

Streamlining sponsorship money management

TO carry out many of the projects vital to conservation in Western Australia, such as threatened species research and wildlife special projects, CALM relies more and more on sponsorship from the private sector and grants from Federal and State Government agencies.

For many organisations, the task of attracting sponsorship, particularly in the current economic climate, has become a minefield set with value-for-money booby traps.

CALM has been able to successfully negotiate this minefield to the extent that between 1990 and April 1996, sponsorship and grant funds held in trust accounts, increased from \$10,000 to more than \$7 million.

Due to this rapid growth, and because attracting future funding is increasingly dependant on the administrative and financial monitoring of projects, it became necessary to be able to provide CALM management, project managers and donating organisations with instant, up-to-

date and more detailed financial information.

In 1995, the External Funds Working Group was formed to design a system that would streamline the general administration of trust accounts funded from external sources.

The group recommended the establishment of the Management of External Funds (MEX) System to enhance and improve the process of providing progress reports to sponsor organisations as diverse as the Australian Nature Conservation Agency, Alcoa of Australia Ltd., and Amrad Operations Pty Ltd.

The members of the External Funds Working Group are Financial Services manager Mark Neilson, Science and Information's acting head of Bio-conservation Group Keith Morris, Financial Services accountant Ian Frame, and acting external funds officer Jean Thomas, Science and Information Woodvale administrative officer Rod Mell, WATSCU executive officer Hugh Clift, Herbarium administrative



Suzanne Curry, Alan Burnett and John Dorlandt have good reason to look delighted as they see the sponsorship figures for 1997.

Photo by Verna Costello

officer John Dorlandt, Parks, Policy and Tourism acting external funding co-ordinator Suzanne Curry and Management Audit Branch auditor

Peter Ryan.

Alan Burnett is the project co-ordinator and his responsibilities include:

Surveying key users to determine information

requirements for management, project managers and the Financial Services Branch, providing financial information on the status of grant funds and trust

accounts for Cost Centre Summary Reports, Revenue Allocations Reports, Overdrawn Trust Account Reports and other information, as determined by the

user survey.

For further information, Alan can be contacted by phoning him on (09) 334 0130 or by fax on (09) 334 0244.

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