

**Primary purpose is work base and occasional overnight accommodation for Bush Heritage staff, our contractors and consultants, research associates, and volunteers.** For example, we currently have a contract botanist undertaking full botanical survey of the reserve for us, with which we are assisting. We'll be out there again next week. The botanist and my BHA colleague Angela will stay in the old caravan we currently have on the site, and I'll doss down with our Monjebup neighbours Bill and Jane Thompson at Yarroweyah Falls. Our restoration contractor will be out there through most of July, as he was for two full months doing 180 ha of restoration for us last year. Lack of suitable accommodation options saw him travelling the 3-hour return trip from Albany every day through that time. We have a busy July coming up, with a Green Army crew scheduled to be working on our Monjebup North property at the top end of Monjebup Road for a couple of weeks and likely staying at Stirling Range Retreat, a work crew from South Coast NRM on the same site for 4 days one week and travelling from Albany every day, and a large contingent of Malleefowl Preservation Group supporters coming down from Perth for a planting weekend 24/25/26 July, and camping out. Such arrangements are obviously not satisfactory in the longer term, particularly if we aspire to grow our enterprise out there. We know that we could leverage significant additional interest and activity in association with our work with an operational base in the project area. We have lots of enquiries from students interested in pursuing PhD research projects on our properties, and from volunteers wishing to contribute. But lack of accommodation and the logistics of a 3-hour round trip from Albany mean that only a small number of the opportunities are actually taken up.

Anticipated numbers and frequency of use will be variable depending on our work program, and seasonal to some extent. Our expectation is that there will be folks staying overnight about 50% of the time, with numbers varying between one and 16. Occupancy by small groups of 1-5 will be more frequent, with occasional occupancy by groups of 6-16.

**Secondary purpose is as a destination/lunch stop for the many day visitors we host through the Fitz-Stirling properties and projects.** We hosted over 100 visitors in 2014, comprising donors, supporters, photographers, Nyungar groups, school groups and so on. At present we simply stop out in the field somewhere for lunch with the larger groups. With smaller groups we've been able to prevail upon our Yarroweyah partners Bill and Jane Thompson to stop in with them for a cup of tea and a chat. But again, such arrangements are not satisfactory in the long term for an organisation wishing to build its enterprise and profile. The lunch stop is in many ways the most important part of the day, when much of the visitor 'business' is actually done. We aspire to enhance our visitors' experience through the provision of a well-appointed lunch stop with toilets, shelter, basic kitchen facilities, project information and interpretation, and associated walking opportunities, all in a pleasant setting that represents what we're about.

This use will again be highly variable, with more frequent use by small visitor groups of 1-5, and more occasional use by, say, a busload of 6-60 people. We would expect to be using the Field Station with visitors every 6 weeks or so on average.

**As a tertiary purpose, we envisage the Field Station being used as the venue for staff retreats for our own Bush Heritage staff,** for example, when it comes our turn to host WA team get-togethers, and expect we will receive requests for use of the complex by other small organisational groups seeking an out-of-the-way venue for such meetings. We are designing the complex with a high degree of flexibility with respect to, for example, the common space area which can be configured with furniture in multiple arrangements to suit the need, in the expectation that we will receive requests for use of the facility for various purposes as it becomes known. This is very much a subsidiary purpose, however, requests will be assessed on their merits, and only those linked and directly relevant to our mission and purpose are likely to be considered.