

Great Western Woodland Supersite

Affiliated projects summary

Date: 13/6/2013
Project title: Pathways to weed invasion in the Great Western Woodlands
Abstract: Despite the relatively intact nature of the GWW, herbarium records indicate at least 189 weed species are present, including six declared under the Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976 (DEC 2010). A combination of rapidly increasing mineral exploration and mining due to a booming resource sector, the opening up of the region for tourism, altered fire regimes and climate change will inevitably increase pathways and opportunities for extensive and widespread invasion by exotic plants. In the words of the GWW Strategy, the GWW "is under increasing pressure from pest animals, weeds and bushfires and if not effectively managed, these influences could seriously degrade or even destroy natural and cultural values in the area." An analysis of pathways to weed invasion is an important first step towards limiting weed spread and preventing introduction of new weed species, and could in the longer term save the State of Western Australia a multi-million dollar expenditure on weed control, but information is lacking to inform this process. Expected project timeframe: 1 July 2010 to February 2014
Contacts Name: Dr Carl Gosper Organisation: Science Division, Department of Parks & Wildlife and CSIRO Ecosystem Sciences Address: Locked Bag 104, Bentley Delivery Centre, WA 6983, Australia Phone: +61 893336442 Email: carl.gosper@csiro.au
Associated parties/collaborators (others involved in the project) Name: Dr Suzanne Prober Organisation: CSIRO Ecosystem Sciences Address: Private Bag 5, Wembley WA 6913 Australia Phone: + 61 893336789 Email: Suzanne.prober@csiro.au Name: Dr Colin Yates Organisation: Science Division, Department of Parks & Wildlife Address: Locked Bag 104, Bentley Delivery Centre, WA 6983, Australia Phone: +61 892199079 Email: colin.yates@dec.wa.gov.au
Funding sources: A biodiversity and cultural conservation strategy for the Great Western Woodlands, Western Australian Department of Environment and Conservation
Datasets being used or collected: Available systematic flora survey site data in the GWW are being compiled, as are all available alien plant records.
Geographic coverage of study: Entire GWW