
 <b>Department of Environment and Conservation</b> <i>Our environment, our future</i> 		<b>RECOVERY TEAM ANNUAL REPORT</b>	
<b>THREATENED SPECIES AND/OR COMMUNITIES RECOVERY TEAM</b>			
<b>PROGRAM INFORMATION</b>			
<b>Recovery Team</b>		Great Southern District Threatened Flora & Communities Recovery Team	
<b>Reporting Period</b>		Calendar year 2010	
<b>Current membership</b>			
<b>Member</b>		<b>Representing</b>	
<b>1. Chair</b>	Peter Lacey	DEC Great Southern District, Narrogin	
<b>2.</b>	Greg Durell	DEC Great Southern District, Narrogin	
<b>3.</b>	Brett Beecham	DEC Wheatbelt Region	
<b>4</b>	Andrew Brown	DEC Species and Communities Branch	
<b>5.</b>	Anne Rick	Lakes District Rare Flora Group, Landholder	
<b>6</b>	Jill Richardson	NRM Groups – Katanning Landcare Zone, Blackwood Basin Group	
<b>7</b>	Peter Denton	Transport and Utilities Main Roads WA – Narrogin (Wheatbelt South)	
<b>8</b>	Val Crowley	Volunteer/Community Groups	
<b>9</b>	Judy Williams	Volunteer/Community Groups	
<b>10</b>	Anne Cochrane	DEC Science Division, Flora Conservation and Herbarium Program	
<b>11</b>	Bob Dixon	Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority	
<b>12</b>	Wendy Chow	DEC Species and Communities Branch	
<b>13</b>	Julian Murphy	Local Government Authorities	
<b>Dates meetings were held</b>		May 7, 2010. A second meeting was planned for November. However, it was decided to wait until the permanent flora officer was back from Parental Leave and the meeting was held in early 2011.	
<b>One to two paragraph summary of achievements</b>		Numerous surveys were undertaken of threatened flora populations throughout 2010 in the Great Southern District, with emphasis on translocations, species included in the Caring for Our Country (CFOC)	

	<p>'Reducing the impact of rabbits on threatened flora' project and on Critically Endangered species and other Declared Rare taxa that had not been surveyed for some time. This survey work highlighted the need for a more rigorous monitoring approach. A prioritisation process was implemented to produce a list of 66 Threatened Flora populations to be surveyed and have permanent monitoring quadrats installed. A three year program was developed with implementation beginning in early 2011.</p> <p>The Wheatbelt Orchid Rescue project was successfully completed by Mark Brundrett with field assistance provided by members of the Recovery Team, the Orchid Society and community volunteers. The project has lead to the discovery of new populations and population extensions within the Great Southern District. Final Reports have been produced and Marks work has attracted International media attention especially for the Underground orchid, <i>Rhizanthella gardnerii</i>.</p> <p>Assistance was given to Southern Aboriginal Corp to successfully apply for 'CFOC' Groundworks funding to undertake weed control, revegetation and enhance Threatened flora habitat at 'Marribank' where three Threatened flora species occur. Work has progressed steadily throughout the year.</p>
List of actions undertaken by Recovery Team members	
<b>KEY ACTIONS</b>	
<b>Action 1</b>	<p><b>Surveying/monitoring –</b></p> <p>The employ of a dedicated project officer has seen the survey of 156 (of 162) total populations of those species included within the CFOC project:</p> <p><i>Acacia insolita</i> subsp. <i>recurva</i>  <i>Adenanthos pungens</i> subsp. <i>effusus</i>  <i>Banksia cuneata</i>  <i>Banksia oligantha</i>  <i>Boronia capitata</i> subsp. <i>capitata</i>  <i>Calectasia pignattiana</i>  <i>Conostylis drummondii</i>  <i>Conostylis setigera</i> subsp. <i>dasys</i>  <i>Darwinia carnea</i>  <i>Gastrolobium lehmannii</i>  <i>Goodenia integerrima</i>  <i>Grevillea scapigera</i>  <i>Hakea aculeata</i>  <i>Ptilotus fasciculatus</i>  <i>Tribonanthes purpurea</i>  <i>Verticordia fimbrialepis</i> subsp. <i>fimbrialepis</i>  <i>Verticordia staminosa</i> var. <i>cylindracea</i></p> <p>36 populations of threatened and priority flora taxa not included in the CFOC project were also surveyed:</p> <p><i>Acacia leptalea</i> – 1 pop'n</p>

	<p> <i>Acacia tuberculata</i> (P2) – 1 pop'n  <i>Anigozanthus bicolour</i> ssp. <i>minor</i> – 1 pop'n  <i>Caladenia dorrienii</i> – 1 pop'n  <i>Caladenia melanema</i> – 4 pop'ns  <i>Caladenia williamsiae</i> – 5 pop'ns  <i>Eremophila subteretifolia</i> – 3 pop'ns and conducted a desktop search to identify suitable habitat  <i>Eremophila verticillata</i> – 2 pop'ns  <i>Gonocarpus ericifolia</i> (P2) – 1 pop'n  <i>Grevillea dryandroides</i> ssp. <i>hirsuta</i> – 2 pop'ns  <i>Grevillea involucrata</i> – 9 pop'ns  <i>Hemigenia ramossisima</i> translocations – 2 pop'ns  <i>Lechenaultia laricina</i> – 1 pop'n  <i>Leucopogon amplexans</i> – 1 pop'n  <i>Pultenaea pauciflora</i> – 1 pop'n  <i>Roycea pycnophylloides</i> – 1 pop'n </p> <p> Installed monitoring quadrats at <i>Boronia capitata</i> ssp. <i>capitata</i> population 1, <i>Conostylis setigera</i> ssp. <i>dasys</i> population 2, <i>Grevillea dryandroides</i> ssp. <i>hirsuta</i> population 8 and the new population of <i>Eremophila subteretifolia</i> at Pallarup NR. </p>
<b>Action 2</b>	<p><b>New populations –</b></p> <p>2 new populations of <i>Eremophila subteretifolia</i> were found at Pallarup NR, with more areas of suitable habitat located for further survey in 2011.</p> <p>1 new population of <i>Grevillea involucrata</i> and 1 new population of <i>Verticordia stanminosa</i> ssp. <i>cylindrata</i> found by the Lakes District Flora Group</p> <p>1 new population of <i>Acacia cochlocarpa</i> ssp. <i>cochlocarpa</i> was found</p> <p>Population extensions were recorded for:</p> <p> <i>Banksia oligantha</i> (pop 2)  <i>Boronia capitata</i> ssp. <i>capitata</i> (pop 1)  <i>Caladenia williamsiae</i> (pop 2)  <i>Conostylis drummondii</i> (pops 2 &amp; 18)  <i>Conostylis setigera</i> (pop 1) </p>
<b>Action 3</b>	<p><b>Rabbit control –</b></p> <p>Rabbit baiting program conducted at 31 populations of threatened flora.</p>
<b>Action 4</b>	<p><b>Seed collection –</b> Seed collection opportunities were low due to the very dry conditions occurring in 2011.</p> <p><i>Grevillea involucrata</i></p>
<b>Action 5</b>	<p><b>Fencing –</b></p> <p>Fixed/maintained rabbit-proof fence at Populations 4 and 8 of <i>Banksia</i></p>

	<p><i>cuneta</i>.</p> <p>Fenced <i>Lechenaultia laricina</i> pop 9B (approx.30m x 60m) to protect from grazing and trampling by stock.</p> <p>Added rabbit mesh to fence surrounding <i>Banksia oligantha</i> population 2A.</p>
<b>Action 6</b>	<p><b>Rare flora markers –</b></p> <p>Replaced and positioned rare flora markers as required.</p>
<b>Action 7</b>	<p><b>Community engagement/communication –</b></p> <p>Drafted letter for annual mailout to shires informing them of the current location of threatened flora and the purpose of DRF markers on lands vested in their shire and the assistance DEC can provide with management.</p> <p>Liaised with various local government representatives on best practice management of rare and threatened flora on roadsides. 176 new <i>Grevillea scapigera</i> seedlings recorded at a roadside population where road maintenance had been carefully managed in a joint DEC Shire of Corrigin operation.</p> <p>Management options for the Threatened flora occurring in the new Corrigin Nature Reserve jointly managed by DEC and the Shire of Corrigin have been discussed and some aspects implemented.</p> <p>Distributed <i>Eremophila verticillata</i> to landholders in the Lake Grace Shire through the Newdegate Post Office in order to increase local community awareness and locate new populations.</p> <p>Distributed copies of the booklet Declared Rare Flora in the southern Wheatbelt and eastern jarrah forest to all relevant shires. Copies supplied to interested community groups, individuals and landholders.</p> <p>Commenced development of a poster for <i>Adenanthos velutinus</i> and published a poster for <i>Hemigenia ramosissima</i>.</p> <p>Representation at Katanning Agricultural show and Newdegate Field Day, distribution of southern Wheatbelt DRF ID booklets and rabbit control calendar wheels to interested parties.</p> <p>The employ of a dedicated project officer for the CFOC project has seen the judicious and focused negotiation with landholders has led to the survey of 46 populations DRF on private property. 16 of which had not been surveyed within the past 10 years because of high work loads by permanent field staff and the difficulties in engaging some landholders in conservation priorities.</p> <p>Jill Richardson and Anne Rick have continued to work with community volunteers throughout the year. Developing and maintaining the interest of the community in flora conservation.</p>
<b>Action 8</b>	<p><b>Translocations –</b></p> <p>Monitoring of the two <i>Darwinia carnea</i> and <i>Hemigenia ramosissima</i> sites, watering over summer of seedlings and most recent plantings.</p> <p><i>Grevillea scapigera</i> translocations monitored by the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority</p> <p>Orchid translocations monitored by Mark Brundrett as part of the Wheatbelt Orchid Rescue project.</p>
<b>Action 9</b>	<p><b>Species review –</b></p> <p>Summary of information of the district's populations of taxa listed below provided the Recovery Team with information to contribute to updating IRP's</p>

	<p>due for review in 2011.</p> <p><i>Banksia mucronulata</i> subsp. <i>retrorsa</i></p> <p><i>Caladenia graniticola</i></p> <p><i>Drakaea isolata</i></p> <p><i>Eremophila subteretifolia</i></p> <p><i>Eremophila verticillata</i></p> <p><i>Goodenia integerrima</i></p> <p><i>Hemigenia ramosissima</i></p> <p><i>Muehlenbeckia horrida</i> subsp. <i>abdit</i></p> <p><i>Verticordia staminosa</i> subsp. <i>cylindracea</i> var. <i>cylindracea</i></p> <p><i>Verticordia staminosa</i> subsp. <i>cylindracea</i> var. <i>erecta</i></p>
<b>Action 10</b>	<p><b>Science &amp; Research –</b></p> <p>Began liaison with Kings Park and Botanic gardens to develop propagation techniques for <i>Banksia ionthocarpa</i> ssp. <i>chrysophoenix</i></p> <p>An adaptive management program investigating the effect of time since fire on <i>Allocasuarina huegeliana</i> encroachment and heath senescence at Tutanning NR was implemented. As part of this process quadrats were established to monitor the effect of fire on <i>Boronia capitata</i> subsp. <i>capitata</i> plants and recruitment.</p> <p>Adaptive management projects were developed to investigate the effect of disturbance regimes and rabbit grazing on survival and recruitment of <i>Gastrolobium lehmannii</i> and <i>Hakea aculeata</i>. These projects will be implemented in 2011.</p> <p>Monitoring quadrats were set up to investigate the effect of fire on <i>Acacia insolita</i> ssp. <i>recurva</i> and <i>Conostylis setigera</i> ssp. <i>dasys</i>.</p> <p>Trials were setup at <i>Banksia oligantha</i> population 2B to investigate the effect of perennial veldt grass (<i>Ehrharta calycina</i>) and two separate control measures on recruitment of <i>B. oligantha</i>.</p>
<b>Action 11</b>	<p><b>TEC monitoring –</b></p> <p>Biannual TEC monitoring was undertake at Lake Bryde by Wendy Chow and members of the Lake Bryde Recovery Team. Detailed monitoring of the Threatened flora species <i>Muehlenbeckia horrida</i> ssp. <i>abdit</i> was undertaken as part of this process.</p>
<b>Action 12</b>	<p><b>Fire Response Plans –</b></p> <p>A fire management guideline has been developed by Science division for <i>Eremophila verticillata</i>. The information in this guideline will be incorporated during the IRP review process.</p>