

Ngungali “River Guardians”



The Ngungali Aboriginal Corporation of York, applied to Wheatbelt NRM for a Small Community Grant in 2012 for their “River Guardians” project. There is an area of unallocated crown land between the Aboriginal Reserve 8567 and the Avon River.

The process of obtaining permission to use unallocated land is quite complex, and involves the Department of Regional Lands and Development. This department needs to negotiate with land holders, the Shires and Department of Mines and Petroleum and the Department of Water. It is a long and slow process.

Meanwhile the Ngungali River Guardians held two workshops, one on the 11th of February and the other on 20th of June 2013.

The first workshop was about the importance of Cultural Heritage, Biodiversity and Preparation of Land for Tree planting. It was well attended despite the hot weather. Elder Merle Narkle Goodwin gave a moving talk on the cultural significance of areas around York including the unallocated crown land.

Mick Davis of Wheatbelt NRM gave a dynamic talk on biodiversity, while Jo Wheeler, also of Wheatbelt NRM, gave a fascinating talk on site preparation, emphasising the need for rabbit control.

The second workshop was building nest boxes. Firstly a brief presentation was made on the importance of hollow trees and the role of nest boxes in providing alternative habitats. Then an enthusiastic group of people began to measure up timber and build the nest boxes.

Wheatbelt NRM Small

Community Grants 2012

Recipient: Ngungali Aboriginal Corporation

Amount Funded: \$ 2300

People Involved: 30



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