the PUBF website at www.fungiperth.org.au.

Hope to see you there.



PUBF team Participants of the fungi workshop at Whiteman Park.

POST-FIRE MANAGEMENT IN URBAN BUSHLAND

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS from a practical session held by the Urban Bushland Council WA on 29 April 2006 at Lightning Swamp and Koondoola Regional Bushland.

- Get involved in the regular update of Fire Response Plans. Contact the Bush Fire & Environmental Protection Branch of FESA by calling (08) 9323 9856 to report any changes to contact details, new rehabilitation sites, new track or fenced off areas, new records of Threatened Flora and other information that might be important. Keep a record of these reports.
- Invite members of your local fire station to a walk through your reserve or to one of your post-fire bushland rehabilitation activities
- Liaise with land manager responsible for your reserve to ensure that all fire access tracks are maintained to a required standard to minimise the risk of off track vehicles causing further disturbance in the reserve
- In the event of fire, liaise with the Officer in charge, recognisable by a lime green or orange helmet, at the "Control Point", usually located in the 'Incident Control Vehicle'.
- Provide your contact details to FESA and get involved in debriefing after a fire event in your reserve
- Raise the awareness of impacts of fire in urban bushland reserve and invite local residents to get involved in helping the bushland to regenerate
- Be aware of the risks of spreading dieback. Use footbaths to disinfect your shoes when entering bushland areas
- Monitor the recovery of bushland and the weed invasion. Focus on controlling any introduced grasses and bulbous and cormous weeds. If the land manager has not budgeted for weed control after unplanned fires, one of the grant schemes available to community groups can be used to seek the necessary funds (contact UBC for details).
- Monitor the effectiveness of weed control and the rate of bushland regeneration by setting up monitoring quadrats along a transects through the affected areas
- Keep a record of fires for your reserve

See an insert for more detailed information from the above activity.

Photo right: John Weaver explains how to use the GPS/Digital Camera system to record the extent of fire in bushland.

Photo by Phylis Robertson



Group News Group News Group News

The "Joondalup Community Coast Care Forum (Inc)" had its AGM in April and it was an opportunity to look back at some of our achievements over the past 12 months. These included:

- Preparing a comprehensive submission on the Burns Beach Foreshore Management Plan and subsequent acceptance of our revisions
- Providing input to the City of Joondalup Tourism development plan and acceptance of most of our input
- Successfully applying for a National Heritage Trust Grant of \$8,500 for a coastal revegetation project at Iluka/Ocean Reef.
- Successfully rescuing a big range of local native plants at an area in Iluka being cleared for housing.
- Raising the issue of poor seedling quality with City of Joondalup (resulting in the establishment of new arrangements to supply good quality local provenance plants in future).
- Successfully applying for a Coastwest grant of \$7,740 for Mullaloo Beach rehabilitation.
- Successful lobbying to replace a "turf" management contractor with a bush regeneration contractor for spraying weeds along dual use paths in the coastal reserves.
- As a fund raiser, winning a contract to prepare a Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) for the Public Open Space planned for the old CSIRO marine laboratory site in Marmion. JCCF received a payment of \$6,600 from Satterley Property Group for the VMP.
- Formation of new friends group of North Ocean Reef and Iluka Foreshore.
- Assisting the City of Joondalup to win the WA Coastal Excellence award from DPI and WACP.
- Assisting the City of Joondalup to get a Federal Grant of \$11,000.00 for development of native coastal garden and mural at Tom Simpson Park, Mullaloo
- Providing valuable input to development of Ocean Reef Road extension in the City of Joondalup public consultation process.

In April and May, we had involvement in helping to get some "green" councillors voted onto our Council. Soon after the local government elections, the new Mayor, Deputy Mayor and five Councillors attended our community planting event at Mullaloo on May 21st. We have already called on our new Councillors to get some previously requested work moving. This winter, into spring, we have planned a series of coastal plantings at three separate locations with follow up weeding work. The on-ground work JCCCF does along the coast is complemented by Bennett Brook Environmental Services under the direction of the City of Joondalup Bushcare Officer - they are mainly working in the priority areas as identified by the Coastal Management Plan.

Mike Norman



Mike Norman, JCCF Chairman with Troy Pickard, the newly elected Mayor of City of Joondalup planting at Sorrento beach. The project has run for 5 years now and has seen mass weed removal and revegetation of 1 km of coastline that is highly used.

The Friends of Ellis Brook Valley (Inc) are conducting a series of nature rambles during the months of August, September, October and November. These are good fun, informative, and give you a chance to see flora and fauna typical of the Darling Scarp. Bring your thermos and a bikkie or two, because we love a cuppa after our walk.

The dates are as follows: August, 6th; September, 2nd; October, 15th; November, 12th

Meeting place for all nature rambles is Hillside Farm, Hayward Road, Martin. Turn left from Pitt Rd.

Time: 8.00am to approx. 10.30am

Wet weather gear is advisable (if it ever rains), good footwear, a bottle of water, and a hat.

We also have a Night Stalk on the 22nd September. All sightings are recorded for use in research of species. Meeting place for this event is Honeyeater Hollow, Rushton Rd., Ellis Brook Valley, Martin

Time: 6.30pm to approx. 9.00pm

Be sure to wear something warm, bring a torch, and wear good footwear.

Gold coin donation is appreciated for all events. Hope to see you in Ellis Brook Valley.

Maggie Robertson

The Friends of Trigg Bushland (Inc) have written to the council (City of Stirling) about the little known 'Fauna Protection Buffer Zones' around our bushlands. Our letter covered the following points:

- Cat enclosures are now widely accepted in other parts of the world and in parts of Australia.
- There are number of suppliers of cat enclosures in Australia
- The average life expectancy of a confined cat is around four times that of a cat allowed to roam.

Local councils in Australia that require cats to be confined include the Pine Rivers Shire in Queensland under Local Law 42 (animal control). In Victoria, the *Domestic (Feral and Nuisance) Animals Act* states the occupiers of any premises where a dog (or cat) is kept must not allow that animal to be a nuisance. It is an offence to allow your dog or cat to wander around unsupervised in public; allow your dog or cat to trespass on another person's property or allow pets to litter in public places without cleaning up. The City of Geelong in Victoria offer a DIY kit for people who want to build their own cat fencing and enclosures. In NSW since 1999, cat owners must register their cats. In South Australia, Councils have the ability to introduce by-laws to manage cats and dogs, should this be the wish of their residents. The *Shire of Exmouth Local Law Cat Control* states "No person shall keep or allow to remain on any Premises of which he or she is the owner or occupier, any cat or cats so as to be a nuisance to another person...by reason of:...the aggressive nature of the cat or cats;the wandering of the cat or cats."

The City of Stirling has *Cat Prohibited Areas (CPA)* and *Fauna Protection Buffer Zones (FPBZ)*.

The City of Stirling has no record of domestic cats kept in the Fauna Protection Buffer Zones nor who owns them.

Compliance with the current Cat Law relies solely on the knowledge and motivation of the public.

Very few people are aware of the Cat Prohibited Areas and Fauna

(Continued on page 6)

Group News Group News Group News

Protection Buffer Zones, or the laws applied to keeping cats in general. Fauna Protection Buffer Zones, as they are currently managed, offer negligible fauna protection or cat control.

Friends of Trigg Bushland recommends changes to the current regulations regarding Cat Control and Fauna Protection Buffer Zones.

Peter St Clair-Baker

Reprinted with permission from the Friends of Trigg Bushland Winter Newsletter.

Quinns Rocks Environmental Group Inc had been approached by CALM representative in May to discuss the proposal to conduct a prescribed burn in the southern section of the Neerabup National Park. Large sections of the National Park just north of the area proposed to be burnt, were burnt last summer and about four years earlier. QREG has asked for a rethink of the planned burn because of the potential impact of further burning on wildlife. An integrated approach to managing fire risk in the park is needed. This should include weed control to reduce fuel loads, community education, preparing for rapid response to arson and consideration of alternative fuel reduction techniques on the edges of the bushland instead of burning of large blocks of bushland.

While the Group did not receive a formal response from CALM, from our local Members of Parliament we understand that the prescribed burn will not go ahead, at least not this year.

✿ SPRING WALKS ✿ SPRING WALKS ✿ SPRING WALKS ✿ SPRING WALKS ✿

Friends of Shenton Bushland will be holding its now traditional *Bush to Beach Walk* on Sunday 17 September.

Starting at Shenton Bushland the walk follows a route through Shenton Bushland, Underwood Avenue bushland, Perry Lakes, AK Reserve, Lake Claremont, Allen Park and finishes at Grant Marine Park in Cottesloe. Total length of the walk is 15 km, however, people are welcome to join in anytime.

To find out more about the walk contact Dani on 9381 3470.

For dates of guided spring walks by **Friends of Ellis Brook Valley** see page 5.

Australian Association of Bush Regenerators
Invites anyone interested to a forum

FERAL ANIMALS IN NATURAL AREAS

Guest speaker:
Michael Calver
Associate Professor in Biological Sciences
Murdoch University

Wednesday 12 July 2007

The Forum starts at 7.00 pm at the Kings Park Administration Centre, Fraser Ave, Kings Park

All welcome

AABR WA members free, others for a gold coin donation

For more information or to RVSP email to
aabrwa@westnet.com.au

The Urban Bushland Council WA
welcomes its new member group

FRIENDS OF
WESTERN SWAMP TORTOISE

Friends of Dianella Bushland welcome interested people to a guided walk at Cottonwood Crescent Bushland Reserve on Sunday 10 September. Meet at 8.30 am at the Reserve car park, entrance from Dianella Drive, Gay Street and then the Channel 7 Private Road. The walks along compacted limestone paths, suitable for prams and pushers, take about 1 hour.

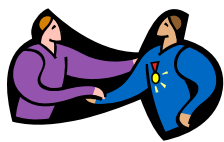
On Wednesday 11 October, they will hold a night walk to look for nocturnal creatures in the bush. Meet them at 7.00 pm at the same place.

To find out more about the 11 ha reserve and further activities of the friends Group contact Jan on 9344 2872.

Wildflower Society WA runs free monthly guided nature walks in different reserves. See seasonal changes in plant and animal life in a bushland near you.

The walks start at 8 am and run approximately for 1 hour.

<p>Each month on 1st Saturday (odd month)</p> <p>Meet Landsdale Rd approximately 250 metres west of Alexander Drive (contact Phylis phone 9349 9105)</p> <p>1st Saturday (even months)</p> <p>Landsdale Conservation Park behind Landsdale Rd approx 100 metres east of Evandale Rd Darch (contact Phylis phone 9349 9105)</p> <p>2nd Saturday (odd month)</p> <p>Errina Rd bushland beside Highview Park. Meet in Highview Park car park at eastern end Errina Rd Alexander Heights (contact Phylis phone 9349 9105)</p>	<p>Each month 2nd Saturday (even month)</p> <p>Koondoola Regional Bushland - meet at Koondoola Avenue opposite Burbridge Ave (contact Elizabeth phone 9342 0616)</p> <p>3d Saturday</p> <p>Lake Gwelup Reserve. Meet Scout Hall carpark near tennis courts Huntriss Rd Gwelup (contact Betty phone 9444 5640)</p> <p>4th Saturday</p> <p>Star Swamp bushland. Meet at Henderson Environ. Centre, Groat St, North Beach</p> <p>5th Saturday</p> <p>Trigg bushland—meet in carpark between St Mary's School and Millington Reserve (off Elliot Rd) Karrinyup (contact phone 9448 9192)</p>
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The Urban Bushland
Council WA
congratulates to our mem-
ber group representatives

David James

from the Friends of Lake Forrestdale, Wet-
lands Conservation Society, Lake Mealup Pres-
ervation Society and Birds Australia

&

David Pike

from Friends of Star Swamp Bushland

**The 2006 Recipients
Of the Conservation Council WA
Conservation Awards**

Their inclusion on the 'Honours List' ac-
knowledges their long term commitment to
the Western Australian environment

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT

Western Australia 2006

Public comment period closes

29 September 2006

The Environmental Protection Authority recently released the Draft State of the Environment Report for public review. The report summarises the condition of our environment and identifies priorities for action.

The most pressing environmental threats, according to the report, are climate change and rising greenhouse gas emissions; growing human population and resource consumption, introduced animals and weeds, dieback and the salinisation of land and waterways.

Copies of the report can be obtained by phoning 9222 8668 or are available online: www.soe.wa.gov.au

SOUTHWEST AUSTRALIA ECOREGION

New publication prepared by the *Southwest Australia Ecoregion Initiative (SWAEI)*, which comprises of a consortium of member groups who are contributing ideas and resources towards the development of a Conservation Strategy for the Southwest Australia Ecoregion.

The document ..content

Where to get a copy

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Australia Post Community Development Grant

Community groups, including local landcare groups across Australia, can now apply for yearly grants of up to \$3,300 (including GST) to help improve their local community and environment, through the Australia Post Landcare Community Development Grants Program.

The grants can fulfil a community groups' "wish list" and directly fund a community project, help buy much needed tools and equipment, or help raise awareness and encourage more community members to get involved. The flexibility in the allocation of funds aims to help groups in their ability to grow within the community.

Who's eligible? Any community group undertaking strategic projects to care for the environment, including landcare groups, youth groups and indigenous groups, can apply for the Australia Post Landcare Australia Community Development Grants. Groups that are not incorporated will need to form a partnership with an organisation that will (and can) accept responsibility for administering the financial aspects of the grant, including insurance, e.g. an incorporated Landcare or catchment organisation.

Closing date Round 2: 29 September 2006

For more information and the application form go to:

www.landcareonline.com

Lotterywest

Gordon Reid Conservation of Natural Heritage Grants

Applications for funding can be lodged anytime. To find out more visit the website on www.lotterywest.wa.gov.au or phone 9340 5270 or 1800 655 270

Conservation Planning Symposium

27 - 28 September 2006

Perth

The aim of the symposium will be to present information on a range of conservation planning approaches and tools relevant for large scale conservation planning and priority setting.

To be placed on the Conservation Planning Symposium mailing list for further updates, email to swcoordinator@wwf.org.au and include your contact details.

WA Environment Awards 2006

It is time to get recognition for all the hard work you are doing for our environment. The WA Environment Awards provide a great opportunity for business, industry, government, community groups and individuals to gain public recognition for innovation in environmental management and conservation.

Nomination for the 2006 WA environmental Awards close on **Friday 4 August**. Visit www.environment.wa.gov.au or email to awards@environment.wa.gov.au.

Support the Urban Bushland Council

Join or renew your membership

Groups:

Membership with voting rights is available to groups committed to the protection of urban bushland for \$30 a year (GST included). A growing membership strengthens the cause and groups benefit from the network.

Individuals:

Supporter membership is only \$20 per year (GST included). Supporters can attend meetings and receive copies of the "Urban Bush Telegraph"

Send your name, address and cheque or postal order to:

Treasurer, Urban Bushland Council WA Inc, PO Box 326, West Perth WA 6872



Photo by Tony Kirkby

Beauty in Perth's Banksias Come and Experience

Saturday 16 September

**What have we got?
What are we losing?
What lives there?
What are Reference Sites?**

Come along a free bust trip showcasing Banksia woodlands from Kensington through Byford to Leda.

To book your place on the bus, call (08) 9420 7207 (leave message) or email to ubc@iinet.net.au

UBC PUBLICATIONS

***Wetlands to Wastelands?* - proceedings of a seminar about the future of bushland at Perth Airport (2004)**

Available at UBC's website

<http://members.iinet.net.au/~ubc/html/infosheets.htm>

***Burning Issues*—proceedings of a workshop about fire management in urban bushland. (2002)**
Available from the UBC for \$11, postage included.

***Building Partnerships between Community Groups and Local Government for Our Bushland*—proceedings of a seminar (2000). Available from the UBC for \$5.50, postage included**

***Managing our Bushland* - proceedings of a conference about the protection and management of urban bushland (1998). Available from the UBC for \$11, postage included.**

***Burning our Bushland* - proceedings of a conference about fire and urban bushland (1995). Out of print; available in libraries.**

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Editor: Renata Zelinova

PLEASE SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

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If possible, send contribution on floppy disk in IBM format. Disks will be returned.

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