ABOUT GROUPS

WESTERN BANDERS ASSOCIATION

Revegetation Corridors - are they just for looks?

THERE are now many Landcare and on-farm revegetation projects which are well established. The plants in the corridors look good to the people who planted them, but what do the native mammals, birds and invertebrates think of the corridors? How can you tell if the corridors of vegetation and the remnants they link still provide suitable homes and food?

In the south-west of WA there are several projects under way to measure the use of native vegetation corridors by native birds. These projects are conducted by people who are qualified to catch and band birds. Some of the birds which have been banded are recaptured. Where they are recaptured tells us a lot about how much the birds use different habitats like corridors. Some birds have coloured plastic leg bands which can be seen from a distance, so the birds can be identified without having to catch them again.

These study sites are run by dedicated people from all walks of like, but with a common love of native birds and a desire to learn more about how the birds live. They are all members of the Western Banders Association, and all are trained in catching and handling birds. They all have the necessary approvals from CALM to conduct these projects.

Projects are currently being run at locations such as Bakers Hill (on a farm), Marradong Timber Reserve (near Boddington), Dongolocking Nature Reserve (near Dumbleyung), and a number of sites in the metropolitan area such as Yanchep and John Forrest National Parks, Thompson's Lake Nature Reserve (at Jandakot) and Mt. Claremont.

If you are interested in seeing what happens at these sites and how these people are helping to find out whether birds use rehabiliitated areas, you are most welcome to drop in to see for yourself. Visitors are always welcome. To find out where the project nearest to you is, and when the next banding day is scheduled, contact:

Perry de Rebeira
ph. or fax (09) 298 8999.