

NEW PARKS PLANNING/INFORMATION DAY

062240

Thursday 1st August 2002

Sanctuary Golf Resort Bunbury

Program

9:00 am	Arrival, tea/coffee	
9:30 am	A/Director, PVS Overview	Peter Sharp
9:45 am	Director, RS Overview	Alan Walker
10:00 am	"Housekeeping"	Gae Mackay
10:15 am	Regional Updates	
	Swan Region	Michael Phillips
	South West Region	Peter Henderson
		<i>Kim Williams</i>
10:45 am	Morning Tea	
11:00 am	Regional updates continued	
	Warren Region	Cliff Winfield
	Information sessions	
11:15 am	Interpretation	Gil Field
11:30 am	Management Planning	Daryl Moncrieff
11:45 am	Advisory Committees	Aminya Ennis
12:00 pm	Aboriginal Training Opportunities	Peter Sharp
12:15 pm	Questions	
12:30 pm	Lunch	
1:15 pm	Indigenous Consultation	Dave Hampton
1:30 pm	Fire in New Parks	Alan Walker
1:45 pm	SPAs and Monitoring	Alan Walker
2:00 pm	Financial Reporting	Val Cave
2:15 pm	General discussion/questions/issues	
2:45 pm	Close and afternoon tea	
3:00 pm	New Parks Steering Group meeting	
4:15 pm	Close	

NEW PARKS BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- New Parks Progress Report (produced on a monthly basis, for reporting to Cabinet Sub-committee)
- *Protecting our old growth forests* policy summary: (ALP POOGF Policy): DCLM's achievements/progress to date
- New Parks capital and recurrent funding 2002/03 summary
- New Parks Steering Group: Terms of Reference

NEW PARKS PROGRESS REPORT
(Protecting our old growth forests policy)

June 2002

(2001/02 Summary)

The conclusion of the 2001/02 financial year has seen the development of additional, and improvement to existing, visitor facilities in and around more than half of the proposed new national parks in the southwest. Additionally, the process for the development of management plans, and the associated community consultation practices have been consolidated throughout the southwest.

Funding allocations and expenditure

The 2001/02 allocations comprised \$2.504m in recurrent funding and \$2.050 in capital funds (including an additional \$550,000 that was reallocated from the Departmental capital budget). The end of financial year expenditure figures of \$2,749,000 recurrent and \$2,104,790 capital reflect an over-expenditure of \$299,790 on New Parks projects, particularly relating to the areas of strategic fire access, and facilities construction. The additional expenditure was funded out of Departmental funds.

Consultation

During the year, the Department has actively involved indigenous groups, recreational clubs and associations, special interest groups, local authorities, other State agencies and the wider community in the preparation and implementation of management and site development plans for the new parks. The Walpole Wilderness Area Stakeholders Reference Group was formed to address a wide range of issues pertinent to the establishment of the Wilderness Area, and a number of recommendations were developed. The group has now completed its task, has been disbanded, and a Community Advisory Committee is being formed in its place to proceed with the management planning process. Several additional advisory committees are currently being established to assist in the management planning process for a number of the new parks.

Planning & Design

Planning Officers have been appointed to progress the management planning process for a number of the proposed national parks. Indicative boundaries have been identified and mapped for a number of the proposed parks, including the Walpole Wilderness Area, Greater Beedalup National Park, Greater Kingston National Park, Jane National Park, Boorara-Gardner National Park, Greater Dordagup National Park and Greater Preston National Park. Preliminary mapping has commenced for an additional 7 National Parks. Site plans and designs have been finalised and preparation has now begun for capital projects to be undertaken in 2002/03.

Provision of visitor facilities

The table below summarises the key projects that have been undertaken during 2001/02.

Proposed National Park	Description of project	Status
Wellington National Park	Honeymoon Pool river bank retaining wall, water access, deck & upgrade of day use site	Tender awarded, work temporarily halted due to high water levels in Collie River
	Quarry picnic area toilet	Completed
	Kiosk toilet and plumbing upgrade	Completed
	Wellington Discovery Centre upgrade and building improvements	Almost completed
	Upgrade of River Road South & Lennard drive	Work is underway; MOU with Shire to complete work over next few months
	Discovery Forest education Program	Completed
	King Tree viewing platform, parking area and interpretation	Completed
	Tracks closure, erosion control & drainage	Completed
	Walk & cycle trail maintenance, lookout, Sika and Potters Gorge trails	Completed
	National Parks Education Pack	Draft completed
	Blackwood River NP	Chapman Pool camper's kitchen
Chapman Pool boat/canoe launch facilities		Completed
Chapman Pool group campsite, toilets, BBQs, shelter and rehabilitation		Completed
Great North Rd Campsite, interpretation, frog habitat protection and rehabilitation		Completed
Maintenance of existing facilities		Completed
Margaret River NP	Trail network; drainage, surfacing and interpretation	Trail upgrade completed; interpretation underway
St John's Brook CP	Timberline trail – walk/cycle trail link Barrabup to Nannup, picnic shelter, toilet block and footbridge	Completed except for footbridge, which will be completed by October 02.

Walpole Wilderness	Beardmore Road renovation	Completed
	Circular Pool visitor facilities	Contract let with Dept Housing & Works, for completion during 02/03
	Fernhook Falls; replacement of shelter, additional BBQ area and general upgrade	Completed
	Valley of the Giants carpark engineering/plans	Completed
	Mt Clare carpark	Contract let with Shire; work to be completed following further consultation and improvement to weather
Greater Beedalup & Hawke NPs	Cleave Road upgrade	Work underway
	Giblett day use area	Underway
	Karri Forest Explorer Drive – Onsite information and interpretation, radio stations, “Guide to Southern Forests” visitor newspaper production	Completed
	Camping areas along Warren River	Almost completed
	Ritter Road upgrade	Tender let, work underway
Kingston, Tone, Perup, Muir NPs	Lake Muir viewing platform and boardwalk construction, interpretation	Construction completed, interpretation underway
	Perup Forest Ecology Centre – construction of management base and further visitor facilities	Tender closed, (over-budget); works carried over to 02/03
	Perup – upgrade renewable energy system	Completed
Northcliffe Parks	Boorara Tree-construction of fire lookout replica	Underway
Mundaring, Pickering Brook, Helena, Wandoo, Canning NPs	Rehabilitation of gravel pits, removal of car bodies, asbestos etc, weeding program	Completed
All Parks	Placement of entry and boundary signs, interpretation signs etc	Completed
	Visitor Risk Assessment and mitigation exercises	Assessment completed

Visitor Communications

A range of initiatives have been undertaken to facilitate visitor appreciation and enjoyment of the expanded park estate. These include:

- The development of a guided activities program at a number of southwest sites, including Wharncliffe EcoDiscovery Centre (Margaret river), Hamelin Bay, Contos and Ellensbrook (Leeuwin Naturaliste NP), Gloucester tree (Pemberton), Coalmine Beach and Valley of the Giants (Walpole)
- SW Tourism Manual: A draft outline of the SW Tourism Manual has been developed following extensive consultation; Production will be completed during 2002/03
- Static Display on New National Parks: Concept plans completed, and production of interpretive material is underway

Regional employment opportunities

As part of its Protecting our old growth forests policy, the State Government made a commitment to create new employment opportunities in the southwest for displaced timber industry workers in national park management and the upgrading of visitor facilities. The table below summarises the progress to the end of the 2001/02 financial year.

EMPLOYMENT OF DISPLACED TIMBER WORKERS NOVEMBER 2001 – JUNE 2002				
Contacted	Declined	Interviewed	Employed	Ceased
127	75	52	35	6

Of the 6 displaced timber workers that ceased employment with the Department, 5 left to take up employment opportunities elsewhere, and 1 left for personal reasons. The remaining 29 displaced timber workers are still employed within the Department.

**PROJECT DIRECTOR'S REPORT
NEW PARKS PROJEC REPORT- JUNE 2002**

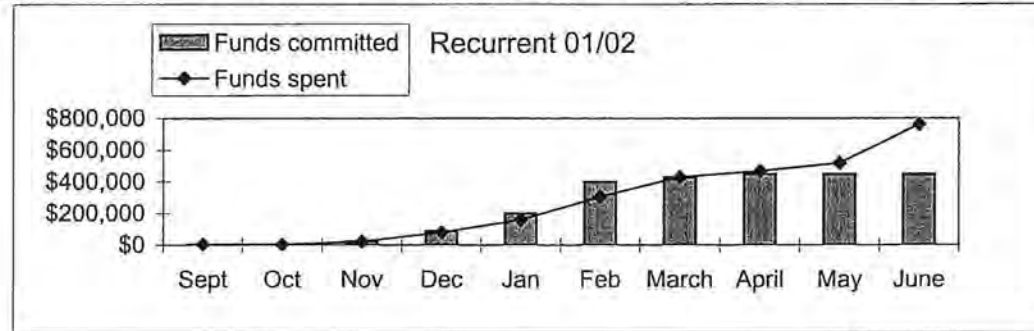
Recurrent

Total Funds Allocate \$2,504,000

Report Provided by : Jim Sharp

For the month of: Jun-02

Recurrent	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	Total Funds
Funds committed	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$25,000	\$90,000	\$200,000	\$400,000	\$429,000	\$450,000	\$450,000	\$450,000	\$2,504,000
Funds spent	\$4,369	\$3,268	\$21,791	\$81,209	\$159,284	\$304,528	\$429,996	\$467,812	\$516,467	\$760,276	\$2,749,000



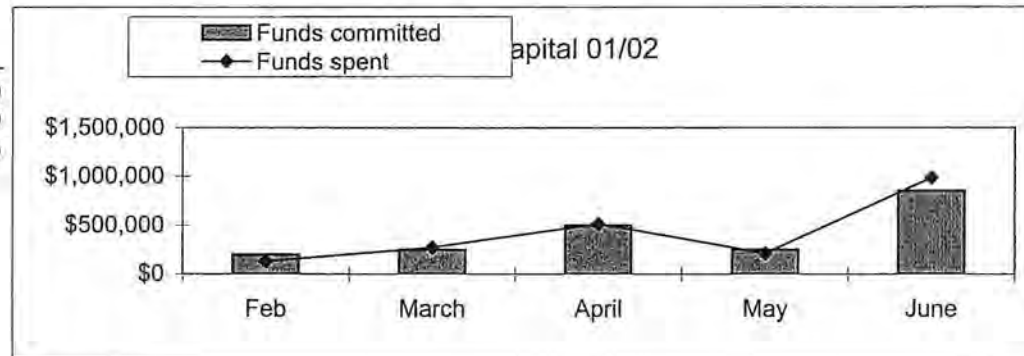
Capital

Total Funds Allocate \$2,050,000

Report Provided by : Jim Sharp

For the month of: Jun-02

Capital	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	Total Funds
Funds committed						\$200,000	\$250,000	\$500,000	\$250,000	\$850,000	\$2,050,000
Funds spent						\$130,028	\$271,211	\$512,558	\$210,833	\$980,160	\$2,104,790



	Year To Date	Jun-02	
	Committed	Actual	Balance
Recurrent	\$2,504,000	\$2,749,000	(\$245,000)
Capital	\$2,050,000	\$2,104,790	(\$54,790)
TOTAL	\$4,554,000	\$4,853,790	(\$299,790)

PROTECTING OUR OLD GROWTH FORESTS – ALP POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT	ACTION
Immediately end logging in nearly 99 per cent of Western Australia's old-growth forests by placing in reserves approximately 340,500 hectares of the 346,000 hectares of remaining old-growth forests	Completed. Logging in 99 per cent of old-growth forest ceased on 12 February 2001 following the State election.
Place an immediate moratorium on the remaining one per cent and review CALM's forward logging plans and timber contracts to determine whether the current contracts can be honoured in line with the sustainable yield set by the Regional Forest Agreement without logging this remaining unreserved area of old-growth forests. A maximum of 5,500 hectares will be set aside to ensure that existing timber contracts can be honoured in the event that alternative sources of timber are unable to yield the required volumes. At the very latest, all logging in this area of old growth forest will cease by 2003, and	Completed. On 4 November 2001 the Government announced that all old-growth forest would be protected.
Complete a rigorous assessment of other high conservation value areas to be included in the reserve system within one year of election	Final study completed and pending consideration by Government in the context of the new Forest Management Plan.

30 NEW NATIONAL PARKS & 2 NEW CONSERVATION PARKS

POLICY STATEMENT	ACTION
Create approximately 200,000 hectares of new reserves, including 95,000 hectares of old-growth forests	Indicative boundaries mapped for 11 of the new parks. Advisory committees being established to provide input to finalisation of boundaries, management planning.
Create 30 new national parks, including the 12 new national parks set aside under the RFA, and 2 new conservation parks; and	As above. All proposed parks are being managed as national park or conservation park.
Protect 150,000 hectares of forest set aside under the RFA.	All logging has ceased in these areas. The lands are managed in accordance with the tenure recommendations in the RFA and old-growth policy.

POLICY STATEMENT	ACTION
A 335,000 hectare Walpole Wilderness Area comprising four new national parks, three existing national parks and several thousand hectares of forest in Wattle, Mattaband and Burnside blocks.	Indicative boundaries mapped. Stakeholder Reference Group formed to recommend final boundaries. Final report submitted for Minister's consideration.
Greater Beedelup National Park (20,000 hectares) 15 kilometres west of Pemberton, incorporating the existing Beedelup National Park, Strickland Nature Reserve and Beavis, Carey and Giblett forest blocks and parts of Court and Gray blocks	Indicative boundaries mapped and announced November 2001.
Greater Kingston National Park (19,000 hectares); incorporating Kingston, Walcott, Mersea, Dudijup, Warrup, Corbal, Dwalgan and Winnejup forest blocks	Indicative boundaries mapped and announced January 2002.
Butler National Park; incorporating the old-growth forest in Butler, Layman and Darradup blocks between Nannup and Margaret River	Draft map in preparation.
Hilliger National Park; incorporating the old-growth forest in Hilliger, Blackpoint and Blythe blocks between Northcliffe and Augusta	Draft map in preparation.
Jane National Park (7,420 hectares); protecting one of the South West's most pristine old-growth forests, Jane block, near Northcliffe	Indicative boundaries mapped and announced July 2002.

Greater Hawke National Park; incorporating Hawke and Charley blocks, and parts of Flybrook, Crowea and Dombakup	Preliminary mapping commenced
Boorara-Gardner National Park incorporating all of Gardner block and parts of Boorara, Babbington and Northcliffe blocks	Indicative boundaries mapped and announced July 2002.
Easter National Park; protecting the old-growth forest in Easter and Iffley blocks near Nannup	Draft map in preparation.
Greater Dordagup National Park; incorporating parts of Poole, Nairn, Sutton and Dordagup forest blocks	Indicative boundaries mapped and announced July 2002
Lake Muir National Park; by adding the old-growth forest in Spring, Poorginup and Chitelup blocks to Lake Muir Nature Reserve	Draft map in preparation.
Boyndaminup National Park; by protecting the old-growth forest in Boyndaminup, Mindanup and Challar blocks near Lake Muir	Preliminary mapping commenced.
Greater Preston National Park; comprising Noggerup Conservation Park, Roseneath Conservation Park, the Australian Heritage Commission nominated portion of Hovea forest block and the revoked Preston and Goonac Conservation Parks	Indicative boundaries mapped and announced October 2001.
Tone Perup National Park (54,000 hectares); incorporating the existing Tone Perup Nature Reserve and Keninup and Talling blocks and the old-growth forest in Stoate block	Preliminary mapping commenced.
Whicher Range National Park (6,500 hectares) near Busselton	Mapping not yet commenced.
Hester Conservation Park near Bridgetown, by adding Hester 4, 7 and 8 to the reserve system; and	Mapping not yet commenced.
Kerr Conservation Park near Balingup	Mapping not yet commenced.

POLICY STATEMENT	ACTION
Protect all remaining old-growth forest around Denmark in Styx, Hay, Sheepwash and Redmond blocks and add this area to Labor's proposed Mt Lindesay National Park	All old-growth forest has been set aside from logging. The proposal is being dealt with in the context of the Walpole Wilderness Area. Stakeholder Reference Group report submitted for Minister's consideration.
Add the old-growth forest in Weld and Mossop blocks to Shannon and Mt Frankland National Parks	As above.
Add the old-growth forest in Blackwood block to the proposed Blackwood River National Park	All old-growth forest protected. Draft map of indicative park boundaries in preparation.
Reinstate 54,000 hectares of reserves revoked by the Government: Gyngoorda, Gibbs, Wandoo, Duncan, George, Pascoe, Dardanup, Preston, Goonac, Charley, Camballan, St John Brook, Whicher, Rapids, Mowen, Keninup and Talling	Negotiations with companies holding State Agreement Act leases over six of the proposed reserves have been finalised.
Place an immediate moratorium on logging to undertake an assessment of the scientific, economic and community values and the impact of logging on salinity, of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The proposed 25,000hectare expansion of the Wellington National Park near Collie - Palmer and Leach blocks near Collie; and - Helms block near Nannup 	Study completed. Wellington National Park to be expanded by 14,500 hectares. Indicative boundaries prepared and announced 1 January 2002. Advisory committee established. Palmer (other than the portion already in the Lane Poole Reserve), Leach and Helms blocks to remain as multiple use State forest with the protection of values through the application of management prescriptions.

Investigate upgrading Lane-Poole Reserve to a National Park	The Lane Poole Reserve Management Plan 1990-2000 is being reviewed. The proposal is being investigated as part of the management plan process
Establish the 12 new national parks promised under the RFA	Underway. Boundaries mapped. Advisory committees to be established. The proposals will be included in the new Forest Management Plan
Create 130 new jobs in national park management and the upgrading of visitor facilities	Between November 2001 and June 2002, 127 displaced timber workers have been contacted. 75 declined an interview. 52 were interviewed and 35 employed by CALM. Six have since ceased work.

FOREST BENEFACTOR PROGRAM

POLICY STATEMENT	ACTION
Introduce legislation to create an independent Western Australian Forest Benefactor Foundation to raise funds for forest conservation and protection. All donations will be used to maintain forest reserves for conservation purposes	Not commenced.

CREATING NEW JOBS AND SAFEGUARDING EXISTING JOBS

POLICY STATEMENT	ACTION
Create 100 new, secure jobs in CALM and the Forest Products Commission, with priority given to displaced timber workers, in a targeted dieback strategy; in national park and reserve management, including positions as rangers, in infrastructure development; and in fire and feral animal control	Between November 2001 and June 2002, 127 displaced timber workers have been contacted. 75 declined an interview. 52 were interviewed and 35 employed by CALM. Six have since ceased work.
Create 30 new jobs in an escalated jarrah and karri regrowth thinning program utilising displaced timber workers	
Provide incentives for plantation companies to employ displaced timber workers among the estimated 850 new direct jobs that will be created in the plantation industry in 2001; a figure that is expected to rise to more than 1,250 in 2008 (Department of Training, 2000)	WADOT is working with displaced timber workers to assist them into jobs in plantation management.
Work to protect the jobs of the 100 employees at Pemberton karri mill by offering up to \$5 million for retooling and value adding at the mill, based on regrowth karri and possibly marri and plantation timbers	Financial assistance has been offered to the new owner of the mill to retool and for value adding.
Offer incentives for the operators of Albany's new plantation based wood chipping mill to employ timber workers among its 230 employees. The mill will commence operating in 2001	
Provide up to \$100,000 for a mobile mill capable of converting waste from logging operations into blocks suitable for charcoal, rather than this waste being burnt on the forest floor by CALM. This proposal could employ up to five displaced timber workers	

Allocate up to \$500,000 for a training and development program at the Pemberton Aquaculture Centre, which would train 12-18 persons each year for work in the aquaculture industry. This initiative will be implemented in consultation with the aquaculture industry, Manjimup TAFE, the South West Development Commission and the Pemberton Progress Association	\$10,000 was allocated to the SWDC for expanded TAFE services in the Warren Blackwood for the provision of aquaculture courses.
Encourage the establishment of a laminated veneer lumber (LVL) plant in Western Australia based on public softwood resources, creating an estimated 140 direct jobs (URS/BIS Shrapnel, 2000)	
Investigate the feasibility of assisting the establishment of a medium density fibreboard (MDF) plant and/or a particleboard plant based on plantation resources; and	The Dept of Industry and Technology and SW Development Commission have been working with proponents, particularly on site issues and feasibility study funding.
Support the establishment of an environmentally and economically viable pulp mill combined with a plantation based wood chipping facilities, creating between 80 and 230 new jobs (URS/BIS Shrapnel, 2000)	Planning approvals are being sought by the proponent (10/5/02).

WORKER AND INDUSTRY ASSISTANCE PACKAGE

POLICY STATEMENT	ACTION
Institute an assistance package with an initial budget of \$57 million to assist the timber industry, its workers, their families and communities. This will involve an additional \$18 million of funding. This package will consist of a Worker Assistance Program and a Timber Industry Assistance Program.	The assistance package totals \$123 million and includes additional elements (including \$25 million over 4 years for management of new national parks).
The Worker Assistance Program includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * a wage subsidy of \$200 per week (up to 16 weeks) to encourage employers to employ displaced timber workers; * retraining for displaced timber workers to upgrade their skills; * travel assistance to assist workers to attend interviews and look for work in areas other than where they reside; * relocation assistance to assist workers with the cost of relocating to take up new employment; * generous redundancy payments for those workers who wish to exit the industry; * a Timber Industry Council (TIC) consisting of industry and union representatives to assist in the implementation of the Worker Assistance Program; and * Forest Liaison Officers (FLO's) located in major regional centres to assist workers with access to information and advice, in liaison with the TIC. 	Program is operating.
The Timber Industry Assistance Program includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * an incentive program consisting of grants and low-interest loans for new projects incorporating value-adding, technology upgrades, better recovery and utilisation of resource and improved log harvesting, extraction and handling systems; * headworks assistance (utilities connection) * consultancy subsidies such as feasibility studies and business and marketing planning; * subsidies for local government charges; * haulage assistance to help timber mills with any potential additional haulage costs; and * a Business Exit Assistance Program to assist businesses directly affected by Labor's forest policy that wish to exit the industry. 	Program is operating.

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POLICY STATEMENT	ACTION
Assist the industry with the rapid transition to whole bole logging; and sawmills will be obliged to extract as much timber from the whole tree as is possible;	
Encourage further development of the marri sawn timber industry and provide support to companies that undertake sawing and value-adding of marri sawlogs;	
Work with the timber industry and TAFE to set up a course in Forest Management and Silviculture at Manjimup TAFE;	Manjimup TAFE has advertised the availability of this training.
Consult with Edith Cowan University in Bunbury to expand the Environmental Science degree to give a greater emphasis on forest management, silviculture and wood technology; and	
Investigate the feasibility of utilising the resources of the Forest Heritage Centre and Dwellingup and the Timber Utilisation Research Centre at Harvey to provide tertiary units in value-adding, kiln drying, gluing and fine wood preparation	

FURNITURE AND FINE WOOD INDUSTRIES

POLICY STATEMENT	ACTION
Allocate \$1 million of the \$57 million assistance package to the timber furniture industry to assist with interstate and international marketing;	Program has been developed and will be announced shortly.
Create a craftwood licensing system for local craftspeople and artisans. Licences will only be granted to local Western Australian artisans and craftspeople who produce their work locally;	System is being investigated.
Investigate the feasibility of royalty subsidies based on value-adding and the proportion of timber utilised;	
Promote greater value-adding and furniture production of regrowth karri, marri and plantation timbers. Labor is aware of some of the value-adding developments that are occurring outside of Western Australia. For example, a South African furniture company is manufacturing high-quality furniture from plantation karri that has been certified by the independent Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). Labor will work to progress similar value-adding developments in Western Australia;	Will be achieved through the timber industry assistance program following confirmation of log allocations and other assistance such as to the Timber Advisory Centre.
Assist furniture companies through the Timber Industry Assistance Program to purchase machinery and other infrastructure if they can demonstrate a potential to generate employment, especially local employment, and revenue;	As above.
Investigate the feasibility of allocating a nominal proportion of timber royalties to the furniture and fine wood industries to assist them with marketing and business development; and	
Support tourism initiatives through the Western Australian Tourism Commission that promote fine wood craft as a tourism attraction in the South West.	Special marketing of the area is currently being carried out. Assistance has been given to a craftwood design forum, and craftwood interests are represented on the National Marketing Advisory Council.

FOREST MANAGEMENT AND CALM

POLICY STATEMENT	ACTION
Manage the forests in line with the principles of ecologically sustainable forest management (ESFM) to ensure the overall health of our forests and rivers;	Encompassed within the new Forest Management Plan, currently in preparation
Undertake an independent audit of log stockpiles and forest "waste" with the aim of utilising as much of this timber as possible;	Completed. Report released.
Immediately initiate a review of current royalties for native timber and the process by which they are levied to ensure that royalties reflect the true value of our native timber;	Review is underway.
Undertake a comprehensive review of stream and river logging buffers to ensure their adequacy in protecting our waterways from salinity, degradation and turbidity; and	Completed. Report released.
Rigorously develop and apply management policies and strategies to ensure that all timber operations are ecologically sustainable	Encompassed within the new Forest Management Plan, currently in preparation.

BETTER GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT

POLICY STATEMENT	ACTION
Ensure that Westrail ceases the utilisation of native timber for new railway sleepers, and shifts to a total reliance on alternative materials such as concrete, steel and plantation timber;	
Ensure that, where possible, Homeswest gives preference to builders who utilise materials other than native timber in the construction of new dwellings;	Completed.
Review the effectiveness of the newly constituted Forest Products Commission, Conservation Commission and reconstituted Department of Conservation and Land Management;	Departments and other agencies were reviewed generally under the Machinery of Government review. A functional review is to be undertaken across Government by 31 December 2002. The Conservation Commission will be reviewed in late 2002.
Introduce legislation to give the Minister for the Environment the final say on the implementation and the development of the Forest Management Plan; and	Legislation introduced (currently in the Parliament).
Amend the <i>Conservation and Land Management Act 1984</i> to include reference to Indigenous people and joint management in the objects of the Act.	Policy discussion paper prepared and undergoing consultation with indigenous stakeholders.

BETTER COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

POLICY STATEMENT	ACTION
Establish regional and city forest forums to allow community and stakeholder input into the development of the next Forest Management Plan; and	First round of forum consultations completed; second round underway in August 2002.
Implement meaningful joint management strategies for conservation reserves in full consultation with Indigenous people. Joint management strategies will include Indigenous people in management and in decision making, and provide them with employment and training opportunities.	A Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Conservation and Land Management and the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council has been signed. An Indigenous Liaison Officer for the south-west is being appointed.

DIEBACK STRATEGY

POLICY STATEMENT	ACTION
Institute a comprehensive review of CALM's policies and programs relating to dieback control and management, with a view to protecting remaining old growth and high conservation value forests from infection and improving dieback quarantine practices to protect nature conservation values throughout the South West;	Work has commenced on the development of the scoping requirements for an Environmental Protection Policy for the management of dieback; a dieback management policy for lands vested in the Conservation Commission; a set of best practice management principles, guidelines and standards for managing dieback; and related codes of practice.
Implement a targeted control and protection program – including fungicide treatments – to protect nature conservation values;	An annual phosphite spraying program has been implemented to protect critically endangered and susceptible flora and ecological communities.
Require the development and maintenance of a comprehensive, up-to-date map database of the occurrence of dieback throughout the South West that can be used by field staff and members of the public to minimise the further spread of dieback; and	Dieback occurrence datasets are updated as new occurrences are mapped. The mapping is currently only done where there is an immediate operational need.
Continue to support quality research into methods to control dieback	Ongoing

PLANTATIONS

POLICY STATEMENT	ACTION
Provide incentives for plantation companies to employ displaced timber workers among the estimated 850 new direct jobs that will be created in the plantation industry in 2001, a figure that is expected to rise to more than 1,50 in 2008 (Department of Transport, 2000)	WADOT is working with displaced timber workers to place them in new jobs.
Assist the industry with infrastructure that will provide for value-adding of plantation timber;	
Support the \$50 million plantation-based wood chipping mill near Albany that will create 230 new jobs when it opens in 2001;	
Support the establishment of an environmentally and economically viable pulp mill combined with a plantation-based wood chipping facilities and assist industry to achieve these goals;	
Encourage the establishment of a laminated veneer lumber (LVL) plant in Western Australia based on public softwood resources;	Dept of Industry and Technology and SW Development Commission have worked with proponents on site issues and possible feasibility funding.
Investigate the feasibility of assisting the establishment of a medium density fibreboard (MDF) plant and/or particleboard plant based on plantation resource;	
Investigate incentives, including options within the State taxation regime, to encourage long-term investment in both hardwood and softwood plantation for sawlog production;	
Initiate a domestic marketing push to ensure that other building materials, including plantation timber and steel, replace jarrah and karri in structural uses;	
Instigate a program to identify cleared agricultural land, which is providing only marginal economic returns, and degraded land for plantations;	

Assist research into other plantation species with a view to investigating opportunities for processing specialty timber products; and	
Examine the existing road and rail network in the South West to determine where improvements are needed to best meet the requirements of the plantation industry	SW Development Commission is involved with the SW TIRES group investigating road issues for the plantation industry.

CARBON SEQUESTRATION AND TRADING

POLICY STATEMENT	ACTION
Work to enact legislation similar to the New South Wales Carbon Rights Legislation Amendment Act 1998 to recognise in law the rights associated with carbon sequestered from the atmosphere by trees and forests and enshrine carbon rights on land titles. This legislation will allow for carbon trading and carbon forestry investments to occur in Western Australia ahead of proposed greenhouse emission trading laws that will need to be enacted by the federal Government;	The Carbon Rights Bill 2002 has been introduced into Parliament.
Continue the expansion of Western Australia's plantation estate for its wood and carbon sequestration values; and	
End logging in old-growth forests, not just because of their natural and aesthetic value, but also for the role they play in reducing carbon in the atmosphere.	All logging in old-growth forest has ceased.

Parks & Visitor Services Output

Summary of New Parks Capital & Recurrent Budget Allocations for 2002/03

Swan Region

Project	Funding category	Amount of funds allocated	Comments
Kensington Cost Centre Allocation of recurrent funds for the planning, management and protection of the New Parks in Swan Region as provided for under the State Government's Protecting Our Old Growth Forest Policy	New Parks recurrent	\$791,000	Distribution of funds to outputs, services and activities to be determined in the 2002/03 Service Provision Agreement (see accompanying memo to Swan, South West & Warren Regions)
Mundaring Cost Centre Lane Poole Reserve – complete Chuditch Campground development	New Parks capital	\$140,000	Liaise with Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit on implementation of campground plans
Mundaring NP – redevelop access, parking areas and picnic facilities in Fred Jacoby Park	New Parks capital	\$210,000	Plans & specifications to be prepared by Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit
Mundaring NP – upgrade toilets, furniture and access at South Ledge recreation area	New Parks capital	\$75,000	Plans & specifications to be prepared by Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit.
Helena NP – construct viewing deck and upgrade picnic sites at Mt Dale	New Parks capital	\$150,000	Plans & specifications to be prepared by Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit.
Helena NP – redefine Nipper Road access and upgrade bridge	New Parks capital	\$35,000	
Wandoo NP – redesign and reconstruct access and upgrade current site furniture and facilities at Mt Observation	New Parks capital	\$50,000	Plans & specifications to be prepared by Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit.
Wandoo NP – develop new picnic area adjacent to Helena Road	New Parks capital	\$25,000	Plans & specifications to be prepared by Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit. Liaise with WRC & Water Corporation
Wandoo NP - upgrade access, parking and picnic facilities at Christmas Tree Well	New Parks capital	\$15,000	Plans & specifications to be prepared by Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit.
Total funds allocated	Recurrent Capital	\$791,000 \$700,000	

South West Region

Project	Funding category	Amount of funds allocated	Comments
Bunbury Cost Centre Allocation of recurrent funds for the planning, management and protection of the New Parks in South West Region as provided for under the State Government's Protecting Our Old Growth Forest Policy	New Parks recurrent	\$1,400,000	Distribution of funds to outputs, services and activities to be determined in the 2002/03 Service Provision Agreement (see accompanying memo to Swan, South West & Warren Regions)
Collie Cost Centre Wellington NP – complete riverside deck and access, stabilise riverbank and install interpretation shelter at Honeymoon Pool	New Parks capital	\$30,000	Continue to liaise with Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit and with Interpretation Unit on interpretation shelter project
Wellington NP – upgrade internal road access, expand camping sites, install new toilet, construct footbridge and provide integrated access path system at Honeymoon Pool	New Parks capital	Consider for funding in 2003/04 and/or 2004/05	Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit to prepare master plan for Honeymoon Pool precinct and work with District to obtain estimate of probable cost
Wellington NP – complete upgrading of Lennard Drive by sealing 4 km section	New Parks capital	\$100,000	
Wellington NP – realign roads, redevelop parking areas and provide visitor facilities within the Wellington Dam kiosk precinct	New Parks capital	\$200,000	Plans & specifications to be prepared by Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit.
Wellington NP – design and install information shelters on major approach roads into Wellington NP	New Parks capital	\$40,000	Liaise with Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit and with Interpretation Unit on interpretation shelter project
Busselton Cost Centre Blackwood NP – design and construct timber steps and platform for boat and canoe tie up and develop swimmers beach at Chapman Pool	New Parks capital	\$50,000	Plans & specifications to be prepared by Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit.
Margaret River NP - plan for the development of a tourist information & environmental education centre in the vicinity of Wharncliffe Mill	New Parks capital	Consider for funding in 2003/04 or 2004/05	Initiate broadscale planning review with Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit in 2002/03
Margaret River NP – design and construct 400 metre disabled access trail using timber decking at Margaret River Rotary Park	New Parks capital	Consider for funding in 2003/04	Initiate planning & design work with Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit in 2002/03 and obtain estimate of probable cost
St John's Brook CP – complete redevelopment and upgrade of the Barrabup Pool day use area	New Parks capital	\$60,000	Continue to liaise with Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit over plan implementation
St John's Brook CP – plan and construct 15 km of the Old Timberline Trail with 12 bridges	New Parks capital	Consider for funding in 2003/04 and 2004/05	Undertake detailed planning & design work with Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit in 2002/03 and obtain estimate of probable cost

South West Region (continued)

Project	Funding category	Amount of funds allocated	Comments
Busselton Cost Centre (continued)			
St John's Brook CP – design and construct 4 campsites and shelters along Old Timberline Trail	New parks capital	Consider for funding in 2003/04 and 2004/05	Undertake detailed planning & design work with Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit in 2002/03 and obtain estimate of probable cost
St John's Brook CP – plan and construct 6 site camping area for vehicle based campers near Barrabup Pool	New parks capital	Consider for funding in 2003/04 and 2004/05	Undertake detailed planning & design work with Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit in 2002/03 and obtain estimate of probable cost
Blackwood NP – redevelop and upgrade existing visitor facilities at Sues Bridge Camping Area	New parks capital	\$20,000; remainder to be considered for funding in 2003 -05	Undertake detailed planning & design work in consultation with Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit. Obtain estimate of probable cost for work in subsequent years
Total funds allocated	Recurrent Capital	\$1,400,000 \$500,000	

Warren Region

Project	Funding category	Amount of funds allocated	Comments
Manjimup Cost Centre			
Allocation of recurrent funds for the planning, management and protection of the New Parks in Warren Region as provided for under the State Government's Protecting Our Old Growth Forest Policy	New Parks recurrent	\$1,501,000	Distribution of funds to outputs, services and activities to be determined in the 2002/03 Service Provision Agreement (see accompanying memo to Swan, South West & Warren Regions)
Kingston, Tone-Perup, Lake Muir-Boyndanimup NP's – design and develop new ranger station at Perup Forest Ecology Centre	New Parks capital	\$250,000	Complete existing project partially funded in 2001/02 and managed through the Dept of Housing & Works.
Greater Beedelup/Warren NP – complete Warren NP river decks and campsites along the Karri Forest Explorer Drive (stage 3)	New Parks capital	\$200,000	Plans & specifications to be prepared by Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit.
Hawke Block – develop walk-in camps and cabins in old growth forest areas (stage 2)	New Parks capital	Consider for funding in 2003/04 and 2004/05	Plans & specifications to be prepared by Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit in 2002/03.

Warren Region (continued)

Project	Funding category	Amount of funds allocated	Comments
Manjimup Cost Centre (continued)			
Lake Yeagerup – develop new camping area and day use site in sensitive area currently suffering degradation; develop trailhead for walks in Hawke NP	New Parks capital	Consider for funding in 2003/04 and 2004/05	Plans & specifications to be prepared by Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit in 2002/03.
Greater Beedelup NP – complete work on Cleave Road camping area commenced in 2002	New Parks capital	\$80,000	Continue to liaise with Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit on the design and construction of camping area
Boorara-Gardner NP – construct boardwalk & viewing platform over spectacular forest and stream	New Parks capital	\$35,000	Plans & specifications to be prepared by Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit in 2002/03.
Kingston-Tone, Perup and Lake Muir NPs – renovate existing neglected day use area at Lake Unicup	New Parks capital	Consider for funding in 2003/04 and 2004/05	Initiate planning & design work in consultation with by Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit in 2002/03 and obtain estimate of probable cost
Walpole Wilderness Area – Walpole Nornalup NP – redesign car parks, upgrade picnic areas, toilets, walk trails & provide visitor information at Coalmine Beach /Knolls (stage 2)	New Parks capital	\$100,000	Complete existing project partially funded in 2001/02.
Walpole Wilderness Area – Walpole Nornalup NP – upgrade day use facilities and address visitor safety issues at Circular Pool (stage 2)	New Parks capital	\$100,000	Complete existing project partially funded in 2001/02.
Walpole Wilderness Area – Walpole Nornalup NP – relocate Nuyts Wilderness Trailhead to Mt Clare (stage 2)	New Parks capital	\$50,000	Complete existing project partially funded in 2001/02.
Walpole Wilderness Area – Mt Frankland NP – upgrade picnic area and relocate camping area to Caldyanup Crossing	New Parks capital	\$100,000	Plans & specifications to be prepared by Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit in 2002/03.
Total funds allocated	Recurrent Capital	\$1,501,000 \$915,000	

Parks, Recreation, Planning & Tourism Division

Project	Funding category	Amount of funds allocated	Comments
Resourcing Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit – employment of additional staff and equipment for New Parks planning and design work	New Parks recurrent	\$320,000	Funding for landscape planning & design staff and associated equipment and operational budget
Resourcing Management Planning Unit – employment of additional staff for New Parks planning	New Parks recurrent	\$220,000	Funding for management planning staff and associated operational budget (including Warren Region planner)
Resourcing Land Administration Unit – employment of an additional staff member to address New Parks land administration issues in Swan Region	New Parks recurrent	\$50,000	Funding for contract position; Officer to be based in PRPT Division
Resourcing Visitor Interpretation Unit – employment of an Interpretation Officer and Assistant Graphic Designer for New Parks work	New Parks recurrent	\$137,000	Funding for visitor interpretation and graphics design staff and associated operational budget
Recreation Planner – engage recreation planner to work on the preparation of a recreation/visitor services framework plan for the south west forest areas	New Parks recurrent	\$75,000	Planner to work as part of team with staff from Swan, Warren and South West Regions and PRPT Division to prepare a whole of forest visitor services framework plan
New Parks Steering Group operational fund	New Parks recurrent	\$10,000	Funding for the purchase of plans and other materials for use in co-ordinating the New Parks program
Guided interpretative activities program – utilise Department staff and contract Eco-guides to provide guided activities at key sites	New Parks capital	\$20,000	Continuation of program commenced in 2001/02
South west parks magpaper and holiday planner for visitors	New Parks capital	\$20,000	Completion of project commenced in 2001/02
South west forest parks tourism manual	New Parks capital	\$30,000	Completion of project commenced in 2001/02
Multi-media project at the Valley of the Giants	New Parks capital	\$2,000	Completion of project commenced in 2001/02
Project management training – development of training syllabus on project management and delivery of 2 in-service courses for PVS staff	New Parks capital	\$40,000	External training provider to be engaged to develop and help deliver course for PVS Leaders and other key staff
Munda Biddi Bike Trail – extend bike trail through new parks including parts of Walpole Wilderness Area & Kingston-Tone-Perup NP and adjacent areas	New Parks capital	\$100,000	Planning and construction to be co-ordinated by Trails Unit staff in consultation with Regions and Recreation & Landscape Planning & Design Unit
Purchase of vehicle classifiers, pedestrian counter and associated computer hardware and software	New Parks capital	\$33,000	Equipment to be used in trialing the collection and inputting of VISTAT and RecData in the field
New Parks contingency fund	New Parks capital	\$725,000 + 120,000	
Total funds allocated	Recurrent Capital	\$812,000 \$970,000	

NEW PARKS STEERING COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Responsibilities:

- Facilitate a coordinated approach to community consultation, management planning and design initiatives associated with the new parks
- Provide advice on the disbursement and accounting of recurrent and capital funds
- Monitor expenditure against outcomes associated with the new parks
- Monitor and report on employment outcomes associated with the new parks
- Develop a coordinated approach to prioritising works programs within the new parks
- Ensure Departmental priorities and standards are reflected in the new parks' works programs
- Review proposed regional works programs associated with the new parks, and make recommendations on their implementation based on their relevance to Departmental and Government priorities

NEW PARKS INFORMATION SHEETS

- Swan Region Report
 - *Michael Phillips*
- South West Region Report
 - *Peter Henderson/Kim Williams*
- Warren Region Report
 - *Cliff Winfield*
- Interpretation Report
 - *Gil Field*
- Recreation and Landscape Design Report
 - *Tracy Churchill*
- Management Planning Report
 - *Daryl Moncrieff*
- Advisory Committees Report
 - *Aminya Ennis*
- Aboriginal Training Opportunities Report
 - *Peter Sharp*
- Indigenous Consultation Report
 - *Dave Hampton*
- Financial Reporting Report
 - *Val Cave*

Perth Hills District New Parks 6 Month Summary

Rubbish Removal –

Car Bodies -	439
Car/Truck Tyres -	644
Asbestos -	23 tonnes
Garden Waste -	79 cubic metres
Building Rubble -	46 cubic metres
Syringes -	16
Chemical Containers -	84 (some containing residual chemicals)
Animal Bodies -	2

Signage –

40 Wooden National Park signs erected
40 Metal Proposed National Park signs erected
150 Road Name signs erected (Helena and Wandoo NPs)

Rehabilitation –

4 hectares in Pickering Brook National Park completed 2002
8 hectares in Mundaring National Park completed 2002

Media –

Article in 'Hills Gazette' newspaper
Information on Tread Lightly Australia Website
Article in 'Western 4wdriver' magazine
Radio interview done Curtin Radio
Article in 'Echo' newspaper

Public Talks/Presentations –

Four Seasons Garden Club
Roleystone SHS Bushranger Cadets
Perth Bushwalking Club
Midland TAFE Students
ECU Students

Current Works –

Long-term rehabilitation plan development
Weed control plan
Road closure/track rationalisation plan for Mundaring and Canning National Parks
Heritage register development (both Indigenous and Non-indigenous)
Capital works planning

Problems/Issues –

Continued rubbish dumping
Boundary issues
Vandalism
Unlicensed motor bikes/cars
Firewood Removal

Staffing –

National Park Ranger x 1
Assistant Operations Officers x 4 (Graduate Recruits)
AWU Crew x 3 (Displaced Timber Workers)

Warren Region New Parks Projects

Kingston, Tone – Perup, Lake Muir NPs – Perup – new accommodation and meeting facilities. Tender called – DH+W negotiating price.

Greater Beedelup – Warren NP – rebuilt and expanded camp ground at Warren National Park approaching completion, river decks etc designed – works in progress.

Hawke Block – decking around grove of large trees, with walk trails to them nearing completion.

Hawke Block – Ritter Road - upgrade main access to Hawke National Park. Preliminary works done, contract let for remainder – pending dry weather.

Greater Beedelup NP. Cleave Road campgrounds. Earthworks and materials for new campgrounds along Carey Brook – works in progress.

Gardner proposed NP. Boorara Tree and Lane Poole Falls. Installed replica lookout and interpretation nearing completion.

Karri Forest Explorer tourist drive – produced and installed 43 interpretation panels, completed several new small sites, and renovated old ones in Big Brook forest, Giblett Block, Beedelup and Warren and Gloucester National Parks A new “magpaper” ‘Guide to Southern Forests’ produced, five interpretive radio station and promotional brochure in production.

Kingston, Tone – Perup, Lake Muir - NPs. Lake Muir bird observatory, interpretation and day use area – construction completed- awaiting interp.

Walpole Wilderness Area –Walpole-Nornalup NP, Coalmine Beach/Knolls redesign of car parks, upgrade picnic areas, toilets, walk trails, visitor information. Planning and design delays, only likely to purchase some materials – money transferred to Fernhook Falls

Walpole Wilderness Area –Walpole-Nornalup NP, Circular Pool/Hilltop upgrade day use facilities, and address visitor safety. Construction drawings complete – contract for decking with DH+W.

Walpole Wilderness Area –Walpole-Nornalup NP, Mt Clare. Relocate Nuyts Wilderness trailhead to Mt Clare, Part of land acquisition negotiations. Further community consultation required - this year’s allocation contracted to the Shire to construct car park. Works begin when it dries out.

Walpole Wilderness Area –Walpole-Nornalup NP, Valley of the Giants picnic facilities. Planning team decided to expand existing car park and picnic facilities so that visit length can be increased to accommodate picnicking at the current site – project deferred further community consultation required - some expenditure on engineering design – funds transferred to Ritter Road (see above)

Walpole Wilderness Area – Sharpe Block – Fernhook Falls. Review function of site – address safety and environmental issues and replacing interp shelter and adding a covered barbecue area. Works in progress.

New Parks Projects

Visitor Information and Interpretation Services

Looking Back 2002

- South West Tourism Guides – consultation with stakeholders. Working on 3 products (i) Tourism Industry Directory (ii) Compendium of SW Landscape articles (iii) NatureBase site for ‘Guide to interpreting the South West’.
- South West Parks Guided Activities Programs (January, Easter and School Holidays) at Margaret River Wharnccliffe EcoDiscovery Centre, Leeuwin-Naturaliste NP Contos, Hamelin Bay and Ellensbrook; Pemberton at Gloucester Tree and D’Entrecasteaux; Walpole at Valley of the Giants and Coalmine Beach.
- Preparation of Parks promotional display for Toucan System held by Swan Region.
- Multi-media exhibit – agreement with Joondalup TAFE for student design and development of pages within flow chart. Purchase of some equipment. Filming at Valley of the Giants next week.

Looking Forward 2002/03

- Interpretation planning – have established methodology under going professional colleague review and alternative approaches with Lorna Charlton in Regional Parks and Kelly Chapman in Shark Bay World Heritage Area. Need to apply to whole of south west so Parks in context. Need to integrate with recreation, landscape and management planning as a Visitor Framework Plan addressing access and intent within precincts. Develop menu marketing for key sites and stories. So marketing and promotion compatible with management of sites.
- Sign Manual – 2 streams of standard and thematic parks. Standard with timber and/or metal signs and established installations, thematic parks require a separate sign system. Colour schemes for both streams will be considered on a park and/or region basis rather than a state wide standard colour. Corporate identity will be through co-badging state government and Department logos.
- Park Guided Activities Programs – promotional brochure of ‘Go with a Guide’ prepared; expressions of interest advertisement in November for casual guides; workshop for guides to develop programs in December; programs in January, Easter/school holidays at Margaret River parks, Pemberton parks, Walpole parks.
- New position of Interpretation Officer – use to assist with interpretation planning, south west visitor framework plan, Sign Manual with identification of standard and thematic parks and preparation of park sign plans, South West Park Guided Activities Programs as well as interpretive media projects in Parks.
- New position of Project Officer (Graphic Design) – use to develop RecData of interpretive works, design new projects, assist with sign manual production.

NEW PARKS INFORMATION/PLANNING DAY 1ST August 2002

RECREATION & LANDSCAPE UNIT

Please accept our apologies for not attending this information and planning day for New Parks. There was an unfortunate and unavoidable clash of scheduled workshops. This report outlines the Recreation and Landscape Unit's staff structure, past performance, issues and future works program for your information and feedback.

CURRENT NEW PARKS STAFF ALLOCATION

Tracy Churchill, Leader Recreation and Landscape Unit, permanent, FTE 40%

Steve Csaba, Architectural Draftsperson, permanent, FTE 40%

Charles Bellamy, Architectural Draftsperson, contract

Doug Simpson, Landscape Architect, contract

Neil Moncrieff, Landscape Architect, contract

Simon Kilbane, Landscape Architect, contract

This staff structure is intended to remain for the next 3 years.

DESIGN WORK ACHIEVED 2001/02

South West Region

Honeymoon Pool Deck – concept layout design

Wellington Discovery Forest Toilets – layout and design advice

King Tree – Site development plan, boardwalk concept and peg out

Chapman Pool Camping Kitchen – layout and design advice

Great North Road – advice on upgrade work

Barrabup Pool Bridge and Toilets – site and layout design

Warren Region (in conjunction with Vicki Winfield)

Perup New Buildings – site layout advice

Lake Muir Toilet –documentation

Cleave Road/Carey Brook Camping Area – site development plan and pegged out

Warren River River Access – concept plans and deck design layouts

Warren River Camping Kitchen – design and documentation

Giblett Day Use and Walk-in Camping – site development plans

Boorara Tree Interpretation Shelter and Site Layout – design and documentation

Big Tree, Hawke block – site development plan and deck layout design

Fernhook Falls – site redevelopment plan and advice

Fernhook Falls Camping and Information/picnic Shelters - documentation

The Knolls and Coalmine – draft master plan

The Channels – concept plan

Mt Clare Day Use Area – site development plan

Valley of the Giants Parking and Picnic Area– draft site concept plan

Circular Pool – site development plan and deck designs

ISSUES

- 1) The first half of the financial year was spent in recruiting new staff (4) and adjusting to the loss of the Unit's leader. Staffing levels were at their lowest for many years, therefore start-up time was significant.
- 2) The second half of the year's main objective was to meet the incredible needs of Regional Services to fit in with construction timeframes to achieve the stated expectation for recreational development. The compressed design and construction timeframe caused very real pressure on Unit and District/Regional staff.
- 3) The majority of projects proceeded with few hiccups and all staff concerned worked well together considering the enormity of the task. Unfortunately, a few projects did not proceed as well as they could have and it would be beneficial for those concerned to have a "wash-up" to ensure procedural mishaps and misunderstandings are ironed out. The development of a departmental recreational development project management system will solve the major issues.
- 4) The number of new recreation project leaders in District's will place a greater burden on experienced PVS Leaders and Recreation and Landscape Unit staff.
- 5) The Recreation and Landscape Unit did not have its own project management system in place (or the time to develop one) to deal with the substantial increase in projects being undertaken. At one stage, there were over 100 projects being managed within the Unit (not all New Parks but all needing to be done by the end of the financial year).
- 6) Also, the lines of responsibilities were not clear - the Unit has always been advisory and is now in the process of moving to "Informed Purchaser" of recreation planning and design. This involves a greater degree of involvement in design decisions made in Regional Services.
- 7) The new recreational development PROJECT MANAGEMENT system and course being facilitated by Wayne Schmidt and Tracy Churchill will proceed this year. This system will build on the Strategic Planning and Forward Estimates Process and provide the framework for recreation development within the Department. Issues such as process, responsibilities, approvals, consultation and contracts will be addressed. Consultation and input from PVS Leaders will be crucial to its success. Training will be made available in the new year for New Parks officers.
- 8) This system, when adopted, should alleviate the majority of project management issues and lack of direction in terms of authority that occurred during the last financial year.
- 9) Priorities for allocating projects to staff within the Unit will continue on the basis of-

- a) Capital works first
- b) Next year's capital works next
- c) Master planning somewhere in between

10) In general terms, the three Landscape Architects will be loosely allocated to the following –

- a) Simon Kilbane – Perth Hills District
- b) Neil Moncrieff – South West Region
- c) Doug Simpson – Warren Region

However, if needed, the officers will undertake planning and design across Regions to meet timeframes and expectations.

PLANNING & DESIGN WORK FOR 2002/2003

Following is a draft list of recreation development planning and design in New Parks for 2002/03. It also includes work to be undertaken by Vicki Winfield in Warren Region, which still needs to be discussed and allocated. As usual, the structures design and documentation (where known) have been made separate projects from the landscape site plans.

We are seeking confirmation that all projects have been identified to date and that none are missing. Please go over the list carefully and let us know if we have missed any.

Name	Region	Budget	Source	Comments
Chuditch Stage 2	Swan	\$140,000	NP Capital	Concepts done
Fred Jacoby Park Master Plan	Swan	\$210,000	NP Capital	
South Ledge	Swan	\$75,000	NP Capital	Toilets, furniture & access
Mt Dale Site Plan	Swan	\$150,000	NP Capital	Incl deck
Mt Dale Lookout Structure	Swan	above	NP Capital	Incl picnic facilities
Mt Observation	Swan	\$50,000	NP Capital	
Helena Rd Picnic Area (Wandoo NP)	Swan	\$25,000	NP Capital	
Christmas Tree Well	Swan	\$15,000	NP Capital	
SW Parks Information & Education Centre	South West	03/04	Planning	Broadscale planning review
Margaret River Master Plan	South West		Planning	P3
Rusden Trails & Footbridges	South West	\$32,000	NP Recurrent	
MR Rotary Park Boardwalk	South West	03/04		
Blackwood NP Master Plan	South West		Planning	P3
Chapman Pool River Access	South West	\$50,000	NP Capital	P2
Sue's Bridge Camping Area	South West	\$20,000	NP Capital	P2 Stage 1?
St John's Brook Master Plan	South West		Planning	
Barrabup Pool Day Use Area	South West	\$60,000	NP Capital	P1 Concepts done - finalise site design
Old Timberline Trail	South West	03/04 & 04/05		P1 Incl campsites, bridges & shelters
Barrabup Pool Camping Area	South West	03/04 & 04/05		
Wellington Forest Master Plan	South West		Planning	
Honeymoon Pool Master Plan	South West		Planning	Partially complete, awaiting ACMC outcome
Honeymoon Pool Day Use	South West	\$30,000	NP Capital	P2 Partially complete
Honeymoon Pool Rivers Edge Path	South West	\$29,000	NP Recurrent	P1
Gelcoat Campsite	South West	\$42,000	NP Recurrent	P2 need site plan
Stoney Brook Campsite	South West	\$11,000	NP Recurrent	P3 Need site plan
Wellington Dam Precinct Master Plan	South West	\$200,000	NP Capital	P1 Concepts need reviewing
Wellington NP Info Shelters	South West	\$40,000	NP Capital	P2 Work with VIS
Yeagerup & Hawke Master Plan	Warren	03/04 & 04/05	Planning	
Black Point & Lake Jasper Master Plan	Warren		Planning	
Perup & Unicup Master Plan	Warren		Planning	
Crystal Springs & East D'Ent Master Plan	Warren		Planning	
Walpole Wilderness MP	Warren		Planning	
Mt Frankland Master Plan	Warren	\$100,000	NP Capital	Incl Caldyanup
Warren River Decks & Campsites	Warren	\$200,000	NP Capital	Stage 3
Hawke Block Walk-in Camps	Warren	03/04 & 04/05		Stage 2?
Cleave Rd_Carey Brook	Warren	\$80,000	NP Capital	Further site design
Boorara Boardwalk & Platform	Warren	\$35,000	NP Capital	
Lake Unicup Day Use Area	Warren	03/04 & 04/05		
Giblett Forest Walk & Day Use	Warren	?		Concepts done
Perup Forest Ecology Centre	Warren	?		Concepts done
Salmon Beach Road	Warren	?		
Coalmine & The Knolls	Warren	\$100,000	NP Capital	Stage 2
Circular Pool Stage 2	Warren	\$100,000	NP Capital	Stage 2
Mt Clare Stage 2	Warren	\$50,000	NP Capital	Awaiting community consultation
Valley of the Giants Picnic Area	Warren	?		Concepts done

On behalf of the staff in our Unit, thank you for your support and cooperation to date and we look forward to another eventful and challenging year.

Regards

Tracy Churchill
Leader, Recreation and Landscape Unit

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29 July 2002

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION PROCESSES FOR FINALISATION OF NEW PARK INDICATIVE BOUNDARIES

Background

The Minister for the Environment and Heritage has given a commitment that community consultation will be undertaken in finalising the indicative boundaries of the 30 new national parks proposed under the Government's 'Protecting our old-growth forests' policy.

Work on the indicative boundaries for the new parks is being progressively undertaken by the Department's Forest Management Branch. To date the Government has announced indicative boundaries for:

- The Walpole Wilderness Area, which comprises four of the new parks.
- The Greater Preston National Park
- The Greater Beedelup National Park
- The Greater Kingston National Park
- The Wellington National Park
- The Boorara Gardner, Jane and Greater Dordagup National Parks.

Any amendments to the new park indicative boundaries as a result of community consultations will need to be limited to those that will have no impact on the sustainable timber yields determined through the Forest Management Plan

Role of advisory committees in finalising indicative boundaries

Advisory committees will be established as part of management planning processes for the new parks. To keep advisory committee numbers at a manageable level a number of parks will be grouped together. At attachment 1 are the advisory committee groupings for the new parks, which have been approved by the Minister.

Attachment 2 shows the likely timeframes for the establishment of each of the new park advisory committees based on the Department's current management planning priorities.

Where Government announcements of new park indicative boundaries correspond with management planning priorities, advisory committees established as part of management planning processes will be the mechanism for undertaking community consultation on the indicative boundaries. For example a community advisory committee has been established to develop a management plan for the Wellington National Park and therefore will also provide advice on finalising the indicative boundaries for the park.

Where Government announcements of new park indicative boundaries do not correspond with management planning priorities, alternative mechanisms for undertaking community consultation on new park indicative boundaries will need to be determined. For example although indicative boundaries have already been announced for the Greater Preston National Park and the Boorara-Gardner, Jane and Greater Dordagup National Parks management planning for these areas is not due to commence until 2003 and 2005 respectively.

The most effective means of achieving this community consultation has not yet been determined. Options include establishing separate community advisory committees to just consider indicative boundaries or advertising indicative boundaries for community comment.

Where an advisory committee established as part of a management planning process is to have a role in finalising indicative boundaries, advertisements calling for expressions of interest for membership on the committee should state that the committee has a role in developing a management plan and in finalising boundaries for the parks.

As part of finalising boundaries the advisory committee may need to identify and consult with other stakeholders and community members that may not be represented on the committees membership.

Walpole Wilderness Area

Processes for undertaking community consultation in finalising the indicative boundaries of the Walpole Wilderness Area (WWA) differ from the other new parks. Given the size of the WWA and the range and number of interests the Government decided to establish a Stakeholder Reference Group to provide advice on the finalisation of indicative boundaries and on the social and economic impacts resulting from establishment of the WWA. The report and recommendations of the WWA Stakeholder Reference Group has been forwarded to the Minister for consideration.

A community advisory committee has been established for the WWA management plan. The advisory committee will not have a role in finalising boundaries for the WWA.

31 July 2002

30 New Proposed National Parks – Community Advisory Committees

	National Park and Advisory Committee Groupings	CALM Region	New, RFA or existing national park	Comments
1	Helena Valley	Swan	RFA	
	Canning	Swan	RFA	
	Pickering Brook	Swan	RFA	
	Mundaring	Swan	RFA	
2	Wandoo	Swan	RFA	
3	Wellington	South West	RFA	
4	Greater Preston	South West	New	An additional advisory committee is not needed as these areas have been incorporated into the planning process for Leeuwin Naturaliste National Park and Parks of the Leeuwin Ridge
	Yelverton	South West	RFA	
	Margaret River	South West	RFA	
	Forest Grove	South West	RFA	
5	Wicher	South West	New	
6	Milyeannup	South West	RFA	
	Hilliger	South West	New	
	Blackwood River	South West	RFA	
	Butler	South West	New	
7	Gloucester	Warren	Existing	
	Warren	Warren	Existing	
	Brockman	Warren	Existing	
	Easter	Warren	New	
	Hawke	Warren	RFA	
	Greater Hawke	Warren	New	
	Greater Beedelup	Warren	New	
8	Greater Kingston	Warren	New	
	Tone Perup	Warren	New	
	Lake Muir	Warren	New	
9	Boorara-Gardner	Warren	New	
	Jane	Warren	New	
	Greater Dordagup	Warren	New	
10	Walpole-Nornalup	Warren	Existing	These areas will be covered by the Walpole Wilderness Area Community Advisory Committee
	Shannon	Warren	Existing	
	Mt Frankland	Warren	Existing	
	Mt Roe	Warren	New	
	Mt Lindesay	Warren	New	
	Unnamed North	Warren	New	
	Unnamed South	Warren	New	
	Boyndaminup	Warren	New	

	Determine Planning Team	Call for EOI for Advisory Committee.	Print Draft Plan and notify Minister	Ministerial release of the final plan	Officer responsible
Management Plan	Expected/Actual Completion Date				
Carnac Island Nature Reserve		February 2002	December 2001 (released)	January 2003	Terese Dimascia
Yanchep and Neerabup National Parks and Neerabup Nature Reserve	1999	Existing Advisory Committee	March 2003	March 2004	Terese Dimascia
Parry Lagoons and Ord River NRs	February 2003	April 2003	February 2004	February 2005	Terese Dimascia
Turquoise Coast Island Nature Reserves		N/A	December 2001 (released)	April 2003	Laurina Bullen
Dampier Archipelago Island Nature Reserves & 5(g) reserves	February 2002	TBD	February 2003	January 2004	Laurina Bullen
Goongarrie NP and Adjacent Areas	April 2003	June 2003	June 2004	June 2005	Laurina Bullen
Cape Range National Park	September 2002	TBD – could be co-opted - October?	September 2003	September 2004	Aberline Nix
Shannon and D'Entrecasteaux National Parks	1998	N/A	November 2002	November 2003	Aberline Nix
Kennedy Ranges or Mt Augustus NPs	November 2003	January 2004	February 2005	February 2006	Aberline Nix
St John's Brook Conservation Park	May 2002	No Advisory Committee	December 2002	January 2004	Denam Bennetts
Wellington National Park	April 2002	Advisory Committee co-opted	January 2003	March 2004	Denam Bennetts
Greater Preston	February 2003	April 2003	April 2004	April 2005	Denam Bennetts
Milyeannup, Hilliger, Blackwood, Butler and 'Frogland'	March 2004	May 2004	May 2005	May 2006	Denam Bennetts
Whicher	April 2005	June 2005	June 2006	June 2007	Denam Bennetts

	Determine Planning Team	Call for EOI for Advisory Committee.	Print Draft Plan and notify Minister	Ministerial release of the final plan	Officer responsible
Management Plan	Expected/Actual Completion Date				
Forrestdale Lake Nature Reserve	<i>November 2001</i>	<i>February 2002</i>	December 2002	November 2003	Kath Muir
Thomsons Lake Nature Reserve	<i>November 2001</i>	<i>Existing Advisory Committee</i>	December 2002	November 2003	Kath Muir
Lane Poole Reserve	August 2002	September 2002	September 2003	September 2004	Kath Muir
Canning, Mundaring, Pickering Brook, Helena Valley, Greenmount	December 2003	February 2004	January 2004	January 2005	Kath Muir
Wandoo National Park	September 2004	November 2004	November 2005	November 2006	Kath Muir
Kalbarri National Park		<i>N/A</i>	December 2002	August 2003	Burke Stephens
Parks of the Leewin-Naturaliste Ridge & Scott National Park	<i>January 2001</i>	<i>Existing Advisory Committee</i>	March 2003	September 2003	Burke Stephens
Millstream-Chichester National Park	1998	<i>No Advisory Committee</i>	December 2002	January 2004	Clare Anthony
Walpole Wilderness	<i>May 2002</i>	<i>December 2001</i>	July 2003	January 2005	Paul Roberts/ Clare Anthony
Perup/Lake Muir/Unicup Nature Reserves & Kingston	September 2002	November 2002	October 2004	October 2005	Clare Anthony
Pemberton Parks	July 2003	August 2003	August 2004	August 2006	Paul Roberts
Jane, Greater Dordagup and Boorarra – Gardner	January 2005	March 2005	March 2006	March 2007	Paul Roberts
Kimberley Regional Plan		<i>No Advisory Committee</i>	December 2002	December 2003	Daryl Moncrieff

Joint Management and Aboriginal Training and Employment

Additional funding of \$0.53M in 2002/03 has been allocated to enable the commencement of joint management of national parks and the implementation of indigenous training and employment programs.

Joint Management

The Department is implementing the Government's policy for the joint management of national parks and reserves in accordance with negotiated native title agreements and indigenous affairs policy commitments. Memoranda of Understanding have been reached with the various State Representative Bodies for native title claims to enable a co-operative and systematic approach to joint management and the resolution of native title claims in various parts of the state e.g. Purnululu National Park, Mitchell Plateau.

Joint management initiatives will be undertaken at Purnululu, Mitchell, King Leopold, Windjana, Geike Gorge, Millstream, Karijini, Cape Range and Ningaloo, Kalbarri, Rowles Lagoon, and Goldfields-Woodland national parks through the establishment and administration of Park Councils or other approved joint management entities.

An Indigenous Liaison Officer is being appointed for the South West to be based in Manjimup and assist Regions and Districts in their liaison with indigenous people and the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Department and the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council.

Training and Employment

The Department has prepared a ten year affirmative action program to achieve a target of 10% FTE's being indigenous persons. A dedicated training officer will be appointed in the Department to coordinate the program and a field officer (Alex Rogers) will be deployed on an 'as needed basis' to assist with on ground liaison, selection and training of trainees. The Indigenous Cultural Heritage Unit will assist with the cross-cultural training requirements for the organization and, among other things, provide support for Regions and Districts in achieving this target.

Approximately twenty indigenous trainees per annum will be provided with nationally accredited training over three years to enable them to join the Department. The Commonwealth Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business has committed \$1.2M to the core Mentored Aboriginal Training Employment Scheme (MATES) component of this program over the next five years. Additional funds will be sought through Community Development and Employment Programs and other sources. The MATES program is being rolled out by CALMpeople Services on a calendar year. Six trainees are being supported this year and six more trainees will be supported next year, i.e. a total of 12 in 2003.

Financial Forecasts

It is expected that the number and costs of joint management of parks and reserves will increase markedly over the coming years with the resolution of native title claims over conservation lands. Projected training costs commence at \$300,000 pa and rise to \$1.2M p.a. in 2004/05 with an ongoing commitment at that level. Joint management initiatives and park councils will cost \$230,000 in 2002/03 and may rise to \$1.5M by 2004/05. Employment outcomes will be achieved through applying the provisions of the Equal Opportunity and Employment Act to enable indigenous employment target levels to be achieved within the Departments financial resources.

The Department will submit requests for future budget allocations that meet the identified government policy priority. It is anticipated that the department will require approximately \$4M of additional recurrent funding to effectively implement this Government policy.

	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06 and out years
Training	\$300,000	\$700,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
Park Councils and Joint Management	\$230,000	\$800,000	\$1,500,000	\$2,800,000
Total	\$530,000	\$1,500,000	\$2,700,000	\$4,000,000

Additional references:

Working paper about ownership, administration and joint management of conservation lands in WA.
Memorandum of Understanding between the Department and the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council.

A WORKING PAPER ABOUT

OWNERSHIP, ADMINISTRATION AND JOINT MANAGEMENT OF CONSERVATION LANDS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

INTRODUCTION

The involvement of Aboriginal people in the management of conservation reserves, especially national parks, in Western Australia (WA) has come to the fore a number of times during the last 15 years, and especially since native title was recognised by the High Court of Australia in 1992.

Several efforts have been made by previous Governments and the Department of Conservation and Land Management (the Department) to put in place suitable joint management arrangements to allow both the obligations of Aboriginal native title claimants/holders (traditional owners) of land to be expressed and the objectives of conservation and recreation by the public to be met, but most of these have not been satisfactorily concluded. This has largely been because of concerns by Aboriginal people that their aspirations were not being adequately met.

The Gallop Labor Government wishes to put in place joint management mechanisms that will allow for these aspirations and for the objectives of conservation reserves to be met consistent with its election commitments. This working paper explores these issues and proposes some policy options.

The recognition of native title means that Government will need to change the way it thinks of conservation reserves. Government will be seeking to put in place a framework that ensures the recognition of Aboriginal aspirations and the management of conservation objectives fit together for the benefit of all Western Australians.

BACKGROUND

The deprivation of indigenous people throughout the world has received increasing attention in the more developed countries, notably during the last 30 years. One aspect of difficulty for indigenous people has been their inability to gain secure access to, and reasonable authority over, their traditional lands. In Australia there have been a number of manifestations of this struggle since the late 1960s, most commonly in locations remote from cities and larger towns. Inevitably some of the lands which were of great interest to traditional Aboriginal people had already been made national parks or other types of conservation reserves, or were earmarked to become such.

Possibly the greatest attention has focussed on Kakadu and Uluru-Kata Tjuta national parks in the Northern Territory (NT), where joint management has been in place for about 20 years; but there have also been less well known examples in the NT and other States where joint management has been achieved. Several issues prevail in WA, and the Government believes that it is essential to have these resolved:

- First, from the conservation perspective, there are many recommendations for the creation of conservation reserves that have not been implemented.

Some of these, for example most of the Environmental Protection Authority's (EPA) recommendations for conservation reserves in the Kimberley Region, System 7, have been outstanding since 1980. Although previous State Governments have accepted the EPA's recommendations, Departmental efforts to create the reserves have foundered as much on the lack of clear policy for sharing of management with the traditional owners as on difficulties associated with issues such as exploration and mining interests. Also, there are some pastoral leases that were purchased for the purpose of conservation, but which have not yet been reserved. Delays in converting these lands into parks and reserves may lead to some degradation of conservation values from pests, fire and uncontrolled visitor activities.

- Second, as noted above, there has been a strong feeling amongst many Aboriginal people that their aspirations to be adequately and fairly involved in park and reserve management have been frustrated. This is borne out of a failure by a succession of Governments to recognise that under traditional law and custom Aboriginal people inherit, exercise, and bequeath customary responsibilities to manage their traditional country. Moreover there are no specific provisions contained in the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (CALM Act) pertaining to the protection of Aboriginal heritage or joint management of parks and reserves by traditional owners.
- Third, native title claims have already been successful in WA, and there will be others covering existing or proposed conservation reserves or parts of them.

It is essential that WA has suitable policies in place to cope with this outcome. Although a welcome agreement for a form of joint management has been achieved between the Department and the traditional owners in one instance, Karijini National Park, the Government wishes to put in place a policy framework to enable joint management to take place wherever native title is established.

- Fourth, the resolution of some native title claims is being unnecessarily delayed because there is no clear policy about how native title should be treated in relation to existing or proposed conservation reserves.

In brief, the time has come to put in place a system that will deliver a world class conservation reserve system that also delivers social justice for traditional Aboriginal owners.

OBJECTIVES FOR DISCUSSION

The Government would like discussion in the community on options for joint management, also known as co-management, of conservation reserves against a background of the following objectives:

- Western Australia should have a comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) system of conservation reserves that forms an integral part of Australia's protected area system of national parks and reserves.
- The CAR system of parks and reserves is obliged under national and international agreements to meet the IUCN (the World Conservation Union) 1994 definitions of protected areas (see Box 1).
- Each conservation reserve must be managed in a way which allows the objectives for conservation and recreation (as far as appropriate) to be met. This will entail conformity to the international standards to which Australia has subscribed for many years. If the area is called national park, for example, it must be capable of being managed according to IUCN Category II.
- Traditional owners of a reserve(s), or part reserve, must be properly and adequately represented on the management body and in the management planning, thereby allowing them to exercise their customary responsibilities to manage their traditional country.
- The wider community must be able to participate in the management planning of each reserve.
- There should be a consistent state-wide system, expressed in legislation, so that as conservation reserves are nominated for joint management all parties understand the mechanisms which will be put in place.
- The CALM Act should reflect the aspirations of Aboriginal people to participate in conservation reserve management, and recognise the Aboriginal heritage of the state. The CALM Act should be amended to include provisions for:
 - the protection and preservation of Aboriginal heritage
 - establishing Park Councils/Boards of Management comprising a majority of traditional owners.
 - title to parks and reserves to be held by Aboriginal corporate bodies representing traditional owners..
- Native title should not be extinguished through the creation of new conservation reserves.

- Government to expedite the creation of new conservation reserves by agreement with the traditional owners and Native Title Representative Bodies (NTRB's).
- Joint management should be implemented where native title is recognised through a consent determination or otherwise, by the courts.
- The Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Minister) should retain responsibility for final decision making on lands managed under the CALM Act on behalf of all Western Australians.
- There must be proper mechanisms for the resolution of disagreement between members of the management body. In practice this would mean the use of a number of steps, including the use of independent arbitrators, before finally calling on the Minister to decide on an issue.

CREATION OF NEW CONSERVATION RESERVES

The Government creates terrestrial conservation reserves under the provisions of the *Land Administration Act 1997* and vests those lands in the Conservation Commission for management by the Department. Marine conservation reserves are created under the provisions of the CALM Act and vested in the Marine Parks and Reserves Authority for management by the Department.

The Government favours broad consultation with Aboriginal people before creating reserves. Accordingly the Department will extend its consultation to include the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) and the Department of Indigenous Affairs in addition to the traditional owners, their legal representatives and their NTRB's.

The Government is proposing two options to expedite the creation of conservation reserves or protected areas to be managed under the provisions of the CALM Act 1984 (see diagram 1).

1. **New reserves (protected areas) are to be created through administrative procedures outlined in Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUA) between the Government and the native title claimants/holders and their NTRB's.**

The Department of Land Administration and the Department of Conservation and Land Management, in conjunction with the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and the Crown Solicitor's Office, will develop ILUA's with the native title claimants/holders and their NTRB's under the provisions of the Native Title Act to enable the creation of conservation reserves.

ILUA's may be prepared either, for each claim or determination area, or, for each NTRB area. The ILUA's will specify the extent and nature of consultation that will be required depending on the tenure history of the land and the proposed use for which the land may be managed.

The non-extinguishment principle will apply to the act of creating a reserve. For example the conversion of State forest to national park will not extinguish the native

title rights and interests of the claimants. Similarly the creation of a marine park will not extinguish native title rights and interests.

ILUA's may consider non-native title outcomes such as, amongst other things, indigenous employment and training obligations, management agreements, revenue sharing, and opportunities for sharing of economic benefits derived from commercial opportunities associated with having a park or reserve.

The creation of a national park may, however, provide some limitations on the exercise of native title rights, for example, rights to hunt and camp where that activity is inconsistent with the joint management plan approved by the traditional owners.

2. Where an ILUA does not apply new reserves may be created under provisions of the Land Administration Act and the CALM Act with the native title claimants being consulted about the act of reservation.

In the event that an ILUA cannot be successfully negotiated, and there is a policy commitment to creating a park or reserve, or an overwhelming importance and urgency for creating a park or reserve to protect biodiversity values, the Government may create reserves through current administrative procedures. A reserve would only be created after the Department has consulted with ATSIC, the Department of Indigenous Affairs, native title claimants and the relevant NTRB.

Such circumstances might arise, for example, where the necessity to protect the habitat of a particular species or group of species that are threatened with extinction requires urgent action. In the event that a negotiated agreement could not be reached with the native title claimants the Government may compulsorily acquire the native title interests over the land and be liable for compensation.

Similarly, where land to be reserved is currently, or was at some stage previously, freehold or pastoral lease land purchased or otherwise obtained by the Department it will consult the native title claimants and NTRB's about the creation of new reserves. In the event that an ILUA to enable the creation of a reserve cannot be successfully negotiated the Government may initiate proceedings to create those reserves.

OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF CONSERVATION RESERVES

The Government is proposing the following options for ownership and management of existing and future conservation reserves (see diagram 2).

1. Ownership (vesting of Crown lands) to continue to be held by the Conservation Commission of Western Australia or the Marine Parks and Reserves Authority with planning and management arrangements to be amended to enable Aboriginal people to practice their traditions and customs, and manage Aboriginal heritage sites in accordance with state law.

This arrangement might apply where there has been no substantial Aboriginal interest expressed, where native title might have been extinguished (e.g Matilda Bay Reserve and Yellagonga Regional Park, both of which were previously freehold land) or where the Government determines that the rights and interests of the broader

community overwhelmingly prevail over the native title rights of any native title claimants/holders.

In this situation the planning and day-to-day management of conservation reserves would continue to be carried out by the Department of Conservation and Land Management. The Department would consult with the native title claimants/holders and other interested Aboriginal persons about public works that may affect Aboriginal heritage as defined under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* (AHA) and seek appropriate approvals under the AHA for works that may affect heritage values.

Traditional owners would have the right to practice their culture and protect heritage sites.

2. **Where native title has been recognised, either through negotiation or determination by the Federal Court, the ownership of new or existing conservation reserves would be held by the native title holder's Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC). The PBC would represent all the native titleholders of a determination area. A vesting order or conditional freehold title* would be granted on condition that the area is leased back to the Executive Director of the Department of Conservation and Land Management for the purpose of national park or other conservation reserve.**

It is proposed that this could be done in the following way:

- A bill would be introduced into Parliament proposing the cancellation of the vesting of a reserve in the Conservation Commission and either, the creation and granting of a conditional freehold title to the appropriate PBC, or a management order vesting the land with the appropriate PBC.
- If approved by Parliament, the conditional freehold title/vesting order would be issued to the PBC subject to it being leased to the Executive Director of the Department for the purpose(s) of conservation, Aboriginal heritage and/or recreation.
- The term of the lease and the lease fee payable by the Executive Director would be negotiated on a case by case basis. It is envisaged, however, that national parks and reserves should be protected for all time and that lease fees may be expressed by way of employment and training obligations.
- The lease will be subject to periodic reviews. The period between reviews will be agreed between the parties prior to the execution of the lease.
- Each reserve or group of reserves would be administered by a Board of Management/Park Council, comprising representatives of the PBC and the Department. The Board/Council would be chaired by a nominee of the PBC who is approved by the Minister. The PBC will also have the majority of members on the Board/Council.
- The Board/Council would have the functions of preparing management plans for the reserves and setting policy and management direction within the scope of the management plan.
- Decisions of the Board/Council would be by consensus, but where agreement could not be reached, or where a decision has not been made, there would be provision for mediation and, where necessary, referral to the Minister for determination.

- The agency responsible for implementing the decisions of the Board/Council is the Department.
- The Board/Council through the agency of the Department should prepare a draft management plan as soon as possible after the title is granted and the lease is executed. The draft management plan should be referred to the Conservation Commission or the Marine Parks and Reserves Authority for advice before its release to the public. Where a difference of opinion exists between the Board/Council and the Conservation Commission, there should be the provision for mediation and, where necessary, referral to the Minister for a decision.
- Final management plans should be produced by the Board/Council for approval by the Minister in consultation with the Conservation Commission or the Marine Parks and Reserves Authority. In submitting the final management plan the Board/Council should also publish a summary of public submissions on the draft management plan.
- The Department and the native titleholders would manage the parks/reserves in accordance with the provisions of the CALM Act and be required to establish joint management performance indicators** that could be regularly audited by the Conservation Commission.
- Government funding for the Board/Council would be provided through the Department's annual expenditure appropriation approved by the Parliament.

There may be circumstances where:

- conservation reserves may cover two or more native title determination areas; or
- native title may exist over only part of a park or reserve; or
- Aboriginal people with strong interests in a park are not native titleholders; or
- several parks and reserves are contained within a native title determination area; or
- native title is determined for a part of a reserve under one claim but not determined for another part of the reserve that comes within another claim.

In these circumstances the Government will progress native title negotiations on a case by case basis according to overarching principles outlined earlier in this paper and in a manner consistent with broader Government policy.

* conditional freehold means that a Body Corporate can hold land in perpetuity but does not have the right to sell it. Conditions may be attached to the title that protect the rights and interests of third parties to access areas under legislation other than the CALM Act e.g. State Agreements Acts, Mining Act, Rights in Water and Irrigation Act.

** joint management performance indicators may include training and employment targets, such as the percentage of Aboriginal park staff.

3. **Where there are significant Aboriginal interests in a conservation reserve, but where native title has not been recognised, the Minister may approve arrangements for joint management, through a Board of Management/Park Council comprising representatives of an Aboriginal Body Corporate and the Department of Conservation and Land Management.**

- The Minister may appoint the Board/Council, comprising representatives of the Body Corporate and the Department, with numbers of representatives and the chair to be determined by the Minister.
- Appointment and membership of the Board/Council would be through notice published in the Government Gazette.
- The title (vesting order) to the reserve would remain with the Conservation Commission or the Marine Parks and Reserves Authority.
- The functions of the Board/Council would be to prepare management plans through the agency of the Department and set policy and management direction within the scope of the management plan; but with the proviso that management plans would be approved by the Minister in consultation with the Conservation Commission or Marine Parks and Reserves Authority, since the land remains vested with that body.
- Decisions of the Board/Council would be by consensus, but where agreement could not be reached, or where a decision has not been made, there would be provision for mediation and, where necessary, referral to the Minister for determination.
- The agency responsible for implementing the decisions of the Board/Council is the Department
- Government funding for the Board/Council would be provided through the Department's annual expenditure appropriation approved by the Parliament.

IUCN Guidelines for Protected Area Management Categories

Category Ia

STRICT NATURE RESERVE: PROTECTED AREA MANAGED MAINLY FOR SCIENCE

Area of land and/or sea possessing some outstanding or representative ecosystems, geological or physiological features and/or species, available primarily for scientific research and/or environmental monitoring.

Category Ib

WILDERNESS AREA: PROTECTED AREA MANAGED MAINLY FOR WILDERNESS PROTECTION

Large area of unmodified or slightly modified land and/or sea, retaining its natural character and influence, without permanent or significant habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural condition.

Category II

NATIONAL PARK: PROTECTED AREA MANAGED MAINLY FOR ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Natural area of land and/or sea, designated to (a) protect the ecological integrity of one or more ecosystems for this and future generations, (b) exclude exploitation or occupation inimical to the purposes of designation of the area and (c) provide a foundation for spiritual, scientific, educational, recreational and visitor opportunities, all of which must be environmentally and culturally compatible.

Category III

NATURAL MONUMENT: PROTECTED AREA MANAGED FOR CONSERVATION OF SPECIFIC NATURAL FEATURES

Area containing one or more specific natural or natural/cultural feature which is of outstanding value because of its inherent rarity, representative or aesthetic qualities or cultural significance.

Category IV

HABITAT/SPECIES MANAGEMENT AREA: PROTECTED AREA MANAGED MAINLY FOR CONSERVATION THROUGH MANAGEMENT INTERVENTION

Area of land and/or sea subject to active intervention for management purposes so as to ensure the maintenance of habitats and/or to meet the requirements of specific species.

Category V

PROTECTED LANDSCAPE/SEASCAPE: PROTECTED AREAS MANAGED MAINLY FOR LANDSCAPE/SEASCAPE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Area of land, with coast and seas as appropriate, where the interaction of people and nature over time has produced an area of distinct character with significant aesthetic, cultural and/or ecological value, and often with high biological diversity. Safeguarding the integrity of this traditional interaction is vital to the protection, maintenance and evolution of such an area.

Category VI

MANAGED RESOURCE PROTECTED AREAS: PROTECTED AREA MANAGED MAINLY FOR THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS

Area containing predominantly unmodified natural systems, managed to ensure long-term protection and maintenance of biological diversity, while providing at the same time a sustainable flow of natural products and services to meet community needs.

The IUCN guidelines were developed internationally to communicate information relating to protected areas, and also as a means of assessing the status of the global network of protected areas. The IUCN Guidelines for Protected Area Management Categories provide international standards for collection, handling and dissemination of data on protected areas.

IUCN – International Union for the Conservation of Nature, Gland, Switzerland.

Diagram 2
FLOWCHART FOR RESOLUTION OF OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF CONSERVATION RESERVES IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

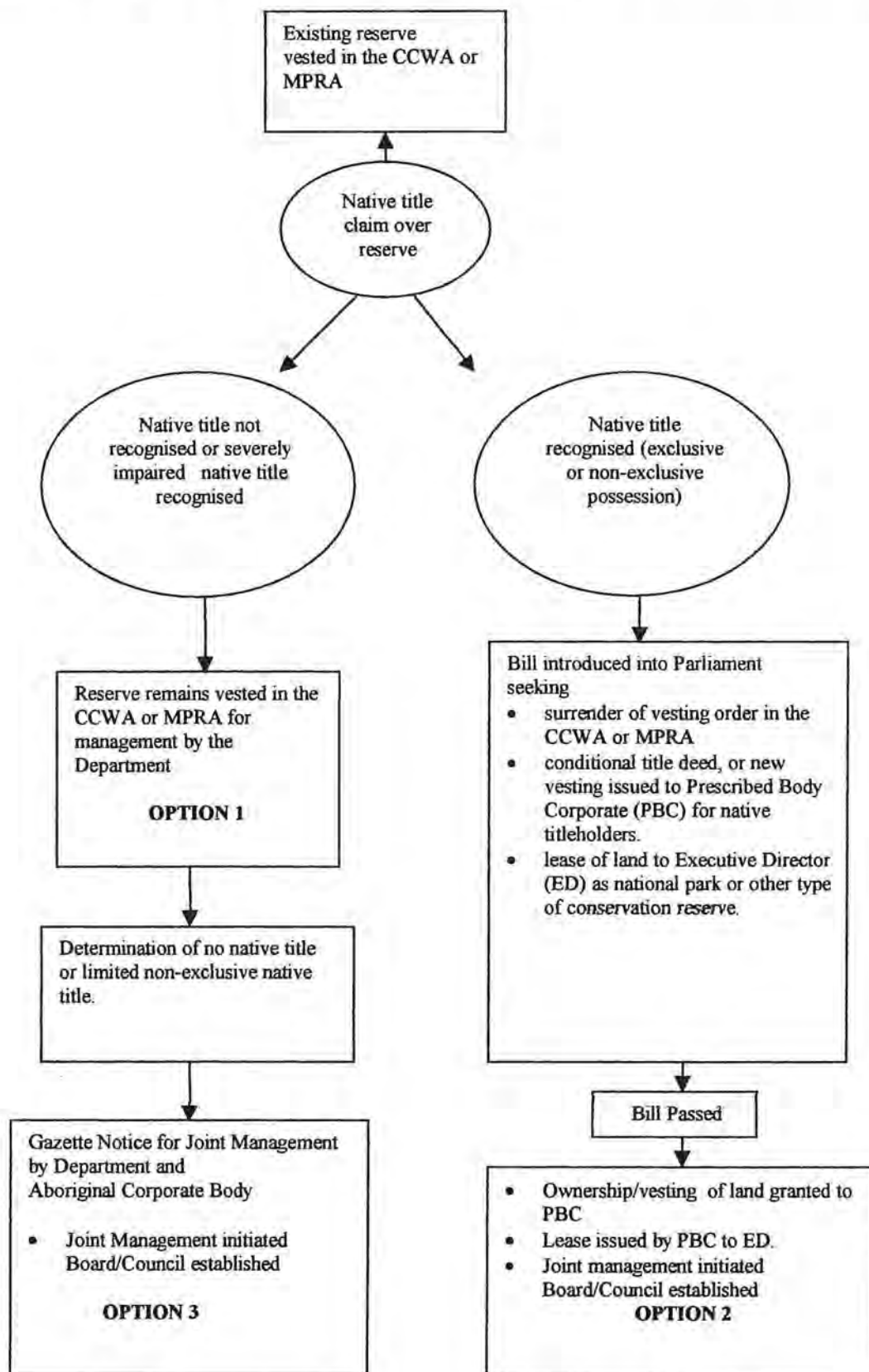
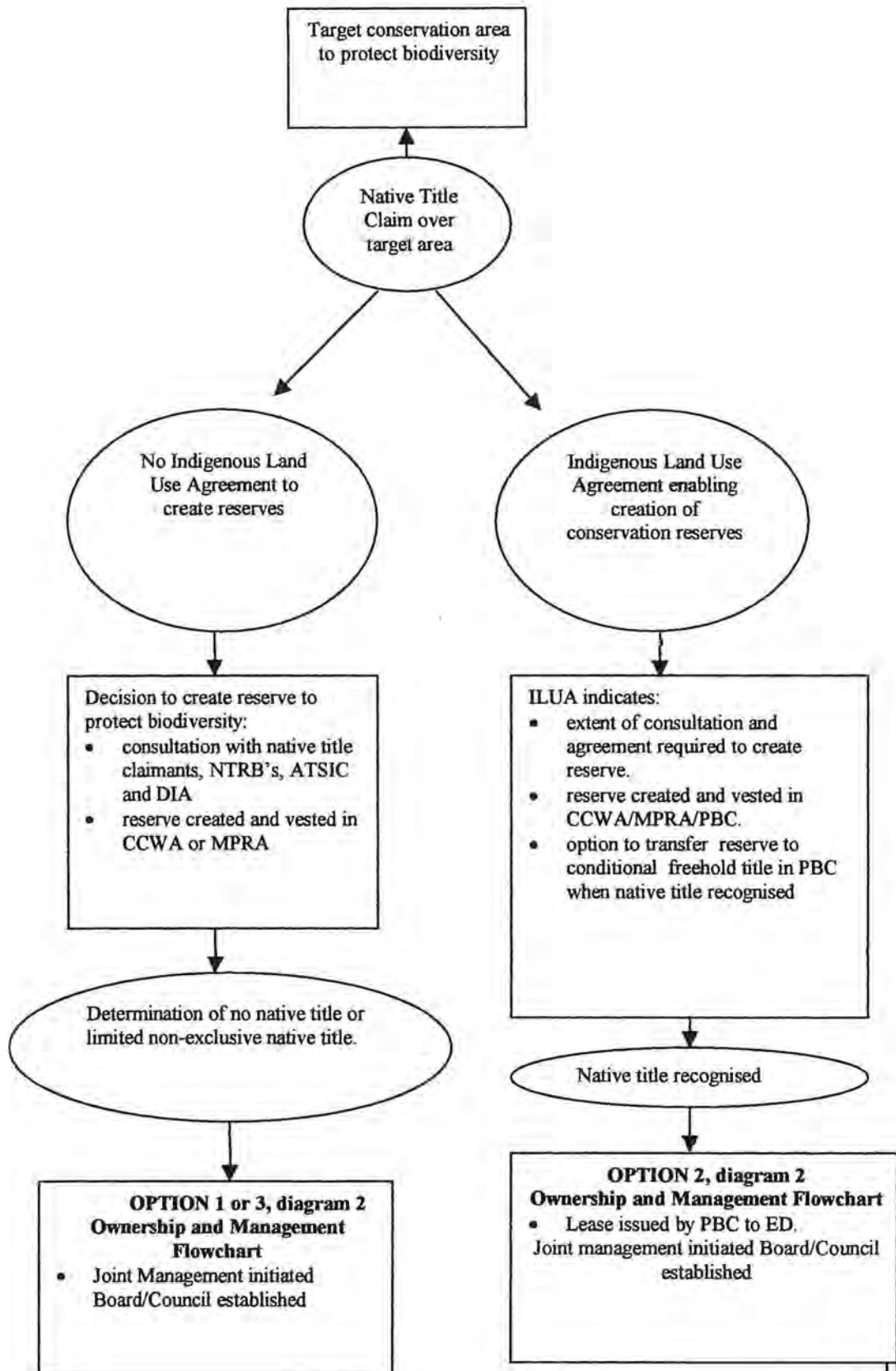


Diagram 1
FLOWCHART FOR CREATING NEW CONSERVATION RESERVES IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA



JOINT MANAGEMENT – WHAT IS PROPOSED?

Two tenets of joint management that will be progressively applied by the Government are:

1. Consultation and joint decision making

The creation of Boards of Management/Park Councils will be the single most significant change to management of the State's conservation reserves ever undertaken by any Government.

The Boards/Councils will approve management plans, approve works programs and make decisions about management that are consistent with management regulations and plans. They will monitor the implementation of the decisions by the Department of Conservation and Land Management and traditional owners. Board/Council decisions would be consistent with the purpose of the reserve and the CALM Act.

Boards/Councils will be provided with Executive support through the Department, which may, by agreement with the Board/Council, contract the provision of those services to an appropriate Aboriginal person or organisation.

2. Employment and economic development

The Government will implement employment and economic development strategies with the traditional owners and Commonwealth agencies such as ATSIC. A mix of organisations will play a role in capacity building programs that aim to achieve long term, sustainable employment and management outcomes.

In the medium to long term, Aboriginal people should comprise the majority of employees in parks and reserves subject to favourable native title determination.

There is both a need and a desire on behalf of the Government to build internal capacity to enable joint management and meaningful employment and training of Aboriginal people in conservation and land management. Aboriginal people are the custodians of much of our knowledge about the natural environment, many live in remote locations that are costly to service and they have the ability to bring additional resources into conservation land management, e.g. through the targeted application of community development and employment programs.

The Government is also concerned that past policies have failed to engender an indigenous workforce profile that is fully reflective of the community the Government serves or the regional communities in which the Department of Conservation and Land Management operates. Aboriginal people represent the key group that the Government is seeking to target for employment as the initial component of a new broad corporate employment diversity strategy for the Department.

CAPACITY BUILDING AND ABORIGINAL EMPLOYMENT IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT

There is a legitimate expectation from Aboriginal people and the broader community that Aboriginal people be strongly represented in conservation and land management employment. The Government recognises the unique role and expertise that Aboriginal people can play as both 'traditional owners' with a cultural responsibility to care for country, and as managers of the conservation lands and waters for the State.

In order to achieve a just and equitable Aboriginal employment outcome on conservation lands, the Government proposes, through the Department of Conservation and Land Management, to initiate a multi-faceted employment and training program in conjunction with non-Government training providers and land management organisations. This initiative contributes toward the Government's recently released *Equity and Diversity Plan for the Public Sector Workforce 2001-2005*.

CURRENT ABORIGINAL EMPLOYMENT PROFILE

The Department of Conservation and Land Management directly employs 24 full time equivalent indigenous persons. An equivalent number of indigenous people have been employed through alternate arrangements with Aboriginal corporations as a result of initiatives to provide training and develop enterprises, for example the Geikie Gorge tourist boat tour. Aboriginal employees are predominantly located in regional field based positions.

The last major conservation employment program initiatives undertaken by Government with Aboriginal people were conducted in the late 1980's. Several Aboriginal employees remain in Departmental employment today as a direct result of undertaking the program. However, it is recognised that without an active targeted long-term strategy it will be impossible to significantly improve the Aboriginal employment demographic of the Department.

TEN YEAR MENTORED ABORIGINAL TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SCHEME

The progressive resolution of native title claims will inevitably lead to an increased involvement of indigenous people in conservation land management as Governments commit to native title and non-native title outcomes. The Department as a major regional employer for the Government, will be required to implement Government approved negotiated outcomes in the short and long term. However, unless the Department initiates a systematic Aboriginal employment action plan it will be unprepared, ill-equipped and vulnerable to claims of complacency and intransigence in relation to reconciliation of Aboriginal interests and aspirations to be involved in the management and protection of their traditional lands.

The Department has reviewed its funding and staffing allocations in recognition of current budgetary constraints and identified strategies that will commence the delivery of meaningful training and employment opportunities for indigenous people in conservation land management.

The Department proposes to implement three key strategies for training of indigenous people to meet minimum entry level qualification requirements. Strategy one applies to remote locations where trainees will be co-located with skilled mentors for the duration of their training, e.g. Mitchell River National Park, Purnululu National Park. Strategy two will be

applied in urban settings where trainees will be able to undertake formal group traineeships through Aboriginal corporations, e.g. Albany, Kalgoorlie. Strategy three relates to the need to generate opportunities for Aboriginal people in professional areas within the Department and to provide for future management recruitment.

Each recruit who enters under strategy one or two will undertake mentored training and employment for up to 3 years to enable appointment to a range of occupations, including:

- National Park Ranger
- Park Maintenance worker
- Field Officer
- Wildlife Officer
- Forest Officer
- Aboriginal Heritage Officer

MENTORED TRAINING

Strategy one - Remote location training

Trainees will be located at various sites throughout WA and they will be co-located with specially trained and skilled mentors for the duration of their training period. Training will be delivered and monitored by the Department's professional training staff (the Department has Registered Training Organisation (RTO) Status and over 60 category 2 qualified workplace assessors), supplemented by access to external RTO's which specialise in relevant curricula (e.g. park ranger training).

The Department proposes to have an intake of 6 indigenous trainees per annum over 6 years to provide up to 36 fully qualified indigenous field officers in remote locations within 9 years. The Government will fund the program with the assistance of the Commonwealth Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.

Strategy two – Urban and near urban location training

The Department will enter into agreements with registered Aboriginal training organisations and the Department of Training to arrange for training services to indigenous people seeking employment opportunities in conservation and land management, including positions such as national park rangers and other Departmental field officers. The Department recognises the benefits of partnering with Aboriginal training organisations and will commit funding support for an annual intake of up to 12 indigenous trainees for five years throughout the State. The program will aim to provide up to 60 fully qualified indigenous field officers within 8 years.

The Department's professional training staff will monitor and progressively review the programs to ensure that trainees are provided with adequate and effective mentoring and the opportunity to participate throughout the program in hands-on conservation and land management work. It is envisaged that the program may be expanded to provide integrated training and employment programs with other agencies such as the Department of Agriculture, indigenous owned farm and pastoral companies, mineral resource companies and Local Government Authorities.

Strategy three – Scholarships/Traineeships

The Department will, in conjunction with the private sector and charitable foundations, establish a scholarship/traineeship program for tertiary training for young Aboriginal people wishing to pursue tertiary studies in a field associated with conservation and land management. It is envisaged that at least three scholarships/traineeships per annum will be offered with work experience opportunities factored into semester breaks. The scholarship/traineeship program will run for a minimum seven years producing up to fifteen tertiary trained indigenous people for employment in the Department. Employment outcomes in other State Government agencies, local government, indigenous organisations or private sector organisations would also be an acceptable result.

COSTS ESTIMATE

The training component will cost \$10 million over ten years. Up to \$2 million may be available from Commonwealth sources to subsidise the program. Additional external funds of up to \$2 million may be available from the private sector and charitable sector to augment the Government expenditure.

The deployment component will cost \$6 million over 10 years. These expenses include the additional costs of accommodation, travel, uniforms, vehicles, tools and equipment, consumables associated with full time, part time and seasonal employment of trainees around the state.

ABORIGINAL EMPLOYMENT OUTCOME TARGET

The Department will commit to a ten-year program to raise the number of directly employed Aboriginal people to a target range of 10-15% total of its full time equivalent workforce (FTE's). This commitment is made in recognition of the facts that:

- indigenous people comprise 6.8% of the population residing outside the Perth metropolitan area,
- the Department is the major land management employer in the State,
- under the *Native Title Act 1993* indigenous people have claims to a legal interest in almost all the land managed by the Department,
- indigenous people have cultural responsibilities to care for country, and
- the Government's election commitment was to implement joint management strategies for conservation reserves with indigenous people and to provide them with employment and training opportunities.

The Department will apply an affirmative action program to achieve a target of 50 Aboriginal employees/trainees (FTE's) by December 2004 rising to a minimum of 100 additional Aboriginal employees (FTE's) within ten years.

10 Year action plan for Aboriginal employment targets

Year	Target range 10%-15% FTE's
2002	36-54
2003	45-68
2004	54-82
2005	63-95
2006	72-108
2007	81-121
2008	90-135
2009	99-150
2010	108-162
2011	117-175

INTEGRATING DEPARTMENTAL OUTCOMES WITH ABORIGINAL RECONCILIATION AND THE RESOLUTION OF NATIVE TITLE CLAIMS

The Government considers that there are five principal strategies for reconciliation with Aboriginal people on conservation lands in Western Australia. These are:

- the Mentored Aboriginal Training and Employment Scheme,
- Park Councils/Boards of Management to enable effective and meaningful input into decision making over Department lands,
- protection of Aboriginal heritage as a land management function of the Department,
- the amendment of the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* and the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* to accommodate Aboriginal values and native title outcomes, and
- recognition of native title rights and interests where they are determined through negotiation or legal proceedings under the provisions of *the Native Title Act 1993*.

The successful implementation of these strategies will depend largely on the level of resourcing and the degree of support and involvement of indigenous organisations. It is, however, unquestionably better to attempt to set achievable, measurable and justifiable indigenous employment targets that provide a framework within which non-native title training and employment outcomes may be negotiated through Indigenous Land Use Agreements.

Vals Notes for New Parks meet

Three areas to improve on.

- order
- quality information and
- accuracy.

How are we going to do this?

Through Regional Monthly reports

- Improve accountability and transparency.
- Provide a better local understanding of costs
- Identify emerging problems (underspent or overspent) and to ensure any required corrective action is undertaken before the next reporting phase.
- Reflect actual expenditure that can be used for budget projections.
- Provide information for issues affecting delivery including seasonal fluctuations, work in progress, project milestones, supply constraints, re-prioritisation and operational changes.
- Provide a system for comparing performance with my reports.
- Provide information for cost analysis or performance measurements
- Eliminates the waste of valuable resources (my time).

Monthly Local meetings between Leaders and Regional/District Finance & Admin staff

- Involves staff whom you rely on for financial advice, ideas and support.
- Provides the opportunity for all responsible staff to be informed and to raise concerns.
- Raise local issues relating to impacts on budgets
- Provide you with a better understanding of how they see the big picture
- Eliminates errors occurring through misunderstanding
- Reduces uncertainty and promotes clarity
- Eliminate the waste of valuable resources (my time)

When

Arrange locally

Combined meeting when we visit

Main areas of concern now

- Project number – separation of project number to local New Park expenses
- Job specific
- Expenditure adjustments must go hand in hand with budget adjustments
- Finance and Admin officers in some Regions have very limited understanding of the financial context the Leader relies on.
- Project maze occurring through other impacts

New Parks
02-Jul-02

Resource	(All)
Description	(All)
Job	(All)
Resource2	(All)
Service/Activity2	(All)
Service/Activity	(All)
Cost centre	(All)
Fund	(All)
Park	(All)

		Data		
Cost centre2	Output	Sum of Ytd Actual	Sum of Final Budget	Balance
PRPT	Nature Conservation	44,960	50,280	5,320
	Parks & Visitor Services	413,013	396,720	(16,293)
PRPT Total		457,973	447,000	(10,973)
South West	Nature Conservation	68,172	95,000	26,828
	Parks & Visitor Services	1,509,971	1,340,559	(169,412)
South West Total		1,578,143	1,435,559	(142,584)
Swan	Nature Conservation	63,629	80,000	16,371
	Parks & Visitor Services	513,789	520,797	7,008
Swan Total		577,418	600,797	23,379
Warren	Nature Conservation	293,641	286,000	(7,641)
	Parks & Visitor Services	2,085,484	1,810,500	(274,984)
Warren Total		2,379,125	2,096,500	(282,625)
760	Parks & Visitor Services	771	752	(19)
760 Total		771	752	(19)
Grand Total		4,993,430	4,580,608	(412,822)

NEW PARKS STEERING GROUP

Minutes from the meeting held at Kensington on 20th May 2002

Attending: Gae Mackay (Convenor); John Skillen; John Carter; Peter Henderson; Cliff Winfield; Tracy Churchill; Gil Field; Wayne Schmidt

Apologies: Dave Hampton; Aminya Ennis; Janette Gilmour; Rod Simmonds; Kim Williams, Daryl Moncrieff, Val Cave

1. Minutes from previous meeting:

- Actions outstanding from previous meeting
 - **Dave Hampton** to prepare a “protocol” to give field staff an understanding of “how to/what to/when to do” guidelines when considering major works in the proposed parks
(Carried over since March 2002)
 - Wayne Schmidt to circulate the documentation for interagency agreements, enabling funds to be held in trust for works pending (Done)
 - **Daryl Moncrieff** to provide a written summary of the information provided to the planners, regarding roles of Advisory Committees, expectations etc to be circulated to the New Parks Steering Group members prior to the next meeting (Carried over from April 2002)
 - **Gae Mackay** to organise a Planning for New Parks Workshop, to be held in Bunbury in late June or early July. To include NP Steering Group, PVS, NC and RS Directors, and RMs/DMs for forest regions
 - **Recreation Framework Planning group** to prepare a discussion paper, outlining the following:
 - Consider how the framework plan could be undertaken
 - Define their role (ie is this the steering group or who should be on the steering group)
 - Outline how the framework plan should be coordinated and developed
 - Outline the process that could be used to get the plan developed
 - What would the funding be used for?
 - What would the time frame be for producing a whole of forest framework plan?
 - How does the framework plan fit into the existing CALM planning structure? (Action: Tracy Churchill, Wayne Schmidt, Daryl Moncrieff, Gil Field)

2. Progress reports

- **Regional Services (John Skillen)**
 - Information regarding displaced timber workers is still coming in; reporting system is working OK

- Aboriginal Liaison Officer position's JDF is still being finalised, feedback still being sought from SW Land and Sea Council
 - New financial reports (developed by Val Cave and Trevor Morgan) are now being trialled on the CALMWeb, with excellent feedback from field staff; advantage is that the reports can be formatted to suit individual's needs.
 - Some confusion over whether funds can be carried over or not: Glen Urquart is saying they can be, while Directors (Jim Sharp) is saying they can't be. Safer to assume they can't be carried over to next financial year.
- **Swan Region (Gae Mackay and John Carter)**
 - New Parks works program has been concentrating on audit/inventory of what is there and what needs to be done.
 - Rubbish removal has begun in all of the parks, and liaison and consultation has begun also
 - 12 hectares of gravel pits have been rehabilitated, including removal of rubbish, installation of signage and a local media campaign has begun, informing public of what is happening
 - Rehabilitation plans are being developed for next year's works program; looking at calling a tender for seed collection to assist in direct seeding in rehab areas
- **SW Region (Peter Henderson)**
 - NC: work is being done, but is not being reflected in expenditure (problems with the use of job numbers); some fauna survey and weed work being undertaken
 - Last couple of pay periods has shown a significant increase in expenditure in PVS
 - Honeymoon Pool – cultural heritage issues; tender has been let, but work will be delayed until August (?) to sort out heritage issues; Dept Housing and Works will never the less charge CALM
 - Wellington NP – toilets installed all over the place! Discovery Forest buildings 50 complete, capital allocation spent and additional recurrent funds have been allocated
 - Roding in Wellington NP – funds have been transferred to Dardanup Shire; work on steep sections has been done, work continuing in other areas
 - 2 Chapman Pool projects are nearly completed
 - Signs are going up everywhere; contractor producing signs
 - St John's Brook – expenditure taking off over last couple of weeks; toilets begun, trail linking Barrabup nearly complete, designs for footbridge completes and construction about to start
 - Great North Rd Campsite finished
 - Margaret River NP – contract let for sealing walktrails; infrastructure underway

- Discovering Wellington NP package – generic national park package (coordinated by Liz Moore); “Curiosity Company” consultants engaged and commenced producing package
- Confident that all PVS allocated funds will be spent this financial year

Action item: Kim Williams to produce a progress report and projected expenditure information for Nature Conservation program before next meeting

- **Warren Region (Cliff Winfield)**

- (As per emailed report)
- Valley of the Giants car park – engineering design being done; unfounded for next year, but may be able to do it using profits from V of G
- Walpole is struggling due to lack of available people; of \$430,000 allocated, likely to spend only half; reallocated budget to other District projects; need to develop contingency plan to ensure projects are able to be carried out
- Rain has impacted on some earthworks projects, causing some problems
- Ritter Rd project contract has been let; successful bid now pulled out; Dept Housing & Works are now sorting through the options with hourly contract rates
- Hawke Block walks – now become boardwalk around big trees!
- Karri Forrest Explorer Drive – waiting on drawings; some work has occurred; transmitters are now installed, waiting for radio bits
- Lake Muir nearing completion
- Panel contractor process is not really working; OK if hourly contract rate, but doesn't work with other areas/projects
- Due to contingency plans, confident that budget will be spent this financial year; if contracts fall over, then may be up to \$500,000 under-spent, but if contracts all stand up, then will spend all funds
- Paul Roberts has started in region
- JDF for Construction projects supervisor is currently being circulated
- Karri Tingle VC funded in 2002/03, (funds parked in Division).
- Tim Firth extended to end of June; looking at having a 6-month contract for Regional LA or Master-planner

Action item: Rod Simmonds to produce a progress report and projected expenditure information for Nature Conservation program before next meeting

- **Recreation, planning & Design (Tracy Churchill)**

- Projects all seem to under control
- 4 new NP staff have settled in well and are very productive
- Need to sort out some procedural matters before next financial year
- Need to start looking at next year's work's program
- June/July: Las and Draftsman will need to clear some TIUL before next year's program begins
- Tracy has approval to advertise 3 positions for NPs: a LA, 1 draftsman and 1 admin support position; maintains numbers, but consolidates positions

- **Interpretation (Gil Field)**
 - Most projects: art briefs will be completed, but some doubt as to whether they will clear production phase
 - Guided activities programs: \$10,000 allocated, \$20,000 spent
 - Suz is revising manual and providing summary report for guided activity program
 - Multi-media: David Gough has arranged a partnership with Joondalup TAFE for student's to produce the media projects; need to purchase equipment \$12-15,000
 - SW Tourism manual: spent \$11,000 out of \$20,000 allocated to date; steering group has been established, point form summary developed, available on Naturebase; aim to produce a rough draft by end of June
 - Looking at contingency plan to expend unspent funds, on purchasing off the shelf products/equipment to be used on related projects.
- **PVS Output Coordinator (Wayne Schmidt)**
 - EOI being developed for provision of Project Management Training for field and specialist staff, including preparation of training manual
 - Regional services expecting a \$1.2m surplus. Alan Walker has asked for bids from regions; Jim and Gordon will provide advice before final approvals are given

3. Financial report (Gae on behalf of Val Cave)

- Val's report was circulated
- Communication is imperative between program leaders and administration staff
- Please note: the codes given by Val relate to New Parks reporting only. If any other expenditure occurs in New Parks, it will need a separate code (ie wildfires), so that it doesn't impact on New Parks reporting.

4. General Business:

i. Recreation Framework Planning (Tracy, Gil and Wayne)

- Not much progress; Vicki Winfield provided an overview of Warren Region Framework Plan to steering group (Tracy, Daryl, Gil and Wayne)
- Need to develop project brief (as per previous minutes)
- Daryl has prepared a discussion paper for Framework Plan steering group's feedback (feedback underway)
- Looking at Visitor Service planning, with a conservation edge (rather than conservation planning with a visitor services edge)
- There is an integral link between Interpretation and Recreation planning; needs to be integrated throughout the process

Action: Wayne Schmidt to circulate the NSW Recreation Framework Plan to NP Steering group for background/discussion (**done**)

Action: Recreation Framework Steering group to report back to New Parks steering Group at next meeting, as per previous meeting's minutes

ii. Next New Parks Steering Group Meeting

- Should be a combination of reflecting over last year's achievements, and planning for the next year
- Ideally, Jim Sharp, Alan Walker and Gordon Wyre would attend
- Need to discuss format of steering group/meetings/ required outcomes etc as an agenda item
- Meeting could be held in Bunbury, and could invite field staff/District staff to attend a social event, in recognition for 2001/02 achievements
- Could have a separate steering group meeting scheduled before or after the general meeting, subject to agenda needs
- Would be a good opportunity to celebrate the successes of the year, in the New Parks area

Action: Gae Mackay to sort out a draft agenda and suitable dates, and ascertain the availability of the Directors to attend the meeting

iii. Signs (Cliff Winfield)

- Need to get some direction as to what is the most suitable material to be making signs out of.
- Should we continue using dressed Jarrah?(morality, expense etc) VS MDF (Safety issues)
- Tracy mentioned option of recycled plastic product now on the market
- Pemberton sign bay is concerned over future signs materials: not geared up for other materials, but not sure they should continue using Jarrah either
- Gil: Sign Manual may give some direction/recommendations next year

iv. John Skillen: Visual graphic presentation of New Parks employment outcomes

- Would be handy to have a graphic presentation of the employment outcomes, structures, roles etc in a chart

Action: Specialist staff and Regional PLs to collate own component, ie draw an "anticipated 02/03 New Parks staff structure", rolling up bits of people into FTEs if required. Send information to Gae prior to the next New Parks Steering Group Meeting

5. Next Meeting: To be advised (full day in Bunbury in late June or early July?)

SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT PLANNING PRIORITIES FOR 2002-2004*

Region	Currently underway	Priority for future#
South Coast	❖ Esperance Coastal Reserves	1. Albany Coastal Reserves
Warren	❖ Shannon and D'Entrecasteaux NPs ❖ Perup/Lake Muir/Unicup NRs and Kingston (New Parks funding)	1. Walpole Wilderness NPs (New Parks funding) 2. 'Pemberton Parks' - Gloucester, Warren, Brockman, Easter, Hawke, Greater Hawke, and Greater Beedelup (New Parks funding) 3. Jane, Greater Dordagup and Boorarra - Gardner (New Parks funding) ❖ (<i>Walpole and Nornalup Inlets IMP</i>)
South West	❖ Parks of the Leeuwin-Naturaliste Ridge and Scott National Park (part New Parks funding) ❖ Wellington Forest (New Parks funding) ❖ Golden Valley Tree Park (co-ordinated by Advisory Committee) ❖ (<i>Geographe/Capes/Hardy IMP</i>) α	1. St Johns Brook CP (New Parks funding) 2. Greater Preston (New Parks funding), 3. Milyeannup, Hilliger, Blackwood River, Butler and 'Frogland' (New Parks funding) 4. Geographe Catchment or separate plans for Whicher (part New Parks funding), Tuart Forest and Vasse - Wonnerup Wetlands
Goldfields		1. Goongarrie NP and adjacent areas
Wheatbelt	❖ Wheatbelt Regional Plan	No new priorities
Swan	❖ Yanchep and Neerabup NPs ❖ Carnac Island NR ❖ Forrestdale Lake NR and Thomsons Lake NR ❖ (<i>Shoalwater Islands MP</i>)	1. Lane Poole Reserve (New Parks funding) 2. Pickering Brook, Helena Valley, Canning, Mundaring, and Greenmount NPs (New Parks funding) 3. Nature reserves of the Eastern Coastal Plain. 4. Wandoo (New Parks funding)
Midwest	❖ Turquoise Coast Island NRs ❖ Kalbarri NP ❖ (<i>Jurien MP</i>)	1. Kennedy Range and Mt Augustus NPs, or separate plans for each.
Pilbara	❖ Cape Range NP/ <i>Ningaloo MP and IMP</i> ❖ Dampier Archipelago and Burrup Peninsula ❖ Millstream - Chichester NP ❖ (<i>Dampier/Cape Preston IMP</i>) ❖ (<i>Montebello/Barrow IMP</i>)	1. Rudall River NP 2. Pilbara Regional Plan
Kimberley	❖ Kimberley Regional Plan ❖ (<i>Rowley Shoals MP</i>)	1. Parry Lagoon and Ord River NRs 2. West Kimberley Range Country Parks (Geike Gorge, Geike Gorge CP, Deveonian Reef CP, Tunnel Creek NP, Windjana Gorge NP, lower eastern corner of King Leopold Range CP).

Region	Currently underway	Priority for future#
Regional Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Yellagonga RP ❖ Herdsman Lake RP ❖ Beeliar RP ❖ Woodman Point RP ❖ Rockingham Lakes RP ❖ Jandakot RP 	1. Darling Range RP

α Indicative management plans and management plans for marine parks are identified in italics.

* Please note that priorities will be reviewed annually.

Based on the highest rankings provided by the Regions, one per region except for the forest regions which have additional funding through the New Parks policy. In such case, 'new parks' are listed in priority order.

New Staff

Planning Officers

- ❖ Denam Bennetts – Bunbury
- ❖ Paul Roberts – Manjimup
- ❖ Kathryn Muir – Kensington
- ❖ Clare Anthony – Kensington (0.5 FTE New Parks)

Technical Officer

Vincent Fordham Lamont – Kensington

New Parks Planning Summary

In order to meet the planning requirement of the POGF policy, Management Planning Unit has grown from two Tech Officers, two Planning Officers and the Planning Co-ordinator to eight Planning Officers, a Tech Officer and the Planning Co-ordinator

Plans underway at the time of the change of government effectively meant that new staff were needed as existing staff were fully committed. Five new staff, funded from the POGF funds were subsequently appointed.

'New Parks' management plans underway are:

- ❖ St Johns Brook CP;
- ❖ Wellington NP, proposed additions and Westralia and Mungalup CPs;
- ❖ Walpole Wilderness
- ❖ Parks of the Leeuwin Ridge (incorporating RFA additions) and Scott Coastal Plain;
- ❖ Lane Poole Reserve; and
- ❖ Perup/Lake Muir/Unicup NRs and Kingston (soon)

Two planners were appointed to Regional centres—Denam Bennetts (Bunbury) and Paul Roberts (Manjimup). Kathryn Muir, based from Kensington, will work on the northern additions. Clare Anthony (planning 0.5 FTE) and Vincent Fordham Lamont (technical aspects of planning) will assist with other New Parks duties.

The timeline attached indicates the planning horizons for management plans. The Wellington plan is at approximately step 11, Walpole Wilderness at step 6, St Johns Brook at step 9, and Parks of the Leeuwin Ridge at approximately step 12.

Advisory Committees have been established for Wellington, Leeuwin Ridge, and Walpole Wilderness.