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DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND  
LAND MANAGEMENT

# Western Wildlife

NEWSLETTER OF THE LAND FOR WILDLIFE SCHEME

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## MINISTER LAUNCHES LAND FOR WILDLIFE!

**T**HE Minister for Environment, the Hon Cheryl Edwardes, officially launched the *Land for Wildlife* scheme in Western Australia at Sue and Paul Kelly's property, 'Edenvale' at Mingenew on the 23rd February.

The ceremony was attended by some 30 people, mostly locals but some, like representatives from Greening Western Australia and the Wildflower Society, had travelled especially from Perth. It was held under magnificent remnant River Gums beside an ephemeral wetland, one of 5 specific *LFW* sites on the Kelly's property. Also in attendance were CALM's Executive Director, Dr Syd Shea and the Director of Nature Conservation, Kieran McNamara.

In launching the scheme, the Minister said that *Land for Wildlife* was one of the key programs within the State Salinity Action Plan and also fulfilled one of the 1996 election commitments in the Court Government's Environmental Policy.

She described the program, and then continued: "Maintaining and linking native vegetation remnants and mounting an all-out attack on foxes and feral cats are two of the most effective measures that people can take to conserve our native wildlife. Research and experience over the past 20 years have shown that we can prevent extinctions through an integrated approach, involving predator control and managing habitat on an ecologically sound basis."



"The recovery of one native marsupial, the woylie, has already been so successful that the species has been taken off State and Federal threatened fauna lists. The return of species such as woylies into their former range will not only help restore nature's balance, it will also provide a tremendous natural indicator for ecologically sustainable management."

"It is hoped that initiatives such as *Land for Wildlife* will eventually result in the return of a whole suit of native plant and animal species across the agricultural areas of the State."

Very many thanks to CALM's Midwest Region and Corporate Relations Division, who, between them, organised the event. I am only sorry that ill-health prevented me from being there.

*Penny Hussey*

CALM's Executive Director Syd Shea, Mrs Sue Kelly, Environment Minister Cheryl Edwardes, Mr Paul Kelly and the Kelly children Rebecca, Shaina and Tara, proudly holding Land for Wildlife sign No 1.



The Minister and guests making friends(?) with a snake!