



# Conservation News



Print post approved PP665002/00001

OCTOBER 2004

## Cut energy use to help environment

**ENERGY** consumption is one of the State Government's major operating costs and CALM is required to reduce its energy use in line with the Energy Smart Government initiative.

The initiative to reduce the cost of running government and reduce environmental impacts was announced in June 2002 by the Minister for Energy Eric Ripper. Its objective was to reduce non-transport energy consumption by 12 per cent by 2006-07.

Staggered stationary energy reduction targets were set: five per cent in 2002-03, six per cent in 2003-04, eight per cent in 2005-06 and 12 per cent in 2006-07.

The 12 per cent reduction in CALM energy consumption equates to more than 4200 tonnes of carbon dioxide—the equivalent of taking more than 80 cars off the road for a year.

CALM Executive Director Keiran McNamara said stationary energy was described as energy consumed in CALM facilities and included electricity, gas and diesel used for electricity generation.

"Despite implementation of the bulk of the recommendations from an energy audit at CALM's largest site, at Kensington, and putting in innovative renewable energy systems at several remote sites, CALM failed to meet the targets in both 2002-03 and 2003-04," he said.

"Energy consumption actually increased in five of the seven CALM divisions in the two years, so all staff

by Rhianna Mooney

must make a concerted effort to reduce stationary energy consumption and actively participate in initiatives to reduce energy consumption.

"As the State's leading conservation agency, CALM should show leadership in work towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions."

Keiran said he encouraged staff to develop ideas and initiatives on a local—in their offices or buildings, districts and regions—and department-wide level.

"Staff can approach their managers and CALM's Energy Smart Committee, comprising three members of Corporate Executive, with ideas on how to reduce consumption," he said.

Individual cost centres are entitled to keep the financial savings of reduced energy use so it can be reinvested into the conservation of the State's natural biodiversity.

"Grants are available through the Sustainable Energy Development Office to fund projects or initiatives that reduce or avoid pollution from the production or use of energy by increasing the efficiency of energy use and using renewable energy," Keiran said.

For more information contact CALM's Energy Smart Committee Executive Officer, Greg Beange, on 9334 0266 or by email ([gregb@calm.wa.gov.au](mailto:gregb@calm.wa.gov.au)) or visit the Sustainable Energy Development Office website at [www.sedo.energy.wa.gov.au](http://www.sedo.energy.wa.gov.au).

## Common use contracts



CALM's Acting Corporate Services Director, Ron Kawalilak, says look out for the cheapest petrol prices.

CALM staff are being reminded about conservation of a different kind: financial savings for commonly purchased goods and services.

The State Government has embarked on a phased four-year program of procurement reform to save \$120 million through better buying of goods and services, and then 'harvesting' a portion of those savings from agencies for use in priority areas.

Some of the increase in CALM's budget in 2004-05 was due to CALM benefiting from savings "harvested" from across agencies.

CALM Executive Director Keiran McNamara said the Department of Treasury and Finance had estimated CALM would save \$1.087 million in 2004-05 if common use contracts were used and staff were diligent in implementing cost-saving practices.

The following practices can achieve reductions in CALM's expenditure:

### Stationery

In the metropolitan area, stationery must be purchased from the Government's contract provider, Boise Stationery, and must be purchased from the '797 value items' range. Regional centres can also purchase from this contract and take advantage of the savings to be had from this supplier.

### Air travel

Bookings for domestic air travel must be made through Carlson Wagonlit Travel. Where possible, discount fares should be booked and bookings should be made over the internet to achieve a \$11 discount.

### Fuel

In the metropolitan area, drivers of government vehicles should compare prices for fuel across BP, Caltex, Ampol and Gull outlets and purchase fuel when prices are at the low end of the price cycle. If prices are high, drivers should consider only filling half the tank and consult the FuelWatch website for the cheapest fuel prices at [www.fuelwatch.wa.gov.au](http://www.fuelwatch.wa.gov.au).

## Sunny decisions pay off

**LORNA Glen Station—acquired as part of the Gascoyne-Murchison Strategy—is leading the way in renewable energy use in CALM.**

The station's homestead, bunk house and surrounding buildings are predominately powered by its state-of-the-art solar energy system. The system uses 28 solar panels linked to a bank of 12 batteries and relies on its backup generator for only about two hours each week, depending on weather conditions.

The system was funded by Parks and Visitor Services' capital works funding.

Kalgoorlie Region's Parks and Visitor Services Leader, Barry Hooper, said the station's original diesel generator needed to be replaced so the viability of

using renewable energy was explored.

"Installing the renewable energy system required an initial outlay of just over \$50,000 but we received a 55 per cent rebate from the Sustainable Energy Development Office," he said.

"In the long term, renewable energy is much more economical because diesel is getting more expensive, including the delivery costs from Wiluna, which is 150 km away.

"The system is also a low maintenance set up, which suits CALM's volunteer homestead hosts who reside on site."

Barry said renewable energy sources had also been considered for installation on other stations.

## National parks boost economic development

**New research shows the State's key conservation areas are reaping millions of dollars a year for regional economies.**

The number of visits to national parks, marine parks and other conservation reserves has doubled in the past decade, with a Curtin University study finding 92 per cent of all visitor spending in the Gascoyne Coast region was because of Ningaloo Marine Park and Cape Range National Park.

Environment Minister Judy Edwards highlighted the independent report on the economic

benefits of tourism in national parks, marine parks and forest regions—the first of its kind in Western Australia.

The study was carried out for the Cooperative Research Centre for Sustainable Tourism by Prof Jack Carlsen and Dr David Wood of Curtin University, in collaboration with researchers from Murdoch and Edith Cowan Universities.

A total of \$127 million a year was spent by tourists in the Gascoyne Coast region.

In 2003-04, there were 10.9 million visits to all areas managed by CALM.

## \$35.7 million for parks and reserves in next four years

**CALM will spend \$35.7 million during the next four years on improved visitor services to parks and reserves.**

Since 2001, the State Government has provided an additional \$50 million for park facilities. The \$35.7 million was allocated to start rolling out from this financial year.

New national parks and reserves are being developed across the State, with the increased budget being allocated to boost recreational facilities and tourism potential.

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# Working Together

Recently I had the pleasure of addressing the Department's Regional and District Managers at their conference in Mandurah. These conferences always provide an opportunity to catch up on a wide range of achievements, opportunities and issues right around the State, but they are no substitute for visiting regions and talking to staff in the field and in their offices.

Unfortunately, as I told the Managers, the opportunity to get out and visit different areas has been constrained in recent months, and will remain so for some while yet. This is to be expected in the final period of the Government's term, when there is a heavy emphasis on completing important policy commitments.

For example, the Department is currently assisting the Minister with three separate "new national parks" Bills that are all in the Parliament at the same time. We are also finalising a public discussion paper on the proposed biodiversity conservation strategy for WA; progressing the proposed nomination of the Ningaloo/Cape Range area for World Heritage listing; and dealing with a range of marine park planning processes that are all at important decision-making stages. These and other key initiatives are taking up a lot of the time of myself and other senior staff of the Department.

I look forward next year to again visiting regions and staff widely across the State and seeing some of the wide range of projects and works underway, including new capital works in parks. Visits will also provide the opportunity to talk to staff about the new Corporate Plan we will be putting in place next year, and our major directions for the future.

Keiran McNamara, Executive Director



# Mammals declining in Kimberley

by Tracy Peacock

NEW survey data from the Kimberley Region show mammals are still declining in the area.

CALM Principal Research Scientist Tony Start said though the statistics were of concern it was not too late to save the mammals.

However, he warned the imminent arrival of cane toads could pose yet another threat to smaller mammal species in the Kimberley such as the northern quoll.

"They are one of first to be susceptible to the cane toads," he said.

The month-long field trip to the area in May-June was conducted by four teams of CALM scientists working with Kimberley regional officers. It was funded by the Department and the Tropical Savannas Management Cooperative Research Centre.

It focused on the King Leopold Range (from Mornington to Mt Hart) and the Devonian Reef (from Geikie Gorge to Napier Downs, west of Windjana Gorge).

"We found that south and east of the Gibb River Road had a severe decline in most medium-size mammal species," he said.

"Overall we found that species such as possums, northern quolls and bandicoots are now rare or gone from all but the wettest, western end of the area we surveyed."

Tony said another integral part of the field trip had been the collection of sub-fossil material from the limestone rocks of the Devonian reef.

"The sub-fossil material provides an insight into the distribution of mammals in this area at

European settlement. Thus it formed a basis from which the extent of declines could be estimated," Tony said.

He said this material was currently being analysed by scientists at the WA Museum and Flinders University, South Australia.

Work on the Status of Kimberley Mammals project started 18 months ago and was the first significant study of mammal status to be undertaken in the area since the 1970s and 80s.

Tony said an initial field trip in May-June 2003 had provided important baseline information for this most recent trip.

## Conservation News October 2004

Published by Department of Conservation and Land Management Strategic Development and Corporate Affairs, Cygnet Hall, (cnr) Mounts Bay Road & Hackett Drive, CRAWLEY, Western Australia 6009

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Printed on 100% recycled paper

# Everyone's a winner at Shark Bay!

WINNING the 2004 National LandCare Award is the icing on the cake for what has proved to be a very successful partnership between CALM and Shark Bay's Yadgalah Aboriginal Corporation.

The Yadgalah Aboriginal Corporation received the award in the Indigenous section for its role in a project, which has involved tagging and recording the movements of dugongs in the Shark Bay area during the past three years, in partnership with CALM.

Shark Bay District Manager David Rose said the award was well deserved.

"The Yadgalah Aboriginal Corporation are a very progressive, forward looking organisation and both parties gained a lot from the partnership," he said.

"And, apart from receiving the LandCare Award another highlight of the partnership was the appointment of an Indigenous trainee from the corporation."

Daniel Cock, a member of the Yadgalah Aboriginal Corporation, became an Indigenous trainee with CALM in April 2002.

by Rhianna Mooney

"It's been great that I've been able to be a link between the two organisations and the success of the dugong tagging project has come out of this partnership," Daniel said.

"In a small community, organisations have to work together and, once they do, they can see the benefits of these partnerships."

"It is important that Aboriginal organisations have input into the decision-making processes and this project, and Daniel's traineeship, have made this possible," Darren Capewell, Yadgalah Aboriginal Corporation Manager, said.

"In its early stages people in the community were critical of the project but, now they can see the benefits of it, they can also see the benefits of working in partnership with organisations like CALM."

"Both Yadgalah and CALM agree that the partnership can only go from strength to strength and is a good model for similar joint ventures."



Darren Capewell, from the Yadgalah Aboriginal Corporation (left) and CALM Trainee Daniel Cock, who is also a member of the community. Photo by Sue McKenna.

## From page 1

Major capital works being carried out this financial year are listed below.

**Purnululu National Park, Kimberley:** \$1 million to upgrade roads, airstrips, car parks and picnic shelters and the ranger station and undertake further risk assessments at key visitor sites.

**Karijini National Park, Pilbara:** \$385,000 to improve Dales Road, a key road leading to the spectacular gorges, and to extend the Dales campground.

**Cape Range National Park, Exmouth:** \$425,000 for new interpretive material throughout the park as well as improvements to walk trails, boardwalks, lookouts, boat ramps and roads; \$60,000 has been allocated to design and install five moorings at popular dive sites in Ningaloo Marine Park that extends over the waters bordering Cape Range.

**Lesueur National Park, Jurien Bay:** \$1.5 million to complete a scenic drive, including toilets, lookouts, walk trails and

information shelters, in what is one of the State's most valuable national parks in terms of its biodiversity. The road will be designed for use by family cars.

**Nambung National Park (the Pinnacles), Cervantes:** \$1 million to begin the first stage of construction of a new visitor centre. A further \$2 million has been allocated to complete the centre in 2005-06.

**Mundaring National Park\*, Mundaring:** \$485,000 to continue works in Fred Jacoby Park including realignment of walk trails, new car parks and interpretation shelters, as well as works at other sites such as The Dell, Hills Forest Discovery Centre and North Ledge recreation area.

**Wellington National Park\*:** \$740,000 for a range of works including the extension of camping areas at Honeymoon Pool, upgrading Lennard Drive and River Road, and completing redevelopment of the Wellington Dam recreation precinct and the park entry on Coalfields Highway.

**Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park,**

**South West Capes:** \$281,000 to upgrade visitor facilities at Sugarloaf Rock, Conto's Campground and Hamelin Bay; an abseiling ramp will be installed at Bride Cave.

**Walpole Wilderness Area\*, Walpole:** \$600,000 for a range of works including upgrading roads as part of the Walpole Wilderness Area Discovery Centre project, bridge works over the Weld River, car park and toilet facilities at Mt Lindesay and completion of the Coalmine Beach redevelopment program.

**South Coast parks, Albany and Esperance:** \$375,000 to complete development of Castle Rock viewing platform in Porongurup National Park; \$250,000 to redevelop the car park and further improve visitor facilities at The Gap in Torndirrup National Park and \$240,000 to seal Hellfire Bay Road in Cape Le Grand National Park.

\* Proposed new parks or proposed additions to existing parks under the Government's Protecting our old-growth forests policy.

# Wattle may stay in Australia

AUSTRALIA'S national floral emblem the Acacia, or wattle, which graces the Order of Australia and Commonwealth crest, was—until recently—facing an identity crisis.

Its name hung in the balance awaiting a decision from an international body governing the naming of plants, with other countries being in line to receive the name Acacia for their species.

After intense lobbying by CALM scientist and Australian Acacia expert Bruce Maslin, the International Committee for Spermatophyta (seed bearing plants as distinct from mosses and fungi) ruled that the name Acacia should stay in Australia.

The botanic difference of opinion could have seen Australia's 1200 Acacia species renamed as Racosperma.

Bruce said the Acacia-Racosperma battle had waged for several years, and that he had advanced arguments for keeping the name Acacia for the Australian species during the past few years, including publishing articles in international journals.

Australia's botanists, horticulturalists and gardeners had anticipated the Spermatophyta Committee's final decision with bated breath while Australian amateur Acacia support groups had gone out of their way to argue against the name change on emotive grounds, Bruce said.

"I have spoken about species numbers and the economic implications of the name change, because the species grows in 70 countries with two million hectares under commercial cropping," he said.

Plants have two names—a genus name (family name) followed by a species name (Christian name). Unfortunately, with the changes being mooted *Acacia pinnancus* could become *Racosperma pinnancum*, changing the plant gender as well.

Bruce has released a book titled *Acacia Search*, coordinated and written Flora of Australia—Acacia (two volumes featuring 1200 varieties of the plant) and released a CD called *WATTLE—Acacias of Australia*.

# Daphne's 21st



CALM Executive Director Keiran McNamara (left) was pictured with volunteer Daphne Edinger and LANDSCOPE Expeditions' Scientific Coordinator, Kevin Kenneally at a morning tea held in Daphne's honour.

**REGISTERED** volunteer Daphne Edinger is regarded by many as a "living treasure" and 2004 marks her 21st year as a full-time volunteer.

In 1983, Daphne retired from Presbyterian Ladies' College where she'd spent 16 years teaching science. In the same year, on an expedition to Walcott Inlet in the Kimberley with the Australian and New Zealand Scientific Exploration Society (ANZSES), she met CALM's Scientific Coordinator of LANDSCOPE Expeditions, Kevin Kenneally. They have worked together ever since.

When asked how she's managed to work with Kevin for 21 years, Daphne said "he makes me laugh" and their relationship has enabled many important conservation projects to be brought to a successful completion.

"Daphne's goodwill and good humour have made her a valuable team member and she is always willing to assist staff in any way she can," Kevin said.

"She inspires all those who meet her with her tireless enthusiasm and is an icon to those who have had the pleasure of working with her."

Daphne first worked as a full-time volunteer with the WA Herbarium and, within a few years, her botanical expertise resulted in then curator Dr John Green offering her the position of honorary research scientist.

Daphne and Kevin then undertook a decade of intensive fieldwork focused in the Kimberley and surveyed the plants of the Dampier Peninsula, the Bungle Bungles as well as the Kimberley rainforest patches. Daphne co-authored many of the reports on these investigations.

Most recently Daphne has undertaken botanical surveys of former pastoral stations acquired under the Gascoyne Murchison Strategy and has been instrumental in assisting Goldfield's Regional Ecologist Mark Cowan in the establishment of botanical monitoring plots.

In 1996 Daphne was a co-recipient of the CSIRO medal for excellence in scientific research as one of the authors of the book *Broome and Beyond: Plants and People of the Dampier Peninsula*.

This year Daphne received a CSIRO research grant to help with ongoing projects related to CALM's nature conservation programs (see below).

"Daphne's contribution to nature conservation over the past 21 years has been nothing less than outstanding," Kevin said.

"She has contributed more than 4000 plant collections to the Western Australian Herbarium and processed many thousands more.

"It has been a pleasure to work with her for the past 21 years and I thank her for her commitment, enthusiasm and friendship."

## Database for the State's marine flora

By Rhianna Mooney

**RESEARCHERS, community groups and volunteers will soon have access to information about the State's marine flora, thanks to a joint project between CALM's WA Herbarium and Marine Conservation Branch.**

The project will database records of the State's marine flora, held by the WA Herbarium, Murdoch University, The University of Western Australia and CSIRO.

Coastwest/Coastcare provided funds for the initial stage of the project and CALM received a Natural Heritage Trust grant to continue it.

The database will contain information on about 24,500 specimens from 21,000 macro algae and 3500 sea grass records.

Project Officer Cheryl Parker said the WA Herbarium held 6000 specimens and the invaluable details about the State's marine flora would be made available by linking these with the other herbaria in Perth.

"The critical outcome will be a checklist of the State's marine flora and knowledge of where species are found, which is very timely since the importance of marine conservation has come to the fore.

"This project will provide base-line information about the State's marine flora giving extensive support to agencies and researchers contributing to the conservation of WA's marine biodiversity," she said.

"In time, on-line access to species descriptions, maps and images of marine plants through FloraBase will be available."

To date, the collections held at the WA Herbarium and Murdoch University have been databased and the project will be finished by the end of 2006.

## Volunteers awarded research grants

THREE CALM volunteers have each received a \$1200 financial boost from the CSIRO Industry Endowment Fund to help with their scientific research.

Daphne Edinger, Brian Carter and Allen Lowrie are collaborating on projects with CALM's Scientific Coordinator of LANDSCOPE Expeditions Kevin Kenneally and have been awarded a research grant.

Kevin said he nominated Daphne, Brian and Allen because they were all making a great contribution to projects that benefited nature conservation.

"The grants recognise the valuable contribution amateur researchers make in assisting CALM's conservation priorities," he said.

"They are offered to amateur

researchers who have been recognised by professional scientists as competent in their field."

Daphne is currently working with CALM's LANDSCOPE Expeditions program and Goldfields Regional Ecologist, Mark Cowan, on the botany and vegetation of former pastoral stations acquired as part of the Gascoyne Murchison Strategy. She plans to use her grant to buy a car fridge, an essential component of long-range fieldwork.

Brian Carter lives at the Bardi One Arm Aboriginal Community in the Kimberley and has been an active plant collector and photographer of Kimberley plants for more than 15 years.

He has now branched into collecting and photographing

marine algae from the reefs surrounding One Arm Point and his herbarium specimens are helping Dr John Huisman from Curtin University prepare a volume for the Flora of Australia on tropical seaweeds.

Allen Lowrie is a recognised specialist on Australian insectivorous plants and has been collaborating with Kevin for more than a decade on studies to identify new and poorly known species of triggerplants from Australia. Allen has also made a study of growing these plants in cultivation and has made important observations of their life cycles.

Brian and Allen say their grants will help to purchase laptop computers to store digital images.

## Right on track

*Right On Track is a monthly series of Conservation News articles sponsored by Corporate Executive, designed to illustrate CALM's strategic directions and corporate values. This feature is about the importance of communication and teamwork when building and maintaining community involvement and support for biodiversity conservation.*

Working in the Wheatbelt, where CALM-managed lands are fragmented in a rural landscape, involves staff covering large distances and dealing with many shires... 43 in all, and between 2000 and 3000 neighbours. This was a common thread and challenge running through the conversation when 35 Wheatbelt staff gathered at Katanning for the annual regional seminar.

Director of Regional Services Alan Walker spoke at the seminar and reinforced CALM's commitment and priority to a Good Neighbour Policy now being finalised in consultation with key rural stakeholders.

Alan commended the Wheatbelt Region for its management initiatives and good community working relationships and particularly acknowledged the staff involved with the wild dog control program in the Merredin District. A major turnaround has been achieved in regard to landowner support for CALM's approach to wild dog control in the district.

"It's important that staff come together in these forums to exchange information, ideas and talk about the challenges they are facing," Alan said.

"It's always tempting to feel too pressured to

afford the time of a couple of days together as a team. The external demands on CALM continue to build; the integrated nature of conserving biodiversity in a salinity-affected landscape entails many partnerships while interagency works and funding arrangements take time to build trust and results. The complexity and expectations for our work are always increasing.

"I was impressed to hear the Wheatbelt team talk about working smarter not harder and that staff members are focused on developing tools and processes that will improve their priority setting in a complex natural resource management environment.

"I was also impressed to hear some of the achievements and reflections on the progress made in the past 12 months since the last regional seminar. Taking time to recognise and celebrate achievements is a core element for any project management.

"The seminar program was diverse with a mix of field trips, briefing presentations and updates, strategic issues and planning workshops, plus some good healthy volleyball competition and socialising events with families and partners.

"It was a worthwhile and valuable time to get together."



Wheatbelt regional staff.

# Good feeling being a nature conservation officer

## WHAT is it like being a nature conservation officer?

Twenty-six teachers, University and TAFE students found out during a recent EcoEducation camp in magnificent jarrah forest at Wellington Discovery Forest near Bunbury.

Measuring bobtail lizards, locating the testicles of a chuditch, climbing blindfold over logs and having close encounters with raptors were just some of the activities on offer. The camp was part of the State-wide *Western Shield* wildlife recovery program that offers exciting opportunities to teachers and students at different locations around the State.

CALM Nature Conservation Officer Tom Kenneally gave a graphic and humorous account of his role by talking about the complexities of translocating woylies from one area to another.

The group gathered under the supervision of *Western Shield* Manager John Asher to monitor wildlife as part of *Western Shield*'s commitment to professional development for teachers.

*Western Shield* is the Department's leading conservation program to save threatened species by controlling introduced

by Liz Moore and Cheryl Tonts

predators, the European fox and the feral cat.

The professional development (PD) weekend gave teachers a chance to work with Wellington National Park Ranger, Chris Gilbert, to set fauna monitoring traps and clear them early the next morning.

Roleystone District High School science teacher, Nick Ward, said: "This PD had many highlights and provided a wealth of information and resources for us to plan a term's program for our students, who will also be doing a 'Back from the Brink' EcoEducation excursion at The Hills Forest."

EcoEducation Coordinator Liz Moore said the camp's success was thanks to Wellington District staff's "long hours" and "extra miles of work" to make it an unforgettable experience.

For information about CALM's *Western Shield* and other EcoEducation programs contact Liz on 9334 0387 or by email (lizm@calm.wa.gov.au).



Brookton District High School Teacher, Barry Halls, and Gerard Ots, CALM, under the supervision of National Park Ranger, Chris Gilbert (Centre), assist with measuring native fauna during the 'Be a Nature Conservation Officer for a Night' camp at Wellington Discovery Forest.

## Letter to the editor

Earlier in the year a friend and I toured through WA by road. We entered your state after crossing the Tanami from Alice Springs and then spent most of the month of May in and around the Kimberley.

I am writing now to tell you all at CALM just how impressed we were with the excellent facilities provided for travellers. On all the highways that we travelled we were able to find shelters, toilets and very clear signage. These facilities, all clean and tidy, made our trip just that much more enjoyable. As well, we enjoyed numerous overnight camps in CALM campgrounds and found these to be comfortable and in good repair.

After this happy experience in WA I would have no hesitation in recommending it to friends and relatives who might be planning the big 'round Australia' trip.

Again, congratulations to you all on a job being so well done.

Mrs Marlene Benn  
Clermont, QLD 4721  
September 2004

## Bush Rangers hit the rural roads

FORTY CALM Bush Rangers cadets took to rural roads for a week earlier this month in a vintage car decked with banners promoting CALM and its fire management services.

The journey of the CALM Bush Rangers from John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School, led by Regional Support Instructor Carleen Edwards, was part of the week-long Channel 7 Telethon trek from the Goldfields to Perth, taking in Norseman, Duke of Orleans Bay, Esperance, Hopetoun, Bremer Bay, Wagin and York.

As well as raising \$6000 for young people requiring medical treatment, the CALM Bush Rangers completed conservation awareness activities in many primary schools on the way.

CALM Bush Rangers' coordinator Bronwyn Humphreys thanked Carleen for organising the trek and Bunbury's fleet supervisor Allan Jones for helping with the promotion.

The cadets were interviewed by Channel 7 during the news weather segments, and interviewed by Radio West each day of the trek.

## Conservation briefs

### Updating uniform for summer

Looking to update your work clothes for summer?

Some new items have been added to CALM's general apparel range for summer 2004-05.

Launched at a recent fashion parade, the new additions include low-waisted trousers, plus longer dresses and skirts.

CALM People Services Acting Project Officer Brenda Smith said another addition was a new plus-size range.

The general apparel range order form can be found on the People Services section of CALMweb.

For more information phone Neat N Trim on 9321 4354.

### NSW students help potoroo

Students at a NSW school took their goodwill skills to Albany to help the plight of the endangered Gilbert's potoroo.

Joey Clarke, a Year 9 student at the NSW Blue Mountains Grammar School, raised \$1740 from a charity walk for the Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group.

CALM has dedicated years of research into Australia's most endangered mammal, and runs a captive-breeding program at Two Peoples Bay, near Albany.

The Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group, formed in 2002 specifically to help save Gilbert's potoroo from extinction, topped the amount up to \$2000 and purchased transmitters for a recent tracking expedition.

## Know your road plants

by David Lamont

A special training workshop at Broome recently focused on legislation affecting road reserves and aspects of roadside conservation in the Kimberley.

The workshop, for Main Roads Department Kimberley regional staff and private contractors, included a field trip where local Aboriginal elders explained their land management methods.

CALM's Tim Willing spoke about local vegetation and ways in which it can be affected by inappropriate road management practices.

Tim escorted the group to a vine thicket community and an important wildlife habitat for the great bower bird (*Ptilorhynchus nuchalis*), the agile wallaby (*Macropus agilis*) and the rose-crowned pigeon (*Ptilinopus regina*).

These plant communities (budan in the local Bardi language) are the source of bush tucker.

Of particular interest was a red gubinge tree, which is a natural cross between the gubinge and marool trees, the sap of which is prized as a type of confectionery by the local Aboriginal people.

Tim explained to the group that this threatened ecological community was under threat from exotic grasses introduced by flooding from a nearby road.



Tim Willing talks roadside conservation.

## Staff changes . . . Staff changes . . . Staff changes . . .

### Contract

Heather Taylor, Rangeland Subregional Coastal and Marine Facilitator, Regional Services Division, Karratha; Kelly Hardy, Information Officer, Corporate Services, Kensington; Catherine Rummery, Rangelands Subregional Biodiversity Facilitator, Regional Services Division, Karratha; Kirsten Pearce, Nature Conservation Officer, Broome; Robyn Nicholas, Regional Biodiversity Facilitator, Geraldton; Winston Kay, Rangeland Scientist/Ecologist, Nature Conservation Division, Crawley/Woodvale; David Robertson, Cartographic Officer, Information Management Branch, Kensington; Simon

Watkins, Operations Officer, Walpole; Sylvia Clarke, Rangelands Subregional Biodiversity Facilitator (Goldfields), Kalgoorlie; Karen Koomen, Project Officer, Parks and Visitor Services, Kensington; Brian Vincent, Nature Conservation Officer, Swan Region, Kensington; Rachel Meisner, Project Officer, Woodvale Research Centre.

### Promotion

Martin Lloyd, Regional Leader Parks and Visitor Services, Albany.

### Permanent

Deon Utber, Rangelands Conservation Officer, Nature Conservation, Geraldton.

### Reclassification

Roland Mau, Nature Conservation Coordinator, Exmouth.

### Temporary transfer

Bev Gardiner, Parks and Visitor Services Officer, Collie, to Reserves Officer, Jurien.

### Resignation

Vicki Berry, Web Author, Strategic Development and Corporate Affairs, Crawley; Margo O'Byrne, Urban Nature Coordinator, Swan Region, Kensington; David Lamont, Executive Officer, Wildlife Administration.

### Contract ceased

Keith Moon, Ranger, Shark Bay.