

## **Annex 1**

# **Original Western Australian Draft Work Plan**

## ANZECC National Framework Draft Work Plan - Western Australia

Management Mechanisms	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe	Success Measure
<b>Roles &amp; Responsibilities of Governments</b>				
<i>State Government Role</i>	<p>Reform legislation to improve protection and management of vegetation, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Agriculture Management Act to <i>inter alia</i> replace the <i>Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945</i></li> <li>ii. repeal and replace <i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i> with <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act</i> (drafting approved by Cabinet)</li> <li>iii. determine whether amendments are required to other legislation, including the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i></li> <li>iv. consideration for the amendment of Regulation 54 Finance Local Government (Financial Management Regulations 1996) to allow for an Environmental/Conservation service charge</li> </ul>	<p>AGWEST</p> <p>CALM</p> <p>All relevant agencies, including DEP &amp; EPA for EP Act 1986</p> <p>Department of Local Government</p>	<p>Mid 2001 (dependent on Parliamentary process)</p> <p>December 2000??[advice from Simon re wording – if this then need to change others]</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>December 2000</p>	<p>Enactment of new legislation</p> <p>commitment to prepare a draft Bill for release for public comment and consultation with stakeholders</p> <p>Enactment of new legislation where appropriate</p> <p>Introduction of Regulations and adoption by Local Government</p>



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	<p>Finalise and implement Perth's Bushplan through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="517 592 1189 624">i. Protecting areas of regionally significant vegetation</li> <li data-bbox="517 783 1189 871">ii. Providing guidance for local government to protect areas of locally significant vegetation and open space systems</li> <li data-bbox="517 1031 1189 1150">iii. Providing guidance and education to managers of land outside the conservation reserve system, including on land management, conservation agreements and access to incentive programs</li> </ul>	<p>MfP in consultation with DEP, CALM, WRC &amp; WAMA</p>	<p>10 year implementation timeframe</p> <p>Ongoing as part of strategic and regional planning initiatives</p> <p>July 2001</p>	<p>Acquisition and reservation of significant areas and application of complementary (off-reserve) mechanisms including negotiated planning solutions</p> <p>Development of LGA planning strategies incorporating vegetation protection</p> <p>Formation of the Bushplan Management Advisory Service</p>

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	Implement coordinated action to control priority weeds affecting native vegetation and revegetation, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. implement of Environmental Weed Strategy for WA and associated work plan</li> <li>ii. finalise State Weed Plan and associated Action Plan</li> </ul>	CALM assisted by NRM agencies and community groups  AGWEST assisted by other NRM agencies and community groups	Ongoing  May 2001  July 2001	Implementation of strategy  Adoption of Plan  Develop and commence implementation of Action Plan
	Develop a Statewide foreshore management policy which includes fringing vegetation protection	WRC and MfP assisted by other agencies	December 2000	Adoption by State Government... [WRC/MFP TO INSERT]



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	frameworks for ecologically sustainable development.	LGA's	Ongoing	21 plans
	Publicise the National Local Government Biodiversity Strategy document, by:  i. Survey all Local Government Authorities to determine activity in relation to biodiversity conservation  ii. Local Government seminar series on Bushland issues  Implementation of the Strategy based on the LGA survey	Australian Local Government Association  WAMA  WAMA/ SLCC/ Bushcare  WAMA	Ongoing  September 2000  May 2000  Ongoing	Awareness within Local Government  Completed survey  Six seminars completed  Implementation of Strategy
<b>Planning &amp; Assessment</b>				
<i>Vegetation Inventory, Data Collection and Mapping</i>	Development of a comprehensive State-wide coverage of native vegetation (including revegetation and plantations) type, extent and condition through the Western Australian Audit project (Land-use and Vegetation Mapping)	CALM and AGWEST	October 2000	Completed map coverage, GIS database operational and available through WALIS
	Develop an estimate of degraded and salinised land in SW Western Australia through the Land Monitor project	CSIRO, DMS [CMIS?]& DOLA	June 2002	Completed map coverage and derived statistics
	Develop GIS database of remnant vegetation condition and management in water resource recovery catchments.	WRC	December 2000	GIS database of bushland condition, management needs, location of ATRs and compensation history
<i>Biodiversity Status Assessment</i>	Develop a comprehensive database of ecosystems and ecological communities throughout the State and assess the conservation status of each one	CALM	August 2000	Completed database and map coverage

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<i>Regional Vegetation Management Planning</i>	Progressively develop and refine regional strategies which adequately address native vegetation protection and management	Regional NRM groups assisted by NRM agencies	Ongoing	Adoption by regional NRM groups and endorsement by WA Government through Cabinet Standing Committee on Salinity Management
	Develop specific regional vegetation planning initiatives on a priority basis in areas where high biodiversity values are being threatened, eg  i. West Midlands  ii. Scott River	CALM/DEP  ?	Results available in January 2001  ????	Completed regional vegetation plan incorporated into regional strategies
	Develop strategies for incorporating native vegetation protection into statutory and strategic planning processes under the State Planning Strategy, including the retention and management of urban bushland in the planning process and making provision for a representative reserve system in strategic plans	WAPC/MFP	Ongoing as part of specific regional planning and structure planning initiatives	Additions to Regional /Local open space system and reserve system / Public Open Space for Conservation and private covenants / Off – reserve protection
	Establish a framework for incorporation of remnant vegetation retention into Local Government planning through local planning strategies as part of Model Scheme Text and implementation of Perth's Bushplan	WAMA/LGAs and WAPC/MFP	Ongoing - LGA by LGA basis	Recognised approach to local bushland in local planning strategies supported by WAPC
	Implementation of the 62 action items under the Wetlands Conservation Policy for WA, that relate to the protection, improvement and management of vegetation surrounding wetlands.  Review progress in implementing the Policy	Wetlands Coordinating Committee	December 2000  Ongoing  December 2001	Program of Action completed for the Policy  Implementation of actions  Review completed

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	Bushland Sensitive Design Guidelines – framework for consideration of the major planning and design factors associated with the long term viability of urban bushland areas within State and local government agency and community decision-making process	MFP/WAPC	December 2001	Published Guidelines and compliance/implementation strategy
<b>Reserve System</b>				
<i>Identification of Areas for Reservation</i>	<p>Continue program of comprehensive regional biological surveys designed to identify areas of high biodiversity value, with current emphasis on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Carnarvon Basin</li> <li>ii. south-west agricultural region</li> </ul>	CALM	<p>Publication of results and recommendations in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. October 1999??</li> <li>ii. August 2001</li> </ul>	Identification of areas recommended for reservation
	Refine vegetation database to identify vegetation types/ ecosystems that are inadequately represented in the existing conservation reserve system	CALM	Results of new analysis to be available December 1999	Vegetation types identified and present extent(cover) mapped

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	Develop an improved understanding of what is entailed in establishing a CAR reserve system in highly cleared and fragmented landscapes through the West Midlands study	CALM/DEP	Results available in January 2000??	Publication of study and adoption of its findings (e.g. in land use planning)
<i>Government &amp; Agency Support</i>	Continue program of land acquisition for biodiversity conservation, with priorities including IBRA bioregions identified nationally as high priority to fill major gaps in the reserve system (including the Gascoyne-Murchison strategy region, the Perth's Bushplan area and the south-west agricultural region), the RFA region, the Kimberley, and representative occurrences of threatened ecological communities	CALM	Ongoing	Area of land acquired  Number of vegetation types/ ecosystems incorporated into the reserve system  Number of vegetation types/ ecosystems regarded as adequately represented in the reserve system
	Ensure adequate management of the conservation reserve system	CALM	Ongoing	Reserves managed in a sustainable manner
<i>Monitoring and Reporting</i>	Report on the conservation status of each ecosystem and ecological community throughout the State	CALM	Annually	Annual report on conservation representation once database established
	Demonstrate progress towards meeting CAR criteria on a Statewide and Regional basis	CALM	Annual	Annual reporting of conservation land status for the State within IBRA regions

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<b>Communication &amp; Capacity Building</b>				
<i>Community Education</i>	Ensure the continuity of adequate NRM (including biodiversity) support and advisory services through community groups, local government and State agencies, including Bushcare, Landcare, Rivercare, Land for Wildlife, Ecoplan and revegetation programs	NRM agencies	Ongoing	Implementation by WA Government through Cabinet Standing Committee on Salinity Management of the Salinity Strategy for support and advisory services
	Integrate advice and support structures to ensure that native vegetation protection and revegetation advice is integrated with other NRM advice	CALM in consultation with other NRM agencies	Ongoing	Interdisciplinary training sessions held or multidisciplinary advisory staff appointed
	Provide vegetation management advice to property managers with vegetation protected under the Remnant Vegetation Protection Scheme	AGWEST	Ongoing	Link all willing RVPS recipients to Land for Wildlife Scheme, or similar program
	Establishment of further TAFE courses incorporating roadside vegetation conservation to complement existing courses.	RCC and WAMA through Municipal Training	Ongoing	Additional TAFE courses incorporating roadside management components
	Incorporate native vegetation management into Property Management Planning (Better Business) in Western Australia	AGWEST	December 2000,	Native vegetation management principles incorporated into PMP
	Coordinate advisory services and management advice for landowners and community groups, as well as awareness programs for wider community, in Perth's Bushplan area	MfP, DEP, CALM, WRC & WAMA	December 2000	Agreed coordination framework and information packages, including adoption of Environmental Education Discussion Paper
	Development of remnant vegetation management guidelines to accompany Water Resource Recovery Catchments	WRC	Mid 2001	Preparation of pamphlets containing basic guidelines for management of

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	fencing agreements (following NHT project 953019 <i>Assessment and Rehabilitation of remnant vegetation in water catchments</i> ).			weeds, livestock, fire, vermin etc
<i>Research &amp; Development and Extension</i>	Implement research requirements included under the State Salinity Strategy	State Salinity Council	Ongoing	Implementation of specific measures
	Identification of new native flora options for broadscale commercial revegetation in cleared landscapes	CALM/ AGWEST	Ongoing	New revegetation species progressively identified and incorporated into regional revegetation
	Undertake sociological research into attitudes, behaviours and social impediments relating to native vegetation retention and management in rural areas.	NRM agencies	Ongoing	Completion of research projects
	Pursue the collection of oral histories relating to vegetation (and waterways) extent, quality and management in areas where extensive clearing has occurred.	NRM agencies	Ongoing	Completion of research projects
	Investigate carbon trading and sequestration analyses in relation to vegetation retention and rehabilitation.	CALM with other NRM agencies	XXXX	Principles developed under which carbon trading and sequestration analyses can proceed in relation to vegetation retention and rehabilitation
<i>Vegetation Management Infrastructure</i>	Develop native local provenance flora seedbanks and seed orchards for ex-situ conservation and revegetation	Greening Australia WA	Ongoing	Further seedbanks and orchards established
	Increased availability of WA native flora in nurseries, by: i. Development of a greater range of WA native flora			

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	<p>available for commercial cultivation through plant breeding activities.</p> <p>ii. Facilitation of the uptake by nurseries of a greater range of native species through the creation of demand by State and Local Governments, urban developers and landscape architects.</p>	<p>Centre for Australian Plants???</p> <p>Centre for Australian Plants</p>	<p>Annual</p> <p>End of 2000</p>	<p>Release of 4 new ornamental and/or cut flower varieties per year</p> <p>Native flora stipulated in landscaping contracts where appropriate</p>
<b>Incentives</b>				
<i>Grant Programs</i>	Implement mechanisms that minimise the economic burden carried by individual landholders in the protection and retention of privately owned bushland in agricultural areas. <sup>i</sup>	AGWEST and other NRS agencies	Implementation of mechanisms proposed in NVWG report underway by December 2000	Revised schemes in place and funded that build on the current RVPS and NRAS.
<i>Property Right and Market-based Measures</i>	Establish and operate cooperative arrangements with the Real Estate Institute of WA that stimulates the market for bushland and provides real estate agents with the skills to market conservation values	SLCC with WWF	First publication released and training courses underway by Nov. 2000	A doubling of private conservation based purchases per year by 2001, then increasing steadily
	Develop mechanisms that enable the subdivision of large areas of bushland from farms, where this may not otherwise be considered, in return for conservation covenants over the vegetation. <sup>ii</sup>	AGWEST and WAPC	Draft proposals finalised and in place by April 2001	Policy in place and being used
<i>Revolving Funds</i>	Establish and operate a fund	CALM/ AGWEST/ Environment Australia	Funded and operational by January 2001.	Ten properties covenanted and on-sold by January 2002, then increasing steadily
<i>Support through Federal tax system</i>	Formal submission to Federal Government on tax deductibility measures for protection and management of native vegetation on private land	AGWEST	Formal submission presented by December 2000	Submission presented to Federal Government

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<i>Differential Rating &amp; Taxation Measures</i>	Develop with WA Grants Commission to have a consideration factor that covers native vegetation included in their assessments	WAMA/ AGWEST	June 2001	Consideration factor developed
<i>Offsets and Performance/ Assurance Bonds</i>				
<b>Regulatory Arrangements</b>				
<i>Threatened Species/ Ecological Communities Protection</i>	Incorporate 'best practice' provisions in proposed Biodiversity Conservation Act	CALM	Dependent on Parliamentary process	Enactment of new legislation including comprehensive provisions for the protection of threatened species and ecological communities
<i>Land Clearing Regulation</i>	Review the provisions of the <i>Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945</i> to strengthen controls on clearing and provides for sustainable vegetation management	AGWEST	February 2001	Completion of draft land conservation and clearing Regulations
	<p>Revise the MOU for the protection of remnant vegetation on private land in the agricultural region of Western Australia<sup>e</sup>, to further simplify procedures across agencies and to address issues whereby areas of remnant vegetation in the south west agricultural zone are not equally assessed, ie:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. non-rural zoned land</li> <li>ii. Crown lands</li> <li>iii. paddock trees</li> <li>iv. regeneration</li> <li>v. activities by State agencies and trading enterprises,</li> </ul>	AGWEST in consultation with all other parties to the MOU (see footnote e)	Subject to Parliamentary process	Revision of MOU arrangements following Parliamentary inquiry into land clearing assessment practices

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	local government, service utilities etc			
	Develop an EPA Position Statement on Environmental Protection of Native Vegetation in W.A..	DEP/EPA	November 2000	Position Statement published
	Examine clearing and development proposals in the pastoral region with regard to vegetation conservation	AGWEST in consultation with other NRM agencies <sup>a</sup> and Pastoral Lands Board	July 2001	Assessment process established incorporating land, biodiversity and water conservation criteria
	Establish framework to investigate application of national goal "to reverse the long-term decline in the quality and extent of Australia's native vegetation cover" (i.e. concept of no net loss) in relation to permanent vegetation removal through mining and other development	DEP/EPA	November 2000	Position Statement on Environmental Protection of Native Vegetation in W.A. published
	Revise Environmental Protection Policies as they relate to wetland vegetation protection	DEP/EPA	mid 2001	Revised Swan Coastal Plain and South West Agricultural Zone Wetlands EPPs in place
<i>Industry/Land Use Codes of Practice</i>	Increase the number of Local Government Authorities with a code of practice for the management of roadside vegetation.	Roadside Conservation Committee	Ongoing	Three further LGAs endorsing a roadside management code of practice per year
	Investigate the applicability of codes of practice or Best Management Practices, for vegetation management and encourage their development and adoption as appropriate	NRM agencies	Ongoing	Adoption of codes of practice and draft guidances for EIA, as appropriate
<b>Monitoring &amp; Evaluation</b>				
<i>Cover &amp; Condition Monitoring</i>	Develop a comprehensive Statewide coverage of vegetation for use as the basis for future monitoring	CALM, AGWEST & DEP	October 2000	Completed map coverage (to serve as reliable baseline)

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	Include reporting on trends in vegetation quality and extent in periodic State of the Environment reporting	DEP	Dec 2002 Dec 2003 Dec 2004	Draft WA SOE report Final WA SOE report Environmental Policy Plan for WA
	Develop a monitoring and evaluation work plan to monitor the progress of the agreed agricultural, water resources, natural diversity and infrastructure objectives within the Salinity Strategy	DEP in consultation with AGWEST, CALM, WRC & State Salinity Council	December 2000	Monitoring and evaluation work plan developed
	Survey and monitor selected sites (eg. remnant vegetation in priority catchments under the Salinity Strategy, rangeland monitoring sites, biological survey sites)	NRM agencies	Ongoing	Establishment and ongoing operation of monitoring programs for the range of strategies / regions  Provision of feedback to improve management guidelines

### ACRONYMS

AgWA	Agriculture Western Australia
ATR	Agreement to Reserve
CALM	Department of Conservation and Land Management
CAR	Comprehensive, adequate and representative
CMIS	
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DMS	
DOLA	Department of Land Administration
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority

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GIS	Geographical Information System
IBRA	Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia
LGA	Local Government Authority
MfP	Ministry for Planning
NRAS	Natural Resource Adjustment Scheme
NRM	Natural resource(s) management
NVWG	Native Vegetation Working Group
RCC	Roadside Conservation Committee
RFA	Regional Forest Agreement
RVPS	Remnant Vegetation Protection Scheme
SLCC	Soil and Land Conservation Council
WALIS	Western Australian Land Information System
WAMA	Western Australian Municipal Association
WAPC	Western Australian Planning Commission
WRC	Water and Rivers Commission
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature Australia

### FOOTNOTES

- <sup>a</sup> Principally Agriculture WA, Department of Conservation and Land Management, Water and Rivers Commission, Department of Environmental Protection, and other agencies (eg. Ministry for Planning, Department of Land Administration) where appropriate.
- <sup>b</sup> WA Municipal Association (1999) *Local Government and Natural Resource Management: Mechanisms available for the protection and Management of Urban Bushland*.
- <sup>c</sup> Native Vegetation Working Group (2000) *Discussion paper of the Native Vegetation Working Group*.
- <sup>d</sup> WA Planning Commission (1999) *Agricultural and Rural Land Use Planning Policy* (unpublished draft).
- <sup>e</sup> Memorandum of Understanding between the Commissioner for Soil and Land Conservation, Environmental Protection Authority, Department of Environmental Protection, Agriculture Western Australia, Department of Conservation and Land Management and Water and Rivers Commission for the Protection of Remnant Vegetation on Private Land in the Agricultural Region of Western Australia (1997)

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