NORTH-EASTERN WHEATBELT

NATURAL DIVERSITY RECOVERY CATCHMENT AND BETTER MNAGEMENT OF CROWN RESERVES FIELD TRIP

3-5 APRIL 2002

Day One

0700 Depart Perth

travel to Toodyay (?morning tea, pick up lunch)

Then to Goomalling and Dowerin road

Dowerin (10 am, meet Wheatbelt contingent)

to Maiseys wetland (monitoring wetland)

back through Water reserve on Ucarty Road

Waywaymourin Lake (monitoring wetland), view ?Oak park Claypan

Wongan Hills

Manmanning reserves

Overnight; Dallwallinu

Day two

Depart Dallwallinu

Southern margin of Lake Moore

Mollerin Lake

Cowcowing-Wallambin System

Overnight; Cunderdin

Day three

Mortlock River System (east of Meckering)

Back to Perth

DAY ONE

DOWERIN -GOOMALLING WETLANDS

The Dowerin-Goomalling Shires contain a very diverse range of wetland types, including:

Boase's Saline Seep; naturally saline seep forming a "quaking bog". This is a rare and perhaps unique community

Maisey's Wetlands, Fresh playa lakes dominated by Melaleuca strobophylla and Cane Grass. Probably the only example in the Wheatbelt of a Cane Grass Playa

Fresh water Claypans, eg: at Oak Park. Claypans in excellent condition are very rare in the N-E Wheatbelt

Brackish to semi-saline playa lakes, e.g.: Reserve 4240 (York Gum fringe)

Large Seasonal Fresh Water lakes, e.g.: south of Lake Walyormouring

Large Seasonal Salt Water lakes, e.g.: Lake Walyormouring

UPLAND AREAS

Manmanning Reserves

Diverse woodlands, including Blue Mallet, Salmon Gums, heaths andmallee shrublands.

Wongan Hills

(Discuss Landscape Management of Wongan Hills, Manmanning and Nudadong – Buntine Reserve Groups)

DAY TWO

Depart Dallwallinu (Lunch from Koorda or buy materials at Dallwallinu)

Travel via southern margin of Lake Moore

Mollerin Lakes (Proposed Natural Diversity Recovery Catchment)
Good examples of Salt lake Communities, including Gypsophilous Dunes and lake margin communities.
Low lying Woodland communities of Salmon Gum, and Gimlet. Connects through to a granite area to the south. Catchemt would also include smaller lakes to the north.

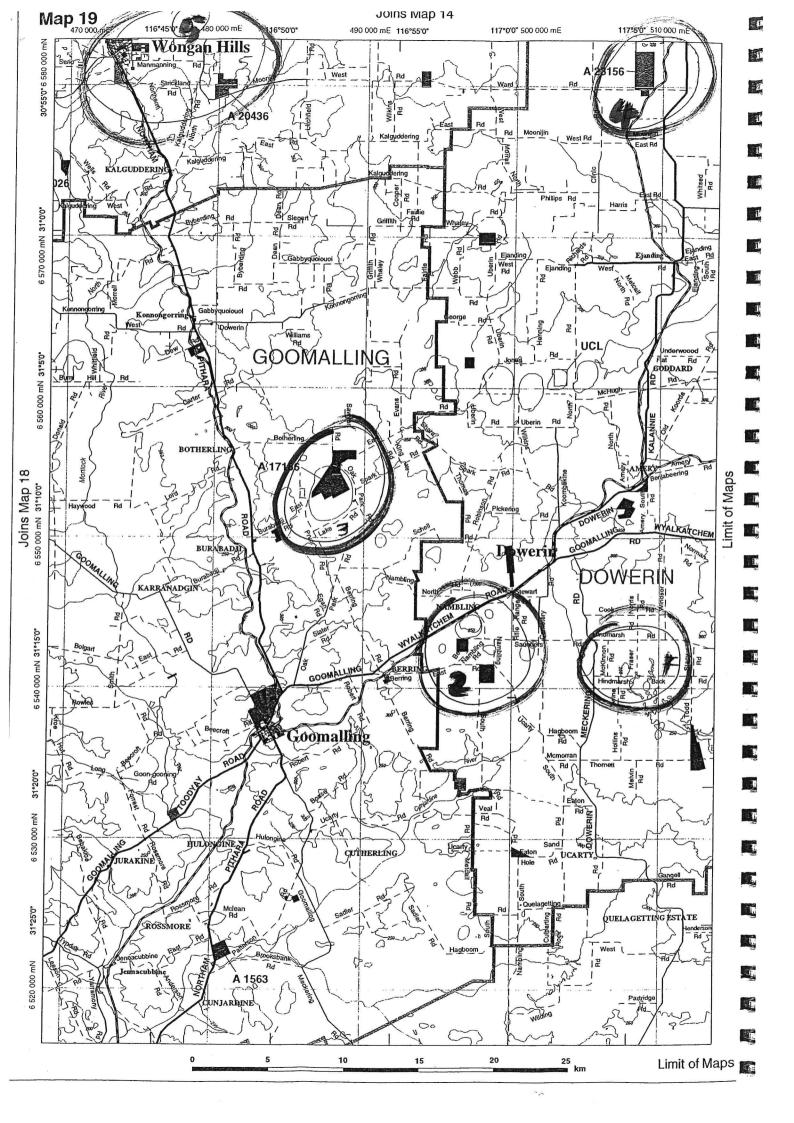
Cowcowing-Lake Wallabin (Potential Natural Diversity Recovery Catchment)
Large areas of salt lake woodlands and shrublands, particularly in North Wallabin Nature Reserve, including red sand dunes dominated by *Eremophila minata* at its southern limits. Cowcowing Lakes

contain flats of Atriplex communities under Kondinin Blackbutt, fresh claypans with *Tecticornia verrucosa* and lake margin shrublands.

DAY THREE

Mortlock River Flats

Private Property Sandy rises in a large saline drainage line. Unlike other naturally saline areas to the north and east these rises are not gypsum dominated and are covered by a fringe of *Melaleuca thyoides* with *Scholtzia capitata* shrublands on the summit. Along the drainage line are numerous rare plants including *Frankenia parvula* and *Roycea*.

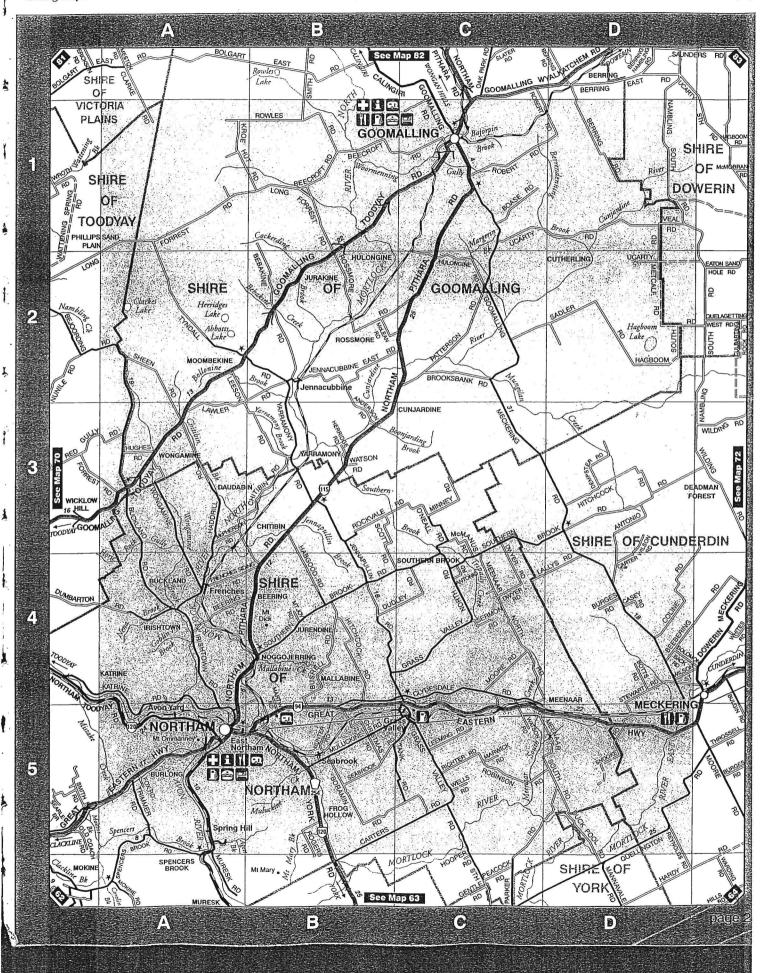


For more detail see the StreetSmart Avon Valley touring map.

SLOW DOWN AND DRIVE SAFELY THROUGH ROAD WORKS

For all road condition reports, ring 1800-133-314. For other/Main Roads matters, ring our Wheatbelt North Regional Office (096) 224 777

Scale 1: 250 OF (1 cm = 2.5km) For scale bar see page



MAP 88

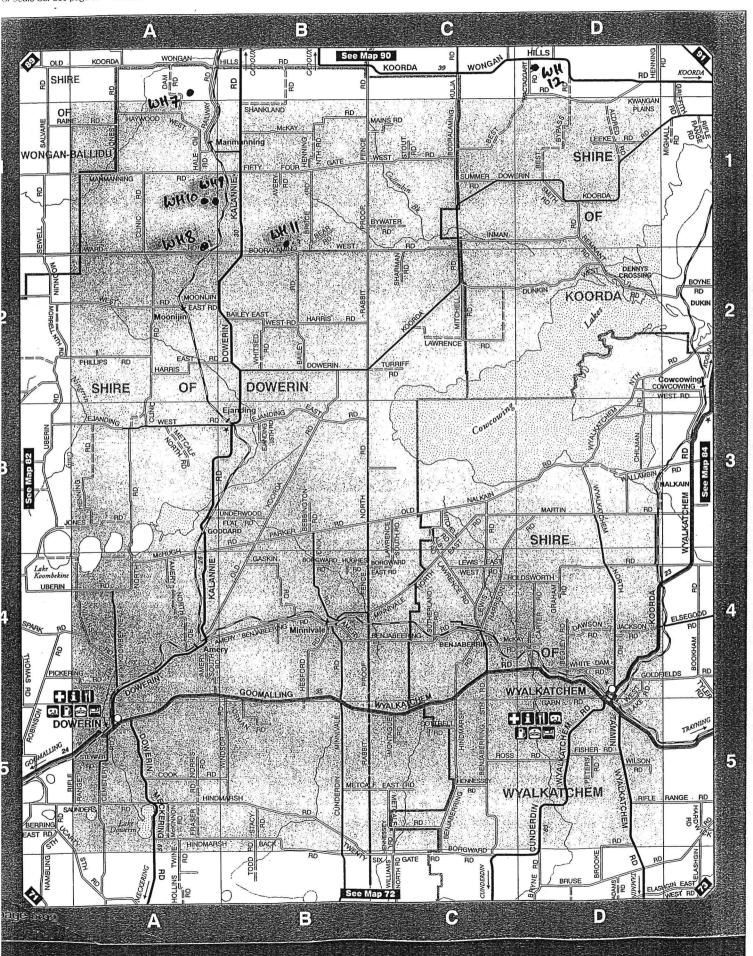
Scale 1 : 250 000 (1cm = 2.5km) for scale bar see page 26

IF YOU ARE TIRED, STOP AND REST - DRIVER FATIGUE CAN KILL

For all road condition reports, ring Main Roads information line 1800-133-314.

For other matters concerning the main Roads network please call the Customer Service Manager,

Main Roads Wheatbelt North Regional Office on (096) 224,777.

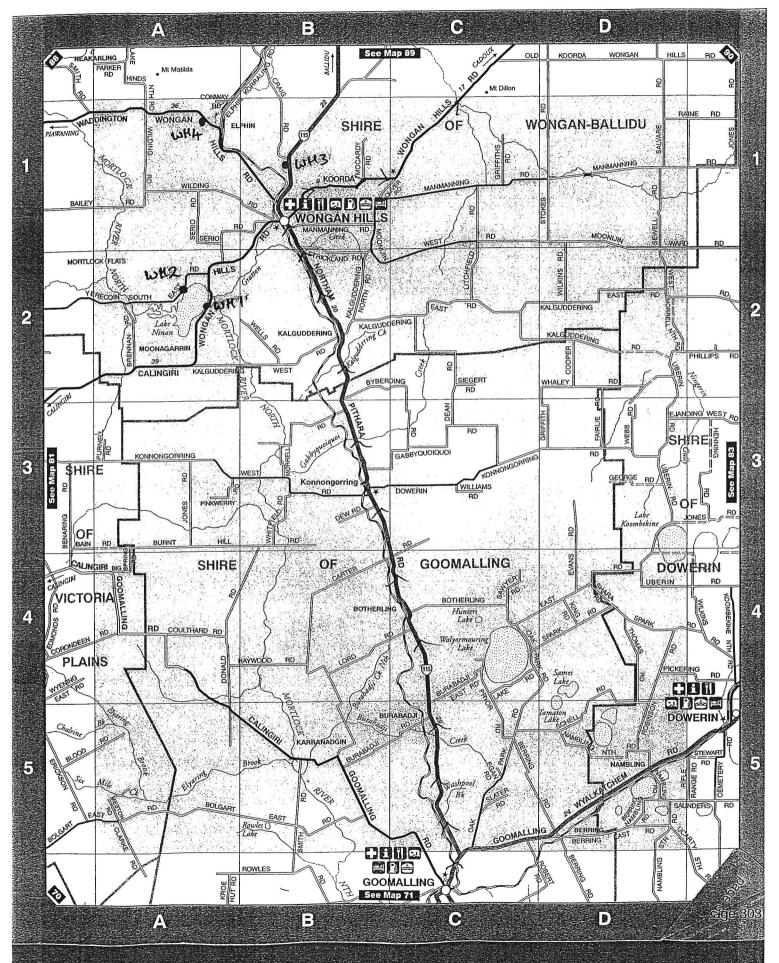


MAIN ROADS PROVIDING THE BEST ROADS FOR THE FUTURE

Scale 1 : 250 000 (1cm = 2.5km)

THE CLE

For scale bar see page 26



MAPER

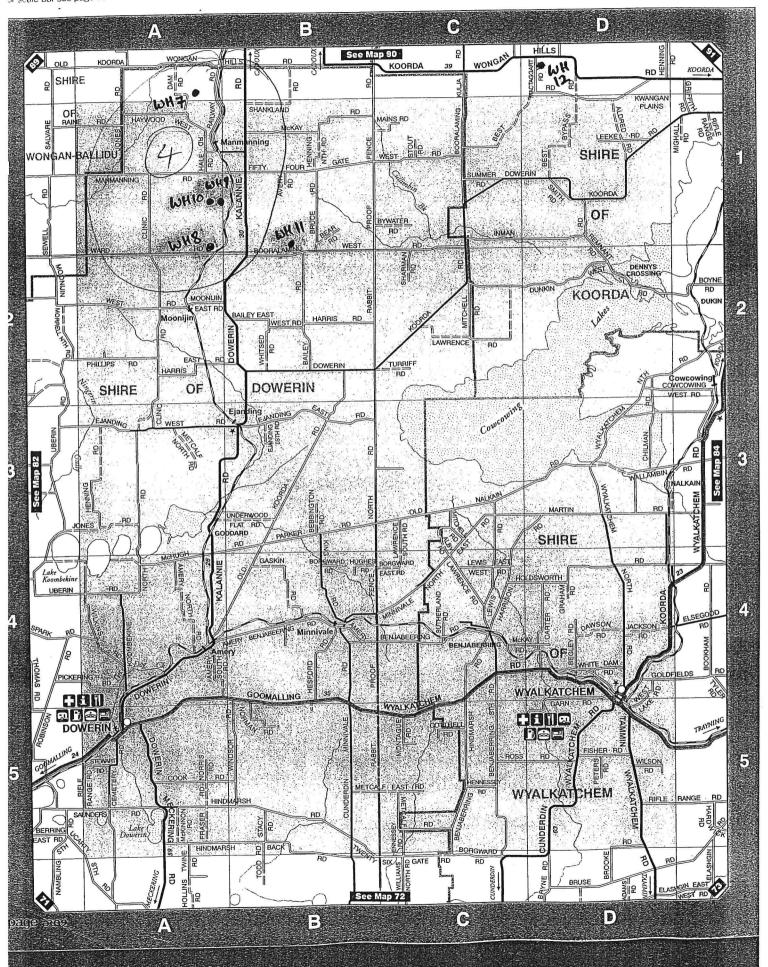
Scale 1 : 250 000 (1cm = 2.5km) or scale bar see page 26

IF YOU ARE TIRED, STOP AND REST - DRIVER FATIGUE CAN KILL

For all road condition reports, ring Main Roads information line 1800-133-314

For other matters concerning the main Roads network please call the Customer Service Manager,

Main Roads Wheatbelt North Regional Office on (096) 224-777

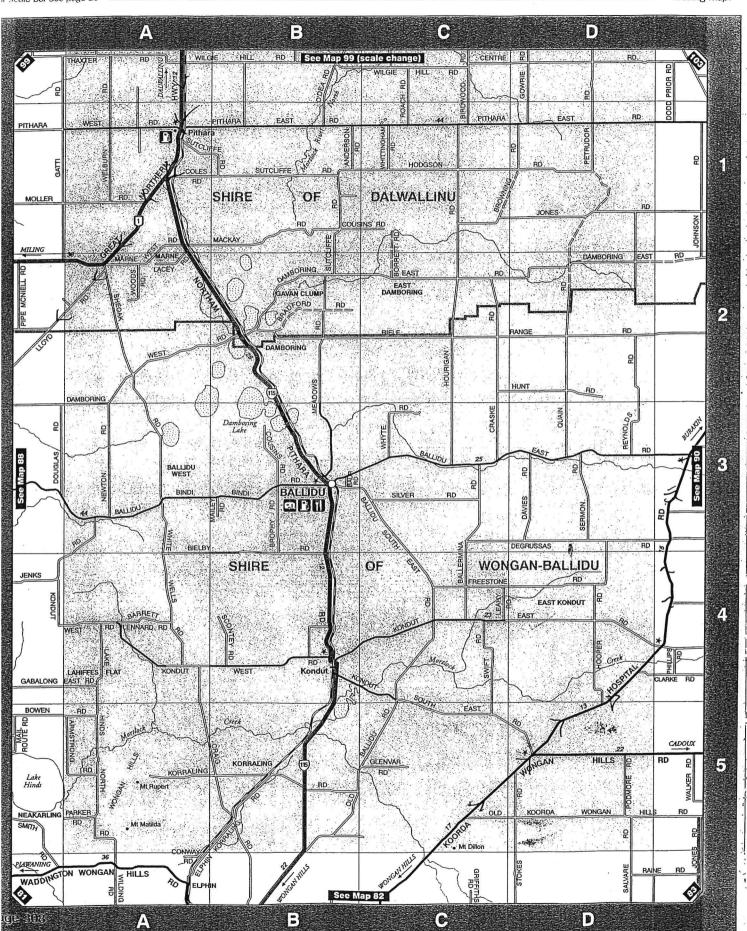


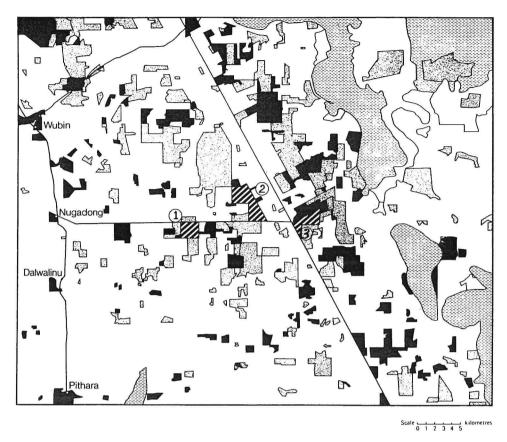
SLOW DOWN AND DRIVE SAFELY THROUGH ROAD WORKS

For all road condition reports, ring 1800-133-314. For other Main Roads matters ring our Wheatbelt North Regional Office (096) 224 777

For more detail see the StreetSmart Batavia Coast touring map.

Cale 1 : 250 000 (1 cm = 2.5km) or scale bar see page 26





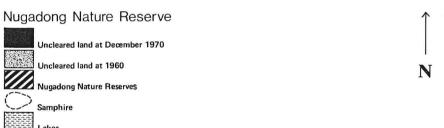


Fig. 2: Map showing amount of uncleared land in a 20 km radius of 1 Nugadong Reserve, 2 East Nugadong Reserve and 3 Nugadong Forest Reserve. Map drawn from aerial photographs taken in 1960 and 1970.

ABSTRACT

The Buntine and Nugadong reserves together constitute a most vital sanctuary for vertebrate and plant species in the central and northern wheatbelt.

Our surveys of these reserves recorded 80 bird (33 non-passerines, 47 passerines), 15 mammal (11 native and 4 introduced), 5 frog and 31 reptile species. Other reserves of similar size in the wheatbelt have a comparable vertebrate richness. A description of the vegetation structure and floristics of these reserves is included. Two hundred and forty one plant species were recorded. Compared with other reserves in the wheatbelt these 4 reserves have an average number of vegetation associations and plant species for their respective sizes. All wheatbelt vegetation formations are present with the exception of lithic and breakaway complexes. Shrublands cover a considerable proportion of all 4 reserves and heaths are prominent except in Nugadong Forest reserve.

These 4 reserves include vertebrate species that are infrequently collected in the wheatbelt. For example, the vespertilionid bat, Nycticeius greyi, the Splendid Fairy-wren, Malurus splendens, and the skink lizard, Ctenotus uber, have only been collected from the wheatbelt proper at one other locality; the White-tailed dunnart, Sminthopsis granulipes, and the Ashy Grey Mouse, Pseudomys albocinereus, have a very patchy distribution in the region; the White-browed Scrub-wren, Sericornis frontatus, has almost disappeared from the northern central wheatbelt; the lizards Lerista gerrardii, Egernia inornata, E. stokesii, Amphibolurus scutulatus and the snake Denisonia monachus are infrequently recorded in the region.

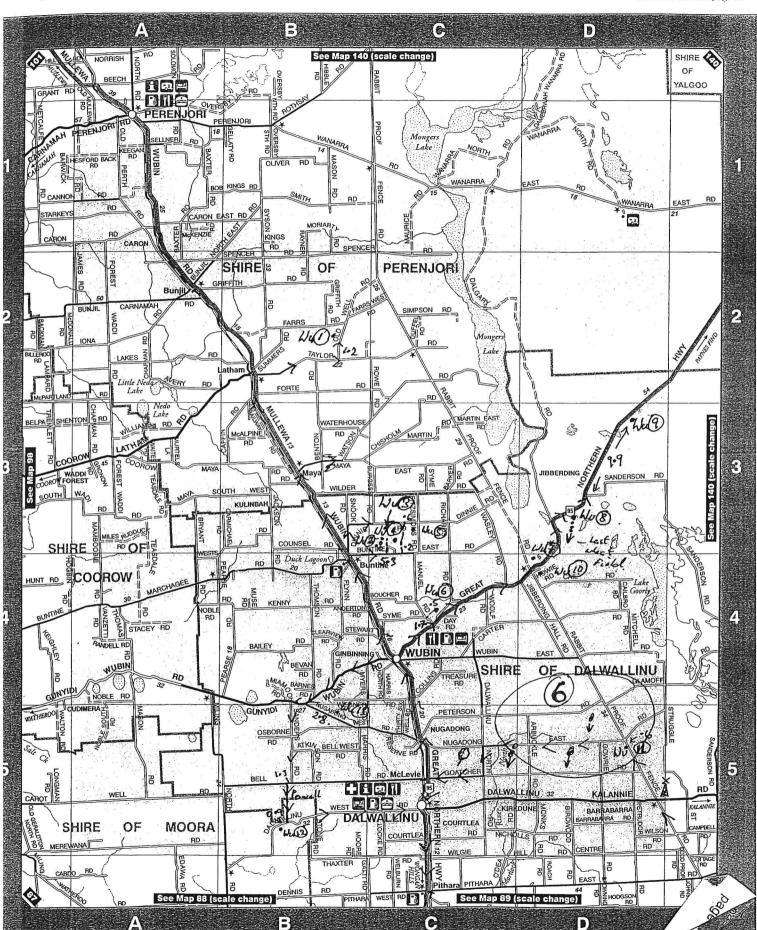
Despite the proximity of these 4 reserves to each other, the proportion of species in common between any pair of them ranges between: plants—28.3 and 39.5%, mammals—36.4 and 45.5%, passerine birds—51.0 and 78.7%, and reptiles and frogs—19.2 and 51.6%. These data support our belief that all reserves in the wheatbelt are both separately important and valuable to the reserve system as a whole.

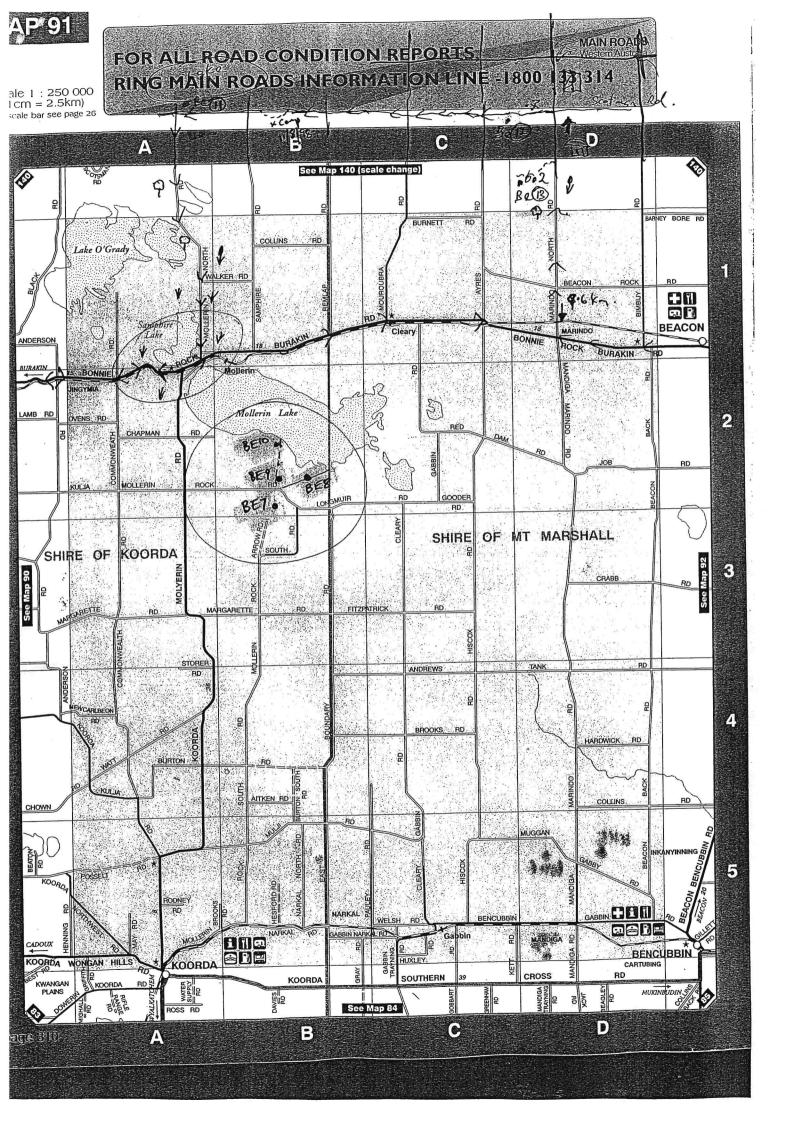
UNLESS OVERTAKING

MAIN ROADS

Scale 1:500 000 (1cm = 5km)

For scale bar see page 26





WAP:

FOR THE SAFETY OF YOURSELF AND OTHERS, PLEASE DRIVE TO THE PREVAILING ROAD CONDITIONS

For all road condition reports ring Main Roads information line on 1800 133 314

Scale 1 : 250 ()()((1cm = 2.5kn))

For scale bar see page 2

