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Commercial Operator Handbook terrestrial

The official manual of licence conditions
for commercial operators entering waters
and lands managed by the Department of
Environment and Conservation

Effective from 1 July 2011



Department of
Environment and Conservation



This handbook must be carried in all operator vehicles
or vessels while conducting commercial operations.

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If you have any queries about your licence, the Department of Environment and Conservation's licensing system or any of its tourism policies, operations or developments not covered in this handbook, we would be pleased to answer them for you. Please phone (08) 9334 0119, fax (08) 9334 0221 or email licensing@dec.wa.gov.au or visit DEC's website at www.dec.wa.gov.au

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- NP - National Park
- NR - Nature Reserve
- CP - Conservation Park
- SF - State Forest
- MNR - Marine Nature Reserve
 - * Bushwalking includes short sight seeing walks as well as long distance treks
 - ** Mixed Tenure
 - *** 5 (1) g Reserve

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Commercial operations licences allow operators to legally carry out tours on public conservation estate. This handbook outlines the licence conditions operators need to abide by when in Western Australia's conservation reserves and state forest.

Western Australia has one of the most magnificent natural and cultural environments on Earth. It encompasses remnant rainforests, karri and jarrah forests, mangroves, heathlands, wetlands, coral reefs and deserts. These are combined with bizarre landscapes, beaches and gorges, masses of wildflowers and features such as the Pinnacles, the striped beehive domes of the Bungle Bungle Range, the meteorite crater at Wolfe Creek and the Coral Coast of Ningaloo Reef.

To maintain an equitable balance between conservation of these spectacular environments and commercial recreational use, the Director General of the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) issues licences to operators conducting commercial activities on lands vested in the Conservation Commission of Western Australia (Commission) and managed by DEC (referred to as CALM Land).

Licences are the legal basis that allows approved commercial operations to occur on CALM Land

in accordance with conditions. Part 7 of the *Conservation and Land Management Regulations 2002* (the Regulations) allows the Director General, with the approval of the Minister for Environment (the Minister), to issue commercial operations licences to private individuals and companies that wish to operate on CALM Land. The conditions that T class licensed commercial operators operating on terrestrial reserves must abide by are in the licence issued to the operators together with the conditions set out in this handbook.

The Commercial Operator Handbook – Terrestrial serves a number of purposes:

- to educate and inform terrestrial based operators as to how they can help maintain and protect Western Australia's natural and cultural values for the long-term benefit of the Western Australian tourism industry
- to minimise risks to park visitors
- to outline opportunities that are available to operators who are already conducting, or wish to conduct, commercial activities on CALM Land
- to clearly identify the licence conditions which apply to specific operations and areas
- to clearly identify the licence conditions that operators must abide by or risk penalty.

DEC also publishes the Commercial Operator Handbook – Marine, which also may be relevant to tour operations. This can be downloaded from www.dec.wa.gov.au.

1.2 Vested bodies

The Conservation Commission of WA (the Commission) and the Marine Parks and Reserves Authority (MPRA) are the bodies in which WA's conservation reserves are vested.

The Commission and the Marine Parks and Reserves Authority were established under sections 18 and 26A of the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (the Act) and are the vested bodies of all of the state's conservation estate. For areas managed by the Swan River Trust and also vested in the MPRA, consultation with the Swan River Trust is required on management issues.

The Commission has vested in it all of Western Australia's national parks, conservation parks, nature reserves, State forest and timber reserves. The MPRA has vested in it all Western Australia's marine parks, marine nature reserves and marine management areas. Both bodies have a number of state functions defined in the Act. Some functions of the Commission include (see section 19 (1) of the Act):

- developing policy for preserving the natural environment, providing facilities, promoting

flora and fauna and achieving management plan objectives

- advising the Minister on the development of policies for the conservation and management of biodiversity
- inquiring into and advising the Minister on any matter on which the Minister requests advice
- providing advice to any body or person on matters relating to lands and waters vested in the Commission, if the provision is in the public interest and is practical for the Commission to provide it
- submitting proposed management plans to the Minister for lands vested and to develop guidelines for monitoring and assessing the implementation of management plans by DEC, as well as setting performance criteria and assessing and auditing DEC in its implementation and compliance with management plans.

1.3 The department's responsibilities

DEC manages WA's conservation estate, including marine conservation reserves.

It is DEC's mission that:

"Working with the community, we will ensure that Western Australia's environment is valued, protected and conserved, for its intrinsic value, and for the appreciation and benefit of future generations."

To facilitate this mission, DEC is responsible for managing more than 27 million hectares of lands vested in the vested bodies and for on-ground management of 89.1 million hectares of unallocated Crown land and unmanaged reserves. DEC manages this land, under the direction of the Minister, the Commission and the MPRA, in accordance with the Act and Regulations and on behalf of the people of Western Australia. All of DEC's land management activities are derived from management plans prepared by DEC for the Commission and the MPRA or as necessary or compatible operations.

1.4 Management plans as guidelines for licensing

The issue of licences must be consistent with a park's management plan or be a necessary or compatible operation.

Management plans prepared by DEC for the Commission and the MPRA in consultation with the community have the objective of achieving or promoting the purpose for which land is vested (see section 2.2 for vesting purposes). Such plans may be prepared for either an individual park (such as Serpentine National Park Management Plan) or a region (such as the South Coast Region Management Plan). Management plans guided by the vested purposes provide the guidelines for licensing commercial operations on CALM Land. As CALM Land must be managed in accordance

with management plans (and their management is subsequently monitored and audited by the Commission and MPRA), the Director General can only grant a commercial operation licence if the commercial operation is consistent with the relevant management plan.

Management plans for terrestrial or marine parks and reserves can be downloaded from www.dec.wa.gov.au.

If a person wishes to conduct a commercial operation in a nature reserve that does not have a management plan, the proposed commercial operation can only be approved if it is a **necessary operation**. In section 33A(1) of the Act, necessary operations are defined as those operations necessary for the preservation or protection of persons, property, land, waters, flora and fauna or for the preparation of the management plan.

Similarly, if a person wishes to conduct a commercial operation in a national or conservation park that does not have a management plan, the proposed commercial operation can only be approved if it is considered a **compatible operation**. Under section 33A(2) of the Act, compatible operations include necessary operations and those operations approved by the Minister as being in his or her opinion compatible with the purposes for which the park is managed under the Act.

1.5 licence approval

All licences require approval from the Minister and consultation with the vesting body.

To ensure that all proposed commercial operations are consistent with the relevant management plans or are necessary or compatible operations (as determined by the Minister), all licence applications must be endorsed by the relevant vested body (the Commission or MPRA) and approved by the Minister. The Director General can only issue a commercial operation licence after he/she consults the appropriate vesting body (Commission or MPRA) and gains the approval of the Minister.

Usually, if a licence application is for operations on CALM Land described in the Commercial Operator Handbook – Terrestrial or Marine, and all supporting documentation is supplied, then a licence can be processed within 10 working days. However DEC may determine that an application may require a higher level of assessment and this may extend the assessment timeframe.

If an application is for operations not consistent with the operations described in the Commercial Operator Handbook – Terrestrial or Marine, the application may take six to 10 weeks to be processed.

1.6 Why the department licenses operators

Licensing is a mechanism that helps ensure sustainable use of WA's conservation estate.

Commercial operation licences are strategically linked to achieving DEC's corporate objectives, one of which is to generate social, cultural and economic benefits through the provision of a range of services that are valued by the community and are consistent with the principles of ecological sustainability.

Strategies have been identified to help achieve this objective including 'to develop partnerships to provide recreational facilities, services and programs' and to 'establish innovative and ecologically sustainable visitor facilities and services and nature-based recreation opportunities'. Licences provide a mechanism for DEC to implement these strategies by entering into relationships with the private sector for the purpose of providing innovative and ecologically sustainable visitor facilities and services and nature-based recreation opportunities for visitors' use and enjoyment.

In addition to these strategic purposes, licences are an important means of meeting the rising demand for high quality services on CALM Land, while at the same time ensuring that financial contributions from tourism help DEC meet the costs of managing the natural resource. Most importantly, licences provide a means for DEC to manage and monitor land uses so that they are ecologically sustainable and equitably balanced. This helps to ensure that the conservation values of CALM Land are maintained. By protecting these conservation values, operators can keep returning to the same locations and find them in an unspoiled condition.

Operators are required to abide by conditions determined by the Director General. The conditions applicable to most terrestrial based operators are set out in this handbook. Additional conditions may be endorsed on the licence itself or may be found in the Commercial Operator Handbook – Marine. Operators should be aware that nothing in this handbook prevents the Director General from adding to, cancelling, suspending and otherwise varying the licence from time to time during the operation of the licence (see regulation 98).

1.7 How operators fit in

We all have a responsibility in ensuring WA's conservation estate is preserved for future generations.

Operators have a role to play in ensuring that the terrestrial and marine conservation reserves in which they operate are conserved for the benefit of present and future generations and the long-term viability of the tourism industry, by minimising their impact and that of their passengers.

The state is charged with the responsibility of ensuring that the terrestrial and marine environments of Western Australia are conserved and managed on an ecologically sustainable basis for the benefit of present and future generations. These responsibilities and obligations reflect the Australian Government's international commitment to the protection of biodiversity and ecological processes and the sustainable use of terrestrial and marine resources.

Minimising impact on terrestrial and marine environments will benefit the global commitment to ecologically sustainable development of the Earth's land and oceans.

1.8 The benefits of licensing

Being licensed entitles you to a range of support material.

Licensing is a legal requirement under the Regulations. However, by complying with licensing requirements, operators also help the Commission and DEC ensure that the beauty and diversity of Western Australia's natural environment and the natural attractions are not diminished and are safeguarded for the future. DEC will also help operators to improve the experience of visitors on CALM Land.

DEC is also committed to supporting tourism on CALM Land by providing operators with information as well as marketing opportunities. Operators will receive a complimentary subscription to DEC's award winning nature conservation magazine *LANDSCOPE* and also *Touring Western Australia*, DEC's quarterly electronic tourism newsletter. Operators also receive regular Tour Operator Alerts (broadcast emails) relaying up to the minute news and information on the state's conservation estate, including notification of fire and road closures.

DEC's website at **www.dec.wa.gov.au** provides access to a variety of online resources to assist in the development of interpretation for operations, including **FloraBase**,

the authoritative site for Western Australian flowering plant information maintained by the Herbarium at **www.dec.wa.gov.au/florabase**.

Licensed operators are also entitled to a 20 per cent discount on most DEC publications. Please refer to section 22 for a comprehensive list of these publications. You will need to present a copy of your licence when purchasing items from DEC offices to receive your discount off selected publications.

1.9 Licensing penalties

Ensure you and your staff know the conditions that apply to your licence – your future business on CALM Land may depend on it.

This handbook contains conditions that form part of the licence granted to an operator. A breach of a condition in this handbook may result in a \$1000 fine and/or cancellation, suspension and non renewal of the licence (see regulations 85, 86 and 98(3)).

A person who, without lawful authority (a licence), conducts commercial operations or advertises that he is willing to conduct commercial operations on CALM Land commits an offence which may result in a \$2000 fine (regulation 106).

Under section 124 of the Act, a ranger or conservation and land

management officer (CALM officer) has the authority to require any person who has committed, or is suspected of committing an offence under the Act, to leave CALM Land immediately.

This summary of the Regulations is intended as a broad guide only and does not cover all of the Regulations or amendments. It is strongly recommended that you read the Regulations before completing any application.

Copies of the Act and Regulations can be downloaded from the State Law Publisher's website at **www.slp.wa.gov.au**.

1.10 Fee waivers

DEC may consider entry fee waivers for particular visitors or groups to CALM Land.

In general, DEC only grants park entry fee waivers to school groups entering on buses who are not part of a commercial tour. If an operator has been chartered to take a school group on an educational trip during school hours then a fee waiver maybe considered. However, if it is a commercial tour that the school has booked then waivers may not be considered. Only school representatives may apply to DEC for a waiver of park entry fees.

DEC may also consider fee waivers for media or travel industry familiarisation tours. In such cases, the operator may apply to DEC for a waiver of park entry fees and should supply information on the number and bona fides of participants and the purpose of their visit.

Applications for fee waivers for free of charge entrants should be made in writing to the Assistant Director Policy and Planning and sent to the Department of Environment and Conservation, PO Box 104, BENTLEY DELIVERY CENTRE WA 6983 or faxed to **(08) 9334 0221**.

If insufficient notice is given of free of charge entrants (48 hours faxed notice) the operator will be required to pay the full amount. Those not qualifying for a waiver pay the full per passenger entry fee as per section 19.1 (children under the age of six are free).

1.11 How to use this handbook

Conditions are presented under major headings and begin with (a), (b), (c), (i), (ii), (iii) etc and include the permitted uses tables. All other statements throughout the handbook are additional information operators will find useful when visiting CALM Land.

Please ensure that you are aware of, understand and abide by all conditions attached to your licence. Your conditions can be found by following these steps:

Step 1. Read the General conditions that apply to all operators for all operations in *section 5.0 General conditions*.

Step 2. Find and read all the relevant operations specific conditions which apply to your specific operations in *section 6.0 Operation specific conditions*.

Step 3. Find and read any issues and associated conditions for the relevant CALM Land in *section 7.0 Issues and extra conditions*.

Step 4. Find any relevant area specific conditions (and general regional conditions) that apply to the relevant CALM Land listed on your licence in *sections 9.0 to 18.0*.

For example, if an operator is licensed to conduct camping in Purnululu National Park, the following conditions apply:

Step 1: General conditions 5.1(a) to 5.18 (a)

Step 2: Operation specific conditions Camping 6.1(a) to 6.1(f)

Step 3: Issues and conditions Prescribed burns 7.2(a) Closure of parks and reserves 7.4(a) Prohibited areas 7.5(a) and 7.5(b)

Step 4: Area specific conditions General regional conditions (none) Purnululu NP 9.2(a) to 9.2(d)

2 Frequently asked questions

2.1 When is a commercial operations licence required?

The Director General may grant a licence in order that commercial operations can be conducted on CALM Land (regulation 94). A commercial operation is defined as the selling of any product or service by any person, partnership, company or other organisation for reward or other consideration. This includes the supply of transport, information, instruction or supervision. Examples of the types of operations that may be conducted commercially on CALM Land include:

- vehicle tours or safaris
- guided walks
- charter tours
- adventure operations such as white water rafting and rock climbing
- minor facilities and services such as souvenir outlets
- education and training Operations.

A licence will need to be obtained before you begin advertising operations on CALM Land.

Depending on your operation, you may be required to receive permissions from other agencies such as the Department of Transport. Please check with the Small Business Development Corporation as to the requirements of your operation at www.sbd.com.au.

2.2 What do I need to supply with my application form?

DEC has two kinds of application forms for commercial operations licences – one that applies to land-based operators, and one that applies to marine-based operators.

Depending on the parks visited, one or both forms may be filled out for the one application and licence charge.

When applying for a DEC commercial operations licence, you will also need to submit:

- certificate of currency showing public liability coverage (also called protection and indemnity insurance below water mark) of your operations of at least \$10 million. (Please ensure all activities licensed are covered by the policy)
- a list of vehicles stating the vehicle type, registration numbers and passenger capacity (to allow DEC to properly categorise the vehicle) certificate of surveys for all vessels showing the limited area of operation for each vessel
- certificate of surveys for all vessels showing the limited area of operation for each vessel.
- maps of access points and vessel routes in marine parks
- hire and drive and survey certificates for any craft

- any other relevant documentation (including advertising material) requested by DEC to support your application
- DEC online training certificate.

Sending copies of these documents and an application form that has parks and operations consistent with this handbook means that your application may be assessed within 10 working days.

2.3 What are the different vesting purposes?

DEC manages more than 27 million hectares of lands and waters in WA. It is also responsible for the on-ground management of 89.1 million hectares of unallocated Crown land and managed reserves. These are reserved for various purposes according to the values of the land.

The purpose of the lands vested in the Commission and waters vested in the MPRA are:

- **Indigenous State forest or timber reserve** — managed for recreation, water catchment protection, nature conservation and sustainable timber production as specified in the management plan
- **State forest or timber reserve planted with exotic species** — managed for optimum yield consistent with the satisfaction of long term social and economic needs
- **nature reserve** — managed to maintain and restore the natural environment, to protect, care for and promote the study of indigenous flora and fauna and to preserve any feature of archaeological, historic and scientific interest
- **national park and conservation park** — managed to fulfill so much of the demand for recreation by members of the public as is consistent with the proper maintenance and restoration of the natural environment, the protection of indigenous flora and fauna and preservation of any feature of archaeological, historic and scientific interest
- **marine park** — managed for that level of recreation and commercial activity that is consistent with the proper conservation and restoration of the natural environment, protection of indigenous flora and fauna and preservation of features of archaeological, historic and scientific interest
- **marine nature reserve** — managed for conservation and restoration of the natural environment, protection, care and study of indigenous flora and fauna and preservation of any feature of archaeological, historical or scientific interest
- **marine management area** — managed for protection of the marine environment so that it may be used for conservation, recreational, scientific and commercial purposes (including

aquaculture, mining and petroleum production)

- **other reserves** — held for a variety of purposes, but normally related to recreation or wildlife conservation.

Some tourism operations will be incompatible with the purpose for which some categories of land have been reserved or may be restricted due to zoning within such lands.

2.4 What type of licence do I need?

DEC issues two types of licences depending on the nature of the operation.

'T' class licence

This is normally required when the operation is open to many operators. In these circumstances, environmental and visitor management objectives can be achieved simply through appropriate conditions most of which are contained in this handbook and others may be attached to each licence. Most commercial operations fall into this category.

Examples of T class licences include safari tours, guided walks and general snorkel/dive charters. These licences are offered for a two or 12 month period. However, depending upon the level of approved accreditation, operators are eligible for three and five year T class licences (see section 2.11).

'E' class licence

E class licences are required when there are environmental, management, safety or access reasons why licence numbers must be limited. Examples of E class licences include whale shark tours (where the demand for licences exceeds the number that can be sustainably managed) and boat tours in confined areas (where congestion and environmental damage may result from too many operators). Expressions of Interest are usually called for before an E class licence is issued.

These licences can be granted for periods of up to five years and may be renewed for up to a further five years. After this time the restricted opportunities must be offered through another competitive application process, usually through an Expressions of Interest (EOI) process.

2.5 Who requires the licence for charter operations?

A licence is required by the person or organisation responsible for conducting the commercial operation. In circumstances where an operator uses the transport services of another operator, the first operator should be licensed. However, when transport services extend to guiding or conducting an activity, the guiding operator should be licensed. In all cases, commercial

operations must be conducted by licensed operators who are in a position of responsibility for the operation being undertaken.

DEC will not accept non-DEC dockets for payment. Free docket books for licensed operators are available from the Licensing Officer. Email licensing@dec.wa.gov.au or phone **(08) 9334 0119**.

2.6 What happens if an operator sells the business?

Licences are not tangible assets and cannot be transferred to a new owner. The operator must explain to the prospective purchaser of a business that the licence is **not transferable**, and that the prospective purchaser would be required to make an application to the Director General to obtain a new licence to continue the licensed operations.

If you are operating under a T class licence then the purchaser of your business needs to apply for a new licence using the standard application form. This will be processed in the same way as any other new licence application. In most cases such T class applications are straightforward and quickly processed.

If you are selling a business that operates under an E class licence, there is a process that allows the intending purchaser to apply for a

replacement licence. Applications to purchase a business operating under an E class licence are more involved and assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Granting a replacement licence is subject to conditions:

- Prospective buyers must supply DEC with information showing they have the appropriate resources, skills, suitable experience as well as information demonstrating a continuation of the operation of the licence especially in respect to operations in high conservation value areas.
- The sale of the business is subject to the successful application for a replacement licence.
- There is favourable assessment by DEC in regard to suitable experience in tourism and business enterprises.
- There is legal confirmation of the purchase of the business and the completion of all obligations of the existing operator.
- The current operator surrenders his or her licence in favour of the purchaser's.
- There is consultation with the Commission or MPRA and approval from the Minister.

A number of replacement licences have been granted in the past. The new licence will be for the same sites and operations as the original licence and have the same expiry date and renewal process as the original licence.

Please contact the Licensing Officer on **(08) 9334 0119** to discuss your requirements if you are selling your business or intend to purchase a tourism business.

2.7 What happens when a licence expires?

Three months before your licence expires, you will receive a renewal reminder and an application form. The earlier you send your renewal in, the quicker your licence can be processed and there is less chance of you operating unlicensed. If DEC does not receive a response from this first reminder, a second will be sent at the beginning of the month your licence expires. If DEC still does not receive a response, a final reminder is issued at the expiry of the licence. After this time you may be refused entry to a park, risk being fined for unlicensed operations and you may compromise your insurance cover.

It is important that you take note of the expiry date of your licence and the renewal reminders sent to you to ensure you do not risk operating unlicensed.

Licences will not be automatically renewed upon expiry of the licence period. The operator should expect that licence operations will be reviewed upon expiry of the licence period and, where licence numbers are limited for a particular operation or area, renewal may be subject to a competitive application process. The operator will be responsible for

all set-up costs associated with the approved operation and the Director General is indemnified against any loss or expenses should the licence not be renewed upon the expiry of the licence period.

If you are not renewing your licence, please notify the Licensing Officer on **(08) 9334 0119**.

2.8 What are the fees and charges and what are they used for?

Licence fees and charges are levied in accordance with the Conservation and Land Management Regulations 2002.

Application/renewal and licence charges:

Both T and E class licences have a non-refundable \$100 application/renewal charge (GST exempt) that is paid when the application or renewal is submitted. The T class licence charge is \$350 per year or \$120 (GST exempt) for a two-month licence. This covers administration costs and does not contribute to park management costs. The total \$450 or \$220 must be paid before an application to renew a current licence, or a new licence, can be processed. Operators have the option to apply for a three-year licence (\$1050), a five-year licence (\$1750), a seven-year licence (\$2450) or a ten-year licence (\$3500) depending on the level of accreditation (see section 2.11 *Accreditation*). All licence charges are GST exempt.

E class licence charges are determined on a case-by-case basis to reflect the cost of monitoring and managing the operation, which may be a set fee, per head cost or a percentage of turnover. A portion of the financial returns from E class operations can be considered as deriving directly from the use of land and waters and involve a degree of protection from open competition.

Entry fees: Entry fees collected by DEC are retained by the local DEC district to assist in park management, including the improvement of visitor services and facilities such as:

- improved camping and barbecue areas, tracks, trails, ablutions and lookouts
- monitoring programs to ensure the continued sustainability of tourist operations
- information and interpretive material to enhance the quality of visitors' experience and understanding of the natural environment.

Payment of fees: On entry to a fee paying park (see section 19.0), the operator will submit a docket to the gatekeeper or honour box. (Only when there is no honour box and no staffed entry should the operator hand a docket to a DEC staff member in the park or to the local district office on the day the fees are incurred.) Dockets allow the driver to specify operator details and passenger numbers to be charged and may either be cash-payment or credit. All operators must pay

entry, camping fees and any other fees (such as DEC-operated boat tours) upfront on entry with a cash payment docket, unless they have been approved to hold an account with DEC.

Docket books are available free of charge from the Licensing Officer on **(08) 9334 0119**.

Cash payments at the park entry may be made by either cash, cheque or by leaving credit card details on the docket. If operators do not wish to leave credit card details on the docket, a form is available on DEC's website www.dec.wa.gov.au/existing_operators through which they can register their card details with certain DEC offices.

In order to use credit facilities (i.e. hold an account) and be invoiced monthly, the operator must apply to and receive approval from DEC. Operators must meet particular criteria (including a minimum \$500 per month turnover and good credit history) and approval is at the discretion of the Assistant Director Policy and Planning. Application forms and Director's Guarantee forms (which also need to be submitted where the licence holder is a company) are available on DEC's website (for more information on applying for credit facilities see section 7.7).

If you have approved credit facilities fees and charges must be paid on time or credit facilities with DEC

may be withdrawn, or the licence may be suspended or cancelled. If you are experiencing problems with payment, please contact the Tourism Branch Manager on **(08) 9334 0562**.

2.9 What happens if an operator wants to operate in a park not listed on the licence?

An operator must apply for a licence endorsement if they wish to visit a park that is not on their current licence. This endorsement will incur a further application charge of a non-refundable \$50 and expire on the same date as the licence.

2.10 Do I need to complete the online commercial operator education program?

Yes, all licensed commercial operators are required to complete the online commercial operator education program prior to the granting of a new licence or the issue of a renewal licence. This program is available on the DEC website and consists of a brief description of some general conditions followed by a test of 10 multiple choice questions based on these conditions. On successful completion of the online training a certificate can be downloaded and printed, this certificate will need to be attached to your application form.

The training shall be undertaken prior to the application for a licence

or licence renewal by the operator. If the operator is an individual or company the person nominated as the contact person is required to complete the online training. The program takes no longer than 30 minutes to complete and is a means of ensuring that operators are aware of the general conditions that apply to their licences.

For more information visit **www.dec.wa.gov.au/existing_operators** or contact the Licensing Officer on **(08) 9334 0119** or email **licensing@dec.wa.gov.au**.

2.11 What are the benefits of accreditation?

Accreditation is an advantage to operators as well as DEC because it:

- provides an invaluable quality assurance and marketing tool
- demonstrates best practice for operations in protected environments
- sets business practice standards
- is a requirement to become licensed.

Most importantly by ensuring operators have a business quality assurance program in place; passengers can be assured of having an accurate, consistent and quality experience. In addition to this, according to the level of industry accreditation program completed, operators are able to apply for one, three, five, seven or ten year licences resulting in significant savings on the application/renewal charge.

- Two-month short-term licences (currently \$120 plus \$100 application/renewal charge) are issued to operators who are not accredited (these operators are ineligible for long-term licences).
- One-year licences (currently \$350 plus \$100 application/renewal charge) can be issued to operators who are accredited with one of the following tourism programs: Australian Tourism Accreditation Program (ATAP), the nature level Eco Certification Program (ECP) or equivalent.
- Three-year licences (currently \$1050 plus \$100 application/renewal charge) can be issued to operators who are accredited with ATAP, nature level ECP or equivalent.
- Five-year licences (currently \$1750 plus \$100 application/renewal charge) can be issued to operators who are accredited with nature level ECP or an equivalent tourism program.
- Seven-year licences (currently \$2450 plus \$100 application/renewal charge) can be issued to operators who are accredited with ECP or an equivalent tourism program.
- Ten-year licences (currently \$3500 plus \$100 application/renewal charge) can be issued to operators who are accredited with Advanced ECP or an equivalent tourism program.

If accreditation is not maintained, or is suspended because of a breach

of accreditation criteria, this, like other licence conditions, may be a reason for licences to be suspended or cancelled. DEC will consider all appropriate accreditation programs on a case-by-case basis as new programs are introduced. These will be assessed for compliance with business accreditation standards as prescribed by Tourism Accreditation Australia, ecological sustainability, best practice interpretation and returns to local communities and the environment. For accreditation information please contact:

Tourism Council Western Australia

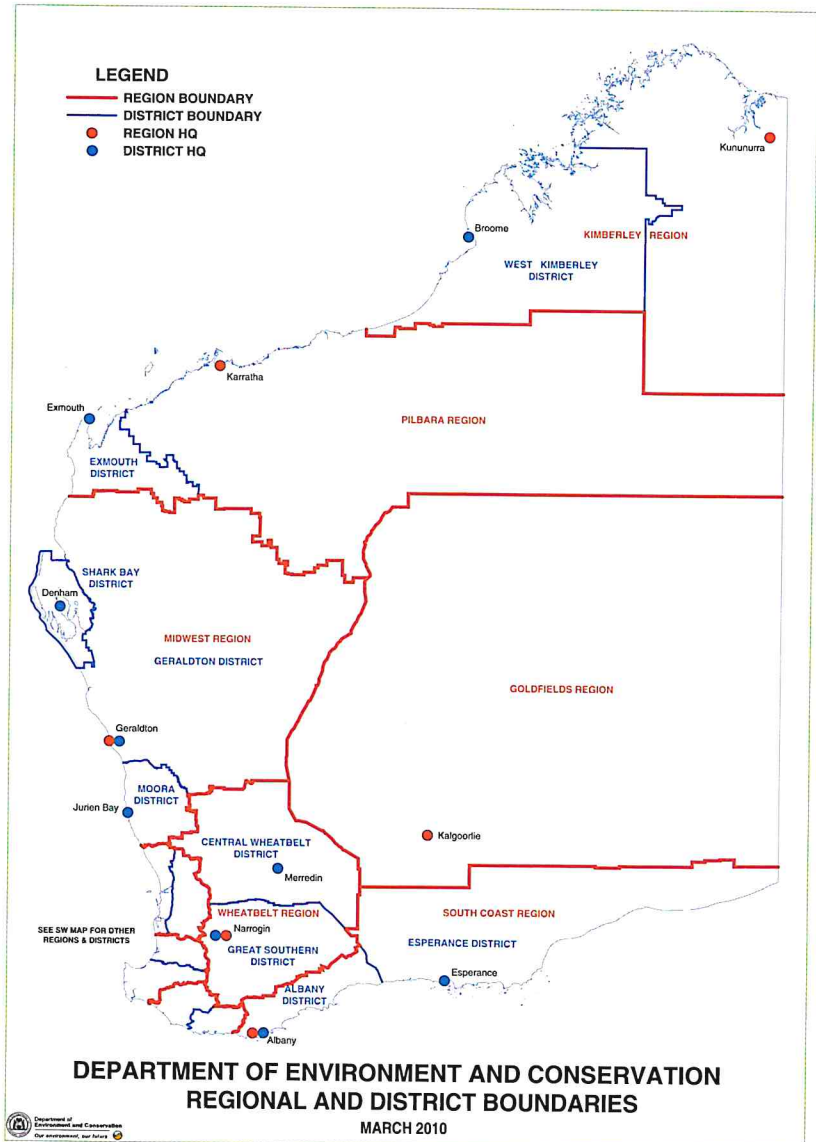
1 Resort Drive
(PO Box 91)
BURSWOOD WA 6100
Phone: **(08) 9416 0700**
Fax: (08) 9472 0111
Email: tcawa@tourismcouncilwa.com.au
Website: www.tourismcouncilwa.com.au

Eco Certification Program managed by Eco-Tourism Australia

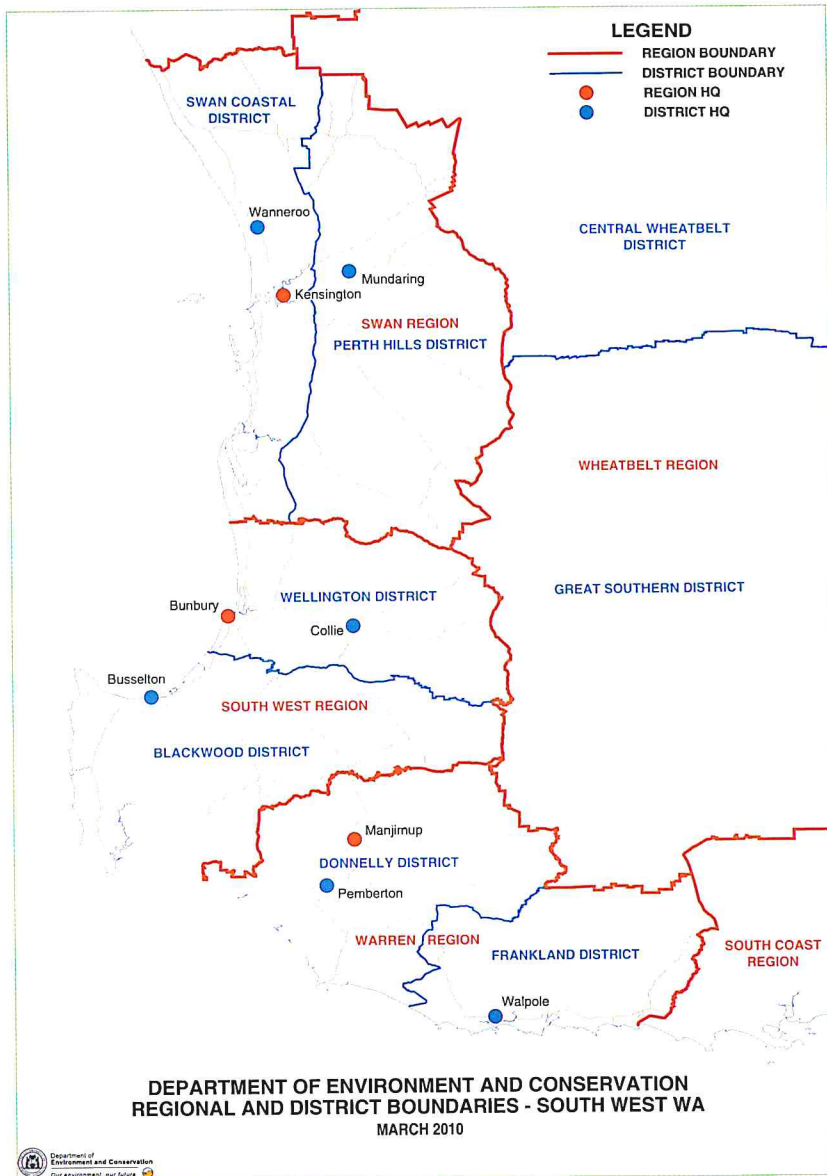
PO Box 881
BRISBANE QLD 4006
Phone: (07) 3252 1530
Fax: (07) 3257 0331
Email: admin@ecotourism.org.au
Website: www.ecotourism.org.au

3 Important maps

3.1 Department of Environment and Conservation region and district boundaries.



3.2 Department of Environment and Conservation South West region and district boundaries.



4 Definitions and interpretation

4.1 Definitions

In this handbook, unless the context otherwise requires:

Act means the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984*.

Authorised Officer - means **CALM Officer**. CALM Officer – means a person covered under sections 45 and 46 of the Act.

CALM Land means land, or land and waters, to which the Act and Regulations apply, and includes caves and parts of caves on or under that land.

Charges means any charge in relation to the use of CALM Land as specified in the Regulations.

Conditions means the conditions set out in this handbook.

DEC means the Department of Environment and Conservation.

Delegate means a person delegated a function of the Minister under section 133(1) of the Act, or a person to whom a function or functions of the CEO have been delegated under section 133(2) of the Act, as the case requires.

Director General means the chief executive officer (CEO*) of DEC (the department assisting the Minister in the administration of the Act), or a delegate of the CEO.

Fees means those fees payable in respect of entry onto CALM Land or

in respect of operations, as specified in the Regulations and any other fees for which the CEO has power to levy.

Free of charge entrant means a passenger for whom an entry fee has been waived by the Minister.

Handbook means the commercial Operator Handbook – Terrestrial and the Commercial Operator Handbook – Marine and any amendments made from time to time.

Leader means any person designated by the operator to lead or assist in leading passengers in operations.

Licence means a commercial operations licence granted by the Director General under the Regulations and which licence incorporates the conditions.

Minister means the Minister administering the Act, or a delegate of the Minister.

Operations means the commercial operations which may be undertaken by an operator pursuant to the licence.

Operator means a person (includes incorporated bodies) who holds a licence.

Passengers means those persons who are provided operations by the operator.

Regulations means the Conservation and Land Management Regulations 2002 made under the Act.

* Note. A reference to the 'CEO' in the Regulations is deemed to be a reference to the Director General of the department and any reference on any documents, brochures or signs to the Department of Conservation and Land Management is deemed to be a reference to the Department of Environment and Conservation under general transitional provisions in the *Machinery of Government (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2006*.

4.2 Interpretation

- (a) A reference to any thing that the operator shall or shall not do includes, where the context permits, the operator's employees, agents and contractors and passengers.
- (b) The singular includes the plural and vice versa.
- (c) A reference to any thing is a reference to the whole or any part of it and a reference to a group of things or persons is a reference to any one or more of them.
- (d) If the operator consists of a partnership or joint venture, then:
 - (i) an obligation imposed on the operator binds each person who comprises the operator jointly and severally

- (ii) the act of one person who comprises the operator binds the other persons who comprise the operator
- (iii) a breach by one person who comprises the operator constitutes a breach by the operator.

- (e) A reference to a statute, ordinance, code or other law includes regulations and other instruments under it and consolidations, amendments, re-enactments or replacements of any of them.
- (f) If a word or phrase is defined, other grammatical forms of that word or phrase have a corresponding meaning.
- (g) If the word 'including' or 'includes' is used, the words 'without limitation' are taken to immediately follow.

Conditions in this section apply to all commercial operators operating on CALM Land.

5 General conditions

5.1 Compliance with laws

Conditions in this section apply to all commercial operators operating on CALM Land.

- (a) The operator shall comply with all laws relating to the conduct of the operations, including but not limited to:
 - (i) The Act
 - (ii) The Regulations
 - (iii) The *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*
 - (iv) The *Wildlife Conservation Regulations 1970*
 - (v) any other Act, Regulation or By-laws.
- (b) The operator shall arrange, pay for and maintain during the term of the licence all licences, certificates and authorities required by the Director General for the operation of the licence and shall present them to the Director General if requested.
- (c) The operator shall comply with and not contravene the conditions and restrictions set out in the Commercial Operator Handbook – Marine and Commercial Operator Handbook – Terrestrial varied from time to time by the Director General or his delegate. The operator shall read any additional conditions attached to the licence in conjunction with the Commercial Operator Handbook – Marine and Commercial Operator Handbook – Terrestrial.

5.2 Fees, charges and payment

- (a) In consideration of the licence, the operator shall pay to the Director General, if applicable, a licence charge (as determined by the Director General). In the event of late payment of the licence charge the operator shall pay a surcharge of 15 per cent together with the charge in accord with the guidelines set down by the Director General. The charge is payable as determined by the Director General.
- (b) The operator shall pay all fees and charges arising in or in relation to the operations in a manner approved by the Director General.
- (c) The operator shall pay fees either:
 - (i) by cash, cheque or credit card using a DEC-supplied cash docket book
 - (ii) using a DEC-supplied credit docket book where the operator has approved credit facilities (see section 7.7).
- (d) When payment is made with the DEC-supplied docket:
 - (i) dockets shall be either:
 - a) given to a DEC staff member at the entry point at the time of entry to CALM Land

- b) where the entry point used by the operator to access the CALM Land is unstaffed, the dockets shall be left in the collection box located at the entry point to the relevant CALM Land at the time of entry
- c) where the entry point used by the operator to access the CALM Land is unstaffed and there is no collection box at the entry point, the dockets shall be given to DEC staff or to the nearest DEC district office on the day the fees are payable.
- (ii) if the fees are entrance or camping fees, the operator shall ensure that the correct number of passengers are listed on the docket
- (iii) if the fees are entrance or camping fees and the numbers of occupants specified on the docket are incorrect, then the Director General reserves the right for DEC staff to amend the docket to specify the correct number of passengers and the leader/driver shall initial the change. Any correction or amendment by DEC staff to the number of persons specified by an operator on the docket does not relieve the operator of liability for incorrectly stating the number of persons on the docket.
- (e) If payment is made by cheque or cash, the cheque or cash and accompanying docket marked 'Paid' shall be placed in a sealed envelope labeled with the operator's name and licence number and deposited in accordance with condition 5.2(d).
- (f) In the event of late payment of fees the operator shall pay a surcharge together with the fees in accord with the guidelines set down by the Director General. The fees are payable as determined by the Director General.
- (g) All vehicles used by the operator to conduct operations on CALM Land shall carry a DEC-supplied docket book and, where a fee is payable, a separate docket shall be completed each time the vehicle enters CALM Land (except for entry fees where two or more parks are visited in the one day, excluding Nambung and Yanchep national parks).

5.3 Risk and safety

- (a) The operator agrees to conduct operations entirely at the operator's own risk and the operator shall inform itself, its employees, agents and contractors and passengers in either a written or oral form in a language understood by the passengers regarding the risks and dangers arising from the operations that are likely to be encountered on CALM Land.

- (b) The operator shall carry sufficient potable water for passengers.
- (c) The operator shall carry appropriate safety and first aid equipment at all times while on CALM Land.
- (d) The operator shall ensure that appropriate risk management systems, strategies and procedures are in place to minimise foreseeable risks to the environment, the values of the parks and reserves, the operator's employees, agents or contractors and the passengers or other members of the public, and shall produce evidence of such systems, strategies and procedures if requested by the Director General.
- (e) The operator shall ensure that a leader supervises all passengers at all times during the operations and that the supervision of the passengers is reasonable in the circumstances of the passengers' differing levels of fitness, experience and abilities.
- (f) The operator shall not conduct operations on CALM Land unless each group of passengers is accompanied by a leader who holds a current first aid qualification of at least a Level 2 Senior First Aid certificate or equivalent.

5.4 Property damage and injury

- (a) The operator shall report to the nearest DEC office, full details

of any damage to DEC property caused by the operator or any of its passengers while on CALM Land within forty eight (48) hours of the occurrence of the damage.

- (b) The operator shall report any incident in which the safety of any passengers were at risk, or where emergency services were contacted in the course of conducting operations on CALM Land. Using the prescribed Incident Report Form, the operator shall submit a report on all such incidents to the nearest DEC office within forty eight (48) hours of such incident/s occurring;
- (c) In the event of any incident occurring on CALM land involving the operator, the operator's employees or passengers that results in a fatality, or injury to any person that requires medical attention from a Doctor, medical facility or hospital, the operator must immediately complete the prescribed commercial operator incident report form and submit it to the nearest DEC office within forty eight (48) hours of the incident occurring. If the operator was not present at the time of the incident, the operator shall require each of its employees who were involved in or observed the incident to provide the operator with supporting reports on the incident, using the commercial operator incident report form and the operator shall submit these supporting

Incident reports along with his own incident report to the nearest DEC office within forty-eight (48) hours of the incident occurring. The commercial operator incident report form can be found on the DEC commercial operations Licensing web page under Industry Documents.

- (d) The operator agrees that neither the state, DEC, nor the Director General take any responsibility or liability for the security, loss, damage or otherwise of any vehicle, machinery, equipment or other goods or property owned by, or under the control of, the operator or passengers.

5.5 Employees, agents and contractors

- (a) The operator shall:
 - (i) only employ or engage competent and qualified employees, agents and contractors in relation to the operations
 - (ii) ensure that all employees, agents and contractors in relation to the operations present themselves in accordance with customer service standards, a copy of which are set out in section 21.0 of this handbook
 - (iii) fully inform all employees, agents and contractors employed or engaged in relation to the operations of the terms of the licence and these conditions relevant to

the operations and any other conditions or restrictions applied to the licence

- (iv) ensure that all employees, agents and contractors employed or engaged in relation to the operations of the licence comply with the terms of the licence, these conditions and any other conditions or restrictions relevant to the operations.
- (b) In accepting the licence the operator agrees that a breach by any employee, agent or contractor of the operator of any of the terms, conditions or restrictions imposed upon the licence shall constitute a breach by the operator and that the operator shall be vicariously liable for such breaches.
- (c) Without the written approval of the Director General an operator shall not employ or engage an employee, agent or contractor for operations on CALM Land that has been convicted in the past 10 years of:
 - (i) an offence under the Act carrying a penalty of \$400 or greater
 - (ii) an offence under the Regulations carrying a penalty of \$200 or greater
 - (iii) an offence under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* carrying a penalty of \$4000 or greater
 - (iv) an offence under the *Wildlife Conservation Regulations 1970* carrying a penalty of \$2000.

5.6 Passengers

- (a) The operator shall ensure all passengers comply with any conditions that affect the activities of passengers while on CALM Land.
- (b) In accepting the licence the operator agrees that a breach by any passenger of any of these conditions constitutes a breach by the operator and that the operator shall be vicariously liable for such breaches.

5.7 Access, records and reports

- (a) The operator shall prepare, keep and preserve a full record of operations indicating on a daily basis the number of passengers and, if requested in writing by the Director General, such records shall be set out in a form determined by the Director General.
- (b) The operator shall carry a copy of the licence and this handbook at all times while on CALM Land or in the operator's principal method of access to the CALM Land (vehicle/vessel) so that the operator or the leader has reasonable access to the handbook and the copy of the licence contained therein.
- (c) The operator shall prepare, keep and preserve in a form determined by DEC a full record of operations indicating on a daily basis the

number of passengers carried, along with their names, state or country of origin and telephone or email contact details. Such records must be made available for inspection upon request by any authorised DEC officer, or if requested in writing by an authorised officer, the operator shall forward forthwith, a copy such records to the requesting DEC officer.

- (d) If requested by the Director General, the operator shall make available free of charge a position on the tour/vehicle/vessel/aircraft or other conveyance for any CALM officer for the purpose of observing the conduct of operations. For purposes of clarification, a CALM officer who joins a tour to observe operations is not a passenger.
- (e) The operator shall immediately report to the nearest DEC office any outbreak of fire in the vicinity of the operator's operations.

5.8 Dealings with CALM Land

- (a) The operator shall, in respect of CALM Land:
 - (i) ensure all rubbish arising from the operations is removed prior to departure from the site of the operations
 - (ii) only use designated recreation areas and walk trails
 - (iii) ensure vegetation and animals are not damaged or disturbed

(iv) ensure the operations do not disrupt other persons and activities.

(b) The operator shall not, in respect of CALM Land:

- (i) bring or allow any person to bring animals, unless prior authorisation has been obtained. Dogs and horses are only permitted in designated areas (regulations 16 and 17)
- (ii) bring or allow any person to bring a firearm onto CALM land unless authorised by special endorsement on the operator's commercial operations licence
- (iii) erect or cause to be erected any facilities or structures (including buildings, tents and caravans) without lawful authority
- (iv) impede public access to CALM Land.

5.9 Vehicles

(a) An operator bringing a vehicle or vehicles onto CALM Land, shall:

- (i) ensure that all vehicles are clean of soil, seed and plant matter prior to entering CALM Land
- (ii) ensure such vehicles are only parked in areas designated for that class of vehicle
- (iii) ensure such vehicles remain on formed roads and existing tracks at all times
- (iv) ensure that such vehicles do not enter roads which have been closed by barriers or signs

(v) ensure the drivers of such vehicles obey all traffic and speed signs.

5.10 Publicity and marketing

- (a) The operator shall not promote the operations or display any other advertising material on CALM Land, except with the prior written consent of the Director General.
- (b) If the Director General is of the opinion that any document used by the operator in the promotion or marketing of the operations is inappropriate or is in any way inconsistent with the terms of the licence, the Director General may direct the operator to cease using such document.
- (c) If the Director General directs the operator to cease using any document under clause 5.10(b), the operator shall promptly comply with such direction and provide such evidence as the Director General may require to demonstrate the operator's compliance.
- (d) The operator shall actively promote the recreation and conservation values of CALM Land which are the subject of the operations.
- (e) The operator shall, if requested by the Director General, attend training workshops relating to the values and management of CALM Land.

5.11 Indemnity

- (a) The operator agrees to indemnify the Director General from and against liability for all actions, suits, demands, costs, losses, damages and expenses (claims) (e.g. search and rescue costs) which may be brought against or made upon the Director General caused by or arising in any way out of the conduct of:
- (i) the operator
 - (ii) the operator's employees, agents or contractors
 - (iii) the passengers, in relation to this licence or the operations.

5.12 Insurance

- (a) The operator shall at all times during the period of the licence maintain a policy of public liability insurance, that covers the areas and operations allowed under the licence, in the name of the operator to the extent of its rights and interests for a sum of not less than \$10 million per event.
- (b) The operator shall provide the Director General proof of the existence and currency of such insurance policy whenever requested by the Director General during the term of the licence.
- (c) The operator shall pay all premiums of the public liability insurance policy when they are due, comply with all of the terms of that policy and shall make the insurer aware of the licence, these conditions and the

indemnity given to the Director General.

5.13 Notice of default

- (a) If the operator fails to comply with any of these conditions or any other condition of the licence, the Director General may by notice to the operator require the operator to remedy such failure within a reasonable time.
- (b) If the operator fails to comply with the notice within the time specified, the Director General may immediately cancel or suspend the licence.
- (c) Any notice to the operator shall be in writing and may be served upon the operator by addressing it to the operator and sending it by post to, or leaving it at, the address registered with DEC.

5.14 Rights reserved

- (a) Without limiting the rights of the Director General, the Director General reserves the right to suspend, cancel or refuse to renew the licence in accord with regulations 85 and 86.
- (b) The expiry, cancellation or termination of the licence (whether under the Regulations or arising from a breach by the operator) does not affect any rights the Director General may have in relation to the operator as a result of anything occurred prior to the expiry, cancellation or termination of the licence.
- (c) The Director General reserves the

right to add to, cancel, suspend and otherwise vary the terms and conditions of the licence at any time in accord with regulation 98(2)(b).

- (d) In circumstances where licence numbers are limited, the Director General reserves the right to suspend, cancel or refuse to renew the licence if the licence is not used to a reasonable extent as determined by the Director General. In all cases, the operator shall ensure that the licence is not held inactive.

5.15 Limitation of licence

- (a) The operator acknowledges and accepts that:
 - (i) the licence does not give the operator exclusive rights to access CALM Land or exclusive rights to conduct the operations
 - (ii) the operator shall ensure that all other necessary approvals required for the conduct of the operations are obtained and presented to the Director General if required
 - (iii) the licence does not authorise the operator to use land other than CALM Land
 - (iv) the operator shall ensure that all the necessary approvals or permission required from lessees/owners of properties other than DEC are obtained before using roads/tracks/facilities on their properties or leased areas.

5.16 No agency

- (a) The operator acknowledges that nothing in the licence may be construed to make either the operator or the Director General a partner, agent, employee or joint venturer of the other.

5.17 No assignment or transfer

- (a) The operator shall not:
 - (i) sell, transfer, assign, mortgage, charge or otherwise dispose of or deal with any of its rights or obligations under the licence
 - (ii) subcontract the operations.
- (b) If the operator is a corporation the operator is taken to have transferred the licence if:
 - (i) anything occurs, the effect of which is to transfer, directly or indirectly, the management or control of the operator to another person
 - (ii) if there is a change of shareholding of the operator of more than 25 per cent of the issued shares of the operator.

5.18 Directions

- (a) The operator shall comply with all verbal and written directions issued to it by an authorised officer appointed pursuant to sections 45 or 46 of the Act.

6 Operations specific conditions

6.1 Camping

Generators need to be maintained regularly and are required to meet WorkSafe requirements for noise output.

- (a) The operator shall only camp in designated campsites, except with the prior written consent of the Director General.
- (b) The operator shall not camp in nature reserves, except with the prior written consent of the Director General.
- (c) The operator shall not light or cause fires outside of fireplaces provided. Fires outside of fireplaces are not permitted on CALM Land and campfires, barbecues and portable stoves shall not be lit where flora and forest produce is in danger of being burnt or injured or in any area gazetted by the Director General as restricted.
- (d) The operator shall comply with all fire bans or fire restrictions.
- (e) The operator shall not use soaps and detergents in, or allow soaps and detergents to run into, waterways.
- (f) The operator shall only use generators between 8am and 9pm except within the areas designated in Table 1 where generators are not permitted and in Table 2 where different operating times apply unless prior written approval from the Director General or his delegate has been obtained.

Table 1 Campsites where generators are not permitted to be used

Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park	Conto, Point Road, and Boranup campsites
St John Brook Conservation Park	Workmans Pool and Barrabup campsite
Rapids Conservation Park	Canebrake Pool campsite
Blackwood River National Park	Sues Bridge and Warner Glen campsites
Cape Range National Park	North Mandu, Kurrajong, North T Bone, Bungarra, Neds Camp (northern section only) and Osprey Bay (sites 1–4) campsites
Millstream-Chichester National Park	Crossing Pool campground
Windjana Gorge National Park	'Quiet camping' designated areas
King Leopold Range Conservation Park	'Quiet camping' designated areas

Table 2 Campsites where different operating times apply other than between 8am and 9pm.

Region	Park	Campsite	Hours generators can be operated
Kimberley	Mitchell River NP	Designated campsites only	8am–7pm
	Purnululu NP	Walardi, Kurrajong – designated campsites only	7:30am–9pm
	Windjana Gorge NP	designated campsites only	7am–9pm
	King Leopold Range CP	Silent Grove – designated campsites only	7am–9pm
Pilbara	Millstream-Chichester NP	Stargazers and Miliyana campgrounds	7am–9pm
	Karijini NP	Cockatoo Loop and Bungarra campgrounds	9am–9pm
Midwest	Kennedy Range NP	Temple Gorge	7am–9pm
	Coalseam CP	All designated campsites	8am–8pm
Swan	Yalgorup NP	Matin's Tank campsite	9am–9pm
Warren	D'Entrecasteaux NP	Banksia Camp	8am–1pm and 5pm–9pm
South Coast	Cape Le Grand NP	All designated campsites	8am–1pm and 5pm–9pm
	Stirling Range, Fitzgerald River, Waychinicup and West Cape Howe NPs	All designated campsites	10am–8pm

6.2 Abseiling and rock climbing

- (a) The operator shall only conduct abseiling and rock climbing operations at sites first approved by the Director General.
- (b) The operator shall at the time of the abseiling and/or rock climbing operations, ensure that the person/s approved in the licence as the leader/s:
 - (i) are appropriately qualified to apply the abseiling and/or rock climbing competencies as set out by the Recognised Training Organisations (accreditation bodies) recognised by Outdoors WA or its equivalent
 - (ii) continue to hold a current First Aid Certificate.
- (c) The operator shall comply with the Climbers Association of Western Australia Code of Ethics (available at www.climberswa.asn.au) and Outdoors WA Code of Conduct (available at www.outdoorswa.org).
- (d) The operator shall only use Standards Australia/International Standards/recognised equivalent ropes, helmets, harnesses, boots, gloves and any other safety equipment stipulated in the training competencies.

- (e) The operator shall not allow fixed anchors, bolting or chalking, except with the prior written consent of the Director General or in emergency situations. The operator shall advise the local DEC district or regional office if this has been done.
- (f) The operator shall not conduct forward abseiling and angel jumping single rope techniques within CALM Land.

6.3 Cycling and mountain biking

- (a) The operator shall ensure bicycles are ridden only on tracks or formed roads used by vehicular traffic or designated cycle tracks.
- (b) Without limiting the above, the operator shall ensure bicycles are not ridden on walk trails or in toilet and barbecue areas.

6.4 Orienteering

- (a) The operator shall conduct orienteering only in areas first approved by the Director General.

6.5 Caving

*In this condition, **cave visitors** means all persons visiting any cave, including the operator, the operator's employees, agents and contractors and passengers.*

- (a) The operator shall use a designated leader to conduct caving operations. The leader shall have sound local knowledge of caving and have previous experience in caving in an area before becoming a leader for that area. Leaders shall at the time of the caving operations continue to hold a First Aid Certificate.
- (b) The operator shall conduct cave visits with group sizes of a minimum of three people. The activity leader shall take no more than the maximum number of passengers into a cave as specified by the local DEC district office.
- (c) The operator shall ensure that a safety briefing is conducted prior to the commencement of the cave visit.
- (d) The operator shall ensure:
 - (i) cave visitors do not disturb cave wildlife and formations
 - (ii) cave visitors do not disfigure caves by any markings (including direction arrows)
 - (iii) cave visitors do not smoke or light any fires
 - (iv) cave visitors carry at least one light source adequate for the planned duration of the tour and capable of illuminating objects to a distance of at least 10 metres
 - (v) the leader carries at least two additional light sources
 - (vi) cave visitors wear an approved helmet
 - (vii) cave visitors follow the route indicated in track-marked caves
 - (viii) cave visitors do not explore or find their own exit from non track-marked caves.

6.6 School programs

To conduct an organised non-commercial education or leisure activity on CALM Land, an application form must be submitted to the appropriate DEC district office for approval. This form is available at www.dec.wa.gov.au/noncommercialactivities.

Where a commercial operator providing services to a school operates on CALM Land, the commercial operator must be licensed.

- (a) The operator shall adhere to any conditions relating to any activities within the Department of Education Services 'Duty of Care' Policy.

6.7 Swimming

- (a) The operator shall ensure passengers are supervised when swimming and that all passengers can swim.
- (b) The operator shall not conduct swimming when conducting authorised fish feeding activities.

6.8 Snorkelling

- (a) The operator shall comply with all Department of Transport, Occupational Safety and Health, and the Department of Sport and Recreation safe diving practices.
- (b) The operator shall instruct all employees, agents, contractors and passengers that no touch snorkeling practices are to be followed on CALM Land.
- (c) The operator shall adhere to any other existing Codes of Practice administered by the relevant DEC district (for example, Guide to Best Environmental Practice).
- (d) In the event of any incident occurring during snorkelling activities conducted by the operator, in which the operator, any of the operator's employees or any of the operator's clients are injured, stung or attacked by any animal or marine organism, or are involved in any incident necessitating any person to be treated by a doctor or to be admitted to hospital, the operator shall notify the Director General or his delegate in the manner and within the time frames stipulated

in condition 5.4(c) of the Commercial Operator Handbook.

- (e) The operator shall ensure that all employees, agents and contractors conducting and leading snorkeling operations under this licence are sufficiently competent and certified to perform their duties in a professional and safe manner, and that all necessary qualifications remain current for the period of the licence.
- (f) The operator shall ensure that vessels clearly display one dive flag (International Code Flag 'A') or appropriate light at night to indicate when snorkelers are in the water and must maintain radio contact with other approaching vessels to advise that snorkeling operations are in progress.

7 Issues and extra conditions

7.1 *Phytophthora cinnamomi* (dieback)

Information

The arrival and spread of the root-rot disease *Phytophthora cinnamomi* (also referred to as *Phytophthora* dieback) in Western Australia has been catastrophic for the biota of a number of south-west ecosystems. As many as 2300 of the estimated 5710 native plant species in the south-west of WA are susceptible to, and often killed by, *Phytophthora* dieback disease which is thought to have been introduced soon after European settlement.

In general, *Phytophthora cinnamomi* is restricted to areas in the south-west of the state that receive at least 400mm of average annual rainfall. In water-gaining sites, it is also possible for *Phytophthora* dieback to exist in slightly drier areas. *Phytophthora* dieback is more mobile during the wet months as the zoospores are able to 'swim' through standing water and through water in the soil. However, the most important method of spread of *Phytophthora* dieback is through the movement of infected wet soil and plant material, usually on vehicle tyres and on walkers' boots and on earth moving machinery (road construction, timber harvesting and mining). This has been a major problem for a number of industries and its effect on tourism

can already be seen in places such as the Stirling Range National Park where some walk trails have been closed to reduce the risk of spreading *Phytophthora* dieback to uninfested areas.

Infested areas display three distinct symptoms:

- Most highly susceptible species are killed in heathlands, banksias woodlands and in the understorey and ground layers of a number of forest types, including the jarrah forest.
- The extent and frequency of death is highly variable, being very sensitive to site conditions. There may be near complete mortality in both overstorey, understorey and ground layer, commonly known as mass collapse, creating 'graveyards' of dead trees. In other sites there may be no obvious signs of disease to the untrained eye.
- Where the tree's middlestorey and groundcover have been long dead, the former forest has been replaced by woodland of resistant species such as marri (*Corymbia calophylla*) and parrotbush (*Dryandra sessilis*). At this stage *Phytophthora cinnamomi* behaves as a native pathogen, attacking parrotbush in wet years, but with little or no impact on the marri.

'Disease Risk Areas' are located in a number of parks, forests and reserves. These are significant areas able to be protected and are largely uninfested by *Phytophthora* dieback. DEC concentrates available resources to protect these areas from *Phytophthora* dieback. Disease Risk Areas are closed to vehicles to prevent the introduction, spread and intensification of the disease.

A new standard system of signage is being introduced throughout the state to raise awareness about *Phytophthora* dieback and to assist with land management. Protection Area signs and dieback status markers are now being placed in the field indicating an area's dieback status. The signage will indicate the dieback status of the area using one of the three symbols below: red for infested, green for uninfested, and purple for unknown areas where the dieback status has not or can not be determined.



This signage system will assist access control, hygiene management and public awareness. More information can be obtained from the local DEC district office.

Access to Disease Risk Areas during the summer months may be permitted. Special written permission must be obtained from the local district office. Please contact the local office for more details.

Conditions for entry into Disease Risk Areas

- (a) The Bibbulmun Track passes through a number of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* infested areas. To avoid spreading the pathogen, boot cleaning stations have been provided along the track at critical points. The operator shall use, and shall ensure that all employees, agents, contractors and passengers use these stations when these stations are approached on the track.
- (b) Traveling in Disease Risk Areas is prohibited without written authority.
- (c) If access is granted to an operator to enter a Disease Risk Area, the operator shall:
 - (i) do all things necessary to minimise the risk of soil and plant tissue transportation from areas infested with *Phytophthora cinnamomi* to unknown or uninfested areas
 - (ii) ensure that all vehicles (including underside of the vehicle, body and tyres) and equipment (including footwear) are thoroughly cleaned of soil, seed, weed and plant matter before entering a Disease Risk Area
 - (iii) use chlorinated water, if water is being used to clean vehicles and equipment

- (iv) consult the local DEC district office regarding the inspection of vehicles and the location where they can clean down vehicles and equipment.

Information

Hygiene management and specifications for cleandown

The operator should note that un-chlorinated water can be treated using the fungicide sodium hypochlorite (chlorine). This is added to the wash down water at the rate of 1:1500. Caution should be used as sodium hypochlorite is very corrosive, especially to vehicles. Sodium hypochlorite must not be added to water that will be used later for drinking. Water treated with sodium hypochlorite has an effective life of only 24 hours and a new dosage must be added to wash down water as soon as any additional water is placed in the tank.

Boots, vehicles, machinery or equipment must be visually inspected to determine they are free from clods of soil or plant material and/or slurry consisting of a mixture of soil, plant material and water. Dust and grime adhering to the sides of vehicles need not be removed before entering uninfested areas.

Operators should ensure that cleandown occurs before traversing into areas with a different dieback status. Any effluent from cleandown should fall directly onto and drain into the category soil that the effluent was picked up in or be captured for later transport and disposal. For example, infested material should only drain into an infested area, unknown material should only drain into an unknown or infested area. It is not necessary to clean down when exiting an uninfested area.

For more information on hygiene management requirements please contact the local DEC district office.

7.2 Prescribed burning regimes and bushfires

Fire has always been an important factor of the WA environment with plants and animals evolving alongside it, with most adapted to it and many depending on it for regeneration and survival. However the natural situation has changed as we have imposed a fire-vulnerable society on a fire-prone environment.

Bushfires – caused naturally by lightning, started by accident, or set deliberately – can pose severe threats to lives and property. They can also have a big impact on forest values such as biodiversity, aesthetics, recreation sites, water catchment protection, wildlife habitat and timber. To lessen the threat of bushfires and make them easier and safer to control when they do occur, DEC has successfully implemented a fire management strategy that involves an annual prescribed burn program designed to create a mosaic of burned and unburned areas. This patchwork effect ensures a variety of habitats for native animals. The frequency in which prescribed burns are carried out varies between five to 20 years, and the seasons include spring and autumn months.

Much of CALM Land is subject to prescribed burning regimes. Each year DEC develops a set of priority burns that it wishes to complete. Whether any of these burns are undertaken is dependent on a

number of factors including the burn objectives, the vegetation type, quantity of accumulated fuels, time since last burn, values present, the flammability of the ground fuels, wind speed and direction, temperature, fire danger level, access, level of resources, staffing and the type and location of the intended burn. In order to take advantage of favourable weather conditions for a safe and effective burn, there may be very little time to advise visitors of the burn commencement. Recreation sites that are located within a planned burn are protected from fire damage by a range of measures including removal of ground fuel and debris, backburning or fire exclusion.

Bushfires are spontaneous events and as they usually occur under dry and hot conditions they are considerably more intense and more difficult to control than a prescribed burn. This means that recreational sites and access tracks are more likely to be affected from bushfires.

The annual burning program for DEC-managed lands (and unallocated Crown land) may be available at DEC district offices for the operator to view. The operator is encouraged to view these plans if available, otherwise they need to contact DEC's Fire Management Services to obtain copies of burn plans. The daily prescribed burn locations are shown on maps that can be viewed on DEC's website under Fire Management. operators are encouraged to check this website on a daily basis.

In some regions, prescribed burns are promoted in the field with signage located on burn boundaries and at strategic entry points to parks, forests and reserves. Promotion may also occur in the local newspaper. Wherever possible notification will be through the broadcast email system (broadcast emails are sent every few days) and the operator is encouraged to regularly check their email.

Please be aware that while DEC will endeavour to notify the operator of any prescribed burns and bushfires that may affect operations within a park. However due to the short notice of both bushfires and prescribed burns, it is not possible to provide advance notice to commercial operators of all these fires.

Rights reserved

- (a) The operator agrees and acknowledges:
 - (i) the Director General reserves the right to do all things required for the construction and maintenance of firebreaks, including clearing and burning operations, at such times and over such areas, as the Director General considers necessary
 - (ii) that the operations may be affected by the exercise of the rights referred to in paragraph (a) and, in that event, the Director General has no liability to the operator whatsoever.

7.3 Declared rare flora and fauna

Information

At all times, all native flora and fauna throughout WA are protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* unless declared otherwise by the Minister. This includes all living plants, or parts of plants (including seeds or spores), and all or part of any animal living or dead (including eggs, carcass, skin, plumage, shell and bones).

It is an offence against the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* to take protected flora or fauna without lawful authority.

Section 6 of that Act specifies the definition of 'to take' in relation to flora to include to gather, pluck, cut, pull up, destroy, dig up, remove or injure the flora or to permit the same to be done by any means.

'To take' fauna in relation to any fauna, includes to kill or capture any fauna by any means or to disturb or molest any fauna by any means or to use any method whatsoever to hunt or kill any fauna whether this results in killing or capturing any fauna or not; and also includes every attempt to take fauna and every act of assistance to another person to take fauna and derivatives and inflections have corresponding meaning.

Please be mindful of this law whenever you encounter native flora and fauna anywhere in WA.

Many species of declared rare flora remain in pockets of uncleared reserves of native vegetation on agricultural land and on uncleared road and rail reserves. Declared rare flora and fauna also occur on CALM Land. While the location of a threatened species is not generally disclosed, sometimes areas that contain threatened flora are delimited by pairs of yellow 'L' shaped markers.

If an operator has an interest or expertise in identifying and reporting flora and fauna species they are encouraged to contact the local DEC district office.

Non disturbance of flora

- (a) The operator shall not disturb flora that occurs between the rare flora designated markers.
- (b) The operator, its employees, agents, contractors or passengers shall not take ('take' having the same meaning as provided by the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*) any protected flora or fauna whether alive or dead or any non-living objects such as shells, driftwood, sand, rocks etc from any CALM Land without lawful authority from the Director General.
- (c) Neither the operator, nor the operator's employees, agents, contractors nor passengers shall without lawful authority, engage in the feeding of fauna on CALM Land.

7.4 Partial or full closure of parks and reserves

Many parts of CALM Land may, at some time of the year, be subject to full or partial closure for a variety of reasons. Closures are in place either to protect wildlife conservation values of an area or for the safety and protection of visitors to a park.

Areas, roads and tracks within a park may be subject to seasonal closure due to environmental factors such as weather conditions (flooding) or to limit the spread of disease such as *Phytophthora cinnamomi*. Closure for these reasons mainly occurs during the wet months usually December to April for northern parks and June to August in the southern parks. Some parks such as Purnululu have set closing and opening dates – the park closes 31 December and reopens on 1 April each year – while others are subject to park conditions. Tracks and roads may be closed at any time of the year to allow for management regimes such as road works or fire control. Closure of track and roads limits the effects of track degradation, including track widening and duplication.

Sites within parks may also be closed at various times of the year to protect animal species during vulnerable periods such as nesting. Please comply with signage onsite and respect and appreciate such spectacles from a distance. Opening and closing dates of restricted

breeding sites within a park will vary from year to year depending upon the animals' behaviour. The operator is requested to report any sightings potentially of interest to DEC.

Due to unforeseen events, entire or partial closure of parks or closure of roads may occur at any time. Wherever possible, DEC will endeavour to notify the operator through the Tour Operator Alert broadcast email system of any full or partial park closures. The operator is advised to check their email regularly for notices. Some districts advertise park closures in local newspapers with some visitor centers advertising Tour Operator Alerts on their notice boards. Otherwise, the operator may contact the local DEC district office for information.

No guarantee of access

- (a) The operator acknowledges that nothing in the licence guarantees the operator access to any area of CALM Land and the Director General may, at any time and from time to time, close or restrict access to any area of CALM Land without prior notice to the operator.

7.5 Prohibited areas

Information

Many parks around the state incorporate sites of heritage value and significance. Many Indigenous sites that are declared as protected areas, such as the rock art sites, are protected under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*. Access to these areas is usually restricted. However, permission to access some sites may be granted from local Indigenous people. The operator will need to contact the traditional custodians for such permission. Please respect sites encountered and conditions on any signage present.

After a consultation process, the Governor of Western Australia may, on the recommendation of the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, declare an Aboriginal site as protected. More information on the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* and its administration may be obtained from the regional Department of Indigenous Affairs office, or by visiting www.dia.wa.gov.au/heritage.

Indigenous communities

- (a) The operator shall not enter into any area occupied by Indigenous communities without the prior consent of such communities.

Rock art

- (b) The operator acknowledges that Aboriginal rock art sites are protected and access to sites may be restricted.

7.6 Water catchment areas



Some areas of CALM Land are also part of water catchment zones determined by the Department of Water. Most water catchment zones occur in State forest in the south-west of the state.

Reservoir protection zones (RPZ) are usually in the immediate vicinity of a reservoir and usually consist of a two-kilometre buffer area around the top water level of a reservoir and include the reservoir itself.

Wellhead protection zones (WHPZ) are usually a circular, 500-metre radius from any bores within a Priority 1 source protection area (Priority 1 areas are declared over land where the provision of the highest quality public drinking water is the prime beneficial land use).

The operator must contact a DEC or Water Corporation officer to determine whether their operations are within close proximity to a RPZ or a WHPZ.

The following areas contain public drinking water source areas (PDWSA):

- State forest
- national parks – Cape Range, Kalbarri, Lesueur, Drovers Cave, Watheroo, Nambung, Yanchep, Serpentine, Kalamunda, John Forrest, Porongurup, Walpole-Nornalup, Torndirrup, Wellington, Brockman, Gloucester, Warren,

Shannon, Mount Frankland, D'Entrecasteaux, Mundaring, Helena, Wandoo, Canning and Pickering Brook

- Lane Poole Reserve
- the Bibbulmun Track, Munda Biddi Trail and Leschenault Peninsula Conservation Park.

The operator is required to contact the local regional office of the Water Corporation, Kelmscott **(08) 9495 8829** for advice on the corporation's requirements.

No operations in RPZ and WHPZ

- (a) The operator shall not conduct any operations within an RPZ or a WHPZ.

Public drinking water source areas

- (b) If operations are to be conducted in a PDWSA, the operator shall:
- (i) use chemical toilets
 - (ii) ensure that the wastes from chemical toilets are disposed of outside of the area in accordance with the *Health Act 1911*
 - (iii) not dispose of human waste within the area
 - (iv) not camp in areas other than in designated areas.

7.7 Credit facilities with DEC

Operators seeking credit facilities will have to apply to the Tourism Branch Manager and are required to meet

the following criteria at the discretion of the Assistant Director, Policy and Planning.

- Demonstration of a good credit record (DEC history or other referees).
- If unable to meet criterion one, then a bank guarantee to an amount commensurate with the commercial operator's credit requirements.
- If a company, provision of a Director's Guarantee.
- Demonstration that the account will be active to the extent of at least \$500 per month (allowing for seasonality) as determined by the Assistant Director, Policy and Planning.

For more information or to apply go to [**www.dec.wa.gov.au/existing_operators**](http://www.dec.wa.gov.au/existing_operators).

7.8 Weeds

Information

A weed is a plant growing where it isn't wanted. On CALM Land, a weed is a plant species that interferes with the conservation of the natural environment and biodiversity values. Some plants that are now weeds were deliberately introduced for pastures, to control erosion, or as garden ornamentals. Weeds can out-compete native vegetation and destroy habitat for native animals.

Vehicles and pedestrians can spread weeds from one site to another, most commonly due to prickly seeds

that attach to clothing or camping gear. To reduce their spread, restrict activities to formalised roads, paths and designated camping areas. Before leaving a camping area, check that seeds have not collected on your tent, bedroll, clothing, shoes or vehicle. Remove any plant material found in personal belongings before leaving the site and dispose of it responsibly in bins.

Many weeds have become invasive on DEC-managed lands and it is important that further spread and infestation is prevented. Please contact the district or regional DEC office to obtain a weed list for the park(s) you intend to visit.

7.9 Cane toads

Information

The westward movement of cane toads through the Northern Territory towards WA threatens the biodiversity of the state, with the Kimberley at the forefront of invasion. This introduced invasive pest is listed as a key threatening process and has the potential to adversely threaten the nature-based tourism industry.

Operators should check vehicles when traversing between parks to ensure cane toads have not made their way into personal belongings or vehicles.

Operators and visitors are urged to report anything they think is a cane toad so the species can be confirmed before animals are killed. To report suspected cane toad

sightings please contact the local DEC office, DEC Nature Protection Branch on **(08) 9334 0292** or email **imports@dec.wa.gov.au**.

7.10 Saltwater crocodiles

Visitors to the north-west of the state must be mindful of crocodiles that inhabit mangrove creeks, coastal rivers and inlets from the Kimberley region south to Exmouth and Onslow as the coastal zone systems in these regions provide habitat for saltwater crocodiles.

Operators and visitors are advised to:

- take care and stay alert in mangrove habitats, particularly near the waters edge
- avoid entering the water
- take extreme care when launching and retrieving boats
- avoid fishing near the waters edge
- ensure campsites are a substantial distance from the waters edge
- not swim where saltwater crocodiles are known to inhabit, may inhabit or where it is signposted not to do so
- take care when swimming in any body of water in the Kimberley and Pilbara region.

All care should be taken and any sightings south of the De Grey River should be reported to the DEC Pilbara regional office in Karratha on **(08) 9143 1488**.

7.11 Respecting Aboriginal culture in national parks

DEC recognises the unique role and expertise that Aboriginal people can have as both traditional owners with a cultural responsibility to care for country, and as managers of conservation lands and waters for the state.

The diversity of Aboriginal communities across WA is highlighted by the diversity of languages and cultural connections with the land. Existing for at least 40,000 years, Aboriginal cultures are reported to be some of the oldest living cultures on Earth.

It is important that commercial operators continue to build sustainable relationships with Aboriginal communities. Traditional custodians should be acknowledged and respected as the carers of the land, in particular the holders of knowledge in relation to the significance of sites.

Aboriginal sites should be treated with the same level of respect that should be given to a religious house of your own or another religion. Sites include waterways, granite outcrops, dreaming trails and tracks, women's sites and men's sites, scar trees, burial sites, campsites, tool making sites, ceremonial grounds and shell middens.

The following general protocols should be observed in all national parks and reserves in order to respect the Aboriginal culture and history of the land:

- All waterways are precious in Aboriginal culture so do not urinate or use soap in the water.
- Understand and respect that there is Aboriginal women's business and men's business and neither should speak for the other.
- When visiting Dreaming trails and tracks always stay on the established paths.
- Motor vehicles, motorcycles, or any domesticated animals such as horses or dogs are not to be taken onto granite outcrops.

Building successful relationships with Aboriginal communities will add value to our tourism product in the long-term.

7.12 Hyperthermia (heat stress)

Information

All of WA experiences hot weather at some time during the year but especially during the summer months of December to February. High temperatures and humidity occur all year round in the north-west of the state and can pose a risk to visitor health. Operators and visitors should be aware of the potential dangers of heat exposure and the practical ways to protect their health in the heat.

Heat stress, or heat illness, occurs because the body is unable to get rid of excess heat; the body temperature rises above normal and the proper functioning of the body is impaired. There are three categories of hyperthermia (heat stroke, heat cramps and heat exhaustion), with heat stroke being the most severe form. People displaying symptoms such as headaches, nausea, fatigue, weakness, thirst and giddiness, or confused, uncoordinated and odd behaviour in the heat should initially be assumed to have heat stroke and considered a medical emergency.

The following precautions should always be taken to avoid heat exposure.

- Ensure hydration by drinking regularly. With no physical activity, an extra two litres of water should be drunk per day in hot conditions. People exercising outdoors in hot weather should drink up to one litre of water per hour at regular intervals.
- Wear clothing which assists heat loss and offers protection from the sun, e.g. lightweight, light coloured, loose fitting, natural fibre garments and a wide brimmed hat.
- Schedule strenuous activity for cooler times of the day.
- Reduce extra heat in the body by seeking shade and reducing or stopping physical activity.

7.13 Hypothermia

Learning Objectives

Although the WA climate is usually warm to hot, the south of WA can experience very cool temperatures and ocean temperatures can fall to about 17°C. In addition, in inland areas in the north-west of the state, temperatures can fall to freezing during the night. Exposure to cold temperatures, especially when it is also wet and windy, and prolonged immersion in cold water can lead to hypothermia.

Low body temperature, or hypothermia, occurs when the body's heat retention and heat production mechanisms fail to compensate for rapid heat loss and the body temperature falls. Hypothermia can range from mild to life threatening. Severe hypothermia can be fatal and requires urgent medical assistance.

Common signs of hypothermia are shivering, changes in consciousness, stumbling, slow reactions, poor control over body movements and inability to perform complex mental tasks. Other signs may be slow or slurred speech, slow breathing rate, mental/physical fatigue, apathy and loss of judgment.

To reduce the risk of hypothermia, operators should be aware of and prepared for changes in local weather conditions, be familiar with the surrounding terrain and ensure that there is access to shelter.

You should also advise your passengers to:

- dress appropriately – cover and protect the head and extremities and wear multiple layers of dry, loose fitting and lightweight clean clothing rather than a single thick garment
- carry a change of dry clothes
- dry themselves as quickly as possible after becoming wet.

7.14 Leave No Trace

Learning Objectives

Leave No Trace is an internationally recognised minimal impact program that is based on:

1. seven scientifically derived principles
2. bioregion and activity specific materials and information
3. a comprehensive training and education program.

DEC supports the development of a national minimal impact ethos and is working with Leave No Trace Australia to facilitate a best practice skills and ethics program.

Competency-based Leave No Trace courses are designed to deliver up to Certificate III training (the highest level of MI certification) as part of Vocational Education and Training packages and are tailored to meet business and industry needs. Attainment of these best practice standards is acknowledged by the industry accreditation schemes NTAP, ECP and Green Globe 21.

Leave No Trace Australia is a partnership based organisation that works with tourism businesses and other sectors to develop programs and materials that deliver quality MI environmental education to travelers.

Leave No Trace principles and practices extend a sensitivity and hospitality to other visitors, to the outdoors, to culturally significant country and sites and to the natural environment. Operators can do their part in minimising their ecological footprint by adopting the seven principles of Leave No Trace and educating their customers on minimal impact practices.

The seven principles of Leave No Trace are:

1. Plan ahead and prepare
2. Travel and camp on durable surfaces
3. Dispose of waste properly
4. Leave what you find
5. Minimise campfire impacts
6. Respect wildlife
7. Be considerate of your hosts and other visitors.

More substantive information on each of the principles is contained on the organisations website **www.LNT.org.au**.

For program information and Leave No Trace materials contact:
Leave No Trace Australia
PO Box 71
COTTESLOE 6911

Phone: **(08) 9384 9062**
Email: **info@LNT.org.au**
www.LNT.org.au

7.15 Filming on CALM Land

Information

To enable DEC to monitor the use of lands, waters and wildlife and to protect cultural values, it is necessary for all commercial photography to be approved by the issue of a filming permit. If supervision is required or the stills/footage is used in advertising commercial products or services, a scheduled fee will be payable to DEC.

News of the day (television and print) and current affairs film crews are not required to pay a fee or obtain a permit. However, in the interests of safety and courtesy to DEC staff, they should contact the local DEC office prior to filming.

Information on filming and the commercial film permit application form are available at

www.dec.wa.gov.au/filming or by calling **(08) 9389 8644**. If possible, filming proposals should be submitted two months prior to the expected filming dates to allow time for proper assessment. DEC is committed to consulting with traditional owners on issues and activities that affect their land and DEC will include special conditions to a commercial filming permit addressing cultural concerns, if any are identified.

7.16 Dingoes and wild dogs

Visitors to are advised that dingoes live in Western Australia and are frequent in Karijini and Cape Range national parks. They overturn eskies, raid rubbish bags, lick barbeque plates, steal from picnic tables and tents and drink dirty washing up water. While searching for food dingoes may harass and may even try to intimidate.

Fines for feeding dingoes apply.

Operators and visitors are advised to:

- never feed dingoes and wild dogs
- never leave children unsupervised
- never offer food to dingoes for photographs
- lock up food stores and eskies and keep them in your vehicles
- pack away food scraps and rubbish and secure in your vehicle
- put away shoes, clothing, toiletries and camping equipment.

If you feel threatened by a dingo:

- stand up at your full height
- face the dingo
- fold your arms and keep eye contact
- calmly back away
- if in pairs, stand back to back
- confidently call for help
- do not wave your arms.

If any negative encounters with dingoes occur please report the encounter as soon as possible to the nearest ranger or DEC office.

7.17 Emergency preparation, planning and preparedness CYCLONES

November to April is the wet season in the northern half of Western Australia (including the Kimberley, Pilbara and Midwest regions) bringing with it the risk of tropical cyclones. Severe cyclones can cause widespread damage, injury and loss of life.

Given the uncertainty and unpredictability of damage created by individual cyclones, operators in or visiting cyclone sensitive regions are urged to apply extreme caution with regard to exposing workers and passengers to the dangers associated with cyclones.

CALM Land

If a cyclone is approaching and a BLUE ALERT is issued DEC will assess what campsites/parks/public moorings are to be closed and will issue a media release to media outlets and organise to evacuate these areas.

If campsites/parks/public moorings are to be closed DEC will place a notice on the DEC website

(www.dec.wa.gov.au) and where possible will notify commercial operators via the Tour Operator Alert email system.

Operators will be required to evacuate any campsites/parks/public mooring when instructed to do so by DEC staff or any emergency services personnel.

Emergency management plan

It is important for every employer located in a cyclone-sensitive region to prepare a comprehensive emergency management plan which addresses risks associated with cyclones. (see Worksafe website www.commerce.wa.gov.au)

FESA has prepared a 'Cyclone Smart' to assist the public prepare for cyclone season. For further information please go FESA's website (www.fesa.wa.gov.au).

Cyclone emergency contact information

During a cyclone emergency you can find community alert information:

- on ABC Radio and other local media. A list of ABC frequencies around the state can be found on the ABC's website (www.abc.net.au)
- via emergency alerts at www.fesa.wa.gov.au or by calling FESA's public recorded information line on 1300 657 209

- Advice on cyclones can be found on the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) website www.bom.gov.au/cyclone or by contacting BOM's cyclone warning advice line on 1300 659 210
- police, fire and ambulance on 000
- State Emergency Services (SES) 132 500
- Main Roads on www.mrd.gov.au or by calling 138138.

Travelling during a flood

Flooding can occur in any part of Western Australia at any time, although in the past decade it has occurred mostly in the North West of the state due to rainfall associated with cyclones. For further information please visit www.fesa.wa.gov.au.

Port and harbourside contingency plans – Department of Transport

To obtain a copy of cyclone contingency plans for the state's ports please visit www.transport.wa.gov.au.

Bushfires and dec's prescribed burning operations

The following information tools may assist operators to be better informed about bushfires or prescribed burning operations on CALM land.

Please note that bushfires are unpredictable and may still be active, even if not shown on any of the following resources.

Bushfires

Operators should listen regularly to hourly ABC News Radio Broadcasts for updates on fires. To find the frequency in your area go to **www.abc.net.au**.

If operators observe what may look like a bushfire while travelling they should contact the local DEC district office to obtain the latest information on the fire (DEC district contact details are available in your Commercial Operator handbooks).

Operators can access this latest information relating to bushfires on DEC-managed lands by visiting the 'Community bushfire information' section on DEC's webpage **www.dec.wa.gov.au** (see right side of webpage).

During the fire season operators should check

Landgate's Firewatch website **<http://firewatch.dli.wa.gov.au/>** and GeoScience Australia's Sentinel website at **<http://sentinel1.ga.gov.au/acres/sentinel/>** (click 'Broadband' and accept conditions) as a guide to see whether there are any fires that may affect your travel plans.

To access the latest information about bushfires and other emergencies on non DEC-managed lands, operators can visit FESA's webpage **www.fesa.wa.gov.au**.

Prescribed burning operations

A master burn plan has been completed for the next three years of planned burns in the south-west forest region WA. You can view the proposed burn plans for the coming season (i.e. Autumn 2011) as well as the three year plan for different DEC Regions that conduct prescribed burning, at **www.dec.wa.gov.au/prescribedburning**.

Operators can also view notifications on DEC's website **www.dec.wa.gov.au** and go to the heading 'Today's prescribed burns' as a guide only to see what burns are to be conducted each day (see top right side of webpage). Please note that burns may still be active, even if not shown here. Prescribed burns are subject to weather conditions and up-to-date information relating to current prescribed burns can be obtained by contacting the local DEC district office listed in the Commercial Operator handbook.

When notified by DEC district offices, DEC's Tourism Branch will broadcast Tour Operator Alerts to operators advising of park or road closures caused by bushfires on DEC-managed lands.

Sections nine to 17 are presented according to DEC's nine regions with an extra section for State forest, the Bibbulmun Track and Munda Biddi Trail. Under each region are parks that have conditions that are additional to the general conditions listed previously. These conditions are listed as (a), (b), (c), (i), (ii), (iii)... under each park heading. All other statements are extra information an operator will find useful when visiting these parks.

9 Kimberley Region

	Issue						Adventure activity						Transportation			
	Disease risk areas	Subject to prescribed burns	Declared rare flora/fauna	Subject to partial or full closure	Prohibited areas	Water catchment area	Abseiling	Bushwalking *	Camping	Canoeing	Caving	Rafting	Rockclimbing	Coach	Minibus	Safari tour/4WD
East Kimberley																
Drysdale River NP		✓	✓	✓	✓											
Mirima NP		✓		✓	✓											
Purnululu NP		✓	✓	✓	✓											
Wolfe Creek Crater NP		✓		✓												
Mitchell River NP		✓	✓	✓	✓											
Lawley River NP		✓	✓	✓	✓											
Prince Regent NP		✓	✓	✓	✓											
Parry Lagoons NR		✓	✓	✓	✓											
West Kimberley																
Geike Gorge NP		✓	✓	✓	✓											
King Leopold Range CP		✓	✓	✓	✓											
Tunnel Creek NP		✓	✓	✓	✓											
Windjana Gorge NP		✓	✓	✓	✓											

Key

☐ Activity permitted in reserve ☒ Activity **not** permitted in reserve ✓ Issue relevant to reserve
 Please refer to page ii for an expanded key.



Windjana Gorge National Park

9.1 Drysdale River National Park (East Kimberley district)



Saltwater crocodiles have been known to inhabit the area downstream of Solea Falls and canoeing in this area is not recommended.

An Emergency Locating Transmitter, beacon and satellite phone is recommended during any activities within the park.

There is no vehicular access to the park through Theda Station. Approval must be obtained from Kalumbaru Aboriginal Corporation on **(08) 9161 4300** to traverse Carson River Station.

- (a) The operator shall notify DEC's Kununurra office before visiting Drysdale River National Park.

9.2 Purnululu National Park (East Kimberley district)

- (a) The operator shall register with the Park Ranger before conducting overnight camping in Piccaninny Gorge and portable cooking appliances shall be used. No fires are permitted in this gorge.
- (b) The operator shall not light wood fires except in the designated fireplaces with wood provided by DEC.
- (c) The operator shall comply with all fire bans.

- (d) The operator shall not carry firewood into or from the park.
- (e) The operator acknowledges that Frog Hole Gorge and Bat Cave are closed and the operator shall not access these sites.

9.3 Geikie Gorge National Park (West Kimberley district)



DEC runs the river cruises on Geikie Gorge from April through to the end of November each year. A maximum of four cruises per day are programmed at 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am and 3:00pm. The operator can make bookings through DEC's Broome office by email **broome@dec.wa.gov.au**, by fax **(08) 9193 5027**, or by phone **(08) 9195 5500** between 8:30am to 4:00pm Monday to Friday.

- (a) The operator agrees that the Director General reserves the right to reschedule or cancel cruises without prior notice to the operator.
- (b) Freshwater crocodiles have been known to inhabit the gorge. The operator shall take all suitable precautions when operating in the area.
- (c) The operator shall not access Aboriginal cultural sites without prior approval. Access to sites may be obtained by booking with the DarlNgunaya Aboriginal Corporation's Darngku Heritage Cruise through the Fitzroy

Crossing Visitor Centre on (08) 9191 5355.

- (d) The operator shall not launch private vessels until after the return of DEC's last cruise at 1630 hours.
- (e) The operator shall not sweep, brush, clean or wash their vehicles within Geikie Gorge National Park.
- (f) Where the operator has booked on a programmed river cruise, the operator acknowledges that they shall ensure that all passengers arrive at the Geikie Gorge gazebo no later than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled departure time of that pre-booked boat tour. The operator acknowledges that their booked seats may be reallocated if they have not arrived by this time.

9.4 King Leopold Range Conservation Park (West Kimberley district)

Information

Silent Grove campsites provide showers, flushing toilets and potable water. An area is set aside for commercial operators where generators are permitted.

Accommodation at Mt Hart Wilderness Lodge consists of dinner, bed and breakfast, and bookings are essential.

There are only 10 discreet campsites along Bell Creek. The campsites operate on a first in first serve system and no bookings can be made.

If operators intend to conduct extended bushwalking in the park, the operator must lodge an application using the Remote Area Walkers Registration Form giving details of the areas, planned routes and campsites that the operator intends to access at least 10 days prior to accessing the park. The form is available at the DEC West Kimberley office or online at **www.dec.wa.gov.au/existing_operators**.

- (a) The operator shall not conduct day visits or camp at Mount Hart Wilderness Lodge.
- (b) The operator shall not light wood fires except in the designated fireplaces with wood provided by the operator.
- (c) The operator shall comply with all fire bans.
- (d) The operator acknowledges that Aboriginal rock art sites are protected and the operator shall not access Aboriginal rock art sites.
- (e) The operator shall not conduct extended bushwalking except with the prior approval of the Director General or delegate.
- (f) The operator shall carry an Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) on all extended walks.

9.5 Tunnel Creek National Park (West Kimberley district)

- (a) The operator shall not access the Aboriginal rock art site at the western entrance/exit to Tunnel Creek.

9.6 Windjana Gorge National Park (West Kimberley district)

Important access information

Freshwater crocodiles have been known to inhabit Windjana Gorge and are a major feature of the Gorge during the visitor season and can often be observed basking on the sandbanks. **Swimming in the pool at Windjana Gorge is not recommended.**

- (a) The operator shall not light wood fires except in the designated fireplaces with wood provided by the operator.
- (b) The operator shall comply with all fire bans.
- (c) The operator acknowledges that Aboriginal rock art sites are protected and the operator shall not access Aboriginal rock art sites.
- (d) The operator shall not fish in Windjana Gorge.
- (e) The operator shall not approach within 20 metres of any crocodile at Windjana Gorge.

9.7 Prince Regent Nature Reserve (East Kimberley district)

Important access information

Access to Prince Regent Nature Reserve is strictly limited to Cascade Falls and Careening Bay. Operators are not permitted to operate elsewhere in the reserve without lawful authority and **operators are not permitted nor will they be permitted to land helicopters at Mount Trafalgar. Operators are reminded that Regulation 86 empowers the Director General to cancel a licence for a breach of conditions such as 9.7(b) below.**

Operators must be aware that Mount Trafalgar is a highly significant Aboriginal heritage site with the Australian Heritage Commission determining that the Prince Regent area has Indigenous values of National Estate significance.

- (a) The operator, its employees, agents, contractors and passengers shall not camp in the reserve without lawful authority.
- (b) The operator shall not, without specific lawful authority, access or use any part of the reserve other than the existing walk trails areas at Cascade Falls and Careening Bay, as indicated in Figures 9.7A on page 9.8 and 9.7C on page 9.10 of this handbook. The operator shall ensure that the operator's

helicopter does not access or use Mount Trafalgar or any other area of the reserve, other than where it can safely land within the area (bounded by GDA94 points: 125.30352, -15.62023 thence south west to 125.30230, -15.62139 thence south east to 125.30316, -15.62217 thence south west to 125.29998, -15.62547 thence south east to 125.30270, -15.62789 thence north east to 125.30753, -15.62273 thence to 125.30352, -15.62023 and excluding the Cascade Basin) indicated in Figure 9.7B on page 9.9.

- (c) The operator shall achieve either the appropriate level of Eco Certification from Ecotourism Australia or the National Tourism Accreditation Program (including the Advanced Environmental Management Module) administered by Tourism Council WA, or recognised equivalent accreditation within two months of being granted a licence to conduct operations at Prince Regent Nature Reserve. licences may be suspended if such accreditation is not acquired within two months of the licence being issued and will not be renewed without this level of accreditation being current.

Cascade Falls area

Information

The boundary of the Prince Regent Nature Reserve is the low water mark, which means the Cascade Basin in

front of Cascade Falls lies within the Prince Regent Nature Reserve.

A maximum of three vessels are permitted in the basin at any one time and operators are responsible for coordinating this between themselves.

Anchoring is permitted within Cascade Basin. No vessel should anchor in such a location as to block the view of the falls from other vessels which may visit during the operator's visit. It is preferable that all vessels anchor outside the basin and access the immediate Cascade Falls area only for the purpose of viewing, depositing passengers at and retrieving them from the walk trail access point. Mooring is only permitted in the basin, as per condition 9.7(h).

Saltwater crocodiles have been known to inhabit the area and the operator is required to take all suitable precautions when operating in this area.

Swimming is permitted only in designated upper pools.

Operators must be aware of the tide times and exit the basin before low tide closes the entrance to the river.

Helicopters may not take off from or land on vessels while they are in the basin, and should access only where it is safe to do so, depending on prevailing conditions, as per condition 9.7(l).

- (d) The operator shall only access the Cascade Falls area of the reserve, using the walk trails indicated by the red lines in Figure 9.7A on page 9.8.
- (e) The operator must nominate to DEC the vessel which the operator intends to use to enter the reserve and must also provide DEC with a current certificate of survey for that vessel upon application.
- (f) The operator shall ensure that sewage, bilge water and any waste is not disposed of within the reserve (including the basin).
- (g) The operator shall ensure the nominated vessel or replacement vessel (except tenders) entering the reserve is fitted with and uses holding/sullage tanks or alternative environmentally approved wastage disposal systems.
- (h) With the exception of tenders when mooring at the walk trail access point, the operator shall not moor a vessel in Cascade Basin other than to a mooring approved by the Director General or his delegate, or tie up or secure a vessel to any part of the reserve (including trees, rocks, mangroves etc).
- (i) The operator, its employees, agents, contractors and passengers shall only access the marked trails in the Cascade Falls area of the reserve using the designated landing area in Cascade Basin at the start of the walk trail (Figure 9.7A on page 9.8). Access to the land shall be by tender vessel only.
- (j) The operator shall ensure that no bottles or other receptacles made from glass are taken onto the terrestrial part of the reserve.
- (k) The operator shall ensure that helicopters do not take off from and land on vessels in Cascade Basin.
- (l) The operator shall ensure that helicopters associated with the operator's vessel/s only access the falls area if there are no other vessels or their passengers in the basin or accessing the designated walk trail. If another vessel is in the vicinity, operators using a helicopter must gain the agreement of the other operator/s before using the helicopter to transport passengers onto the falls area.
- (m) The operator shall ensure that when groups are accessing the reserve:
- i. a pre-excursion briefing, approved by the Director General or his delegate, is delivered to passengers (relaying information regarding safety, environmental and management issues in the reserve)
 - ii. no more than 18 passengers per group are taken ashore by any one operator at any one time (more than one operator may access the falls at one time)

- iii. a ratio of one leader to eight passengers shall apply at all times when conducting operations on the reserve
 - iv. at least one skipper or suitably qualified crew member shall remain on the vessel when conducting operations on the reserve
 - v. a first aid kit and effective communication equipment (back to the vessel) shall be carried with any group of employees, agents, contractors or passengers going ashore on the reserve
 - vi. climbing ropes shall only be attached at designated points.
- (n) The operator shall not conduct swimming activities in the Cascade Basin. The operator will ensure swimming is only undertaken in marked upper pools.
- (o) The operator shall ensure that they, their employees, agents, contractors and their passengers' operations do not harm or disturb any flora or fauna when approaching and using the access point to the designated walk trail and whilst in the reserve.

Careening Bay (Mermaid Boab Tree)

Information

Saltwater crocodiles have been known to inhabit the area and swimming in this area is not recommended.

- (p) The operator shall only land employees, agents, contractors or passengers on the reserve in the Careening Bay area from the beach and leaders and passengers shall only use that part of the reserve as specified in Figure 9.7C on page 9.10.
- (q) The operator shall ensure that a pre-excursion briefing, approved by the Director General or his delegate, is delivered to passengers (relaying information regarding safety, environmental and management issues in the reserve) prior to going ashore at Careening Bay.
- (r) The operator shall ensure that passengers do not mark or damage the Mermaid Boab Tree or any other flora and fauna in the reserve.
- (s) The operator shall ensure that when accessing the Careening Bay area, a ratio of one leader to each 18 passengers applies at all times.

Figure 9.7A Cascade Falls Area in Prince Regent Nature Reserve

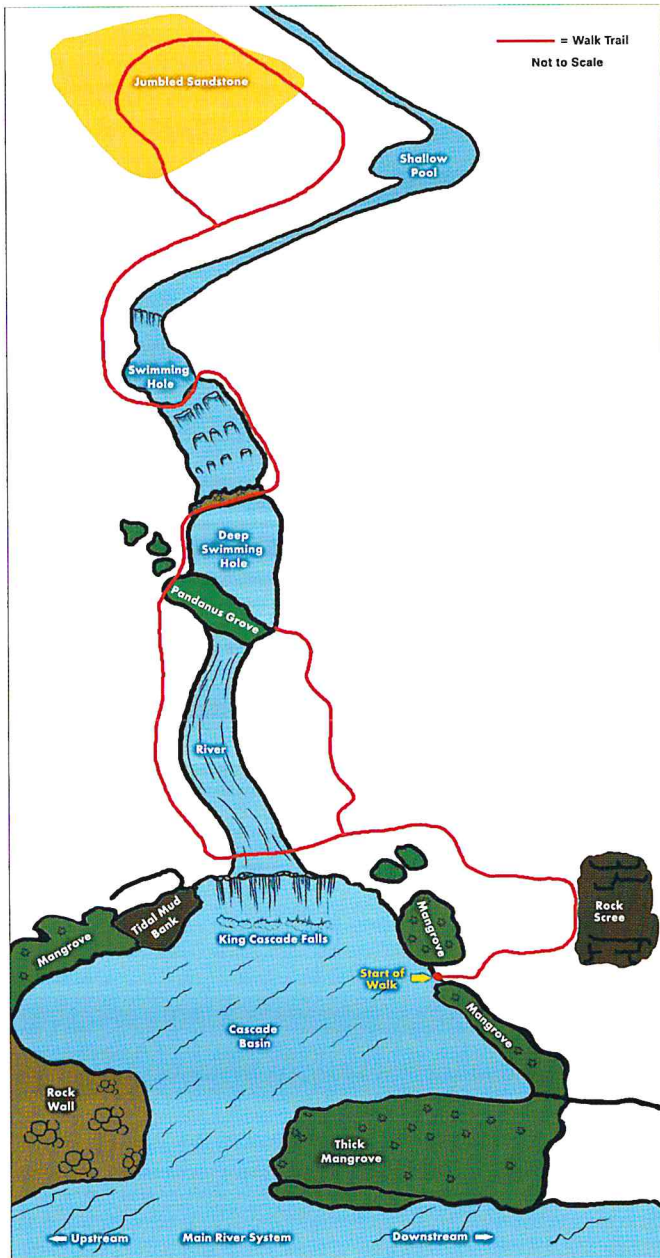


Figure 9.7B Permissible helicopter landing area at Cascade Falls

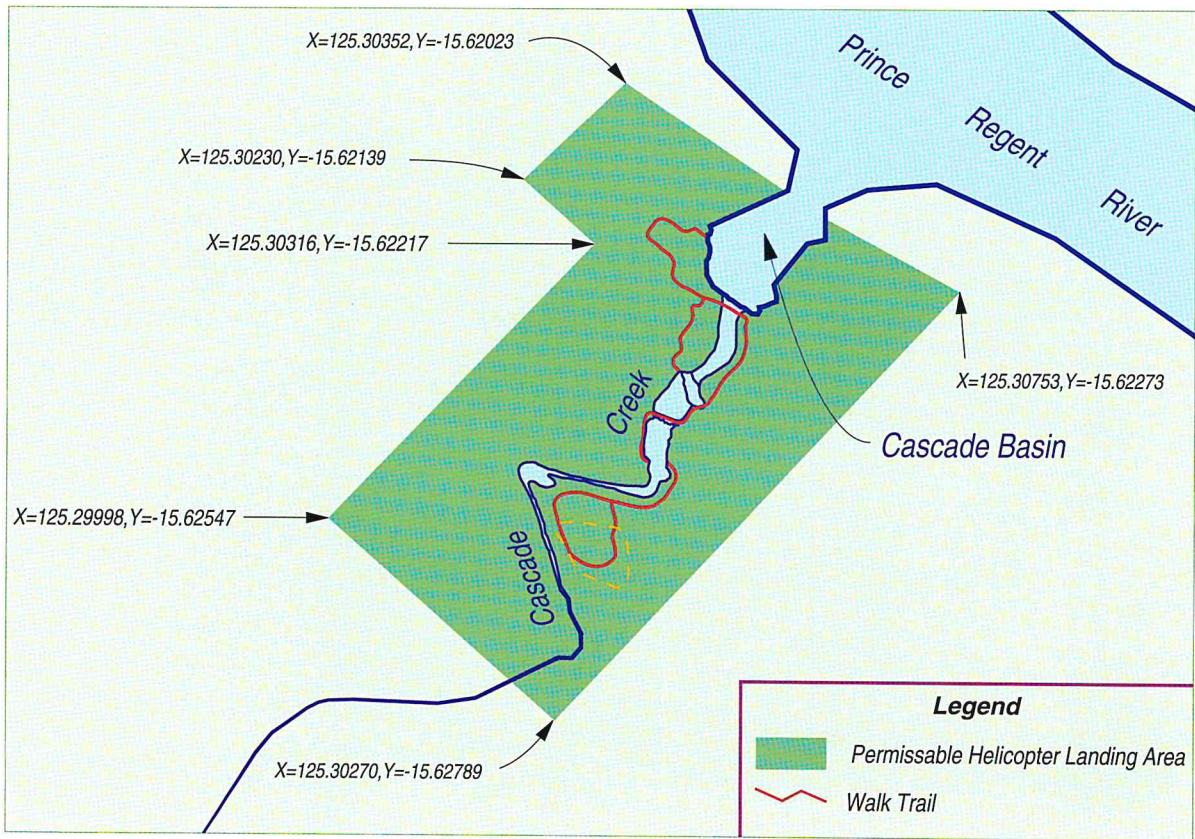
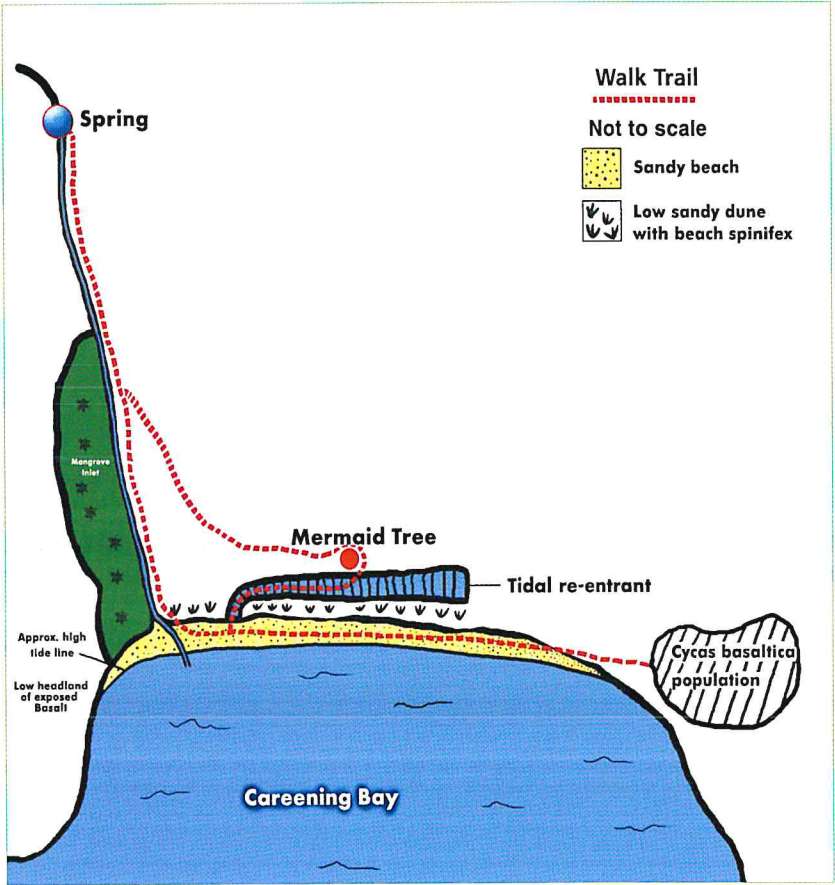


Figure 9.7C Careening Bay in Prince Regent Nature Reserve



9.8 Mitchell River National Park (East Kimberley district)

Information

The Mitchell River National Park is a remote and rugged area. It also contains areas that are culturally sensitive to the local Aboriginal people.

To assist in future planning and management decisions and to ensure that operators do not enter areas that might be culturally sensitive, written approval shall be obtained prior to accessing any areas other than the designated camping area, designated trails and tracks and the Mitchell Falls area.

To obtain approval to access other areas, operators shall lodge an application at least 10 days prior to accessing the park on each occasion using the Remote Area Walkers Registration Form giving details of the areas that the operator intends to access. The application will be assessed by DEC and representatives of the traditional owners to ensure the areas accessed are compatible with both current management objectives and are culturally appropriate. The information provided will also provide valuable information for the preparation of a management plan for the park and the planning of future visitor facilities.

The Remote Area Walkers Registration Form may be downloaded from

www.dec.wa.gov.au/existing_operators or picked up at the DEC Kununurra district office.

- (a) The operator shall only camp in the designated camping area adjacent to the Ranger's station except with written approval of the Director General or delegate.
- (b) The operator shall not enter areas of the park other than the designated camping area, designated walk trails or the Mitchell Falls area without written approval of the Director General or delegate.
- (c) The operator shall ensure that no swimming occurs below the Mitchell River Falls or at the water collection point adjacent to the camping area.
- (d) If approval is obtained to access areas other than those mentioned in condition (b) above, the operator is required to carry a satellite phone and EPIRB at all times. Operators shall register at the Ranger's station each time access, in accord with this approval, is made.

9.9 Lawley River National Park (East Kimberley district)

Information

Lawley River National Park is a remote and rugged area with no amenities, designated walk trails or campsites. It also contains areas that are culturally sensitive to the local Aboriginal people.

Before accessing the park operators must lodge an application using the Remote Area Walkers Registration Form giving details of the areas, planned routes and campsites that the operator intends to access.

The application will be assessed by DEC and representatives of the traditional owners to ensure the areas accessed are compatible with both current management objectives and are culturally appropriate.

The information provided will also provide valuable information for the preparation of a management plan for the park and the planning of future visitor facilities.

The Remote Area Walkers Registration Form may be downloaded from **www.dec.wa.gov.au/existing_operators** or picked up at the DEC Kununurra district office.

- (a) The operator shall complete a Remote Area Walkers Registration Form and submit this to the Ranger's station at least 10 days prior to accessing the park on each occasion.
- (c) The operator shall carry a satellite phone and EPIRB at all times while in the park.
- (k) The operator shall implement minimal impact principles such as Leave No Trace while accessing the park.

9.10 Low Rocks, Pelican Island and Lacepede Islands nature reserves (West Kimberley district)

These terrestrial nature reserves are only accessible by sea. For conditions relating to accessing these reserves for the purpose of conducting commercial operations, please refer to the most recent edition of the Commercial Operator Handbook – Marine available to download from **www.dec.wa.gov.au/tourism_licensing**.

Kununurra district office

Lot 248 Ivanhoe Road
(PO Box 942)
KUNUNURRA WA 6743
Phone: **(08) 9168 4200**
Fax: (08) 9168 2179

Broome work centre

111 Herbert Street
(PO Box 65)
BROOME WA 6725
Phone: **(08) 9195 5500**
Fax: (08) 9193 5027

10 Pilbara Region

	Issue						Adventure activity						Transportation			
	Disease risk areas	Subject to prescribed burns	Declared rare flora/fauna	Subject to partial or full closure	Prohibited areas	Water catchment area	Abseiling	Bushwalking *	Camping	Canoeing	Caving	Rafting	Rockclimbing	Coach	Minibus	Safari tour/4WD
Karratha Regional																
Collier Range NP		✓	✓	✓												
Karijini NP		✓	✓	✓												
Millstream Chichester NP		✓	✓	✓		✓										
Karlamilyi NP (Rudall River)		✓	✓	✓	✓											
Dampier Archipelago**			✓	✓												
Montebello Islands CP			✓	✓	✓											
Exmouth																
Cape Range NP		✓	✓	✓		✓										

Key

☐ Activity permitted in reserve
 ☒ Activity **not** permitted in reserve
 ✓ Issue relevant to reserve
 Please refer to page ii for an expanded key.

10.1 Collier Range and Karlamilyi (previously known as Rudall River) national parks (Karratha regional headquarters)

- (a) The operator shall only camp in those sites that DEC has previously cleared.

10.2 Karijini National Park (Karratha regional headquarters)

Information

Savannah campground has replaced Weano and Joffre campgrounds and is not operated by DEC.

For information on fees and conditions please contact the Karijini visitor centre on **(08) 9189 8121**.

DEC provides walk trail classifications for all designated walks in the park in accordance with the Australian Standard Walking Tracks Part 1. A registration system in the park for all operators accessing route level 2 (class 6) provides DEC with useful information regarding visitor access to high risk sections of the gorge network and provides information to facilitate rescues in the event of an emergency alarm. It is NOT a registration system to instigate search and rescue.

If the operator intends to conduct abseiling or rock climbing, then the operator should operate in accordance with the *Caving, Abseiling and Rock Climbing Policy*, Pilbara Region, a copy of which is available from the DEC Karratha office and at **www.dec.wa.gov.au**

- (a) The operator shall not create or use solid fuel fires.
- (b) The operator shall only camp in the park at Dales or Savannah campgrounds.
- (c) The operator shall adhere to the safety recommendations provided on the DEC information warning signs.
- (d) The operator shall not proceed along a class 6 trail (route level 2) unless they have nationally recognised accreditation to abseil and climb on natural surfaces and are using Standards Australia/ International Standards approved abseil and climb equipment.

(e) The operator shall register with the Karijini visitor centre before conducting tours and accessing route level 2 (class 6) in the Karijini gorge network. If the visitor centre is closed (or after hours), the operator shall register by phone **(08) 9189 8157** or by fax **(08) 9189 8104**. When registering, the operator shall provide:

- the tour company name and commercial operations licence number
- leader name
- group sizes and ratios of competent and other guides to participants
- details of emergency response plan and safety and rescue equipment
- routes to be taken, times of departure
- contact details.

10.3 Millstream Chichester National Park (Karratha regional headquarters)

If the operator intends to conduct abseiling or rock climbing then the operator should operate in accordance with the *Caving, Abseiling and Rock Climbing Policy*, Pilbara Region, a copy of which is available from the DEC Karratha office and at **www.dec.wa.gov.au**.

- (a) The operator shall not create or use solid fuel fires.

10.4 Cape Range National Park (Exmouth district)

Information

If the operator intends to conduct caving, rock climbing or abseiling then the operator should operate in accordance with the *Caving, Abseiling and Rock Climbing Policy*, Pilbara Region, a copy of which is available from the DEC Karratha office and at www.dec.wa.gov.au.

- (a) The operator shall not conduct boat tours on Yardie Creek (note: boats are defined as any powered vessel).
- (b) The operator shall not access the southern bank of Yardie Creek.
- (c) If the operator conducts abseiling, rock climbing, caving or overnight bushwalks within Cape Range National Park, the operator shall notify the DEC Exmouth district office prior to the tour and advise of the proposed itinerary.
- (d) The operator shall not create or use solid fuel fires.

Information

Where Cape Range National Park is adjacent to Ningaloo Marine Park, the marine park landward boundary is defined as the high water mark. Terrestrial-based operators who operate on the beach below the high water mark or in the water itself (including swimming and snorkelling activities) will also need to be licensed for Ningaloo Marine Park.

Those licensed for Ningaloo Marine Park must abide by the conditions in section 10.5 and activity-specific conditions 6.7 and 6.8 for swimming and snorkelling.

10.5 Ningaloo Marine Park (Exmouth district)

Information

Snorkeling at Ningaloo Marine Park – Turquoise Bay

Turquoise Bay is a very popular location for viewing corals and other marine life. However, deaths have occurred at Turquoise Bay and care needs to be taken when swimming in strong currents. Strong currents are usually confined to the beach immediately west and south of the bay. Strong currents are caused by a build-up of water in the lagoon behind the reef. Large waves and a high tide level contribute to the amount of water in the lagoon that needs to escape through the gaps in the reef.

Operators should not allow inexperienced swimmers to swim or snorkel in strong currents unless accompanied by an experienced person and should ensure that their passengers are aware of and do not swim or snorkel in the area marked as a swimming risk area on the signs at the beach (see figure 10.5A).

The operator should assess the current from the beach before allowing passengers to enter the water. Seek advice from others with

sound local knowledge if you are unsure of the conditions. If unsure it is better to be cautious and simply enjoy the beach or swim well inside the bay where there is less likelihood of encountering strong currents. High tides and waves on the outer reef contribute to stronger currents, especially near gaps in the main reef.

Operators are responsible for the safety of their passengers at all times, and Park Rangers' patrol or presence should not be relied upon as the safeguard for your passenger on the beaches of Ningaloo Marine Park including Turquoise Bay.

Coral is delicate and once damaged may take many years to regrow. Avoid standing on coral formations and touching marine organisms.

(a) The operator shall not allow inexperienced swimmers to swim or snorkel in strong currents unless accompanied by an experienced person.

(b) The operator shall assess the current from the beach before allowing passengers to enter the water and, if unsure of the conditions, shall seek advice on the current conditions from others with sound local knowledge.

Figure 10.5A



10.6 Dampier Archipelago, Montebello Islands Conservation Park and Muiron Islands Nature Reserve

These terrestrial reserves and parks are only accessible by sea. For conditions relating to accessing these reserves and parks for the purpose of conducting commercial operations, please refer to the most recent edition of the Commercial Operator Handbook – Marine available to download from www.dec.wa.gov.au/tourism_licensing.

Karratha regional headquarters

Mardie Rd
(PO Box 835)
KARRATHA WA 6714
Phone: **(08) 9182 2000**
Fax: (08) 9144 1118

Exmouth district office

20 Nimitz Street
(PO Box 201)
EXMOUTH WA 6707
Phone: **(08) 9947 8000**
Fax: (08) 9947 8050

11 Midwest Region

	Issue					Adventure activity							Transportation			
	Disease risk areas	Subject to prescribed burns	Declared rare flora/fauna	Subject to partial or full closure	Prohibited areas	Water catchment area	Abseiling	Bushwalking *	Camping	Canoeing	Caving	Rafting	Rockclimbing	Coach	Minibus	Safari tour/4WD
Shark Bay																
Francois Peron NP			✓	✓												
Hamelin Pool MNR			✓	✓												
Shell Beach CP			✓	✓												
Geraldton																
Kennedy Range NP	✓		✓	✓												
Mt Augustus NP	✓		✓	✓												
Coalseam CP	✓		✓	✓												
Kalbarri NP	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓										
Moora																
Alexander Morrison NP		✓	✓	✓												
Badgingarra NP		✓	✓	✓		✓										
Drovers Cave NP		✓	✓	✓		✓										
Lesueur NP	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓										
Nambung NP	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓										
Stockyard Gully ***		✓	✓	✓												
Tathra NP		✓	✓	✓		✓										
Watheroo NP		✓	✓	✓		✓										

Key

☐ Activity permitted in reserve
 ☒ Activity **not** permitted in reserve
 ✓ Issue relevant to reserve
 Please refer to page ii for an expanded key.

11.1 François Peron National Park (Shark Bay district)

- The operator shall not take any vehicles other than 4WD vehicles north of the Peron Homestead.
- The operator shall not light wood fires in the park.

- Operators shall submit an activity plan to the Shark Bay district office before conducting overnight sea kayaking/camping trips to the park.

11.2 Hamelin Pool Marine Nature Reserve (Shark Bay district)

- (a) The operator shall only access Hamelin Pool Marine Nature Reserve on the boardwalk from the historical Telegraph Station.

11.3 Kennedy Range National Park (Geraldton district)

- (a) The operator shall only conduct camping at the Temple Gorge campsite.

11.4 Mount Augustus National Park (Geraldton district)

Camping facilities are provided at the Mount Augustus Outback Tourist Resort or at Cobra Station.

- (a) The operator shall not conduct camping in the park.
- (b) If the operator intends to conduct bushwalking operations, the operator shall notify the Mount Augustus Tourist Resort and inform about an estimated return time.

11.5 Kalbarri National Park (Geraldton district)

- (a) The operator shall submit a DEC activity docket at either the Hawk's Head or The Loop/Z Bend entry station.
- (b) The operator shall complete an activity registration form, available from the Kalbarri National Park office, before conducting any overnight bushwalking, climbing, abseiling, canoeing, kayaking or rafting operations.
- (c) The operator shall promptly notify the Ranger-in-charge of the completion of the operation.
- (d) Nominated sites for rock climbing and abseiling shall be discussed with the Ranger-in-charge before commencement of these operations.
- (e) The operator shall notify the Ranger-in-charge if any operation is curtailed, postponed or otherwise changed.

11.6 Lesueur National Park (Moora district)

- (a) The operator shall not use vehicles except along the designated track on the southern boundary. All other access is for pedestrians only.

11.7 Nambung National Park (Moora district)

- (a) The operator shall not allow any person to climb on the Pinnacles.
- (b) The operator shall not create wood fires in the park.
- (c) The operator and the operator's employees, agents, contractors or passengers shall keep to designated walk trails and pathways.

11.8 Turquoise Coast Islands nature reserves

These terrestrial nature reserves are only accessible by sea. For conditions relating to accessing these reserves for the purpose of conducting commercial operations, please refer to the most recent edition of the Commercial Operator Handbook – Marine available to download from **www.dec.wa.gov.au/tourism_licensing**.

For more information

Geraldton district office

193 Marine Terrace
(PO Box 72)
GERALDTON WA 6531
Phone: **(08) 9921 5955**
Fax: (08) 9921 5713

Moora district office

Lot 96 Bashford St
(PO Box 208)
JURIEN BAY WA 6516
Phone: **(08) 9652 1911**
Fax: (08) 9652 1922

Shark Bay district office

89 Knight Terrace
(C/O Post Office)
DENHAM WA 6537
Phone: **(08) 9948 1208**
Fax: (08) 9948 1024

Kalbarri National Park office

Ajana–Kalbarri Road
(PO Box 37)
KALBARRI WA 6536
Phone: **(08) 9937 1140**
Fax: (08) 9937 1437

12 Goldfields Region

Disease risk areas	Issue						Adventure activity							Transportation		
	Subject to prescribed burns	Declared rare flora/fauna	Subject to partial or full closure	Prohibited areas	Water catchment area	Abselling	Bushwalking *	Camping	Canoeing	Caving	Rafting	Rockclimbing	Coach	Minibus	Safari tour/4WD	
Goldfields																
Boorabin NP		✓	✓	✓												
Goldfields Woodland CP and NP		✓	✓	✓												
Cave Hill NR				✓												
Burra Rock NR				✓												
Wallaroo Rock CP		✓		✓												
Yeo Lake NR		✓		✓	✓											
Neale Junction NR		✓		✓	✓											
Wanjarri NR		✓		✓	✓											
Rowles Lagoon CP		✓		✓												
Gibson Desert NR		✓		✓	✓											
Great Victoria Desert NR		✓		✓	✓											
Plumridge Lakes NR		✓	✓	✓	✓											
Queen Victoria Spring NR		✓	✓	✓	✓											
Helena and Aurora Range CP		✓	✓	✓	✓											

Key

☐ Activity permitted in reserve ☒ Activity **not** permitted in reserve ✓ Issue relevant to reserve
 Please refer to page ii for an expanded key.

12.1 General regional information and conditions

Information

Roads within the Goldfields DEC reserves are 4WD access only and closed when wet except Great

Eastern Hwy through Boorabin NP and Goldfields Woodland NP. Access into Goongarrie homestead, Credo homestead, Rowles Lagoon CP, Cave Hill NR, Burra Rock CP, Boondi recreation site and Victoria Rock recreation site is on gravel and 2WD accessible in dry conditions. All roads are subject to road closures.

Boating is not permitted on Rowles Lagoon unless the water level is over two metres and gazetted by Department of Transport.

Operators are to ensure all Leave No Trace principles are maintained.

Entry fees will apply to Goldfields Woodland National Park.

Station homesteads (proposed conservation parks)

Camping fees apply when staying at Goongarrie, Credo, Jaurdi, Mt Elvire, Lake Mason and Lorna Glen homesteads. Seasonal campground hosts/caretakers are stationed at Goongarrie, Credo, Lake Mason and Lorna Glen. Each homestead campsite has different facilities including showers and power supply.

- (a) The operator shall make a booking and confirm availability with DEC regional Goldfields office if intending to camp at the above sites or within the vicinity.
- (b) The operator shall not camp outside the nominated areas in or around the station facility complex.
- (c) The operator shall not camp outside designated campsites without prior Director General approval or his delegate.
- (d) The operator shall not collect firewood within 1km of the homestead vicinity.

- (e) The operator is not permitted in any area that involves research, animals monitoring or soft release pens without prior approval of the Director General his delegate.

12.2 Eastern Goldfields reserves

- (a) The operator shall obtain appropriate approvals from traditional owners before traversing through the Gibson Desert NR, Great Victoria Desert NR and any culturally sensitive sites. Such approvals may be obtained by contacting the Central Deserts Native Title Service and/or the Goldfields DEC office.

Goldfields regional office

32 Brookman Street (PO Box 10173)
KALGOORLIE WA 6430

Phone: **(08) 9080 5555** Fax: (08)
9021 7831

13 Wheatbelt Region

	Issue						Adventure activity						Transportation			
	Disease risk areas	Subject to prescribed burns	Declared rare flora/fauna	Subject to partial or full closure	Prohibited areas	Water catchment area	Abseiling	Bushwalking *	Camping	Canoeing	Caving	Rafting	Rockclimbing	Coach	Minibus	Safari tour/4WD
Narrogin																
Dryandra Woodland SF A2	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓										
Great Southern District State forest		✓	✓	✓												

Key

☐ Activity permitted in reserve ☒ Activity **not** permitted in reserve ✓ Issue relevant to reserve

Please refer to page ii for an expanded key.

13.1 Dryandra Woodland State forest (Narrogin district)

It is the state's intention that Dryandra Woodland State forest becomes a national park in the future.

- The operator shall not take groups of more than 40 persons to visit the Barna Mia animal viewing enclosure.
- The operator shall book, through the Narrogin district office, in order to visit the animal viewing enclosure.
- The operator shall pay the prescribed entry fees.
- The operator shall also adhere to State forest conditions in section 18. See following map.

13.2 Wheatbelt Region

State forest

- (a) The operator shall adhere to state forest conditions in section 18.
See following map.



Wheatbelt regional office

7 Wald Street (PO Box 100)
NARROGIN WA 6312
Phone: **(08) 9881 9222**
Fax: (08) 9881 3297

Great Southern district office

Hough Street (PO Box 100)
NARROGIN WA 6312
Phone: **(08) 9881 9200**
Fax: (08) 9881 1645

Katanning work centre

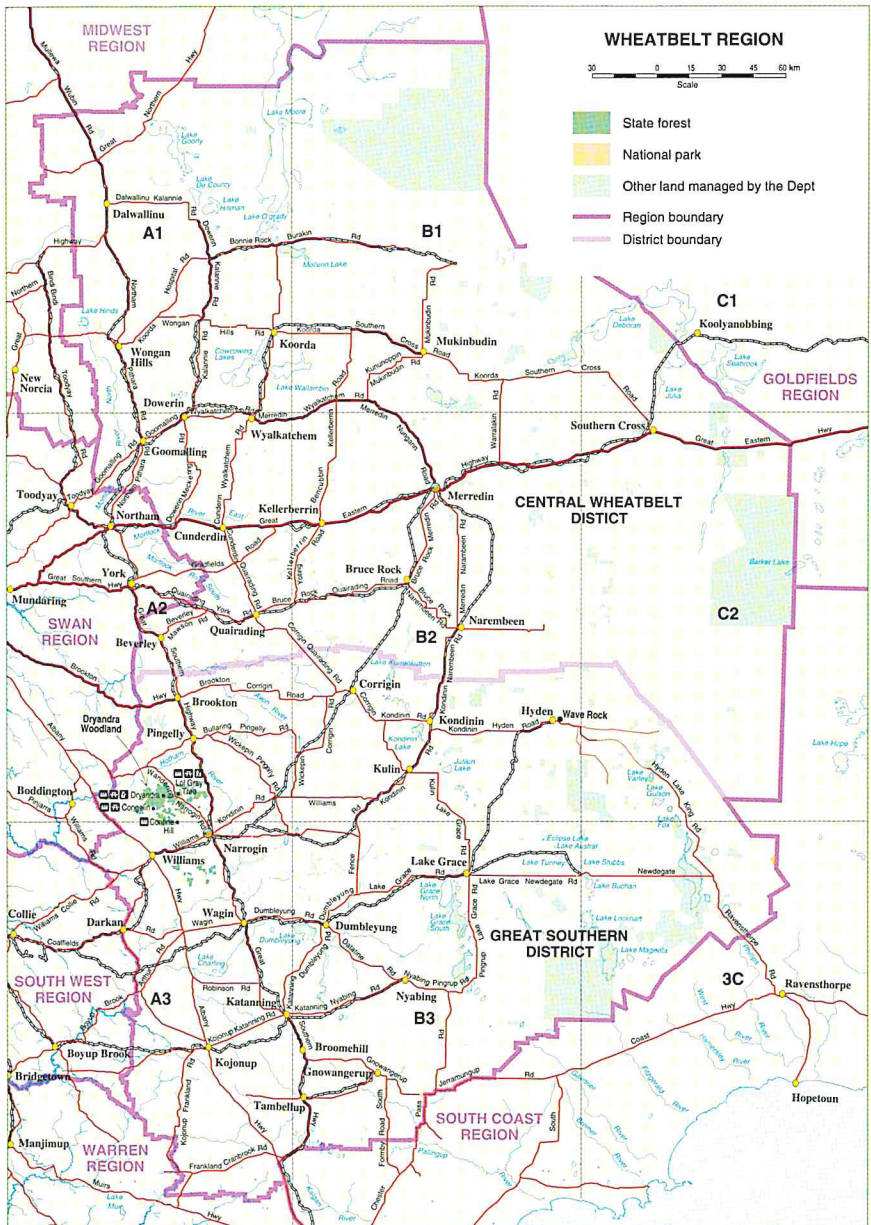
56 Clive Street (PO Box 811)
KATANNING WA 6317
Phone: **(08) 9881 9212**
Fax: (08) 9881 4831

Yilgarn district office

33 Bates Street (PO Box 332)
MERREDIN WA 6415

Northam work centre

55 Fitzgerald Street
NORTHAM WA 6401
Phone: **(08) 9622 8940**
Fax: (08) 9622 8947



14 Swan Region

	Issue						Adventure activity						Transportation			
	Disease risk areas	Subject to prescribed burns	Declared rare flora/fauna	Subject to partial or full closure	Prohibited areas	Water catchment area	Abseiling	Bushwalking *	Camping	Canoeing	Caving	Rafting	Rockclimbing	Coach	Minibus	Safari tour/4WD
Swan Coastal																
Moore River NP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Neerabup NP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Yanchep NP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Yalgorup NP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Penguin Island CP			✓	✓	✓		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Perth Hills																
Avon Valley NP		✓	✓	✓	✓		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Gooseberry Hill NP		✓	✓	✓	✓		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Greenmount NP		✓	✓	✓	✓		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
John Forrest NP		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Kalamunda NP		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Lesmurdie NP		✓	✓	✓			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Serpentine NP		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Walyunga NP		✓	✓	✓	✓		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Lane Poole Reserve CP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Beelu NP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Midgegoroo NP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Korung NP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Helena NP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Wandoo NP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
State forests																
Perth Hills District State forest	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Swan Coastal District State forest	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

Key

☐ Activity permitted in reserve
 ☒ Activity **not** permitted in reserve
 ✓ Issue relevant to reserve
 Please refer to page ii for an expanded key.

14.1 Moore River National Park (Swan Coastal district)

The Moore River National Park is a remote area accessible only to pedestrians.

- (a) If the operator intends to conduct bushwalking operations, the operator shall notify the Senior Ranger by phone **(08) 9405 0759**, before entering the park to register where and when they intend to bushwalk, estimated return time and to be notified of *Phytophthora* dieback (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*) areas.

14.2 Yanchep National Park (Swan Coastal district)

- (a) The operator shall not enter caves except when accompanied by a DEC-nominated cave guide.
- (b) The operator shall book for cave entry through the Yanchep National Park office at least one day before the day of the tour.

14.3 Kalamunda National Park (Perth Hills)

- (a) The operator shall adhere to the Bibbulmun Track conditions in section 18 when using the Bibbulmun Track.

14.4 Lane Poole Reserve (Perth Hills)

- (a) The operator shall contact DEC's Dwellingup work centre before entering Lane Poole Reserve.
- (b) The operator shall adopt safe operating procedures at Bob's Crossing on the Murray River at all times.
- (c) The operator shall not enter or traverse the culvert pipes beneath Bob's Crossing at any time.
- (d) The operator shall adhere to the Bibbulmun Track conditions in section 18 when using the Bibbulmun Track.
- (e) The operator shall adhere to the Munda Biddi Trail conditions in section 18 when using the Munda Biddi Trail.

14.5 Serpentine National Park (Perth Hills)

- (a) The operator shall adhere to the Munda Biddi Trail conditions in section 18 when using the Munda Biddi Trail.

14.6 Swan Region State forest

- (a) The operator shall adhere to State forest conditions in section 18. See map on page 14.4.

14.7 Shoalwater Islands nature reserves (Swan Coastal district)

These terrestrial nature reserves are only accessible by sea. For conditions relating to accessing these reserves for the purpose of conducting commercial operations, please refer to the most recent edition of the Commercial Operator Handbook – Marine available to download from **www.dec.wa.gov.au/tourism_licensing**.

14.8 Penguin Island Conservation Park (Swan Coastal district)

Except for operators specifically licensed to access Penguin Island by non-motorised craft, access shall only be by the Penguin Island ferry service which is licensed to operate in the Shoalwater Islands Marine Park Restricted Zone. Email **info@dolphins.com.au** or phone (08) 9591 1333

- (a) Unless authorised by the Director General or his delegate, access to Penguin Island shall only be through the Penguin Island ferry service.
- (b) The operator shall keep to designated walkways, boardwalks and beaches.

For more information

Swan region office

20 Dick Perry Avenue
KENSINGTON WA 6151
(PO Box 1167
Bentley Delivery Centre WA 6983)
Phone: **(08) 9368 4399**
Fax: (08) 9368 4299

Perth Hills district office

51 Mundaring Weir Rd
MUNDARING WA 6073
Phone: **(08) 9295 9100**
Fax: (08) 9295 9101

Swan Coastal district office

5 Dundobar Rd
WANNEROO WA 6065
Phone: **(08) 9405 0700**
Fax: (08) 9405 0777

Dwellingup work centre

Banksiadale Rd
DWELLINGUP WA 6213
Phone: **(08) 9538 1078**
Fax: (08) 9538 1203

Yanchep National Park office

YANCHEP WA 6035
Phone: **(08) 9405 0759**
Fax: (08) 9561 2316

15 South West Region

	Issue						Adventure activity							Transportation		
	Disease risk areas	Subject to prescribed burns	Declared rare flora/fauna	Subject to partial or full closure	Prohibited areas	Water catchment area	Abseiling	Bushwalking *	Camping	Canoeing	Caving	Rafting	Rockclimbing	Coach	Minibus	Safari tour/4WD
Wellington																
Leschenault Peninsula CP			✓	✓		✓										
Wellington NP	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓										
Blackwood																
Leeuwin-Naturaliste NP		✓	✓	✓												
Tuart Forest NP		✓	✓	✓												
Greater Preston NP	✓	✓	✓	✓												
Yelverton NP	✓	✓	✓	✓												
Whicher NP	✓	✓	✓	✓												
Dalgarup NP	✓	✓	✓	✓												
Bramley NP	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓										
Forest Grove NP	✓	✓	✓	✓												
Blackwood River NP	✓	✓	✓	✓												
Wiltshire Butler NP	✓	✓	✓	✓												
Milneannup NP	✓	✓	✓	✓												
Hillier NP	✓	✓	✓	✓												
State forests																
Blackwood District State forest	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓										
Wellington District State forest	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓										

Key

☐ Activity permitted in reserve
 ☒ Activity not permitted in reserve
 ✓ Issue relevant to reserve

Please refer to page ii for an expanded key.

15.1 Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park (Blackwood district)

Cave and abseiling bookings can only be made through the DEC Calgardup Cave on (08) 9757 7422. Designated horse riding areas may vary in the future. Please check details with the local DEC office.

- (a) The operator shall comply with the Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park Cave and Abseil Permit System.
- (b) If the operator intends to use cliff faces other than Willyabrup, the operator shall apply to the DEC Busselton office for permission to use cliff faces at least one week before the proposed tour.
- (c) The operator shall ensure only district-approved activity leaders book and lead trips into caves.
- (d) The operator shall not conduct vehicle-based camping except in the following designated areas: Contos Campground, Point Road Campground and Boranup Drive Campground.
- (e) The operator shall not use the caving huts.
- (f) If the operator intends to conduct horse riding operations, the operator shall ensure that the operation is limited to designated areas and defined access tracks. Designated areas are defined as the block of the park south and east of Caves Road near Yallingup and the area bounded by Boulter

Road, Caves Road, Vlam Road and Bruce Road.

- (g) The operator shall not allow riding on or across Caves Road reserve.

Cape to Cape Track



The Cape to Cape Track is a five to eight day, 135-kilometre trail which winds between the lighthouses at Cape Naturaliste and Cape Leeuwin. The track ranges from being rugged and challenging in some of the wilder sections to moderate and easy along the well-graded tracks or sand. There are also many access roads which allow for short walks of the track suitable for all ages and fitness levels and there are wheelchair accessible sections at Cape Naturaliste and Ellensbrook.

Camping options are available along the track varying from basic facilities, simple backpacker accommodation and caravan parks, to luxury guesthouses, B&Bs, chalets and cabins.

Operators are encouraged to implement minimal impact principles such as Leave No Trace while on the Cape to Cape Track to reduce their ecological footprint and to ensure the natural beauty of the track can be enjoyed for generations to come.

For more information about the track, please visit the Friends of the Cape To Cape Track Inc. website at **www.capetocapetrack.com.au** or contact the DEC Blackwood district office on **(08) 9752 5555**.

- (h) The Director General reserves the right to limit the numbers of users of the Cape to Cape Track and associated facilities from time to time.
- (i) The operator shall not cause wood fires in campsites along the Cape to Cape Track where wood fires are permanently or seasonally restricted, except at Conto, Boranup, and Point Road campsites where fireplaces are supplied. See current trail conditions for restrictions.
- (j) The operator shall use portable fuel stoves for cooking where wood fires are restricted.
- (k) The operator shall operate to a standard demonstrated in the Outdoor Recreation Bushwalking Units of Competency (SROBWK001A, 2A and 3A). Where the Director General deems this is not the case, an operator may be required to attend training.

15.2 Wellington National Park (Wellington district)

- (a) If the operator intends to conduct abseiling, camping or rockclimbing operations, the operator shall contact the DEC Collie office to make a booking.

15.3 South West Region State forest

- (a) The operator shall adhere to State forest conditions in section 18. See following map.

For more information

South West regional office

South West Highway
(PO Box 1693)
BUNBURY WA 6230
Phone: **(08) 9725 4300**
Fax: (08) 9725 4351

Blackwood district office

14 Queen Street
BUSSELTON WA 6280
Phone: **(08) 9752 5555**
Fax: (08) 9752 1432

Wellington district office

147 Wittenoom Street
(PO Box 809)
COLLIE WA 6225
Phone: **(08) 9734 1988**
Fax: (08) 9734 4539

It is intended that a wilderness area will be established in the Warren Region. This may limit operations in areas designated as 'wilderness'.

Under section 99(1)(b), permits, licences, contracts and leases cannot be issued for land classified as a wilderness area under Division 2 of Part V.

16 Warren Region

	Issue						Adventure activity						Transportation			
	Disease risk areas	Subject to prescribed burns	Declared rare flora/fauna	Subject to partial or full closure	Prohibited areas	Water catchment area	Abseiling	Bushwalking *	Camping	Canoeing	Caving	Rafting	Rockclimbing	Coach	Minibus	Safari tour/4WD
Donnelly																
Beedelup NP		✓	✓	✓												
Brockman NP	✓	✓	✓	✓												
D'Entrecasteaux NP	✓	✓	✓	✓												
Gloucester NP		✓	✓	✓												
Shannon NP	✓	✓	✓	✓												
Warren NP		✓	✓	✓												
Frankland																
Mt Frankland NP	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓										
Walpole Nornalup NP		✓	✓	✓		✓										
William Bay NP		✓	✓	✓												
Mt Lindesay NP		✓	✓	✓		✓										
Mt Roe NP	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓										
Mt Frankland North NP	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓										
Mt Frankland South NP	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓										
State forests																
Donnelly District State forest	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓										
Frankland District State forest	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										

Key

□ Activity permitted in reserve ■ Activity **not** permitted in reserve ✓ Issue relevant to reserve

Please refer to page ii for an expanded key.

It is intended that a wilderness area will be established in the Warren Region. This may limit operations in areas designated as 'wilderness'.

Under section 99(1)(b) of the Act, permits, licences, contracts, leases etc cannot be issued for land classified as a wilderness area under Division 2 of Part V of the Act.

16.1 General regional information and conditions

- (a) If the operator intends to conduct four-wheel driving or any other associated operations in the region, the operator shall contact the local DEC district office two weeks before entering the parks to negotiate routes and locations.

Fax sheets are available from the Licensing Officer, DEC Kensington office on **(08) 9334 0119**.

16.2 D'Entrecasteaux National Park (Donnelly district)

Walking is permitted on the dunes.

- (a) The operator shall conduct four-wheel driving on designated tracks only.
- (b) The operator shall not conduct off-road driving in the park.
- (c) The operator shall adhere to the Bibbulmun Track conditions in section 18 when using the Bibbulmun Track.
- (d) The operator shall not conduct four-wheel drive operations, sandboarding and any other associated operations on the dunes except the operator may conduct four-wheel drive operations across the Yeagerup Dunes in accordance with guideposts.

16.3 Mount Frankland National Park (Frankland district)

The operator must be aware that canoeing, rafting, rock climbing and abseiling operations are restricted in some areas of the park. Abseiling and rock climbing are only permitted in approved sections of the park and applications for these activities will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

- (a) The operator shall not conduct camping within the park.
- (b) If the operator intends to conduct canoeing, rafting, rock climbing or abseiling operations, the operator shall contact the DEC Walpole office to ascertain information about conditions and suitable areas.

16.4 Walpole-Nornalup National Park (Frankland district)

Due to changes in the boundaries of the national park, an operator wishing to conduct tours in the Valley of the Giants, including the Wilderness Discovery Centre which incorporates the Tree Top Walk and the Ancient Empire must be licensed to operate in Walpole-Nornalup National Park.

Abseiling and rock climbing activities are no longer permitted at Long Point due to safety reasons. These activities are now permitted at Thompson's Cove however applications for these activities will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

- (a) The operator shall not conduct abseiling or rock climbing operations except at Thompson's Cove.
- (b) If the operator intends to conduct camping, the operator shall contact DEC's Walpole office at least two weeks before arriving at the park.
- (c) The operator shall not conduct coach operations in the park except in the Valley of the Giants, the Wilderness Discovery Centre, the Knoll Drive and Conspicuous Cliffs recreation areas.
- (d) The operator shall comply with group size restrictions in some areas of the park. Please contact the DEC Walpole office for information on these areas.
- (e) The operator shall adhere to the Bibbulmun Track conditions in section 18 when using the Bibbulmun Track.

Information

Wilderness Discovery Centre – Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk

The Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk opens at 9am every day of the year except Christmas Day. The last ticket sale is at 4:15pm with the main gates being closed at 5pm.

During the peak season from 26 December to 26 January, the facility opens at 8am with the last entry onto the walk at 5:15pm (gates close at 6pm). It is highly recommended that bookings are made prior to visiting the facility as there is limited parking facilities for coaches.

The facility may be closed without warning during hazardous conditions. In all cases DEC will endeavour to notify operators of any closures via the email broadcast system.

Please note that the load limits on the Tree Top Walk are 20 people per span and 10 people per pylon.

For the safety and enjoyment of all, operators should ensure that group visitors stay on all designated paths and that any rubbish is removed from the site. Operators should also encourage their passengers to act responsibly whilst on the Tree Top Walk.

- (f) The operator shall abide by the load limits recommended for the Tree Top Walk and shall encourage passengers to act responsibly while on the walk.

16.5 William Bay National Park (Frankland District)

The operator must be aware that rock climbing and abseiling are only permitted in approved sections of the park and applications for these activities will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

- (a) The operator shall not conduct camping within the park.
- (b) If the operator intends to conduct rock climbing or abseiling operations, the operator shall contact the DEC Walpole office to ascertain information about conditions and suitable areas.

16.6 Warren Region State forest

State forest in grid reference J3 is inaccessible for operations.

- (a) The operator shall adhere to State forest conditions in section 18. See following map.
- (b) The operator shall adhere to the Bibbulmun Track conditions in section 18 when using the Bibbulmun Track.

Donnelly regional office

Brain St
MANJIMUP WA 6258
Phone: **(08) 9771 7988**
Fax: (08) 9777 1363

Donnelly district office

Kennedy Street
(PO Box 20)
PEMBERTON WA 6260
Phone: **(08) 9776 1207**
Fax: (08) 9776 1410

Franklin district office

South Coast Highway
WALPOLE WA 6398
Phone: **(08) 9840 0400**
Fax (08) 9840 1251



17 South Coast Region

	Issue						Adventure activity							Transportation		
	Disease risk areas	Subject to prescribed burns	Declared rare flora/fauna	Subject to partial or full closure	Prohibited areas	Water catchment area	Abseiling	Bushwalking *	Camping	Canoeing	Caving	Rafting	Rockclimbing	Coach	Minibus	Safari tour/4WD
Albany																
Fitzgerald River NP	✓	✓	✓	✓			■			■	■	■	■	■		
Porongurup NP	✓	✓	✓	✓				■	■	■	■	■	■			
Stirling Range NP	✓	✓	✓	✓				■	■	■	■	■	■			
Torndirrup NP	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		■	■	■	■	■	■			
Two Peoples Bay NR	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			
Waychinicup NP		✓	✓	✓						■	■	■	■	■	■	
West Cape Howe NP	✓	✓	✓	✓						■	■	■	■			
Esperance																
Cape Arid NP	✓	✓	✓	✓			■				■	■	■	■		
Cape Le Grand NP	✓	✓	✓	✓			■				■	■	■	■		
Eucla NP			✓	✓										■		
Frank Hann NP			✓	✓										■		
Nuytsland NR			✓	✓										■		
Peak Charles NP			✓	✓										■		
Stokes NP	✓	✓	✓	✓			■				■	■	■	■		
State forests																
Albany District State forest		✓	✓	✓		✓	■				■	■	■			
Esperance District State forest		✓	✓	✓		✓	■				■	■	■			

Key

□ Activity permitted in reserve ■ Activity **not** permitted in reserve ✓ Issue relevant to reserve
Please refer to page ii for an expanded key.

17.1 General regional information and conditions

- (a) If the operator intends to conduct abseiling, rock climbing or caving operations in the South Coast Region, the operator shall notify DEC's Albany work centre before undertaking any of these operations.

17.2 Fitzgerald River National Park (Albany work centre)

- (a) The operator shall only use buses containing a maximum of 20 seats within Fitzgerald River National Park, except at:
- (i) East Mt Barren lookout, approaching from the east

- (ii) Quaalup Homestead on the western side, where buses containing a maximum of 45 seats are allowed.

17.3 Stirling Range National Park (Albany work centre)

- (a) The operator shall not conduct abseiling practice, training or instruction except from the North West Bay, Bastion Buttress Tourist Crag sections of the Bluff Knoll rock faces. This area is defined by North Ridge to the east and the old tourist path to the west. In other areas, such as Main North Face, Chasm, Far North East Buttress and Western Crag, abseiling is restricted to retreat from, or emergency access to, rock climbing operations.
- (b) The operator shall ensure that all abseilers and rock climbers register their operations in the logbook at the Bluff Knoll turn-off to picnic area. Registration shall include the full names of all leaders and passengers and a clear indication of the sections(s) of cliff to be visited and operations to be undertaken. Registration is to be at the time of proceeding to Bluff Knoll and does not constitute a 'booking' system for following days.

17.4 Two Peoples Bay Nature Reserve (Albany work centre)

- (a) The operator shall ensure that coaches do not access the reserve except for the visitor centre as there is limited turning room at other sites.
- (b) The operator shall not enter the reserve on extreme fire danger days, as the reserve may be closed to all forms of access for safety reasons.

17.5 West Cape Howe National Park (Albany work centre)

- (a) The operator shall adhere to the Bibbulmun Track conditions in section 18 when using the Bibbulmun Track.
- (b) The operator shall carry a compressor in the vehicle when planning off road travel and reduce the vehicle tyre pressure in accordance with the operators' vehicles manual when using four-wheel drive tracks in the park.

17.6 Torndirrup National Park (Albany work centre)

- (a) The operator shall adhere to the Bibbulmun Track conditions in section 18 when using the Bibbulmun Track.

17.7 Nuytsland Nature Reserve (Esperance district)

- (a) The operator shall not conduct camping except at sites specified by the DEC Esperance district

office. The operator shall obtain the prior approval from the Director General or his delegate before conducting camping in the reserve.

Information

The operator should note that approval will not be granted for camping within the Nuytsland Nature Reserve in the vicinity of the Eyre Bird Observatory. Overnight accommodation is available at a cost within the Eyre Bird Observatory itself. If an operator intends to use this facility they should liaise and book directly with the Birds Australia wardens who are based at the Eyre Bird Observatory.

- (b) The operator acknowledges that the Cocklebidy Cave is closed and the operator shall not access or camp at the cave.

17.8 Peak Charles National Park (Esperance district)

- (a) If the operator wishes to conduct abseiling and rock climbing operations, the operator shall notify the DEC Esperance district office before undertaking these operations.

17.9 South Coast Region State forest

- (a) The operator shall adhere to State forest conditions in section 18. See map on page 17.4.

Information

Safety information

Some coastal areas of the south-west can pose a high risk to visitor safety. Caution should be taken when visiting sites with hazardous terrain, and operators should be aware of the following:

Many areas have steep rocky slopes and in some cases much of the rock can be loose and crumbly. operators should ensure that visitors stand back from rocky headlands and cliff edges.

The southern ocean is very unpredictable. Huge waves and swells can suddenly occur even on calm days. Riptides are common along the coastline and rocks become slippery when wet.

Please be aware that swimming, walking on rocks and rock-based fishing is especially dangerous and great care should be taken when conducting these activities.

For more information

Albany work centre

120 Albany Hwy
ALBANY WA 6330
Phone: (08) 9842 4500
Fax: (08) 9841 3329

Esperance district office

92 Dempster St
(PO Box 234)
ESPERANCE WA 6450
Phone: **(08) 9083 2100**
Fax (08) 9071 3657

18 State forest, Bibbulmun Track and Munda Biddi Trail

18.1 State forest

- (a) The operator shall contact DEC's local district office before conducting operations in State forest to obtain information and direction on specific situations or conditions except those operators who are accessing State forest for the purpose of operating on the Bibbulmun Track or the Munda Biddi Trail who shall contact the Recreation and Trails Unit in accordance with conditions 18.2 (a) and 18.3 (a).
- (b) The operator acknowledges and accepts that temporary or permanent restrictions associated with road access, disease risk areas (DRA), forest production, mining, car rallies, motor cycle events, rare flora protection and fauna reintroduction may apply.
- (c) If the operator wishes to conduct operations within a mining lease area, the operator shall contact the Mine Site Manager prior to entering that area on each occasion.
- (d) The operator shall ensure that all vehicles remain on formed roads and existing tracks.
- (e) The operator shall ensure that all vehicle routes minimise impact upon environmentally sensitive areas such as rock outcrops, wetlands, creek banks and locations subject to erosion.
- (f) The operator shall take all reasonable care to ensure that all vehicles are clean of soil, seed and plant matter, particularly weeds.
- (g) The operator shall adhere to the Bibbulmun Track conditions as follows, when using the Bibbulmun Track.
- (h) The operator shall adhere to the Munda Biddi Trail conditions as follows, when using the Munda Biddi Trail.

For more information contact the relevant local district office.

18.2 Bibbulmun Track

The Bibbulmun Track crosses a number of CALM lands for which a Licence applies. These are:

All state forest

Perth Hills district:

Kalamunda National Park, Helena National Park, Mundaring National Park, Monadnocks Conservation Park, Lane Poole Reserve.

Blackwood district: Greater Preston National Park.

Donnelly district: Greater Beedelup National Park, Shannon National Park, D'Entrecasteaux National Park, Gloucester National Park, Donnelly River Nature Reserve, Jane National Park, Boorara-Gardner National Park.

Frankland district: Walpole-Nornalup National Park, Quarram Nature Reserve, William Bay National Park.

Albany district: West Cape Howe National Park and Torndirrup National Park.

It is advisable for Bibbulmun Track operators to inform both the district office and the Recreation and Trails Unit of their plans and itinerary.

The Recreation and Trails Unit is able to give advice on the best locations for access, information about the most suitable locations for operations and the latest news about track conditions, which can also be obtained at www.dec.wa.gov.au.

The operator should note that campsite shelter space and tent sites cannot be pre-booked. The operator should also note that in some areas or at certain times of the year campsites may not be available.

Operators are encouraged to implement minimal impact principles such as Leave No Trace and the Bibbulmun Track's Code of the Campsite while on the Bibbulmun Track to reduce their ecological footprint and to ensure the natural beauty of the track can be enjoyed for generations to come.

- (a) The operator shall contact DEC's Recreation and Trails Unit before conducting camping or overnight operations on the Bibbulmun Track to obtain information and direction on specific situations or conditions.
- (b) The operator shall access the Bibbulmun Track by foot only, except where the Track crosses public access roads, the locations of which are mostly marked with red car symbols on maps and guidebooks.
- (c) The operator shall ensure that vehicles are not driven on or near the Bibbulmun Track.

- (d) The operator shall operate to a standard demonstrated in the Outdoor Recreation Bushwalking Units of Competency (SROBWK001A, 2A and 3A). Where the Director General deems this is not the case, an operator may be required to attend training.
- (e) The operator shall ensure that maximum group numbers do not exceed 17 persons for day trips on the Bibbulmun Track and for overnight stays at Bibbulmun Track campsites.
- (f) The Director General reserves the right to limit the numbers of users of the Bibbulmun Track and associated facilities from time to time.
- (g) The operator shall not cause wood fires in campsites along the Bibbulmun Track where wood fires are permanently or seasonally restricted. See current trail conditions for restrictions.
- (h) The operator shall use portable fuel stoves for cooking.

For more information

Recreation and Trails Unit

Department of Environment and Conservation

Locked Bag 104
BENTLEY DELIVERY CENTRE
WA 6983

Phone: **(08) 9334 0265**

Fax: (08) 9334 0100

18.3 Munda Biddi Trail

The Munda Biddi Trail currently crosses a number of CALM Lands. These are:

State forest

Perth Hills district:

Beelu National Park, Korung National Park, Monadnocks Conservation Park, Serpentine National Park, Lane Poole Reserve Conservation Park.

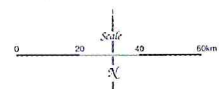
Wellington district:

Wellington National Park

Bibbulmun Track and Munda Biddi Trail Application Form



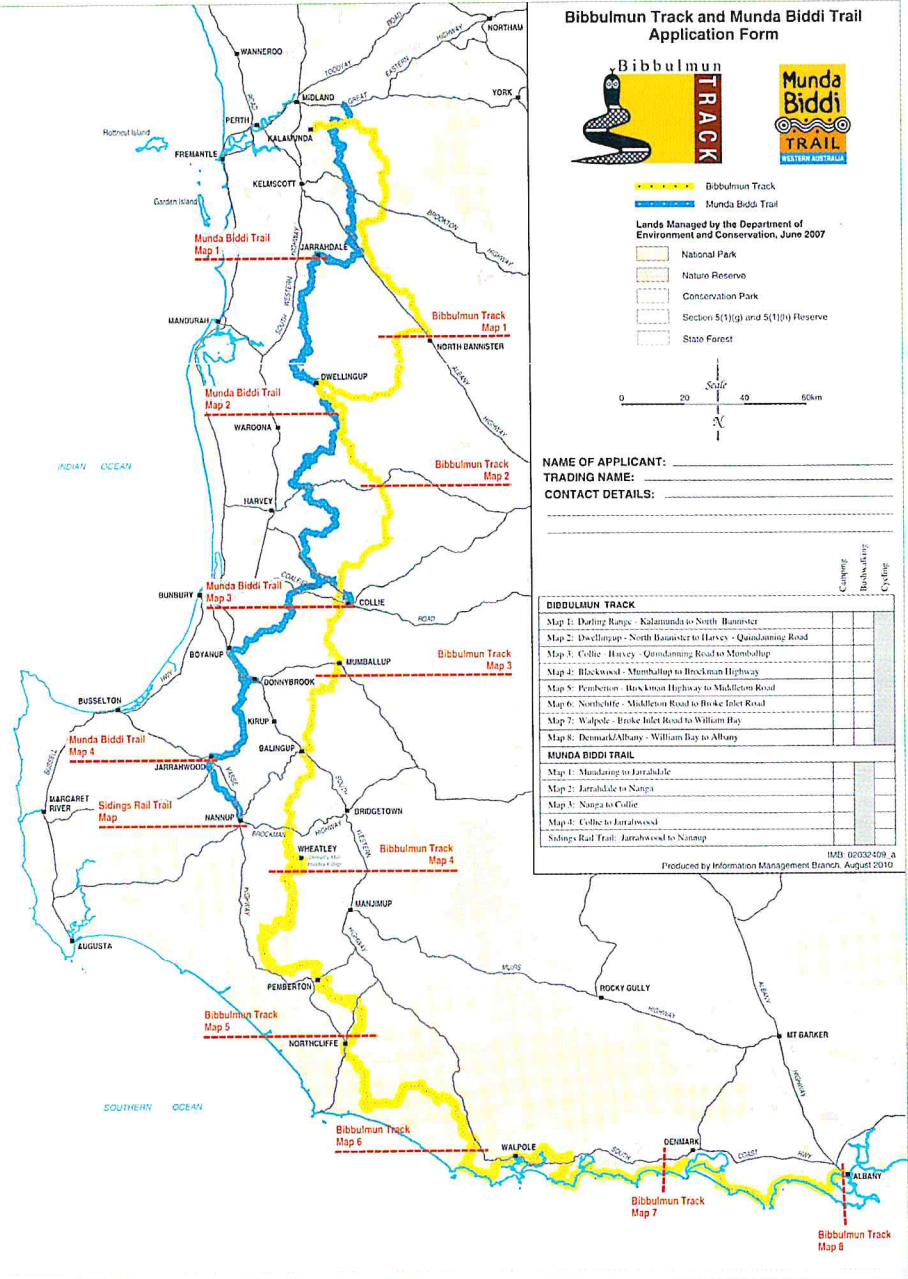
- Bibbulmun Track
- Munda Biddi Trail
- Lands Managed by the Department of Environment and Conservation, June 2007
- National Park
- Nature Reserve
- Conservation Park
- Section 5(1)(g) and 5(1)(h) Reserve
- State Forest



NAME OF APPLICANT: _____
 TRADING NAME: _____
 CONTACT DETAILS: _____

BIBBULMUN TRACK		Camping	Shelter/dormitory	Cycling
Map 1: Darling Range - Kadatunda to North Hamster				
Map 2: Dwellingup - North Bannister to Harvey - Quindanning Road				
Map 3: Collier - Harvey - Quindanning Road to Mombullup				
Map 4: Blackwood - Mumbullup to Brockman Highway				
Map 5: Pemberton - Brockman Highway to Middleton Road				
Map 6: Northcliffe - Middleton Road to Broke Inlet Road				
Map 7: Walpole - Broke Inlet Road to William Bay				
Map 8: Denmark/Albany - William Bay to Albany				
MUNDA BIDDI TRAIL				
Map 1: Mandurah to Jarrahdale				
Map 2: Jarrahdale to Nannup				
Map 3: Nannup to Collier				
Map 4: Collier to Jarrahwood				
Sidings Rail Trail: Jarrahwood to Nannup				

IMTB 02032459 A
 Produced by Information Management Branch, August 2010



Information for Operators

It is advisable for Munda Biddi Trail operators to inform both the district office and the Recreation and Trails Unit of their plans and itinerary. The unit is able to give them advice on the best locations for access, information about the most suitable locations for operations and the latest news about track conditions, which can also be obtained at **www.dec.wa.gov.au**.

Some sections of the trail mentioned below are still (at time of publication) under construction and some areas are only proposed.

The operator should note that campsite shelter space and tent sites cannot be pre-booked and that in some areas or at certain times of the year campsites may not be available.

Groups with vehicle support are encouraged to use nearby forest campsites or alternative accommodation, which cater for vehicle access.

Operators are also encouraged to implement minimal impact principles such as Leave No Trace and the Bibbulmun Track's Code of the Campsite while on the Munda Biddi Trail to reduce their ecological footprint and to ensure the natural beauty of the track can be enjoyed for generations to come.

- (a) The operator shall contact DEC's Recreation and Trails Unit before conducting camping or overnight operations on the Munda Biddi Trail to obtain information and direction on specific situations or conditions.
- (b) The operator shall access the Munda Biddi Trail by either bicycle (non-motorised) or by foot. The trail can be accessed by trail users where the trail crosses public access roads, the locations of which are mostly marked with red car symbols on the trail maps and future guidebooks.
- (c) The operator shall ensure that vehicles are not driven on or near the Munda Biddi Trail.
- (d) The operator shall operate to a standard demonstrated in the Outdoor Recreation Cycling Units of Competency (SROCYC001A, 2A and 3A). Where the Director General deems this is not the case, an operator may be required to attend training.
- (e) The operator shall ensure that maximum group numbers do not exceed 17 persons for day trips on the Munda Biddi Trail and for overnight stays at the Munda Biddi Trail campsites.
- (f) The Director General reserves the right to limit the numbers of users of the Munda Biddi Trail and associated facilities from time to time.

- (g) The operator shall not cause wood fires at campsites along the Munda Biddi Trail.
- (h) The operator shall use portable fuel stoves for cooking.



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19 Visitor entry fees for commercial operators

The current daily visitor entry fee per passenger for buses or commercial tours at the national parks listed below is \$5.00. Children under six years are free at all parks. These fees may be varied from time to time but DEC normally gives operators 12 months notice of any fee increase.

Any number of national parks can be visited on the same day for the \$5.00 fee except Yanchep and Nambung. If visiting these two national parks on the same day, the \$5.00 fee shall be paid at both parks.

Visitor entry fees are payable only on the first day when camping, if camping is permitted.

Entry fees are applicable to the following national parks (entry and camping fees include GST):

- **Kimberley Region** Purnululu (Bungle Bungle), Mirima (Hidden Valley), Tunnel Creek, Windjana Gorge, Mitchell River national parks and, King Leopold Ranges Conservation Park.
- **Pilbara Region** Cape Range, Millstream Chichester, Karijini national parks.

- **Midwest Region** Nambung (Pinnacles), Kalbarri, Francois Peron, and Lesueur national parks.
- **Swan Region** Yanchep, John Forrest, Serpentine, Walyunga, Avon Valley national parks and Dwellingup Forest Heritage Centre.
- **Warren Region** Gloucester, Warren, Beedelup, Greater Beedelup, Shannon and D'Entrecasteaux national parks.
- **South Coast Region** Porongurup, Stirling Range (Bluff Knoll), Fitzgerald River, Cape Le Grand, Cape Arid and Stokes national parks.

Special entrance and activity fees apply to the following parks:

- **Monkey Mia Reserve** \$8.00 per day per adult, \$3.00 per day per school-age child under 16 years.
- **Geikie Gorge National Park** Boat Trip: \$28.00 per adult, \$7.50 per school-age child under 16 years.
- **Dryandra Woodland** Barna Mia: \$13.00 per adult, \$7.00 per school-age child under 16 years or \$35.00 per family.

- **Valley Of The Giants** Tree Top Walk: \$10.00 per adult, \$5.00 per school age child under 16 years.
- **Perth Hills Centre/Nearer to Nature** seasonal activity programs and brochures available, group bookings can be organised, phone (08) 9295 2244.
- **Leeuwin Naturaliste National Park** Calgardup and Giants Cave: \$15.00 per adult, \$8.00 per school age child under 16 years. Abseiling fee: per person per abseil site booked for half a day \$8.00 (except Willyabrup cliffs, which is for a full day).
- **John Forrest and Yalgorup national parks** Horse riding: \$6.50 day pass.

20 Camping fees for commercial operators

Camping fees are payable in addition to national park visitor entry fees where applicable and are payable from the first night in the parks listed below, including state forest. These fees may be varied from time to time but DEC normally gives operators 12 months notice of any fee increase.

Without facilities or only basic facilities: \$7.00 per adult per night and \$2.00 per school-age child under 16 years.

With facilities, ablutions, showers, including caravan sites without electricity (including Cape Le Grand National Park): \$9.00 per person per night and \$2.00 per school-age child under 16 years (entry and camping fees include GST).

- **Kimberley Region** Purnululu, Windjana Gorge, Mitchell River national parks and King Leopold Ranges Conservation Park.
- **Pilbara Region** Cape Range, Millstream Chichester and Karijini national parks.
- **Midwest Region** François Peron National Park and Coalseam Conservation Park.
- **Goldfields Region** Credo, Lake Mason, Lorna Glen, Jaurdi, Goongarrie, Mt Elvire and Wanjarri Nature Reserve.
- **Wheatbelt Region** Dryandra Woodland.
- **Swan Region** Avon Valley and Yalgorup national parks, Lane Poole Reserve, and Hills Forest Discovery Centre.
- **South West** Leschenault Peninsula, St Johns Brook conservation parks, Hoffman Mill Recreation Site, Logue Brook Dam, Canebrake Pool, Warner Glen Recreation Area, Wellington, Blackwood River and Leeuwin-Naturaliste national parks.
- **Warren Region** Warren and D'Entrecasteaux national parks, Fernhook Falls, Shannon campgrounds, Big Brook Arboretum, Greens Island, Heartbreak Trail, Yeagerup Lake and Carey Brook.
- **South Coast Region** Stirling Range, West Cape Howe, Waychinicup, Stokes, Fitzgerald River, Cape Le Grand national parks, Woody Island Nature Reserve and Cape Arid Thomas River campgrounds.

Special camping fees apply to the following parks:

- **Purnululu and Windjana Gorge national parks, and King Leopold Range Conservation Park (Silent Grove and Bell Creek)** \$11.00 per person per night (including firewood), \$2.00 per school-age child under 16 years.
- **Karijini Eco Retreat** located at the Savannah campground in Karijini National Park is not operated by DEC. For information on fees and conditions please contact the Karijini Eco Retreat on (08) 9189 8313 or (08) 9425 5591. Or email manager@karijiniecoretreat.com.au or reservations@karijiniecoretreat.com.au.



21 Customer service standards

While fulfilling its conservation and land management responsibilities, DEC places great importance on community and customer relations. The Director General expects DEC staff and licensed commercial operators to meet minimum customer service standards. These minimum standards are to provide:

- positive, courteous and friendly service
- competent and efficient assistance
- timely and accurate information.

The Director General expects licensed commercial operators to provide safe and pleasant conditions for their passengers and in turn licensed commercial operators can expect that recreational facilities in national parks, conservation parks and marine parks, reserves and state forests will be well maintained and kept clean.

DEC has produced a number of quality publications about the lands and waters it manages and all DEC licensed operators receive a 20 per cent discount off the retail price of these publications. Titles include:

- **Bush Book Series** – pocket field guides (price \$6.50, discount price \$5.20) 37 titles.
- **Discovering Series** – pocket tourist guides (price \$6.50, discount price \$5.20).
- **Family Walks in Perth Outdoors and More Family Walks in Perth Outdoors** – self-guided walks in and around Perth (price \$16.95 each, discount price \$13.55).
- **Discovering Western Australia's Natural Wonders: national, marine and regional parks** – RRP \$39.95 discount price \$31.96.
- **Bushwalks in the South West** – 49 self-guided walks, plus maps (price \$16.95, discount price \$13.55).
- **North-West Bound 3rd Edition** – from Shark Bay to Wyndham (price \$29.95, discount price \$23.96).
- **Wild Places, Quiet Places** – a guide to the natural highlights of the South West (price \$21.95, discount price \$17.55).
- **Best Recipes for Interpreting our Heritage: Activities for Ecotour Guides and Others** – an invaluable tool to help ecotourism guides deliver interpretive activities (price \$27.50, discount not available).
- **Developing Ecotours and Other Interpretive Activity Programs** – a guidebook for planning, designing, promoting and conducting ecotourism activity programs (price \$27.50, discount not available).
- **Visitor Interpretation Manual** – a practical guide to developing interpretation plans, managing interpretive consultants, developing interpretive products, evaluating interpretive programs and much more (price \$55.00, discount not available).
- **Kimberley Tourism Manual** – a guide to interpreting the Kimberley for commercial operators, drivers, guides, storytellers and others. Available from the Kimberley District Offices (price \$114.00, discount not available).
- **Beneath the Busselton Jetty** – a book about the diving and snorkelling wonders beneath the southern hemisphere's longest jetty (price \$21.95, discount price \$17.55).

- **The Marine Life of Ningaloo Marine Park and Coral Bay** – a book about the diversity of marine life in one of the most diverse marine environments in the world (price \$18.95, discount price \$15.15).
- **Guide to the Bibbulmun Track Books – Northern Half and Southern Half** – a handbook of maps and walking information for Bibbulmun Track hikers (price \$34.95 each, discount price \$27.95 each). Maps also available.
- **Life Along Land's Edge Wildlife on the Shores of Roebuck Bay, Broome** – stunning photography captures the mood of one of the world's most diverse marine provinces in a full colour, hard cover book (price \$39.95, discount price \$31.95).

Many other publications are also available. Inquire about a further discount available to operators who sell DEC publications to passengers. For more information, or to order publications, please contact DEC's Marketing and Sales Manager on telephone **(08) 9334 0481**.

DISCLAIMER: Prices listed here are subject to change at any time without notice.