

Workshop recommends promoting biosphere



by Verna
Costello

ONE of the recommendations resulting from a recent one-day workshop and two field tours was that more community education and promotion about biosphere reserves be undertaken.

The workshop and field tours were held to address a range of issues affecting Fitzgerald River National Park Biosphere Reserve.

Organised by CALM ecologist Angela Sanders, the workshop and field tours were part of her Fitzgerald Biosphere Project, funded by the Australian Nature Conservation Agency (ANCA).

About 60 people were involved, including CALM's South Coast regional manager, John Watson, Albany district

manager, Drew Griffiths, part-time interpretation officer Corinn Hine, Fitzgerald River National Park rangers Nathan McQuoid, Lindsay Brown and Mark True, - and several members of CALM's Fitzgerald River National Park Advisory Committee.

Chairman of the WA Soil and Land Conservation Council Rex Edmondson was workshop host, and Shire councillors from Jerramungup and Ravensthorpe Shires also attended.

The field tours were to Fitzgerald River National Park, Ravensthorpe Range, and local farms

where sustainable farming practices and other landcare activities such as retaining native bushland along creek lines are being carried out.

A large part of the workshop was devoted to developing recommendations for future management of the vegetated buffer zone and agricultural areas surrounding Fitzgerald River National Park.

The workshop also included presentations on the history of the biosphere reserve, landcare issues, malleefowl preservation activities, examples of Shire support, and a special schools display mounted by Fitzgerald and Jerdacuttup Primary Schools and Ravensthorpe District High School.

*Fitzgerald Biosphere Reserve Field Tours above: Sepulcralis Hill, Fitzgerald River National Park.
Photo by John Watson*







Fitzgerald Biosphere Workshop Schools Displays
 (Photo: John Watson)



Fitzgerald Biosphere Workshop Syndicate Groups
 Valerie Milne (Residency Museum, Albany), John (Ravensthorpe LCDC),
 Beryl Fregon (Advisory Committee Member, Gairdner), Bruce Lambie
 (Calperum Station, SA), Mark True (CALM Ranger, East Mount Barren)
 (Photo: John Watson)

McDougall



Fitzgerald Biosphere Reserve Field Tours
Ranger Nathan McQuoid discussing poison bush with
Pamela Parker and Cynthia Thiele, Bookmark Biosphere Reserve/
Chicago Zoological Society

(Photo: John Watson)