

ENDANGERED PLANTS TRANSPLANTED FOR SURVIVAL

Five critically endangered plants are being or have been transplanted into nature reserves near Busselton in a bid to save each species from extinction.

The project is part of an overall nature conservation initiative to conserve the 353 declared rare plants in Western Australia, of which 102 are considered to be critically endangered. The plants include the western prickly honeysuckle, McCutcheon's grevillea, the ironstone petrophile, the butterfly brachysema and the Abba bell. All five once grew on the Abba Wet Ironstone Flats near Busselton—a

vegetation structure listed as a critically endangered ecological community because more than 90 per cent has been cleared. The plants existed in areas threatened by dieback, weed infestation, development and mining, so they were likely to become extinct in the near future.

The new translocation sites, 20 kilometres east of Busselton, both have ironstone soils, but the vegetation has been altered by past land uses.

The sites were recently bought and declared Class A nature reserves.

The western prickly

honeysuckle, McCutcheon's grevillea, butterfly brachysema and Abba Bell grew in only one area and were ranked as critically endangered between 1995 and 1998. The plants currently have populations of between 15 and 170 plants. The ironstone petrophile had 170 plants, located in three areas, and was ranked as critically endangered in 1994.

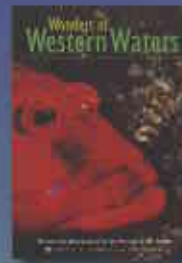
In 2000, the Department of Conservation and Land Management carried out preliminary translocations of McCutcheon's grevillea and western prickly honeysuckle, with an 86 per cent survival rate.



Graham Fisher planting McCutcheon's grevillea.

Photo - Meredith Soutar

Dive into our Marine collection



Marine Life of Ningaloo Marine Park and Coral Bay \$16.45

Ningaloo Marine Park protects one of Australia's most important tracts of reef. This book offers a remarkable insight into the reef's prolific marine life, which includes more than 500 species of fish, 250 known species of corals and about 600 species of molluscs.

Wonders of Western Waters \$18.65

Plunge straight into the magical and spectacular undersea world of WA's temperate waters. See and learn about its marine life. It's a marvellous world, captured here by some brilliant full-colour photography.

Dive and Snorkel Sites of WA \$16.45

Winner of the Media Category in the 1997 WA Tourism Awards, this is your guide to 43 sites ranging from easy snorkelling sites suitable for the whole family, to more challenging boat dives that would appeal to experienced SCUBA divers.

More Dive and Snorkel Sites of WA \$16.45

Following the success of Dive and Snorkel Sites of WA, this book describes another 46 magnificent sites. Be inspired, and grab your mask, fins and snorkel and discover the colourful world beneath the sea.

Available from good bookshops, newsagents and Department of Conservation and Land Management offices, or by mail order from the Department at the address below (postal charges apply).

Publications

Department of Conservation and Land Management
 Locked Bag 29, Bentley Delivery Centre, Western Australia 6983
 Tel: (08) 9334 0333, Fax: (08) 9334 0498, TTY (hearing impaired) facility available (08) 9334 0546
 Visit NatureBase on www.naturebase.net



Winner of the 1998 Alex Harris Medal for excellence in science and environment reporting

LANDSCOPE



VOLUME SEVENTEEN, NUMBER 1, SPRING 2001



Within 40 years, the numbat has risen from near extinction to endangered with 10 populations in WA and interstate. See 'Numbats Forever' (page 17).



The forces that shaped the geology and landforms of the south-west began more than 3,500 million years ago. Read the fascinating story on page 10.



The Marine Community Monitoring Program is a new and ambitious program to involve the community in keeping our oceans clean. See page 35.



Shark Bay Marine Park provides spectacular opportunities for divers and snorkellers. No wonder it is called Bay of Delights. See page 23.



The history of Aboriginal occupation in the Leeuwin-Naturaliste region spans 50,000 years. Find out more in 'History from the Caves' (page 40).

F E A T U R E S

GEOLOGY AND LANDFORMS OF THE SOUTH-WEST

TONY FRIEND, CLARE ANTHONY & NEIL THOMAS10

NUMBATS FOREVER

TONY FRIEND.....17

LESCHENAULTIAS

LEIGE SAGE.....23

BAY OF DELIGHTS

BRAD BARTON & CAROLYN THOMPSON-DANS.....28

WATCHING OVER OUR OCEANS

JENNIE CARY.....35

HISTORY FROM THE CAVES

JOE DORTSH & CHARLES DORTSH.....40

SAVING THREATENED COMMUNITIES

SHEILA HAMILTON-BROWN & SALLY BLACK.....49

R E G U L A R S

BUSH TELEGRAPH.....4

ENDANGERED

SUBTERRANEAN ANIMALS OF NORTH-WEST CAPE.....48

URBAN ANTICS

SNAKE TREK.....54

Executive editor: Ron Kawalilak

Editors: David Gough, Carolyn Thomson-Dans

Story editors: Verna Costello, Sue McKenna

Advertising copy and editorial assistance: Caris Bailey

Scientific/technical advice: Andrew Burbidge, Chris Simpson, Keith Morris, Paul Jones and staff of Science Division

Design and production: Tiffany Aberin, Maria Duthie, Gooitzen van der Meer

Illustration: Ian Dickinson, Gooitzen van der Meer

Cartography: Promaco Geodraft

Marketing: Estelle de San Miguel ☎ (08) 9334 0296 Fax: (08) 9334 0498

Subscription enquiries: ☎ (08) 9334 0481 or (08) 9334 0437

Colour Separation by Colourbox Digital

Printed in Western Australia by Lamb Print

ISSN 0815-4465. All material copyright. No part of the contents of the publication may be reproduced without the consent of the publishers

Please do not send unsolicited material to LANDSCOPE, but feel free to telephone the editors

Visit NatureBase at www.naturebase.net

Published by the Department of Conservation and Land Management, Dick Perry Avenue, Kensington, Western Australia

DEPARTMENT OF
Conservation
AND LAND MANAGEMENT
Conserving the nature of WA

C O V E R

Leschenaultias are some of the most widely known and recognisable plants in Western Australia. They have fantastic horticultural value and provide glorious floral displays. The wreath *leschenaultia* is a favourite with visitors during our wildflower season. See page 23.



Cover illustration by Philippa Nikulinsky