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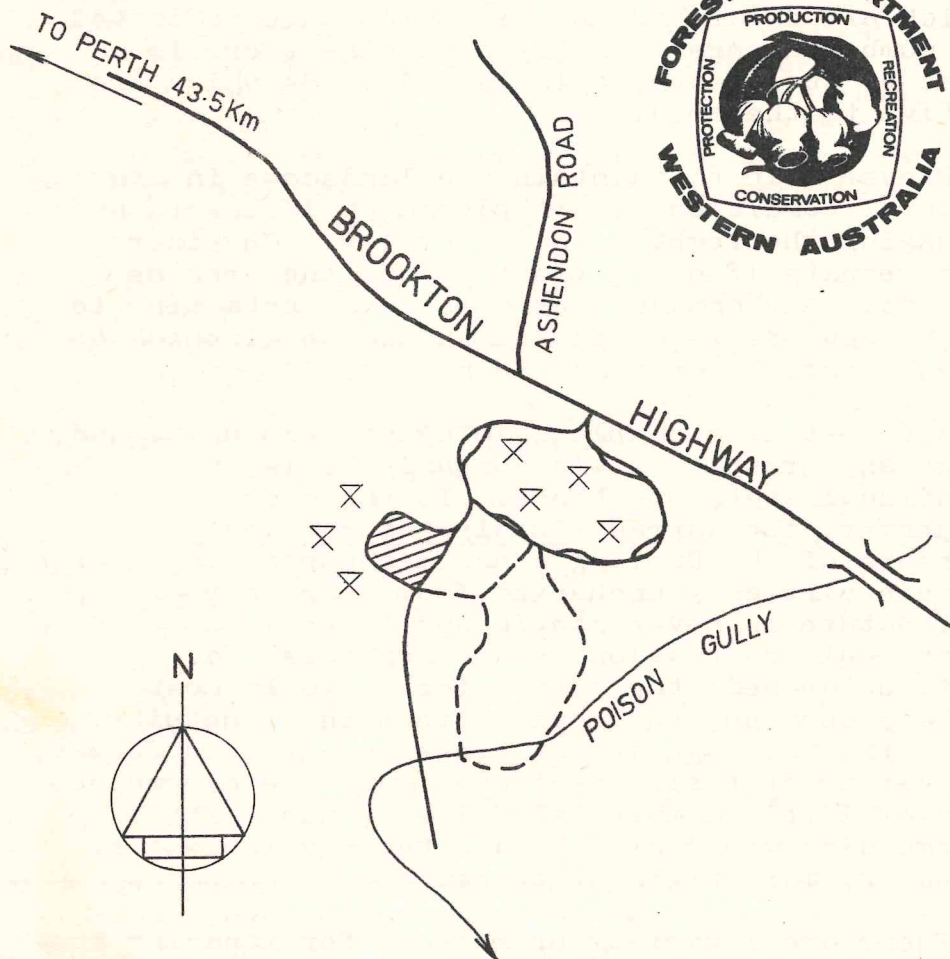
Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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LESLEY NATURE TRAIL

008523/1A

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KEY

- NATURE TRAIL
-  PARKING AREA
-  PICNIC AREA

SCALE 1:18000

PAM01679

Welcome to the Dale Forest

This nature trail and picnic area have been developed by the Forests Department for your enjoyment. Features of interest along the trail, which are described in this guide, are indicated by numbered pegs. On the back page there is a list of the plants, animals and birds which are native to the area.

Please help to maintain the landscape in its natural condition by not picking wildflowers or damaging the vegetation in any way. Consider the results if other visitors use the area as you do. Any comments or questions pertaining to this area are welcomed and should be directed to the Forests Department, Kelmscott.

A forest is a complex biological community and, like any group of living organisms, is in a continual state of change. To the casual observer, the jarrah (Eucalyptus marginata) forests of the Darling Range may appear to remain virtually unchanged from year to year. But nature is never static and there is a continual progression as new replaces old. Left untouched, the jarrah forest would most likely continue to provide trees in perpetuity. However, the majority of trees in a virgin forest, by virtue of their great age, would be overmature and of little commercial value to man. Their large size would also hinder the development of younger, more vigorous trees.

There are a variety of reasons for managing the forest resource, the principle objective being to insure that the State's forests continue to fulfil the community's need for a wide range of wood products. In a sense, forest management is simply an attempt to improve on what Nature has already provided. By using proven techniques, the forester can channel Nature's energy into more productive forms to man.

The forester therefore attempts to create conditions that favour the more vigorously growing trees. In the jarrah forest, the removal of individual trees creates small openings. It is in these openings that the jarrah life cycle is renewed. Following the first winter rains in May and June, seed that has fallen from nearby trees begins to germinate. As many as 500,000 young seedlings per acre may develop, but normally less than 1% of these survive past the first and second summers due to intense root competition, the activity of natural parasites and the dry, hot summer climate.

Those which do survive consolidate their position and ensure their survival by the formation of swellings called lignotubers at the base of the stem. These lignotubers put out dwarf shoots which gives the jarrah seedlings a bushy appearance (STOP 1). After a period of several years, the seedling strengthens and one or more of the shoots emerge upwards (STOP 2). In jarrah; this dominant stem is commonly termed a dynamic shoot and the resulting seedling an advance growth. Once a single shoot has emerged, the young saplings will continue to grow into larger poles, unless subject to attack by insects or frost (STOP 3).

Another way in which many of the eucalypts including jarrah may regenerate is by coppice shoots (STOPS 4 & 5). Once a tree is cut down, shoots may arise from dormant buds on the stump and will eventually develop into small trees.

When a tree reaches maturity and slackens off in growth, it is removed to make room for more vigorous young trees coming on. Old veterans and poorly formed or defective trees (STOP 6) which are not merchantable are killed by ringbarking (STOP 7). All age classes of trees are represented in the forest so that as mature trees are removed for milling, others are available to produce future crops with a minimum lapse of time. Spacing between trees of similar size and age is also controlled where necessary by thinning out some of the

stems to permit an adequate area for the growth of the remaining individuals. There is an example of a thinned stand of trees between STOPS 12 & 13. Providing a tree has sufficient room, it will grow into a future crop tree or sawlog (STOPS 12 & 13).

Another common tree of the jarrah forest is marri-*Eucalyptus calophylla* (STOP 8). The wood of marri is not as highly prized as jarrah because of excessive pockets and rings of gum or kino. At STOP 10, the trail passes through the remains of a veteran blackbutt - *Eucalyptus patens*. Blackbutt timber has characteristics very similar to jarrah, but its distribution is limited to the moister areas along creeks and rivers. At STOP 11, an old survey marker can be seen. These reference points were established in the initial assessment and mapping of the forest.

Besides wood, the jarrah forest contains food and cover for a variety of native birds and animals. The thick vegetation associated with creeks and valley bottoms (STOPS 9 & 10) is particularly suitable habitat for much of the fauna of the South West. The jarrah forest is also the prime source of water for the metropolitan area and provides unlimited opportunities for public recreation and leisure.

We hope you have enjoyed your visit. This is your forest - please treat it with respect and be careful with fire at all times.

PLANT LISTSTOP I

Hibbertia hypericoides
 Xanthorrhoea preissii
 Macrozamia reidleii
 Leptomeria cunninghamii
 Acacia urophylla
 Hibbertia montana
 Styphelia tenuiflora
 Kennedya coccinea

STOP II

Grevillea symapheae
 Lomandra sonderii
 Lomandra purpurea
 Xanthorrhoea gracilis

BETWEEN STOP II & III

Hibbertia perfoliata
 Grevillea synapheae
 Styphelia tenuiflora

STOP III

Duplicate of II. No tags
 $\frac{1}{2}$ chain past stop III -
 Patersonia rudis
 $\frac{1}{2}$ way between stops III &
 IV - Dryandra nivea
 (common throughout, but
 easily labelled at this
 point)

STOP IV

No change

STOP V

Persoonia longifolia

HALF WAY between STOP V & VI

Hakea ruscifolia

STOP VI

Daviesia preissii
 Hibbertia huegelii
 Hibbertia hypericoides
 Leptomeria cunninghamii
 Kangaroo paw
 Hovea trisperma
 Styphelia tenuiflora
 Hibbertia montana
 Hibbertia perfoliata
 Grevillea synapheae
 Hakea ruscifolia
 Xanthorrhoea preissii
 Leschenaultia biloba
 Kennedya coccinea
 Lomandra sonderii

STOP VII

Conostylis setigera
 Xanthorrhoea gracilis
 Astroloma ciliatum
 Leschenaultia biloba
 Leucopogon capitellatus
 Hakea lissocarpha

STOP VIII

Most vegetation named is
 near creek.

Synapheae favosa
 Marianthus drummondianus
 Hakea trifurcata
 Grevillea bipinnatifida
 Hakea undulata
 Hakea lissocarpha

BIRD LISTPIGEONS & DOVES

Common Bronzewing

PARROTS

Purple Crowned Lorikeet
 White tailed Black Cockatoo
 Red tailed Black Cockatoo
 Long billed Corella
 Western Rosella
 28 Parrot
 Red Capped Parrot
 Pallid Cuckoo

OWLS

Boobook Owl

FROGMOUTH

Tawny Frogmouth
 Owlet Nightjar
 Spotted Nightjar

SWALLOWS

Welcome Swallow
 Tree Martin
 Fairy Martin

KINGFISHERS

Kookaburra
 Sacred Kingfisher
 Rainbow birds

CUCKOO SHRIKES

Ground Cuckoo Shrike
 Blackfaced Cuckoo Shrike

FAIRY WRENS

Banded Blue Wren
 White winged wren
 Variegated wren
 Red winged wren
 Western Thornbill
 Yellow tailed
 thornbill
 Spotted scrub wren

CHATS

White Fronted Chat
 Crimson Chat

ROBINS

Brown Flycatcher
 Scarlet Robin
 Western Yellow Robin

FANTAILS

Grey Fantail
 Willy Wagtail
 Restless
 Flycatcher

WHISTLER

Golden Whistler
 Rufous Whistler
 Western Shrike
 Thrush

TREE CREEPERS

Black Capped
 Sitella
 Rufous Tree
 Creeper

BIRD LIST cont'dDIAMOND BIRDS

Mistletoe Bird
 Spotted Pardalote
 Red Tipped Pardalote

SILVEREYEHONEYEATERS

Brown Honeyeater
 Singing Honeyeater
 White Naped Honeyeater
 Spinebill
 New Holland Honeyeater
 Miner
 Red Wattle Bird
 Little Wattle Bird

FINCHES

Red Eared Firetail

MISCELLANEOUS

Magpie Lark
 Magpie
 Wood Swallow
 Squeaker
 Grey Butcher Bird
 Pied Butcher Bird
 Western Magpie
 Raven
 Little Crow

NATIVE ANIMAL LIST

Grey Kangaroos
 Brush Wallaby

POSSUMS

Common Possum
 Honey Possum
 Pygmy Possum

BANDICOOTS

Quenda
 Mardo
 Mouse - Dunnart

MISCELLANEOUS

Echidna
 Water Rat
 Quokka