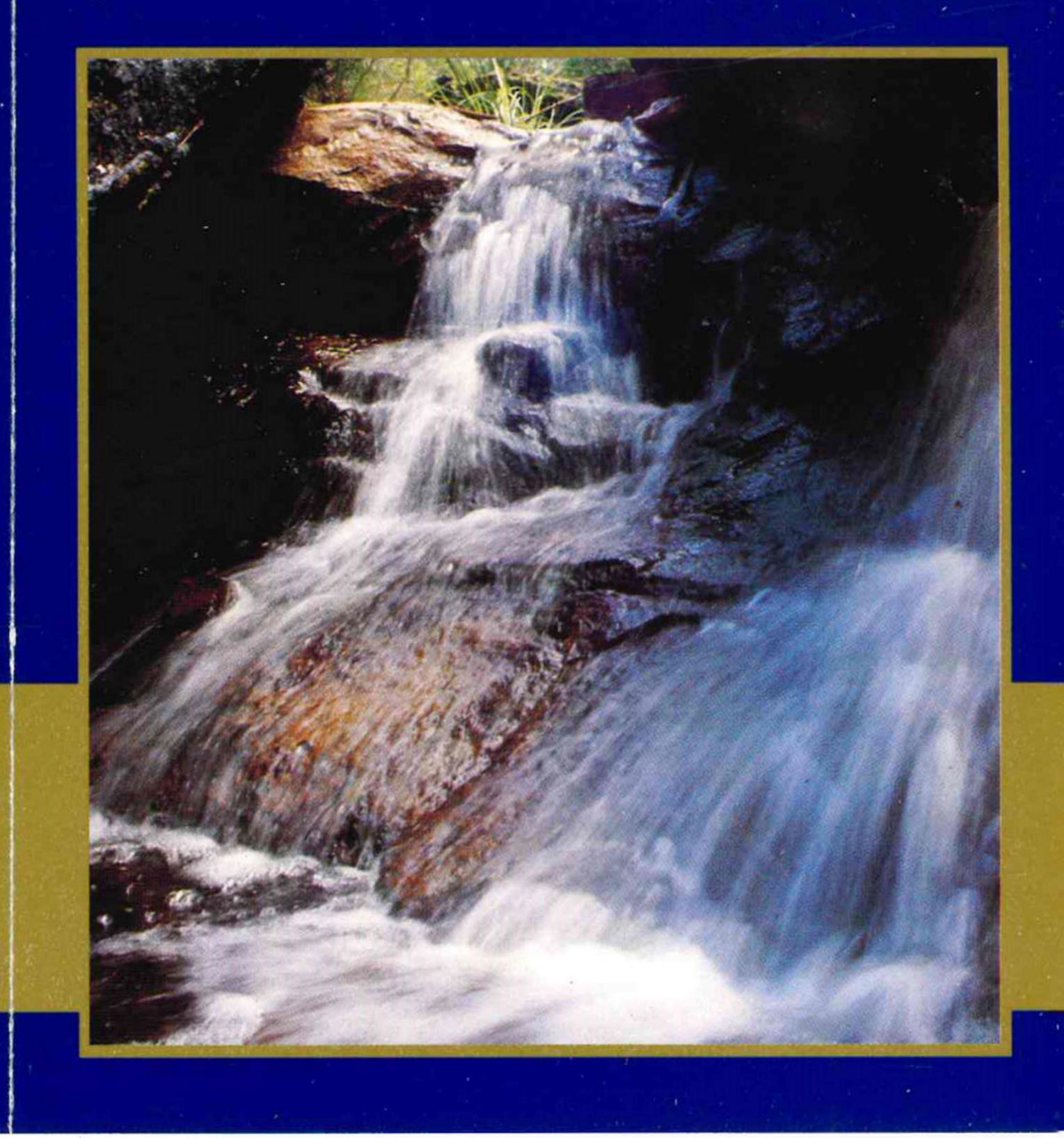
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Department of Biodiversity,
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A draft plan for managing the Shannon Park and D'Entrecasteaux National Park over the next five years has been prepared by the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

This leaflet is a brief summary of the major proposals contained in the plan.

Public submissions on these management proposals are now invited.

For greater detail on the management issues, natural resources, and the rationale behind these management proposals, readers should refer to the full-length plan. Copies are available at the places listed under 'Further Information' in this

All public submissions will be considered before the finalized plans for these areas are drawn up.

Please send your comments to:

The Executive Director Department of Conservation and Land Management P.O. Box 104 **COMO WA 6152**

Both the Shannon and D'Entrecasteaux Parks were recognized over a decade ago by the Conservation Through Reserves Committee as representing a 'last opportunity' to reserve and protect some outstanding natural environments,

The Shannon Park contains the only entire river largest area of karri forest set aside from timber harvesting, as well as a range of landscape and fauna habitats.

The D'Entrecasteaux National Park contains many outstanding natural features, from the granite hills like Mt Chudalup, the basalt columns at Black Point, and the huge mobile sand dunes at Yeagerup, to bullich and yate forests, and wetlands which contain a great diversity of native plants; but perhaps the most outstanding feature of all is the contrast between the serenity of its coastal landscapes, the tranquility of its inland waterways, and the raw power of the sea and the wind on the coastal cliffs and beaches.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

The objectives for management of these parks are:

- to protect the biological and physical environment, and the cultural and scientific features of the parks.
- to restore the natural environment where
- to study the natural environment of the parks, and to make this knowledge available.
- to provide opportunities for public education about the parks.
- to encourage types of public recreation in the area which are: appropriate in national parks; kept to a level the environment can withstand without deterioration; and do not conflict, and thus affect the enjoyment of visitors to the

This plan covers a period of five years, and the immediate management objectives are:

- to complete the reservation of the Shannon Park and D'Entrecasteaux National Park under section 29 of the Land Act (1933) for the purpose of national parks.
- to construct facilities and roads which will improve the opportunities available for appropriate types of recreation: catering both for the general public, and for specific interest groups.
- to improve and increase the information available about the biological and physical environment of the parks.
- to protect the biological, physical and cultural features of the parks.
- to rehabilitate areas damaged by past human activities. to phase out or remove activities and facilities
- which are not compatible with national park management objectives.
- to control introduced species of plants and
- to monitor success in reaching these objectives.
- to develop an effective system for involving the public in the future management of the parks.
- to provide information, as part of a planned program, at places of significant public use or
- to monitor current public use of the parks, and investigate public demand for park use.

THE ENVIRONMENT

Maintenance and restoration of the natural environment is one of the main requirements for national park planning and management.

Areas within the Parks which need careful

Map 1 shows the location of these features and provides a summary of the main environmental features which need special management in the

be progressively rehabilitated. Such areas include eroded tracks, gravel pits and quarries.

and where possible, eventually eradicated. In some cases, active measures will be required; in others natural processes can be relied on.

FIRE

Fire is both a management tool, and potentially the greatest danger to the parks visitors and

Fire will be used to maintain or increase the diversity of plant and animal communities. Where the danger represented by fire is least, areas will be established in which no planned burning will be carried out. Around these areas and around places where people congregate, such as Shannon Townsite and Windy Harbour, buffer zones will be regularly burned under controlled conditions.

Information will be provided to neighbours and visitors about the fire management program and how to prevent accidental fires. Neighbours will be contacted to ensure that management of nearby land is co-ordinated.

DIEBACK

Like much of the south coast, parts of the D'Entrecasteaux and Shannon Parks are at risk to infection and damage by the soil fungus Phytophthora cinnamomi: the fungus that causes

Areas that are water-logged, or moist much of the year, and plants which have shallow fibrous root systems are most vulnerable to infection.

Spread of dieback will be avoided by restricting road construction, road use, and earth moving in susceptible areas. The presence of dieback in the parks will be mapped, and rangers will be trained in dieback recognition, sampling and hygiene. A public information program will tell the public how to help the Department.

WHY MAKE THESE AREAS PARKS?

and provide for appropriate public recreation.

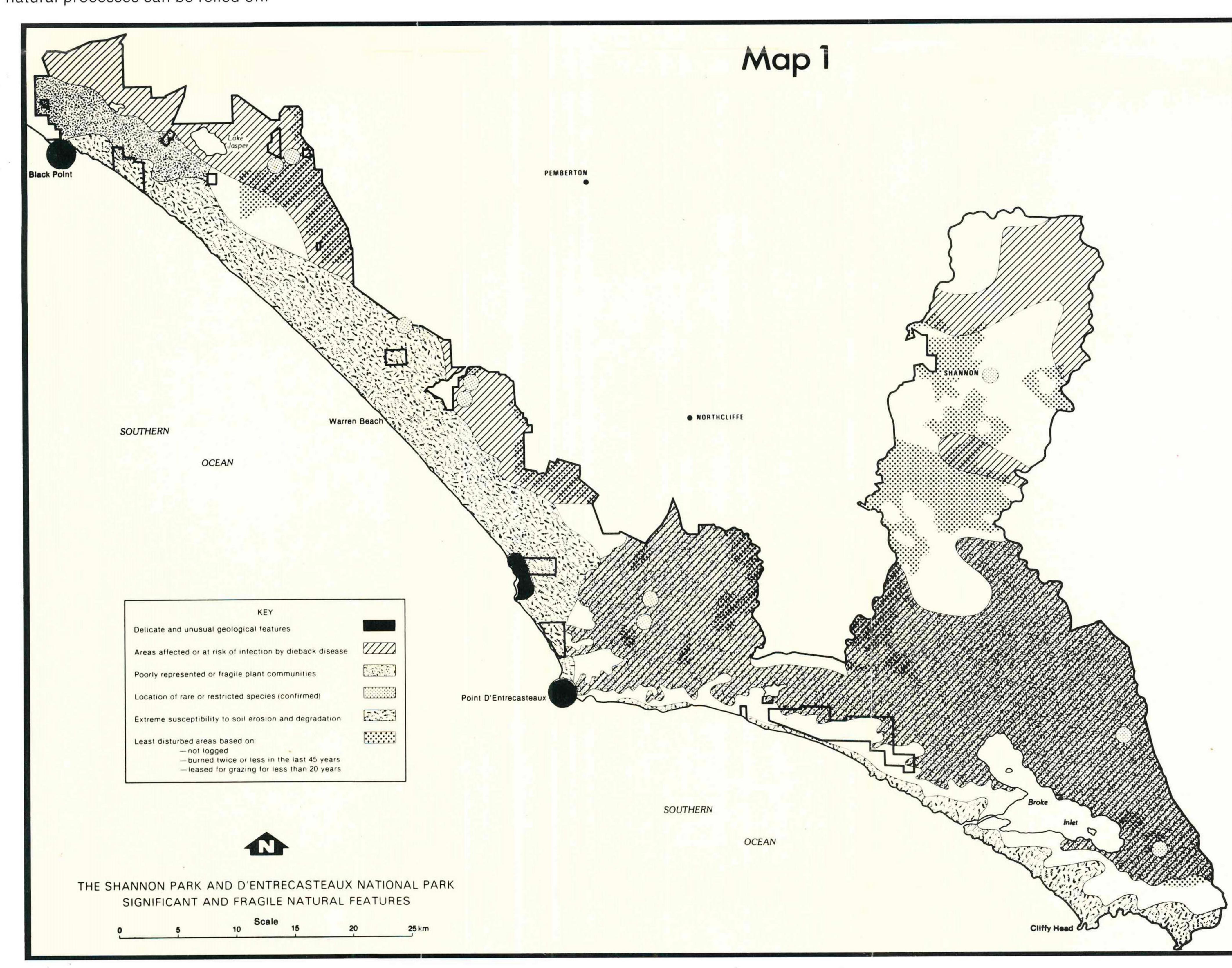
basin in the south-west of W.A. still in a largely undisturbed condition. It also encompasses the

MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS

management or special protection have been identified, and where possible mapped.

Areas which have been degraded by past use will

Introduced plants and animals will be controlled,



HOW MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS WERE FORMULATED

Four major factors were considered in formulating management proposals in the plan. These were:

- LEGISLATION AND POLICIES: The Conservation and Land Management Act (1984) requires that management plans be prepared. National Park management policies, adopted by the National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority, define the types of management activity and public use that are appropriate in national parks.
- ENVIRONMENT: The capacity of the environment to support various types of management or use was assessed. Some areas in these parks, for example, have erosionprone soils, and will not support activities which disturb vegetation or soil cohesion.
- FAIRNESS TO ALL POSSIBLE USERS: Planning for a national park should cater for

all potential users to ensure that conflicting types of recreation do not impair enjoyment of the park by any one group. Regional recreation and conservation needs must also be considered.

PRACTICALITY OF MANAGEMENT DECISIONS: The managers, in this case CALM, on a practical level must be able to carry out management decisions. For example, it may not be possible to eliminate introduced grasses from areas which have been grazed for 50 years or more, but it is possible to avoid introducing new types of grass.

VEHICLES

FISHING

INFORMATION SERVICES

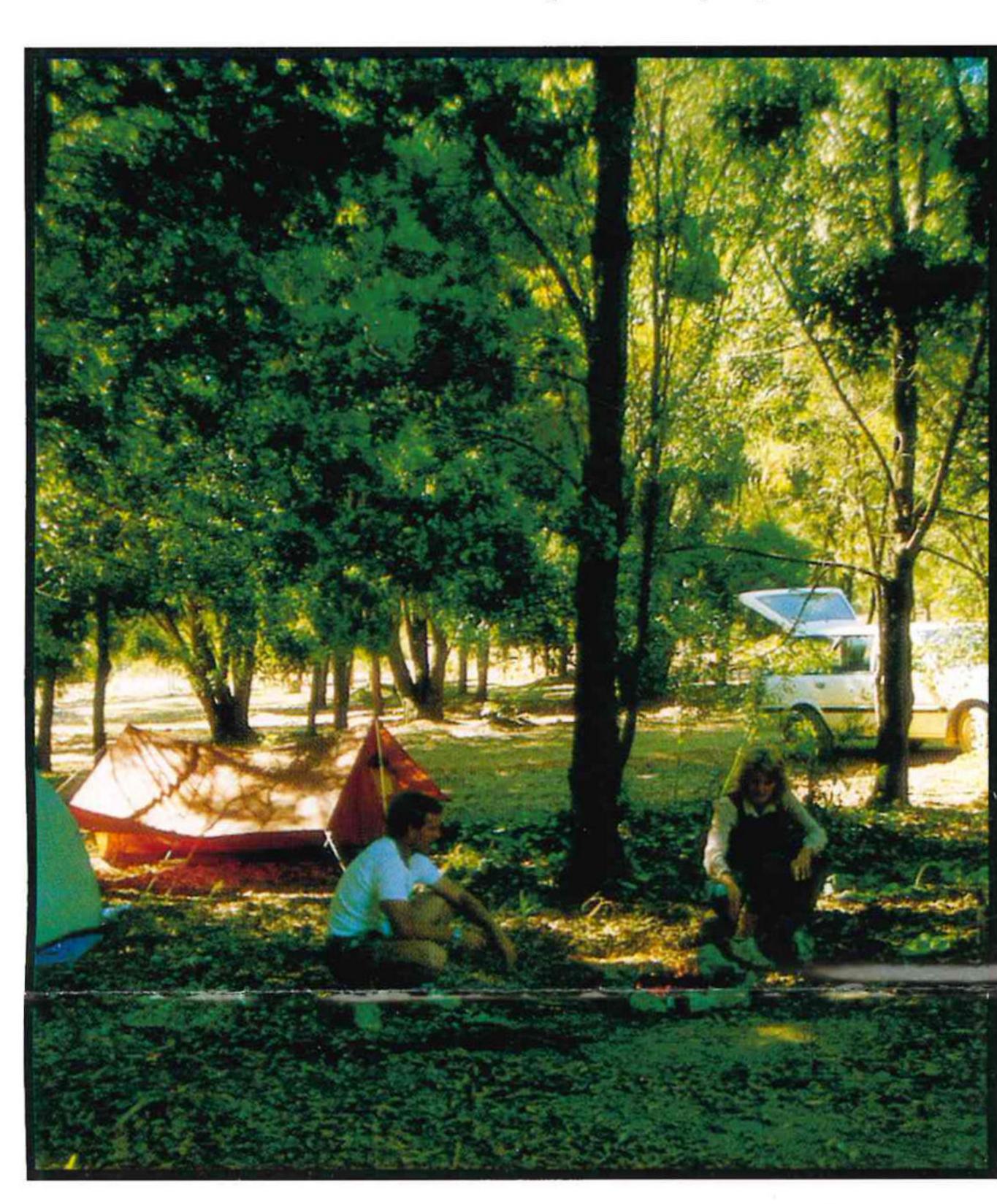
Roads or tracks will be provided to most places which now have vehicle access. Many tracks will be upgraded to provide year-round access for conventional vehicles.

Where erosion has become a problem tracks will be realigned, and the old tracks revegetated.

In sensitive environments, such as wetlands and erodable soils, some tracks will be closed. Usually alternative routes will be provided, but some areas will be completely closed to vehicles. Where vehicles are permitted, the area will be monitored to observe the impact on the environment. If necessary, conditions of use will be altered.

The track across Yeagarup Dunes will remain open until an alternative route to Yeagarup Beach is provided. Most beaches in the Parks will be open for vehicles subject to some restrictions for the safety of other beach users and the protection of the sensitive fore-dunes. No other off-road vehicle use will be permitted. All vehicles must be registered under the Road Traffic Act.

To provide for the needs of beach users who prefer to avoid off-road vehicles, these vehicles will not be permitted onto Jasper Beach, Salmon Beach, Mandalay Beach, or Banksia Camp Beach, once access for conventional vehicles has been constructed to those areas (See map 2).



CAMPING

Campsites, equipped with basic facilities, will be provided at Shannon Townsite, Lake Jasper and near the Donnelly River boat launch. Campsites nearest the Parks are at Windy Harbour and near Lake Yeagarup.

Less formal campsites will be designated near the mouth of the Donnelly and Gardner Rivers, along coastal tracks to Calcup Hill, Fish Creek and Black Point: at Banksia Camp, and Malimup Beach, close to where the Shannon River crosses Chesapeake Road and Nelson Road, and in stable landscapes behind the fore-dunes at Yeagarup beach.

Backpack or bush camping, for bush walkers, will be permitted throughout the Parks more than 1km from the nearest public road or vehicle track: some specific sites may be provided along extended bush walking routes.

No specific facilities for caravans will be provided in the Parks. Caravans are now catered for at Windy Harbour, Walpole, Northcliffe, Manjimup, Pemberton and Nannup.

Camping fees for some campsites will be introduced during the period of this plan.

BOATING

At present within the Parks, most power boats are launched on the Donnelly River. Power boats are also used to launch hang-gliders from Lake Jasper. Canoes, sail boats and sail boards are used on many water bodies in the Parks.

Use of power boats will only be permitted from the mouth of the Donnelly River to Boat Landing Road, at the maximum speed set out by Marine and Harbours regulations.

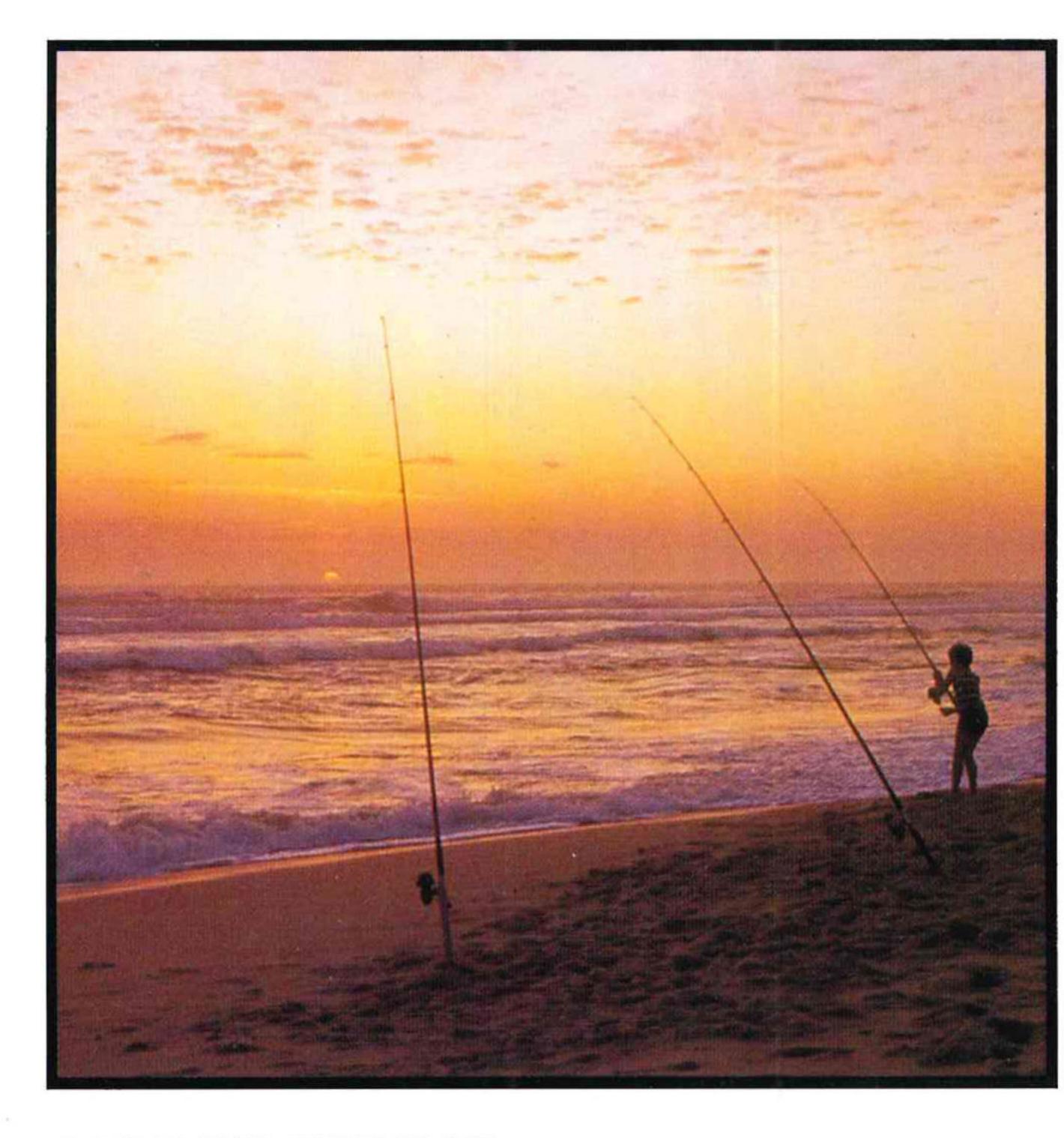
Canoes and other non-power craft will be permitted on the Shannon Dam, Lake Maringup, Lake Jasper, the Warren and Donnelly Rivers, and the lower reaches of the Shannon and Gardner Rivers.

No boats, except those required for scientific or educational purposes under permit, will be permitted on other waterbodies within the Parks.

Normal restrictions under the Fisheries Act apply to both inland and ocean fishing.

Vehicle access will be provided to most beach and rock fishing areas.

The Park managers will also attempt to remove introduced predators of marron from all water courses which are within or which pass through the Parks.



HORSE-RIDING

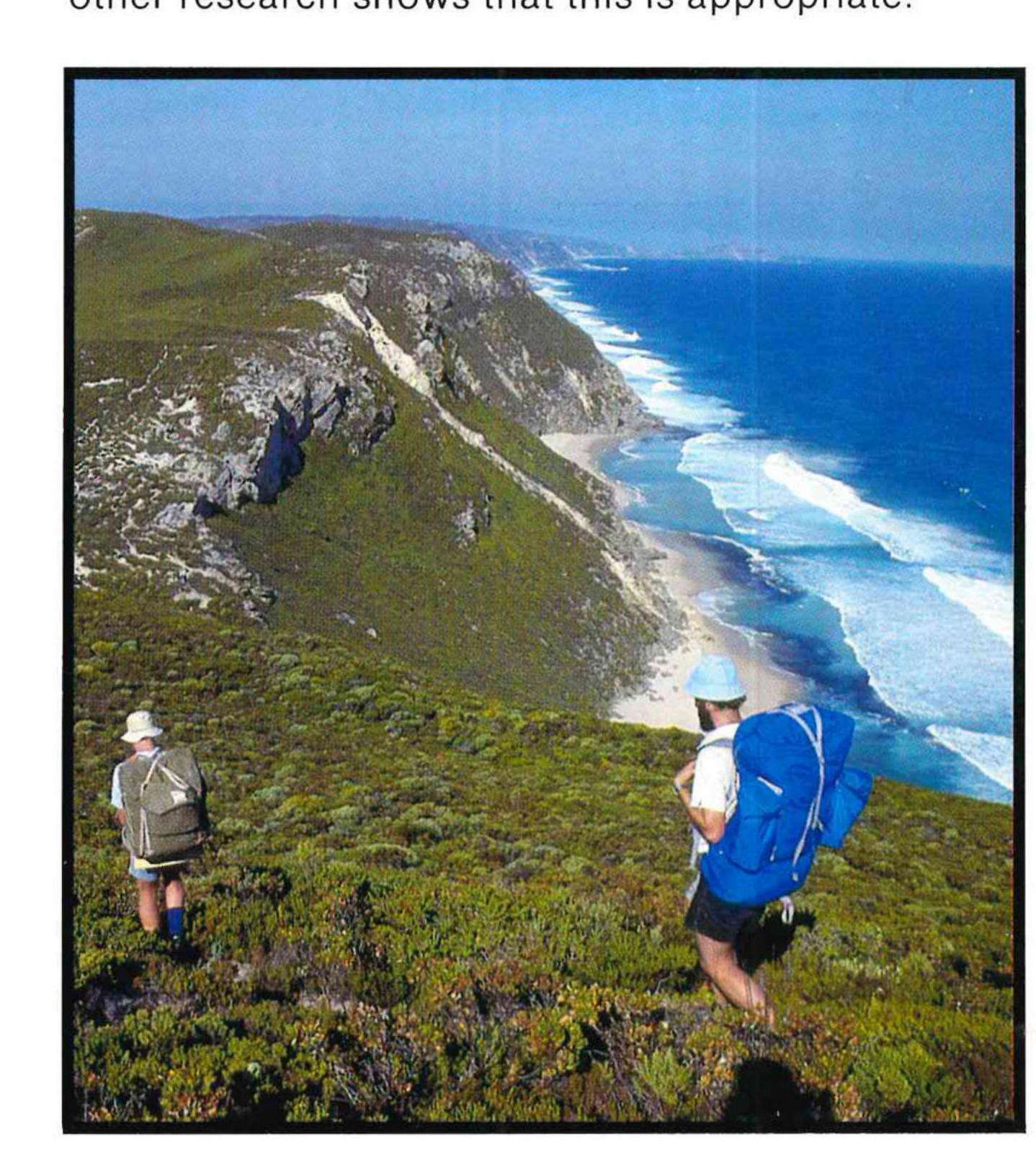
Horse-riding in coastal areas can cause erosion and other environmental problems.

Therefore, horse-riding will be permitted only in two areas within the Parks. These areas will be monitored to observe the effect on the environment. If necessary areas of use will be

A permit will be required to take horses into the Parks. Conditions will include:

- no overnight tethering or yarding within the Parks, except in designated locations.
- riding to be within designated areas.
 no feed containing seed to be taken into the
- local pasturing for one week prior to entering the Parks.

Public horse-riding will be permitted in the area west of the Donnelly River, and on the old Deeside Coast Road. Privately operated horse tours will be permitted in the area near Coodamurrup and alongside Deeside Coast Road — this will be let to tender for an initial period of three years. Initially no more than 700 horse-days per year will be permitted in each area. Further areas may later be made available for horse-riding if monitoring and other research shows that this is appropriate.



BUSHWALKING

Bush walking will be permitted throughout the Parks, but associated camping will not be encouraged or facilitated within areas of special ecological significance.

Several marked one and two day walks will be developed, as shown on the maps. To help ensure visitor safety on walks, a voluntary walker registration system will be set up.

One wheelchair accessible trail has been built at Shannon Townsite. Others will be provided according to demand and opportunity.

Four types of information will be provided: public use, resource protection, visitor safety, and interpretation.

Public use information: provides an outline of where to go, what to do, and facilities available to help park visitors plan their trip.

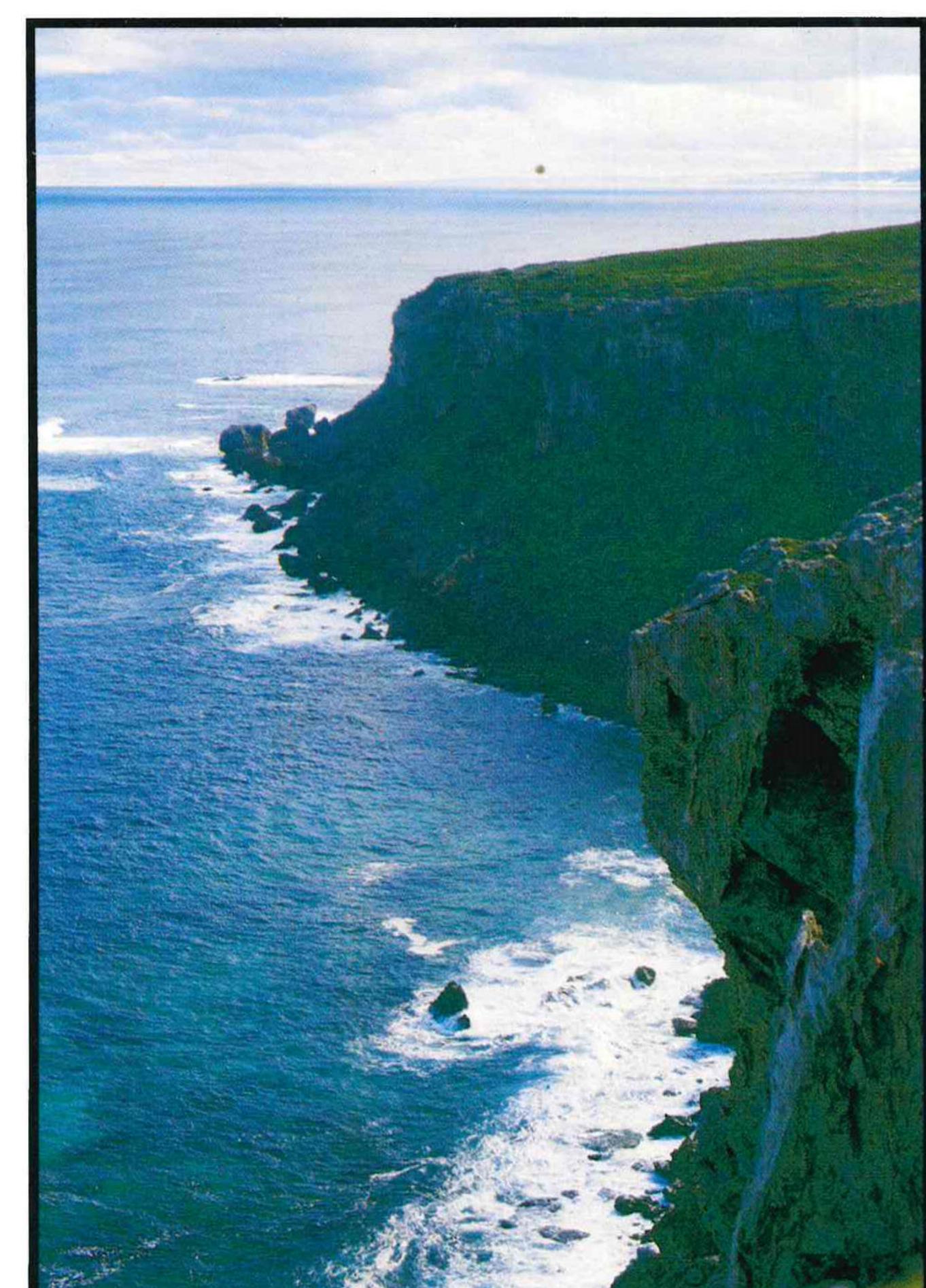
Resource protection information: identifies and describes major resource features and outlines management guidelines or regulations which have been adopted to safeguard them.

Visitor safety information: advises the public about potential hazards, such as rips on beaches or fire.

Interpretation information: helps visitors gain an understanding and appreciation of the environment of the Parks and the forces and processes which have shaped it.

A major information centre will be constructed at Shannon Townsite and a handbook and a set of interpretive brochures on the Parks will be produced. Other information centres will be provided in or near the Parks at locations like Camfield, Windy Harbour, Black Point and Crystal Springs.

Potential hazards will be signposted in well-used areas of the Parks. A program of guided tours and camp fire talks will be conducted. Regular liaison with the public will be maintained through the rangers and through a Regional Advisory Committee.



There will be a programme of scientific research in

Surveys of plants, and animals in the Parks will continue. Public use of the Parks will also be monitored. The presence of introduced plants and animals will also be surveyed, and the effects of recreational and management activities will be monitored.

Research and monitoring will involve specialised staff from the CALM and other government agencies, tertiary institutions, management staff such as rangers, and, where possible, the public.

IMPLEMENTING THIS PLAN

To implement this Plan certain levels of staffing and funding are required. The involvement of the public will also be of great help.

Within the next few years, four rangers will be assigned duties in the Parks. Other staff will be supplied by CALM district offices at Pemberton and Walpole, and contracts will be negotiated for some services.

Just over \$300,000 per year will be required for services such as road and facility construction and maintenance, surveys and monitoring the environment and recreation: this will be sought from the Government.

Help from the public on a volunteer basis will be sought for projects ranging from rehabilitating eroding areas to preparing historical and interpretive material about the Parks.

Copies of the plan are available for \$10.00 at

Department of Conservation and Land
Management
Manjimup (097) 71 1988

Pemberton (097) 76 1207
Walpole (098) 40 1027
Nannup (097) 56 1101
Como (09) 367 6333

Copies are also available for view at public libraries and Shire offices at Nannup and Manjimup.

Department of Conservation and Land Management 50 Hayman Road, COMO 6152 Phone: (09) 367 6333 1986

