

## RARE TRIGGERPLANT FOUND IN RESERVE

A new population of one of the State's rare native plants has been found in a nature reserve near Wongan Hills.

The find is the sixth known population of the Wongan Hills triggerplant (*Stylidium coroniforme*), and is particularly significant as it is the first population to be recorded on a nature reserve.

Merredin District Manager Paul Roberts said that the discovery occurred during surveys in the Wongan Hills with volunteer members of the Toodyay Naturalists Club.

"The discovery of this new population of about 65 plants was verified by triggerplant expert Mr Allen Lowrie," Mr Roberts said.

Other populations are among remnant vegetation in a paddock next to the

reserve and in a nearby gravel pit. Two populations have been recorded on railway and road reserves at Maya, 140 kilometres to the north.

The triggerplant is a small perennial herb with thumbnail-sized, cream 'butterfly' flowers. It is ranked as endangered under World Conservation Union (IUCN) guidelines, and declared as rare flora under Western Australia's Wildlife Conservation Act.

CALM's Merredin District has 23 native plant species listed as 'critically endangered', 17 listed as 'endangered' and a further 12 are listed as 'vulnerable'. A district threatened flora recovery program was begun in 1994 to help conserve these species.



Wongan Hills triggerplant.

Photo - Mike Fitzgerald/CALM

The Wongan Hills triggerplant faces a number of threats, including grazing by sheep, gravel extraction and roadworks. CALM staff, who have been working on a number of recovery actions over the past few years, wrote a recovery plan for the species. The recovery actions include helping landowners fence off populations, and collecting seed for storage

in CALM's Threatened Flora Seed Centre.

CALM is integrating further strategies such as Land for Wildlife and projects under the Natural Heritage Trust's Endangered Species and Bushcare programs, which work with landowners and local community groups to conserve areas containing threatened flora and fauna species.

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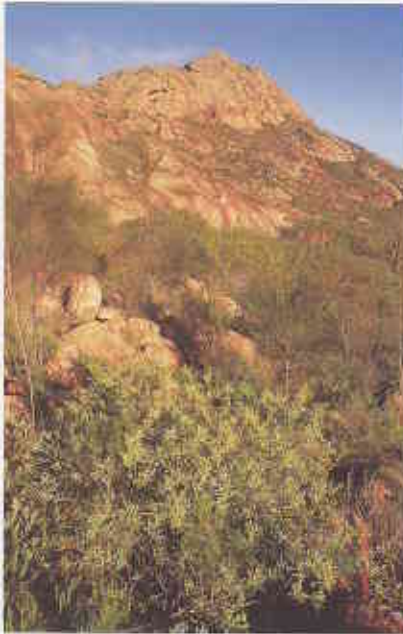
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# LANDSCOPE

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Peak Charles and Peak Eleanora, protected within Peak Charles National Park, form granite islands in a sea of bush. See page 10.



The Swan River is a recreation area for humans and a home for migratory birds. See page 16.



A partnership between State and Commonwealth governments, and a group of pastoralists is helping to fill the gaps in the conservation estate. See page 43.



Butterflies have a short life span, but they bring pleasure to many people who visit Rottneest Island. See page 23.



Many marine creatures have evolved ingenious survival methods. See page 49.

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## COVER

Well-known Australian artist Ken Done captures the colour and turbulence of the horizontal waterfalls on the Kimberley's Wandjina Coast.

Painting by Ken Done  
Racing Tide, Kimberley Coast, May 1999  
(51 x 36 cm) oil crayon and gouache  
on paper.



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