

CALM LIBRARY ARCHIVE
NOT FOR LOAN



003240

THE LIBRARY
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
& LAND MANAGEMENT
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WALYUNGA NATIONAL PARK

OUTLINE
WORKING PLAN

N.P.A.

1979

31/7/79

P R E F A C E

In the preparation of working plans, every effort is made to comply with the wishes of such interested parties as local residents and organizations, where their wishes are compatible with the proper management of a National Park.

The plan provides guidelines for the day to day working of the National Parks' staff, and is subject to periodic revision and modification by the National Parks Authority.

F.G. SMITH

DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL PARKS

WALYUNGA NATIONAL PARK

CONTENTS

1. Location and Tenure
2. Resources, Attractions and Present Use
3. Existing Facilities
4. Present Staff and Control
5. Objectives of Management and Appropriate Public Use
6. Proposed Staff and Facilities
7. Ecological Management and Fire Control
8. Costings

WALYUNGA NATIONAL PARK

1. Location and Tenure

- 1.1 Walyunga National Park lies to the east of the Darling Escarpment and on both sides of the Swan River where it is joined by Wooroloo Brook. It is located in the Shire of Swan.
- 1.2 A portion of Swan Location 1316 and a portion of Swan Location 2, a total of 1 618 hectares were purchased by the National Parks Board by agreement from Mount Lawley Pty. Ltd., 1 September 1969, payment being by annual instalments. The land includes the river bed.
- 1.3 A smaller portion, Reserve 2065, purpose National Park, was vested in the National Parks Board 23 October 1970. Minor additions were made to the north and east of the reserve and on the north bank of the Avon River on 25 August 1972 and 21 June 1974 respectively. The latter addition also includes the river. The area of Reserve 2065 is 172 ha.
- 1.4 Portions of both the former Mt. Lawley land and the Reserve have been excised for railway purposes, 19 January 1973. The park is divided by the railway reserve with its permanent way and service road. Access to the railway reserve is controlled by locked gates.

2. Resources, Attractions and Present Use

2.1 Resources

2.1.1 The park, situated near where the Swan River emerges from the Darling Escarpment, is deeply dissected by the river valley. In the park, the Swan River is about 30 metres above sea level and the land rises steeply to 244 m on the plateau.

The river runs roughly from north to south with large permanent pools separated by stony rapids. Wooroloo Brook, in its own deeply cut valley, comes in from the east.

2.1.2 Granite is fairly close to the surface and outcrops occur on the slopes. The presence of diorite dykes is indicated by surface clay and stands of Wandoo woodland. At higher levels, there are remnants of lateritic deposits.

2.1.3 The topography and geology is such that underground fresh water has proved impossible to find. The rivers are brackish and polluted and not drinkable. However, the mean annual rainfall, according to published isohyets, is about 860 mm, occurring mostly during the winter months April - September.

2.1.4 The tops of the highest hills and plateau areas are covered with Jarrah open forest, and the slopes on the western side of the river valley are also well wooded. However the lowest hills and the eastern slopes have a sparse tree cover. The railway is the source of many fires, and the abnormal frequency of fire is a major factor responsible for the poor condition of the vegetation in some sections of the park.

2.1.5 Estimates of kangaroo population are between 100 and 200. Emus, foxes and echidnas have also been reported. A pigmy possum was found in a rubbish bin. Forty six varieties of birds have been reported in recent months.

2.2 Attractions

- 2.2.1 Although the park is small, it does have the essential element of fine scenery. The deeply incised valley with its wooded slopes and rocky outcrops is most attractive. Distant views are obtainable both of the valley and of the coastal plain below the escarpment.
- 2.2.2 The river with its large permanent pools, is at its best in winter, but even in summer it provides a vital element to the scenic beauty of the park.
- 2.2.3 The open forest and the woodland provide pleasant shade and are restful to the eye. In late winter and spring the flowering shrubs add to the delights of the park.
- 2.2.4 The wildlife is elusive but the quiet and patient are usually rewarded with glimpses of kangaroos and bird life.
- 2.2.5 The main foci of attraction are Walyunga Pool, Long Pool, the Lookout and during times of flood, Syd's Rapid.

2.3 Present Use

- 2.3.1 The majority of visitors come to Walyunga Pool, Long Pool or the Lookout for a picnic. Some may stroll for a short distance, others take longer walks, particularly up the river bank from Long Pool.
- 2.3.2 Canoeing is a major activity, particularly in the winter when the river is in flood. The Avon Descent in which power boats as well as canoes are involved causes the greatest visitor pressure on the park. This event attracts both competitors and spectators in numbers which exceed the vehicle capacity of the park, on the day of the event and during the weeks proceeding it.
- 2.3.3 A conflict of interests among two classes of park users, the picnickers and the canoeists, arises during the period of intense river use.

- 2.3.4 Orienteering is carried out by groups of ten or more people and does not interfere with the activities of other park users.
- 2.3.5 Bush walking is increasingly popular, both by day walkers and also by those who walk for several days up the Avon Valley.
- 2.3.6 Many of the picnickers, those who come in large groups, play games under the trees. Some swim in Walyunga Pool. Swimming in Long Pool is discouraged because of the danger from underwater snags.
- 2.3.7 In addition to the back-pack bush walkers, camping is carried out by small groups in defined areas with permission. Campers are currently limited to not more than 12 persons altogether and for no more than two nights. No facilities for campers are provided.
- 2.3.8 The sale of entrance fee tickets indicated that between 200 and 300 cars, many full, visit the park each Sunday during the winter months. This figure has been considerably exceeded on the occasion of the Avon Descent.
- 2.3.9 With 200 cars in the park, the existing facilities are fully occupied and the pressure on the foci of attractions is heavy, exceeding the capability of the natural environment to recover. The river banks are worn bare and trees are dying in the parking areas. Erosion is occurring all through the areas of attraction. On busy days 300 to 350 cars may be present.

3. Existing Facilities

- 3.1 A well engineered and sealed access road runs from the Great Northern Highway to Walyunga Pool and to Long Pool, where it ends.
- 3.2 The Lookout has a short gravel access road from Clifton Road, which leads off from O'Brien Road and the Toodyay Road.
- 3.3 The car park at Walyunga Pool is sealed, but run-off is causing erosion at the edges and gullyng of the river bank. The car park at Long Pool is unsealed. Contour drains have been provided to prevent run-off from further damaging the river banks. The contour banks have been effective in reducing the speed of vehicles in the parking area, and in keeping vehicles away from the river bank. A small parking area is provided at the Lookout.
- 3.4 Waterborne toilets are provided at both Walyunga Pool and Long Pool. The high salt content of the water supply and the mixture of copper and galvanised iron fittings has resulted in rapid deterioration of the plumbing.
- 3.5 Picnic tables and barbeques have been provided at Walyunga and Long Pool and at the Lookout. These are all heavily used.
- 3.6 A Ranger's house and garage is provided near Walyunga Pool. The supply of fresh water has depended upon roof catchment. The continuing search for underground fresh water supplies has been totally unsuccessful. A dam has now been constructed in a very discreet area. It is hoped that this will provide fresh water for all purposes in the park.

4. Present Staff and Control

- 4.1 One resident ranger is housed within the park, beside the main access road at Walyunga Pool.
- 4.2 The resident ranger is supported at weekends and on public holidays by a ranger from John Forrest National Park who mans the park entrance and collects entrance fees.
- 4.3 During the week, entrance fees are collected by an honour box. It is reported that most of the canoeists refuse to use the honour box although they make heavy use of the facilities including toilet blocks and firewood.
- 4.4 The existing staff are unable to control the Lookout area and the eastern side of the park. Canoeists enter the park via O'Brien Road and use firebreaks and the railway access road, by-passing NO ACCESS signs and a gate on the railway track. Trail bike riders are also uncontrollable in that area. Some shooting takes place by people on horses.
- 4.5 During busy days, the ranger is fully occupied on the western side of the park. Access to the eastern side is by fords over the Swan River and Wooroloo Brook and via the railway service road. This route becomes impassable as soon as the rains begin, and the only alternative is a 40 km route via Upper Swan and the Toodyay and O'Brien Roads. Accordingly, servicing the eastern side is practicable only once a week and control of mis-use impossible.
- 4.6 The close proximity to the metropolitan area results in the invasion of the park at night by drunken and destructive groups. These are attended to by the resident ranger turning out whenever he hears the uproar.
- 4.7 At times, the pressure on the park gets out of hand with more than 300 vehicles filling the available parking areas and lining the road way to such an extent that people having entered, find no where to park and leave angrily.
- 4.8 The aquatic event known as the Avon Descent, held in July each year causes a gross over-use of the park by competitors and

spectators to the detriment of genuine National Park visitors.

- 4.9 The bareness of the river banks and areas adjoining the car parks, the death of trees from soil compaction and deprivation of soil moisture and the wearing of footpaths along the river banks indicates an over-use of the park, beyond that which can be sustained by the natural conditions in the areas of attraction.
- 4.10 There have been reports of competitors in the aquatic events cutting back the vegetation in the river, as well as forcing motor boats through thickets of young regeneration. There is no way in which the present staff can prevent this.
- 4.11 A kiosk caravan is located in the park and is open for the sale of refreshments only irregularly. It imposes an additional workload on the ranger and adds greatly to the small almost-impossible-to-remove litter in the park.

5. Objectives of Management and Appropriate Public Use

5.1 It is necessary to recall the basic objects of National Park Management :-

5.1.1 to protect the scenery, vegetation and animal life from disfigurement, damage or destruction;

5.1.2 to provide facilities for the enjoyment in appropriate ways of the natural resources of the park by the public; and

5.1.3 to apply ecological management to correct the unnatural influences of Man and to permit the natural environment to be maintained by nature.

5.2 The immediate objectives in the management of Walyunga National Park are to -

5.2.1 Limit the use of the area to numbers of vehicles and persons which can be accommodated without further deterioration of the natural features (N.P.A. Regulation No. 4);

5.2.2 Confine activities within the park to those which are appropriate to a National Park situation and which will not cause further damage to the park, or detract from visitors enjoyment of National Park resources;

5.2.3 Provide adequate staff for the control, management and interpretation of the park;

5.2.4 Modify the design of the parking areas to prevent erosion of water run off and revegetate the adjoining river banks and reclaimed parts of parking areas.

5.2.5 Prevent further erosion of footpaths along the river bank between Walyunga Pool and Syd's Rapids.

5.2.6 Provide alternative attractions to park visitors and picnickers such as nature trails with the appropriate interpretive material.

5.2.7 Protect the park resources and the visitors' enjoyment of them by prohibiting the launching or landing of motor boats in the park.

5.2.8 Protect the park from damage, vandalism and mis-use by closing entrance to the park at night.

5.3 The following activities are appropriate in this park :-

walking
hiking
picnicking
camping
nature study
photography
painting
canoeing

5.3.1 Walks are popular along the river bank. Another walk can be established at the Lookout leading to a much better lookout point.

5.3.2 The variety of vegetation and topography in the park lends itself to the provision of nature trails. These provide facilities for walking and nature study.

5.3.3 Hiking is increasingly popular and should be encouraged. As hikers may be away for several days, a recognized area where they can leave their vehicles is desirable.

5.3.4 Picnicking is intensive. Wood burning barbeques may have to be phased out and the public encouraged to bring their own gas barbeques as they need them.

5.3.5 Camping, other than that practiced by hikers who carry their tents on their backs, should be permitted on a limited scale only. It is recommended that no more than one group of twelve persons, including teachers, scout-masters or officers, should be permitted to camp at any one time on the designated camping site. Each party should be limited to a maximum of three nights.

- 5.3.6 The discreet interstate or touring campervan remaining in a parking area overnight should be permitted. However, on the occasion of the Avon Descent, no camping should be permitted in the park other than that provided for in 5.3.5 by persons not associated with the event.
- 5.3.7 The use of the river for canoeing should be permitted, but motor boats excluded entirely. Canoeists require launching and hauling out places. These receive heavy wear and should be suitably provided with wooden ramps. As the canoeists also contribute substantially to the wear on the river banks as they carry their canoes upstream, walkways are required. No marks should be inserted in the river or attached to trees or banks without written permission.
- 5.3.8 Orienteering has been permitted for several years and on the scale being practiced is not effecting park values. It does in fact appear to be an appropriate way of enjoying and appreciating a National Park, so long as it is not allowed to develop into a spectator sport. On this understanding orienteering should be permitted to continue.

6. Proposed Staff and Facilities

6.1 Staff

- 6.1.1 The first ranger was appointed to Walyunga in June 1969 and was provided with an assistant and a ticket collector for Sundays and public holidays. Since the resignation of the assistant in 1971 the park has been controlled only by the resident ranger and the ticket collector.
- 6.1.2 The increase in popularity of the park and pressures exerted by the rise in canoeing and use of off road vehicles makes it necessary to provide a second resident ranger. This man should be housed on the eastern side of the river. From this position he will, if necessary, be able to provide some supervision also of Avon Valley National Park, and rapid assistance to the resident ranger in that park in emergencies. The pressures on Walyunga are such that the housing of the second resident there should be given priority over the Avon Valley.
- 6.1.3 The current practice of providing a Ranger from John Forrest National Park to control the entrance at Walyunga on weekends and public holidays should continue.
- 6.1.4 It should be noted that in an emergency, such as a fire outbreak, both Yanchep and John Forrest National Park provide assistance at short notice. But these parks have their own needs for staff and cannot be depended upon to be able to supply help on busy days indefinitely.

6.2 Roads

- 6.2.1 Public access roads are adequate at present. The main entrance requires a lockable gateway with suitable lighting. Future provision should allow for a divided road for one way entry and exit, to facilitate the departure of visitors who do not wish to remain because of pets or other reasons, including a full park.

- 6.2.2 Access from one side of the river to the other should be confined to management purposes only. The existing track leading down to the river near Long Pool requires the provision of a concrete drain, and hard surfacing.
- 6.2.3 The river crossing should be upgraded by means of a pipe and concrete floodway which permits a depth of about 30 centimetres over it during normal winter rain periods, thereby allowing the passage of canoes down the river.
- 6.2.4 This access, which leads to the railway road on the east side, will require a suitable locked gate. The Ranger holds the keys to the gates on the railway road and is permitted to use it for management purposes.

6.3 Car Parks

- 6.3.1 Walyunga Pool car park is in immediate need of a revision of planning and drainage to prevent erosion. A planting programme should be started as soon as the detailed planning is completed.
- 6.3.2 Long Pool car park has suffered very heavy use in recent years with much loss of vegetation and death of trees. Picnic areas and parking areas need to be arranged in terraces, with lawns and trees established for picnicking, separated from the car park by masses of native shrubs. The river bank should be planted with shrubs and barricaded except for two separate access stairs to the river. A footpath should be made available along the river edge and along the management track.
The car park should be surfaced with bitumen and properly drained. Paved footpaths should lead from the car park to the lawn areas. Each terrace should have paved pathways between each level. Adequate shade trees should be provided for both picnic areas and car parks. Long Pool will have to be closed down as a parking and picnic area while it is being reconstructed.
- 6.3.3 Walyunga Lookout also requires a detailed site plan for a landscaping and planting programme.

6.4 Pathways

Between Walyunga Pool and Long Pool and running north from Long Pool towards Syd's Rapids the footpath requires paving in many sections to provide a safe, pleasant and comfortable means of walking along the bank of the river.

6.5 Water Supply

6.5.1 Much of what is proposed in upgrading the parking and picnic areas to withstand the type of use they are being subjected to depends upon a good supply of fresh water. A dam has been constructed and at the time of writing, sufficient rainfall to fill it is awaited.

6.5.2 The corrosive water and the mixture of galvanized iron and copper in the plumbing has lead to serious deterioration in the existing pipes. The plumbing to toilet facilities will have to be renewed.

6.6 Information

6.6.1 Provision is needed for informing visitors about the park. Initially this can be provided by means of display boards at the park entrance. At a later stage, a small information centre can be established.

6.6.2 Directional signs are needed for the various walking trails, but care should be taken to keep signs to the absolute minimum.

6.6.3 The provision of nature trails will present an opportunity to give visitors information about the natural features of the park.

7. Ecological Management

7.1 Parkland

The high intensity of use in the areas around Walyunga and Long Pools is beyond what the natural vegetation can stand. Accordingly, as has been indicated in the previous chapter, the principals of management of urban parks will have to be applied to those particular areas, with lawns and planted trees and shrubs, and paved walkways or footpaths.

7.2 Fire

For the rest of the vegetation the main problem lies in the excessive frequency of fires started by the railway. An extensive system of firelines already exists. But this is of little use without the staff to extinguish fires as soon as possible after they start. The provision of a second resident ranger with firefighting equipment will mean that the park can be continually manned, and that fires starting on the railway side of the park can be quickly extinguished.

7.3 Vermin

7.3.1 Various groups have been authorised to shoot goats, pigs and the wild sheep within the park. These are the W.A. Field and Game Association, the W.A. Sporting Shooters Association and the W.A. Bow Hunters Association. Mr. T. Alp has been authorised to trap goats in the park too. All these groups must have all plans for activities approved by the ranger in charge. The indications are that none of these groups has been very successful. The total bag appears to be one cat. When the opportunity presents itself, the ranger in charge will organise a combined operation with rangers from John Forrest.

7.3.2 The country is not conducive to heavy populations of rabbits and the Agricultural Protection Board can be requested to deal with any areas where they are numerous.

8. Costings

Apart from the establishment of a resident ranger, the cost of which are well established, the major items in this plan are as follows :-

Rehabilitation of Long Pool Area - \$30,000 over three years

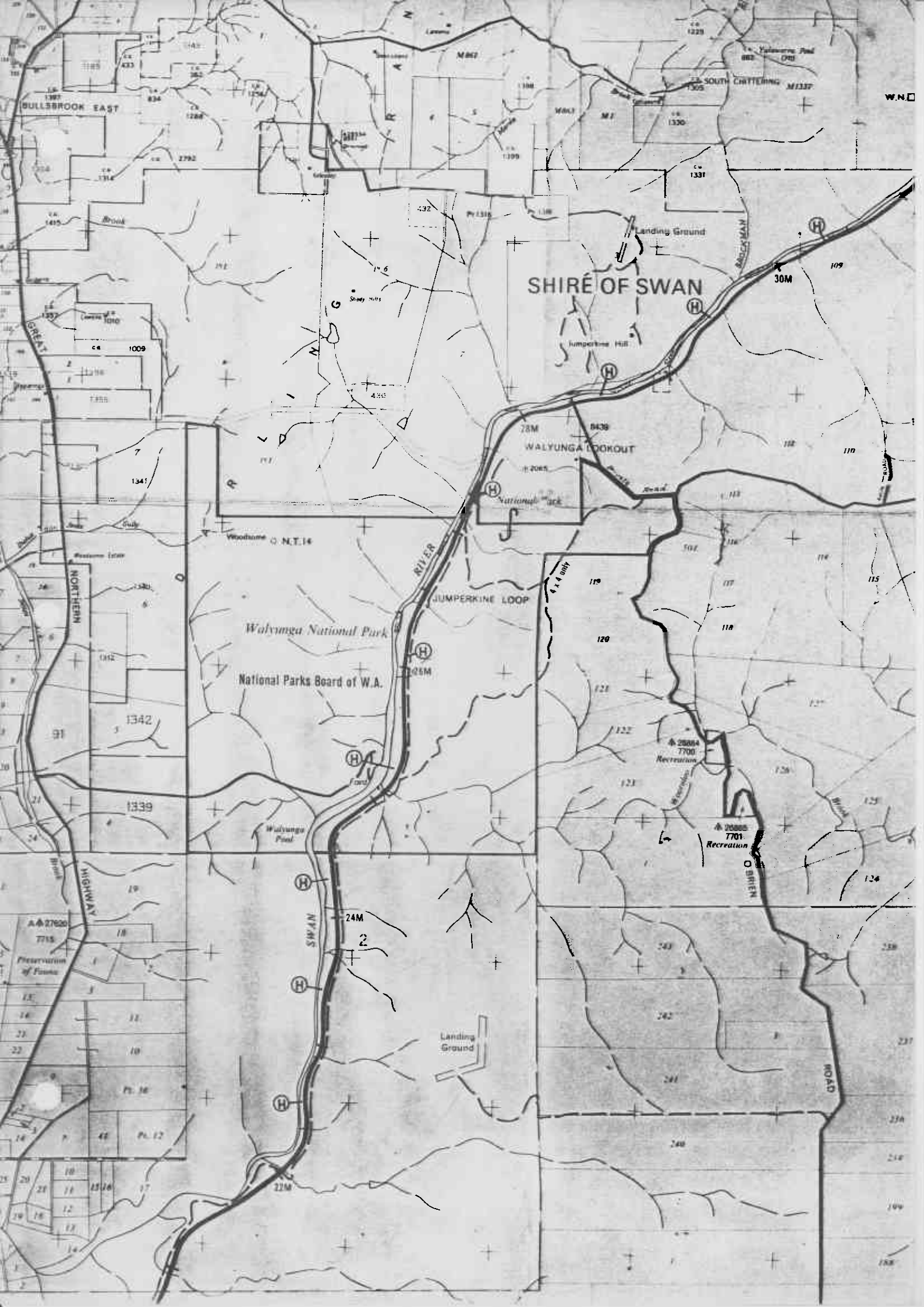
First Phase \$15,000

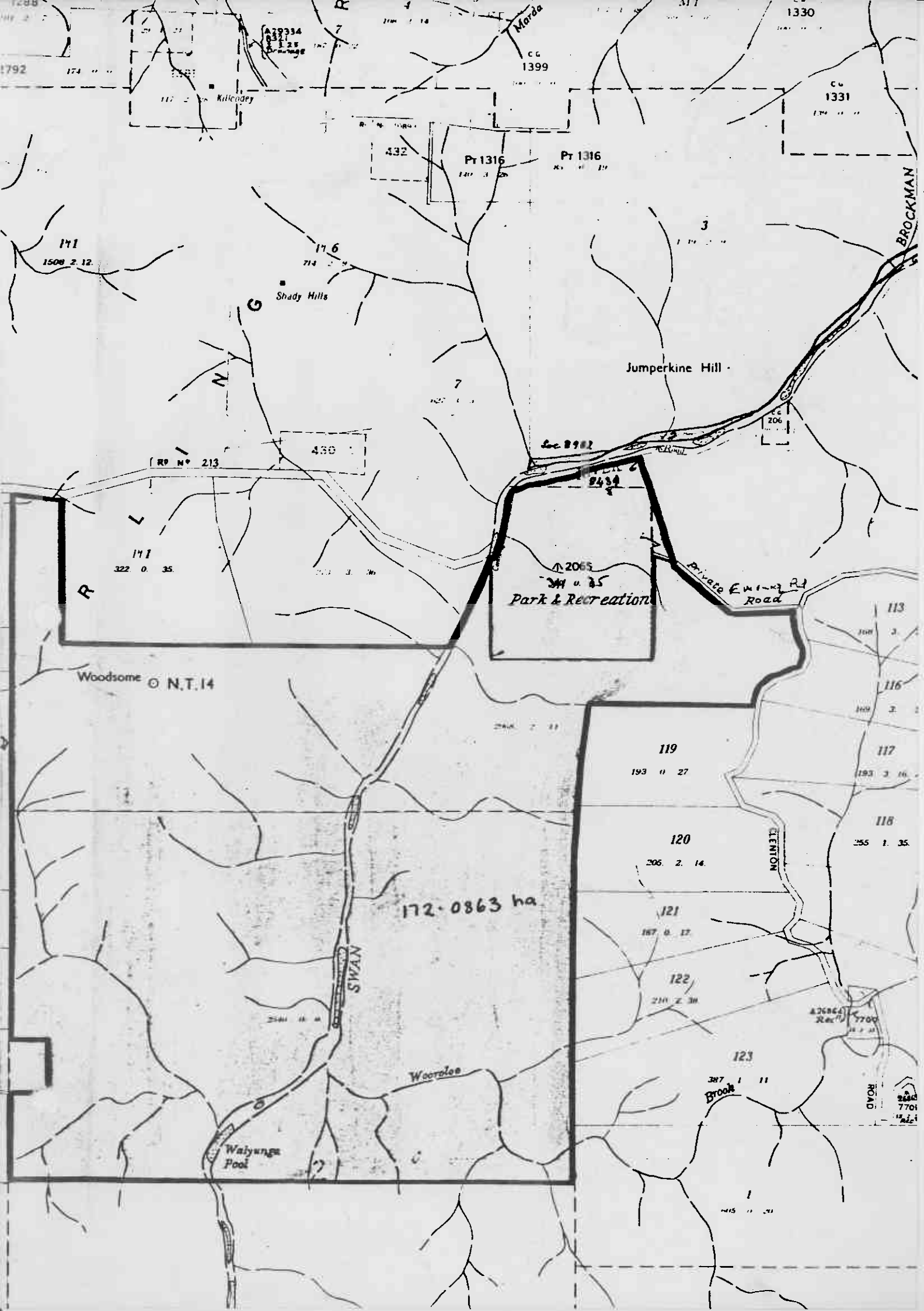
Walyunga Pool Area - \$10,000

Lookout Area - \$8,000

Park Entrance and Information Centres - \$12,000

Upgrading of Toilet Block and new toilet block at Lookout - \$20,000







WALYUNGA NATIONAL PARK

1. Fire Management

1.1 The principal objectives of fire management is to provide adequate low fuel buffer zones on the Park Perimeter to prevent fire entering or leaving the Park, with internal zones maintained so as to contain and limit the spread of fires which occur naturally or accidentally within the Park.

1.2 Special consideration must be given in this Park to the inherent problems existing, listed as :-

- (a) terrain restrictions
- (b) annual grass hazard
- (c) regeneration requirements
- (d) rail reserve

1.3 Terrain

The terrain applies severe limitations over a greater area of the park in regards to perimeter and internal firelines. To this extent the park has been broken up into manageable areas in what is considered the best possible manner. Slope and rocky outcrops have restricted the installation of low fuel boundary zones right around the perimeter and specifically in the south-eastern sector. Alternative arrangements are being made in these areas by strip burns on National Park land and burning in conjunction with neighbours.

1.4 Annual Grass Hazard

It is evident that this land has a history of constant grazing and frequent fire prior to becoming a National Park with the cumulative effect now of a continuous and annual grass hazard. The only means of reducing the grass hazard is by a reduction in the frequency of burning, therefore, every effort will have to be made to reduce the frequency of fire on a widespread basis in an attempt to limit the grass hazard.

1.5 Regeneration Requirements

Internal fires must be limited to allow the areas of already good natural regeneration a chance to gain height and therefore have a limiting effect on the exotic grasses. In contrast, other areas, specifically areas of Parrot Bush etc. are of an age where fire is required for regeneration purposes. These areas will require appropriate treatment. Regeneration and hand planting are the only really acceptable methods of grass reduction though a selective herbicide used with extreme caution can be utilized around the picnic areas and on firelines.

1.6 Rail Reserve

The park appears to have an extremely bad fire record, whereas in fact there has only been one small fire caused by a campfire in the last three years. Every other fire has been from the rail reserve which runs through the entire length of the park. Fortunately most have been contained within the rail reserve.

Two of the most time-consuming fires caused by the railways have ignited in private property and then entered onto park land before being contained in the Park. One fire was only contained by back-burning from a National Park firebreak. The last major fire in 1979 came from the rail reserve into the central portion of the park and was contained within the park. While the grass hazard remains on the rail reserve and the "X" Class Locomotives continue to run we will have to accept that there will be problems of frequent ignitions from the rail reserve each year. This highlights the fact for the benefit of all concerned parties, that for the entire length of the Avon Valley the rail reserve should be given first priority as the problem area for fire ignition.

1.7 An extensive system of firelines has been established within the park, where practical. The firelines require continual maintenance for trafficability and priorities are established each year for upgrading work.

1.8 Perimeter buffer-strip burning is being carried out on a continuing basis, some of which has been established for a number of years. This work will continue, taking into account the grass problem and

seasonal growth instead of an established cycle of years. Where established perimeter buffers are not feasible owing to terrain, strip burns will be carried out.

- 1.9 Internal mosaic burning will be carried out, again dictated by the seasonal growth of grasses, regeneration and maturity of specific floral associations to maintain the land as a National Park, and the provision of safeguards for our neighbours. It is possible that we may be able to have internal strip burns along the ridges in acceptable areas.
- 1.10 Special attention is to be paid to the areas of highest visitation pressure e.g. Long Pool and Walyunga Pool, where any hazards are to be kept to a minimum and all barbeques are to be sited in safe positions. The Ranger-in-Charge is to have the authority to ban all fires on days he considers that the Fire Danger warrants such bans, irrespective of the metropolitan forecast, which does not always reflect conditions at Walyunga National Park.
- 1.11 Further investigatory work is to be carried out along the railway reserve to look at methods of safeguarding the National Park against fires from the rail reserve and the feasibility of a fireline on the edge of the rail reserve.
Westrail have undertaken to establish another rail crossing near Wooroloo Brook for easier access.
- 1.12 In accordance with normal policy, the resident Ranger and equipment will be available to assist in fighting fires or to attend control burns on nearby lands at all times.

The Ranger's residence is fitted with the standard telephone and his vehicle is equipped with a 100 watt S.S.B. two-way radio on the National Parks Authorities frequencies of 2740, 5440 and 8070 Khz. Swan Shire have very kindly outfitted this vehicle with a V.H.F. set on their frequency for closer contact and control.

- 1.13 It is proposed for the future, that another Ranger's residence be established in the park, possibly near Walyunga Lookout. This second Ranger will also be fully equipped and this will greatly increase our control and firefighting ability.

Mobile Rangers will be stationed in the park from time to time for further assistance.

- 1.14 During a fire emergency, assistance will be forthcoming where practical and feasible from Yanchep and John Forrest National Parks.
- 1.15 The understanding, goodwill and co-operation of adjacent landowners and local fire brigades is essential. Good liaison has been established and will be maintained with these groups.
- 1.16 This Fire Management Plan will be kept flexible in that where any new findings or developments are found which would be of value to the National Park as a whole, should be incorporated in the Plan.

FIRE EMERGENCY PLAN

WALYUNGA NATIONAL PARK

CONTENTS :

- SECTION 1 : Area of Responsibility
- SECTION 3 : Multiple Fire Priorities
- SECTION 5 : Communications
- SECTION 6 : Equipment
- SECTION 8 : Detection System
- SECTION 10 : Call Out Procedure
- SECTION 11 : Firefighting Authorities
- SECTION 12 : Heavy Equipment and Contractors
- SECTION 13 : Fire Bans, Systems and Signs
- SECTION 14 : Shire and District Plans
- SECTION 15 : General

NB

Incomplete as at 22-4-82

SECTIONS WILL BE UPGRADED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
MISSING SECTIONS WILL BE ADDED AS COMPILED

B. Gochan

SECTION 1

AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY :

1. Walyunga National Park

Including locations 2065 Shire of Swan

2. Outside Danger Points

a. Avon Railway Westrail

Approx 12km

b. Private properties (Absentee owners)

East Boundry Location no. 1 Lund

123 Aboriginal Lands Trust

120/119 White

501

113

South Boundry Location No. Millendon Past Co

7 E.Rosher

SECTION 5

COMMUNICATIONS :

Group	Callsgn	Phone
John Forrest N.P.	VL6PD JF1	09 2988244
Yanchep N.P.	Yanchep	095 611004
Avon Valley N.P.	Avon	-
Swan Shire	6CX Base (FM)	09 2745133
Bosh Fire Board	VZ6IP Base	09 3258588

Volunteer Brigades (see attached list)

Bullsbrook Bushfire Brigade (Cont'd)

Members

K. Kitson	095 71.1213
J. Olszewski	095 71.1470
K.R. Payne	095 71.1213
A. Rosher	095 29.6423
E. Rosher	09 279.2710
W.L. Rowbottom	095 71.1416
C. Smith	095 71.1258
M.A. Smith	095 71.1253
E.J. Taylor	095 71.1339
J.A. Taylor	095 71.1398
W.E. Taylor	095 71.1339
H.D.W. Tucker	095 71.8072

Fire 3

East Gidgegannup Brigade

Captain

P. Garstone	095 74.6050
-------------	----------------

1st Lieutenant

D. Kennedy	095 74.6141
------------	----------------

Lieutenants

W.A. Smith	095 74.6142
D. Coombs	095 74.6067

Members

H.K. Coombs	095 74.6052
C.W. Miles	095 74.6183
M. Slater	095 74.6114

V. Van Der Klashorst and W.A. Leahy

Equip. Officer

T. Brennan	095 74.6036
------------	----------------

West Gidgegannup Brigade

Fire Control Officers	A.J. Pestell	095 74.6057
	T. McCarthy	095 74.6149
Captain	J.A. Lockwood UNIT	095 74.6178
Lieutenants	J. Park	095 74.6145
	S. Williamson	095 74.6097
	J. Lawrie	095 74.6019
Secretary/ Treasurer	A.J. Lockwood	095 74.6181
Members	W.J. Mangini	279.2742
	J.F. Mangini	279.2742
	G.H. Armitage	-
	D.G. Watts	(H) 095 74.6161
		(W) 09 322.1788
	G.J. Caine	(H) 095 74.6054
	V. Lothringer	(H) 095 74.6116
		(W) 349.9999
	A.I. Burges	(H) 095 74.6047
	A.E. Woodward	(H) 095 74.6122
		(W) 384.9129
	P.W. Williamson	(H) 095 74.6015
	M.P. Poklepovich	(H) 294.1897
		(W) 274.3444
	G.H. Caine	-
	A.P. McCarthy	(H) 095 74.6149
		(W) 384.9131
	R. Scudds	(H) 095 74.6134
		(W) 294.1844
	F.W. Burges	09 386.7607
		095 74.6047

West Swan Bushfire Brigade

Captain	R. Thompson, West Swan.	UNIT	(H) 296.4275 (W) 274.2577	Fire 1 F.
1st Lieutenant) Sec/Treasurer)	A. Rosher, Upper Swan.	UNIT	296.4823	West Swan Fire 2
Lieutenants	R. Bowman, West Swan.		296.4408	
	R.J. Davis,		296.4260	
	B. Chalmers, West Swan.		296.4011	
Members	D. Baker, West Swan.		296.4367	
	N. Bowman, West Swan.		296.4408	
	L. Radalj, West Swan.		296.4335	
	B. Thygerson, West Swan.		296.4548	
	D. Long, West Swan.		296.4169	
	D. Powell, West Swan.		296.4038	
	B. Newman, West Swan.		296.4713	
	V. Wood, West Swan.		296.4756	
	L. Woodcock, West Swan.		296.4113	
	G. Doyle, Jnr., West Swan.		296.4597	
	C. Powell, West Swan.		296.4038	
	J. Ferguson-Stewart, West Swan.		296.4483	
	S. Edgecombe, West Swan.		296.4307	
	J. Shaw, West Swan.		296.4176	
	N. Gardiner, West Swan.		296.4626	
	A. Sutcliffe, West Swan.		296.4423	
	B. Hallett, West Swan.		-	
	D. Kendall, Upper Swan.		296.4260	
	J.A. Hallett, Upper Swan.		-	
	G. Gadsby, Upper Swan.		-	
	T. Bates, Upper Swan.		296.4132	
	N. Randall, Upper Swan.		296.4932	
	R. Coghlan, Upper Swan.		296.4551	
	G.A. Rosher, Upper Swan.		296.4943	
	B.E. Chambers, Upper Swan.	(H) 296.4344 (W) 296.4303		
	C.J. Ingrey, Upper Swan.		294.2793	
	F.L. Boyling, Upper Swan.	(H) 296.4881 (W) 277.4144		
	R. Barrett-Lennard, Upper Swan.		296.4519	

West Swan Bushfire Brigade (Cont'd)

Members	K. Squires, Upper Swan.	296.4440
	A. Erceg, Upper Swan.	296.4017
	M.J. Yelas, Upper Swan.	296.4452
	G.S. Taylor, Upper Swan.	(H) 296.4349
	D.W. Mills, Upper Swan.	(H) 296.4204 (W) 323.8111
	R. Patterson, Upper Swan.	(H) 296.4552
	B.J. Connor, Millendon.	(H) 296.4248 (W) 296.4269
	E.S. Hansen	296.4956

South Gidgegannup Brigade

Captain/Secretary	J.A. Higgins	095 74.6074
Lieutenant	C.A. Robinson (Tony)	
Members	R. Bucat	095 74.6043
	Stan Rakich	095 74.6148
	H.L. Langsford	(H) 095 74.6143 (W) 095 72.4076
	O. Symonds	(H) 095 73.6045 (W) 279.5433
	A.V. Barrett-Lennard	095 74.6035

SHIRE OF SWANGCS Swan Shire
(Base)Control Staff

T.H. Price, Chief Bush Fire Control Officer	279.5413	Security	1
R.J. Dixon, Dep. Chief Bush Fire Control Officer	279.1032	"	2
G.A. Loveridge, Bush Fire Control Officer	279.6679	"	3
G. Ridley, Bush Fire Control Officer	095 71.1275	"	4

Pearce Base GCS Pearce.

East Swan Bushfire Brigade

Fire 1

Captain	Richard Feakes	296.4361
1st Lieutenant	Thomas L. Swannell	(H) 095 74.6018 (W) 274.1167
Lieutenant	Garry F. Dunn	296.4137
Property Officer	Harry E. Merrifield	(H) 296.4350 (W) 325.2322
Secretary/Treasurer	P.A. Dunn	296.4314
Members	Kenneth J. Steele	274.1663
	Joseph F. Hawser	274.2157
	Terrance R. Hawser	274.2151
	Raymond S. Papprell	274.1650
	Gregory R. Dunn	296.4137
	Ronald J. Yagmich	274.2126
	Darrel J. McGuinness	(H) 296.4719 (W) 381.3111 Ext. 295
	Roy A. Simmons	274.1100

SECTION 6

EQUIPMENT

1. Walyunga Residence
200 gal tank
Honda G65 Motor / Sta lker Pump
F.W.D.
Sma ll tools (shovel,axe,rake hoe,chainsaw,firelighter,chain
knapsack,fuel mixes)
2. Avon Residence
same as Walyunga Call out - 1.5 hours
3. John Forrest N.P.
2 X F.W.D. Light duty Fire units
Heavey Duty F.W.D. Fire unit
Call out time - 1 hour
4. Yanchep N.P.
3 X F.W.D. Light duty Fire units
Heavy Duty F.W.D. Fire unit
1000 gal tanker
Callout time - 2 hours+

SECTION 8

DETECTION SYSTEM

1. Location of Private Lookouts

- W. Pearse	Lookout, Railway
- N. Taylor	Railway, North Boundry
- P. Kennedy	West Boundry
- H. Park	N/W Boundry
- D. Wright	N/E Boundry Lookout

SECTION 10

CALL OUT PROCEDURE

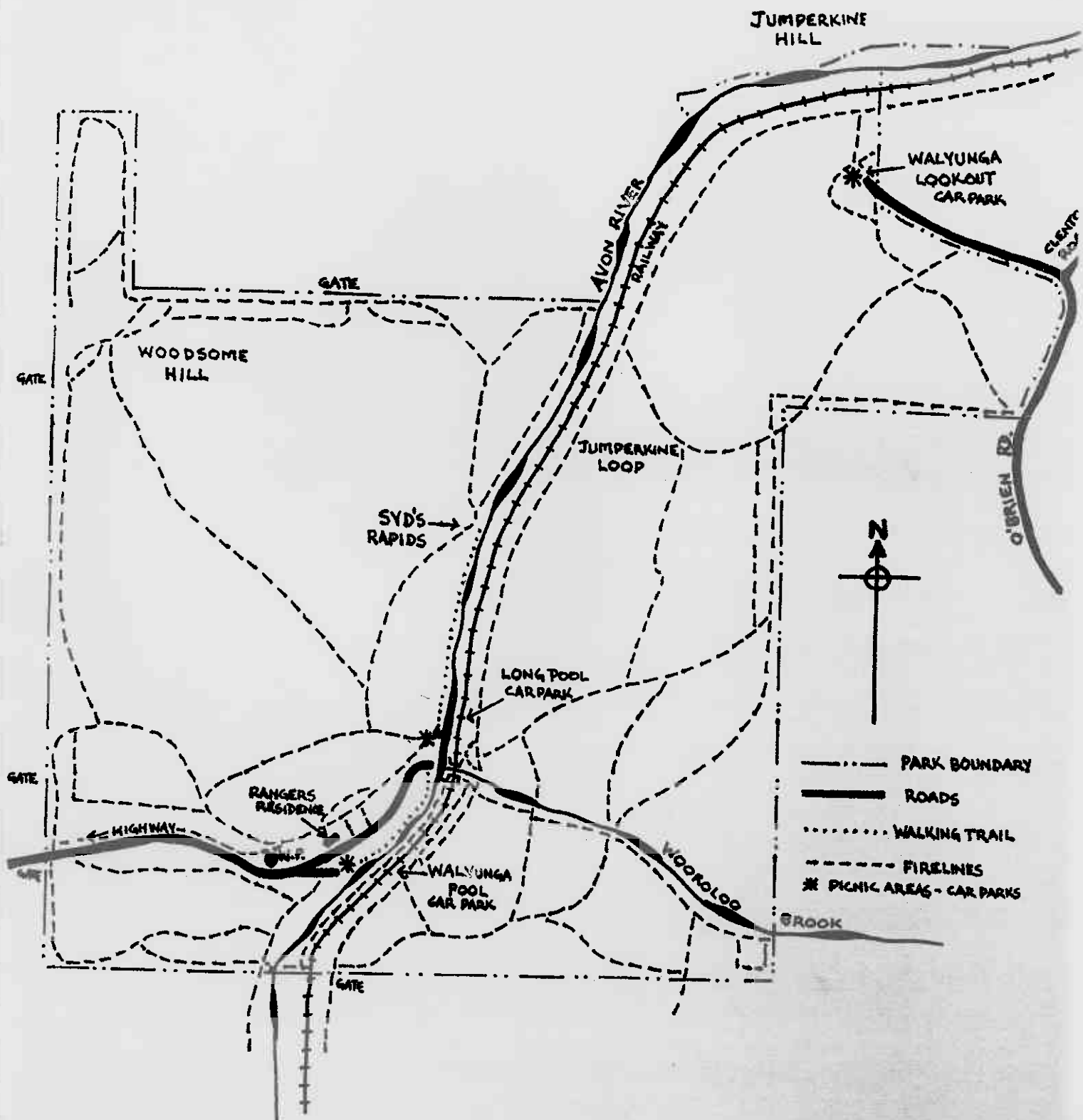
1. John Forrest N.P.	09 2988244
2. Avon N.P.	
3. Volunteer Brigades	
4. Swan Shire	092745133
5. Yanchep N.P.	095 611004
6. RAAF	095 711200

SECTION #1

FIRE FIGHTING AUTHORITIES

1. Swan Shire	09 2745133
2. Bush Fires Board (Rob de Burg)	09 2753170 home 093258588 HQ

WALYUNGA NATIONAL PARK



DRAFT

WALYUNGA NATIONAL PARK

1. Fire Management

1.1 The principal objectives of fire management is to provide adequate low fuel boundary zones to prevent fire entering or leaving the Park, with built in facilities to contain and limit the spread of fires which occur naturally or accidentally within the Park.

1.2 Special consideration must be given in this Park to the inherent problems existing and listed as :-

- (a) terrain restrictions
- (b) annual grass hazard
- (c) natural and required regeneration
- (d) rail reserve

1.3 Terrain

The terrain applies severe limitations over a greater area of the park in regards to perimeter and internal firelines. To this extent the park has been broken up into manageable areas in what is considered the best possible manner. Slope and rocky outcrops have restricted the installation of low fuel boundary zones right around the perimeter and specifically in the south-eastern sector. Alternative arrangements are being made in these areas by strip burns on National Park land and burning in conjunction with neighbours.

1.4 Annual Grass Hazard

It is evident that this land has a history of constant grazing and frequent fire prior to becoming a National Park with the cumulative effect now of a continuous and annual grass hazard. Every effort will have to be made to reduce the frequency of fire on a widespread basis in an attempt to limit this grass hazard.

1.5 Natural and Required Regeneration

This plan will appear inconsistent due to the grass hazard, where fire must be limited to allow the already good natural regeneration

a chance to gain height and have a limiting effect on the exotic grasses, yet in contrast other areas, specifically areas of Parrot Bush etc. are of an age where fire is required for regeneration purposes, which after a period will again reduce the grasses. Regeneration and hand planting are the only really acceptable methods of grass reduction though a selective herbicide used with extreme caution can be utilized around the picnic areas.

1.6 Rail Reserve

Due to the rail reserve, which runs through the entire length of the area, the park appears to have an extremely bad fire record, whereas in fact there has only been one small fire caused by a campfire in the last three years. Every other fire has been from the rail reserve and fortunately most have been contained within the rail reserve.

Two of the most time consuming fires caused by the railways have entered onto park land from private property and been contained in the park, one fire being contained by backburning from a National Parks firebreak. The last major fire came from the rail reserve into the central portion of the park and was contained within the park. While the grass hazard remains on the rail reserve and the "X" Class Locomotives continue to run we will have to accept that there will be problems.

This section is highlighted to point-up the fact that for the benefit of all concerned parties, for the entire length of the Avon Valley the rail reserve should be given first priority as the problem area.

- 1.7 An extensive system of firelines have been established within the park, where practical. They require continual maintenance for trafficability and priorities are established each year for upgrading work.

- 1.8 Perimeter buffer strip burning is being carried out on a continuing basis, some of which has been established for a number of years. This work will continue, taking into account the grass problem and mainly dictated by seasonal growth instead of an established cycle of years. Where established perimeter buffers are not feasible owing to terrain strip burns will be carried out.

- 1.9 Internal mosaic burning will be carried out, again dictated by the grasses, seasonal growth, regeneration and maturity of specific floral associations to maintain the land as a National Park as well as safeguarding our neighbours. It is possible that we may be able to have internal strip burns along the ridges in acceptable areas.
- 1.10 Special attention is to be paid to the areas of highest visitation pressure e.g. Long Pool and Walyunga Pool, where any hazards are to be kept to a minimum and all barbeques are to be sited in safe positions. The Ranger in charge is to have the authority to ban all fires on days he considers that the Fire Danger warrants such bans, irrespective of the metropolitan forecast, which does not always reflect conditions at Walyunga National Park.
- 1.11 Further investigatory work^{is} to be carried out along the railway reserve to look at methods of safeguarding the National Park against fires from the rail reserve and the feasibility of a fireline on the edge of the rail reserve.
- Westrail have undertaken to establish another rail crossing near Wooroloo Brook for easier access.
- 1.12 In accordance with normal policy, the resident Ranger and equipment will be available to assist in fighting fires or to attend control burns on nearby lands at all times.

The Ranger's residence is fitted with the standard telephone and his vehicle is equipped with a 100 watt S.S.B. two-way radio on the National Parks Authorities frequencies of 2740, 5440 and 8070 Khz. Swan Shire have very kindly outfitted this vehicle with a V.H.F. set on their frequency for closer contact and control.

- 1.13 It is proposed for the future, that another Ranger's residence be established in the park, possibly near Walyunga Lookout, who will also be fully equipped and this will greatly increase our control and firefighting ability.

Mobile Rangers will be stationed in the park from time to time for further assistance.

- 1.14 During a fire emergency further assistance will be forthcoming from Yanchep and John Forrest National Parks where practical, conditions permitting.
- 1.15 The understanding, goodwill and co-operation of adjacent landowners and local ~~firebreaks~~ is essential. Good liaison has been established and will be maintained with these groups.
- 1.16 This Fire Management Plan to be kept flexible in that, any new findings or developments which would be of value to the National Park as a whole, should be incorporated.