

18 May 2005 - Riverton

General (whole group discussion)

Benefits

- More water available, provided implemented properly
- Environmental benefits – wetlands and salt water intrusion
- Cost of water?
- Cheaper than canal and desalination

Risks or Concerns

- Pricing. Water won't be valued if too cheap, and therefore wasted.
- 1/3 of water is used on gardens. Should have more native gardens.
- Continuous education needed to reduce wastage
- Why worry about caves or stygofauna?
- Housing – water features are a waste; Need more water management and conservation.
- Water efficiency
- Move forward carefully with back-track option in case of currently unknown problems.
- This should only be one component of water supply/cycle, and integrated water management

Further Information Required

- Drinking water trials
- More information on Gngangara Mound, potential locations for MAR
- Are aquifers well connected? impact areas known?
- Results of pilot studies
- Climate change issue bigger than Gngangara Mound
- Increase distance between recharge and abstraction?
- Monitoring and toxicology studies from elsewhere?

Other Issues or Comments

- Provided Dept of Health say is ok, is ok
- Desalination and clearing projects weren't fully explained.
- Salt water from the ocean should be more widely used, e.g. for flushing toilets
- Third pipe systems result in cross connections