

naturebank

- **WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S
BIODIVERSITY
CONSERVATION
INFORMATION SYSTEM**

Oceans of data, rivers of
understanding, streams of
knowledge, drops of wisdom

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- 173 years of data (numerical, observational, spatial or chronological)
- Much data overlooked, forgotten or unpublished
- Much data unintegrated
- Declining funding => less fieldwork
- Data = building blocks of hypotheses, theories

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- New ecological paradigms (landscape scale, ecosystem management)
- Development of portable computers, GPS, GIS
- CALM moving towards being an online organization
- FloraBase = successful & widely acclaimed model

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- CALM needs to be more knowledge-based
- Science Division effective at gathering data
- Need to develop better systems for integrating, assembling, linking, packaging, value adding and disseminating data relevant to nature conservation

naturebank VISION

- A system to provide a single entry point for Regional Leaders NC, Land for Wildlife staff, Regional Ecologists, Fire Planners, Area Management Planners to knowledge about WA's biodiversity
- Convenient public access to factual information relating to all aspects of the biodiversity of WA

Current weaknesses

- Quadrats => landscapes?
- Outcome = papers in science journals?
- Original data
discarded/filed/damaged/archived
inappropriately/lost on retirement?
- Data sets unanalysed
- Datasets unusable (no metadata)
- Data = private property?

External support

- Dell FMRC WGS 1999
- RFA
- Ferguson cttee report 2001
- ANZECC 2001

Objectives 1

- Assemble central databases
- Identify strategic gaps in K&I
- Provide convenient directory
- Facilitate efficient access to K&I
- Value-add to data
- Facilitate application of models

Objectives 2

- Contribute to science priority setting
- Contribute to educational products
- Communicate interpreted data to stakeholders via internet e.g. Karrak-Watch

Staffing

- Data Manager (Project Officer)
- GIS Research Scientist
- Biological Modeller

Annual costs (\$250K)

- 3 salaries \$158K
- hardware \$18K
- software \$14K
- server \$30K?
- tape back up system, licence upgrade &c \$30K?

Milestones - Year 1

Data Manager

GIS RS

Biol Modeller

EOI called

EOI called

EOI called

Accomm at KRS

Accomm at KRS

Accomm at KRS

Workshop
convened. SD
databases
located &
archived

Workshop
convened &
existing biol
spatial data
gathered. Pilot
study with regions

Workshop
convened &
priorities
determined

