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Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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Marine Parks

Marine parks are marine areas managed for conservation and recreation.

Commercial fishing may be allowed in marine parks. It is controlled so that the yields are sustainable. Commercial and recreational fishing in marine parks are regulated under the powers of the Fisheries Act and managed by the Fisheries Department.

Marine parks meet the internationally accepted concept of a managed resource area: they allow for management for conservation and recreation, plus controlled commercial use where appropriate.

Conservation Parks

This is a new category of reserve; none have yet been created. Conservation parks will be areas that are not nationally or internationally significant for their landscape or biological features but have significant local or regional value for conservation and recreation.

Conservation parks will be managed similar to national parks. Those within forest areas will not be used for commercial timber production.

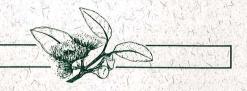
Amendments to the CALM Act to create this new category of reserve have recently been passed by Parliament.

State Forest

State forest is managed for recreation, water catchment protection, nature conservation and sustainable timber production. It also provides for public utilities and mineral production where such uses are imposed.

CALM Act Timber Reserves

CALM Act timber reserves are set aside primarily for timber production but also serve other functions.



Timber reserves are progressively being evaluated for possible change into State forest or nature reserve.

Other Reserves

In addition to the above, there are other areas vested in the Lands and Forest Commission or the National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority. Further reserves are vested in the Executive Director of CALM, or vested jointly in the Executive Director and another body, usually a local authority.

The purposes are varied, but normally involve recreation or conservation. Many of these reserves are planned to become conservation parks.

Areas of land and waters managed by CALM, as at 30 June 1991:

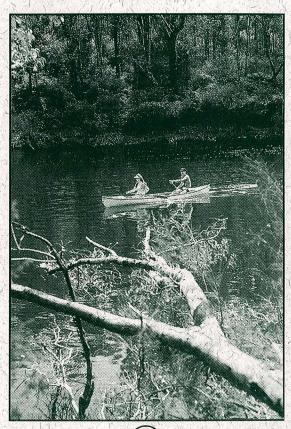
Nature Reserves	10 433 554 ha
National Parks	
State Forest	1 750 467 ha
Marine Parks	
Timber Reserves	144 287 ha
Marine Nature Reserves	
Other land	
Total	19 018 584 ha

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LAND MANAGED CALIM







With responsibility for more than 19 million hectares of land, the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) is a major land management agency in Western Australia.

This brochure provides a brief overview of the categories of land managed by CALM, the role of CALM and how land is classified and reserved.

Land Classifications

Under the Land Act, Crown land may be set aside ('reserved') for various purposes, such as 'parkland', 'public utility', 'recreation', 'gravel' or 'water', to mention just a few. A reserve is normally placed under the care of ('vested in') an appropriate body, which may then be responsible for managing it. Many 'water' reserves, for example, are vested in the Water Authority of W.A., and many reserves with purposes such as 'recreation' or 'gravel' are vested in local authorities.

All reserves have to be classified as either Class A, Class B or Class C (irrespective of their purpose). The level of classification reflects the level of approval required to alter their area or purpose:

Class A - Approval of both Houses of Parliament (WA)

Class B - Approval of the Governor, provided the Minister for Lands presents a report to Parliament

Class C - Approval of the Governor

Class A reserves are therefore more 'secure' than Class B or Class C reserves.

The administrative work connected with reserving, vesting and classifying Land Act reserves is undertaken by the Department of Land Administration.



State forest, marine parks, marine nature reserves and some timber reserves are created under the Conservation and Land Management Act, and the necessary administrative work is undertaken by CALM staff.

CALM's Role in Managing Land

CALM is responsible for managing all lands and waters vested in the National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority, the Lands and Forest Commission and the Executive Director of CALM. The Department also manages some freehold or leasehold land held in the name of the Executive Director.

Management is undertaken according to government policies, relevant legislation and as specified in approved management plans for the particular land.

Management plans for national parks and nature reserves must be approved by the National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority, while those for State forest and timber reserves must be approved by the Lands and Forest Commission.

The Department manages eight categories of Crown land. Five categories - nature reserves, national parks, marine nature reserves, marine parks and conservation parks - are vested in the National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority. Areas of State forest and (CALM Act) timber reserves are vested in the Lands and Forest Commission. Reserves in the remaining category can be vested in either of these bodies, or in the Executive Director.

Nearly all national parks are Class A, as are the majority of nature reserves. Those national parks and nature reserves that are currently Class B or Class C are being progressively reviewed, and changed to Class A where appropriate. All conservation parks, marine parks and marine nature reserves are Class A.



The security of tenure for areas of State forest is equivalent to that of Class A reserves. The security for (CALM Act) timber reserves is similar to that of Class C reserves. Many of the reserves for miscellaneous purposes are currently Class C, but these are being progressively reviewed to determine their most appropriate class, purpose and vesting.

Nature Reserves and Marine Nature Reserves

Nature reserves have high conservation value, either because they are representative of natural ecosystems and native flora and fauna, or because of the presence of particular plant or animal species.

They have been set aside for the conservation of flora and fauna and they are managed so as to maintain and restore the natural environment, and to protect, care for and promote the study of indigenous flora and fauna.

The flora and fauna on a nature reserve may not be commercially exploited, and forms of recreation that damage natural ecosystems are not permitted.

National Parks

National parks are areas that have national or international significance for scenic, cultural or biological values, and are large enough to accommodate recreation without detracting from these values.

They are managed for wildlife and landscape conservation, scientific study and preservation of features of archaeological, historic or scientific interest.

They are also managed to allow forms of recreation that do not adversely affect their ecosystems or landscapes.