

THREATENED SPECIES AND/OR COMMUNITIES RECOVERY TEAM

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Recovery Team	Geraldton District Threatened Flora and Communities Recovery Team	
Reporting Period	Calendar year 2011	
Current membership		
	Member	Representing
1. Chair	David Rose, District Manager, Geraldton District	DEC
	Anthony Desmond, Regional Leader Nature Conservation	DEC
2. Exec Officer	Alanna Chant, Conservation Officer (Flora)	DEC
3.	Vacant	Mingenew-Dongara Herbarium Group
4	Anna Sutherland Matt Oswald	Main Roads
5.	Josephine Docherty	Mullewa Wildflower Society
	Robin Simkin	Kalbarri Herbarium
6	Species and Communities Branch representatives (Andrew Brown, Val English)	DEC
7	Jon Stevens Ernie Stead-Richardson	Brookfield Rail (was Westnet Rail - not an official member but attends regularly)
8	Jenna Brooker Sally Vigilante Beth Teale	Geraldton Regional Herbarium
9	Greg Burrows	NACC
10	Joshua Foster	GHD (not an official member but attends regularly)
11	Alice James	Durack Institute
Dates meetings were held	23 rd August 2011	
One to two paragraph summary of achievements suitable for <i>WATSNU</i>	New populations of three of the District's most Endangered flora (<i>Pterostylis sinuata</i> , <i>Pityrodia axillaris</i> and <i>Lechenaultia chlorantha</i>) were surveyed. All populations are in a relatively healthy condition and were discovered by volunteer recovery team members.	

A successful recruitment trial for *Stylidium amabile* was monitored after the third winter since the trial and more new recruits were found with a current total of 337 individuals.

A second round of planting was undertaken at 3 DRF translocations (*Eremophila nivea*, *Acacia imitans* and *Acacia unguicula*) during 2011. The total number of *Eremophila nivea* plants is now 278. A total of 255 individuals of *Acacia imitans* and 257 *Acacia unguicula* have been planted during the translocation projects for these species.

Rabbit baiting was carried out on nature reserves and adjoining private properties for the purpose of protecting the threatened flora *Conostylis micrantha*, *Conostylis dielsii* subsp. *teres*, *Leucopogon marginatus*, *Caladenia elegans*, *Caladenia wanosa*, *Caladenia hoffmanii*, *Drummondita ericoides* and *Grevillea bracteosa* subsp. *howatharra* as well as numerous priority flora.

Post burn monitoring plots were established at four sites each for the threatened flora *Conostylis micrantha*, *Conostylis dielsii* subsp. *teres*, *Leucopogon marginatus*, *Eucalyptus beardiana* and *Beyeria lepidopetala*.

Field work for a Flora and Vegetation survey was completed at Kalbarri for the Kalbarri National Park Roading and Infrastructure Project. The survey was conducted with occasional assistance from volunteers over a total of 22 days between 25th August and 3 November 2011, and included a threatened and priority flora survey within the project area.

List of actions undertaken by Recovery Team member/s

Actions undertaken by Recovery Team members during 2011 are as follows:

Survey and Monitoring

Approximately 76 populations and subpopulations of 23 DRF were surveyed and/or monitored during 2011 including: *Pityrodia axillaris* 3 known populations and one new, *Stylidium amabile* 2 populations, *Eremophila nivea* 2 populations, *Caladenia bryceana* subsp. *cracens* 2 populations, *Caladenia wanosa* 2 populations, *Caladenia elegans* 7 populations, *Pterostylis sinuata* 6 known populations and one new, *Caladenia hoffmanii* 3 populations including 2 new populations, *Eucalyptus cuprea* 10 populations, *Stachystemon nematophorus* 1 new population, *Schoenia filifolia* subsp. *subulifolia* 3 populations, *Wurmbea tubulosa* 1 new population, *Gyrostemon reticulatus* 4 populations and subpopulations, *Verticordia spicata* subsp. *squamosa* 5 populations, *Tecticornia bulbosa* 1 population, *Lechenaultia chlorantha* 1 population and one new population, *Drakaea concolor* 2 populations, *Grevillea bracteosa* subsp. *howatharra* 3 populations and subpopulations, *Commersonia adenothalia* 1 population, *Eucalyptus beardiana* 6 populations, *Beyeria lepidopetala* 1 population, *Conostylis micrantha* 5 populations, *Conostylis dielsii* subsp. *teres* 5 populations *Grevillea christineae* 2 populations.

7 new populations and subpopulations of 6 different DRF were surveyed (*Pterostylis sinuata* 1 new population, *Caladenia hoffmanii* 2 populations, *Stachystemon nematophorus* 1 new population, *Pityrodia axillaris* 1 new population, *Wurmbea tubulosa* 1 new population, *Lechenaultia chlorantha* 1 new populations).

Research Trials

3 previously implemented recruitment trials were monitored (*Stylidium amabile*, *Eremophila nivea*, *Gyrostemon reticulatus*). Post burn monitoring quadrats were installed for 5 additional threatened flora (*Conostylis micrantha*, *Conostylis dielsii* subsp. *teres*, *Leucopogon marginatus*, *Beyeria lepidopetala* and *Eucalyptus beardiana*).

Two individuals of *Stylidium wilroyense* were removed from a location which was to be cleared for a rail development. These are now being cared for by the Durack Institute nursery and seed has been collected for future translocation projects. It is intended that propagation trials will be carried out with seed from more common *Stylidium* to gain information on propagation techniques for this genus.

Liaison

Liaison has continued to take place with land holders and land managers in relation to threatened and priority flora populations.

Community Involvement

Community involvement in threatened flora recovery increased during the year with the Durack Institute Land Management students becoming involved in survey and fence construction. Other members were very active in searching for new populations with 4 new threatened flora and numerous priority flora being found, and assistance was provided by some volunteers with the Kalbarri Flora Survey.

Kalbarri Flora and Vegetation Survey

Field work for a Flora and Vegetation survey was completed at Kalbarri for the Kalbarri National Park Roding and Infrastructure Project. The Project will comprise sealing and some realignment of the Murchison Gorges Access Road, and the Z-Bend to Loop Roads, as well as alterations at the Z-Bend and Loop Day Use Areas and Nature's Window Lookout.

The survey was conducted with occasional assistance from volunteers over a total of 22 days between 25 August and 3 November 2011. It comprised a threatened and priority flora survey with wandering transects undertaken at the Z-Bend and Loop Day Use Areas, the *Drakaea concolor* population (population 2A) along the Murchison Gorges Access Road, and in suitable habitat at 27 locations along the roads in the Project Area. It also included a general flora and vegetation survey comprising 23 quadrats and 7 transects along the roads and in the Day Use Areas, and wandering transects at 13 sand pits within the project area.

Data are still being collated and the report prepared, but a potential total of 24 conservation significant taxa were recorded during the survey, with 2 being threatened flora (*Caladenia wanosa* and *Drakaea concolor*), nine possible Priority 2 taxa, ten possible Priority 3 taxa, 2 possible Priority 4 taxa and 1 possible undescribed taxon.