



Steve Jones, left, and Gary Olley. Photo by Verna Costello

CALM wins silver award for Metadata collection

AT a recent meeting of the WA Land Information System Council (WALIS), CALM was presented with a Silver Award for the quality of its 'metadata' collection.

Metadata is essentially information that describes data sets, so that others may make use of that data; it specifies such things as date, how the data was collected, by whom, its accuracy, its format, the categories depicted, the coverage and so on.

The particular type of data for which CALM received the award was spatial (or land-related) data.

An Australasia-wide stan-

dard for specifying land-related metadata, known as the ANZLIC Standard, has been adopted by all the State government agencies that make up the WALIS community, and CALM's corporate land-related data has now been documented according to this standard.

The metadata project as a whole will make the exchange and sharing of land-related data among government agencies much easier, yet more secure in future.

CALM metadata was compiled by staff in Information Management Branch, Science and Information Division, and Forest Management Branch,

and the task was co-ordinated by Gary Olley and Steve Jones of the Geographic Information System section of Information Management Branch.

With the metadata in place, it can now be interrogated with a new tool, available to all the WALIS community, and appropriately known as 'INTERRAGATOR'.

The award was accepted on behalf of CALM by Rick Tomlinson of Information Management Branch. The Gold Award went to the Water and Rivers Commission, but given the complexity and extent of CALM's spatial data, the Silver Award is a notable achievement.



