

SOUTH EAST REGIONAL CENTRE FOR URBAN LANDCARE

Statement by member for Gosnells

MR C.J. TALLENTIRE (Gosnells) [12.50 pm]: On Saturday, 6 July 2013, the South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare reached a major milestone—its tenth anniversary. I congratulate SERCUL for 10 years of tremendous work. One SERCUL project is researching the elements of healthy wetland restoration so that we can have attractive wetland areas that do not have a mosquito problem. Given the extent of WA's mosquito-blighted area, we would think this was a priority for WA government funding but, sadly, the Barnett government's 2013 budget reveals a decision to cancel the environmental community grants, even though they could have provided much-needed funds for such an important community environment project.

I place on record my appreciation for the work of SERCUL chair Pat Hart; CEO Julie Robert; Amy Krupa, especially for her work on phosphorous awareness; Ana Terrazas for her work on urban waterways; Brett Kuhlmann, the landcare services manager; Monica Estrada for her role in water quality; Tracy Evans, the landcare manager; Matt Grimbley for his work on the Canning River; Melinda Snowball for her promotions and administration work; Glen Byleveld for his work on the Southern River; Sandy Wainwright and Jose Alcala for their administration work; Amy Warner, the City of Canning landcare officer, Ditte Strebel for her work on geographic information systems; Debra Taborda, the environmental education officer; and John Maliunas, the landcare officer for equipment. The work of these dedicated people covers programs including the freshwater fauna project, phosphorous awareness and catchment education. SERCUL was the winner of a 2012 WA Environment Award, but alas it will not be able to receive an award this year because they have been cancelled.