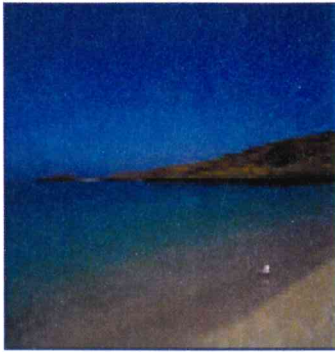


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DAMPIER ARCHIPELAGO ISLANDS DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN



Update 2, January/February 2004

Welcome to the second update about the progress of the new management plan for the Dampier Archipelago islands. When finalised, the new plan will replace the existing management plan, which has guided CALM's management of the islands since 1990.

There has been recent progress on the recommendation from the 1990 management plan to convert the four Dampier Archipelago nature reserves (comprising 25 islands) into a single national park. Agreement was recently given by the Minister for State Development (formerly Minister for Mines), enabling the proposal to be pursued while the new management plan is being prepared. "National park" is considered appropriate for the islands in recognition of their significant recreational values. It also affords protection for the islands' historic, conservation and archaeological values. It is anticipated that the three recreation reserves (East and West Lewis Islands and part of Malus Island) will also become part of the national park once it has been created.

Fieldwork on European heritage sites in the Dampier Archipelago was undertaken late last year by the WA Maritime Museum and University of Western Australia, assisted by CALM. The report from this fieldwork is expected to provide guidance on how these heritage sites should be managed over the next 10 years. It is anticipated that copies of the heritage report will be available in the next month from Laurina Bullen (contact details below).



Dampier Archipelago nature reserves and recreation reserves managed by CALM

The Dampier Archipelago management plan is also being written with due consideration of the proposals for the Burrup Peninsula. Consultant Steve Szabo, is preparing a plan for the Burrup on behalf of the Wong-goo-tt-oo, the Ngarluma Yindjibarndi and the Yaburara Marduhunera registered native title claimant groups. A steering committee, comprising representatives of the three groups, the Shire of Roebourne, CALM, and the Office of Native Title, has been set up to guide the preparation of the Burrup plan. Issues that need to be considered that will impact on the Dampier Islands plan include improved access to Conzinc Bay, construction of a visitor centre, improved boat launching facilities, the possibility of providing some form of accommodation, and protection and management of the area's archaeological heritage.

The circulation of this update is intended to stimulate comment and feedback for the draft management plan. It is anticipated that future updates will be circulated on an as needs basis during the planning process. Please advise if you wish to be removed from the mailing list for updates and further information.

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