



Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale



Whitby Falls Research Station



Timeframe
2022/2023



Cost
\$5 million



Partnerships
State/Federal Govts.
Murdoch University
RDA Perth

Leading advancement in technology.

A exciting opportunity exists to harness drone and robotic technologies to develop an innovation hub at Whitby Falls Research Station to meet the technological needs of smart cities in Australia.

But we need your help.



By 2025...

there will be **5891 full-time direct employees** in the WA drone and data analysis sector.



The industry...

will be contributing around **\$713 million** per annum to the state economy by 2025.



In the future...

there will be an estimated **1232%** growth in drone industry revenue.





Planning for a connected SJ.



Project summary

The Research Station will support the development of leading technology in the drone, robotics, artificial intelligence and data analysis industries.

The project will also provide a multitude of common user facilities, which will increase industry engagement and growth to create a sustainable hub that will deliver incredible opportunities, including but not limited to:

- International quality training and global industry certification
- Concentrated research facilities
- A dynamic industrial cluster
- Convenient satellite access for fixed-wing, marine, sub-sea, and terrestrial devices

The location covers 203 hectares and is ideal for DroneHub use as the variety of terrain types, including both open and bush areas, provide excellent grounds for drone research and operational training. This project has the support of WA's four main universities.



Situational analysis

We're pursuing a Memorandum of Understanding between all proponents and Murdoch University to take this project to the next phase.

The comprehensive project report has raised awareness of this project with the wider community, and is attracting new investor interest.

Fast facts:

- Total drone and data analytics sector employment 2025 estimated to be **20,618**.
- Direct employment growth between 2018-2025: **1,319%**.
- Employee wages in 2025 estimated at **\$340 million** per annum.
- Payroll taxes 2025 estimated at **\$19 million** per annum.
- Economic contribution of drones and data analytics in 2017/2018 estimated to be **\$53 million** per annum.



Risks of delay

- Loss of economic and research and development opportunities to providers in the Eastern states or internationally.



Outcomes

- The development of a DroneHub cluster that will focus on drone accessories, data analytics, services, STEM learning environments, applications, training, testing and certification.
- Enhanced opportunities for learning and development in Drone industries.
- Opportunities to create a regional network of specialised drone centres of excellence across Western Australia.



How to help

- Contribute funds to the development of the Whitby Falls Research Station.
- Provide Federal funding for common user facilities.
- Provide funds to design the DroneHub industry cluster.
- State Government to establish a well-capitalised investment fund to focus on investment in priority technologies and industry development opportunities related to the drone sector.