

Threatened Flora Management Plan for CALM's Geraldton District.

Project no. 446

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ANNUAL REPORT

January 2000

by

S.J.Patrick

for
The Geraldton District Threatened Flora Recovery Team

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Summary

This report covers progress made in the implementation of the Threatened Flora Management Plan for CALM's Geraldton District, Project Number 446 from January 1999 to January 2000.

There have been two meetings of the Recovery team during the year and members have continued to contribute to survey work.

The draft of the Wildlife Management Program has been completed. Nine days fieldwork have been undertaken in the District, during which 21 populations of Priority Taxa have been fully surveyed and 43 new populations of Priority Taxa have been found. In addition, several further populations have been surveyed by members of the Recovery Team.

The Conservation Research Statement for the Geraldton District has been completed and edited. The final draft has accounts of 37 Declared Rare flora, including two Presumed Extinct taxa. There are 118 Priority One taxa, 80 Priority Two taxa and 66 Priority Three taxa, a total of 301 taxa, of which 264 are Priority taxa. 48 of the priority taxa have been recommended for urgent further survey and 54 have been recommended for lower Priority listing.

Introduction

Work has been concentrated on the completion of the Threatened Flora Management Plan for the Geraldton District during the first part of the year

1. Formation of Recovery Team.

The recovery team met twice during the year, on March 3rd and 21st September. The next meeting is scheduled for 1st February 2000.

Mike Meinema(Chai	r) CALM Geraldton District Manager
Sue Patrick	(Chief Investigator), CALMScience, W A Herbarium
Val English	WA Threatened Species and Communities Unit
Phil Roberts	CALM, District Wildlife Officer Flora, Midwest Region,
Don Bellairs	CALM Volunteer, Wildflower Society.
Pat Fitzgerald	Murrum Station, Mt. Magnet, representing the Pastoralists

sts and

Graziers Association, of W A

Ian Hamilton Main Roads W.A.. Roadside Management Officer, Geraldton

Division

Estelle Levland CALM Volunteer. Mullewa Wildflower Society Meg Officer Woolgorong Station, Murchison Field Herbarium. Robin Westlake

CALM Volunteer, Wildflower Society, Woorree Nursery,

Geraldton

Graham Wilks Mullewa Shire Council, Shire Clerk

Environment Australia representative.

Val English has taken the place of Andrew Brown on the team following her appointment as botanist to the Threatened Species and Communities Unit.

1.2. Major contributions from the team during the year.

Dianne Pember was appointed as Geraldton District Conservation Officer during the year and commenced her duties in August. However, she was transferred to another position in the Department at the end of September.

Alanna Chant took up the position in December.

2. Identification of all plant taxa at present considered endangered, vulnerable or poorly known in the district.

The Declared Rare and Priority Flora List was updated at the end of December 1999. However lists of additions and deletions have not yet been made available separately, so additions to the Geraldton District have not yet been extracted.

3. Survey of all known or past recorded populations of endangered taxa, survey for new populations and survey for vulnerable and poorly known taxa.

A total of fourteen days fieldwork have been undertaken in the District. In August, a botanist assessed the Priority Taxa recommended for urgent further survey in the Plan. Work commenced in September on survey for the taxa which appeared on the list to be in greatest need of survey. Nine days work was undertaken in the District. During this work, in which the chief investigator participated, 15 populations of Priority Taxa have been fully surveyed and 41 new populations of Priority Taxa have been found. Five days of fieldwork by the chief investigator in March resulted in full survey of six population and discovery and survey of two others. In addition several further populations have been surveyed by other members of the Recovery Team.

4. Assess conservation status of these taxa in the field by recording distribution of each taxon, numbers of populations and individuals and threats to each population.

Work has continued on the processing of **voucher specimens** into the collections of the Western Australian Herbarium. Approximately 50 have been added during the year. Approximately 54 Rare Flora Report Forms have been completed and forwarded to CALM Nature Conservation Division.

6. Produce a Conservation Research Statement for the Geraldton District.

The Conservation Research Statement has been completed. The final draft has accounts of 37 declared rare flora, including two presumed extinct taxa. There are 118 priority one taxa, 80 priority two taxa and 66 priority three taxa, a total of 301 taxa, of which 264 are priority taxa, many requiring further survey. Five priority taxa were not included in the

final report. These occur just outside the District and had been listed in the hope that new populations might be found within the District during field work.

A total of 48 taxa have been recommended for urgent further survey, and 33 of these have been selected for immediate attention to confirm their conservation status, as part of a separate project. Some work has been completed on 12 of these.

54 taxa have been recommended for lower listing in the CALM Priority list.

CONCLUSIONS

Implementation of the Threatened Flora Management Plan for the CALM Geraldton District has continued in 1999.

The Recovery Team has has met twice during the year and members of the team have contributed to the work of survey.

Some fieldwork has been undertaken during the year.

The Conservation Research Statement for the Geraldton District has been completed, and work has commenced on survey to confirm the conservation status of those taxa that appear to be most endangered.

THREATENED SPECIES & ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES: 1999 ANNUAL REPORTS - RECOVERY TEAMS

Recovery Team	1999 Annual Report	Chair
Aibany District Threatened Flora Recovery Team (incorporating Montane Thickets Threatened Ecological Community Recovery Team)	yes	Alan Danks
Aquatic Root Mat Community of Caves of the Swan Coastal Plain Recovery Team	no	Alan Sands
Carnaby's Cockatoo Recovery Team	yes	Andrew Burbidge
Central Forest Threatened Flora and Communities Recovery Team (incorporating <i>Rulingia</i> Trigwell Bridge Recovery Team)	yes	Kim Williams
Chuditch Recovery Team	yes	Keith Morris
Corrigin Grevillea Recovery Team	no	BGPA
Dibbler Recovery Team	yes	Tony Friend
Djoongari (Shark Bay Mouse) Recovery Team	yes	District Manager, Denham
Geraldton District Threatened Flora Recovery Team	no	Mike Meinema
Gilbert's Potoroo Recovery Team	yes	Tony Friend
Lancelin Island Skink Recovery Team	yes	District Manager Moora
Merredin District Threatened Flora Recovery Team	yes	Paul Roberts
Moora District Threatened Flora Recovery Team	yes	District Manager, Moora
Muir's Corella Recovery Team	yes	Andrew Burbidge
Narrogin District Threatened Flora Recovery Team (incorporating Matchstick Banksia)	yes	Greg Durell
North West Cape Karst Management Advisory Committee (recovery team for Cape Range threatened cave fauna and stygofauna)	no	Peter Kendrick
Numbat Recovery Team	no	Tony Friend
Orange-bellied and White-bellied Frogs Recovery Team	yes	Kim Williams
Sedgelands in Holocene Dune Swales Recovery Team	no	Peter Dans
South Coast Threatened Birds Recovery Team (incorporating Noisy Scrub-bird, Western Bristlebird, Western Whipbird)	yes (Noisy Scrub-bird only)	Alan Danks
Southern Forest Region Threatened Flora Recovery Team	no	Roger Hearn
Swan Region Threatened Flora and Communities Recovery Team	no	David Mitchell
Thrombolites of Lake Richmond Recovery Team)	no	David Mitchell
Toolibin Lake Recovery Team	yes	Ken Wallace
Western Ringtail Possum Recovery Team	no	Andrew Burbidge
Western Swamp Tortoise Recovery Team	yes	Andrew Burbidge