

GREENPAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE MUNDARING AND
KALAMUNDA FRIENDS GROUPS AND
EASTERN HILLS CATCHMENT GROUPS

March 2011

THIS MONTH..

- Blitzing Blackberry at Bugle Tree Creek
- Community Grants & Award Opportunities
- Our Wildlife Under Fire
- The Great Cocky Count 2011



For more information contact:

Shire of Mundaring
Bushcare Co-ordinator
on 9290 6685.

Shire of Kalamunda
Environmental Reserves
Officer on 9257 9806.

Eastern Hills Catchment
Management Program—
EMRC office 9424 2216.

'Blackadder Subcatchment Biosecurity Project'

By Phil Cloran



Blackadder Woodbridge Catchment Group report on the progress of its State NRM funded project.

The project is located at Plunkett Park, Midland, the freshwater limit of Blackadder Creek. Despite the encroachment of new housing developments this area is home to dugites, long necked tortoises, moaning frogs, sandplain froglets, freshwater fish, skinks, geckos, bobtails, mopokes,

tawny frogmouths, Carnaby's cockatoo, the threatened Peregrine falcon, black faced cuckoo shrikes and many remnant trees and sedges. Even an echidna has been sighted.

The goal of the project is to permanently remove a heavy infestation of Arum Lily in a two hectare area.

Because of the multiple stressors already facing Blackadder Creek, including regular sewage spills and non-nutrient contaminants such as surfactants, pesticides, hydrocarbons and heavy metals often exceeding ANZECC guidelines by factors in the hundreds, it was determined that a low risk chemical free strategy was required.

The strategy has involved manual removal of tubers, composting on site and solarisation to kill invasive grasses and prevent re-colonisation by other weeds and to maintain a Kikuyu runner free zone to assist with natural regeneration.

This low risk strategy was also guided by traditional owners, who are the custodians of Green Bullfrog, Yackarn (Turtle) and Wockarl (Snake) dreaming trails.



The success of the strategy has been proven on an adjacent site, with no harm to native bulb species such as marsh club rush and water ribbons, and a remarkable increase in self sown native species, in particular *Juncus amabilis* and *Eucalyptus rudis*, but also unexpected species such as *Lobelia* spp.

The weeded area will be replanted on community planting days in 2011 with flora propagated from local provenance seed.



CATCHMENT GROUP MEETINGS

Blackadder-Woodbridge Catchment Group Incorporated

7:00pm Wednesday, 27th April 2011

Midland Church of Ascension Hall (Side Room), 17 Spring Park Road, Midland

Contact Karen Warner on 9424 2242 or email: karen.warner@emrc.org.au

Helena River Catchment Group Incorporated

7.00 pm Monday, 18th April 2011

Octagonal Hall, McGlew Road, Glen Forrest.

Contact Eleanor Chaos on 9424 2264 or email: Eleanor.chaos@emrc.org.au

Jane Brook Catchment Group Incorporated

7.15 pm Thursday, 28th April 2011

Parkerville Fire Station, Riley Road, Parkerville.

Contact Leanne Kimberley on 9424 2245 or email: leanne.kimberley@emrc.org.au

Susannah Brook Catchment Group Incorporated

7:15pm Thursday, 14th April 2011

Gidgegannup Landcare Centre, Gidgegannup Showgrounds, Toodyay Rd

Contact Leanne Kimberley on 9424 2245 or email: leanne.kimberley@emrc.org.au

Friends of Piesse Brook

7.00 pm Thursday, 17th March 2011

16 Roach Road, Kalamunda

Contact Eleanor Chaos on 9424 2264 or email: eleanor.chaos@emrc.org.au

SANDY BEACH FESTIVAL

Sandy Beach Reserve, Bassendean
Friday March 25 – Monday March 28

bassendean.wa.gov.au

Experience the weekend packed full of attractions at Sandy Beach.

- ◆ Friday night at the movies under the stars, featuring "The Blind Side" starring Sandra Bullock
- ◆ Enjoy the Multicultural Fiesta on the Saturday from 3pm to 9pm
- ◆ Take time to explore the specially created sculptures beside the river
- ◆ Family Fun Bicycle Ride at 9am Sunday 27th starting from Sandy Beach Reserve. Refreshments provided.



BELMONT'S AUTUMN RIVER FESTIVAL

Garvey Park, Ascot
Sunday April 3, 11am – 3pm

autumnriver.com.au

Treat the family to a day of lively entertainment and activities

- ◆ The Annual Fish Fest with Kailis' famous fish and chips
- ◆ Water activities including water ski shows, gondola rides and kayaking
- ◆ Live music, art and craft stalls and wine tasting
- ◆ Children's entertainment and activities



For other events in the Perth's Eastern Region visit www.perthtourism.com.au

Blitzing Blackberry at Bugle Tree Creek

By Eleanor Chaos and Luke McMillan

EMRC and Jane Brook Catchment Group have been busily targeting blackberry and other aggressive weeds in the upper reaches of Bugle Tree Gully, as part of an effort to protect natural areas downstream from infestation.

Blackberry - a listed Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) - was introduced to WA for its fruit and has become a serious environmental, forestry and pastoral weed. In particular along creek lines, where it crowds out native flora including threatened species, restricts access to land and water, harbours vermin and creates fire hazards. Seeds from blackberry plants remaining on one property can also spread a considerable distance when the berries are eaten by birds.



Hartung Street site before blackberry control

The Bugle Tree Creek WoNS Eradication and Bushland Restoration Project was funded under a Department of Environment and Conservation Environmental Community Grant in 2010. This project focuses on the eradication of Blackberry (*Rubus* spp.) from the upper sections of Bugle Tree Creek sub catchment from its head to its confluence with Red Gum Hollow.



Stoneville Road site after blackberry and woody weed control

Initially areas of public land were targeted, such as Mundaring Cemetery, and various Shire managed reserves along Gill Street, Hartung Street and Stoneville Road. Private landholders with blackberry on properties adjacent to these areas are being offered the opportunity to be part of the national effort to control this aggressive and damaging weed. This is being done through EMRC & Perth Regional officers assessing infestations on properties and organising weed control with payment from the grant funding. The control of this invasive plant in gardens in the area supports investments and efforts already made in controlling blackberry in nearby public lands in the neighbourhood.

The Jobs Futures Green Jobs Corp team have assisted in on-ground works such as slashing the blackberry canes to reduce the amount of spraying necessary by the contractors. Shire of Mundaring Environmental Officers also provide technical support and assistance in working with the on-ground crew.

These activities have resulted in important steps being achieved in the ongoing effort to eradicate this serious environmental weed across tenure at a catchment wide level.

If you would like further information about the project, please contact Luke McMillan at luke.mcmillan@emrc.org.au or Eleanor Chaos at eleanor.chaos@emrc.org.au, or call us on (08) 9424 2222.

Darling Range Naturalists Club Branch Meeting

Topic: Ecological implications of climate change

Speaker: Dr. Ray Wills
(Chief Executive, Sustainable Energy Association and Adjunct Professor, School of Earth and Environment, The University of WA)

When: Friday 11th March 2011
@ 7.30pm

Venue: CWA Hall, Central Rd
Kalamunda

Cost: Tea/coffee, biscuits provided after the meeting.
\$2.00 door fee

Visitors welcome

For further information, please telephone:
(08) 9293 1676 or (08) 9294 1044

Wildflower Society of WA Inc. Eastern Hills Branch

Presents

“A Physiotherapist's Tips for Gardeners”

Speaker: Thea O'Brien

When: Friday 25th March 2011
@ 7.30pm

Venue: Octagonal Hall, McGlew Rd.
Glen Forrest

Visitors welcome

For further information, please telephone
(08) 9298 8645 or (08) 9294 1044



Australia's largest community participation event.
Get a group together and register your chosen Clean Up Site online.

WHEN:

Clean Up Australia Day
6th March 2011

Business Clean Up Day
1st March 2011

Schools Clean Up Day
4th March 2011

WHERE:

Your local park, waterway, bus area, beach or street.

HOW:

Register at www.cleanupaustaliaday.org.au
or call **1800 CUA DAY** for more information.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Annual General Meeting

Friends of Piesse Brook

Working along the Piesse Brook to restore biodiversity,
improve water quality & restore native fauna habitat.



When: Saturday 5th March

Time: 2pm, *Afternoon tea will be provided.*

Where: Calamunnda Camel Farm, 361 Paulls Valley Road, Kalamunda

There will be a talk on bush fire readiness by fire officer Chris O'Hora.

For further information, please contact Eleanor Chaos by telephone on (08) 9424 2264 or email eleanor.choas@emrc.org.au



BUSH SKILLS FOR THE HILLS WORKSHOPS

Free movies series -

“Seed Hunter”

Date: Wednesday 9th March 2011
Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Venue: Kalamunda Performing Arts Centre,
48 Canning Road Kalamunda

Seed Hunter will take you on a remarkable journey following Australian scientist Dr Ken Street and his team of ‘gene detectives’ as they hunt for plant genes that will help our food withstand the impact of climate change. At journey’s end, deep in the Arctic Circle, Ken deposits his bounty of seeds in the newly constructed seed bank known as the ‘doomsday vault.’

Building with the Bat Man

Date: Sunday 13th March 2011
Time: 10.00 am - 12.00 pm
Venue: Glen Forest Hall
Cnr Marnie Rd and Statham St,
Glen Forrest

This workshop will provide you with information on bat species in the area. A demonstration will be presented on how to build a bat box and once completed, you will take a walk to the local Richard Watson Hardy Reserve to install the bat box.

This bat box will be donated to this reserve.

Morning tea will be provided.

Rock Group on Tour

Date: Saturday 2nd April 2011
Time: 8:45am - 1:00pm
Venue: Meet bus at Jack Mann Oval carpark,
Bishop Rd, Middle Swan

The eastern hills have diverse and interesting geological landscapes with the potential for promotion as geotourism sites. The quarries around Boya provide an excellent geological formation called the Yilgarn Craton.

Come and explore some sites under the guidance of a CSA Global geotourism expert and geologist.

Boots on Bushcare and Safety

Date: Sunday 17th April 2011
Time: 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Venue: Gooseberry Hill Scout Hall, Ledger
Reserve

Making a difference in the world is what Bushcare Volunteering is all about.

Come and learn how to do it safely so you can go on doing it for years to come!

The first part of this workshop focuses on basic safety know-how and introduces participants to great sources of information, with the second session providing important information on Phytophthora dieback and how to make sure you don't spread it on your site, or bring it home with you.

To register for Bush Skills for the Hills,
please call Bonnie Manning on (08) 9424 2216 or email envirotemp@emrc.org.au

Environmental Community Grants & Award Opportunities

Award: ***Riverprize - Closes 30th March 2011***
Overview: Riverprize is open to individuals, organisations or agencies who can demonstrate outstanding achievements in river management and restoration.
Website: <http://www.riverfoundation.org.au>
Contact: Ms Natalie Baker , Programs Manager International River foundation
Email: natalie@riverfoundation.org.au
Telephone: (07) 3123 7767 (ext 404) Fax: (07) 3103 4574

Grant: ***Environmental Community Grants (DEC) - Closes 7th April 2011***
Overview: To help communities and individuals undertake conservation projects which have environmental benefits. The Government will allocate \$1.53 million in grants this year.
Website: <http://www.dec.wa.gov.au>
Contact: Dept of Environment & Conservation (WA)
Email: grants@dec.wa.gov.au
Telephone: (08) 9442 0300

Grant: ***Coles Junior Landcare School Garden Grant - Round 2 closes 13th May 2011***
Overview: To help communities and individuals undertake conservation projects which have environmental benefits. The Government will allocate \$1.53 million in grants this year.
Website: <http://www.juniorlandcare.com.au/grants-2>
Contact: Ms Sheena Martin, Partnerships Manager Landcare Australia
Email: grants@landcareaustralia.com.au
Telephone: (02) 9412 1040 Fax: (02) 9412 1060



Perth's Banksia Woodlands: *precious and under threat*

Rich in biodiversity from treetops to leaf litter,
yet so little known and valued.



This one-day symposium aims to equip you to be an advocate for our unique woodlands and their wildlife so our grandchildren can enjoy them.

Friday 25th March 2011

8:30 am to 4:45 pm

Wollaston College Conference Centre
Wollaston Road, Mount Claremont



Register at abc@iinet.net.au or phone Amrit for more information at the Urban Bushland Council 9420 7207 (please leave a message)

Speakers and topics at <http://www.bushlandperth.org.au/html/calendar.htm>



\$35 for students/unwaged/community
\$145 for professionals/waged

Includes: Morning/afternoon tea, Lunch and printed copy of proceedings.

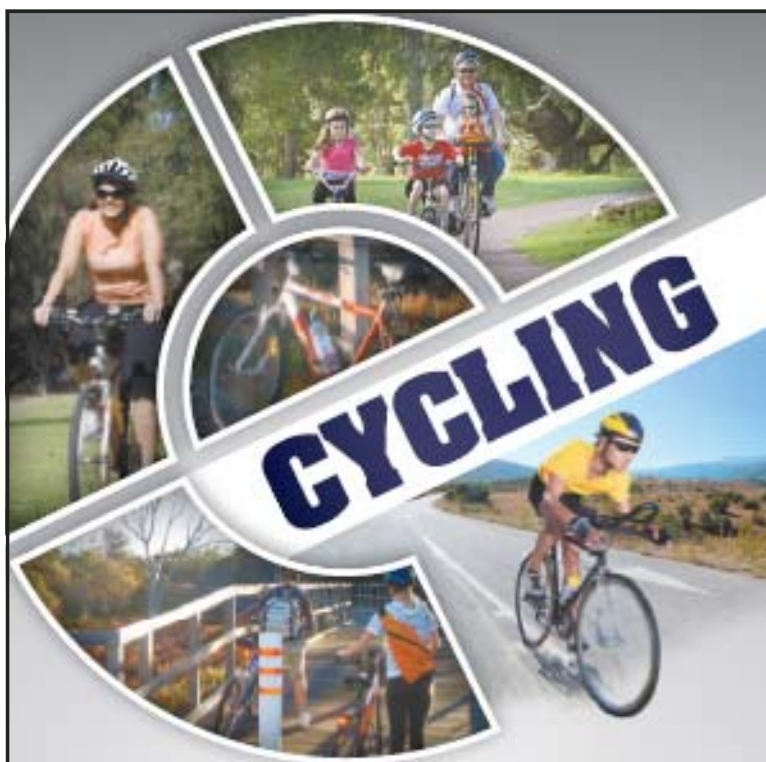
Green Jobs Corp Launch

EMRC and Bridging the Gap launched Green Jobs Corps to Perth's Eastern Region on 3rd of February at the beautiful Lower Lesmurdie Falls. The 26-week environmental training program, offers young people, aged 17 to 24 years, the combination of work experience, skill development and accredited training to ensure they are ready for employment in emerging green and climate change industries.

We were privileged to have Ken Wyatt MP, Member for Hasluck, Andrew Waddell MLA, Member for Forrestfield, Colin Kerr, CEO Bridging the Gap, Peter Schneider, CEO EMRC, Graham Pittaway OAM, EMRC Chairman and local government officers attend this wonderful event.

Although the day was hot and humid it was pleasant to be standing in the shade of a beautiful Marri (*Corymbia calophylla*) tree. Mr. Wyatt spoke of his love of the natural environment and was supportive of the work being undertaken by the Green jobs Corps team.

A presentation of gifts was made by Mr. Wyatt to the Green Job corps crew followed by a delicious lunch organised by Bonnie from EMRC.



WE VALUE YOUR INPUT!

Come along and get involved in planning for improving the cycling network in Perth's Eastern Region.

Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) and its member Councils, in partnership with Curtin University, is holding two public forums:

**Monday, 14 March 2011 from 5:45pm to 9:00pm at
Guildford Landing, 114 Swan Street, Guildford**

**Monday, 21 March 2011 from 5:45pm to 9:00pm at the City
of Bayswater, Embleton Room, 61 Broun Avenue, Morley**

*EMRC values and welcomes participation from people with disabilities.
The event is FREE to attend and light refreshments will be provided.*

For more information or to RSVP, please contact
Juarna Partington on 9424 2238 or email
Juarna.Partington@emrc.org.au

www.emrc.org.au

Advancing Perth's Eastern Region 



Curtin University



OUR WILDLIFE UNDER FIRE

BY KAREN WARNER

WA Conservation of raptors

Bushfire is a great concern to anyone living in the Perth's Hills, however we should not forget or underestimate the impact that fire has on our wildlife. (Animals suffer when fire destroys their habitat, often causing injuries or even death.)

Stuart Payne from Western Australian Conservation of Raptors has been involved with the rehabilitation of Raptors in Australia for 18 years. Stuart takes in and rehabilitates injured Raptors. "Birds arrive from an area covering the length and breadth of W.A" Stuart said. The rehabilitated Raptors are released back into the areas from where they were found.



Fires destroy raptor habitat and adds to the pressure for survival. The impact of fire can result in the death of birds through smoke inhalation, disorientation and being burnt. Wedge-tailed eagle chicks are most vulnerable to fire when in the nest (a period of three months). Wedge-tailed eagles breeding is governed by the availability of food, therefore the impact of fire can have a lasting effect on recruitment of the species. Additionally kestrels and owls shelter in hollows, increasing their risk of being burnt alive during a fire. The loss of hollows as shelter and nesting sites add to the burden.

The loss of habitat whether, from a fire or land clearing, is a significant threat to raptors. Raptors are territorial so it may not be possible to find another territory easily, if at all. "A pair of Wedge-tailed eagles" Stuart said, "can have a territory of 100km²; other small raptors have high metabolic rates and need to find a food source quickly to stave off starvation". Stuart explained that most birds that come in to him are starving, a result of loss of habitat to source their prey.

A dedicated couple, Stuart and his wife Amanda presently have 30 raptors at various stages of rehabilitation. They are a self funded, not for profit organisation. Stuart stated "the monthly food bill is around \$300 and this does not include the cost to pick up injured birds and take rehabilitated birds back to the wild where they can be released". Donations are gratefully received and the money goes directly to the cost of caring for the raptors.

For more information about raptors and what you can do if you find an injured bird, go onto the WA Conservation of raptors website, <http://raptor.iinet.net.au/waconservation/index.html>

Stuart and Amanda are available to conduct workshops. Please contact them on (08) 8447 2663 for availability and fee.

Chidlow Marsupial Hospital

I was privileged to meet Liz Appelt from the Chidlow Marsupial Hospital. Liz has been a wildlife carer for over 25 years. Amongst other things Liz is a qualified veterinary nurse, wildlife presenter, lecturer in marsupial care and a member of the Darling Range volunteer Bushfire brigade, in the communication section.

I spoke with Liz about the impacts fire has on marsupials; "one of many problems faced with bushfires is the inability to access burnt areas to rescue injured animals", Liz said. "Animals with burns if not treated can end up with infections and maggoty wounds".

Predominately animals have injuries to their hands and feet, singed fur, as well as smoke inhalation. Liz said, "Possums sustain burns to their hands whilst climbing up the trunks of trees. More fortunate are reptiles and echidnas which can burrow down and escape the fire". Death usually occurs as a result of the radiant heat, smoke inhalation and infection from burns.

Nocturnal species are more susceptible to fires during the day and more likely to escape a fire at night; however Liz said, "not much would have survived the Roleystone fire". Balga trees, where pygmy possums sleep during the day, burn fiercely in bush fires; thus these species which go into torpor during the day are highly likely to be trapped and die in a bush fire.

Liz is not an advocate of feeding native animals in the wild, however, in times of extremes such as after a bush fire the animal's food source is depleted and water can be contaminated. Liz said "it would be good to put out some food and water to sustain the animals until the feed grows again".

The hospital is a not for profit organisation supported by sponsorship and donations.

Tours of the hospital can be arranged by appointment.

If you would like more information regarding caring for wildlife please visit the website www.chidlowmarsupialhospital.org.au or contact Liz on 9572 4165.



Group Profile – Dieback Working Group

The Dieback Working Group was formed in 1996 by local government authorities, community groups and state government land management agencies concerned with the management of *Phytophthora dieback*, arguably the greatest threat to the biodiversity of the south-west region in Western Australia.

Since its formation, the Dieback Working Group has sought to:

- increase awareness and understanding about dieback in the Perth metropolitan area and the southwest region of Western Australia;
- encourage the adoption of dieback prevention and management policies and;
- encourage the implementation of management procedures to minimise the spread and impact of the pathogen.

Comprising representatives from a variety of industries, including local government, state government, natural resource management, and education and research institutions the Dieback Working Group:

- maps the occurrence of the pathogen within significant bushland reserves in the southwest Western Australia;
- develops management plans for high conservation value bushland reserves;
- provides advice and support for the use of the phosphate;
- conducts training and awareness raising activities and develops best practice guidelines for industry; and organises the annual Dieback Information Group (DIG) conference to bring together people working on different aspects of *Phytophthora dieback* management across the south-west of Western Australia. To date, the Dieback Working Group have organised nine DIG conferences that have attracted up to 220 guests each.

The DWG has produced a number of publications on the management of the pathogen within local governments, community-managed bushland, private property and the extractive industries. These management documents have focused on minimising the spread and impact of the pathogen.

In recent years the DWG, working in collaboration with the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC), has developed:

A Dieback Communication Strategy. Awarded the National Environs Australia 2009 Sustainability Award for achievements in sustainability, the Dieback Communication Strategy was a ground breaking project to raise awareness and change the behaviour of reserve visitors to minimise the spread of *Phytophthora dieback*.

A Dieback Management Framework for local government. This aims to increase the capacity, skills and knowledge of local governments, developed to help them through the process of assessing their current *Phytophthora dieback* management, integrate operating procedures and policies which are applicable to their organisation, allowing these to be reviewed and updated on a regular basis.



Dieback
WORKING GROUP



Currently the DWG has been working in collaboration with EMRC to deliver the Save OUR Bushland project (funded under the 2009 Caring for Our Country Community Action Grants program), which aims to implement the Discovering Dieback Education Kit and the engagement of the community to establish Friends groups. This will assist land managers (e.g. local government) to more effectively manage *Phytophthora dieback*.

For more information on the DWG please visit <http://www.dwg.org.au/>

Midland Campus - COURSES IN CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT

ENROLMENTS For the fauna unit First evening session 23 March
For the plants unit First evening session 11 May

Understanding Australian native fauna

Learn about Australian animal families, characteristics, occurrence, habitats and functions with a lesser focus on the impact of introduced fauna.



When: Wednesdays 23 March - 13 April, includes a weekend activity.

Time: 6.00pm - 8.30 pm

Cost: \$71.54 (concession available)



Understanding Western Australian native plants

Learn to identify local plants of the Hills and nearby.
Understand their uses in and their values to natural areas.

When: Wednesdays 11 May - 15 June includes a weekend activity.

Time: 6.00pm - 8.30 pm

Cost: \$71.54 (concession available)

Further information contact

Anne Taylor 0414845064 / 93746314 anne.taylor@polytechnic.wa.edu.au or

Ted Johnson 0414896626 / 93746314 ted.johnson@polytechnic.wa.edu.au

AUTUMN RIVER RAMBLE BY THE SWAN

Belmont, Bassendean and Bayswater
Sunday April 3, 9am
Registration for 9.30am Ride
autumnriver.com.au

Commencing at Garvey Park,
Fauntleroy Avenue, Ascot



- ◆ Fun bike ride visiting community events, parks and the majestic river
- ◆ Ride options for beginners or confident cyclists, at your own pace
- ◆ 50 Free hire bikes available – first in, best dressed!
- ◆ Gold coin donation to Men of the Trees
- ◆ Great prizes to be won



BAYSWATER'S AUTUMN RIVER FESTIVAL

Riverside Gardens, Bayswater
Sunday April 3, 10am – 4pm
autumnriver.com.au

Get family and friends together
and celebrate at this FREE
festival!



- ◆ Loads of FREE activities, Mini Golf, Monster Balls, Mega Trampolines, and a Human Soccer Table!
- ◆ Get interactive with BIKELAB! Old recycled bikes! Get sculpturing!
- ◆ Main stage full of GREAT entertainment
- ◆ Stalls, ARTIST on the WALKPATH, and HEAPS MORE!



For other events in the Perth's Eastern Region visit www.perthtourism.com.au

The Great Cocky Count 2011

Carnaby's Black-Cockatoos Need Your Help!

The Carnaby's Cockatoos are returning to the Swan Coastal Plain, and the number of night roosting sites of the birds will continue to grow, peaking from February to May.

VOLUNTEERS are needed to help count Carnaby's Black-Cockatoos in the greater Perth area on the Thursday 7th April 2011.

The survey, organised by Birds Australia's Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo Recovery Project and the Department of Environment and Conservation, aims to determine whether the population of the threatened species has decreased or increased since the last survey in 2010.

A copy of the Birds Australia / DEC report, which describes the results from the 2010 Great Cocky Count (GCC) is available from: <http://www.dec.wa.gov.au/content/blogcategory/774/2308/>

If you would like to volunteer to record regular sightings go to <http://birdsaustralia.ala.org.au> select the 'Black-Cockatoo night roosts' image and complete registration.

Alternatively you can contact Geoff Barrett from the Department of Environment & Conservation on 9423 2907 or email geoff.barrett@dec.wa.gov.au and express your interest.

About Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo

Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*) are endemic to the south west of Western Australia and are classified as endangered.

Carnaby's Black-Cockatoos feed on native proteaceous species such as Banksia, Hakea and Grevillea, they also feed on introduced species such as Pinus spp. and agricultural weeds.

They only nest in hollows, most commonly in Eucalypts such as Wandoo and Salmon Gum. These trees need to be at least 100-150 years old to have large enough hollows.

Carnaby's Black-Cockatoos typically migrate inland in small flocks to drier woodlands from July onwards to begin their breeding cycle, which lasts around 5 months.

Pairs return to the same nesting site each year and require good food sources close to nesting sites to raise healthy chicks.

Why record sightings?


By recording and reporting sightings information to Birds Australia you can help them better understand these special birds which helps them to better manage recovery efforts. Nesting locations are particularly important and you can look out for signs of nesting.

Nesting indicators to look out for:

- ♦ One bird 'begging' and being fed by the other.
- ♦ Birds perching or flying in pairs.
- ♦ Pairs preening each other and/or 'displaying'
- ♦ Regular sightings of small flocks (20 or less)
* It is useful to note the direction of flight at dusk.

What to record:

- ♦ Date & time of observation
- ♦ Location
- ♦ Number of birds
- ♦ Description of activity
- ♦ Direction of flight
- ♦ Vegetation type/plant species being eaten




**THE COCKATOOS
NEED YOU**

Three of Western Australia's Black Cockatoos – the Carnaby, Baudins and the Forest Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo - are threatened with extinction, due largely to habitat loss and fragmentation.

THE Cockatoos need YOU to step in and protect their nesting, feeding and roosting grounds to ensure their survival now and in the future.

TAKE ACTION

[HTTP://COCKATOOSNEEDYOU.ORG.AU](http://COCKATOOSNEEDYOU.ORG.AU)



CONTACT DETAILS

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Shenaye Hummerston

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Eleanor Chaos

NRM Officer, EMRC
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Mobile: 0427 088 213
Email:
eleanor.chaos@emrc.org.au

Plant of the Month

Hakea ruscifolia — Candle Hakea

This shrub, reaching up to 3m in height, is a member of the Proteaceae family and is common throughout the south-west of Western Australia, with the Jarrah forest being its preferred habitat. However, it can be found on the south coast as far east as Israelite Bay and as far north as Mt. Lesueur and appears happy on a range of soil types. Its cool white flowers, as its common name suggests, are like white candles. The blooms stand out in the bushland where many plants have already developed the autumn colours of aestivation.



Not a lot is in bloom at this time of year, but this shrub appears to thrive, playing an important role in the conditions of the ecosystem. It provides not only nectar but also insects, a source of protein for birds.

Hakea ruscifolia is not available for sale from local native plant nurseries but would be a worthwhile addition to most gardens, large or small, for its ability to provide a food source and therefore encourage birds and native insects around our homes over the autumn months. As with many of our local native plant species, we are able to enjoy it only in the wild.

Photo: A.P. Brown Sourced from: <http://florabase.dec.wa.gov.au/potm>



If you would like to receive the Greenpage by email please contact Bonnie Manning at EMRC at envirotmp@emrc.org.au with "Subscribe to Greenpage" in the subject heading and your contact details.

If you do not have email and would like to receive the Greenpage by post, please contact Bonnie Manning by telephone on (08) 9424 2216.



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