



THREATENED SPECIES AND/OR COMMUNITIES RECOVERY TEAM

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Recovery Team name	'Sedgeland in Holocene dune swales Recovery Team'	
Reporting Period (Calendar Year)	Calendar year 2010	
Current membership		
	Member	Representing
1. Chair	Ms Val English	DEC
2. EXEC OFFICER	-	
3.	Dr Neil Gibson	DEC Science Division
4	Professor Phillip Jennings	Wetlands Conservation Society
5.	Ms Kate Brown	DEC Urban Nature
6	Mr David Mort	City of Rockingham
7.	Mr Robert Cambell	DEC Community and Regional Parks
Dates meetings were held	7 September 2010	
One to two paragraph summary of achievements suitable for WATSNU	<p>Summary</p> <p>Members of the Recovery Team for the 'sedgeland in Holocene dune swales' dealt with a series of issues in 2010 including negotiations and advice about areas that contain the sedgeland community and are the subject of proposals for reservation or development.</p> <p>Resources were received from the Australian Government to update the recovery plan, and a late draft of the plan was produced. Species and Communities Branch surveyed new occurrences of the community in Golden Bay, and monitored most other occurrences to collect current data for inclusion in the updated plan.</p> <p>An article about the sedgeland community was completed for inclusion in Landscape magazine. New pamphlets about the sedgeland community were published with funding assistance from the Australian Government, and were distributed through members of the recovery team.</p> <p>Under the direction of DEC's Regional Parks Branch work was</p>	

	<p>continued on controlling the weeds <i>Juncus acutus</i> (sharp rush), <i>Gomphocarpus fruticosus</i> (cotton bush), and pampas grass (<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>) at Port Kennedy Scientific Park within occurrences of the sedgelands. Urban Nature in conjunction with Greening Australia continued trials of <i>Euphorbia terracina</i> (Geraldton carnation weed) and recovery of the sedgeland community following control.</p> <p>Maintenance of fencing was continued in Port Kennedy Scientific Park to help control illegal four wheel drive access. Limestone boulders were interspersed with vegetation to help control vehicle access into the Park. Pedestrian entrance points into the park were improved.</p>
List of actions undertaken by Recovery Team (from actions in Recovery Plan)	
KEY ACTIONS	
Action 1	<p>3.2 Identify all occurrences of the community</p> <p>Additional occurrences of the community in west Golden Bay were investigated and mapped by Species and Communities Branch. New data was added to DEC's Threatened Ecological Community Database.</p>
Action 2	<p>3.3 Liaise with relevant groups to implement this IRP</p> <p>In 2010, the recovery team continued to liaise with numerous groups including local government, industry and the local community to implement the recommendations in the Recovery Plan. In particular, members of the team were involved in negotiations to minimise impacts with regard to development of land, or in seeking to improve management of land at west Golden Bay, Port Kennedy Regional Park, IP14 Rockingham Industrial Zone, and the proposed Mangles Bay Marina that occurs near the Lake Richmond occurrences.</p>
Action 3	<p>3.4 Minimise further clearing of the community</p> <p>Members of the Recovery Team provided advice and recommendations with regard to impact of development on the sedgelands at IP14, and other areas including west Golden Bay.</p>
Action 4	<p>3.5 Minimise recreational disturbance to the community</p> <p>Regional Parks Branch continued to work with Mirvac Pty Ltd, the City of Rockingham and the Western Australian Police with regard to managing vehicle access at Port Kennedy Scientific Park. Targeted off road vehicle operations were carried out. Regional Parks continued to install limestone boulders interspersed with vegetation to help control vehicle access into the Park. Fence maintenance was ongoing, and pedestrian entrance points were improved.</p>

	<p>Liaison continued between Species and Communities Branch, Regional Parks Branch, and LandCorp about the management of the sedgeland community at Bakewell Drive Port Kennedy. LandCorp has continued to fix fences, replace gates, install new gates as appropriate and remove rubbish at the site. This will help prevent further rubbish dumping, illegal fires and general disturbance to vegetation.</p>
<p>Action 5</p>	<p>3.8 Apply fire response plans</p> <p>Updated fire response plans were circulated to the Fire and Emergency Services Authority (FESA), local Bush Fire Brigades and the City of Rockingham by the Regional Parks Branch.</p> <p>Port Kennedy Scientific Park falls within unexploded ordnance (UXO) zones 1 – 4. Ground and air assets are now available to use in this area, including areas outside of defined tracks.</p>
<p>Action 6</p>	<p>3.9 Design and implement a weed control strategy for the community</p> <p>Recovery Team members provided comment on the draft of the Weed Control and Rehabilitation Plan for Port Kennedy Scientific Park. This plan outlines priority areas for weed control and allocates resources for weed control and recreational facilities. It was noted that Geraldton carnation weed is one of the greatest threats to the TEC in the Park.</p> <p>Consistent with the Weed Control and Rehabilitation Plan for Rockingham Lakes Regional Park, Regional Parks Branch directed work on controlling the weeds <i>Juncus acutus</i>, <i>Gomphocarpus fruticosus</i> (cotton bush), and pampas grass (<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>) at Port Kennedy Scientific Park, Lake Coo loongup and Lake Walyungup</p> <p>Urban Nature continued management trials in Port Kennedy Regional Park including techniques to control of <i>Euphorbia terracina</i> (Geraldton carnation weed). Cover had been reduced from 20% to 0.5% in the trial area, and had remained at the lower level of cover after fire. Sedges and rushes, and native grasses had increased after fire.</p> <p>With funding assistance from the Commonwealth’s Natural Heritage Trust, Swan Coastal District mapped weed infestations, mapped condition, determined priority areas for weed control, and undertook manual control of <i>Euphorbia terracina</i> (Geraldton carnation weed) at the Lake Richmond occurrence.</p>
<p>Action 7</p>	<p>3.11 Report on success of management strategies for wetlands</p> <p>This report completes this action for 2010.</p>

<p>Action 8</p>	<p>3.24 Undertake appropriate research and education projects</p> <p>New pamphlets about the sedgelands community were published with funding assistance from the Australian Government, and were distributed through members of the recovery team and other avenues including the City of Rockingham and DEC District and Regional Parks Offices.</p>
<p>Action 9</p>	<p>3.26 Negotiate for appropriate management of other occurrences in Port Kennedy, outside Port Kennedy Scientific Park</p> <p>Members of the Recovery Team provided advice and recommendations with regard to possible reservation of areas of the community in IP14 and west Golden Bay. Members of the team also provided comment on issues relating to minimising hydrological and other impacts at IP14 Rockingham Industrial Zone.</p>
<p>Criteria for success or failure as described in Recovery Plans or Interim Recovery Plans</p>	<p>ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS AS DESCRIBED IN RECOVERY PLAN</p> <p><i>Criteria for success in Interim Recovery Plan:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>An increase in the area, number of occurrences, and completeness of a geomorphic age sequence of this community under conservation management.</i> <p>Ongoing - see above: members of the Recovery Team are involved with ongoing negotiations and provision of advice about areas that contain the sedgeland community and are the subject of proposals for reservation. Liaison with LandCorp, State Housing Commission and other relevant land managers was continued in 2010 to specifically seek to improve on-ground management of occurrences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Maintenance in terms of diversity and basic composition of native species (as described in Gibson et al. 1994).</i> <p>Ongoing. Most occurrences were visited in 2010, and TEC Report Forms were completed following these visits as part of the process of updating the recovery plan. Permanent monitoring quadrats have been established in many occurrences and will be re-monitored approximately every five years. All original quadrat data were entered into the Site-Species Database in preparation for statistical analysis.</p> <p>Control of weeds and associated monitoring was continued within occurrences of the sedgeland community at Port Kennedy Scientific Park and at Lake Richmond.</p> <p>Work on infrastructure and activities to control impacts of illegal access at Port Kennedy Scientific Park was continued in 2010.</p>

- *Maintenance of water levels and quality in the wetlands that contain the community.*

Hydrological data are continually being collected for areas that contain occurrences of the community. Detailed data are being collected for areas adjacent to development areas including Waikiki Station, Lark Hill, Port Kennedy Golf Course Stage 2, Anstey Q wetland, specific sites within Rockingham Lakes Regional Park, and at IP14. Available hydrological data have been collated in the updated recovery plan, and for the purpose of determining threshold values of tolerances of water quality and levels for the community.

- *Maintenance or improvement in the condition and extent of the community including reduction of exotic species*

Ongoing - see above: weed control was continued in 2010 in Port Kennedy Scientific Park and Lake Richmond and weed levels continued to be monitored.

Consultants RPS also monitor vegetation in the two long swales in Port Kennedy Regional Park.