

TOUR PRESENTATION

Managing our reserves and engaging the community through a Reserve Management Database

Eryn Jackson, City of Mandurah

Abstract

The City of Mandurah has been utilising the IUCN Ecosystems and Invasive Species Thematic Group's best practice approach to the management and restoration of Reserves. Using this approach, the City has implemented plans across 18 reserves (and counting) including several adjacent the Peel-Harvey Estuary Ramsar Site.

This short presentation will outline this approach which has a key focus on establishing a baseline biodiversity dataset of weed invasion to guide the development of Reserve Management Plans and prioritising restoration and management options across the City's Reserves.

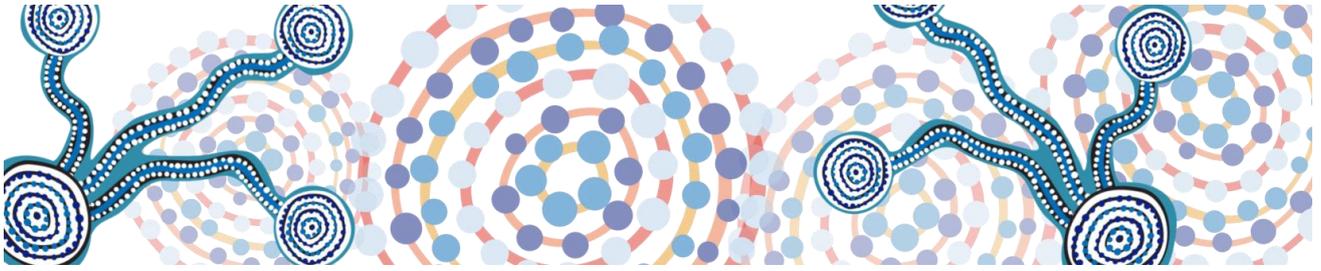
Using a mapping application, we establish "polygons" (or "areas") with the same weed cover value using 5 categories. We then record the native and weed species present within each area. The information recorded in the field is incorporated directly from the mapping application into a Geographic Information System (GIS), which can be used by land managers, traditional owners and others to make informed decisions on where and how to manage weed species and restore ecosystems.

This database also provides countless opportunities for local volunteers to assist in the reserve management through the collection of their own data. Bird watchers, fungi fanatics and wildflower lovers are just some examples of the people who are out using these reserves regularly. The data they collect in terms of the species sighted, and their location, can all be collected through this database. This assists in building a multi-faceted and comprehensive database based on year-round observation.

Acknowledgement

Eryn Jackson acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet and pays respects to their Elders past and present.

Eryn also acknowledges Judy Fisher PHD, Ethical, Independent Socio-Ecologist, Director, Fisher Research Pty Ltd, Elected Member IPBES Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, IUCN, Commission on Ecosystem Management, Theme Leader: Ecosystems and Invasive Species, Research Associate Western Australian Museum, and Adjunct Institute of Agriculture University of Western Australia.



Speaker Profile

Eryn Jackson is the Senior Environmental Management Officer at the City of Mandurah. She is an avid flora lover with a Bachelor of Environmental Science, GradCert in Ecologically Sustainable Development and more than ten years' experience in the environmental field.



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