

FORESTS DEPARTMENT

54 BARRACK STREET, PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA 6000 TELEPHONE 258077

Address all correspondence: Conservator of Forests
Your ref:
Our ref:

our ref: H.O. 920/62
Inquiries: MR O. LONERAGAN

AUGUST 20TH, 1974.

The Director
Fisheries and Fauna Department
Fauna Research
108 Adelaide Terrace
PERTH 6000.

FOR ATTENTION: DR. A. BURBIDGE

CONSERVATION THROUGH RESERVES COMMITTEE

I enclose the following information supporting liaison and earlier recommendations:

- 1. Superintendent Havel's Report on Cocanarup Reserve.
- 2. Mr Loneragan's Report and Recommendations on 1.
- 3. Current Report on Conservation of Forest Reserves, Species and Recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. Standards of objectives would need to be established for legislation and understanding of purpose.
- 2. The level of importance of standards would need to be evaluated by acceptable methods to resolve understanding of intentions.
- 3. Long term scientific investigations of standards would need to be implemented to prevent misrepresentation of law and management, and to reduce complexity to manageable proportions.
- 4. Funds. A Commonwealth Government subsidy is a right to be claimed from past and present capital values for the repair and maintenance of forested and other utilised lands.

B.J. Beggs B.J. BEGGS CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS.

per homeragan, SILVIGUITURIST.

OL: EM.

Ene. 1.1 — 1.3 and Appendices Detail 2.1 — 2.3 MEMO ON:

COCANARUP TIMBER RESERVE (no. 30795, Lands Act)

FORMERLY SANDALWOOD RESERVE (95/25, Forests Act).

At the request of the Deputy Conservator I have gone through the departmental file dealing with this topic. In order to acquaint myself with the problem, I prepared a resume of past correspondence, which is included to save time for who ever has to deal with it in future.

The basis for any discussion of the potential of the reserve for the conservation of flora and fauna is, at this stage, the as yet incomplete report by Mr O. Loneragan. The vegetation map, a rough copy of which was attached to the preliminary report on folios 166, is now complete, and a copy is appended herewith. Also attached is the legend and table intended to accompany the map, which formerly formed folio 184.

The essence of the reports and the maps is as follows:

The reserve has a total area of 8988 ha of which 3389 ha has been affected by wildfires to a sufficient degree, or sufficiently recently not to have returned fully to maturity. A small area of 37 ha is cleared. The tallest vegetation type (20 m) occupies 779 hectares, and has developed to maturity. It is mainly composed of salmon gum (Eucalyptus salmonophloia) in association with jam (Acacia acuminata). Salmon gum is characteristic of loam or sandy loam soils of the valleys, jam extends on to the adjacent stony ridges. Lower woodland, below 10 m high, occupies much of the remaining valley sites. The total area of this type is 4032 ha, approximately one third of which is affected by fire. Mallee and heath shrublands occupy 4140 ha, chiefly on slopes and uplands. Nearly two thirds of this type is fire-affected.

Although the scrublands are botanically rich the outstanding feature of the reserve are its salmon-gum and jam woodlands, which are normally associated with more recent and hence more fertile soils. In the early stages of agricultural expansion in W.A. this type was the first choice of farmers for clearing, with the result that virtually no extensive area of this type remains. I have specifically checked this point with the authorities involved with conservation of Flora and Fauna. The coastal reserves of Fitzgerald River and Barren Ranges are too close to the sea for this vegetation type to occur in them. The large Lake Magenta Fauna reserve consists predominantly of mallee shrubland. What salmon gum is found in it occurs near mallee shrubland. the lakes and is not associated with jam (Burbidge, F. & F. pers. comm). The proposed large Flora and Fauna reserve at Hyden-Dragon Rock is predominantly a dissected upland with only a minor tongue of salmon gum woodland extending into it (Marchant, W.A. Herbarium, pers. comm.). Forest Reserve no. 20346, recently inspected by Messrs Edmiston and Humphreys, contains no extensive areas of salmon gum woodland (unpublished dept. report). In light of this, the Cocanarup Timber Reserve stands out as the largest remnant of the formerly extensive salmon gum-jam woodland. It also contains the rather unusual combination of salmon gum-swampy yate woodland. This is one of the reasons salmon gum-swampy yate woodland. This is one of the reason why the area has been recommended for reservation by the Conservation Through Reserves Committee. The other reason is the confirmed presence in the area of the relatively rare tammar (Macropus eugenii) referred to on folio 126, of this file. Although the trapping by Fisheries and Fauna staff in 1973 did not discover any rare species of fauna, large number of birds and reptile species were recorded.

In view of this development, the decision on the future of the reserve will obviously be based on the submission of Reserves Committee. However it is recommended that the Forests Department should support the creation of a Fauna and Flora Reserve in the area. Review of past dealings with the Ravensthorpe Shire Council reveals that they have supported all past requests for conversion of parts of the reserve to conditional purchase leases, and but for the opposition by our department the reserve would long have ceased to exist. Their protestations about the need for permanent fence post resource therefore lack conviction, and in the opinion of agricultural officers even lack sound economic sense, in that in view of high labour costs hardwood posts are no longer competitive with treated pine posts or star steel pickets.

It is important that should the Timber Reserve be converted to a Flora and Fauna reserve, adequate provisions should be made for its protection against fire, and the protection of neighbouring farmers against invasion by vermin from within the reserve, as recommended by Loneragan. At present, the reserve is viewed as an asset by the local population. This will no longer be the case after the conversion, and failure to manage and protect the reserve would soon negate the benefits of the reservation.

J.J. HAVEL

SUPERINTENDENT. RESEARCH.

JJH:EM Como Research 22/7/74

ANNUAL REPORT

0.W. Loneragan

CONSERVATION OF FOREST RESERVES AND SPECIES.

An important purpose of this work is the preservation of the of the ecotypes and gene pools of the rative species. Management reserve areas of the original ecosystems therefore have been selected to provide reference points for subsequent stages of development. 'Proposals for Reservation of some Inland Ecotypes.' (August 1973) in six reserves of 37 000 hectares in total area near Kalgoorlie has been published by the Department. Preservation through reserves is important following the revocation of 685 253 hectares of Timber Reserves, no longer required for inland industries (1971 Annual Report).

FIELD INVESTIGATIONS AND REPORTS.

Field evaluations of irreplaceable management areas and reports with recommendations for conservation of the natural biology and environment have been made covering extensive areas of the Southwest and Eremean Botanical Provinces, viz:

- 1. Inland ecotypes of the Eremean Botanical Province;
 - 1.1 <u>Comet Vale</u> 7057 ha of Eucalyptus and Acacia ecotypes, dissected mineral hills and saltlake (L. Goongarrie).
 - 1.2 Mack's Tree Mulga and Wongi Sandalwood 58486 ha contains the diffuse boundary where part of the two most important plant formations of Australia meet, mulga and gum, plus 100 000 sandalwood trees (to 2 metres height growth approx.).
 - 1.3 Sandalwood Regeneration Kalgoorlie, Res. W.P. 20/73. Five field plots, established 1974 are at Jeedamya, Gindalbie, Bullock Holes, Calooli and Kalgoorlie Arboretum. Treatments include fenced x unfenced, cultivated x uncultivated, natural x artificial sowing with the aim of determining requirements for establishment of sandalwood.
 - 1.4 Goldfields Regeneration Plots in Ballast Pits, Res. W.P. 17/74 ten field plots, located 1974 by O.I.C. Kalgoorlie along the standard gauge railway to Lefroy have been registered for monitoring.
- 2. Ecotypes of the Southwest Botanical Province:
 - 2.1 <u>Cocanarup Reserve</u> 30795 8988 ha.

Seven communities include irreplaceable remnant consociations of jam (Acacia asyminata) and salmon gum (E. salmonophloia) and residual reptile populations listed by biologists.

- 2.2 Ravensthorpe Coastal System extending from the vermin fence to the Jerdacuttup Paper Bark Lakes of a wetland formation.
- 2.3 Ravensthorpe Hills System is a natural arboreta of some 40 Eucalyptus sp. with some unique species at from 10-30 km of Ravensthorpe.
- 2.4 <u>Munglimup Reserve</u> contains attractive breakaway and woodland communities (<u>Eucalyptus gardneri and platypus</u>; <u>E. occidentalis</u> and <u>Acacia acuminata</u>).

- Busselton Sunklands 43860 ha. Six localities have been defined and evaluated as reference areas of the original biology and environment. Recommendations have been made for reconciliation and inclusion of findings in the Sunklands Pine Working Plan.
- 2.6 Scott River Hardy Inlet Coastal Reserves 2118 ha.
 Observations and recommendations have been made and reported briefly on methods of handling access into reserves, the zoning of mining, of alienation and use of sand dunes, preservation of the mative flora and of the vulnerability of susceptible species to Phytophthora cinnamomi.
- 2.7 <u>Collie Forest Localities</u> 17444 ha. Reconnaissance has been made, observations reported and recommendations submitted for reconciliation with requirements of local management for conservation, scientific study and development of biological, geological and scenic features of the forest environment in West Collie (5720 ha), the Collie Basin (2950 ha) and East Collie (6900-8774 ha).

LABORATORY

- 1. <u>Seed Testing</u> Standard seed testing showed reliability of viability for -
 - 23 Acacia sp. of ± 8 percent
 - 62 Eucalyptus sp. + 14 percent
 - . 22 Pinus + 7 percent.

The viability of sandalwood seed in cracked seed coats before sowing in the field trials was 65 (± 15) percent.

2. Field Identification Kits for Eucalypts. Herbarium material and photographs of tree form and bark of Eucalyptus species in the Southwest and Eremean Provinces continue to be assembled in order to facilitate identification of species and to maintain reliable collection of seed in the field.

Acrepan O.W. LONERAGAN SILVICULTURIST.

OL:EM Como Research 30/7/74.

DISTRIBUTION: 1. Mr B. White, Como

2. O.I.C. Kalgoorlie.

RECOMMENDATIONS (refer list of study areas)

I recommend the financial means, facilities and organisation, requires to be constructed to assist appropriate authorities as follows -

- Maintain reserve systems surrounded by private property, within the protection organisation of bushfire control board and emergency services.
- Maintain reserve systems in State Forests within the protection organisation of the Forests Department.

Noncregen 21/15/73 O.W. LONERAGAN SILVICULTURIST Enc 2

H.O. FILE 920/62 * //

CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS PERTH.

GOGANARUP RESERVE 30795 (8988 hectares).

A mosaic of types of vegetation structure has been prepared from road recommaissance and interpretation from air photos. The approximate areas for 7 vegetation types (4 woodland and 3 shrubland) according to subdivision by the main access roads are listed in the attached table and legend. The woodland types do not occur in existing reserves and should be preserved. Fine stands of <u>Fucalyptus salmonophloia</u> to 20 m height growth on loamy soils and of jam (<u>Acaeia acuminata</u>) on the adjacent stony ridges are <u>remnant stands</u>. For this reason every effort must be made to implement <u>managed protection</u> and dedication as flora reserve.

PROTECTION

- 1. Fire From 30 to 60 percent of these woodlands are firedamaged and over half the shrublands are burnt by haphazard fires. Requirements for protection of attractive woodlands from damage therefore are to manage prescribed burning in the adjoining shrubland.
- 2. Vermin Fifty emus were sighted in farm and woodland during reconnaissance. Observations made by the adjoining farmer are that he is a minority and the buffer, who is expected to provide the task force for the rest of the community in order to control emus, kangaroos, rabbits, dingoes, foxes.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend the financial means should be obtained which will assist the appropriate authority to maintain, protect, repair, develop and improve Flora Reserves in the Ravensthorpe Shire.

O.W. IONERAGAN SILVICULTURIST.

OL:EM Como Research 21/12/73.

ATTENTION: SUPERINTENDENT RESEARCH.

Refers (1) other details, also 17/12/73

(2) revision of estimates, 26/3/>3

RECOMMENDATIONS (refer list of study areas) Biannual Report—

I recommend the financial means, facilities and organisation, requires to be constructed to assist appropriate authorities as follows —

- 1. Maintain reserve systems surrounded by private property, within the protection organisation of bushfire control board and emergency services.
- 2. Maintain reserve systems in State Forests within the protection organisation of the Forests Department.

O.W. LONERAGAN
SILVICULTURIST

APPENDICES - DETAIL CO CAN ARUP RESERVE DATA.

- 1. Exploratory map of vegetation structure and legend.
- 2. Legend of exploratory sampling and trapline enumeration of tree and shrub species.
- 3. Enumeration of mammals, birds and reptile species provided by Mr N. McKenzie.

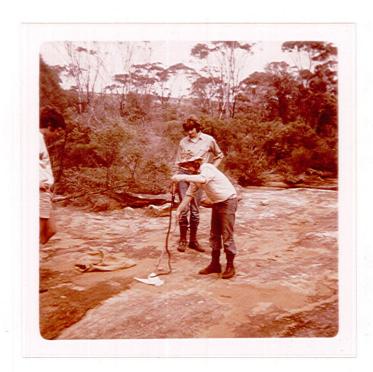
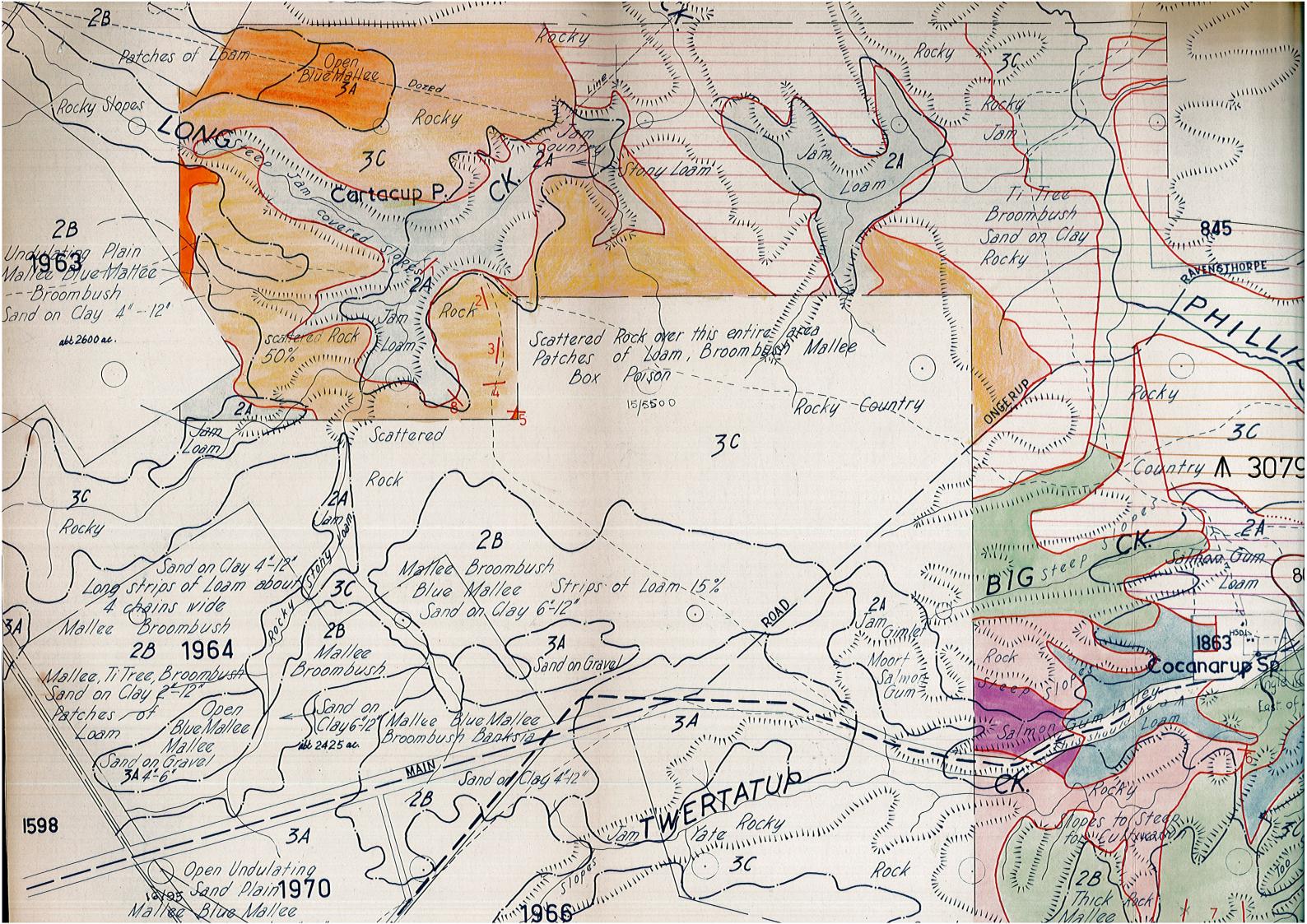


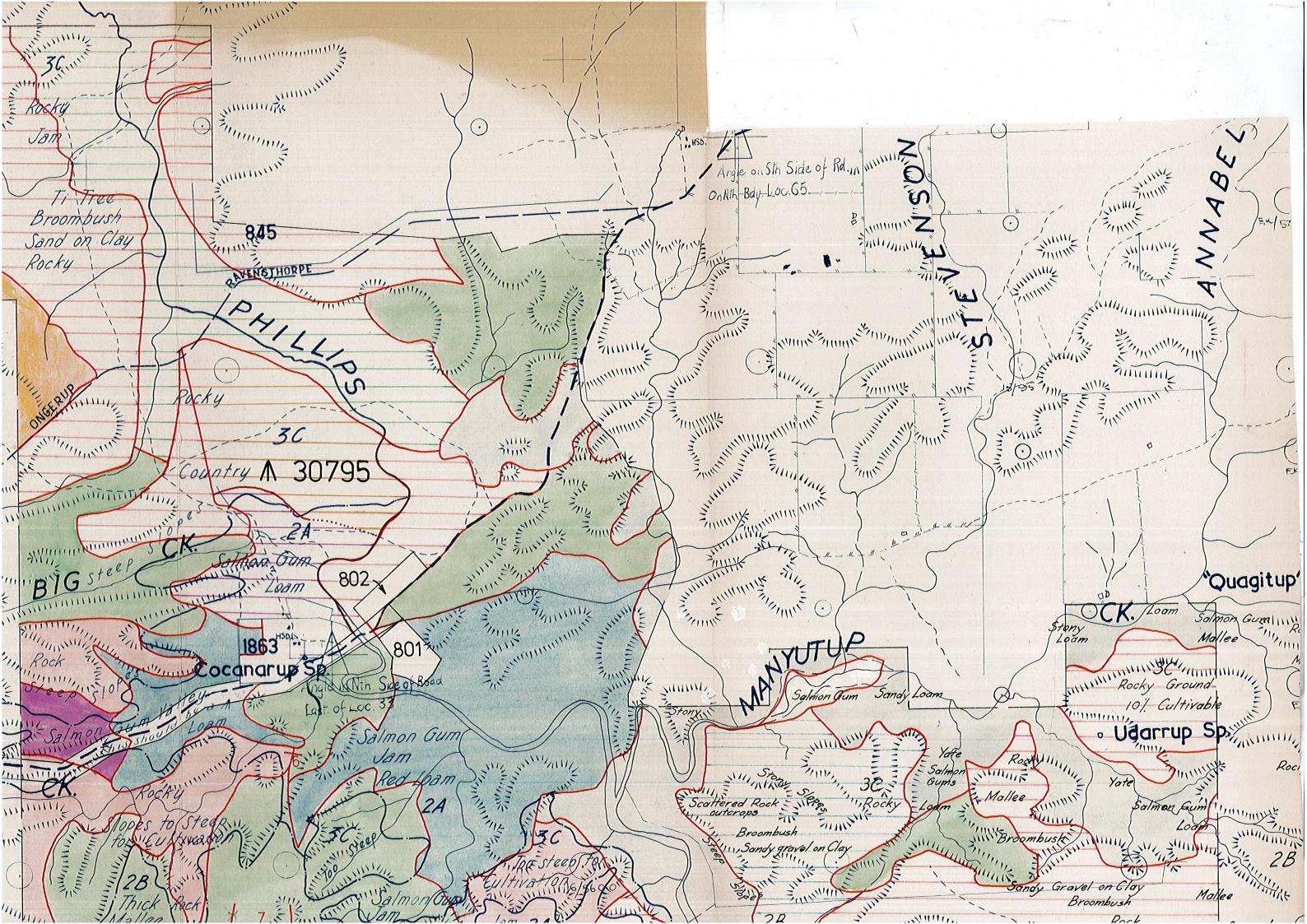
Figure - Trapline Reserve 30795.

Dugite (Demansia nuchalis affinis) held by Ken Youngson with Norm McKenzie and Keith Morris, Fauna Research. Background Yate (Eucalyptus occidentalis) on Long Creek tributary of Phillips River, 20 November, 1973.

DISTRIBUTION: Director of National Parks Hackett Drive, CRAWLEY.

Conservator of Forests, PERTH.





33 45

119°45

LEGEND

2A Salmon Gum, Gimlet, Jam
Loam to Sandy Loam

2B Mallee, Blue Mallee, Broombush, Ti-Tree, Moort, Banksia
Needlebush, Claybush, Sand on Clay, 4"-12"
40% of 2B is Shallow Sand (2") on domed Clay

3A Mallee, Blue Mallee, Broombush, Blackboy, Banksia,
Sand on Clay, 12"-36" Sand on Gravel, 4"-36"

3B Blue Mallee, Banksia, Scrub, Sand over 36"

3C Rock or Ironstone

Scattered Bux Poison, throughout, entire, area

COCANARUP RESERVE 30795 VEGETATION STRUCTURE

- (1) DAMAGED OR BURNT & INMATURE SINCE FIRE.
- (2) DEVELOPED MATURE.

(HEIGHT IN METRES)		(AREA
	(1) (2)	(1)
WOODLAND		
CLEARED		
MEDIUM WOODLAND (ABOVE 10m)		
WOODLAND SCRUB (BELOW 10m)		349
LOW WOODLAND, BUSH, HEATH		
(BELOW 10m)		139
MALLEE WOODLAND (BELOW 10m)		581
CUDUDI AND	TOTAL	1069
SHRUBLAND		2032
MALLEE SCRUB (ABOVE 2m)		
MALLEE AND HEATH (ABOUT 2m)		288
LOW MALLEE AND HEATH (BELOW 2m)	TOTA	2220
	TOTAL WOODLAND AND SHRUBLAND	2320 3389
		Land to the same t

TRAPLINES

P RESERVE 30795 TION STRUCTURE

E SINCE FIRE.

(AREA IN HECTARES)

18/15

0

		(MILIN III HEOTHILE)					
(2)		(1)	(2)	TOTAL			
u- maskining -	in and the						
				37			
			779	779			
]	349	1475	1824			
]	139	58	197			
		581	1430	2011			
	TOTAL	1069	3742	4848			
]	2032	503	2535			
	1	288	1161	1449			
	,		150	156			
	TOTAL	2320	1820	4140			
AND SHRUBLAND -		3389	5562	8893			



311

311111

Scale: 40 chains to an inch Corr: 1741/65

Classification compiled from aerial photography & field check Draftsmen R.Campbell , W.Bennett

CD1190

COCHNARUP RESERVE RAVENSTHORPE

EXPLORATORY SAMPLING OF VEGETHTION STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION

190

STRUC	CTURE	WOODLA	ND - TREES,	HIGH MALL	EE AND SCRUB	SHRUBLIDAD)	LOW MAKLEE, B	USHAND HEATH(Z	Roci
HEIC	SHT OF	ABOVE 10m		BELOW 10 11		ABOVE 2M	1		06
ON AIR PHOTO	FIRAD	Medium Woodland	Mullec Woodland	Woodland Sorub	Low Woodland Bush, Heath	Mallec	Low Hallee Bush Heath	1	BURN
COLOUR		black	black	grey	grey	dark grey			lign. grey
SPECKLE! PATTERN	5720625	coarse	fine-médium	fire - medium	irregular	irregular	rivegular	·	flare
DENSITY OF MAIN	(%)(suffix 80+ C		mallee						
STRATA	50+ i 20+ g			serub Frees	scrub bush	bush mallec	bush	heath bush, mallec	
Structure	symbol	M ML	4	L	45	SL	şz	2,5	
Composit	ion(prefix)	e ea Encalyfetus	Encalifithe	xor ae	<u>x</u>	Euralyptus	Fugale by	Encalable	
5 / Ya.		salmonophloic olobia Acucia	salmonophloid oleosa sincely annulata		E. salmonophlog	(1.4.6.)	Encalyphus incressata		
		cacuminatum Santalum Spicatum Callitrio	gracilis gracilis gracilis overlaris redunca C. preixii	A, accuminata Casuarina Lucgliona E. occidenteli	1. 5. drain. 1. 5. 4. 1. 4. 1.5	(ktragoria)	(Amulata) tetragona spathulata nutans redinca uncinata		
	whire No. attached)		No. 6,7	No. 1. (8)		(centre)	(2) 3, 4 (8) morth west	(2)(5)	(5) Lon

TRAPLINE 6 and 7

SPECIES OF SOUTH SECTION OF COCANARUP RESERVE.

Trapline 6. Crosses creek. Canopy 40ft in places. Mainly 20ft to 25ft. Water present.

Eucalyptus occidentalis
Eucalyptus oleosa
Eucalyptus calycogona
Acacia acuminata
Callistenom phoeniceus
Phyllanthus calycinus
Halgania lavandulacea
Eremophila decipiens
Olearia muelleri
Beyeria leschenaultii
Daviesia chordophylla
Mel. species
Eucalyptus ovularis
Eucalyptus redunca

Trapline 7. Canopy 15ft. Dry.

Acacia glaucoptera
Eucalyptus nutans
Eucalyptus anceps
Eucalyptus oleosa
Grevillea pauciflora
Melaleuca cuticularis
Lepidosperma tuberculatum
Hakea verrucosa
Calytrix tetragona
Mel. species
Santalum acuminatum

NORTH SECTION TRAPLINE SPECIES

Trapline 1 - also see Trapline 8.

Canopy Height 50ft Granite Rocks to Phillip River, Long Creek. Low Woodland.

Eucalyptus occidentalis Casuarina huegeliana Acacia acuminata Astarta fascicularis Melaleuca viminea Leptospermum ellipticum Gahnia decomposita Billardiera lehmanniana North Section Trapline Species cont.

Trapline 2 consisted of two types both ends were Trapline 2.

the same but centre section was low vegetation over shallow granite sheet. Bracketed which was

also distributed over other area.

Melaleuca viminea Daviesia pacyphylla Granite Mirbelia ovata Calytrix brachyphylla Heath Casuarina campestris Borya nitida

Cheiranthera filifolia Low Eucalyptus anceps Eucalyptus foecunda Mallee Melaleuca uncinata

Predominant species were Melaleuca uncinata and Casuarina campestris.

Trapline 3. / Broombush type 4ft to 6ft.

Calothamnus quadrifidus Hakea erinaceae Daviesia pachyphylla Leptospermum ellipticum Leptospermum spinescens Hakea incrassata Melaleuca uncinata Casuarina campestris Eucalyptus tetragona Borya nitida Gastrolobium hookeri Acacia affin. sulcata Melaleuca scabra Jacksonia sp.

Trapline 4. Red Basic Soil Dry Creek.

> Hakea erinaceae Melaleuca uncinata Eucalyptus annulata (mallee) Eucalyptus occidentalis (mallee) sparse. Eucalyptus oleosa Petrophile divaricata Borya nitida Wilsonia humilis Templetonia retusa Cassytha melantha Hakea commutata

Cocanarup Reserve.
Traplines P.3.

North Section Trapline Species cont.

Trapline 5. Granite Rock. Dry.

Melaleuca uncinata
Hakea incrassata
Casuarina campestris
Calothamnus quadrifidus
Hakea erinaceae
Leptospermum ellipticum
Daviesia pachyphylla
Melaleuca elliptica
Borya nitida
Hakea marginata
Microcorys exserta
Verticordia pennigera
Melaleuca sp.
Thryptomene australis
Hibbertia gracilipes
Gahnia decomposita

Trapline 8. Near granite o/c and water. See Trapline 1.

Melaleuca elliptica
Santalum spicatum
Melaleuca uncinata
Calothamnus quadrifidus
Casuarina campestris
Phyllanthus calycinus
Eucalyptus occidentalis (mallee and sparse)
Lepidosperma resinosum
Verticordia pennigera
Prostanthera campbellii

W. OF RAVENSTHORPE

(PHILLIPS RIVER) 19-22 NOVEMBER, 197	3.
LEPTODACTYLIDAE	
Litoria cyclorhyncha Crinia	(2)
GEKKONIDAE	
Phyllodactylus marmoratus Crenadactylus ocellatus Phyllurus milii Diplodactylus vittatus	(4) (3) (1) (3)
AGAMIDAE	
Amphibolurus ornatus Amphibolurus maculatus griseus Amphibolurus barbatus minor	(2) (7) (1)
SCINCIDAE	
Morethia obscura Hemiergis peronii Hemiergis initialis Lerista distinquenda Tiliqua occipitalis	(3) (2) (2) (1)
ELAPIDAE	·•
Demansia affinis	(1)

FROGS AND REPTILES FROM 16 mi.

PHILLIPS RIVER MAMMAL LIST NOVEMBER 1973

NATIVE

Grey Kangaroo Little Bat

Denisonia gouldii

Macropus fuligenosus Eptesicus pumilus

INTRODUCED

House mouse European rabbit European fox

Mus musculus Oryctolagus cuniculus Vulpes vulpes

KENT RIVER BIRD LIST

NOVEMBER, 1973

Emu Brown Hawk Common bronzewing White-tailed Black Cockatoo Western Rosella Port Lincoln Parrot Kookaburra Australian pippit Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrike Broad-tailed Thornbill Yellow-rumped Thornbill Red-capped Robin Grey Fantail Restless Flycatcher Golden Whistler Yellow-rumped Pardalote Purple-gaped Honeyeater White-naped Honeyeater Tawny-crowned Honeyeater · Black-faced Wood Swallow Grey Currawong Western Magpie Australian Raven

Dromaius novaehollandiae Falco berigora Phaps chalcoptera

Calyptorhyncus baudini Platycerus icterotis Barnardius zonarius Dacela gigas Anthus novaeseelandiae

Coracina novaehollandiae
Acanthiza apicalis
Acanthiza chrysorrhoa
Petroica goodenovii
Rhipidura fuliginosa
Seisura inquieta
Pachycephala pectoralis
Pardalotus zanthopygus
Meliphaga cratitua
Melithreptus lunatus
Gliciphila melanops
Artamus cinereus
Strepera versicolor
Gymnorhina dorsalis
Corvus coronoides