

Salmon gum study

T HE stunning pink bark of the salmon gum makes it a favourite eucalypt for many people. However, in the wheatbelt this tree now only occupies a fraction of its former range and its future is uncertain. Your help is needed for a research project focussed on conserving these wonderful trees.

With the aid of CSIRO funding, Patricia Fox from UWA is presently studying the flora of remnantsalmon gum woodlands to provide muchneeded information for regional conservation. "The salmon gum is a native Western Australian and over 80% of the woodlands have been cleared from the wheatbelt area," she said. "Little is known about what other species grow with this tree and how that flora varies across the wheatbelt.

"While some of the remaining woodlands are on reserves, many are on private land, and I'm looking for landholders to let me know if they have any salmon gums. I'm also looking at the effects of grazing on the flora, so ideally would like to have a range of sites on the same property, including grazed and ungrazed."

Patricia has already started work on one *LFW* property in the northern wheatbelt, and she will be continuing with her surveying in spring. She would like to hear from people in the southern and eastern wheatbelt, and also the York area, who have salmon gum woodlands on their property.

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