



Conservation a key at Catalina

Mara Fox

SNAKES, spiders, scorpions, lizards and other nocturnal creatures living at the new Catalina estate off Marmion Ave on the north-metropolitan coast are being "bugged", the crew at Satterley Property Group reports.

Every squeak, every croak, every warning cry, in fact every sound, is heard by John and Darren Darch, a father-and-son conservation team camped at the new residential land development.

As part of their job in relocating the fauna to special reserves away from the intrusion of nosy humans, they have set up an "eavesdropping" recording system to detect animals at night.

The Darch team has set up an elaborate labyrinth of feeding trenches into which the small creatures are lured. If they make a noise they are overheard through the "bugging" system.

They are then "bagged" and nurtured for some time before being released into protected areas known to be good habitats. Until they are relocated, the fauna stay in the old bus at Catalina, which serves as an office, zoo and observation centre.

During earthworks, the Darches walk in

front of the bulldozers to move snakes and lizards out of the way.

A number of 500-year-old grass trees, which Satterley staff say pre-date European settlement, will be transplanted into Catalina's parks and open spaces.

The Tamala Park Regional Council, a consortium of seven metropolitan local governments, is developing Catalina, with the Satterley Property Group as project and sales and marketing manager.

Council chairman Giovanni Italiano, of Stirling City Council, and Satterley chief executive officer Nigel Satterley, went to Catalina for a briefing. "The environmental protection of this land has been a priority during the Catalina Planning Process," Mr Italiano said.

Catalina will be a 2600-lot estate housing up to 8000 people.

"The first lots should be up for sale next month and the first residents should be building their homes by the middle of next year," Mr Satterley said.

For sales information call Danuta Wnek on 9368 9068 or email danutaw@satterley.com.au.




John Darch, above, sets a trap among the 500-year-old grass trees. Below; Nigel Satterley, Tamala Park Regional Council chief executive Tony Arias and Stirling City councillor Giovanni Italiano.







SOME OF THE FAUNA TO BE RELOCATED



Picture: www.houndtoothstudio.com.au

- Shingleback lizards
- Perth Lined lerista skins
- Slender blue-tongue lizards
- Centipedes
- South Western Sandplain worm lizards
- Dugite snakes
- Scorpions





DATE	Common Name	START DATE	END DATE	Scientific Name	Capture GPS	Name of Site	Quota
31/08/2011	Shingle Back			Tiliqua rugosa rugosa	323-46-781224-8135	Temple Park	200
31/08/2011	Shingle Back			Tiliqua rugosa rugosa	323-46-781224-8137	Temple Park	200
31/08/2011	Western Slender Blue Tongue			Cyclodactylus lewinianus	330-46-261124-8130	Temple Park	200
1/09/2011	Shingle Back			Tiliqua rugosa rugosa	330-46-261124-8130	Temple Park	200
1/09/2011	Centropede			Tiliqua rugosa rugosa	330-46-261124-8130	Temple Park	200
1/09/2011	West Coast Centropede			Tiliqua rugosa rugosa	330-46-261124-8130	Temple Park	200
1/09/2011	Shingle Back			Tiliqua rugosa rugosa	330-46-261124-8130	Temple Park	200
1/09/2011	Soliton			Tiliqua rugosa rugosa	330-46-261124-8130	Temple Park	200
1/09/2011	Shingle Back			Tiliqua rugosa rugosa	330-46-261124-8130	Temple Park	200
1/09/2011	South Western Sandplain Inland Scorpion			Arachnida scorpions	330-46-261124-8130	Temple Park	200
1/09/2011	Centropede			Tiliqua rugosa rugosa	330-46-261124-8130	Temple Park	200
1/09/2011	Perth Lined Lerista			Lerista lineata	330-46-261124-8130	Temple Park	200
1/09/2011	Centropede			Tiliqua rugosa rugosa	330-46-261124-8130	Temple Park	200
1/09/2011	Shingle Back			Tiliqua rugosa rugosa	330-46-261124-8130	Temple Park	200
1/09/2011	Shingle Back			Tiliqua rugosa rugosa	330-46-261124-8130	Temple Park	200
1/09/2011	Dugite Black Vandyke			Scorpions	330-46-261124-8130	Temple Park	200
1/09/2011	Perth Lined Lerista			Lerista lineata	330-46-261124-8130	Temple Park	200
1/09/2011	Centropede			Tiliqua rugosa rugosa	330-46-261124-8130	Temple Park	200
1/09/2011	Western Slender Blue Tongue			Cyclodactylus lewinianus	330-46-261124-8130	Temple Park	200

Conservationist Darren Darch takes stock of the finds at Catalina Estate in a bus converted into a mobile observation centre.