



# Western Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group

## June 2015 Bulletin



*Thelymitra apiculata* (Cleopatra's Needles). Photo by M. Karyagina

### First Sun Orchids

The first sun orchids of the new season begin flowering this month - there are already reports from members about *Thelymitra apiculata* flowering North of Perth.

This has to be one of the most beautiful WA orchids and we are really very privileged to be able to see it in the wild.

Although such a bright flower in the photo, it like the majority of WA orchids is quite difficult to see in the wild and members are urged to tread carefully whenever they are out and about, particularly around known threatened and priority orchid sites.

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Contacts: President, Jay Steer, [REDACTED]  
Email: : [wanoscg@gmail.com](mailto:wanoscg@gmail.com)  
Postal: PO BOX 323, VICTORIA PARK, W.A. 6979  
Website: [REDACTED]

General Meetings are held 7:30pm the 3rd Wednesday of the month, March through November, at the BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park

# WANOSCG GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

## Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015

Meeting held at: BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park.  
Meeting opened: 7:34 PM

**CIRCULATION OF REPORTS:** Attendance Book, Treasurer's Report, Conservation Officer's report were circulated to the members

**ATTENDANCE:** 36 members present, Jane Scott welcomed  
Meeting Chaired by Ramon Newmann in Jay's absence

**APOLOGIES:** Jay Steer, George Kokosinski

**RAFFLE:** Prize donated by Ross and Margaret Fox

### 1. PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

It was moved Matz Dahlkamp and seconded Eddy Wajon that the General Meeting Minutes of 15<sup>th</sup> April 2014, as published in the April 2015 bulletin are a true and accurate record of that meeting. *Carried.*

### 2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

**2.1 Supper Roster:** Volunteers are still needed for September through to November.

**2.2 Noel Hoffman's suggestion of compiling validated digital photos of all WA native orchids:**

**2.3 5 Year Plan:** still nothing further to report.

**2.4 Speakers for 2015:** we are still looking for speakers for September and October.

### 3. TREASURER'S REPORT

For the period 1st February 2015 to 31st March 2015

	MTD (1/04/15-30/04/15)	YTD (1/02/15-30/04/15)
Income	\$865.45	\$2638.45
Expenditure	\$285.5	\$1192.5

Treasurer reported on the transactions during this period.

*Fees are due* – details are in the Bulletin. Members are reminded that if fees are not paid before the end of May then no further bulletins will be sent out either electronically or by post.

It was moved Alison Higgins and seconded Ross Fox that the Treasurer's report as outlined in the report provided at the meeting be accepted as a true record of the club's finances. *Carried.*

### 4. CORRESPONDENCE

**16<sup>th</sup> April 2015 to 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

**Inward emails to the WANOSCG Web site and [REDACTED]:**

Electronic and / or hardcopies of Newsletters and Bulletins have been received over the period from: Orchid Society of Western Australia Inc, ANOS Illawarra, ANOS Sydney, ANOS Macarthur, NOSSA.

*See next page for the full list.*

**Outwards correspondence and Business arising from correspondence:**

Bush Forever Site Flynn Drive Neerabup: see Conservation section

Western Botanical: see Conservation section

Date	Name	Subject
29/4/15	Kate Aston & Sarah Stodard	Thanks WANOSCG and Orchid contacts for NSW
30/4/15	Jane Scott	Invitation to a book launch - Orchids of Margaret River
29/4/15	Tim Hodgkins	Bush Forever Site - Flynn Drive Neerabup
24/5/15	Peter Proudfoot	Reply about Triple Zero Information
19-22/4/15	Peter, Ramon, Marina and Jay	Emergency Procedures documents
19/4/15	Anna de Haan	AGM Annual report 2014 and General Meeting 2015
17/4/15	Tim Hodgkins	contact with Western Botanical (David Leach)
16/4/15	Ramon Neumann	WANOSCG Database reports for 3 shires sent to Eddy
15&16/4/15	Tim Hodgkins	Email from Sandra Dowding re freedom of information

## 5. FIELD TRIPS

**Report on MAY 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>** Northcliffe and Walpole – a report on this field trip will be in the June Bulletin.

**May 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> & June 1<sup>st</sup> Long Weekend:** to Kalbarri area. MP has contacted Vanessa Westcott and confirmed that the Eurardy survey for early flowering orchids will go ahead on the Sunday (31<sup>st</sup>).

**June 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup>:** Jurien area looking for *Thelymitra apiculata* and *Diuris perialla*. Camping or staying on Private property. Eddy Wajon is to lead this trip. Interested members should contact Eddy (contact details are in the Field Trip Section).

**July 19<sup>th</sup>:** Pingelly Nature reserves. This trip will proceed as advertised.

**August 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup>:** Kalbarri area

**August 15<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>: WEEK LONG CAMPING TRIP** to the east of Esperance focussing on *Pterostylis* sps (snails) with Andrew Brown. The snail trip planning is complete. The maximum numbers on trip is 20 members and 10 vehicles (17 people and 9 vehicles at present).

**August 24-28<sup>th</sup>:** Eurardy survey: As some members will be making their way back from the “Week Long Camping” trip we may need to have a swap over of members to make sure that the best use of time and resources is achieved.

**September 12-13<sup>th</sup>:** Masters’ property at South Bokal: MP has contacted the Masters and there will be camping accommodation for 6 or 7 members at the property (chemical toilets, no showers). Other interested members could stay at nearby towns or campsites (*Lake Towerrinning*). People can arrive on the Friday if they wish.

## PERSONAL FIELD TRIPS

Members were reminded to fill out Personal field trip report forms to help the Secretary record their names and where and what they have found.

Even more importantly members were reminded to fill out Orchid sighting sheets (created by Donna) and send them to the registrar, who is now Ramon Newmann (**Please email the orchid sighting reports to [wanoscg@gmail.com](mailto:wanoscg@gmail.com) ATTN: Orchid Sighting Report**).

**From the month prior to the meeting** the following trips were reported on

Margaret Petridis and Kevin Uhe – 16/17 May – in Manjimup and Walpole area – flowering plants included *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *multiflorus*, *E. helonomos*, *E. pulchellus*, and *E. valens*. As well as these bunny orchids they also found *Pterostylis vittata* as well as leaves of at least 8 other species.

Lyn Alcock – at East Yornaning Reserve – *Praecoxanthus aphyllus* (Leafless Orchid); at Fox’s Lair – *E. dilatatus* subsp. *undulates* (Crinkle-leaved Bunny); at Bendering Road, Corrigin – *Caladenia drummondii* (Winter Spider) and at Woodanilling a good population of 16 plants of *Leporella fimbriata* (Hare Orchid) that were all yellow (the lutea form



Don Ward 20 April – Pinjarra – *P. aphyllus*, *E. dilatatus* subsp. *multiflorus*

Matz Dahlkamp 3 May – Forrestdale – *E. helonomos*

Urszula Kokosinska 25 April – Chidlow – *E. dilatatus* subsp. *multiflorus*

Pat Richards – 26 April through to May 5 – Darlington – *E. dilatatus* subsp. *multiflorus*

Margaret Reopen – 8 May – Lesmurdie Welshpool Road – *L. fimbriata* ; at Brixton Swamp (also 8 May) – *E. helonomos*

## 6. CONSERVATION

Tim Hodgkins (Conservation Officer) will be away for the months of May and June. Tim's May report was provided. It was moved Eddy Wajon and seconded Lyn Alcock that the Conservation Report be accepted. *Carried.*

Members were asked to sign up to report on reserves (The "sign up" sheet was on the table). By the time of the final pack up there had been no further members signed up for any of the reserves. While not specifically raised at the meeting, members could sign up for another reserve that is closer to where they live. If anyone wishes to do this can they let Tim Hodgkins know, and report to him what they find.

**6.1 Western Botanical:** Tim has contacted David Leach of Western Botanical (Geoff Cockerton is on leave) and subsequently sent the following email :

*"Our group has resolved to offer assistance for Field & Desk Surveys of areas where native orchids are present so that the best possible outcome is achieved in identification, location and conservation.*

*We have a significant data base of orchid species locations and members are willing to participate in site work if this is appropriate and practical for all parties.*

*Please do not hesitate to contact us if you think we can assist in the future."*

**6.2 Flynn Drive Neerabub – Bush Forever Site:** Following an email from Phil and Pam Hill expressing their dismay at the clearing occurring at Flynn Drive Neerabup, Tim has sent an email to Sasha Poli, a coordinator of the Wanneroo Conservation Maintenance office, and is waiting for a reply. Margaret Petridis has investigated the status of the region and believes that the cleared area is zoned light industrial and not Bushland Forever (which is a pity as it contained a number of orchids including Shirt Orchids). Phil Hill reported that all the area of the Shirt Orchids (*Thelymitra campanulata*) has now been cleared, but he and Pam will monitor the surrounds to see if any have survived.

Does anybody know whether the nearby Bushland Forever site also contains any orchids? If so, they should be entered into the data base.

**6.3.1 Perth-Darwin Hwy:** Eddy Wajon commented on the Perth-Darwin Hwy which is being developed and has been planned for many years. Members can see the proposals on the internet. The current plan includes one *C. huegelii* site and some other good quality bushland. If members go to any of the areas which are proposed to be cleared could they PLEASE submit a field report to the Registrar (Ramon Newmann)

**6.3.2 Transplantation of orchids:** Eddy reported on the success of some transplanted orchids from the Berkshire Road redevelopment

**6.3.3 Gondwana link:** Gondwana Link, an organisation seeking to protect and restore native flora and fauna, was proposing to have self-guided tours to various orchid sites. Eddy raised with them the potential problem of theft by digging up plants. They have now reconsidered self-guided tours but they would still be considering tours but with an authorised guide.

**6.3.4 Golconda:** North of Perth is a mineral sands company named 'Golconda'. (Check their website to see what they are doing). They are trying to find an 'offset' to compensate for their mining operations. Eddy suggested that if we had data for say *Paracaleana dixonii* it might be possible to encourage them to acquire that land for the purposes of their offset obligations.

**6.4 Bauxite mining in the Giddegannup area:** Ross Fox requested members to sign the protest forms he brought along to try to prevent bauxite mining in the Giddegannup area. Many members signed the protest petition.

## 7. GROWERS TABLE:

Margaret Petridis showed 3 specimens of *E. valens* from some newly discovered populations that she and Kevin had found. Specimens were collected under permit for Andrew Brown to be lodged with the WA Herbarium.

## 8 GENERAL BUSINESS:

**8.1 Database:** The Registrar, Ramon Newmann, gave an update of where we are at. Essentially the data can now be optionally entered into the Database by way of an Excel spreadsheet. A large number of sites have recently been added from data provided by Stuart Harris. There is also extra data from Southern Rivers field trips. They have been excellent contributors to the data base.

This now means that there are over 5,800 sightings in the data base. However it is anecdotally believed that members have much more information in their own data bases. The more data contributed the better.

Although not raised at the meeting members are reminded that access to the data base is essentially restricted to those who have contributed to it.

Eddy Wajon requested that members use the updated sighting sheets that Donna has provided (thank you AGAIN, Donna). Following from the meeting, Ramón and Donna discussed how Donna's data sighting sheet could best be adopted so that it is better aligned with the way the data needs to be entered into the Database. Ramón is to make some recommendations to Donna after some further consideration. This data is important, for instance, in the northern suburbs if it on the proposed route of the Perth-Darwin Highway. See Eddy for details of this route or look on the internet. The question of how threatened and priority flora will be recorded in a new database still needs to be addressed. Kim Hanson reminded us that as part of the ADORP agreements, where DPaW has provided individual groups with sensitive information, we should not be including ADORP data in the Club's database.

**8.2 Emergency response strategy:** A copy of information from the Triple Zero website will be laminated and placed in the First Aid boxes.

**Satellite Phones:** The committee feels that on field trips to areas that are a long way from mobile phone contact it would be good to have access to a satellite phone. The cheapest option when nobody on the field trip has a satellite phone appears to be hiring a phone for the trip.

Field trip leaders should contact members going on any 'remote' field trips to see if anyone has a personal satellite phone that could be used.

**8.3 Bulletins:** Marina asked that if anyone is not receiving the Bulletin to let her know. She also reminded members that anyone who is not financial as at the end of May will no longer receive a copy of the Bulletin.

**8.4 Gift:** Jane Scott has donated a copy of her new book "Orchids of Margaret River". Jane thanked members for their strong support in purchasing copies of her publication.

## 9. PRESENTATION:

Andrew Brown *Orchids of our Eastern Granites*

Andrew's presentation focussed on 6 of his favourite granite outcrops in the east and south-east part of WA. All of these were in quite arid areas and the orchids survive and flourish as a result of finding small soil pockets on the rocks and from gaining moisture due to the runoff from the granite surface. All these rocks have many orchids with some having more than 40 species. Andrew is thinking about organising an extended field trip to cover the granites in 2016.

We enjoyed a series of beautiful photos, together with Andrew's lively and informative commentary.

## 10. RAFFLE DRAW:

The raffle was drawn by Andrew, the winner being Noel Clarke.

**MEETING CLOSED: 8:40 pm**

**NEXT MEETING: 7:30pm Wednesday 17th June 2015**



*Pterostylis hamiltonii*, yellow form. Photo by M. Karyagina



### ADORP REPORT 2014 — PART 1

By Kim Hanson and Andrew Brown

Many thanks to all ADORP members for last year's terrific effort. We had a great year with many surveys done and many valuable reports on these rare orchids. Just a quick reminder to send in any outstanding reports and some time sheets please. The following is a brief outline of the orchids being studied and the teams dedicated to studying them. There are now 17 teams comprising 54 people covering 31 orchid species. Team members are predominantly from WANOSCG but also include enthusiasts from regional areas and Parks and Wildlife staff who have volunteered their time for this worthy cause. If any of you require help or additional information please feel free to contact Andrew or Kim.

Club members Phil Bunney and Shirley Anderton, with the help of Jane Scott, Graeme and Debra Walker and Kay Lehman have adopted the Priority 3 species *Caladenia abbreviata*. Thanks to many new discoveries from this team who have been looking for the orchid between Yallingup and Augusta, the species has been found to be more common and widespread than previously thought. With a bit more information from other areas, particularly between Augusta and Albany, Andrew hopes to downgrade the orchid and asks club members to send sightings to him or Kim.

Volunteers Robin Parsons and Taryn Franklin have adopted the Threatened subspecies *Caladenia caesarea* subsp. *maritima*. Their recent survey work shows this orchid, while very limited in its range, is fairly stable.

The search for the Priority 1 species *Caladenia evanescens* is being led by volunteers David and Liz Edmunds. Unfortunately, despite their best efforts, this orchid has not been seen in recent years. The Priority 3 species *Thelymitra jacksonii* has also been adopted by David and Liz.

With club member Jenny Kikeros, Jane Scott, Les Lewis and Kay Lehman have adopted the Priority 1 subspecies *Caladenia pholcoidea* subsp. *augustensis* and have found one new population consisting of a single plant. They hope to search that area more thoroughly this year to see if they can find more.

The Threatened species *Calochilus pruinosus* is under the watchful eye of volunteer John Tucker. In recent years, sightings have declined.

Volunteer Kimberly Klau helps Anna de Haan, a Southern Rivers member, to keep an eye on the Priority 2 species *Diuris heberlei*. Anna also singlehandedly has adopted the Priority 1 species *Prasophyllum paulinae*. Anna has been working tirelessly in surveying this orchid and has found new populations.



*Thelymitra yorkensis*. Photo by J. Storey



*Caladenia caesarea* subsp. *maritima*





*Caladenia dundasiae*. Photo by J. Ewing

*acaleana alcockii* and the Priority 1 species *Pterostylis macrocalymma*. While they have looked tirelessly for these orchids, the region has been subject to drought and they have been unsuccessful in finding plants in flower. Hopefully this year will be better.

Club members Robert and Jay Steer and Ramon Newmann with help from Alan Barker have adopted the Priority 1 species *Thelymitra magnifica*. The wealth of data obtained from surveys has greatly increased our knowledge of the range and habit of this orchid. They have located new populations and have discovered that some previously reported populations are no longer extant.

Graeme and Debra Walker has adopted the Priority 3 species *Thelymitra variegata*. Graeme and Debra have been monitoring the largest known population near Bunbury and report that, following a prescribed burn two years ago, flowering numbers have dwindled. Let's hope they come back as the bush regenerates.

The Priority 1 species *Caladenia dundasiae* has been adopted by club members Stuart Harris, David Lawson and John Ewing. Flowering of *C. dundasiae* is highly variable from one year to the next. In the 2014 season it flowered in profusion though in other years appearances have been very sparse. Stuart, David and John also keep an eye on the Priority 1 species *Caladenia validinervia* (Formerly *C. sp. Muir Highway*).

John and David also look after the Priority 1 species *Caladenia longicauda* subsp. *extrema* (formerly *C. longicauda* subsp. *Manjimup*).

Club members Bill Gaynor, Thea and Kim Hanson, Ian McLean, Lynnette Alcock and Christine Lock have adopted the Priority 1 species *Caladenia caesarea* subsp. *transiens* and the Threatened species *Caladenia luteola*. A new population of *Caladenia caesarea* subsp. *transiens* was found in 2013 and another in 2014. The orchid has not been seen in the original location for several years. A large new population of *Caladenia luteola* has been found, increasing its range considerably.

Club members Margaret Petridis, Kevin Uhe, John Hills, and Phil and Pam Hill have adopted the Priority 1 species *Caladenia cristata*. This highly rainfall dependent orchid (flowers poorly in dry

Deanna Doyle, a local volunteer who lives in the area where this elusive orchid was last seen, has been searching for the Priority 1 species *Drakaea andrewsiae*, but has not found any plants to date.

The Priority 1 species *Paracaleana gracilicordata* has been adopted by volunteers Fred and Jean Hort, Steve Crane and Rob Swift. A number of new populations were located during early surveys but no new populations have been found recently.

Volunteers Frances Kirchner, Jill Stryk, Kerri-Ann Hudson, Nicole Arielli and Rob Swift have adopted the Priority 1 species *Paracaleana granitica*. To date it is still known from just one confirmed location.

Club members Gary and Sue McDonald have adopted the Priority 2 species *Par-*



*Caladenia cristata*. Photo by K. Uhe





*Caladenia uliginosa* subsp. *patulens* - 4—header !!! George checking smell - *patulens* has very strong, sweet metallic smell. Photos by U. Kokosinska.

years) has been found in several new locations and a great deal of extremely useful statistical information has been gathered. In 2014, Margaret and Kevin also teamed up with Ian Greeve and Jeanette Wheatley to survey for the Priority 3 subspecies *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *orientalis*. What an effort, as they drove all the way out to Toolinna Cove on the Great Australian Bight to see it. Fortunately they found healthy populations in full flower.

Club members Pam and Phil Hill have adopted the Priority 2 species *Caladenia erythrochila*. They have had great success in expanding the range and numbers of this orchid.

Southern Rivers club members Trevor and Jean Cunningham, Pam Goodman, June Scott and Gladys Woods have adopted *Caladenia granitora*. The orchid was nominated and accepted for declaration as Threatened Flora due to their efforts surveying the orchid and suggesting that it should be listed.

Club members Jeremy Storey and John Hills have adopted the Priority 2 species *Caladenia postea* and the Priority 3 species *Thelymitra yorkensis*. They have done some outstanding work and have been diligent in collecting important information on these orchids, including valuable information on the geology associated with each species.

Club members Eddy and Donna Wajon, and Matz Dahlkamp have adopted the Priority 2 species *Caladenia starti-orum*. A large and very comprehensive dataset has been produced by this group.

Urszula and George Kokosinska have adopted the Priority 1 species *Caladenia uliginosa* subsp. *patulens*. They have done some outstanding work and have shown great diligence in surveying and monitoring this orchid. Their reports are greatly detailed and they have confirmed both new and old populations. One of their sites now has a local conservation group and the Shire Council have removed rubbish and have fenced the area.



### Moora spider site near Gillingarra

And now to not so good news. William Guy recently visited the Gillingarra area. He reports that unfortunately there has been substantial amount of road clearing right where the *Caladenia exilis* subsp. *vanleeuwenii* grow (see photo). It is not clear how many Moora spiders survived that devastation.

Members visiting the area during Moora spider flowering times (from July) are urged to report back on the condition of the site and any plants that might still be there.



### ORCHID SURVEYS IN SUMMER BURNS

As you are all no doubt aware, we had a large number of summer burns this year. Kevin Uhe recorded over 90 significant burns all around the state.

We have recently separated the burns into lists for the metro area, and ones for north, south and east of Perth. (*Ed. See back page*).

We are asking for help from members to visit whichever burns they can, to check on the type and extent of habitat burnt, then to send information back to us as to whether or not it warrants regular survey visits or a group field trip later in the season or not.

Our aim is to find the few most promising burns in each area and to concentrate on them with regular survey visits and/or a group visit in spring.

We have already checked out a few of the burns down south (Northcliffe/Shannon, Lake Unicup NR, Noobijup NR) and found them worthwhile for more visits later. They will be incorporated into group field trips in September and October.

Please let us know any relevant information when you have been able to visit a burn, and if you would be able to 'adopt a burn' to do regular visits to record the orchids that appear in the area during the year. We are expecting some surprises this year!!

Thank you for your help.  
Kevin Uhe and Margaret Petridis.



Bush near Northcliffe that was burnt last summer. Photo by M. Petridis



**Big thanks go to WANOSCG members Eddy Wajon and Jane Scott who each donated 10% from their respective book sales to the club.**

**Well done, Eddy and Jane!!! May you write many more books.**



### WANOSCG photographic competition for 2015

Photographs are to be of two or more orchid species (or hybrids) in the same field of view. Members are reminded that photographs must be taken in 2015 under natural circumstances and not be the result of "Photoshopping" two or more orchids into a single photograph. Photographs should be 6"x4", 8"x10" or A4 sized and without a mounting or backing. Members may enter up to three photographs.

*Caladenia postea* growing next to *Cyanicula gemmata*.  
Photo by J. Storey.

## FIELD TRIP UPDATE

Below are details on some of the upcoming field trips. For full list see the back page. Members wishing to attend or for further information please contact Margaret Petridis on [REDACTED]

### JUNE

#### 20th/21st June—Jurien Bay area

Field trip to Jurien area looking for *Thelymitra*, *Pterostylis* and *Diuris* species.

This trip is being lead by Eddy Wajon. Please put your name down for this field trip by speaking to Eddy at the June meeting or call him on [REDACTED] to get details of the time and place where we are meeting on the Saturday morning.

We will be staying in Jurien on Saturday night. Accommodation options include:

- Apex Camp: 5-person self-contained unit including linen \$115 (2 person) + \$10pp extra. Phone 9652 1010
- Tourist Park: 1-bedroom chalet \$120, 2-bedroom chalet \$135. Phone 9652 1596
- Beach Front Holiday Units: 5-person self-contained unit including linen \$150. Phone 0467 073 862
- Hotel/Motel: \$115-145/room. Phone 9652 1022.

Get together and share a unit or chalet.



*Thelymitra pulcherrima*. Photo by E. Wajon.

### JULY 19th July – Pingelly



What orchid is this one?  
You will find out on the  
Pingelly trip.

caravans.

To reduce the impact on the environment there will be a restriction on the number of people who can attend though depending on interest we may be able to rotate members during the week if people only wish to do a couple of days.

**(\*) The field trip to Kalbarri and the surveys at Eurardy in August will be dependant on good winter rainfall. If an alternative trip is needed, members will be informed in the July bulletin and at the meeting in July.**

Day trip to Pingelly area looking at a number of reserves to see what we can find and record. Pingelly area has a number of reserves in different habitats to explore and is an area which has a number of different species.

### AUGUST

#### 8th-9th August – Kalbarri area (\*)

Weekend trip to search for northern flowering orchids in the Kalbarri area including burn areas that may yield fire enhanced orchids.

#### 24-28 August—Eurardy Station Surveys (\*)

Last year a small group of members visited Eurardy Station to help search for a number of DRF species that grow in the area. We have had contact from Vanessa at Eurardy seeking the help of WANOSCG to assist in this year's surveys.

The dates for the surveys are from Monday August 24 to August 28 and accommodation is available at Eurardy for cabins, camping or



WANOSCG members at Eurardy in 2014



## SOUTHERN RIVERS GROUP — Denmark Bunny Hop 8th May 2015



*Eriochilus pulchellus*, *E. dilatatus* subsp. *magnus*, *Prasophyllum* sp. 'Early'.  
Photos by M. Petridis.

In overcast conditions club members met on the edge of Wilson Inlet. The edges just above the high water mark were scoured, however no orchids were found here. Further along a gravel and rocky road we had more success. *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *multiflorus* (Common Bunny) and *E. dilatatus* subsp. *magnus* (Easter Bunny) were found as well as many non-flowering leaves. We were rewarded with many *Pterostylis* sp. 'coastal' (Coastal Banded Greenhood) plants, although only the very first deeply coloured, slightly cupped flowers were open on some plants. None really looked like *Pterostylis vittata*.

Along Inlet Drive on two of the many rocky areas we added *Eriochilus pulchellus* (Granite Bunny) and *Prasophyllum* sp. 'early' (Scented Autumn Leek) to the list of sightings.

Lunch was eaten at Lights Beach overlooking the moody sea. We were disappointed at the limited number of orchids sighted along the usual tracks. No more orchids were added to the list here. Further west at William Bay, very few bunny orchids mentioned above were seen, although *E. dilatatus* subsp. *dilatatus* (White Bunny) was sighted with dozens of *Pyrorchis nigricans* (Red Beaks) and a few *Cryptostylis ovata* (Slipper orchid) leaves. In warm sunny conditions another successful and rewarding *Eriochilus* field trip concluded along the south coast.

Anna de Haan

## NORTHCLIFFE and NORTH WALPOLE 2nd &amp; 3rd of May

What a fantastic start to the year...our first WANOSCG field trip for 2015!! It was a chance to re-connect with friends and spend time exploring the huge burn down south to find the first orchids of the new season.

A group of 5 members arrived at the Watermark Kilns, north of Northcliffe on the Friday night and headed out to Big Hill Brook Road on Saturday morning, where we met another member and found a new population of the Leafless orchid, ***Praecoxanthus aphyllus***, a few tiny ***Drakaea*** leaves just emerging, one plant of the Scented Autumn Leek, ***Prasophyllum* sp. 'early'** and a small white bunny orchid.

After this, we headed to Forest Park along the George Gardner Drive and found multiple plants of the Common White Bunny, ***Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. multiflorus** before and after our morning tea break amongst the amazing karri trees and forest.

At lunch time we met up with 5 other members at the Northcliffe Visitor Center and were joined by local Wendy Eiby, who took us to three granite locations south of the town to find the Granite Bunny, ***Eriochilus pulchellus***; the Swamp Bunny, ***Eriochilus helonomos***; the Common Bunny, ***Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. multiflorus**; the Scented Autumn Leek, ***Prasophyllum* sp. 'early'** (some with red striping) and leaves and a bud of the Leafless orchid, ***Praecoxanthus aphyllus***. We also spotted leaves of leek orchids (***Prasophyllums***) and the Silky Blue (***Cyanicula sericea***), plus leaves and buds of the Mosquito orchid (***Cyrtostylis robusta***) and the Banded Greenhood (***Pterostylis vittata***) in the burnt bush.

Our final two stops were along the Northcliffe Pemberton Road where we saw the Easter Bunny, **Eriochilus dilatatus subsp. magnus**, many flowering plants of the Common Bunny and the Banded Greenhood, with one in flower already.

We extend our thanks to Wendy for a great afternoon of orchid hunting.

On Saturday night we enjoyed reviewing the day and our photos, and sharing food and wine at the Kilns.

On Sunday morning we headed east along Middleton Road to the South West Highway where we then headed south into the burn. Anna took us to a place south of Weld Road where she had seen the Red-lipped Bunny, **Eriochilus valens** in 2004 and where it was found by Bill Jackson in the late 1980's. After some careful searching, we located a small patch of about 15 plants with some still in bud...and then more...and more...and more!! So exciting!! Even rain could not dampen our delight and enthusiasm...

After about an hour, we decided to head to the next location on Railway Parade where we found the Hare orchid, **Leporella fimbriata**; Common Bunny; Granite Bunny; Scented Autumn Leek in flower and leaves of Red Beaks (**Pyrorchis nigricans**) and the Slipper Orchid (**Cryptostylis ovata**).

With heavy, dark rain clouds fast approaching, most people decided to head in various directions home at around midday. Two cars with 5 members headed north to Fernhook Falls on Beardmore Road for lunch, then walked down the path, umbrellas in hand to the river then across the bridge to the other side.

Along the path we found Common Bunnies in flower, Banded Greenhoods in bud and rosettes of two different snail orchids and a bird orchid. In the moss over the granites on the other side of the river we counted more than 70 Swamp Bunny orchids, *Eriochilus helonomos* in flower and bud.

It was a fitting end to a fantastic weekend where overall we saw 19 different species, with 9 in flower and 10 in either bud or leaf.

Thank you to all members who attended, shared in the discoveries and helped to make the weekend such an enjoyable success.

Margaret Petridis, Field Trip Co-ordinator and co-leader.



L-R: Members convoy, *Eriochilus helonomos* flower and leaf. Photos by M. Petridis.

### VALIANT WEEKEND WANDERINGS...SEARCHING FOR ERIOCHILUS VALENS AND OTHERS, MAY 2015

Due to dire predictions of catastrophic weather on the weekend of 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> May, Kevin and I headed south on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> to start our search for more **Eriochilus valens** populations.

After searching several places unsuccessfully, finding the burn was either not in the right places or had not been hot enough, we returned to the site we had found **E. valens** 2 weeks previously south of Weld Road, to record the eastern end of the population.

We headed back to Manjimup for a pleasant stay at the Gateway Motel.

Next morning it dawned overcast but not raining and we headed east along the Muir Highway to check a few



summer burns. The first was in forest along Frosty Road where we saw a few Common Bunnies (**E. dilatatus subsp. multiflorus**) along the edge of the road.

The second was a return to the Lake Unicup NR to check the burnt area along the internal Lake Unicup Road. We found **Eriochilus dilatatus subsp. multiflorus** with quite a variation in leaf shapes and sizes, **Pterostylis vittata** in flower and bud, rosettes of two different snail orchids, leaves and buds of **Cyrtostylis robusta**, and leaves of **Leptoceras menziesii**, **Pyrorchis nigricans**, **Caladenia reptans** and **flava**, and two different **Thelymitras**.

Following a recent report from some of the Albany members, we next went to Noobijup NR where all of the bush surrounding the large lake there had been burnt. In the NW corner we found **Eriochilus helonomos** in flower, **Prasophyllum sp. 'early'** and **Pterostylis vittata** in bud, and leaves of another **Prasophyllum** and a filamentosa type **Caladenia**.

The wet areas along the western boundary of the reserve look very interesting and should yield some orchid surprises during the year. Along the central track, which ran through woodland habitat, we found **E. dilatatus subsp. multiflorus** in flower, **Pt. vittata** in bud, and various leaves similar to those found at Lake Unicup.

It was now mid-afternoon so we headed back to the South Western Highway via Muir Highway, Thompson and Beardmore Roads. We had previously seen a swampy area on Google maps between Beardmore Rd and a large rock to the north which we thought we should check around for **Eriochilus valens**. After searching in various habitats we finally found around 30 plants amongst some burnt melaleuca bushes...our first new population!!

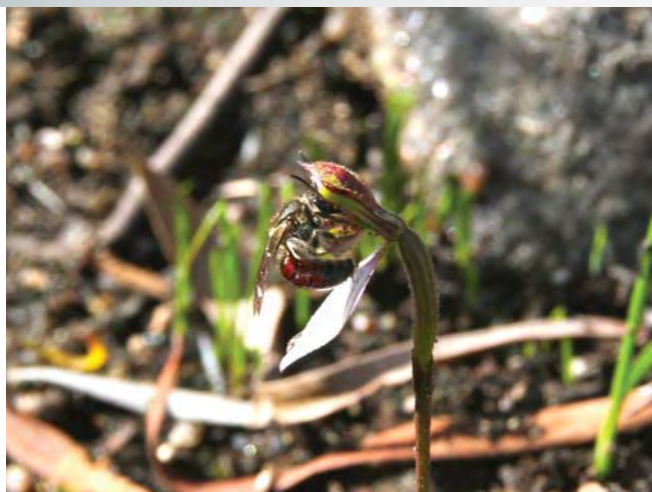
We happily headed into Walpole to stay the night at the motel.

On Sunday morning we contacted David Edmonds who was able to join us to look for more **E. valens**. We first took him to the site near Beardmore Rd to show him the flowers and the habitat, and then we headed back to the previously

found population south of Weld Rd. I had a hunch the orchid would be on the other side of the drainage line and, yes, after looking about 30 minutes, we found some...then more, and more (our second new ones). We counted around 80 plants and found one triple header and about 5 doubles among the plants which were mostly very fresh, with only three finished flowers seen.

After a late morning tea break, David headed home to Walpole and we went to check one more site before heading north and home too. We stopped near a large rock on the western side of the road and headed onto it. Imagine our surprise to find three tiny plants of **Eriochilus pulchellus** in flower in the black charred moss on the rock!

Around the rock in the forest habitat, we found **Eriochilus dilatatus subsp. multiflorus** in flower and down at the transition line between the forest and a swampy habitat Kevin found two plants of **Eriochilus valens**!! One was



Female *Lasloglossum* bee (*Parasphecodes*) on *Eriochilus helonomos*. Photos by J. Hills



in flower and about 2" high, and the other was a non-flowering leaf. I was surprised to see them growing in pale orangish clay soil, but was very pleased to have our third new location for this species for the weekend. We would have liked to explore the area more but the heavy, consistent rain forecast for the weekend finally arrived, so we headed home, very pleased with our finds for the trip.

Margaret Petridis and Kevin Uhe.

FIELD TRIP REPORT:

KALBARRI/EURARDY

30<sup>TH</sup>, 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY – 1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2015

From the coastal gorges to the Z bend and beyond.....

An enthusiastic group of 15 members and one visitor met near the Kalbarri foreshore on a gorgeous sunny Saturday morning and headed south to the coastal gorges, led by local member Gary McDonald.

Along the Eagle Gorge Rd we located the first of our target species, the Blunt-leaved Bunny (*Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *brevifolius*), recognised by its fresh flowers, thicker stem and red-backed leaf with a blunt end. We also saw specimens of the White Bunny (*Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *dilatatus*) with finishing flowers, seedpods and long thin green leaves.

A careful search around the Mushroom Rock area also located these two species.

Gary then took us to a sandy track near the National Park Headquarters where we found another population of bunnies. Some of these plants had blunt, red-backed leaves and some had pointy, crinkled green leaves which we identified as the Crinkle-leaved Bunny (*Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *undulatus*). There were also possible hybrids in this population.

We had a late lunch at the gravel pit out along Ajana Road where Gary showed us more bunnies and the second of our target species, the Winter Spider (*Caladenia drummondii*). With careful and widespread searching, we increased the count from 8 to 26 plants, with 20 in flower, 4 in bud and 2 finished flowers. They were growing in gravelly clay, mostly under low bushes.

Our last stop for the day was in at the Z bend, accessed by a beautiful bitumen road...for part of the way! The second half was still a badly corrugated dirt road, which was slow going. The views of the Z bend gorge lit by late afternoon sunshine were worth the trip, and we managed to find some tiny *Caladenia* leaves, possibly *C. reptans* subsp. *impensa* along the walk trail, and snail rosettes, probably *Pterostylis* sp. 'inland' near the lookout.

On Sunday morning we were joined by 2 new members who we took to the gravel pit to show them the bunnies and winter spiders before heading further east. They were amazed by the tiny spider flowers, some only a few centimetres high.

*Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *brevifolius*. Photos by M. Petridis.





We proceeded east to a nature reserve on the Ajana East Road where we eventually found a few populations of *Caladenia drummondii*. They were growing in yellow clay above sand amongst *Meleleuca* bushes and also around mallees in open woodland. We found around 40 plants with most of them (36) in flower.

After this, we headed north to Eurardy Station and were met by the Manager, Ian. After lunch, Ian took us on a guided tour of the main part of the station with regular stops to search for orchids. Along the sandy track we found healthy leaves of ***Thelymitra sargentii*, *Caladenias* and *Pterostylis* sp. 'inland'**.

In the 'Orchid Strip' area we found leaves of *Diuris* and *Caladenia* species. Unfortunately we did not find either of the target species during our searching.

We headed back to the homestead where 6 members left us to return to Kalbarri and the rest of us settled in to stay the night. Ian lit up a magnificent bonfire and we all enjoyed sharing food, drinks and conversation during the evening.

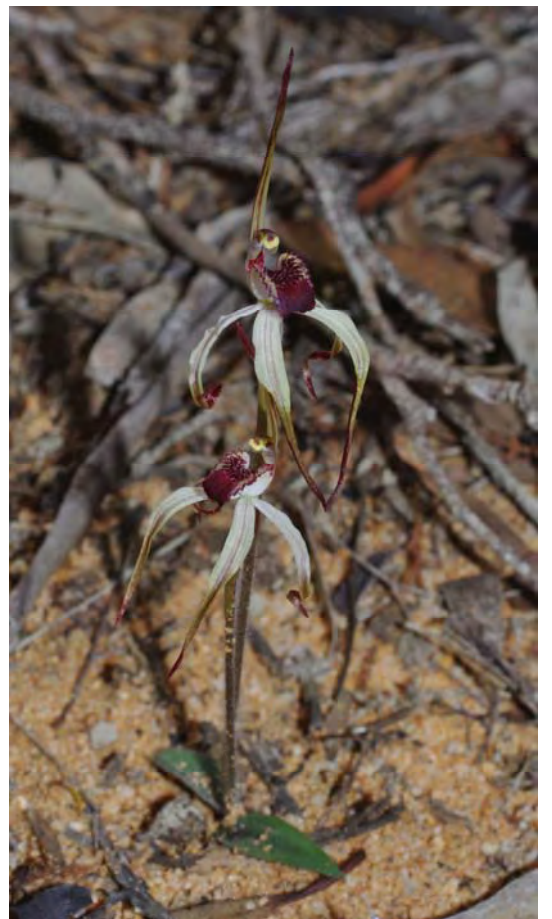
On Monday morning we met up early and headed out at 8am to explore the eastern section of Eurardy Station, on the other side of the highway. Despite stopping and searching in several places, we did not find any traces of orchids at all.

A highlight of the morning was the visit to the site of a lovely display of wreath *leschenaultias* along a yellow sandy track and a nearby malleefowl nest. We also saw an ingenious bush dunny inside a tank near an old campsite.

It was near here we took some group photos with Ian to mark the occasion of our visit and to remind him of the enjoyable times we shared during his last week as Manager at Eurardy Station.

We then dispersed to do some more searching on the long journey home. Thank you to all who attended the field trip and helped to make it a memorable one.

Margaret Petridis, Field Trip Co-ordinator and Co-Leader



### SURVIVAL TIPS — DO NOT FORGET YOUR GLASSES

I am not blessed with any navigational skills. I regularly get lost in my local bushland—Warwick Open space. Of course, getting lost there is not a big issue. I simply walk to the nearest fence, read the name of the street, then stand there for a couple of minutes wondering how I got there when I was pretty sure that I was going in a different direction altogether.

Obviously, I cannot employ such a laissez faire strategy when I am going somewhere more remote than my local park. And I do travel a lot on my own. There is a few different things I do to stay safe.

Firstly, I tell my family where I plan to go, or make them a list of locations. If I got written instructions from someone, I will tell them “If I am not back by 5pm, there is an email from Margaret (or Paul, or Jay..), you can check the exact directions of where to look for me”. Hard thing to do is keeping to the itinerary as there are always distractions.

Whilst I am driving from place to place I send updates to my family when I drift into the areas with mobile coverage. I suppose I can automate this if I get an app that Pat Richards described in the May bulletin.

My husband likes buying tech stuff for me so I’ve got a GPS. I find my Garmin quite frustrating even though I am a pretty computer literate person. So I only learnt a few essential features.

When I get to the location, I mark location of the car and then wander around.

As GPS does not acquire coordinates instantaneously when you turn it on, I did get caught once or twice when I was not wearing my glasses and did not notice that GPS was still thinking that I was somewhere else. There was quite a bit of anxious walking as a result of that. Luckily, I was in a small reserve which I could walk around until I saw my car. Now I make sure that I am in the right geographic area before marking the car location.

I also carry a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) - another high tech present from my husband. He is into fishing and it is mandatory in WA for all fisher persons to carry Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB).

PLBs and EPIRBs are slightly different devices but the principle behind them is the same. You use these devices if you are in distress (lost or injured) and you cannot get hold of emergency services via phone or radio. When you activate the device, it will transmit a signal to an international search and rescue satellite and from there it will eventually reach the regional rescue organisation which will commence the search.

For us bushwalkers and orchid hunters, it is the PLB we need as they are lighter and are for personal use (that is, intended to stay with the person) whereas EPIRBs are mainly for boats. Mine (pictured) seems easy enough to use as it only has two functions: a) test battery and b) activate. Instructions are in small print though...

PLB can be purchased in a camping store / BCF and will set you back \$300-400. It needs to be registered with the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA). The registration is free.

Do check the AMSA website for the types of PLBs before buying, especially if you think you found a bargain on e-bay. The preference is for the GPS-type PLB and it has to be the correct frequency (406 MHz).

If you carry high tech stuff like that, it is important to make sure that it will function when you need it so I always (well, I try to) carry spare batteries for GPS in my camera bag and do check the battery on the PLB a couple of times per year. But the most important item that I pack in my bag are my glasses. I even carry a spare set!

For more info on PLBs check AMSA website:

<http://beacons.amsa.gov.au/about/beacon-types.asp> Marina Karyagina





## MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2015

All members are reminded that annual subscriptions are now due. The annual single or family membership fee is **\$30**. Payment can be made :

- to the Treasurer in person
- by mail with cheques made out to WANOSCG and sent to: WANOSCG PO BOX 323, VICTORIA PARK, W.A. 6979
- by electronic transfer to the club's bank account:  
BSB: 306044 Bank name: Bankwest  
Account number: 5492468

If you choose to send money electronically please identify what the payment is for (eg "Annual Fees" and send a copy of your receipt of electronic transfer with your name on it to the club's email account ([wanoscg@gmail.com](mailto:wanoscg@gmail.com)))

Please note that if the fees have not been paid by the end of May you will be a non-financial member and not receive the Bulletin anymore.



## BULLETIN ARTICLES

Please email any Bulletin contributions to Marina at [wanoscg.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:wanoscg.newsletter@gmail.com). Items for the next Bulletin need to be submitted by 1st July 2015

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## Upcoming Field Trip List

Month	Dates	Description
June	20/21	Jurien area looking for <i>Pterostylis</i> and <i>Diuris perialla</i> on private properties
July	19	Day trip to Pingelly area to look at reserves and record findings
August	8/9	Kalbarri area (*)
August	15-23	Week long camping trip to the east of Esperance focusing on <i>Pterostylis nana</i> (snails) species - <i>Almost Full!</i>
August	24-28	Eurardy Surveys - limited numbers (*)
Sep	12/13	Visit to a private property in Moodiarup area
Sep	20	Day trip to Brookton Highway/Toodyay. (To be determined)
Sep	26-28	Stay at Perup Ecology Centre and explore areas in vicinity

(\*) Dependant on winter rainfall.

## *Pyrorchis nigricans* sites required for KINGS PARK Researchers

Kings Park is researching deep dormancy in seed of *Pyrorchis nigricans* and we are needing to know where they are flowering in the Perth region this spring. Given the number of summer fires there are probably some great colonies that will flower. If members can keep an eye out at flowering time could they please email Emma Dalziell on

[Emma.Dalziell@bgpa.wa.gov.au](mailto:Emma.Dalziell@bgpa.wa.gov.au)

2015	ROSTERS		SPEAKERS 2015
	Raffle	Supper	
JUNE	Matz Dahlkamp	Urszula Kokosinska	Urszula Kokosinska <i>Caladenia uliginosa</i> subsp. <i>patulens</i>
JULY	Peter and Debbie Proudfoot	Pam Hill	Chris French <b>The new <i>Diuris</i> species</b>
AUG	David and Jane Cumming	Pat Richards	Ryan Phillips Title coming
SEPT	Tom Burbidge		TBA
OCT	Bob Steer		TBA
NOV	David Lawson		<b>Photo Competition and Members slides</b>



## LIST OF BURNS

EAST							NORTH						
	DATE	LOCATION	SIZE	R T PAGE		DATE	LOCATION	SIZE	R T PAGE				
1	18/11/2014	MALEBELLING, EAST OF YORK	40 HA	57 A9	1	23/11/2014	BRAND HIGHWAY (MIDLANDS AND KAILIS	400 HA	86 C6				
2	26/11/2014	MT BROWN, YORK	50 HA	46 F2	2	25/11/2014	BRAND HIGHWAY (BONNIEFIELD AND BOOKARA RDS)	86 B8	86 28				
3	30/11/2014	CHIMES RD NEAR CLACKLINE-TOODYAY RD	15 HA	56 B7	3	26/11/2014	EAST OF BRAND HIGHWAY, ENEABBA	8,000 HA	80 E5				
4	20/12/2014	PEACHY RD, JOHN FORREST NP	96 HA	55 B9	4	26/11/2014	SEABIRD, SOVEREIGN HILL ESTATE	8,000 HA	60 C8				
5	30/12/2014	SALT VALLEY RD, TOODYAY WEST	150 HA	56 B7	5	26/11/2014	PINJARREGA NR- MARCHAGEE/CARVER RD	8,000 HA	77 E2				
6	5/01/2015	BAILUP RD, WOOROLOO	100 HA	55 F8	6	26/11/2014	BRAND HIGHWAY/INDIAN OCEAN DRIVE		86 C8				
7	14/01/2015	RUGGED HILLS, WEST TOODYAY	15 HA	56 B5	7	30/11/2014	NILGEN NR (OCEAN FARMS ESTATE)	70 HA	60 C3				
8	17/01/2015	YARRA RD NEAR ABERCORN RD	16 HA	46 A2	8	20/12/2014	RUTLAND RD, MUCHEA STH		55 C6				
9	19/01/2015	THE LAKES, GREAT STHN HIGHWAY	43 HA	45 F1	9	5/01/2015	KANYABA/ROWES RD, DANDARAGAN	3000 HA	77 C9				
10	29/01/2015	HIDDEN VALLEY, JOHN FOREST NP	20 HA	55 D9	10	5/01/2015	NTH BINDOON TRAINING AREA	1495 HA	62 A8				
11	31/01/2015	NE RD NEAR SERPENTINE RIVER	105 HA	45 D9	11	5/01/2015	DARALOO WEST RD, NTH MOORA	700 HA	77 F8				
12	1/02/2015	HELENA NP, BROOKTON HIGHWAY	1725 HA	45 E5	12	5/01/2015	COWALLA RD/ BRAND HIGHWAY	300 HA	76 F4				
13	10/02/2015	CLACKLINE, 1KM EAST/SOUTH GE HIGHWAY	25 HA	56 B8	13	5/01/2015	KALBARRI NP, HAWKES HEAD LOOKOUT	100 HA	104 B4				
14	10/02/2015	70KM EAST SOUTHERN CROSS	5000 HA	51 D1	14	8/01/2015	BRAND HIGHWAY, 10KM SOUTH BIBBY RD	100 HA	76 E7				
15	10/02/2015	160KM EAST HYDEN ON H-NORSEMAN RD	5000 HA	52 B8	15	9/01/2015	RED GULLY/FYNES RD	1500 HA	61 B6				
16	21/02/2015	RE-IGNITION OF ABOVE	121000 HA	52 B8	16	10/01/2015	NEAVES RD, BULLSBROOK	7000 HA	55 B6				
17	26/03/2015	MORANGANUP NR, WEST TOODYAY	40 HA	56 A7	17	10/01/2015	JURIEN RD EAST/COCKLESHELL GULLY RD	2000 HA	76 C2				
18	26/03/2015	BERRY RD, GIDGEGANNUP	200 HA	55 E7	18	21/01/2015	BRAND HIGHWAY /NAMMIEGARRA RD	60 HA	61 A4				
19	28/03/2015	JULIMAR STATE FOREST (Munverring Farm)	260 HA	56 A3	19	23/01/2015	NWCOASTAL HWAY / NERREN NERREN	2000 HA	104 E1				
		METRO			20	30/01 2015	PINJARREGA NR, COOROW GHEAD RD	220 HA	81 F8				
					21	10/02/2015	Z BEND, KALBARRI NATIONAL PARK	1600 HA	104 C4				