

# Wellington National Park and Westralia Conservation Park

Analysis of Public Submissions

to the

Draft Management Plan 2005

Department of Environment and Conservation

for the

Conservation Commission of Western Australia

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## BACKGROUND

This document is an analysis of public submissions to the Wellington National Park and Westralia Conservation Park Draft Management Plan 2005 (the Plan).

The Plan was released for public comment on 4 September 2006 for a period of two months. Several late submissions were accepted. A total of 133 public submissions were received. All submissions have been summarised and changes have been made to the Plan where appropriate.

Following the release of the Plan, advertisements were placed in two issues of the local newspapers and two issues of The West Australian, advising that the Plan was available for comment (Appendix 1). The Plan was distributed to State Government departments, tertiary institutions, recreation and conservation groups, local authorities, libraries and other community groups and individuals who expressed interest during the preparation of the draft. The Plan was available for viewing and/or downloading from the Department of Environment and Conservation's (DEC's) NatureBase website, from which electronic submissions could be made. Printed copies of the Plan were made available at DEC's offices in Kensington, Collie and Bunbury, and could be inspected at DEC libraries at Woodvale, Kensington and Bunbury, and the libraries and municipal office of the Shire's of Collie and Dardanup.

## ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

### 1. Numbers of Submissions

A total of 133 public submissions were received. Of the total number of submissions received, the largest number was received from "Community Groups" (87). Of these, there were 78 proforma submissions from the WA Endurance Riders Association. A summary of submissions is provided in Table 1.

Submitters to the Wellington National Park and Westralia Conservation Park draft Management Plan are listed in Appendix 1.

**Table 1: Number and origin of submissions**

Category	Number (%)
Individuals	30 (23%)
Community Organisations - Recreation	85 (64%)
Community Organisations - Conservation	3 (2%)
Private Sector Companies	3 (2%)
MLA	1 (0.7%)
Educational Institutions	1 (0.7%)
Commonwealth Government	0
State Government	10 (8%)
Local Government	1 (0.7%)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>133</b>

\* figures to nearest whole numbers

### 2. Method of Analysis

The public submissions to the Plan were analysed by the planning team according to the process depicted in the flow chart overleaf. More specifically:

The points made in each submission were collated according to the section of the Plan they addressed.

Each point made was assessed using the following criteria:

1. The draft management plan *will* be amended if a submission:
  - a) provides additional information of direct relevance to management;
  - b) provides additional information on affected user groups of direct relevance to management;

- c) indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy;
- d) proposes strategies that would better achieve management objectives; or
- e) indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity.

2. The draft management plan *will not* be amended if a submission:

- a) clearly supports proposals in the plan;
- b) makes general statements and no change is sought;
- c) makes statements already in the plan or were considered during the plan preparation;
- d) addresses issues beyond the scope of the plan;
- e) is one amongst several widely divergent viewpoints received on the topic but the text/strategies in the plan are still considered the best option;
- f) contributes options that are not feasible (generally due to conflict with existing legislation, Government policy, lack of resource capacity or lack of research knowledge to make decisions);
- g) is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated; or
- h) provides details that are not appropriate or necessary for inclusion in a document aimed at providing management direction over the long term.

The reasons why recommendations in the Plan were or were not changed, and the relevant criteria used, were discussed with each comment. Minor editorial changes referred to in the submissions have also been made.

Submissions have been assessed entirely on the cogency of points raised. No subjective weighting has been given to any submission for reasons of its origin or any other factor that would give cause to elevate the importance of any submission above another.

### 3. Analysis Process

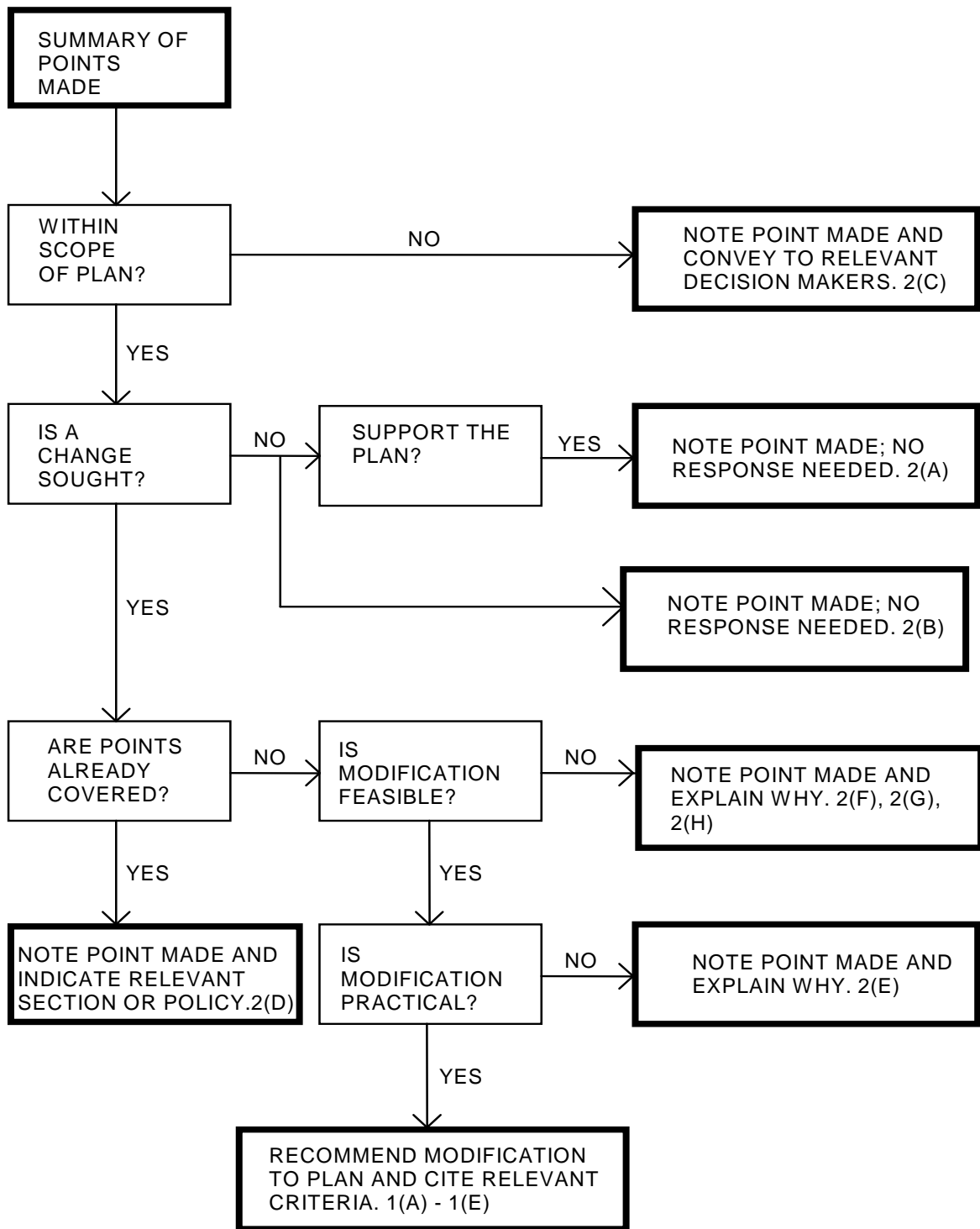
The method used to analyse submission is outlined in the figure on the following page.

### NOMENCLATURE

- ❖ The draft management plan is referred to as the ‘plan’.
- ❖ When ‘Reservoir’ is referred to in this document it is referring to the Wellington Reservoir.

### ACRONYMS

FMP	<i>Forest Management Plan 2004-2013</i>
RFA	Regional Forest Agreement
WDF	Wellington Discovery Forest
Department	Department of Environment and Conservation
CALM	Former Department of Conservation and Land Management
IWSS	Integrated Water Supply Scheme
GSTWSS	Great Southern Towns Water Supply Scheme
DoW	Department of Water



**ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS  
WELLINGTON NATIONAL PARK AND WESTRALIA CONSERVATION PARK  
DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2005**

Comment No.	No. of Submissions	Summary of Comment	Criteria	Discussion / Action Taken
<b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b>				
1	3	We are generally very supportive of the management plan	2(a)	Noted. Comment supports the plan.
2	2	The plan is comprehensive and succeeds in addressing most of the short and long-term management issues for the area.	2(a)	Noted. Comment supports the plan.
3	2	The plan needs only minor changes to promote the ideas of tread lightly.	1(a)	Noted. Comment provides additional information of direct relevance to management. The plan has been amended to incorporate the 'tread lightly' minimal impact camping philosophy.
4	1	We are pleased that the management of recreation, tourism and more specifically, landscape amenity, visitor opportunities, visitor numbers and trends, access, activities, accommodation and visitor fees, as well as visitor safety and the management of commercial tourism operations have been identified as key areas to incorporate into the plan.	2(a)	Noted. Comment supports the plan.
5	1	We thought that photographs would be useful in the plan.	2(h)	Noted. Comment provides details that are not appropriate or necessary for inclusion in a document aimed at providing management direction over the long term. Photographs are not normally included in management plans.
6	1	We acknowledge that, while the focus of the plan is in fact not on the Wellington Reservoir itself, it must be recognised that the issues which have been identified mainly emanate or are integrally linked to the water body.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan indicates that the management of Wellington National Park is influenced by decisions on the future use of the Wellington Reservoir.
7	1	We would like future generations to continue to enjoy the wonderful things the Wellington Reservoir has to offer.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought. The plan recommends that access and recreational use around the Wellington Reservoir will continue to be permitted subject to decisions on the future use of the Reservoir.
8	1	While there is a need to conserve areas of natural significance for the future, we encourage the use of a balanced 'triple bottom line' approach that considers social, environmental and economic sustainability. The plan appears to be weighted towards the environmental and conservation considerations at the expense of social and economic considerations. We would prefer to see an increase in the social aspects of access to the reserves covered by the plan.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan addresses environmental, social and economic issues relating to management. Social issues are addressed in depth, including visitor access, recreational activities and use, tourism, visitor safety and commercial operations.
9	1	The plan is in danger of being derailed by special interest groups whose objectives could be deemed as contrary to conservation. Groups are listed.	2(d)	Noted. Comment is beyond the scope of the plan.
10	1	The current managers of Wellington Forest lack creativity, innovation, eco-education, sensitivity and a genuine commitment to see the plan reach its full potential. This is due to a culture dominated by forest extractive industries, which was fostered and entrenched during the mid 1980s. This culture, if not	2(h)	Noted. Comment provides details that are not appropriate or necessary for inclusion in a document aimed at providing management direction over the long term.



Comment No.	No. of Submissions	Summary of Comment	Criteria	Discussion / Action Taken
		removed immediately, will have a dramatic and negative impact on the plan in the long term.		
11	1	I think that enforcement of permissible activities in the park is important at the moment. More resources should be made available to undertake such activities (e.g. for more rangers). (120)	2(h)	Noted. Comment provides details that are not appropriate or necessary for inclusion in a document aimed at providing management direction over the long term.
12	1	At times the language was difficult to understand (e.g. the terminology in Legislative Framework). (125)	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The terminology in <i>Legislative Framework</i> has been reworded but still needs to reflect legislation that governs the planning area.
13	1	I found the plan to be very overwhelming. (70)	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
<b>PART A. INTRODUCTION</b>				
1. Brief Overview				
14	1	Page 2. We are concerned with the statement that 'the plan supports the Government's intention to return the water supply to a potable drinking water standard and bring it on-line at the earliest possible time'.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought. The DoW are responsible for the management of water resources throughout the State. Recreational use is provided for in this management plan subject to the Reservoir being required for public drinking water purposes in the future.
2. Regional Context				
15	2	Page 3. The Landcorp website indicates that 347 residential and 44 light industrial blocks of land are to be released in Collie, increasing the population by at least 1000. These blocks exclude privately developed land that is also being released. The plan states that the population is only expected to grow by 400.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been updated to reflect the most recent population data for the south west.
16	2	Page 3, Tourism and Recreation. Accommodation listed in the plan only includes paid accommodation and neglects 'free' or bush camping.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Camping is addressed in the plan under <i>Recreational Use - Overnight Stays</i> . This includes both vehicle-based and walk/canoe-in camping. The plan indicates that fees may be charged for some campsites in line with Government policy.
17	1	The park seems quite small but, being the closest national park to Bunbury, will become more important as a place for people to visit as the population grows.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan discusses the implications of a growing population in <i>Regional Context</i> . The importance for visitors is discussed in <i>Recreational Opportunities - Regional Recreation Context</i> .
3. Management Plan Area				
18	2	Page 5 of the plan states that 91% of the planning area abuts private property and 9% State forest. This affects the quality of the runoff into Wellington Reservoir.	2(g)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. The water quality of the Reservoir is primarily influenced by land clearing in the upper Collie River catchment, not the amount of the planning area that abuts private property. However, there may be effects from other external influences, such as weeds. This is particularly so for small, isolated fragments such as the 147 ha portion of land that abuts the Wellington Plantation.

Comment No.	No. of Submissions	Summary of Comment	Criteria	Discussion / Action Taken
<b>4. Key Values</b>				
19	1	Page 7, Point 3 under <i>Cultural Values</i> . The comment 'as well as a history of recreational use' seems to have been added as an afterthought.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to better describe the history of recreational use and its value to visitors and the local community.
20	2	The plan uses the phrase 'safe, good quality raw water'. However, most of the document refers to water in Wellington Reservoir as potable not raw. Does raw mean that additional treatment is required?	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Raw water refers to largely untreated water. Coarse screening and disinfection of surface water by chlorination is currently the standard treatment of major raw drinking water sources in undeveloped metropolitan catchments in the State. Safe, good quality raw water does not require further treatment. The plan has been amended to use the term 'potable water'. The key value has been condensed to refer to 'water use' as opposed to water used from drinking purposes as the future use of the Reservoir is uncertain.
21	1	Page 6. The plan mentions the recognition of indigenous sites and activities from the past, which we support, and also mentions some non-indigenous elements. However, we are concerned that no significant mention is made of the importance of the area to the current generation of community members. The Wellington Reservoir and forest have been a key element to growing up in Collie as many families have utilised the area for fishing, camping and bushwalking. It is imperative that this is recognised throughout the body of the plan.	1(b)	Noted. Comment provides additional information on affected user groups of direct relevance to management. The plan has been amended to reflect this point. The value of the Reservoir to the local community has been included as a 'key value'.
<b>5. Public Participation</b>				
22	1	Significant public consultation was undertaken in the process of developing the plan. We believe that it would be beneficial to DEC and the contributors that more extensive recognition is given to their involvement. In particular, the stakeholder committee that was established provided important management direction to the plan. This needs to be made very clear to ensure public awareness of this point.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The Wellington National Park Community Advisory Committee are acknowledged as key contributors to the development of the plan. The plan also includes a section on public participation that was undertaken during its preparation. The plan has been amended to provide more clarity on the level of public participation and involvement of the Advisory Committee.
<b>PART B. MANAGEMENT DIRECTIONS AND PURPOSE</b>				
<b>6. Vision</b>				
23	1	Page 8. The statement in the vision that 'In 2015, a balance will exist...' implies that a balance doesn't currently exist today or in the year 2014, and will only exist at the end of the management plan. Removing the statements ambiguity will create a clearly defined goal. For example 'it is envisioned that in the life of the plan a balance will exist'.	2(d)	Noted. Comment addresses issues beyond the scope of the plan. The vision has been amended accordingly.
24	1	The plan does not meet the 'vision' of the park as it is not 'balanced', nor will visitors to the area 'enjoy' a range of opportunities in a 'variety' of forest settings. If the water body is returned to potable water, it will be even less accessible to active recreation as visitors will be prohibited from the areas they are really	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan indicates that there is a variety of settings in which visitors can recreate. It also notes that not all settings need to be provided in an area. It is noted that recreation opportunities may be restricted or prohibited

Comment No.	No. of Submissions	Summary of Comment	Criteria	Discussion / Action Taken
		wanting to access.		should the Reservoir be required for public drinking water purposes in the future. The plan has been amended to allow for changes to recreation opportunities around the Reservoir should this eventuate. This would mean that the vision for the area may need to be altered.
7. Legislative Framework				
		No comments.		
8. Management Arrangements with Aboriginal people				
		No comments.		
9. Proposed and Existing Tenure				
25	1	Page 12. The plan refers to legislation that created the Westralia Conservation Park and makes reference to the park being limited to a depth of 30m from the natural surface of the land in recognition of known coal deposits. We consider it important to provide further explanation as to the significance of the 30m depth limit. Suggested text is provided.	1(a)	Noted. Comment provides additional information of direct relevance to management. Suggested text incorporated.
26	1	It is of major disappointment that the high conservation Arcadia forest was not included in the Wellington National Park. This would have linked riparian ecosystems of the Preston and Collie rivers, complimented the national parks ecological integrity and boosted the parks size to a respectable 20 000 ha. It would also allow more flexibility to manage future visitor numbers.	2(d)	Noted. Comment is beyond the scope of the plan. The expansion of Wellington National Park was previously identified in the <i>Forest Management Plan 1994-2003, Regional Forests Agreement</i> and the Government's <i>Protecting Our Old-growth Forests Policy</i> , which were processes that were completed prior to the commencement of this plan. The <i>Forest Management Plan 2004-2013</i> gives effect to these commitments. Fine-scale amendments to the boundary of the park were determined when the park was created but did not consider large-scale reserve additions.
27	1	We seek clarification as to the reason why the WDF reserve does not form part of the Wellington National Park. To this extent, we would like to put forward that the reserve be incorporated into the national park.	2(f)	Noted. Comment contributes options that are not feasible (generally due to conflict with existing legislation, Government policy, lack of resource capacity or lack of research knowledge to make decisions). The Wellington Discovery Forest was included in the <i>Reserves (National Parks, Conservation Parks and Nature Reserves) Bill 2004</i> that was introduced to parliament in 2004. The Wellington Discovery Forest was included as part of the proposal to expand Wellington National Park. However, the Bill was amended in parliament to exclude the Wellington Discovery Forest from the proposed national park expansion, and instead proposed to reserve it as a CALM Act section 5(1)(h) reserve for the purposes of 'scientific research and education'. Legislation to create the Wellington Discovery Forest Reserve, was passed on 8 December 2004. It is not appropriate to further consider the addition of the Wellington Discovery Forest reserve to the national park.
28	1	With 1 264 000 ha of forest already reserved through the FMP, the addition of the WDF is totally unnecessary.	2(f)	Noted. Comment contributes options that are not feasible (generally due to conflict with existing legislation, Government policy, lack of resource capacity or lack of research knowledge to make decisions). See above point.

Comment No.	No. of Submissions	Summary of Comment	Criteria	Discussion / Action Taken
29	1	The purpose of the WDF reserve is not limited to scientific research and education about conservation values only. The intent in creating the reserve was that its purpose would embrace research and education on the jarrah forest and its management over all forest tenures. Conservation and biodiversity cannot be separated from management and the purpose of the reserve was to be able to explore and interpret these relationships in an area not subject to the constraints of a national park. This was the reason for selecting the area in 1990 (i.e. it was not in a national park then nor was it foreseen that 10 years later there would be moves to include it in a national park). In 2004, when it appeared that this would occur we were forced to act as the value of the WDF would be severely compromised if it was converted to national park and the 10 yearly disturbance program ended.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Management of the Wellington Discovery Forest will be consistent with the purpose of the reserve. It is acknowledged that this may not be limited to scientific research and education about conservation values. The plan has been amended to give greater clarity to management proposals for the area.
30	1	We advocate that conservation reserves be managed in accordance with the principals of ecologically sustainable forest management. The protection of conservation reserves needs to consider maintenance of adequate access and fuel management to support rapid fire suppression.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The planning area will be managed in accordance with the CALM Act, which stipulates the purposes for which reserves are managed. The management plan contains prescriptions for managing access and fire, including fuel management and wildfire suppression.
31	1	Reserves should be managed specifically to protect ecologically viable examples of the flora and fauna of the region and to provide scientific reference and education about undisturbed forests.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The planning area will be managed in accordance with the CALM Act, which stipulates the management objectives for which reserves of the planning area. This includes the protection of flora and fauna. The management plan also contains prescriptions relating to education and scientific research, although amendments to the plan have been made with respect to the operation of the Wellington Discovery Forest.
<b>10. Management Planning</b>				
		No comments.		
<b>11. Performance Assessment</b>				
		No comments.		
<b>PART C. MANAGING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT</b>				
32	1	Our surveys indicate that there has been a dramatic decline in many of the ecological and biodiversity values of Wellington National Park.	2(g)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. Surveys were not provided and hence could not be validated.
<b>12. Biogeography</b>				
33	1	Page 18, last paragraph. Contrary to statements in the plan, the Darling Scarp is highly fragmented, which is why it is under represented in the comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system. It could be misconstrued that the representation of the Darling Forest ecotype is well represented in the reserve system, thereby devaluing the importance of Wellington National Park.	2(g)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. The Darling Plateau is a sizeable, relatively un-fragmented area of forest extending from the Avon River to around Nannup. The Darling Scarp forest ecosystem is the only forest ecosystem of the planning area that does not meet targets for a

Comment No.	No. of Submissions	Summary of Comment	Criteria	Discussion / Action Taken
				comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system. Protection of this forest ecosystem is required on private land to meet the CAR target.
34	2	Page 18. The plan describes similarities between the planning area and other nearby parks and reserves. Therefore, the Collie area is not unique, and doesn't need to be considered a 'lock out' area for conservation with the closure of many access routes. There are other areas of similar forest with higher conservation values.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The planning area provides for a public access strategy aimed at facilitating access while protecting natural, cultural and social values. While the intention is to provide an appropriate level of access, some roads and tracks may need to be closed for a variety of reasons (e.g. disease risk, erosion problems, duplication of tracks or to preserve the visitor experience). Access to the Wellington Reservoir will be permitted but may be subject to decisions on the future use of Reservoir.
35	1	We advocate the maintenance of an adequate system of permanent forest and woodland reserves covering all major forest and woodland types and ecological processes.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
36	1	We advocate that public native forests be managed for multiple benefits in the public interest. We consider that the greatest public interest will be realized if the conservation reserve system is allocated and managed in a process integrated with broader forest management. We also consider that the allocation of excessive areas to conservation reserves will reduce the public benefits available from the forest estate.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought. This management plan compliments the Forest Management Plan 2004-2013, which addresses forest management at the whole of forest, landscape and operational scale.
13. Climate Change				
37	2	Page 19. The plan states that there has been a decline in river flows. However, the Reservoir wall overflowed in 2005 and reached 88% capacity in 2006.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The decline in rainfall and river flows is calculated for the south-west of the State and indicates trends over time. Overflow of the Reservoir in 2005 and the amount of water stored in the Reservoir in 2006 is still consistent with this declining trend.
38	1	Global warming is a major concern for the national park and surrounding forest. There is scant information in the plan in relation to future management strategies that address this issue.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Global climate change and a changing south-west climate is addressed in Climate Change and in other relevant sections of the plan (e.g. fire, water extraction).
14. Geology, Landform and Soils				
39	2	Page 25, 30. The plan contains a strategy to 'Rehabilitate eroded areas, superfluous tracks and disturbed areas as necessary'. In my previous experience, this means to close areas off.	2(e)	Noted. Comment is one amongst several widely divergent viewpoints received on the topic but the text/strategies in the plan are still considered the best option. The rehabilitation of eroded areas, superfluous tracks and disturbed areas is considered appropriate. Public access to the planning area is provided for, including access to the Wellington Reservoir. However, access to the Reservoir may be subject to decisions on the future use of the Reservoir.
40	1	Page 22. We suggest that a more comprehensive and accurate description of the planning area would be provided by incorporating the following information into paragraph 2: 'The Balingup Complex which underlies the western side of the planning area is over 300 million years old and consists of metamorphosed	1(a)	Noted. Comment provides additional information of direct relevance to management. Suggested text incorporated into the plan.

Comment No.	No. of Submissions	Summary of Comment	Criteria	Discussion / Action Taken
		sedimentary and granitoid rocks'.		
41	1	A geological map of the planning area could be included to assist in illustrating the geological setting.	1(a)	Noted. Comment provides additional information of direct relevance to management. A geological map has been included.
42	1	Page 22. We suggest that 'copper and platinum group elements' be included as potential minerals in the planning area, as stated in the RFA. The RFA is the authoritative Western Australian Government source on minerals in the south-west region and should be included as a reference. Reference is cited.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Suggested text incorporated.
43	1	Page 22. The plan states that 'the Collie Coal Measures are high in mineral potential with an estimated 6.5 million tonnes of coal present'. We consider this statement to be incorrect and misleading. The estimated 6.5 million tonnes of coal quoted is actually the approximate annual production figure which comes from open pits outside the planning area. Whilst the Collie Coal Measures do contribute significantly to the State's power supply, this is not derived from the planning area, nor is it likely to be in the foreseeable future given the 30m depth restriction or mining underground, and the higher cost of this mining method. We suggested the following text be included in the plan: 'Total resources of the Collie Coal Measures are approximately 2000 million tonnes, of which about 600 million tonnes are estimated to be ultimately extractable using current technology'.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Suggested text incorporated.
15. Landscape				
44	1	Page 26, last paragraph. Pine forest is incompatible with the visual concept of a national park. Based on this concept, revegetation of the riparian zone with endemic species is preferable south of the Reservoir. Given that pines have been recently harvested from this site the economic loss would be minimal.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Pines located at the southern end of the Reservoir (outside the planning area) provide a different character to the native forest and add a variety of vegetation, colour, form and texture. The plan states that the Forest Products Commission will consider the impact of plantation operations on the visual quality of the landscape in this area. Where reasonable and practicable, operations will be conducted in a manner that seeks to reduce or negate any negative impacts on visual landscape values.
45	1	Page 25. The plan states that the lower Collie River is deemed to have the highest scenic quality within the planning area. It also states that the area around the Wellington Reservoir is noted for its scenic diversity and long open views. In relation to scenic quality, two potential restrictions could occur. Firstly, the implications of the recent land rights to the Nyoongar people is that there could be severe restrictions on accessing the lower Collie River for recreation purposes, both on the River itself (rafting, canoeing, swimming etc) and land-based activities on the banks (fishing, marroing, scenic driving). This could include access and camping at Honeymoon Pool. Page 72 of the plan states that 'the entire Collie River, from its source to the Leschenault Inlet is considered to be sacred and is a registered mythological site under the Aboriginal Heritage Act.' Secondly, access to the shoreline and banks of the Reservoir will be severely restricted, mainly for camping and scenic driving, especially along a very popular stretch of the water at Potters Gorge and the north west corner.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The Department has section 18 approval under the Aboriginal Heritage Act for the existing recreation sites along the lower Collie River valley. This approval includes proposed developments to these sites. Access to the Wellington Reservoir is subject to decisions on the future use of the Reservoir. DoW have agreed that Potters Gorge should remain, even if the Reservoir is used as a public drinking water supply.

Comment No.	No. of Submissions	Summary of Comment	Criteria	Discussion / Action Taken
16. Native Plants and Plant Communities				
46	1	<i>Acacia linearifolia</i> is possibly a genus misrepresentation. Suggested genus is ' <i>Agonis linearifolia</i> '.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Suggested change incorporated into the plan.
17. Native Animals and Habitats				
47	2	As stated in the plan, the numbers of Chuditch are increasing. The impact made by humans is not affecting this increase under the current management regime.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
48	1	There is much debate as to whether the current size of Wellington National Park can sustain the areas unique ecological and biodiversity values, especially the small mainland quokka colony. A recent DEC scientific paper called for immediate adaptive management if the quokka colony was to survive in the long term. However, there appears to be no adaptive management plan for the quokka or other priority species (e.g. the ringtail possum) within the Wellington Forest area.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan indicates that the quokka is managed according to a threatened species recovery plan. This plan is adaptive in its approach. The Western ringtail possum has an interim recovery plan prepared.
49	1	The plight of the quokka and ringtail possum is the benchmark by which the ecological sustainability of the plan can be measured.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The conservation of threatened species such as the quokka and Western ringtail possum is recognised in the plan as important. However, conservation of biodiversity should not consider threatened species alone and must also consider species that are not threatened.
18. Species and Communities of Conservation Significance				
		No comments.		
19. Environmental Weeds				
50	1	Page 42. Cape Tulip should be added as a declared plant species of the planning area.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Cape tulip has been added to the list of declared plant species of the planning area.
51	1	Page 42, first paragraph. Woody weeds at the Wellington Reservoir quarry should be replaced with endemic tree species when exotics mature and senesce.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or were considered during the plan preparation. The introduced tree species at Wellington Dam do not pose a significant threat to environmental values of the planning area. The trees also have a social value, providing shade and visual appeal for visitors. For these reasons it is not necessary to remove them from the site.
20. Pest Animals				
52	1	Page 43. The only introduced fished documented in the plan are redfin perch and brown and rainbow trout. Three other species should be added to the list - mosquito fish ( <i>Gambusia affinis</i> ), goldfish ( <i>Carrassius aurates (sinnaeus)</i> ) and koi.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Scientific research indicates that mosquito fish has been recorded in the Collie River. The plan has been amended to include this species. However, there is only anecdotal evidence to suggest that carp occur in the area.

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53	1	Page 45. The plan states that Western pygmy perch have disappeared from river systems nearby to the upper Collie River, which is occupied by redbfin perch. Although numbers have declined, my research proves that the species are still found in all Collie rivers.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Evidence suggests that pygmy perch do occur in the planning area hence the plan has been amended accordingly.
54	1	Page 46. Trout and redbfin perch, and especially redbfin perch, have co-existed with native fish species, marron and other invertebrates from a much earlier date than that indicated in the plan. Research papers attached.	2(g)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. The plan refers to Pen and Potter (1992) who state that redbfin perch have co-existed with native species since the early 1900s. This is consistent with the information provided. Reference in the plan to the introduction of trout states that it wasn't until the 1930s that trout were successfully introduced to the south-west. Whilst there may have been earlier introductions, successful establishment was not achieved until this time.
55	1	The strategy to continue to permit the stocking of trout into the Collie River, subject to research and monitoring, is a good outcome for recreational fishers.	2(a)	Noted. Comment clearly supports proposals in the plan.
56	2	We believe that trout should not be included as a pest species, but rather categorised as an exotic species. A 'pest species' implies that they are an introduced, unwanted and unmanaged species capable of forming naturalised populations, and this is not the case with trout. Trout generally do not form self sustaining populations and have been released into the Collie River on an annual basis over several decades as part of a carefully managed stocking program to create recreational freshwater fishing opportunities in the south-west of Western Australia.	1(d)	Noted. Comment proposes strategies that would better achieve management objectives. The text of the plan has been altered to refer to introduced and other problem animals.
57	1	Irrespective of issues regarding recreational fishing, the stocking of introduced trout into the Collie River is detrimental to the intrinsic value of aquatic ecosystems.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The impacts of trout are stated in the plan. However, it is also noted that the stocking of trout is the responsibility of the Department of Fisheries. The Department can however, provide advice to the Department of Fisheries on matters that relate to biodiversity. The biodiversity values of the planning area have been noted in the plan. It is also noted that the system has been altered due to the construction of the dam and the fact that there are no threatened fish species in the area.
58	1	Introducing a feral species (trout) is contrary to the concept of a national park.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The Department of Fisheries manages recreational fishing and the translocation of introduced fish species throughout the State in accordance with the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> . The Department can provide advice to the Department of Fisheries on biodiversity matters.
59	1	Stocking of trout in the Collie River sets a precedent with other interest groups. For example, the 'Pig Shooters Association' might construe DEC's collusion with the Department of Fisheries as hypercritical and therefore justify the release of pigs into the Wellington National Park.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The Department of Fisheries manages recreational fishing and the translocation of introduced fish species throughout the State in accordance with the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> , not the Department. The Department has the responsibility to control feral pigs on land that it manages and it is appropriate to prohibit the introduction of the species into the planning area.
60	2	Although the plan recommends a trapping program, newspaper reports quote DEC saying that the 'fight against the feral pig was being lost in the south-west'.	2(f)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. The provision of public



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		Until feral pigs can be removed, why reduce access to the public?		access is not related to the control of feral animals.
21. Diseases				
61	2	Page 48-51. Quarantine is not the only solution to managing <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> . Page 51 states that phosphite has also been shown to reduce its impact. In addition, phosphite has been shown to stop the disease, is low cost, has low toxicity and lasts for 2-6 years. A possible solution to managing the disease is to spray vehicle tracks once a year to stop its spread.	2(f)	Noted. Comment contributes options that are not feasible (generally due to conflict with existing legislation, Government policy, lack of resource capacity or lack of research knowledge to make decisions). A preventative approach to managing the spread of <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> is a more effective method of minimising its impact than a treatment based approach which is focused on controlling the disease once it has already occurred in an area. Managing access and employing proper hygiene practices is still considered the best and most cost efficient approach to managing the spread of the disease. It is only feasible to apply phosphite treatment to high value biological assets and is generally only applied at a small scale.
62	2	Black Dicks Road is a good road to trial the use of phosphite spraying to prevent disease from entering the area.	2(f)	As per above point.
22. Soil and Catchment Protection				
63	2	We are concerned with the deterioration in the quality of Western Australia's freshwater resources as a result of salinity, pollution, erosion, deforestation, chemical pollution, over-irrigating and acid sulphate leachate. As a direct result of these management failures, the range and abundance of our limited freshwater recreational species (e.g. marron, freshwater cobbler and trout) are suffering in Western Australia. It is important that the plan provides meaningful direction for management reforms in the Wellington National Park and Westralia Conservation Park to ensure that our freshwater resources do not continue to deteriorate.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Management of water quality is a catchment-wide issue, incorporating lands outside the planning area. In Western Australia, the administration of water quality protection and the conservation and management of the State's water resources, is the responsibility of DoW. The Department also has responsibility to protect water quality within the conservation estate. Consequently, a key objective stated in this management plan is to protect the quality and quantity of water within the planning area.
64	2	We are particularly concerned with the impact of thermal pollution on water leaving the Wellington Reservoir. The variation in temperature between water entering and exiting the Reservoir via the Collie River is unacceptably high. This differentiation in temperature alters the natural ecology in the lower reaches of the Collie River, impacting on the natural range of marron. (122)(128)	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The Department will liaise with the Department of Water regarding the environmental water requirements and provisions for the lower Collie River below the Reservoir wall.
65	1	Page 55, Figure 1. The plan states that the salinity of the Wellington Reservoir has decreased in recent years (demonstrated in Figure 1). However, Figure 1 has been adapted to include data post Mauger's publication date. Data from 2002-03 recorded some of the highest salinity levels entering the Wellington Reservoir and consequently salinity is an ongoing concern for the potability of water in the Reservoir.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan notes that salinity of the Reservoir is an ongoing concern. The figure of salinity trends in the Reservoir is the most accurate data available at the time of printing.
66	1	Page 55, third paragraph. Logging of State forest surrounding the Wellington Reservoir (e.g. Arcadia block) contributes to the salt loading of Stella Brook (via Bussell Brook) and hence elevates salinity of the Wellington Reservoir.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. A greater issue for managing water quality, and the level of salt entering Wellington Reservoir, is the high stream salinity levels resulting from land management practices in the upper Collie River catchment, east of the Reservoir. This area is demonstrated to contribute the greatest salt loading for the Reservoir. Logging practices in nearby State forest (maintenance of stream buffers) are

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				implemented to minimise the salt loading into the Wellington Reservoir.
67	2	The practice of scouring with highly saline water down the Collie River is unacceptable. While we support quality water supplies, this should not be done by destroying the ecosystem of the Collie River and Leschenault Estuary. These systems are already highly degraded and among the most ecologically impacted systems in Australia. While we recognise that management responsibility rests with the WC and DoW, the amenity and recreational values, especially for recreational fishers, have been dramatically reduced and may disappear altogether. This would make almost all of the management proposals redundant and nonsensical.	2(d)	Noted. Comment is beyond the scope of the plan. DoW are responsible for managing the State's water resources. The Department will liaise with DoW regarding the management of key values within the planning area.
68	1	Local residents are well aware of Wellington Reservoir's importance as a State water resource and to that end have participated in rehabilitation efforts.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought. Rehabilitation efforts within the Collie River catchment are acknowledged in the plan.
69	1	Page 56. We suggest that objective number 1 be rephrased to reflect what we believe to be the intent of the plan, which is not necessarily to restrict use of the lower Collie River, but to look at ways to ensure that the water within the Reservoir meets the required health standards to allow it to be utilised for potable purposes. We understand that this may not result in full restriction of human contact with the waterbody but may in fact be the application of technologies to purify the water below the Dam wall. We suggest that the objective number 1 be changed to 'To protect the quality and quantity of water within the planning area to ensure it meets the required health standards to allow its use as a potable water source'. We contend that this wording leaves the possibility for the restriction of access to the waterbody if other options are not considered in the greater public interest.	1(d)	Noted. Comment proposes strategies that would better achieve management objectives. The objective has been reworded as suggested to 'protect and conserve the quality and quantity of water' within the planning area. The reference to meeting the required health standards is not necessary as improving the quality of water will have many benefits, not just for potable use. This objective still allows for flexibility to use the Reservoir for potable use if required.
70	1	Erosion on some tracks is quite bad (e.g. power line tracks and Lennard Trail). I would like to see road grading work undertaken in areas of severe erosion to stop it getting worse.	2(h)	Noted. Comment provides details that are not appropriate or necessary for inclusion in a document aimed at providing management direction over the long term. The plan provides statements as to how the Department will address track erosion (e.g. seasonal or permanent closure of tracks, education, appropriate codes of practice). The issue of road grading as one option needs to be carefully considered. For example, improving the quality of a road/track means that the road/track may be accessible (i.e. to 2WD vehicles) and hence may increase visitation to an area, thereby changing the visitor experience. While road grading is appropriate in some circumstances it is desirable not to improve the level of access in some areas (e.g. Lennard Track). Road grading is generally an operational maintenance issue that is not covered in strategic documents such as management plans.
71	1	There are many old gravel pits and denuded areas which could be rehabilitated. Volunteers could be used to rehabilitate these areas.	1(d)	Noted. Comment proposes strategies that would better achieve management objectives. The use of volunteers to assist with rehabilitation efforts has been included in the plan.
72	1	The scope of the management plan should not be viewed in isolation and plan only within the demarcated boundaries. It needs to address those lands that impede directly on the planning area at a catchment scale.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The management plan considers regional and catchment scale issues such as catchment management, fire management and regional visitor use. However, prescriptions of the

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				management plan can only apply to the planning area. The Department does not have management responsibility for lands other than those vested within the Conservation Commission or unmanaged reserves. In circumstances where issues are across multiple tenures, the Department applies its good neighbour policy, which addresses a number of cross-boundary management issues. This policy has been stated in the plan.
23. Fire				
73	1	The fire regime adopted for national parks should be different to those adopted for other vested lands.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The management of fire in the planning area is considered appropriate to achieve the management objective of a national park.
74	1	Fire is an important natural influence on most Australian forests with consequences to forest flora, fauna and man-made assets. Exclusion of fire in certain reserves may result in unnatural disruption to ecological processes just as too frequent burning may be disruptive. There needs to be science based fire management regimes and emergency fire access in all Australian forests.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan takes an adaptive management approach to fire whereby management is adapted to new scientific knowledge of the vital attributes of species and communities.
75	1	It is imperative that the season in which a prescribed burn is undertaken is sympathetic to ecological requirements and not for logistical reasons. For ecological reasons, the preferred season for burning is autumn when the regenerative capacity of both the flora and fauna is maximised. A spring burning regime, where the 'window of opportunity' for burning is open for longer, is at the expense of the jarrah forests ability to recover from a major disturbance.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The principles of fire management (Burrows and Friend 1994; Fire Ecology Working Group 1999) suggest that fire diversity promotes biodiversity. This means that a diversity in fire season and intensity is required to maintain and enhance biodiversity. Therefore, spring burning should be included as part of fire management in the planning area.
76	1	Spring burning in the planning area should be ceased (where practical) for at least 50 years to allow for those ecological and biodiversity values that are threatened by frequent spring fire to establish, stabilise and recolonise.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. As per the above comment.
77	1	We are aware that DEC's fire regime in the Wellington National Park has increased over recent years, particularly during the spring months. This is not in keeping with policy changes on protecting biodiversity values as recommended in the outcomes of the last Fire Review Discussion Paper (2005). Recommendations were quite specific in that prescribed fire should be alternated between seasons to enable flora and fauna affected by frequent spring burns to stabilise and recolonise. These recommendations have been ignored in the planning area.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. As per the above comment.
78	1	A short-coming of the fire section is the lack of projection for climate change. In a drying climate, any regime that contributes to soil desiccation will exacerbate the decline in biodiversity. Furthermore, it is likely that winter burning will become the norm, as 'windows' for burning increase with diminishing rainfall. This will result in a shift in traditional seasons.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. A section on climate change is included in the plan. The effects of a drying climate are specifically discussed in the fire section with reference to the potential impacts on riparian zones and wetlands.
79	1	The plan should consider the affects of global warming on the biodiversity and ecological values of the planning area. It should also consider more adaptive fire management measures to cater for climate change.	2(c)	As per above point.
80	1	Flora and fauna communities under threat from the current fire regime are:	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought. It is

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		senescent jarrah, marri and karri habitat trees that are already stressed by consecutive droughts and are now stressed by prescribed fire; most understorey species that are now dominated by one fire coloniser species, <i>Bossiaea aquifolium</i> . This species is now widespread due to frequent burning; bird species that nest in the lower strata; and threatened mammal species that are under stress frequent spring burns. Carbon pollution from prescribed fire also affects the local atmosphere, and in turn impacts upon the health of local residents and park visitors. Carbon emissions also contribute to global warming, which places stress on the jarrah forest ecosystems of Wellington National Park.		understood that species such as jarrah, marri and karri have adaptive traits with respect to fire, which is a natural part of these ecosystems. The information provided will be considered during the Master Burn Plan planning process.
81	1	Page 67, Table 6. Natural assets such as mainland quokka habitat and granite outcrops are categorised as a 'Moderate Consequence'. Given the area is national park, natural assets should be given an elevated status such as 'Major Consequence'.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Fire is a naturally occurring event and even areas where fire is less frequent still require fire to regenerate aged or declining habitats or to protect healthy, intact fauna habitat. Therefore, the statement regarding natural assets is deemed appropriate. Table 6 has been modified to highlight the asset and not the potential consequence in the event of a wildfire.
82	1	The burning regime should be reduced from the current 5-7 year cycle to a 12-15 year cycle.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Current information available from the Department's FIRE RESPONSE database suggests that, of the 700 species listed, about 97 % of understorey species reach flowering age within three years of fire and all species reach flowering age within five to six years of fire. The plan states that a conservative minimum interval between lethal intensity fires is double the juvenile period of the slowest maturing fire sensitive species.
83	1	Prescribed burning should consist of smaller mosaic burns (less than 500 ha) rather than burning over large areas.	2(f)	Noted. Comment contributes options that are not feasible (generally due to conflict with existing legislation, Government policy, lack of resource capacity or lack of research knowledge to make decisions). It is not currently feasible to burn at this scale in all instances.
84	1	Aesthetics and other values held by visitors should be considered prior to prescribed burns, especially during the peak wildflower season.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Landscape amenity is an asset to be considered in prescribed burning programs (see Table 6 of the management plan).
85	1	Page 59, second paragraph. The plan states that prescribed burning will reduce wildfire risk. In 2004, the Environmental Protection Authority stated that 'prescribed burning does not reduce the risk of wildfires but it does aid their control'.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Prescribed burning to reduce fuels is a fire management technique that, amongst other things, aims to reduce the severity (scale and intensity) of wildfires. Prescribed burning rarely prevents wildfires but where a significant proportion of the landscape is managed this way, wildfire severity, and consequently the impact on biodiversity, life and community assets, can be significantly reduced. This statement has been included in the plan for clarity.
86	1	Wildfires emerging from reserves have potential consequences to neighbouring land. Therefore, reserve management should take into account the protection of neighbouring assets.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Table 6 includes neighbouring assets that need to be considered when evaluating wildfire threat. The Department also takes a landscape scale approach to fire management across Landscape Conservation Units (LCUs). A separate section on Scale of Fire Planning has been included in the final management plan for clarity.

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87	1	We advocate the suppression of wildfires in conservation reserves, recognising that there would normally be sufficient burning to maintain ecological processes and to protect neighbouring assets from fires emerging from conservation reserves.	2(a)	Noted. Comment clearly supports proposals in the plan.
88	1	Page 65, Figures 4 and 5. The sum of the bars in the figures must be a net zero when measured against the curved line (after you have allowed for the unknown fuel age class). Thus as it stands, it is impossible to use the curved line as a target/objective unless you can create more of the LCU.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The Department will aim to approximate the shape of the idealised curve for each LCU. This is an appropriate target.
89	1	Page 65, Figures 4 and 5. The shape of the curve in the figures should pick up any special low fuel areas maintained for community protection as it may otherwise be assumed that all of the low fuel areas can be expected to age equally to recruit into the next class.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The curve is created using the entire area of each LCU. The area that is included within conditional burning areas (e.g. more frequently burnt for asset protection or long unburnt for scientific reference) can be shown as a different colour on the bar graph. However, an idealised curve has been presented in the plan as opposed to individual curves for each LCU.
90	1	Page 69. The exclusion areas that are listed in the plan are not focused on research and are part of the Master Burn Plan. They are designed to meet land management objectives and outcomes in planning the fire management program. The only areas specifically related to research are the reference areas and scientific study areas, although the later may not necessarily be aimed specifically at fire research. The text on exclusion areas should be removed and replaced with text on how knowledge gaps and research priorities are identified and how they work in terms of resources and partnerships with research organisations. Consideration could be given to research associated with ringtail possum habitat, rocky outcrops and the impacts of climate change on mesic habitats.	1(d)	Noted. Comment proposes strategies that would better achieve management objectives. The plan has been amended to replace text on conditional burning areas with text on Fire Exclusion Reference Areas. It is acknowledged that further research is required on the fire ecology of the planning area.
91	1	There should be a planned 'no burn zone' of 2000 ha within the remaining virgin riparian stands of the planning area. This should be used for long-term research.	2(g)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. It is not clear as to why burning should not be undertaken in riparian stands or the research value that these areas may have.
<b>PART D. MANAGING THE CULTURAL HERITAGE</b>				
24. Indigenous Heritage				
92	1	The plan has addressed Indigenous heritage in a significant way. I am particularly impressed by the willingness to engage with the Indigenous community. I also note the recognition that Indigenous rights are likely to change and that the plan is intended to be flexible enough to accommodate any changes that arise.	2(a)	Noted. Comment clearly supports proposals in the plan.
93	1	There does not appear to be a process for assessing whether areas of proposed development (e.g. campsites, tracks, car parks) have Aboriginal heritage values. All Aboriginal sites are protected by the provisions of the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972</i> (AHA) and it is an offence to disturb an Aboriginal heritage site for development purposes without the authorisation of the Minister for Indigenous Affairs. Consequently, the plan should make reference to the AHA and include advice on procedures to determine the Aboriginal heritage values of areas that could be subject to impact.	1(d)	Noted. Comment proposes strategies that would better achieve management objectives. Page 72 of the plan refers to the Aboriginal Heritage Act and that all Aboriginal sites and objects listed under this Act are protected, including those not yet registered with the Department of Indigenous Affairs. The plan also states that it is an offence to disturb an Aboriginal site or object. A strategy has been included in the plan to manage threatening processes to ensure that Aboriginal cultural heritage is not adversely impacted.

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<b>25. Non-indigenous Heritage</b>				
94	1	The comment ' <i>Local, regional and State communities value the Dam and surrounding environment for its historic significance and as a place to visit for water recreation, walking and picnicking activities</i> ' on page 75 was given so little significance in the plan that it didn't even feature in the summary of Key Points on the same page and therefore wasn't mentioned as an objective to preserve in Section 25. <i>Non-indigenous Heritage</i> .	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to give greater emphasis to the value of the Reservoir and surrounds to local people.
<b>PART E. MANAGING VISITOR USE</b>				
95	1	Reference is made to the significant economic benefits that the Wellington National Forest brings to the regions, which is estimated at \$91 million. Restriction of access to the water body and surrounds will no doubt reduce this figure.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The social and economic implications of the Reservoir being used for public drinking water purposes are mentioned in the plan.
<b>26. Recreational Opportunities</b>				
96	1	We have concerns with progressing the current draft plan without considering a decision about the future use of Wellington Reservoir. If the Reservoir continues to be considered a drinking water source, given the existing gazettal of this source as a public drinking water supply, the recreation opportunities in and around the Reservoir that are outlined in the plan may not be supported. Such a decision could result in the need for enhancement of other recreation opportunities in the park or region.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. Should the Reservoir be required for dinking purposes in the future, the management plan will provide a process by which changes to the plan can occur. The plan has been amended to this effect.
97	1	Our main concern with the plan is its potential to adversely impact the water quality of the Wellington Reservoir, which has been identified as a potential future public drinking water source for the IWSS. For Wellington Reservoir to be developed as a new source, our position is that it must be protected for public water supply. This requires preparation of a Drinking Water Source Protection Plan, which may either prohibit, or constrain recreational activities in and around the Reservoir.	2(d)	Noted. Comment addresses issues beyond the scope of the plan. An approved drinking water source protection plan has not been prepared by DoW.
98	1	We are aware that the Government has established a Steering Committee to investigate water source options in the Collie-Wellington Basin. Its purpose is to provide advice to Government on the best option(s) for maximising productive use of water from the Collie-Wellington Basin. We believe that it is inappropriate to recommend active development of recreation activities in and around the Wellington Reservoir prior to the Steering Committee completing its work.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The Steering Committee has completed its report to Government and these finding have been incorporated into the plan. While the report recommended various options for the use of the Wellington Reservoir, no decisions have been made regarding recreation around the Reservoir. Consequently, the Department has progressed the preparation on the final management plan and will provide for recreational use of the area. The management plan provides the flexibility for change if the Reservoir is required as a public drinking water supply in the future and recreational use is deemed inappropriate.
99	1	It is acknowledged that the primary purpose of Wellington Reservoir is to supply potable and irrigation water to the public of the south-west of Western Australia. Water shortages, population growth and climate change implications increase the	2(d)	Noted. Comment addresses issues beyond the scope of the plan.

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		need for securing water supplies and consequently the need and urgency to rehabilitate Wellington Reservoir. It is acknowledged that there is a need to bring Wellington Reservoir online as a potable water supply.		
100	1	We recognise that the prime purpose of the Wellington Reservoir is to supply potable water. Although this has not happened for the past 16 years, it has always been planned that it would occur in the future.	2(d)	Noted. Comment addresses issues beyond the scope of the plan.
101	1	We are concerned that the use of the Wellington Reservoir as a public drinking water supply by 2017 may constrain or prevent the longer term use of the Reservoir for tourism and recreational activities. To this end, we suggest that the plan incorporate a long-term vision of how the Reservoir might be used well into the future, particularly if and when it is used as a public drinking water supply. This should also include the possibility for a range of water and land-based recreational activities.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The future use of the Reservoir is undecided and is beyond the scope of this management plan. However, recreational use around the Reservoir has been considered and is provided for. The management plan has been amended to provide a process by which changes can be made if the Reservoir is required as a public drinking water supply in the future and recreational use is deemed inappropriate.
102	2	We understand that drinking water supplies are under serious threat. However, we strongly believe that all options and alternative solutions to the protection or treatment of the water body should be explored and explained to the community prior to any final decision being made.	2(d)	Noted. Comment addresses issues beyond the scope of the plan. Management of the water resource is the responsibility of the DoW. Options regarding the future use of the Reservoir have been investigated by the Steering Committee for the Collie-Wellington Basin. This committee has reported to Government. The findings of this report are included in this management plan.
103	1	We recognise the importance of the Wellington Reservoir in the State's strategic approach to dealing with the water crisis, which is already impacting parts of our State. We are also aware that unless significant measures are taken with a view to the short, medium and long term, this crisis will deepen. In saying this, we are committed to ensuring that the social community issues are not ignored when assessing the future of Wellington Reservoir, given its importance as an iconic area in the south-west.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The management of water resources is undertaken by the DoW. This management plan has considered social community issues and will continue to provide for recreational use around the Reservoir in a controlled manner. The management plan has been amended to provide a process by which changes can be made if the Reservoir is required as a public drinking water supply in the future and recreational use is deemed inappropriate.
104	1	Historical links of recreational access to Wellington Reservoir span back through generations of local residents to when the Reservoir was first constructed in the 1930s. However, there is scant reference in the plan to the intrinsic and historical value of the Reservoir as a source of recreation for local people. It is disturbing how few passages in the plan acknowledge the strong connection that local people have with the Reservoir and the major detrimental effect that quarantining it will have on the lifestyle of local residents.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to give greater emphasis to the value of the Reservoir and surrounds to local people.
105	1	It is proposed that a significant passage in the plan be devoted to recognising the value of Wellington Reservoir as an important traditional venue for recreational activities, and that such activities have occurred over generations of users. This passage could be included under <i>Managing Our Cultural Heritage</i> or <i>Managing Visitor Use</i> .	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been altered to give greater emphasis to the value of the Reservoir and surrounds for recreational use. The history of such use is described in the plan.
106	1	Page 81, Key Point number five. This point implies that Wellington Reservoir only became available for recreation in 1990. This is not the case. The public have accessed the Reservoir since its construction, including the period when it was used as a potable water supply for the GSTWSS.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The Reservoir was made available for recreation in 1990, although it is acknowledged that prior recreational use may have occurred. The plan has been amended to reflect this point.
107	1	It is of concern that different standards appear to apply now that the Reservoir is	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered

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		being considered as a potable water supply for the metropolitan area. That is, it was acceptable for recreational access to co-exist with the Reservoir being used as a potable water supply whilst servicing the GSTWSS but is unacceptable for recreational access to co-exist with the Reservoir being used to supply the metropolitan IWSS.		during the plan preparation. While recreational use may have occurred while the Reservoir was part of the GSTWSS, it was not formerly made available for recreation until 1990.
108	1	We do not suggest that recreational access should take precedence over the potable or irrigation requirements of the dam. However, passive recreational access is of such importance, particularly to local people, that it should be allowed to co-exist with these other requirements.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan amended to provide for recreation subject to the Reservoir being required for public drinking water purposes in the future.
109	2	We strongly recommend that the State Government to pursue a management regime whereby the two uses of the Wellington Reservoir, water source protection and recreational activities, can successfully co-exist.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Regimes that consider the two uses of Wellington Reservoir will be considered if the Reservoir is required as a public drinking water supply in the future.
110	2	We strongly believe that the plan should commit to the development of the Wellington Reservoir on the basis of shared use of the resource for recreational and potable water users. While presenting some additional challenges for public water providers, this approach exists, and has worked successfully, in various jurisdictions on the east coast of Australia (e.g. Wivenhoe Dam, Queensland) and internationally.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan amended to provide for recreation subject to the Reservoir being required for public drinking water purposes in the future.
111	1	Consideration should be given to piping water from Wellington Reservoir to a holding reservoir where it could be held for the required amount of time to ensure that it is a safe potable water source. With the advancement of technology, it should be expected that a compromise could be found to allow the Reservoir to offer both recreational access to the water and a potable source of drinking water.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The DoW are responsible for the management of water resources throughout the State. The plan has been amended to provide for recreation subject to the Reservoir being required for public drinking water purposes in the future.
112	1	Dual sources adopt a range of management approaches such as keeping physical distance between recreational activities and the point of water extraction, some limitation on water body contact, only constraining recreational activities when the supply source reaches critical low levels and the use of multiple treatments before entry into the potable water distribution network. These measures provide increased buffering and would be complemented by the construction of a trunk main from Wellington Dam along the base of the Darling Scarp to enable the transfer of water into the largely empty northern storage dams such as South and North Dandalup. This would allow water to be treated on leaving Wellington Reservoir, monitored when stored at either of the alternative locations proposed and then treated before entering the IWSS. Adoption of a multiple barrier treatment approach for water from Wellington Reservoir will ensure that the extracted water will meet public health requirements and provide opportunities for 'fit for purpose' supply to industrial developments along the Swan Coastal Plain from Bunbury to Pinjarra.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Such options will be considered by the Department and DoW if the Reservoir is required for public drinking water purposes in the future. This management plan has been amended to provide for recreational use subject to future decisions on the use of the Reservoir.
113	1	It is feared that the Department of Water has already determined its position on recreational access to Wellington Reservoir. That is, the Reservoir should be quarantined and public access prohibited for a distance of 2 km from the high water mark. (71)	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought. No decisions on recreational use around the Reservoir have been made and a drinking water source protection plan that involves public consultation has not been prepared by the DoW.
114	2	It cannot be stated strongly enough that any attempts to prohibit access to the Wellington Reservoir for water-based recreational activities will have severe social and economic implications. For local residents within the region, it holds a	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to provide for recreation subject to the Reservoir being required for public drinking water purposes in the future.



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		very special place in their psyche, with many having grown up camping, swimming, marroning and fishing in the planning area. Visitors are drawn to the area's natural beauty and interacting with the water is an important part of the visitor experience. This is especially so for inland communities that are a long way from the coast. Banning access to the Reservoir would be like banning access to popular beaches for Perth residents.		
115	2	While we acknowledge the need to protect our potable water sources, we have concerns that the public will be restricted from accessing the Wellington Reservoir for leisure pursuits such as camping, canoeing, fishing, marroning and swimming in the future. These activities have been enjoyed for many decades without any detrimental impact, and are highly valued by the local community. We believe that there is merit in the plan considering the longer term acceptance of these uses within the planning area if the Wellington Reservoir is to be used as a potable water source in 2017 and beyond.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to provide for recreation subject to the Reservoir being required for public drinking water purposes in the future.
116	1	We are strongly opposed to camping and water-based activities being excluded from the national park's waterways.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to provide for recreation subject to the Reservoir being required for public drinking water purposes in the future. Camping will be restricted to nodes around the Reservoir to manage this use.
117	1	We oppose any move to block recreational/minimum impact activities (e.g. canoeing, hiking or light-weight camping) being conducted on or near the Wellington Reservoir or river below the Reservoir wall. We understand the issues and believe that a blanket ban on recreational activities is unjustifiable.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to provide for recreation subject to the Reservoir being required for public drinking water purposes in the future. Recreational activities below the dam wall are not subject to future decisions on the use of the Reservoir and will continue to be permitted.
118	2	Page 77. No matter what the economic value of the area may be, statements in the report often say 'these activities are incompatible with best practice for water source protection'. However, with careful management they need not be incompatible.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The management of recreation in drinking water catchments is guided by the Department's Policy Statement 18 <i>Recreation, tourism and visitor services</i> and DoW's Statewide Policy 13 – Policy and Guidelines for Recreation within Public Drinking Water Source Areas. The compatibility of recreation activities with water source protection will be determined if and when the source is to be used as a potable water supply.
119	1	Restricting access to the Wellington Reservoir could adversely affect Collie's budding nature-based and adventure tourism industry, which creates jobs and is an important component of our strategy to encourage economic diversification in the area.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to provide for recreation subject to the Reservoir being required for public drinking water purposes in the future. In providing for recreation, the Department will maintain access to the Reservoir.
120	1	With more people pursuing outdoor adventure activities, we urge DEC to reconsider its limiting access policy and to in fact pursue resources to encourage greater access to opportunities in the parks.	2(g)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. The Department's objective is not to limit access to the planning area. However, the plan is subject to decisions on the future use of Wellington Reservoir.
121	1	An assumption may be made that some of the 'Key Points' and 'Performance Indicators' may limit access to the park in many ways. This could result in some areas being overused as DEC is to develop a limited number of areas. Illegal use of undeveloped areas may increase as a result. The potential to close off certain areas for water purity protection (e.g. Potters Gorge) and limiting road access	2(g)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. The Department's objective is not to limit access to the planning area. However, current use is unsustainable and modifications to current access are required. The plan is also subject to decisions on the future use of Wellington Reservoir.

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		even further than at present by either closing roads permanently or making other road seasonal access (summer/autumn) only may further exacerbate public frustration. Despite the reasons for visiting a prime recreation area, the managers will be directing users into areas of low conservation value and limiting access to the areas that they really want to visit.		
122	1	Although the plan indicates that additional camping and recreation nodes may be developed, the number and location have not yet been determined. The report also indicates that popular areas may be lost, and some vehicle access will be even more limited than present. It is difficult to comment on this section as future 'site assessments' will be done in isolation to the plan and will be planned 'in house' and actioned without any public comment being invited (as per previous CALM practices).	2(g)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. It is not necessary in strategic documents such as management plans to identify the specific location of proposed camping nodes. Rather, identifying the concept of introducing camping nodes is required. Future site development will be developed in consultation with the community.
123	1	The plan should indicate that more access/camping/recreation nodes will be required to cater for: a) an increase in population throughout the metropolitan and south-west regions; b) the ever increasing popularity of outdoor physical recreation activities; and c) the increased number of passive recreation visitors (purely scenic driving) that other attractions are bringing to the region (e.g. Collie Motorplex, Lake Kepwari, Ferguson Valley and Harvest Highway promotions).	2(g)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. It is not necessary in strategic documents such as management plans to identify the specific number and location of proposed access routes and camping nodes. Consideration in the plan is given to visitor needs, regional development, the areas capacity to cope with visitor use and the conservation of natural values.
124	2	Page 98. The plan states that the occurrence of viruses downstream of a swimming area is much higher than upstream. Based on this assumption, any runoff, including runoff from septic tanks in Allanson and Collie, would have dramatic affects on the water quality of Wellington Reservoir. Also, this assumption implies that restrictions on access in the planning area will not remove the threat coming from the Collie and Allanson townsites.	2(d)	Noted. Comment is beyond the scope of the plan.
125	2	The proximity of Collie and Allanson to the Collie River is a concern if water in the Reservoir is to be included as part of the GSTWSS. I believe that both townsites would not be allowed to be developed in the Reservoir catchment if they were proposed as new developments today.	2(d)	Noted. Comment is beyond the scope of the plan.
126	1	We do not support the notion that recreational activities in the Wellington Reservoir should be relocated beyond 2017 to either the Collie River downstream of the dam wall and upstream of the Black Diamond Pit or to the Western Five mine site. These water bodies may not be suitable to cater for current and projected demand for water-based activities and are unlikely to offer the same quality of experience for tourists and locals as the Reservoir or the lower Collie River.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. It is acknowledged that relocating recreational use to areas such as the Western Five mine site may not provide the same experiences as the Wellington Reservoir. The plan has been amended to this effect.
127	1	If water is no longer discharged from the Wellington Reservoir into the Collie River, then areas such as the Rapids, Big Rock and Little Rock have the potential to become stagnant, offering little appeal, particularly during the summer months. This potentially jeopardises the viability of tourism businesses. Anecdotal evidence suggests that in areas where water bodies used for recreational activities have been reclassified and utilised as potable water sources, the amount of discharge can be minimal, and in some cases completely dry, thus resulting in an inadequate water supply for canoeing and/or white water rafting. (130)	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The DoW is responsible for determining the discharge from Wellington Reservoir. It is noted in the plan that the amount of discharge may affect recreational opportunities downstream. The plan has been amended to liaise with DoW regarding the provision of flows for recreational use and for environmental reasons.
128	1	We recognise that the Wellington Reservoir is one of the region's major tourist attractions and that the majority of activities are water-based. It also appears that	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation.

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		there are no similar water bodies within the region that offer similar tourism and recreational experiences. (130)		
129	1	Collie people, and people from other south-west towns, have limited areas for recreation. In Collie, this has occurred since the river was dredged to prevent flooding. Now there are only a few areas suitable for recreation. Glen Mervyn Dam and Stockton Lake allow waterskiing and power boats that spoil canoeing opportunities. (70)	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation.
130	2	Page 78-79. The upper Murray River and Harvey Dam are the only waterways between Collie and Perth that do not allow motorised watercraft. These areas provide opportunities for the public to swim, marron and camp without the noise and safety issues that arise from motorised boating. Wellington Reservoir is also one of these areas but with statements in the plan like 'these activities are incompatible with best practice for water source protection', it will be lost and locked away.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation.
131	1	The last paragraph on Page 78 gives examples of locations where similar types of recreation activities can be carried out, identifying the northern areas as well used. The plan also identifies activities such as camping, where there is a high demand but a shortage of designated sites. Future use for recreation in these areas may also be limited if restrictive management plans prevail.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. This plan aims to facilitate recreational use where this is consistent with the protection of natural values.
132	1	We acknowledge the specific brief of the plan and the account taken of more generic issues such as sustainable tourism access and other commercial activities. However, we have some considerable concern that the impact of the plan is not being considered in the overall context of recreation provision throughout the whole of the south-west of the State. In particular, as the demand for recreation in natural environments grows, and simultaneously there is an increasing demand for potable water, a conflict of interest is likely to be maintained.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan includes specific statements that cover the provision of recreation opportunities within the region. This is considered to be an appropriate scale by which to plan for recreation within the planning area.
133	1	A balanced, shared agreement between agencies with a vested interest in the Wellington Reservoir and national park for the three main purposes of recreation, water purity and conservation must be found - with recreation taking its place as an equal partner if the triple bottom line is to be achieved.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to provide a process by which this will be considered if the Reservoir is required for public drinking water purposes in the future.
134	1	There must be a way partnerships can be created to ensure that there is a balance between conservation and recreation as there is certainly going to be and increased demand from a growing population. These people will want to experience the natural environment and undertake challenging outdoor recreation opportunities without the need to 'hire' commercial supervisors. The plan seems to ignore 'Friends of', local community and other groups who can assist with the protection and conservation of prime areas for recreation, and instead directs people to low conservation value areas or the outlying pine plantations. There appears to be a 'look but don't touch mentality', when all other lessons today are encouraging an active experimental approach to participation.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The purpose of national parks is to ' <i>fulfil so much of the demand for recreation as is consistent with the proper maintenance and restoration of the natural environment, the protection of indigenous flora and fauna, and the preservation of any features of archaeological, historic or scientific interest</i> '. The development of recreation opportunities within the planning area is consistent with this purpose.
135	1	The proposed 'tightening' of use of the Wellington National Park will have increased implications on such statements as 'sustainable' and 'conservation value'.	2(g)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. The comment does not specify what these implications may be.
136	1	The plan continually refers to 'when' not 'if' the water in Wellington Reservoir will again be used for potable purposes.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan acknowledges that the Reservoir could again be used for potable drinking water. However, the text has been amended to reflect the

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				comment.
137	1	We acknowledge DEC's plan to undertake a Drinking Water Source Protection Plan and support the identified key issues, objectives and processes required to achieve this.	2(g)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. The Department of Water is responsible for the preparation of drinking water source protection plans.
		<b>Visitor Numbers</b>		
138	1	Page 79, third paragraph. This is one of the strongest acknowledgements in the plan of the attachment 'visitors' have to the Reservoir. However, the term 'visitor' needs to be clarified as the attachment of local people to the Reservoir is not properly recognised. On the one hand, the plan acknowledges that there is visitor attachment to the Reservoir but then goes on to suggest that most of the visitors are not local. It does not state how this was determined. It should be recognised that local people access the Reservoir via backroads/tracks or canoe down the river, so unless surveys were conducted that captured this type of access, conclusions about the composition of visitors to the Reservoir would be far from accurate.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to reflect the attachment that local people have to the area. The plan states that many of the visitors to the area are thought to be local but also states that visitor surveys indicate that most visitors are from Perth. Further surveys would be required to clarify this point.
139	1	Regardless of the accuracy of statistics on visitor numbers, there can be no denial of the importance to local people of continued access to Wellington Reservoir.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to reflect the attachment that local people have to the area.
140	3	Page 78-79. Logue Brook Dam may be proclaimed as a drinking water source. Its potential closure will only increase the number of visitors to Wellington National Park, the region and other areas that remain open to public access.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation.
141	1	There is much debate as to whether the current size of Wellington National Park can sustain the projected visitor numbers.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation.
142	1	In school holidays, it is very difficult to meet one of the key values, 'a sense of seclusion', as the area around the Wellington Reservoir is so busy.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. A 'sense of seclusion' is maintained out of peak periods. The plan has been amended to reflect the level of visitor interaction during peak periods.
143	1	There is very little hard data on visitor use. Also, the collection of data is difficult because of the number of access points to the park by motor vehicles, walkers and cyclists.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan acknowledges that information on visitor use patterns and profiles is required. Currently data is collected using road counters and visitor surveys.
		<b>Visitor Management Settings</b>		
144	1	The part of the plan that relates to visitor management settings requires further clarity as it is difficult to determine the intent and proposed outcomes. (127)	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The text relating to visitor management settings has been clarified in the plan.
<b>27. Visitor Access</b>				
145	1	Whilst reasonable access is currently enjoyed by the public, detailed planning needs to be completed to ensure that recreational areas remain accessible to the public for a variety of activities.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. An appropriate level of planning, suitable for strategic documents such as management plans, was undertaken during the preparation of this management plan. However, it is acknowledged that further, more detailed planning is required to determine the on-ground location of visitor facilities and services.
146	2	We believe that a reduction of access will increase the pressure on remaining areas in the planning area and similar areas within the region. Increased pressure	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan states that a reduction of access to

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		on other areas within the region is not referred to in the plan and its impact must be taken into consideration.		drinking water catchments displaces many visitors and increases pressure on the planning area.
147	1	The impact of the estimated 145 000 visitors in the 1999-2000 financial year is less over a greater area than a smaller area, which accommodates the same number of visitors and has limited camping opportunities and road access (both two and four-wheel drive vehicles).	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Adhoc recreational use poses several issues for managers. These are stated in the plan. Controlling such use (e.g. nodal camping around the Reservoir) will enable the Department to better manage these issues.
148	1	Page 83, table 7. We would like to strongly support the recommendation to seal Pile Road given its important strategic nature. We have recognised the importance of this road by sealing the entire section that is located within the Shire of Collie. We believe that sealing the remainder of the road would be a great benefit to the region.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan recommends that Pile Road be sealed. This is also a recommendation in the <i>Roads 2020 Regional Development Strategy</i> .
149	1	Sealing the remainder of Pile, Falcon and Mungalup roads should be a priority. These routes bring many visitors to/from the planning area from areas such as the Ferguson valley, Dardanup and Bunbury. Many visitors are unable to access those routes due to restrictions on hire cars travelling on unsealed roads.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan recommends that these roads be sealed.
150	1	We generally support the retention of the existing and proposed public vehicle access routes as outlined on Map 9 of the plan. However, we would also like to see the development of an additional, well maintained, two wheel drive scenic route. This would provide greater access to the planning area and cater for tourists who, in most cases, only have access to a two wheel drive vehicle.	1(d)	Noted. Comment proposes strategies that would better achieve management objectives. The plan proposed several two-wheel drive scenic routes but has been amended to propose that Flora Road also be sealed if resources are available. However, there are other significant capital works that are required in the planning area that are of greater priority.
151	1	Page 82, paragraph 5. Wellington Forest and King Tree roads are scenic and intimate roads, and consequently upgrading to a sealed road standard would destroy the intrinsic natural values that visitors to a national park are seeking. Traffic along these roads is minor and does not warrant a capital works upgrade.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Sealing Wellington Forest Road will facilitate links to Pile and Falcon roads as well as to all major recreation developments and the Ferguson Valley. This road also provides access for buses, linking these areas. Consequently, upgrading the standard of this road is required. It is not proposed to seal King Tree Road.
152	1	Page 84. Four-wheel drive and trail motorcycle access routes have been slowly eroding over the past few years and the plan foreshadows more access routes being closed. In the Wellington National Park, it is often necessary to use a four-wheel drive to reach a point of access to begin walking/cycling or horse-riding activities. By implication then, these activities will be further restricted.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. There are many four-wheel drive tracks in Wellington National Park, many of which duplicate access to recreation developments and hence are unnecessary. Access to walking, cycling and horse-riding activities proposed in the plan can largely be accessed by two-wheel drive.
153	2	Page 84-85. The 4WD Association of WA, Trackcare and DEC have signed a memorandum of understanding.	1(a)	Noted. Comment provides additional information of direct relevance to management. The plan has been amended to state that a memorandum of understanding is in place.
154	2	In recent times the 4WD community, trackcare and DEC have repaired Lennard Drive below River Road, planned repair work to Sailors Gully and adopted tracks in the Collie area.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Work by the 4WD community and Trackcare has been noted in the plan. The plan is amended to note some of the specific projects undertaken by these groups.
155	2	Page 84-85. There are no studies available regarding increased turbidity due to four-wheel drive activities, and thus the statement in the plan that four-wheel drive activities can contribute to turbidity cannot be validated. Also, there are no current measures of turbidity in Wellington Reservoir, and it could be argued that other factors such as turbidity caused by feral animals, thinning of trees to	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan provides for recreational access to the Reservoir until such a time as the future use of the Reservoir is determined.

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		increase water runoff and runoff along the Reservoir foreshore, are much greater contributors to turbidity levels than four-wheel drive activities. In addition to this, the Federal Government target for reservoirs in the south-west is for aesthetics only.		
156	2	Page 84-85. As a track may need to be closed, there will also need to be a massive cull of feral animals, trees replanted to prevent runoff and the banks of the Reservoir planted with grass or stabilised to prevent 'increased turbidity'.	2(f)	Noted. Comment contributes options that are not feasible. Feral animal control will be undertaken within the planning area is for conservation reasons. It is not necessary to replant trees to prevent runoff or plant the banks of the reservoir with grass.
157	2	Page 84-85. Four-wheel drive vehicles and trail bikes should not be linked together.	2(f)	Noted. Comment contributes options that are not feasible. Four-wheel drive vehicles and trail bikes are legitimate uses of tracks and roads within the planning area that are open to the public. It is difficult to separate such use.
158	1	Trail motorcycles cause noise pollution and impact on other groups such as bushwalkers.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Trail motorcycles and other vehicles are not permitted on designated walk, cycle and horse trails. The plan has been amended to include a strategy to clarify this point.
159	1	We strongly support the banning of trail bikes as they are not considered an appropriate use of a national park.	2(f)	Noted. Comment contributes options that are not feasible. The use of trail bikes on tracks and roads open to the public is a legitimate activity on lands managed by the Department and hence will continue to be permitted. It is not equitable to prohibit this use and permit other types of vehicle access. However, trail bikes must be licensed and are not permitted off road.
160	1	Motor bikes are a nuisance, mainly due to the noise they make, which shatters the peacefulness of the park. However, motorbikes could be afforded a location in the park that is already ruined (e.g. cleared areas for power lines).	2(f)	As per above point.
161	1	Page 84. Recreational four-wheel driving off road contributes to soil degradation, erosion and spread of soil borne disease. Therefore, is not desirable anywhere in the national park. Priority should be given to minimal impact activities on the environment.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Recreational four-wheel driving off-road is not permitted in the plan, except in exceptional circumstances or to accommodate a particular activity. Approval from the District Manager is required. Four-wheel driving on roads and tracks open to the public is permitted. In sensitive areas, tracks will be subject to seasonal closure on a trial basis. Tracks may be rehabilitated where there is an adverse impact on the environment or where tracks are deemed unnecessary.
162	1	Extra funding should be requested to bury unsightly powerlines along Falcon Road. This will minimise the fire risk, enhance roadside conservation and improve safety for drivers.	1(d)	Noted. Comment proposes strategies that would better achieve management objectives. The Department supports this concept subject to its cost. The plan has been amended to recommend that new powerlines be underground.
163	1	Funding should be sought to employ experienced eco-landscape architects and eco-landscapers to enhance the entrances to Wellington National Park. (82)	2(d)	Noted. Comment addresses issues beyond the scope of the plan. Site development works are operational and hence are not addressed in strategic documents such as management plans.
164	1	There should be consultation with the Water Authority on the importance of managing visual resources.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan recommends liaison with State and local government agencies, neighbouring landowners and industry with respect to the management of visual landscape values. Visual landscape management is considered for all proposed works.
165	1	We agree with the key points, objectives and actions relating to visitor access.	2(b)	Noted. Comment clearly supports proposals in the plan.

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<b>28. Recreation Use</b>				
166	1	The draft management plan does not contain enough planning for recreation in the Wellington Reservoir.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The management plan contains a sufficient level of planning for recreational use. Part E of the plan specifically addresses issues relating to managing visitor use, including options for managing water-based recreation.
167	1	The draft management plan was biased in favour of recreational activity in the Wellington Reservoir only being in designated areas.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Recreational activity has been directed into designated areas (e.g. camping nodes) to manage adhoc and unsustainable use.
168	1	Page 86. The plan states that 'The Department (DEC) should be capable of providing any necessary degree of supervision of the activity, particularly where reserve values may be impaired, either directly or through the use of concessionaries. If this cannot be done the activity should be restricted, relocated or eliminated'. Such statements directly contradict the vision stated on page eight and it appears that DEC is already pre-empting a lack of resources and/or the promotion of supervised activities. It would seem that the informal recreational use of past years will no longer be available in future years.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The statement has been deleted from the plan.
<b>Bushwalking</b>				
169	1	It is acknowledged that if a proliferation or over supply of trails is prevalent, a logical plan that maintains the optimum number of trails and types to a high standard is acceptable. Overall, however, the establishment, management and promotion of trails should be completed on the basis of increased physical activity and recreation options. These factors may be considered in the context of a recreation facilities (including trails) plan.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan offers a variety of trails of varying distances and difficulties and in a variety of visitor management settings. In the broader context, the Department promotes physical activity within park through its <i>Healthy Parks Healthy People</i> program.
170	1	We are concerned about the hazards that may arise between walkers and riders on a portion of the southern extension of the Munda Biddi Bike Trail, which incorporates a walk track in close proximity to Lennard Drive. It is suggested that in order to minimise potential accidents between these two user groups, the above mentioned portion of the Munda Biddi Bike Trail be widened and improved safety signage installed.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. This section of the Munda Biddi Bike Trail will be designed and constructed for dual use.
171	1	It was always envisaged to have additional walk trails in the Ecology Zone of the WDF to cover specialist areas of interest (e.g. a fungi trail, bird observation trail, insect trail).	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The Development of future trails is provided for in the plan and will be based on the operational plan developed for the WDF.
<b>Cycling</b>				
172	1	We would like to continue to undertake mountain bike activities in Lennard block.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The management plan proposes to retain the mountain bike trail network in Lennard block.
173	1	The original application for the Mt Lennard cycle trails included plans for a stage 2 and 3 level of development, which meant a wider network of trails in the area. This was included because it was expected that mountain biking would continue to grow as a recreational activity. Contrary to the plan, I believe that mountain biking in the Wellington National Park is the largest recreational user group. I	1(b)	Noted. Comment provides additional information on affected user groups of direct relevance to management. Mountain biking in the planning area is identified as a popular recreational activity. The growth in mountain biking is noted. The plan has been amended to state that the development of future trails in the lower Collie River valley will be considered based

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		make this assumption using the experience of having been riding there from two to five times a week over the last nine years.		on a set of environmental, social and management criteria. Opportunities outside the planning area should also be explored.
174	1	There is the opportunity to create a fantastic network of bike trails in the national park. Mountain bikers have look after the area very well in the past.	1(b)	Noted. Comment provides additional information on affected user groups of direct relevance to management. It is noted that mountain bike groups have worked with the Department to develop the Mt Lennard trails. However, there has also been the development of unauthorised trails and several illegal structures, including jumps and ramps. The plan has been amended to state that the development of future trails in the lower Collie River valley will be considered based on a set of environmental, social and management criteria. Opportunities outside the planning area should also be explored.
175	2	The network of approved mountain bike trails is fairly limited and we would like to see more developed within the park.	1(b)	Noted. Comment provides additional information on affected user groups of direct relevance to management. The plan provides for a series of trails of various distances and difficulties at Mt Lennard, several dual use paths (e.g. Sika Circuit) and the long distance Munda Biddi Bike Track. Cycling is also permitted on roads and tracks open to the public. The plan has been amended to state that the development of future trails in the lower Collie River valley will be considered based on a set of environmental, social and management criteria. Opportunities outside the planning area should also be explored.
176	1	The majority of the park is both suitable for, and attractive to, cycling activities (mainly mountain biking), yet there are so few formed tracks when there could be many more. Again, any 'informal' use of the park by cycling in/on areas other than marked trails will be prohibited. Page 90 of the plan states that 'riding of bicycles off public roads or designated tracks will not be permitted'. Whilst this statement is acknowledged, cycling tracks and facilities should be considered within the detail of a recreation facilities (including trails) plan.	1(b)	As per above point.
177	1	With the extension of the Munda Biddi Bike Trail, and the existing mountain bike trails in the planning area, cyclists are reasonably well catered for. However, the introduction of more trails for the exclusive use of cyclists would be welcomed.	1(b)	As per above point.
178	1	We do not support the concept of dual use walking and cycle trails (e.g. Sika Circuit, Wellington Dam to Potters Gorge) as such trails can be dangerous, particularly for walkers. The proposed class 2 trail from Wellington Dam to Potters Gorge for example, is seen as too narrow to support dual usage and could cause considerable conflict. This trail would more than likely be quite popular with families camping at Potters Gorge who wish to walk to the Wellington Dam kiosk.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. It is acknowledged that conflicts between park users can occur and it may be desirable to separate conflicting uses. However, trails can also be designed for dual use. This is an appropriate approach in the lower Collie River valley where there is a desire for several recreation user groups to access the area. In this case, trail use will be monitored and cycle use may be restricted if conflicts occur.
		<b>Horse-riding</b>		
179	82	We would like to continue to use Lennard block and associated areas for horse-riding, including our annual endurance ride. (Proforma 1 - WA Endurance Riders Association)	1(b)	Noted. Comment provides additional information on affected user groups of direct relevance to management. A horse-riding trail will be developed in the Lennard block.
180	1	We have been conducting horse-riding events in Lennard block each year and find that there is no damage caused by horses, no weeds and no other environmental damage. We would be prepared to design a system of bridle trails	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.



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		with DEC. (1)		
181	82	Bridle trails should be considered in the planning area. (Proforma 1 - WA Endurance Riders Association)	1(b)	Noted. Comment provides additional information on affected user groups of direct relevance to management. A horse-riding trail will be developed in the Lennard block.
182	1	We support the inclusion of designated bridle trails in the planning area. There is a strong following both within Collie and the region for recreational horse-riding, with bushland areas being particularly popular. However, these trails should not be dual use as horses and cyclists are generally not compatible.	1(b)	Noted. Comment provides additional information on affected user groups of direct relevance to management. Trails will be planned to separate horse and cycle use.
183	1	We strongly support the establishment of additional horse-riding trails in the eastern extremity of the national park, closer to the Allanson townsite. This part of the national park is popular amongst local horse riders and, given its proximity to the Allanson community, we consider it appropriate to ensure that access remains, albeit in a controlled environment and within a discrete area.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. An issue in developing bridle trails in this area is the crossing of Coalfields Road. Hamilton block, which adjoins the Allanson townsite to the north is more widely used as a more suitable area to develop this activity.
184	1	There is perhaps more reason for restrictions with horses than bicycles, but with the current education among members of equestrian clubs there is a very strong environmental ethic about riding in sensitive areas. Instead of encouraging riding in selected areas the plan is still written in the negative, with Map 10 stating 'Area where <i>one</i> designated bridle trail <i>may</i> be considered <i>if</i> there is sufficient response to this management plan'. Unfortunately reactive statements or suppositions are unlikely to encourage recreation use.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The text in the plan is considered appropriate.
185	1	The Collie River Marathon is a popular local event, with strong interest in the horse-riding leg. If horse-riding is prohibited from the Westralia Conservation Park, it is imperative that alternative areas be identified for events and pony clubs.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan states that alternative horse-riding areas, more capable of sustaining large groups of horses, will be identified. Proprietary block in nearby State forest may be an alternative of the Collie River Marathon.
186	1	For many, an involvement with horses has brought them the feeling of being closer to nature.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
187	1	The relationship between humans and horses is being renewed in leisure activities.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
188	1	Endurance horse-riding is important to the family unit and not just a sport for individuals.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
189	1	There is a lack of availability of horse-riding areas.	1(b)	Noted. Comment provides additional information on affected user groups of direct relevance to management. A horse-riding trail will be developed in the Lennard block.
190	1	We agree with the key points, objective and actions relating to horse-riding.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
191	1	Horse-riding, irrespective of the establishment of bridle trails in the national park, would have a deleterious effect on nature conservation. For example, invasive weeds introduced through horse dung pose a serious threat to native bushland.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Designating horse-riding trails enables the Department to direct use to more resilient environments. The plan states that horse-riding on designated trails will be modified or restricted if the activity is deemed environmentally or socially unacceptable.
		<b>Hunting</b>		
192	1	We agree that hunting is not compatible with the planning area. Recreational hunting should not be permitted.	2(a)	Noted. Comment clearly supports proposals in the plan. The plan states that hunting is not permitted.
		<b>Abseiling and Rock Climbing</b>		
193	1	We have some concern over the maximum size of a 'group' as many volunteer	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity.

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		clubs or associations, whilst not conducting a 'commercial' activity, may now be required to obtain a commercial activity licence at considerable cost to the association. This will diminish the inclination to conduct this activity at a DEC-managed venue.		Only people conducting commercial rock climbing and abseiling activities on DEC-managed lands are required to have a commercial activities licence. However, a maximum number of people may be nominated for environmental, social or safety reasons. The plan has been revised to be consistent with the Department's re-drafted Policy Statement No. 18 <i>Recreation, tourism and visitor services</i> .
		<b>Special Events</b>		
194	1	We generally agree with the key points, objectives and actions relating to special events.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
195	2	The South-West Car Club Hill Climb event should be permitted as it is held on a sealed road, and hence has a low impact on the natural environment. This road is used by other vehicles on a daily basis. Also, the event may bring social and economic benefits to the region.	1(d)	Noted. Comment proposes strategies that would better achieve management objectives. The Department recognises that there has been a change in land tenure from State forest, and that this event has been held in the past. The Department also recognises that the event meets the sustainability criteria stated in the plan and may provide economic benefits to the lessees of the Wellington Dam kiosk. Therefore, the event will be permitted to continue.
		<b>Water-Based Activities</b>		
196	1	Page 96. Has there been a study done to prove human contact and other recreational activities on Wellington Reservoir causes microbiological contamination? Surely human contact would be minimal compared to effluent from farms and the town area.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Recreational use of the Reservoir catchment will be permitted in plan. The plan has been amended to provide a process by recreational use will be considered if the Reservoir is required for public drinking water purposes in the future.
197	2	The table on page 97 of the plan doesn't include UV treatment.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to permit recreational use of the Reservoir catchment subject to decisions regarding the future use of the Reservoir. The Table on page 97 has been deleted from the plan.
198	1	We are unclear as to the difference that human contact may have to the water body as opposed to the impact that animal contact may have.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Recreational use of the Reservoir catchment will be permitted in plan. The plan has been amended to provide a process by recreational use will be considered if the Reservoir is required for public drinking water purposes in the future.
		<b>Boating, Canoeing and Sailing</b>		
199	1	The plan notes that the displacement of recreational activities from any area creates pressures on the remaining areas. It is based on this that we support continued access to the areas stated in the plan for non-motorised boating as we have been displaced from the international canoeing course at Harvey.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan provides for non-motorised boating downstream of the Wellington dam wall. However, events will be considered on a case-by-case basis according to sustainability criteria stated in the plan. For events, there are issues relating to access and parking and viewing is difficult for spectators.
200	3	Page 102. We support the development of a canoe trail from Allanson to Potters Gorge that includes a canoe/walk-in only campsite.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan recommends that a canoe trail from Allanson to Potters Gorge be developed. This will include a canoe/walk-in only campsite.
201	1	A canoe trail coupled with a walk-in only campsite that is located well above the high water mark would have minimal impacts on water quality.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
202	1	The most desirable time for canoeing is late spring and summer. This may align with seasonal concepts for recreational access as suggested on page 97.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
203	1	Canoeists utilise the release of water from the Wellington Reservoir to recreate	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.

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		and enhance white water skills. We have recently been liaising with managers of the national park to hold formal events in the area. (102)		Formal events will be considered on a case-by-case basis according to sustainability criteria stated in the plan. There are issues relating to access and parking and viewing is difficult for spectators.
204	1	Collie Centaurs Hocky Club have been conducting canoe rides down the Collie River for about 30 years. Consequently, curtailment of access to the Reservoir would impact upon their established traditions. I canoe regularly on the Collie River and Wellington Reservoir and the potential loss of this privilege is a major concern to me. (71)	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan recommends that a canoe trail from Allanson to Potters Gorge be developed. This will include a canoe/walk-in only campsite.
205	1	Page 102. Reference is made to options for managing non-motorised boating on Wellington Reservoir. The last option appears to be the preferred option of the Department of Water. This is the simplest option but doesn't account for the social and economic cost to local people.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
206	1	We agree that powered craft should not be permitted on the Wellington Reservoir from both an environmental and noise pollution perspective.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation.
207	1	The Wellington Reservoir is not suited to extensive boating as there are many dead tree stumps throughout the water body. However, in 1989 an international rowing course was cleared of stumps to allow the King's Cup regatta to be conducted.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan recognises that special events such as the Kings Cup regatta have occurred in the planning area.
208	1	We agree that more access points for launching craft should be provided (and signposted) along the Collie River.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The statement is supported in the plan.
209	1	Page 101. The first two sentences of the last paragraph are acknowledged as correct.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
		<b>Swimming</b>		
210	1	Overall, we agree with the key points, objective and actions relating to swimming.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
211	1	Swimming is extremely popular in the national park, particularly at Potters Gorge, which offers safe, easy access for children, the elderly and disabled visitors, and in the Collie River below the Wellington Dam wall (e.g. Honeymoon Pool and other sites along Lennard Drive). Everything possible should be done to continue to allow swimming at these locations as they are easily accessible and do not require four-wheel drive access (as do some of the backwater locations of the Reservoir).	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The draft plan supports swimming downstream of the dam wall. Options for swimming in the Reservoir were presented in the draft plan. The plan has been amended to support swimming in the Reservoir subject to future decisions being made on the use of the Reservoir.
212	1	The popular areas for swimming may be severely affected by future policies. If the Wellington Reservoir is returned to the prime purpose of potable water, Potters Gorge may be closed as it is considered to be too close to the dam wall and outlet areas. Honeymoon Pool may also be restricted, or amenities relocated, due to indigenous heritage considerations. The only area available for swimming would be the 'backwaters' on the north-eastern side of the Reservoir, as this is easily accessible by vehicle and is favoured by families for camping. The ability to use the Reservoir for swimming purposes (or just entering the water for marroning) should be allowed to continue at least as minimal access.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The draft plan supports swimming downstream of the dam wall and has section 18 approval for recreation sites in the area under the Aboriginal Heritage Act. Options for swimming in the Reservoir were presented in the draft plan. The plan has been amended to support swimming in the Reservoir subject to future decisions being made on the use of the Reservoir.
213	1	Page 98. On behalf of the community, we would like to put forward option one, 'continue to allow swimming in the Reservoir', as our preferred option.	1(e)	As per above point.
214	1	Page 98. The first two sentences under 'Swimming' are acknowledged as correct.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
215	1	Page 99. The first Key Point is acknowledged as correct.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.

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		<b>Marroning and Fishing</b>		
216	1	Generally, we agree with the key points, objective and actions relating to marroning and fishing.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
217	2	Marroning is a very popular recreational activity in Wellington National Park with over 20,000 people taking out a Recreational Marron Fishing Licence each year. While the marron fishing season is limited, it draws large numbers of visiting families to the region during this short period. This experience is a uniquely West Australian activity that is part of our rich heritage.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought. The importance of marroning is stated in the plan.
218	1	Marroning and fishing have been significant community activities along the Reservoir banks for many years. As such, we are in strong support for this to continue in the context put forward - that is in a controlled environment.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Options for marroning in the Reservoir were presented in the draft plan. The plan has subsequently been amended to support marroning on the banks of the Reservoir subject to future decisions being made on the use of the Reservoir.
219	1	To close the Reservoir to marroning would be disastrous as far as the local community is concerned.	1(e)	As per above point.
220	2	Page 99. Restricting camping will place pressure on marron fishing on the eastern banks of the Wellington Reservoir.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Vehicle access will be permitted on the banks of Wellington Reservoir during the marron season. Camping will still be restricted to designated campsites.
221	1	It is important that marroning be permitted on the Wellington Reservoir to take the pressure off the sites located along the Collie River, downstream of the Dam wall. This is important from a safety aspect as well as from a social perspective as large numbers of people vying for what is a small stretch of river can create antisocial behaviour.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Options for marroning in the Reservoir were presented in the draft plan. The plan has subsequently been amended to support marroning on the banks of the Reservoir subject to future decisions being made on the use of the Reservoir.
222	1	Fishing is extremely popular and should be permitted on both the Wellington Reservoir and Collie River. Stocking of the Reservoir should be encouraged.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Options for fishing in the Reservoir were presented in the draft plan. The plan has subsequently been amended to support fishing in the Reservoir subject to future decisions being made on the use of the Reservoir. Stocking of the Reservoir is the responsibility of the Department of Fisheries. The Department will provide advice to the Department of Fisheries relating to the biodiversity issues of stocking river systems that flow through the conservation estate.
223	1	To ban live bait fishing is harsh and not supported by fact.	2(c)	As per above point.
224	2	We believe that there needs to be greater explicit recognition of the importance of recreational fishing. It is also important that access points and park amenities are maintained or even increased for the benefit of all users, including recreational fishers.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to give greater recognition of the importance of recreational fishing.
225	1	Page 99. The first two sentences of the last paragraph are acknowledged as correct.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
226	1	Page 101. The first Key Point is acknowledged as correct.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
		<b>Scenic Tourist Routes</b>		
227	1	Improvements or extensions to the existing tourist routes would be welcomed. An example would be a road from the eastern boundary of the national park that links to Wellington Dam Road, and follows reasonably close to the water to allow for water views.	2(f)	Noted. Comment contributes options that are not feasible (generally due to conflict with existing legislation, Government policy, lack of resource capacity or lack of research knowledge to make decisions). It is not feasible or desirable to create new road through Wellington National Park.

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228	1	Flora Drive, which is very popular in winter when the river is high, and in springtime for wildflower drives, should be sealed.	1(d)	Noted. Comment proposes strategies that would better achieve management objectives. The plan has been amended to propose that Flora Road be sealed if resources are available. However, there are other significant capital works that are required in the planning area that are of greater priority.
229	1	Signage along tourist routes needs improving, with distances and directional signage required.	2(h)	Noted. Comment provides details that are not appropriate or necessary for inclusion in a document aimed at providing management direction over the long term.
		<b>Day-Use Facilities</b>		
230	1	We would like the Wellington Dam kiosk to be redeveloped and potentially relocated, possibly overlooking the Wellington Reservoir wall. In addition, we believe that consideration should be given to the integration of a learning experience in any kiosk redevelopment. This would focus on the national park, dam wall construction/history and the water crisis (as an opportunity to promote water saving technologies and policy positions of the Government).	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Such developments will be considered in accordance with the <i>Conservation and Land Management Act 1984</i> and Department policy.
231	1	We would like to draw attention to the significant landscaping and community infrastructure that has been developed at Harvey Dam. While some civil and landscaping works have been undertaken in Wellington National Park, we strongly encourage this development to continue and extend to the development of public facilities.	2(h)	Noted. Comment provides details that are not appropriate or necessary for inclusion in a document aimed at providing management direction over the long term. This type of development is not appropriate at all sites and must be consistent with the visitor management settings for the area.
232	1	Visitor access and amenities are being developed in an ad hoc fashion due to a lack of funding. This is evident above and below the Wellington Dam wall where there always seems to be half finished projects around high visitation areas.	2(g)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. The management plan provides for the strategic development of facilities and services within the planning area. Due to the scale of some projects, it is appropriate that they be developed over time.
		<b>Overnight Stays</b>		
233	1	Generally, we agree with the key points, objective and actions relating to overnight stays.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
234	1	We are very supportive of points 4 and 5 on how the objectives for overnight stays will be achieved. We strongly encourage the provision of built overnight accommodation as this would add significant value to the area and provide social and economic benefits back to the region.	2(a)	Noted. Comment clearly supports proposals in the plan. However, it is preferred that built accommodation, with the exception of resort style accommodation at Potters Gorge, is located outside the planning area.
235	1	We support the proposals to allocate camping sites and day-use areas along the southern and eastern foreshore of the Wellington Reservoir as it is evident that large-scale informal camping already occurs in these areas. The identification, formalisation and control of this use within the plan has merit and is in keeping with the demand for outdoor recreation, tourism and in particular nature-based tourism.	2(a)	Noted. Comment clearly supports proposals in the plan.
236	2	Page 99. Restricting bush camping on the eastern banks of the Wellington Reservoir will mean that campsites will become overcrowded, causing conflicts between visitors.	2(e)	Noted. Comment is one amongst several widely divergent viewpoints received on the topic but the text/strategies in the plan are still considered the best option. Campsites can be designed to cater for the predicted use.
237	1	We would like consideration to be given to providing additional camping areas either side of the section of the Reservoir that services the Worsley River. Access to this site is well known to locals and is approximately one kilometre west of the Hamilton Bridge down the existing water pipeline.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Further site planning is required to determine the location and number of campsites around the Reservoir. Consideration will need to be given to the needs of visitors and local people, management capability/requirements and the environmental and

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				cultural issues of these areas.
238	2	Page 107. Camping 280m from the full storage level would require clearing of treed areas. Also, the removal of bush camping means that adults will not be able to supervise children due to the distance from the camp to the water.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Clearing of vegetation would be minimised.
239	1	We are concerned about running outdoor activities in the park, particularly tent-based camping, canoeing, rafting and hiking.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
240	2	Page 104. Fishing and marroning take place at night and camping near the water's edge is favoured.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Vehicle access will be permitted on the banks of the Wellington Reservoir during the marron season. Camping will still be restricted to designated campsites.
241	1	It is unclear in the plan as to the current and future capacity of the day-use and overnight camping areas along the Wellington Reservoir foreshore, and what strategies are in place to meet visitor demands. The exception is the proposed campsite along the eastern side of the Reservoir.	2(h)	Noted. Comment provides details that are not appropriate or necessary for inclusion in a document aimed at providing management direction over the long term. The concept of nodal camping around the Wellington Reservoir will meet visitor needs within the constraints of other management requirements. It is not necessary in the plan to indicate the capacity of particular day-use and camping sites. This will be determined with further site planning over the life of the plan.
242	1	Camping in the natural environment, and close to the Wellington Reservoir, is possibly the most popular activity in the planning area, especially with families. This is usually associated with marroning but is also popular with walkers, cyclists and four-wheel drivers. The policy on camping is as per traditional DEC policy, but at least there are options available for both camping sites and the level of services (e.g. toilets or no toilets, potable water outlets or totally self sufficient). Restrictions on camping could occur if the Reservoir returns to a potable water source (e.g. Potters Gorge and the eastern, undeveloped side of the Reservoir) or due to indigenous heritage requirements (Honeymoon Pool below the dam wall).	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to state that camping, and other recreational use, around the Reservoir may be subject to future decisions on the use of the Reservoir.
243	1	A campground development similar to Potters Gorge, that is located across the water from that site, would take pressure off the other campgrounds.	2(h)	Noted. Comment provides details that are not appropriate or necessary for inclusion in a document aimed at providing management direction over the long term. Additional campgrounds will be considered through more detailed recreation site planning around the Reservoir.
244	1	Camping is extremely popular, with both Honeymoon Pool and Potters Gorge at capacity during holiday periods. Proposals to reduce or eliminate these campsites would meet with strong opposition from holiday makers and local residents, many of whom have grown up camping and recreating in and around the national park.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan proposes to retain camping areas at Honeymoon Pool and Potters Gorge.
245	1	We support the concept of a walk-in only campsite.	2(a)	Noted. Comment clearly supports proposals in the plan.
246	2	Page 107. The 4WD Association of WA no longer use informal campsites along Lennard Track due to concerns raised by local Aboriginal groups. Another area has not been set aside by DEC as a replacement.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan indicates that alternative, semi-remote campsites will be identified. This will be determined in consultation with four-wheel drive groups during the plans implementation. It is not necessary to include specific locations for this site in the management plan.
247	1	Proposals for wild campsites are welcomed, though more campsites need to be developed.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Current remote camping is adhoc and unsustainable. As a result basic campsites with minimal facilities will be

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				developed to manage this use.
248	1	Page 107. Wild campsites have existed for well over 20 years. As the Reservoir is 74 years old, and as people like to camp near the water, camping in the existing areas would date back to more like 70 years.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
249	1	Page 107. Wild campsites have a high intensity of use because this is where and how people want to camp. I tend to camp on the western shore of the Wellington Reservoir as it is more protected from the afternoon sun. However, there are no campsites proposed in the plan that are located on the western shore of the Reservoir.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Further site planning is required to determine the location and number of campsites around the Reservoir. Consideration will need to be given to the needs of visitors and local people, management capability/requirements and the environmental and cultural issues of these areas.
250	2	Page 106. There is nothing natural about the use of coppers logs to define areas and activities. Campers who like bush camping are self sufficient and 'take only photographs and leave only footprints'.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Current remote camping is adhoc and unsustainable. As a result, basic campsites with minimal facilities will be developed to manage this use.
251	1	Page 107, first two sentences of the fifth paragraph. This reference recognises the long-standing traditional access enjoyed by local people but is too little, too late.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to give greater recognition of the importance of the area to local people.
252	1	Four generations of our family have used the Wellington Reservoir for recreation, particularly marroning and camping in the backwaters. The hockey club we are involved with has had an annual canoe trip for over 30 years. We always leave the campsites clean although we appreciate that there are some people who don't care for the environment. Management of these people was not mentioned in the plan.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The strategy to address this issue is to provide managed nodal camping around the Reservoir. This is mentioned in the plan.
253	1	Feedback that we have received indicates that the use of generators in campsites can spoil the experience of peace and tranquillity. Prohibiting their use or introducing a curfew would be welcomed.	1(a)	Noted. Comment provides additional information of direct relevance to management. Strategy 7 on page 109 of the plan provides a strategy for addressing generators at Honeymoon Pool. This will be expanded to other camping sites proposed in the plan, recognising that it may be desirable to permit the use of generators at some sites.
254	1	Consideration should be given for a booking system to operate over peak periods.	1(d)	Noted. Comment proposes strategies that would better achieve management objectives. The plan has been amended to give consideration to the use of a booking system within the planning area.
255	1	Despite DEC providing firewood, campfires degrade both living and dead biomass fuel in day picnic sites as kindling is sourced from the area.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Options for managing campfires, and this particular issue, are stated in the plan.
256	2	Page 109. As camping is taking place in a national park, the collection of fallen timber for firewood is already banned.	2(c)	As per above point.
257	1	Open fires used for cooking on day trips are not necessary because fuel stoves are a suitable alternative.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation.
258	2	Page 110. The Collie Shire bans all fires from December to April. This should also apply to the national park and gas cookers only used during this period.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation.
259	1	Firewood seems to be a problem, with supplies often stolen, or inadequate. Consideration could be given to selling firewood, perhaps through the Wellington Dam kiosk.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation.

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<b>29. Visitor Fees and Charges</b>				
260	1	Generally, we agree with the key points, objective and actions relating to visitor fees and charges.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought. The section on visitor fees has been omitted from the plan.
261	1	If visitor entry fees are to be considered (action 2), we would only be supportive if the revenue generated would be held in trust/reserve for the benefit of the national park, and not returned to general State revenue. If serious consideration is given to implementing fees and charges for the national park, we would appreciate further opportunities to discuss the matter.	2(h)	As per above point.
262	1	We recognise that the 'user pays' principle is reasonable and assists DEC in maintaining recreation sites. Therefore, we believe that it is fair to levy a fee for all campsites. On the other hand, entry fees to national parks can discourage some visitors. Still, if facilities meet expectations, visitors are normally accepting of entry fees.	2(h)	As per above point.
<b>30. Tourism</b>				
263	1	The loss of recreational access to Wellington Reservoir will have a detrimental effect on tourism and have flow-on implications for the viability of businesses that depend on it.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation.
264	3	Lake Kepwari will be a very welcome addition to the attractions within the Collie region but will offer different activities and hence a vastly different visitor experience to that which is found in and around the national park. The Lake will be a mecca for waterskiers, who have implied that they will use the water from dawn to dusk. The constant use of powered craft on the Lake could be disturbing to people looking for a quiet nature-based experience in a forest environment. As powered craft are not permitted on the Wellington Reservoir, the Lake may not make a significant difference to the amount of visitors using the waterways within the Wellington National Park, and therefore may not greatly relieve recreational pressure on the area. Visitors to the Wellington National Park are more likely to be looking for swimming, canoeing and fishing sites.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. This point has been clarified in the plan.
265	1	Page 111, last paragraph. This paragraph implies that recreational boating pursuits undertaken on Wellington Reservoir could alternatively be carried out on Lake Kepwari. This is not the case. Lake Kepwari has been developed with motorised boating and water skiing in mind, both of which are not compatible with canoeing.	1(e)	As per above point.
266	1	It is recommended that DEC re-examine the 'New Model for Nature Based Tourism' articulated in the <i>Nature Based Tourism Strategy for Western Australia</i> and use the same guiding policy for tourism opportunities that may arise as a result of the implementation of the plan.	1(a)	Noted. Comment provides additional information of direct relevance to management. The Department will consider Policy Statement No 18 <i>Recreation, tourism and visitor services</i> and the <i>Nature Based Tourism Strategy for Western Australia</i> when managing tourism in the planning area. The plan has been amended to include this statement.
<b>31. Commercial Operations</b>				
267	1	Generally, we agree with the key points, objective and actions relating to commercial operations.	2(a)	Noted. Comment clearly supports proposals in the plan.



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<b>32. Visitor Safety</b>				
		No comments.		
<b>33. Domestic Animals</b>				
268	1	Domestic animals, particularly dogs, can pose a threat to native fauna and can be a nuisance in campsites. Fox baiting is a threat to the animals themselves. We agree that dogs (except seeing eye dogs, hearing dogs and rescue dogs) should not be allowed in the planning area.	2(a)	Noted. Comment clearly supports proposals in the plan.
269	1	Not allowing domestic animals in the planning area, except for guide dogs and search and rescue dogs, is not good for tourists and locals using the park as their local recreation site. One of the positives of this area is that it has been accessible for family recreation, especially camping for locals and their dogs. As the eastern side of the Wellington Reservoir is to be targeted for camping and recreation use, it would be good to allow family dogs into this area, potentially without any negative impact on the conservation value or fauna of the area. Other locations are at least an hour's drive from the national park area and could not really be considered as 'alternatives'. Restrictions on dog access could be in line with local dog laws (i.e. must be on a lead), but not barred altogether.	2(e)	Noted. Comment is one amongst several widely divergent viewpoints received on the topic but the text/strategies in the plan are still considered the best option. Dogs are generally not permitted in national parks.
270	1	It is necessary to introduce appropriate management controls for commercial activities in order to meet the purposes of reserves within the planning area. The plan appears to allow almost all forms of commercial exploitation of the forests except logging. For example, it makes provision for mining, tourist camp fires, apiary with feral bees, wild flower harvesting, electricity generation and a water catchment. All of these activities potentially impact on the high conservation values of the forests. It is our view that these activities may be considered appropriate in multiple use forests but not in conservation reserves.	2(f)	Noted. Comment contributes options that are not feasible (generally due to conflict with existing legislation, Government policy, lack of resource capacity or lack of research knowledge to make decisions). The CALM Act and Department policies determine the activities that can occur in conservation reserves.
271	1	We advocate the exclusion of mining and harvesting from conservation reserves and that only low impact commercial uses be allowed in conservation reserves. We also recognise that as increasing portions of the forest estate are allocated to conservation reserves there will be increasing demands for commercial exploitation of these reserves.	2(f)	As per above point.
<b>PART F. MANAGING RESOURCE USE</b>				
<b>34. Traditional Hunting and Gathering</b>				
		No comments.		
<b>35. Mining</b>				
272	1	Page 119. The introductory paragraph on mining refers to the production value of mineral resources in the region for the 2001/02 financial year. We consider this paragraph to be misleading as it is not clear whether the figures stated refer to	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Paragraph reworded as suggested.

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		the total production or the in-ground value. We recommend the paragraph be reworded to: 'The production of mineral sands along the Swan Coastal Plain was valued at \$304 million in 2001/02, and coal deposits in the Collie Basin, \$252 million in 2001/02'.		
273	1	Page 120. Whilst some areas within the region have been extensively explored, this does not apply to the entire region as suggested in the opening paragraph to Mineral Resources and Productivity. We suggest the following text to more accurately reflect the situation: 'Not all of the region has been extensively explored'.	1(e)	As per above point.
274	1	Page 120. The plan states that exploration within the planning area focuses on the Westralia Conservation Park and the proposed Westralia Interim Forest Conservation Area. We consider it important to point out that there has been limited exploration within the Wellington National Park in recent times (post gold era) and suggest the following text: 'Exploration within the Wellington National Park has been limited'.	1(e)	As per above point.
275	1	Page 120. The mineral potential of the planning area as described in the second paragraph of Mineral Resources and Prospectivity is incomplete. We suggest the following text: 'The geological setting of the planning area is also considered to have a high potential for other elements such as tin, tantalum, lithium, niobium, beryl and Rare Earth Elements, as well as moderate to low potential for nickel, copper, chromium and platinum group elements (RFA)'.	1(e)	As per above point.
276	1	Page 121. Paragraph 2 of Basic Raw Materials refers to Government policy that regulates access to basic raw materials in the park and states that 'Extraction will be permitted where... the material is used within the boundaries or enclaves of the planning area'. We are concerned that this would exclude the Shire and others from using the basic raw materials outside the park boundaries, even if it is required to maintain access to the parks, and no other practical source is available.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Text has been reworded to better reflect Department policy.
<b>36. Defence Training</b>				
277	1	We are generally not supportive of defence force training being undertaken in the national park. Given the lengths that are being considered to preserve the water body and the natural environment, it is considered that the activities associated with defence force training are not aligned with such measures/virtues.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Defence force training is an acceptable use of lands and waters managed by the Department but will only be permitted where the impacts on key values are minimised.
<b>37. Scientific and Research Use</b>				
278		See comments in Information, Education and Interpretation regarding the WDF.		
<b>38. Public Utilities and Services</b>				
279	1	Alinta has no infrastructure in the planning area and has no objection to the management plan. (2)	2(a)	Noted. Comment clearly supports proposals in the plan.
280	1	Derelict buildings that litter the Collie River downstream of the Wellington Reservoir wall should be demolished as their function has ceased. Aesthetically, these buildings represent a collective 'cataract' on the surrounding landscape.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Verve Energy is seeking to dispose of the disused hydro-electric power station downstream of the Wellington Dam wall. The Department will

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		However, in the interest of re-using building material, an interpretive centre/museum about the history/hydrology of the region could be an alternative. In this case, external aesthetics would need to be considered.		consider proposals put forward by Verve Energy for the management of the building in line with its legislative responsibility.
39. Rehabilitation				
		No comments.		
40. Beekeeping				
281	1	Commercial apiary sites are not conducive to nature conservation as there is a lack of control regarding swarms escaping from the hive and colonising nesting hollows. Furthermore, Italian honey bees severely deplete the dwindling supply of floral resources for endemic species. The plan explains these points and therefore should not persist in the granting of apiary licenses.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Department policy is to maintain current apiary site permits on all land categories managed by the Department, but permit no additional apiary sites on land primarily reserved for conservation purposes until a management plan has been prepared. Through this management planning process, beekeeping has been assessed against a set of environmental, social and management criteria and will be permitted to continue.
41. Forest Produce				
282	1	The Forest Products Commission does not take into account the Wellington National Park or its ecological, biodiversity and recreational values as part of its operations. This is evidenced by the continuation of logging plantations up to the salt affected water line of the Wellington Reservoir. This practice is unsightly and contributes to erosion, soil degradation, turbidity and downstream impacts to ecosystems of Wellington National Park.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Stream buffers will be established in adjoining State forest.
283	1	The Forest Products Commission have degraded the Ferguson River in several places at the Wellington Forest Road entrance to Wellington National Park. This occurred during a plantation logging operation.	2(d)	Noted. Comment is beyond the scope of the plan.
284	1	There should be a strict ecological management policy for the Forest Products Commission and their contractors. This should state that the values of Wellington National Park must not be compromised by unsustainable management practices within or near the park boundaries. The policy should also involve mandatory rehabilitation programs where park values have been compromised.	2(d)	Noted. Comment is beyond the scope of the plan. The Forest Products Commission are not permitted to operate within the planning area. The Department ensures that appropriate practices are adhered to on adjoining lands under its management in accordance with the FMP.
285	1	Pines along the Reservoir shoreline and within 100m of its tributaries should be replaced with endemic native species, creating a continuous corridor that links areas within and outside of the Wellington National Park.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The pines along the shoreline of the Wellington Reservoir are not located within the planning area. There are sufficient areas of native State forest adjoining the pines and Wellington National Park to provide corridor links.
286	1	Conservation and timber harvesting are compatible activities in sustainably managed forests.	2(f)	Noted. Comment contributes options that are not feasible (generally due to conflict with existing legislation, Government policy, lack of resource capacity or lack of research knowledge to make decisions). Under the CALM Act, timber harvesting for commercial purposes is not permitted in national parks and conservation parks.

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42. Water Extraction				
287	1	Water entering the Wellington Reservoir is far from pristine. The river is accessed in Collie where there are swimming holes and dog beaches. Allanson, further downstream is also on septic tanks that leach into the catchment. There are also farms bordering the Collie River. It is therefore likely that water sourced from Wellington Reservoir will require greater treatment than water sourced from a more pristine catchment such as Harris Reservoir.	2(d)	Noted. Comment is beyond the scope of the plan. DoW are responsible for managing water resources throughout the State.
288	1	We would like strong consideration to be given to treatments that allow for human contact with the water body, which, as we understand it, would involve a mixture of activated carbon and either coagulation, clarification and filtration or membrane filtration. We recognise the comment in the plan that such treatments are not failsafe and are costly. However, this statement should be viewed in context of the significant economic benefit of the area to the region, the potential costs of managing and enforcing the restriction of recreational activities and the challenges that would be associated with enforcement. In our opinion, a restriction of recreational activities would result in a strategy that is potentially costly over the life of the plan and by no means failsafe.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to permit recreational use of the Reservoir catchment subject to decisions regarding the future use of the Reservoir. Modifications to the plan can be made should it be used for potable drinking water purposes in the future.
289	3	To provide safe drinking water and allow the Reservoir to be open for recreation, the Wellington Reservoir should be treated more than the current conventions/processes.	1(e)	As per above point.
290	1	Recreation in Wellington Reservoir is seasonal with very little recreation (or none at all) occurring during the winter months. Consequently treatment of the water for human contact would only be needed during peak periods.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
291	1	If higher costs for the treatment of water in the Wellington Reservoir mean access can be retained, we believe that this would be acceptable to the vast majority of users.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or were considered during the plan preparation
292	1	People in the country have to pay extra for items such as fuel, freight and bottled gas so why can't city people pay a little extra for water? Why should local people be denied the recreation that they have had for over 50 years just so city folk can fill their swimming pools.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or were considered during the plan preparation
293	2	Page 95. Technology has advanced significantly since the 1890s and these advances, such as low cost treatment of water from contaminated sites/raw sewerage, need to be taken into account. DoW has also conducted trials on 'recycling' grey water into potable water.	2(d)	Noted. Comment is beyond the scope of the plan. DoW are responsible for managing water resources throughout the State.
294	1	The former Department of Environment and the Water Corporation are quoted throughout the plan as having a preferred position of 'restricting access' to the Reservoir. The figures supplied by the Water Corporation for the treatment of water should recreational access be allowed may therefore be seen as subjectively slanted towards that argument. An independent estimate of water treatment costs should be sought.	2(d)	Noted. Comment is beyond the scope of the plan. DoW are responsible for managing water resources throughout the State.
295	2	An increase in the unit cost of scheme water from \$0.40/kL to \$1.00/kL is a small increase.	2(d)	Noted. Comment is beyond the scope of the plan. DoW are responsible for managing water resources throughout the State.
296	1	The figure presented in the plan for additional water treatment costs doesn't appear to add up.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to omit figures on the cost of additional water

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				treatment.
297	1	Additional treatment costs must be measured against the social and economical costs to lifestyle and tourism that would occur if the Reservoir was quarantined.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or were considered during the plan preparation
298	1	One strategy being considered to encourage water conservation is increased tariffs. If the cost of delivering potable water increases through the cost of treatment, then it follows that the tariff will increase, thus encouraging water conservation.	2(d)	Noted. Comment is beyond the scope of the plan.
299	2	Although the plan highlights that water can be transferred from Wellington Reservoir to Harris Reservoir via a pipeline, preliminary indications have lead us to believe that this would be an unlikely route for any transfer main directing substantial volumes of water from Wellington Reservoir to the IWSS. Such transfers would involve considerable power consumption, production of green house gas and upgrades in the size of piping. As with the proposed Yarragadee pipeline, where gravity alone would deliver water from the Jarrahwood bore field to the Stirling trunk main some 100 km away, we believe that consideration of a pipeline down the edge of the Collie River valley to the Burekup Weir or the base of the scarp is probable. This would allow the use of Wellington Reservoir's elevation to transfer water to the IWSS at a more reasonable cost. For this reason we believe consideration of a possible easement for this should be included in the final plan.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan provides a process by which public utilities and services will be considered and hence it is not necessary to provide for an easement in this management plan.
300	2	Should a trunk main down the Collie River valley proceed, planning will be required to maintain access to ensure that there will be minimal impact on the river banks and water course overall. We believe that detailed discussions are needed with the Water Corporation to permit suitable planning around this issue to be included in the final management plan.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan provides a process by which public utilities and services will be considered and hence it is not necessary to discuss the issue with the Water Corporation at this stage. Such discussions would be undertaken once the future use of the Reservoir has been determined.
301	1	Should piping of water to the IWSS occur via a trunk main down the Collie River valley, consideration should be given to some form of modest recreational flow. Historically from an environmental perspective, the Collie River only flowed in summer when summer storms occurred, otherwise the river was a series of pools and a dry river bed. Currently, almost all of the summer water flow past popular recreational points downstream of Wellington Dam is irrigation entitlement. Whilst returning the flow of the Collie River to its true environmental condition is an ideal outcome, consideration to meet modest recreational use is needed.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to include a strategy that the Department liaise with DoW and the Water Corporation regarding the provision of water flows for recreational use.
302	1	Previous national park management plans for the Donnelly, D'Entrecasteaux and Shannon national parks all have reserved elements flagged in them as potential water sources. In this regard, our requests to plan for water source infrastructure are not out of line with the contemporary view, it just needs to be properly flagged.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. This management plan is consistent with other management planning processes for the DEC-managed estate that address issues of water source development. The plan provides a process by which public utilities and services will be considered.
303	1	Since the dam was built, water flows in the Collie River (below the dam wall) have largely been for irrigation requirements in summer and scouring flows in winter, plus normal winter runoff flows and dam overflow when this has occurred. Every effort is being made to reduce the level of salinity in the Reservoir to make it suitable for potable purposes and more suitable for irrigation. Should it become suitable for these uses, one outcome is that the irrigation area could be piped, which could significantly reduce the volume of	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.

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		summer flows. Also, if the salinity is improved, then there may be no need for winter scouring either. Ultimately, with increased draw on the Reservoir for all uses, it could be expected that the average level of water in the dam will be lower.		
<b>PART H. INVOLVING THE COMMUNITY</b>				
43. Information, Education and Interpretation				
304	1	The WDF is divided into three distinct zones, an Ecology zone, a Research Zone and a Management Zone. The Ecology Zone is operating well and receives thousands of visitors each year, mainly schoolchildren. It provides an open air classroom, in which school children have the opportunity to gain a better understanding of the ecology of the jarrah forest. This is the only zone that has been successfully developed and used to any extent. However, it was never intended to be the only component of the WDF. The Ecology Zone was to be the introduction, as it is easier to communicate with visitors in the other zones if they understand the basics of jarrah forest ecology. The Research Zone has not progressed but there is no good reason why it shouldn't. The Management Zone had about 15ha treated in 1992 to demonstrate the silvicultural prescriptions in use at the time and the plan was to repeat the demonstration at 10 year intervals over a 200 year period. However, the Management Zone has never been marketed as an equal component of the WDF. Information needs to be presented in a more interesting and better way to make it more attractive to school groups as well as other visitors.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to clarify the zoning of the WDF.
305	1	Enormous potential exists for development in the Research and the Management zones so as to build on the understanding visitors gain from the Ecology Zone and to appreciate the reason for and the results of research and management trials in these zones. The three zones together should provide anyone with an interest in the jarrah forest to become better informed on most issues.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to clarify the potential of the Research and Management zones.
306	1	That school programs have confined their activities to the Ecology Zone is a reflection of the current school curriculum and also the current access problem to the other zones. The Ecology Zone represents a forest that has been undisturbed to any extent for 100 years. Whilst this is one model of forest management that is practiced in reserves there is an equal area in the south-west that can be subject to disturbance at much more frequent intervals. It was always considered that visitors, whether they are schoolchildren or adults, should be given the opportunity to see both types of forest management and to study the impact of disturbance on biodiversity and other values. Whether current schools wish to visit both is entirely their choice, but we do know education curricula does change over time. When educators become more interested in studying the impact of past disturbance in the jarrah forest, the Management Zone will be recognised as an extremely valuable educational and research resource. In the interim, it will be visited by private forest owners who are seeking information on how they can manage their native forest.	1(b)	Noted. Comment provides additional information on affected user groups of direct relevance to management. Current school programs will continue to be based on the Ecology Zone. There will be the opportunity to see forest management in other zones of the WDF although this will be based on the demand and desire from schools to use this area. School teachers will be informed about the function and opportunities available in these areas. Should demand warrant, access will be improved to facilitate this activity.
307	2	There is a misunderstanding about the purpose of the Management Zone. The WDF and the Management and Research zones in particular, were never intended	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan

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		to promote timber harvesting nor as a demonstration of logging practices, but rather as a means of demonstrating the response to disturbance, the fundamental driver of ecological activity and diversity. These sites demonstrate how plants and animals respond to different intensities of disturbance and how they compete and interact over time. The fact that disturbances were planned periodically, and in convenient juxtaposition, is indeed 'contrived' but in exactly the same way as most scientific experiments or demonstrations are contrived. However, the ecological response cannot be contrived and that is the object of the exercise. Some of the harvesting and silvicultural demonstrations that occurred in the WDF in 1992 are in fact very similar to that which occurred throughout most of the park 100 years ago. It provides an understanding of how the undisturbed part of the park came to be as it is now.		has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF.
308	1	The Management Zone of the WDF was criticised quite incorrectly by one or two environmental groups who saw the illustration as being a form of advocacy for logging of National Parks. This is quite incorrect. The primary reasons were firstly to illustrate the reaction to disturbance in the jarrah forest, whether this disturbance was natural or man-made, for people to see, observe and monitor. Secondly, the Management Zone was intended to illustrate the impact of disturbance over time. The reason for repeating the demonstration every 10 years is that there is sufficient area in the management zone to allow at least 20 such demonstrations by which time the regeneration from the first would be 200 years old and the current trees that now form the upper canopy will be 300+ years of age. This repetition of a 10ha disturbance every decade will eventually provide examples of time since disturbance ranging from 0-10 up to 200 years.	1(c)	As per above point.
309	1	Although the 1992 treatment is valuable, as time passes the distinction between treated and non-treated areas will diminish and the value of the illustration drop. The concept of the management zone is to repeat a minor area of disturbance every 10 years so as to always have an area of recent disturbance available for comparison purposes.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The comment is stated in the plan. However, the plan has been amended to further clarify this point.
310	1	The plan makes reference to debate over whether a small section of the WDF reserve should be logged to demonstrate the effects of silvicultural activities. This is a major misunderstanding (see above comments). As well as silvicultural treatment, other management activities such as prescribed burning, disease control, fox baiting and a range of other management activities are intended to be demonstrated and interpreted in the Management Zone.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to clarify that there is the potential to demonstrate a range of management activities. The activities conducted in the WDF will be determined by a committee formed to provide advice on the area.
311	1	The advantage of having different types and sequences of disturbances on the same site type and within close proximity is invaluable for demonstration and research opportunities.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
312	1	Responses to disturbances should not be portrayed as either good or bad but as a biological fact.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
313	2	With a small portion of the Management Zone being disturbed every 10 years, it will be possible in one compact zone to be able to demonstrate the influence of time over long periods. This is a unique and very valuable resource for researchers. To obtain this comparison in the broad forest would require extensive travel to a multitude of sites.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF.
314	1	The use of the WDF currently, and the way it is marketed, provides an excellent	2(h)	Noted. Comment provides details that are not appropriate or necessary

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		opportunity for learning about the ecology of the jarrah forest in an undisturbed situation. It therefore only provides a part picture of what happens in the jarrah forest outside reserves, which at irregular intervals have been, and will be in the future, subject to disturbances.		for inclusion in a document aimed at providing management direction over the long term.
315	1	One group interested in the Management Zone are the many private landowners who own jarrah forest in the south-west and are seeking information on options for managing their native forest. Whilst the Ecology Zone provides information on one model (i.e. minimal or nil disturbances) some owners are interested in different management systems and the Management Zone has the potential to provide this information. As the number of disturbances every decade increases, so will the value of the Management Zone.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to recognise potential interests in the Management Zone of the WDF.
316	1	In the Management Zone of the WDF, the planned repeat of the 1992 treatments in 2002 did not take place possibly because of the influence of one or two environmental groups. The reaction of other environmental groups however has been very positive.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
317	1	The Management Zone could be used for training purposes for the Forest Productions Commission.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought. The Forest Products Commission are legally prohibited from harvesting timber for commercial purposes in the WDF.
318	1	The plan emphasises the educational value of the WDF, which is commendable, but we cannot understand the arguments put forward to oppose any further disturbance (harvesting) in the Management Zone.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
319	1	It is accepted that interpretation material for the Management Zone needs to be improved to make it more appealing.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
320	1	DEC should establish and interpret research trials in the Research Zone and other organisations encouraged to do the same.	1(d)	Noted. Comment proposes strategies that would better achieve management objectives. The Department supports a 'citizen science' approach to research and monitoring programs where programs are undertaken by community groups. The WDF is not currently suitable for Department programs such as FORESTCHECK as only a small area is proposed to be treated every 10 years over a 200-year period. It is possible that once fully operational, part of the untreated forest could be used as a reference site to compare with treated areas in the Management Zone, or that in several decades time, research/monitoring could be undertaken simultaneously over the range of treated areas then available. The Department will assess the value of such research/monitoring at this stage.
321	1	The WDF Reserve is being used to showcase a low-intensity logging model using best practise silviculture. This is a unique opportunity because of commodity pressures on State Forest, which are subject to timber contract allocations.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF.
322	1	The WDF reserve offers a unique opportunity as the sole location across over two million hectares of public forests where disturbance could be permitted for the purpose of research. It is important that knowledge on how best to manage this large area for all values, including management prescriptions for improving or protecting ecosystem health, is improved by research findings and that these findings are communicated to the community.	1(a)	Noted. Comment provides additional information of direct relevance to management. The plan has been amended to reflect the value of the area for research purposes.
323	1	We have always viewed the WDF as an excellent opportunity to inform the	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity.



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		community not only about the ecology of the jarrah forest but also a place where research trials and management options on a small scale would be established. It could also be used as a platform for engaging the community in informed discussions on current and future uses of the jarrah forest across all tenures, not just in the reserve system.		The plan has been amended to clarify the value of the WDF.
324	1	The unique value of the WDF is twofold. Firstly it now has security of tenure and purpose i.e. for Research and Education as determined by Parliament. Secondly its relatively small and compact size means that it can operate and be visited as an open air classroom or meeting ground for anyone interested in the jarrah forest. This means that trials and demonstrations can be accommodated, documented, interpreted and made accessible for visitors. The great benefit of concentrating trials and demonstrations in a compact area will not be lost on anyone who has tried to locate past trials, many of which are scattered throughout the breadth of the forest and for which the original researcher and the records have long gone.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to clarify the value of the WDF and the security of its tenure and purpose.
325	1	The purpose of the WDF was to have the opportunity to not only monitor various silvicultural practices but also to have the unique opportunity to maintain this area as a permanent demonstration forest for education, not only for future silvicultural development, but for the public.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to clarify the value of the WDF and the security of its tenure and purpose.
326	1	We consider the most valuable aspect of the Wellington Discover Forest to be the demonstration of small patches of jarrah forest within the Management Zone which are disturbed (harvested to silvicultural prescriptions) at 10 year intervals. We believe that this is the best method of demonstrating that our jarrah forests can be used for the production of valuable timber products without compromising biodiversity.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the concept of the Management Zone.
327	1	The value and opportunity that the WDF can play in both research and then communication of these findings to the public should not be under estimated. The basic principle of the WDF has been proven time and time again (i.e. it is always easier to engage, explain and discuss forest issues in the forest than in any other venue).	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF.
328	1	The concept of the WDF is a small project but immensely important for our generation as well as for the next. It is important that future generations know how to manage the forest and how to use this knowledge on the vast areas of forest land in the south-west.	1(c)	As per above point.
329	1	A great advantage of concentrating research programmes in the WDF reserve is that it provides an outstanding opportunity for visitors to see these trials and have them explained. The current wide dispersion of past research sites through the forest, and their location and purpose, is known only to a few scientists. This has meant that few people are aware of their existence let alone their purpose.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to clarify the potential for research in the WDF and the communication of this research.
330	1	The WDF is a magnificent demonstration of the capacity of forests to regenerate when properly managed.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought. To date, most of the WDF has not been managed to demonstrate regeneration of the forest over time. Only one plot in the early 1990s has been silviculturally treated to demonstrate disturbance of the forest.
331	1	The WDF should be left as intended so the area can be used to show how forests with careful forestry practices can be maintained and regenerated for posterity. If this is not achieved, we will lose the knowledge and ability to keep our	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF.

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		magnificent native forests in perpetuity.		
332	1	The plan to log the WDF to illustrate the impact of disturbance on forest values is absolutely vital for the effective management of our State's forests and the continued sustainability and viability of regional communities.	1(c)	As per above point.
333	1	It is a sad state of affairs that the Government has come to even consider disregarding the excellent work that has already gone into the incredible educational opportunity.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF.
334	1	We believe that the WDF is an ideal opportunity to set the record straight with regards to the regeneration of the jarrah forest after harvesting, or is that the problem?	1(c)	As per above point.
335	1	We make regular use of the WDF to show friends and visitors (local, interstate and international) the fundamentals of good forest management. The WDF is ideal for this purpose as it is easily accessible, within close proximity to a major centre and has family oriented facilities.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF and to include the points stated.
336	1	The importance of the WDF lies not just with its ecological value but with its status as a piece of cultural heritage, reflecting the development of co-operative environmental policies including community outreach.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
337	1	What risk is there is maintaining the status of the WDF in its intended form?	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF.
338	1	The silviculture program in the WDF should be restored. The risks are so slight while the benefits are immeasurable.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF and to state the potential benefits of the area.
339	1	The concept of the WDF deserves to continue in the medium and long term so that the ability of foresters to regrow jarrah/marri forest can be seen, not just talked about, by anyone who bothers to take the trouble to visit the site.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF.
340	1	Logging and reforestation in the WDF are entirely laudable and should be strongly supported. The WDF was set up to show the community that foresters could conduct logging and associated silvicultural activities without compromising the environmental values of such forest in the medium to long term. If the logged forest did not regrow with all environmental values returning, then foresters would have constructed an experiment that failed and logging of our native forests should be curtailed further than present. However, if the forests regrow with all environmental values returning, then justification for continued logging within State forest would be demonstrated, and Government would have a strong body of evidence to continue to support the activity.	1(c)	As per above point.
341	1	I strongly support the Management Zone of the WDF Reserve. However, I recognise that it is controversial, and prefer that any decision on this matter be pursued on a consensus basis.	1(c)	As per above point.
342	12	I strongly support the WDF concept adopted in 1992 and would like to see it endorsed and developed as originally conceived, including the continuation of periodic logging and tree regeneration trials over small areas of the WDF.	1(c)	As per above point.
343	1	The concept of the Wellington Discover Forest is not in the best interests of conservation of the area. If logging is allowed in the Wellington National Park,	2(e)	Noted. Comment is one amongst several widely divergent viewpoints received on the topic but the text/strategies in the plan are still considered

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		the whole management plan will appear weak and strong community dissent and dissatisfaction can be expected.		the best option. The decision as to the future use of the WDF was made in Parliament. Activities such as logging are not permitted in the adjoining Wellington National Park.
344	1	We have had an interest in the protection of the WDF from any type of logging since 1990. This is required to achieve long-term community support for the area.	2(e)	As per above point.
345	1	When legislation was introduced to parliament to create Wellington National Park, a significant amendment to separate the WDF from Wellington National Park was inserted into the Bill. This was done to enable activities relating to 'education and scientific research'. It was clearly understood that the intention was to maintain harvesting of 10 ha of forest every 10 years so the ecological, silviculture and other values could be scientifically traced over time.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF.
346	1	The plan does not state that the reason for the amendment in Parliament was to create a separate reserve for the purpose of scientific research and education, or the reasons for having it a separate tenure and purpose from Wellington National Park. Also, the plan does not state that the intended purpose for the reserve, which would allow for the continuation of small scale-logging in the area, would not have been possible under national park tenure.	2(g)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. The plan states that an amendment was made in Parliament to create a separate reserve for the purpose of scientific research and education. This reserve is known as the WDF reserve. The reasons for having the WDF as a separate tenure to Wellington National Park are also stated in the plan.
347	1	It should be noted that the purpose of the WDF Reserve also includes education, because particular value was seen in being able to display and interpret the outcomes of scientific research in a manner that the area was initially designed, and remains uniquely able to do.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to reflect this point.
348	4	We are strongly of the view that the final management plan should reflect the clear intent of the Western Australian Parliament, which is to separately reserve and maintaining the WDF for the purpose of scientific research and education. )	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. While, the comment is stated in the plan, the plan has been amended to further clarify the purpose of the reserve and its link to management.
349	1	Despite the fact that Parliament has already debated and resolved issues relating to the WDF and specifically provided for the continuation of small-scale logging, DEC and the Conservation Commission argue that 'there is (still) debate as to whether a small section of the Reserve should be logged to demonstrate the effects of silvicultural activities'. Furthermore, DEC and the Conservation Commission have decided to defy the Parliament by proposing that 'logging, including the demonstration of silvicultural activities, is not permitted', and canvass public support for this decision. Such open defiance of Parliament must surely be unprecedented.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF.
350	1	It is not appropriate for the 'preference' of DEC and the Conservation Commission, as reflected by the proposed prohibition of silvicultural research or demonstration, to be included as a constraint in the final management plan.	1(c)	As per above point.
351	1	I believe that it is undemocratic for a government agency to undertake an action that is directly counter to the explicit wishes and direction of the Parliament of this State and recommend the incorporation of the WDF into the national park.	2(g)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. The plan does not recommend that the WDF be incorporated into Wellington National Park and recognises that a separate reserve covering the area was created for the purpose of scientific research and education.
352	1	If DEC and the Conservation Commission are not prepared to manage the WDF in accordance with the intention of Parliament then the area should be vested in an authority that is prepared to do so.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF.

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353	1	The policy of reserving a section of forest for long-term scientific observation shows foresight. The policy was adopted in 1992 and reaffirmed by resolution in State Parliament in 2004. It would seem an extremely short-sighted perspective to impose changes for no obvious reason in 2006. No arguments have been presented for altering the status of Reserve 48049, and there is reason to fear that its special protected status will be reduced by amalgamating the block with the adjacent national park.	1(c)	As per above point.
354	2	The WDF should not be considered and managed as a national park.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought. The WDF is a CALM Act section 5(1)(h) reserve for the purpose of scientific research and education and is not part of Wellington National Park.
355	1	I was appalled to find that the brilliant concept of the WDF is under threat by the proposal to incorporate it into Wellington National Park. This action would prevent the long-term evaluation of different silvicultural practices by prohibiting small plot falling on a 10 year cycle.	2(b)	As per above point.
356	1	The very thought of the WDF joining the 'lock up and leave' mentality prevalent in our national park management leaves me furious. I can remember only too well the run-down, under-funded national parks of the past and can see history repeating itself.	2(b)	As per above point.
357	1	I understand that DEC has decided to reject the proposal to include the WDF. This is a very bad decision and not in keeping with the objectives of Government or DEC. It also makes a mockery of the idea of a 'Demonstration Forest'. I strongly object to this proposal.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF.
358	1	The WDF should become part of the Wellington National Park once the FMP has expired.	2(f)	Noted. Comment contributes options that are not feasible (generally due to conflict with existing legislation, Government policy, lack of resource capacity or lack of research knowledge to make decisions). Parliament has decided that the WDF be separated from the Wellington National Park and a new reserve created for the area for the purpose of 'Scientific Research and Education'.
359	1	As the purpose (research and education) of the new WDF Reserve has been set by Parliament, and accepted by the Conservation Commission and DEC, the removal of some trees every decade to illustrate the response of the forest to disturbance should be accepted as an appropriate action. It should not be appropriate to say that the only research and education activities that can take place are those that do not involve removal of trees. We are concerned that despite the WDF now being a separate reserve for research and education, the plan infers that the reserve be more or less managed as part of the national park by not permitting logging. This effectively would be contrary to the wishes of Parliament.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes the removal of some trees every decade to illustrate the response of the forest to disturbance.
360	1	In the Parliamentary debates on the amendment to the Bill that recognised the WDF, reservations were expressed about the area '....being ceded to the control and management of the Conservation Commission of Western Australia. That is being done by this Parliament today on trust. Members need to be sure that the future management of that resource takes into account all the values of the jarrah forest.....'. The proposals presented in the plan clearly demonstrate that these concerns were well founded.	1(c)	As per above point.

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361	1	When the boundaries of the Wellington National Park were being debated in Parliament in 2004, we made representations to not include the WDF in the national park because we could foresee this could make continuation of the treatment every 10 years difficult. (86)	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
362	1	The plan does not fulfil the legal requirements for the separate A class reserve 48049 as it fails to mention that the reserve, managed under s.5(1)(h) of the CALM Act, is an A class reserve under the Land Administration Act 1997. This A class status is not given to all s. 5(1)(h) reserves, and provides for additional protection of its tenure and management. This additional protection includes that found at s.99A of the CALM Act, which sets out strict controls on the disposal of forest produce from such reserves so that any tree removal cannot be used for supplying timber contracts and can only be granted by licence for therapeutic, scientific or horticultural purposes. Furthermore, there can be no involvement from the Forest Products Commission with respect to the reserve. Section 42(2) of the Land Administration Act also states that the purpose of an A class reserve may not be changed, except by legislation. Moreover, excision or reduction in the area of the reserve must be tabled in Parliament, and may be disallowed by either House. This is the highest protection for any land purpose and tenure.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The plan states that the WDF reserve is a Class A CALM Act section 5(1)(h) reserve. The plan also addresses issues relating to forest produce under the CALM Act, including the involvement of the Forest Products Commission.
363	3	The plan does not fulfil the legal requirements as it omits the requirement for implementing the purpose of s. 5(1)(h) reserves, as vested, which is found under s. 56(1)(e) of the CALM Act. This section requires that management plans are prepared 'to achieve the purpose for which the land was vested in, or for which the care, control and management of the land were placed with, the controlling body'. This purpose should allow for silvicultural treatments in the WDF. Whilst there is a short section in the plan covering the educative functions, there is no mention of any scientific research to be carried out in the reserve. This needs to be added to the key values of the reserve, and then scientific research management activities properly developed in this or another management plan to fulfil the reserve purpose as set under Part 4 of the Land Administration Act.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been prepared to in accordance with the purpose of the reserve. However, the plan has been amended to state that the purpose of scientific research can include silvicultural treatment and that such treatments will be permitted in line with the original concept for the WDF. Key values of the planning area have been modified to reflect the research and education aspect of the WDF reserve. Scientific research and management activities will be developed over the life of the plan.
364	1	The question is not whether or not to allow logging in the WDF, but whether the purpose of the reserve will proceed as determined by Parliament and whether a small disturbance conflicts with the purpose of the reserve. We believe there is no conflict and a study of the impact of disturbance on biodiversity is very desirable.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes the removal of some trees every decade to illustrate the response of the forest to disturbance.
365	1	If the purpose of the WDF reserve is education and research, and this is accepted by both the Conservation Commission and DEC, it does not follow that felling of a small area of trees to demonstrate the impact of disturbance every decade should be opposed. In effect, this is saying research and educational activities are acceptable as long as they do not involve felling a tree. When Parliament endorsed the creation of the reserve no such constraints were mentioned.	1(c)	As per above point.
366	1	The wording in the plan can be interpreted as wrongly inferring that the silvicultural research can be equated with commercial logging and may be inconsistent with Sections 99A and 103(2a) of the CALM Act. Again, these issues were specifically taken into account when the purpose of reserve 48049 was debated and the inference is misleading.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Statements in the plan are correct although the plan has been amended to clarify what activities constitute silvicultural research and how this is separate to commercial activities and activities that may be permitted in national parks and conservation parks.

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367	1	Parliamentary legislation that has enabled the area to be logged for 'scientific' purposes has created much anxiety in the local community.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
368	1	The A class status of the WDF Reserve gives the strictest control over the sale of any timber products, excluding the Forest Products Commission entirely. Thus no conflict of interest can distort the purpose for the removal of any trees for research. This is a unique situation.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan states that the Forest Products Commission are legally prohibited from harvesting timber for commercial purposes within the WDF. The plan has been amended to clarify the issue of removing trees.
369	1	Timber harvested from the WDF should be used by DEC and not involve the Forest Products Commission or enter the commercial stream.	1(e)	As per above point. Forest produce taken from the WDF can be used by the Department and this has been clarified in the plan.
370	1	We recommend that the sale of forest products from silvicultural treatments (harvesting) conducted in the Wellington Discover Forest be undertaken by the Forest Products Commission, with forest products sold as directed by the advisory committee and DEC.	2(f)	Noted. Comment contributes options that are not feasible (generally due to conflict with existing legislation, Government policy, lack of resource capacity or lack of research knowledge to make decisions). The Forest Products Commission is legally prohibited from harvesting timber for commercial purposes within the WDF.
371	1	Disposal of forest produce from silvicultural treatments in the WDF every decade to be via the provisions of 'necessary operations' per Section 33(1)(cb)(iii) of the CALM Act. The Forest Products Commission does not have to be involved in the operation and Section 99A(2), (3) and (4) provides for the removal and sale of any forest produce.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Under section 33(3) of the CALM Act, necessary operations do not apply to lands covered by a management plan. However, forest produce (including trees) can be removed from the WDF under the CALM Act. The Department can use forest produce taken from the WDF for making improvements to any land to which the CALM Act applies. The Forest Products Commission is legally prohibited from harvesting timber for commercial purposes within the WDF. The plan has been amended to clarify these points.
372	3	To achieve the intended objectives for the WDF reserve, the area should have its own management plan and management planning process.	2(f)	Noted. Comment contributes options that are not feasible (generally due to conflict with existing legislation, Government policy, lack of resource capacity or lack of research knowledge to make decisions). It is not necessary for the WDF to have a separate management plan. The trend for management planning throughout the State is to combine multiple reserves into single area management plan for reasons of efficiency and to enable integration across the landscape.
373	1	Dual management plans accommodating the different objectives of the WDF and Wellington National Park creates a resource sink, requiring greater on-ground logistics in an environment of limited funds.	2(f)	As per above point.
374	1	The WDF reserve should not be included in the national park plan for administrative convenience.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
375	1	If silvicultural research or demonstration activities are seen as inconsistent with the purpose of the other reserves covered by the plan, then it is suggested that a separate management plan be developed for Reserve 48049.	2(f)	Noted. Comment contributes options that are not feasible (generally due to conflict with existing legislation, Government policy, lack of resource capacity or lack of research knowledge to make decisions). It is not necessary for the WDF to have a separate management plan as the plan can accommodate reserves with different purposes.
376	1	It is imperative that DEC actively oppose logging within the WDF and vocally support legislation for its inclusion into the greater Wellington National Park.	2(e)	Noted. Comment is one amongst several widely divergent viewpoints received on the topic but the text/strategies in the plan are still considered the best option. The creation of the WDF reserve and its separation from Wellington National Park came about from decisions made in Parliament and hence are beyond the scope of this plan. This management plan is in accordance with the intent of Parliament.
377	4	There would be much benefit in appointing a new advisory committee separate to	1(d)	Noted. Comment proposes strategies that would better achieve

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		the national park advisory committee. This committee would advise the Conservation Commission on proposals for satisfying the research purpose requirements of s. 56(1)(e) of the CALM Act. Such an advisory committee should work on consensus principals and aim to provide the Conservation Commission with recommendations on a co-operative research programme. This consensus process should include representatives from the Institute of Foresters, the Wellington National Park Community Advisory Committee, Dardanup Shire, Leschenault Timber Industry Club, local conservation groups, DEC science, an indigenous representative and, importantly, independent research scientists with expertise in ecosystem health.		management objectives. A separate committee will be formed for the WDF to advise the existing Wellington National Park Community Advisory Committee.
378	1	The size of the area to be disturbed through silvicultural treatments (10 ha every 10 years) is very small.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
379	1	The convenience of being able to demonstrate a range of sites in a small area is also the reason it has recently been used as part of a DEC staff training programme.	2(g)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. It is unclear as to what the staff training program refers to.
380	1	The planning area is small for the sustainability of a national park with a high boundary to area ratio. The excision of the WDF from the planning area will create greater edge effects that degrade the conservation value of the WDF and the adjoining national park.	2(g)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. The edge effects from excising the WDF from the proposed Wellington National Park are considered relatively minor since the Park is buffered by native forest. Nevertheless, ensuring that integrated management is continued will be an important factor in maintaining the Park's values.
381	1	The south-west is facing serious climate change predictions and new management responses are required. A research programme could be undertaken, in conjunction with restoration forestry, that uses piezometers to study the response of groundwater to thinning operations. This could be paired with results from non-thinned sites to determine whether the thinned areas have more groundwater and thus drought resilience. It has been found in measurements taken in the Mundaring Catchment, which is under jarrah regrowth, that the water table had dropped between 5 and 12 m in the since 1975. The draft management plan contains a section on climate change but this does not consider whether overstocking of jarrah or marri following historic intensive timber logging has made the forest more vulnerable to reduced rainfall, let alone whether thinning stand density could be a useful management response. Marri trees in particular, are probably at risk from a drying climatic trend.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Trials of this nature are undertaken in the Wungong catchment and it is not necessary to replicate these in the WDF.
382	1	The belief up until recently was that once forests were included in the reserve system they would remain forever undisturbed. However, the influence of climate change may mean that some intervention is needed to ensure that biodiversity and other conservation values are protected. Some adaptive management actions may also be required but this will need to be determined through research trials.	2(c)	As per above point.
383	1	The WDF Reserve offers a unique opportunity to further the understanding of restorative processes in disturbed jarrah forest structures and for studying management responses to climate change.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which allows for research.
384	1	In its assessment of the draft <i>Forest Management Plan</i> , the Environmental Protection Authority noted that it paid scant attention to climate change.	2(d)	Noted. Comment is beyond the scope of the plan.

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385	1	We are disappointed in the lack of any detailed proposals for relevant forest management and other related research activities in the WDF. (	2(g)	Noted. Comment is based on unclear, factually incorrect information or information that was unable to be validated. There is no suggestion as to what relevant forest management and research activities are desired.
386	1	I hope that research will be carried out in the WDF to improve the forest industry and benefit the people of today and their children.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
387	2	The tenure and purpose of the WDF reserve offers opportunities for different types of research programmes to be conducted. Partial thinning of the poor stands of dense jarrah regrowth within the WDF would allow a variety of stocking rates to be tested and the best regeneration techniques determined. This knowledge could then be applied to national parks and other reserves, which under current management are left without adequate protection against fire and with little silvicultural treatment. If the WDF reserve was demonstrably healthier and more biodiverse than parts of the Wellington National Park, it may lead to new management options that will strengthen the conservation values of this area.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which allows for research.
388	1	Notwithstanding the fact that rotation lengths for timber harvesting are no longer used formally in determining logging practices, no areas of regrowth jarrah are managed for harvest on anything like the rotations or tree age of that proposed for the WDF Reserve. If the demonstration in the WDF Reserve more carefully codified its best practice in terms of tree age/rotation length and practiced 'logging from below', by keeping the oldest and best trees, this would indeed qualify as research because no jarrah forest is logged on these idealised requirements. Instead the current 'gross bole volume' approach has seen the continuing juvenilisation and overstocking of the jarrah forest, whereby tree age and size has become largely irrelevant across State forest.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF. Consideration will be given to best practice in terms of tree age/rotation length when the plan is implemented.
389	1	The WDF is overstocked with suppressed trees that unless silviculturally thinned, will be slow (if ever) to recover. Reducing tree cover to approach original old growth forest will speed up the restoration of biodiversity given time and enhance water runoff, which has been severely reduced by the overstocking of trees.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes the removal of some trees every decade to illustrate the response of the forest to disturbance (e.g. thinning).
390	1	It is of some concern that various new old-growth forest reserves are interspersed with small patches of dense, stunted jarrah regrowth of relatively little conservation value. An example is the new Noggerup Conservation Park. Perhaps this and other areas would benefit from research data on the ecosystem response to restorative forestry.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
391	1	Research in the WDF Reserve would be different to the thinning trial in the Wungong catchment, the silvicultural prescription for which has been based on anthropocentric values, namely increasing water recharge. The point for the WDF Reserve is to actively seek to improve the health of disturbed forest for the benefit of the ecosystem. The potential result would be to recreate quasi old-growth forest values.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes the removal of some trees every decade to illustrate the response of the forest to disturbance (e.g. thinning). The differences in thinning trials in the Wungong catchment and the proposals in the WDF are acknowledged.
392	1	There may be situations in the future where some disturbance may be needed in national parks or conservation reserves to enhance a particular aspect of biodiversity. It will be valuable to have examples of disturbances at 10 year intervals to help land managers and the community to make informed decisions.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes the removal of some trees every decade to illustrate the response



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				of the forest to disturbance.
393	2	Information from periodic logging and tree regeneration trials within the WDF will be of enormous value in guiding the management of forests outside of the reserve system.	1(c)	As per the above comment.
394	1	The Conservation Commission needs to determine the merit in expanding forest research into an active scientific methodology, and whether the WDF Reserve is a good site on which to conduct such research. To meet the minimum requirements of s.56 (1)(e) the Commission will have to at least include some monitoring, such as Forest Check, in the Reserve. Otherwise Reserve 48049 will have to be removed from the plan. The section of the plan on 'Scientific Research and Use' (for the entire planning area) of one page in length on page 124, shows the low priority for this use given by the Department, let alone its complete absence in the WDF enclave.	1(a)	Noted. Comment provides additional information of direct relevance to management. FORESTCHECK may not be suited to the WDF at present as only a small area is to be logged and this would only occur every few years over the next two to three centuries. It is possible that the next round of FORESTCHECK might include part of the un-logged forest as a reference site, or that in several decades time it might be possible to have a FORESTCHECK style monitoring simultaneously over the range of logged treatments available. The suitability of the WDF for FORESTCHECK would need to be appraised at this time. However, this does not prevent independent researchers for utilising the site. The plan will provide for long-term research and monitoring in the WDF and has been amended to reflect this situation.
395	1	If the WDF reserve were to become a Forest Check monitoring site, the opportunity could also be taken to provide information displays for visitors, thereby increasing awareness of the good work of the Forest Check system. This would enhance the educative value of the reserve and provide an educative outlet for the programme. Most, or all, of the Forest Check sites are located in former logging coupes, so there is some scientific merit in placing a site in a reserve as a control.	1(a)	As per the above comment.
396	1	In the monitoring of sustainable forest management, the single most important factor in the usefulness of the data is its continuity over long timeframes. However, there are no monitoring sites anywhere in the south-west forests that have been given the protection of reservation in order to ensure that routine data is collected over long-term periods and from the same site. Indeed, many monitoring sites that have been used for some decades to measure tree growth, but have been abandoned when science programs have changed or individual researches have moved on. So now we begin a new system of 20 Forest Check sites, without any guarantee of the longevity of this programme either. Reserve 48049 is an area that could be used as one of the Forest Check sites, providing the extensive range of monitoring data that is now regularly collected under the programme. It would also allow the sustainability of current management to be monitored according to the provisions of the FMP and could offer a more secure monitoring site due to it's A class protection. This is unique in the south-west forests.	1(a)	As per the above comment.
397	1	Page 25 of the Forest Management Plan states 'To achieve the overall aims of maintenance of biodiversity it is important that forest outside the formal reserve system that will be used to provide resources, particularly timber, is managed to control the adverse effects of disturbance on biodiversity'. Approximately one million hectares or half the forest area is in conservation reserves and national park and the other half is State forest. It is important that all areas contribute to biodiversity values and it is important there is sound knowledge available to make correct decisions for all forest tenures. Results from ForestCheck plots should provide useful information as they age. It would also be useful to have a	1(a)	As per the above comment.

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		ForestCheck plot in the WDF for both research and education purposes. The intended series of planned disturbances every 10 years in the management Zone provides an excellent opportunity to measure the impact that time after disturbance has on biodiversity values.		
398	1	Page 29 of the Forest Management Plan states 'Strategies for the maintenance of biodiversity continue to evolve as knowledge increases. The continuation of research and other processes to increase the knowledge base is an essential part of management.' We believe that the WDF provides an excellent opportunity to lay down research trials to increase knowledge on a variety of topics and to explain them to the community.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes a research component. See also above comment.
399	1	Page 30 point 9.2.4 of the Forest Management Plan states that DEC will 'Maintain a research program on ecologically sustainable forest management which is prepared in a manner that has regard to advice from the Conservation Commission's Research Advisory Committee. We believe that this sets out the requirement, and that the WDF, with security of purpose as an A class reserve, makes a very appropriate place in which to conduct research into the jarrah forest, and if appropriate, to interpret the trials for visitors.	1(c)	As per the above comment.
400	1	The calculations of sustainable yield for timber harvesting have required tree growth mensuration work to be recorded as an inventory. Unlike Forest Check, timber inventory sites have been measured for some time. However, the location of these sites is confidential, and could be abandoned if, for example, political pressure or climate change pressure resulted in an end to all logging in native forest. The mensuration work being done in the WDF Reserve may be part of this inventory work. The early data, which has already been collected, should be made publicly available and kept up indefinitely as a critical part of research within the Reserve. This mensuration site in the Reserve is not mentioned in the plan.	1(c)	As per the above comment. Mensuration work in the WDF will be considered as part of the operational plan for the area.
401	1	It is true that there are research plots elsewhere in the south-west where silvicultural data is compiled, but access to these plots requires extensive travel with a guide and it would be unlikely to ever happen for logistical reasons, particularly if schools are objecting to excessive travel. Research plots are not interpreted and few within the organisation are aware of their location or their purpose in any detail. Many have been 'lost' or destroyed unwittingly once their champion has retired or moved on. The concept of the WDF is to have all information, ecological, research and management, available at this 'one stop shop'. Ecological information is just as relevant as management information, neither is more important than the other and visitors need to have the opportunity to view and understand both.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which may include a research component comprising ecological and/or management information.
402	1	We refute the argument that silvicultural practices can be demonstrated elsewhere. Nowhere else in Western Australia can the public safely visit, see and learn about the complexities of management and techniques used by foresters to harvest and regenerate our jarrah forests. Now is the time for DEC, the Conservation Commission and the Government of Western Australia to ensure that a properly planned and managed demonstration/research site is made secure, and will stand for generations to come.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes the removal of some trees every decade to illustrate the response of the forest to disturbance.
403	1	The WDF represents an excellent opportunity for the Conservation Commission	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.

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		and DEC to address many of the stated requirements of the FMP relevant to the jarrah forest.		
404	1	Page 62, point 33.2 of the Forest Management Plan states that DEC will, in consultation with the Conservation Commission, conduct trials, where reasonable and practicable of improvements to silviculture and fire management practices. We believe that the WDF would be an excellent location to establish such trials for jarrah forest types.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes a research component.
405	1	Action 34.1.2 of the Forest Management Plan states that DEC and the Conservation Commission will 'evaluate the results from research, monitoring, audits and trialling of adaptive management practices to determine whether the plan or guidelines and policies referred to in the plan should be amended'. This presumes that research and monitoring into adaptive management is taking place and sets out the requirement for the Conservation Commission and DEC to evaluate research into adaptive management. Obtaining results is one thing, another equally important aspect is communicating these findings to the wider public. The WDF represents an outstanding opportunity as a location for achieving both. If researchers are concerned about disturbance to their plots, visits could be in the form of guided tours for people interested in the aspect being researched. It was always envisaged that a yearly program for the WDF would be produced, listing activities available on a daily, weekly, monthly and once or twice a year basis. Programming is carried out for school activities in the Ecology Zone of the WDF but could be also be applied for the other Zones as they develop.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes a research component. The management plan will complement the <i>Forest Management Plan 2004-2013</i> .
406	1	Action 34.1.4 of the Forest Management Plan states that DEC and the Conservation Commission will 'Initiate an independent expert review of silvicultural practices and their impacts on biodiversity during the second half-life of the plan. The review will have regard to the results from FORESTCHECK and other research monitoring, audits and adaptive management trials of these practices'. The silvicultural practices applied to the WDF in 1992 to illustrate the impact of disturbance may be useful sites to measure impacts on biodiversity. The planned repeats of these every 10 years give an excellent opportunity to measure the impact on biodiversity of time since disturbance by silvicultural practices.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes the removal of some trees every decade to illustrate the response of the forest to disturbance. The management plan will complement the Forest Management Plan 2004-2013.
407	1	Action 35.1 of the Forest Management Plan states that 'DEC and the Forest Production Commission will, when required by the provisions of the plan, undertake public consultation in relation to the development and review of management policies and guidelines'. We believe that the WDF is, and over time will become an even more valuable location to, illustrate the results and impacts of past treatments in the jarrah forest. This will enable people to obtain an understanding of the items/issues relating to the jarrah forest so their responses are well informed.	1(c)	As per the above comment.
408	1	Action 35.2.1 of the Forest Management Plan states that DEC will 'develop and implement programs that seek to provide the community with educational opportunities and information on ecologically sustainable management, in particular information relating to the sustained yield statistics and models'. We believe that the WDF is perfectly situated to fill this requirement for the jarrah forest.	1(c)	As per the above comment.

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409	1	Action 35.2.3 of the Forest Management Plan states that DEC will 'provide opportunities for community participation in voluntary activities and educational and social development programs relating to ecologically sustainable forest management'. We believe that this is a key role for the WDF.	2(a)	Noted. Comment clearly supports proposals in the plan. The plan states that the Conservation Commission and the Department will continue to develop the WDF with a focus on education, providing environmental, historical, cultural and management interpretation and education programs. Such programs will educate visitors about ecologically sustainable management in term of the forest, including the flora, fauna, fire, recreation and water as well as settlement of the region and its timber history.
410	1	Page 64 of the Forest Management Plan states 'The plan proposes the following actions for the purpose of seeking to generate and transfer knowledge and develop the necessary skills and competencies in staff of the Department and staff and contractors of the Forest Products Commission with a view to leading to improvements in forest management'. We have been told that the WDF may be used shortly for training and education of Forest Products Commission staff and contractors. We have also been told that the area has great potential for this use especially once the number of 10 year repeat trials is carried out.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes the removal of some trees every decade to illustrate the response of the forest to disturbance. The management plan will complement the Forest Management Plan 2004-2013.
411	1	Key performance indicator 28 of the Forest Management Plan refers to 'The number and topic of formal adaptive management trials'. We believe that the WDF is an excellent place to establish adaptive management trials and have them available in perpetuity for staff and the public to visit. Too often valuable past trials have been lost or destroyed because they were not in an area such as the WDF, which is specifically dedicated to research and education and the ongoing record keeping of all trials.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes the removal of some trees every decade to illustrate the response of the forest to disturbance. The management plan will complement the Forest Management Plan 2004-2013.
412	1	Key performance indicator 29 of the Forest Management Plan states 'Provide for public involvement activities and public education, awareness and extension programs and make available forest related information'. We believe that the WDF is an excellent facility in the jarrah forest for all of these activities.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Education and public involvement activities are already undertaken in the WDF. Forest related information is also available at this site.
413	1	Forestry science relies on the observation of natural processes or disturbance by logging and fire. It rarely studies deliberate disturbance done for research, and consequently ecosystem benefits have been left to Mother Nature. The challenges presented by climate change in the south-west lead us to question this passivity. Is there really nothing that can be done to improve the resilience of the jarrah forest, particularly post logging disturbance?	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes research into the response of the forest to disturbance.
414	1	The use of the common scientific method for research purposes, of deliberate action and observed response, has enormous potential in the WDF Reserve, not only for research into restoration but also for education. In other areas of forest, controlled disturbance for research purposes may be illegal as the FMP does not permit active, site specific management for research (or any other purpose). Only those activities prescribed under an approved plan may be undertaken.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes the removal of some trees every decade to illustrate the response of the forest to disturbance.
415	1	Any future DEC research and adaptive management trials relevant to the jarrah forest should be located in the WDF wherever it is feasible to do so.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes the removal of some trees every decade to illustrate the response of the forest to disturbance. Where appropriate, research and adaptive management trials could be undertaken in the WDF.
416	1	We still face many challenges in the management of natural resources and it is	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.

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		only through continuing, complete scientific research that we will solve problems and fully understand our environmental future.		
417	1	We overwhelmingly support DEC's recommendations and position as described in dot points on page 138 of the plan. We also support objectives 1, 2, 3 and 4 as mentioned in Section 43.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes the removal of some trees every decade to illustrate the response of the forest to disturbance.
418	1	The plan states that the Conservation Commission is seeking public comment as to whether the proposal to not allow logging within the WDF reserve is supported. We believe that this is an emotional type question and does not, in our opinion, need to be asked at all. It amounts to censorship of what research can or cannot be carried out in the WDF. If a question were to be asked, it would be better framed as 'do you support the study and interpretation of the impact of disturbance in the jarrah forest on biodiversity and other values'. Surely this is a legitimate study and would obtain the support of most people in the community.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
419	1	The statement that 'feedback from school teachers who visit the site is that there is little demand for this type of educational activity by school groups' is a strange statement since it is the teachers who decide what the demand is and what they will allow students to see. Denying the opportunity for students to see for themselves should not be supported by DEC or the Conservation Commission.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. It is the feedback from teachers which has determined the level of support for a demonstration of silvicultural activities. However, this statement has been deleted from the plan, allowing for such activities to be undertaken should demand warrant it.
420	1	The only reason put forward to justify the prohibition of logging, which includes the demonstration of silvicultural activities, relates to feedback from school teachers who visit the site. We would like to know if the school teachers referred to a) fully understand the nature and importance of activities conducted in the Management Zone and b) wanted to teach their students about the productive and regenerative capacity of our jarrah forests?	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes the removal of some trees every decade to illustrate the response of the forest to disturbance.
421	1	It is important to have a site where students can establish long-term monitoring studies that can be carried on by each successive year. Such a site would provide students with the opportunity to learn field management skills and, more importantly, to observe and understand the changes that occur in the forest by using data they and their predecessors have collected. With the increasing difficulty of getting students out of their classrooms and into the field, it is critically important to have a site where the outcome of a range of practices can be observed within a relatively small area. Disjointed plots throughout the forest cannot achieve these outcomes as effectively as a dedicated demonstration site with the security of purpose and continuity of management.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes the removal of some trees every decade to illustrate the response of the forest to disturbance.
422	1	Teachers say that they would prefer to see 'real, working coups' but this is a very poor option and totally impractical without the services of a highly experienced guide. It is clearly not something that teachers undertake.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
423	1	The intent of the management and research zones were never fully explained to teachers. There was never an intent to display logging per se and the value of school children visiting a current coupe is questionable anyway.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended to better inform teachers about the function of, and opportunities available in, the WDF.
424	1	We agree that better road access is required to the Management Zone of the WDF. The wider interpretation of the whole WDF area will require better access and this was recognised when the WDF was established in 1990. Taking school	1(d)	Noted. Comment proposes strategies that would better achieve management objectives. Appropriate access will be provided. Taking school groups to current logging operations is the best way to observe

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		groups to a current logging operation is of limited value unless the impact of time on past disturbance is also seen.		such practices, yet this is not practical. However, it is noted that it is desirable to show students the impact of disturbance over time.
425	1	The plan lists disease as a reason why silvicultural activities should not be permitted. However, current access to the Management Zone (i.e. the route under the Western Power transmission line) is heavily used by the public without any apparent restrictions. Entry into the Management Zone is also by foot, which is exactly the same as in the Ecology Zone. (86)	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Standard hygiene practices will be employed in the WDF. Vehicle access to the WDF is restricted and is only allowed for management and approved purposes, through the issue of a Disease Risk Area permit. The plan has been amended to clarify the issue.
426	1	There should be alternative zones for activities during different seasons, especially when the dieback pathogen is most active.	1(e)	As per above point.
427	1	The plan infers that the WDF lies along scenic travel routes, and hence logging activities may affect visual landscape values. However, a 10 ha treatment every 10 years or one hectare per year is not considered an excessive disturbance. None of the future disturbances are likely to be seen from tourist routes and if they were, landscape management practices can be used to conserve scenic views. This would also be a management tool that could be explained and interpreted.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The removal of trees from the WDF has the potential to diminish landscape values, particularly if trees are removed alongside Wellington Forest, Pile and King Tree roads, which have been identified as scenic travel routes. However, the point has been considered and the statement in the plan has been reworded.
428	1	Arguments that imply wholesale destruction and mythical devaluing of visual landscape values in the WDF are spurious. Such arguments are either ill informed or an attempt to avoid exposing the truth about the resilience of the jarrah forest to recover from sustainable forest harvesting. For the same reason, Forestcheck will not test the biodiversity of Dalgarp block as this would demonstrate the ability of the jarrah forest to recover from heavy logging disturbance of more than 50 years.	1(e)	As per above point.
429	1	The plan lists habitat for threatened flora and priority fauna as a reason for not permitting a demonstration of silvicultural activities. We understand that results of the first measurements of ForestCheck plots is indicating that past logging activities have made little impact on forest biodiversity. A minor disturbance of 10 ha every 10 years is most unlikely to present a problem but the opportunity exists for measurements to detect exactly what changes do occur following disturbance and how long any changes remain. This is exactly the type of research that can be carried out in the WDF.	2(f)	Noted. Comment contributes options that are not feasible (generally due to conflict with existing legislation, Government policy, lack of resource capacity or lack of research knowledge to make decisions). The Department has a statutory responsibility under the Wildlife Conservation Act to protect declared rare flora. While the removal of trees and research into forest disturbance is permitted, consideration of the affects on declared rare and priority flora is required.
430	1	The plan states that the WDF is an enclave within the Wellington National Park and therefore may be perceived by visitors as national park. Based on this, the plan proposes that a demonstration of silvicultural activities not be permitted. However, the area is clearly designated as the WDF with the aim of demonstrating and interpreting all aspects of the jarrah forest including management and the response to disturbance. This should be greeted in a positive way as a facility that will add to the experience and understanding of people who visit national parks.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The plan has been amended accordingly.
431		In the future, if rainfall decline predictions are correct, and drought death in the jarrah forest becomes more common, it may be necessary to apply some adaptive management, such as a reduction in stand density, to ensure a healthy jarrah forest survives. Possibly stand density control on all harnessed catchments in the jarrah forest may also be proposed in the future to increase run off into domestic supply reservoirs. Rather than wait until drought deaths occur, when often the largest trees die first, it would be useful to have past thinning treatments available for the public to inspect and be familiar with. The WDF is an ideal place to	2(d)	Noted. Comment is beyond the scope of the plan. Trials of this nature are undertaken in the Wungong catchment.

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		conduct such trials.		
432	1	It would appear that the intention to 'bury' the silvicultural demonstration aspect of the WDF has already begun. On a recent visit I found that the alternative access to the site (other than the one involving a two hour walk) was not signposted, access was via an eroded, ugly powerline, the track was blocked with a locked gate with no sign or direction and the walk trail was overgrown and clearly un-maintained. To be used effectively, vehicular access to the information shelters in the silvicultural demonstration area is required. The time required to walk to the site, before even beginning to use it, is excessive and detracts from its use.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. Appropriate public access to the WDF will be provided. However, the area is a Disease Risk Area and standard hygiene practices (e.g. gating) will be employed. Vehicle access may be restricted and only allowed for management and approved purposes, through the issue of a Disease Risk Area permit. The plan has been amended to clarify the issue.
433	1	Overuse resulting from educational and visitor activities are impacting on the fragile ecosystems of the WDF. In educational sites, there is evidence of the understorey being damaged by compaction and an increase of dieback infestation.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Walk trails used for educational purposes are rotated to address issues of over-use. Standard hygiene practices apply.
434	1	Walk trails in the WDF should be rested. This can be achieved by establishing new walk trails and resting existing trails.	2(c)	As per above point.
435	1	There should be more awareness of the degradation caused by current educational and visitor activities. (	2(c)	As per above point.
436	1	The removal of native trees or limbs for safety reasons within the WDF is being carried out in an ad hoc and destructive manner, causing unnecessary damage to its fragile ecosystem and degrading visitor's visual enjoyment. Personnel with a better ecological education and an understanding of the WDF's fragile ecosystems is required.	2(d)	Noted. Comment is beyond the scope of the plan.
437	1	Weed control and the removal of exotic tree species in the WDF is not being applied in high visitation areas.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Weed control will be undertaken according to the priority-based weed control plan.
438	1	The objective for managing Information, Education and Interpretation as stated on page 138 of the plan is to promote community understanding and awareness of the conservation values of the planning area. We believe that the aim of the WDF is to provide opportunities for better understanding of all values of the jarrah forest and its management, not just its conservation values. This aim is as relevant today as in 1992 when the WDF was first established.	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The objective for the WDF has been modified.
439	1	Strategy 2 on page 138 refers to not allowing logging within the WDF reserve. This is a serious misunderstanding as the purpose has never been to demonstrate logging as such, but rather the impact of disturbance on the jarrah forest and its response over time to disturbance. Censoring the removal of a small number of trees every decade is not justified and would seriously undermine the value of the Management Zone.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes the removal of some trees every decade to illustrate the response of the forest to disturbance.
440	1	Strategy 4 on page 138 refers to developing a range of interpretation and education programs, facilities and media that highlight the natural and cultural heritage and management issues within the planning area. We believe that interpretation and explanation of such management issues are relevant to the entire jarrah forest, not just those parts that are in conservation reserves. To provide information and interpretation relevant to all forest tenures has always been the primary aim of the WDF.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
441	1	Strategy 7 on page 139 refers to expanding the range of eco tourism experiences	1(e)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity.

Comment No.	No. of Submissions	Summary of Comment	Criteria	Discussion / Action Taken
		offered. An example of this could be the range of management options for private owners of jarrah forest.		The plan has been amended accordingly.
442	1	Strategy 8 on page 139 refers to the impact of proposed management activities on educational programs. We believe that education needs to cover all aspects of the jarrah forest, not just the conservation.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. It is stated in the plan that the WDF provides the opportunity for the community to learn about the complexities of managing the jarrah forest. This covers education about a range of management actions, which includes, but is not limited to, conservation.
443	1	The environmental, social and economic costs to operate the WDF and log it every 10 years are virtually nil. Even if the benefits of the continuation of the WDF's operation are small or even mildly negative, the undesirable costs of its continued operation are also small. On this basis, if the longer term benefits are potentially significant and the short term costs minor at worst, then the proposal deserves to be supported.	1(c)	Noted. Comment indicates a change in (or clarifies) Government legislation, management commitment or management policy. The plan has been amended to support the original concept of the WDF, which includes the removal of some trees every decade to illustrate the response of the forest to disturbance.
444	1	We recommend that appropriate funding for the development and management of the WDF be allocated by DEC.	2(h)	Noted. Comment provides details that are not appropriate or necessary for inclusion in a document aimed at providing management direction over the long term. Issues relating to funding are not stated in management plans. They are however, considered during the preparation of the plan.
445	1	Additional funding is required to employ experienced weed control personnel so that there is a more professional and sincere weed eradication program within the WDF.	2(h)	Noted. Comment provides details that are not appropriate or necessary for inclusion in a document aimed at providing management direction over the long term. The management plan addresses the strategic control of weed populations in the planning area. Weed control at the operational level, as described, is important but not appropriate for inclusion into strategic documents such as management plans.
446	1	In 2001, we donated time and funds to construct an information shelter in the WDF, under the authority of DEC. We were also pleased that the State Government, through DEC, was prepared to commit funds to the WDF project in the early 1990s.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
447	1	The importance of the WDF lies not just with its ecological value but with its status as a piece of cultural heritage, reflecting the development of co-operative environmental policies including community outreach.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought. The WDF has only been in operation since the early 1990s and therefore cannot be considered as having a long history of use. The relationship of the WDF to community outreach is unclear.
448	1	In light of the past history of disagreement between foresters and environmentalists, it would seem statesmanlike of DEC to support a management plan endorsed by both groups.	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought.
<b>44. Working with the Community</b>				
449	1	We agree with the key points, objective and actions relating to working with the community. However, it must be recognised that actions identified in the plan will raise issues and concerns with the Collie community. In particular, any alteration to existing accessibility will require a significant cultural change. Given the nature of the use of the national park and Reservoir by the community currently, it is considered an unreal expectation that change will occur overnight. Therefore, involving the public in the process and keeping them informed as to developments is of the utmost importance for the long-term success of any	2(b)	Noted. Comment makes general statements and no change is sought. Strategies to involve the community will be considered in the implementation of this management plan.



Comment No.	No. of Submissions	Summary of Comment	Criteria	Discussion / Action Taken
		proposed changes.		
<b>PART F. MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTING THE MANAGEMENT PLAN</b>				
45. Administration				
		No comments.		
46. Research and Monitoring				
		No comments.		
47. Term of the Management Plan				
		No comments.		
<b>MAP 1</b>				
450	2	The full storage water level is not referred to on the maps provided.	2(h)	Noted. Comment indicates omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity. The full storage level of the Wellington Reservoir has been indicated on maps contained within the plan.
<b>APPENDIX 10. VEHICLE ACCESS STRATEGY</b>				
451	2	I am opposed to the closure of the following 'Management Only' roads/tracks: Centre, Parkin, Devils Elbow, Riches, Dips, Boomer Ridge, Potters, Halo, Black Dicks and Bullet roads and Gervasse Drive.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. Many roads of the planning area remain open for public access, providing opportunities for four-wheel drive use. It is not clear as to why the roads listed should remain open. It was necessary in this planning process to rationalise access and close some roads/tracks because of track duplication, use of tracks for other recreational purposes (e.g. the Munda Bididi Bike Track, Sika Circuit) and due to issues of erosion, spread of disease (e.g. in designated disease risk areas) and for nature conservation (e.g. protection of granite outcrop communities).
452	2	Arcadia, Harnet and Sky roads appear to have no purpose and should remain open.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. See above point. The fact that the roads mentioned have no purpose that makes them unnecessary and consequently it is appropriate that they be closed.
453	2	The closure of tracks will prevent four-wheel drive clubs and Trackcare from repairing and adopting tracks and will place more pressure on remaining tracks.	2(c)	Noted. Comment makes statements already in the plan or was considered during the plan preparation. The closure of some tracks is necessary (see above two points). Four-wheel drive clubs and Trackcare can still be involved in track repair programs.

## APPENDIX 1: SUMMARY OF SUBMITTERS

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>FIRST NAME</b>	<b>SURNAME</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>ORGANISATION</b>
Mr	H A	O'Brien		
Ms	Jeanette	Appleby	Land Management Officer	Alinta Asset Management Pty Ltd
Ms	Marianne	Payne		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Ms	Kimberley	Ranson		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Ms	Joanna	McCord		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr	Christopher	Haddon		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr	S. D	Webb		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr	Angus	Stuart		
	B	Scott		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Ms	Odette	Williams		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	Meg & Pippa	Woodhouse		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr	Chris	Ros		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr	Michael	Wood		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr	Ed	Riley		
Ms	Jane	Radny		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Dr	Norbert	Radny		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr	Richard	Summerfield		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Ms	Kym	Summerfield		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Ms	Lynette	Summerfield		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr	Michael	Radny		
Miss	Rebecca	Radny		
Mr	Roger	Armstrong		
	GM & LJ	Dix		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Ms	Jeanette	Della Bona	Project Development Officer - Environment	Main Roads Department South West Region
Mr	Simon	Slemint		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Ms	P	Wright		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mrs	A	Lunt		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.

Ms	Lube	Annetts		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr	C	Brian		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	S L	House		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	J	Smith		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr	David	Lunt		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	M Q	Quant		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
		Lunt		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	W	Watters		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	C	Dornier		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	R	Bett		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	A	McIntosh		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	J	Wright		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	D	Symington		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	W	Grympton		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	D A	Mallard		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	Brian	Pullin		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	J	Lucas		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	G	McReady		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	R	Arena		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	G	Thorpe		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	C	L...		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	S	Stevens		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	J	Woodward		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	J	Van Kampen		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	R	Smith		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	K	King		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.

	M	South		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	A	Bowkell		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	Max	Klump		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	R	Bowlett		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	B A	Martin		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	M	Marcolina		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	L	Cox		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	J	Fry		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	C	de Grauw		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	S	Martin		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	J	Smith		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	L	Dawn		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	C	Colliver		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	P	Shedley		
	S	Stanley		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	C	Wilcocks		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mrs	M	Read		
Mr	C	Martin		
Mr	Marcel	Fortsch		
Mrs	Anita	Fortsch		
	S	Cornu		
Hon	Barry	House		Member for the South West Region
Mr	Peter	Kimber		
Mr	Michael	Hendry		
Mr	Scott	Bartholomew		
Mr	Graeme	Snelgar		
Mr	Colin	Mitchell		
Mr	David	Mills		
Mr	Peter	Murphy	Convenor	Preston Environment Group
Ms	Jenny	Mills		
Dr	Chrissy	Sharp		The Small Tree Farm
Mr	Geoff	Calder	General Manager	Harvey Water
Mr	David	Wettenhall	Chairman, IFA WA Division	Institute of Foresters of Australia
Mr	Jorgen	Overgaard		
Prof.	Geoffrey	Bolton	Emeritus Professor	Murdoch University
Ms	Deb	Jewell		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.

Mr	Terry	Jewell		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr		Indecipherable		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr		Indecipherable		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Ms	Frances	Overheu		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Ms	Kathryn	Bain		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr	Kerryn	Willing		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Ms	Elizabeth	Mulcahy		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mrs	Miriam	Burns		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr	Robert	Burns		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Ms	Janet	Cameron		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Ms	Heather	Hawkins		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr	Mark	Leathersich	A/Manager Infrastructure Planning Branch	Water Corporation
Mr	Greg	Kippin		Kayak Slalom WA
Mr	Roger	Underwood		
Mr	Jack	Bradshaw		
Ms	Letisha	Campbell		
Mrs	Louise	Kingston		
Mr	Ross	Lambert		Warriuka School Adventure Camping (Scripture Union WA)
Mr	Bernie	Masters		
	Tim and Samantha	Allott		
Ms	Leonie	Offer	President	Leschenault Timber Industry Club
Ms	Claire	Collier		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
	J	Skinner		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
		Nicholson		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr	J	Whiteaker	CEO	Shire of Collie
Ms	Melissa	Guest		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Ms	Joan	Gill		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr	Harvey	Strack		
Mr	Keith	Low		Forest Products Commission
Ms	Amanda	Rayner		Form response, WA Endurance Riders Association.
Mr	Stewart	Parkinson		
Ms	Vanessa	Crispe	Secretary	WA Endurance Riders Association

Mr	Kane	Moyle	Policy Officer	Recfishwest
Mr	Don	Punch	Chief Executive Officer	South West Development Commission
Mr	Ian	Briggs		Department of Industry and Resources
Ms	Fran	Kenneally	Manager	Collie Visitor Centre Inc
Mr	Barrie	Thomas		
Mr	Hugh	Maclean		Department of Sport and Recreation
Ms	Kay	Webber	Chair	Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee Western Australia
Ms	Elizabeth A	Cullam		
Mr	Steve	Crawford	Director of Policy and Planning	Tourism Western Australia
Mr	John	Ruprecht		Department of Water
Ms	Amanda	Cattermole	A/Director General	Department of Indigenous Affairs
Mr	Rob	Towers		Department of Environment and Conservation