

LIBRARY

Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

This PDF has been created for digital preservation. It may be used for research but is not suitable for other purposes. It may be superseded by a more current version or just be out-of-date and have no relevance to current situations.

DIEBACK – HELP STOP THE ROT

Dieback is a plant disease caused by the microscopic organisms of the introduced *Phytophthora* fungi species. There are many different types of *Phytophthora* that kill hundreds of plants by destroying their root systems. The climate of the South Coast favours the spread of dieback which thrives in warm, moist soil and can be easily spread in mud or soil that adheres to a vehicle's tyres, or a walker's footwear.

PLEASE CLEAN YOUR FOOTWEAR BEFORE VISITING A PARK OR TAKING A BUSHWALK.

Dieback is easily spread to healthy plants, to other parks or reserves, to your garden, or to your farm.

PLEASE REMEMBER

- ❖ While we are concerned for your welfare, personal safety is your responsibility. Take care in natural environments.
- ❖ Put your litter in bins, or better still, take it away. Where toilets are not provided, bury organic waste at least 30 cm deep and at least 100 m from water sources, picnic areas or campsites.
- ❖ Do not light fires. Barbecues are provided in some locations. Bring your own portable gas barbecue.
- ❖ Normal road rules apply. Stay on formed roads. Unlicensed vehicles are prohibited.
- ❖ No pets or firearms are permitted in national parks or nature reserves. Poison baiting for fox control is regularly carried out in these areas.
- ❖ Fishing in lakes and streams at Two Peoples Bay is not permitted.

FURTHER INFORMATION

National Park Rangers are always glad to help make your visit more enjoyable and informative. Please contact them if you need assistance.

The Ranger in Charge of these parks lives at Two Peoples Bay, and is happy to answer any inquiry that relates to Two Peoples Bay, Gull Rock or Waychinicup national parks.

Postal address:
RMB 8609
Two Peoples Bay Road
Via Albany WA 6330

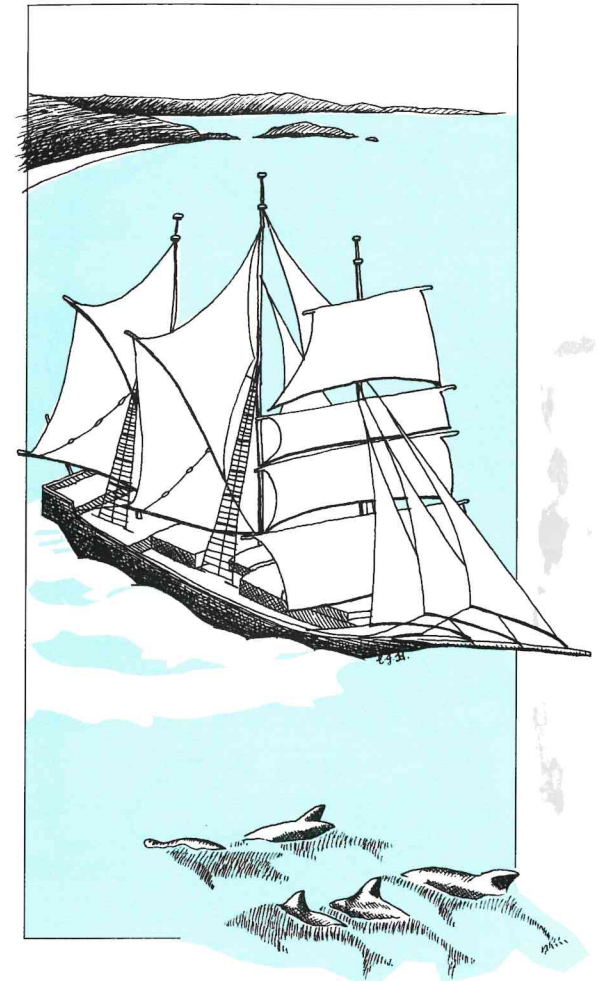
Ph: (08) 9846 4276
Fax: (08) 9846 4394

Albany Office
120 Albany Highway
Albany WA 6330
Ph: (08) 9842 4500
Fax: (08) 9841 7105

Visit CALM's website NatureBase at
www.naturebase.net

Coastal Parks to Albany's east

Visitor recreation guide

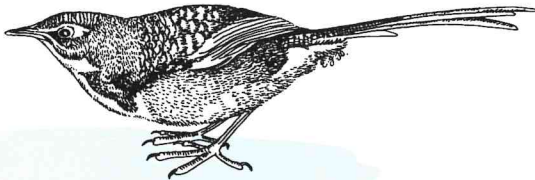


TWO PEOPLES BAY NATURE RESERVE

Positioned between the granite massifs of Mount Gardner and Mount Manypeaks, Two Peoples Bay Nature Reserve is rich in history of early exploration and settlement. In 1803, a chance meeting between French and American mariners resulted in their naming it *Baie des Deux Peuples*.

Pioneer settlers sought the rich harvest of whales, seals and fish from the sheltered beaches, to supplement their meagre incomes, and travelled the same trails that Aboriginal people had wandered through distant time.

Situated 35 kilometres east of Albany, Two Peoples Bay offers visitors a diversity of marine and terrestrial recreation opportunities. These include boating, fishing, swimming or lazing on the beach. There's also picnicking among the peppermint trees, seeking out the many species of a diverse flora and fauna, or walking the scenic Heritage Trail.



Widely renowned for the rediscovery of the long thought extinct noisy scrub-bird and Gilbert's potoroo, the Bay is considered to be a significant sanctuary for threatened birds and animals, and is an enthusiastically sought after destination for nature lovers, students and scientists.

A total of 188 species of birds has been recorded here, approximately 70 per cent of which are resident. The coastal heath, wetlands and marine environments provide a suitable setting for continued success of the other migratory species.

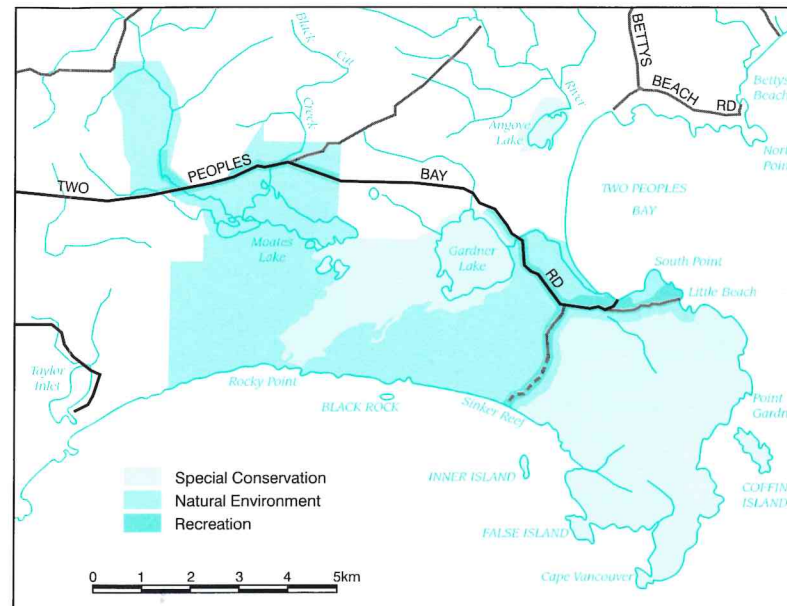
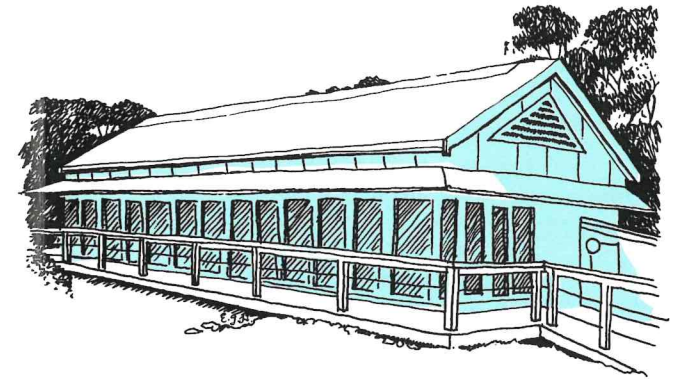
SPECIAL CONSERVATION ZONE

Conservation of rare species requires that a section of the reserve may be entered only by written permit.

Dieback disease (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*) will kill species of native plants that form the habitat of noisy scrub-birds and potoroos. This may have a profound impact on the survival of this rare fauna. Research is ongoing in an effort to increase the numbers of the critically endangered Gilbert's potoroo. Please don't enter the special conservation zone unless you have a permit.

VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

Information available at the Visitor Centre is beautifully presented in clear displays that provide a wonderful overview of the values that make the reserve such a significant location.



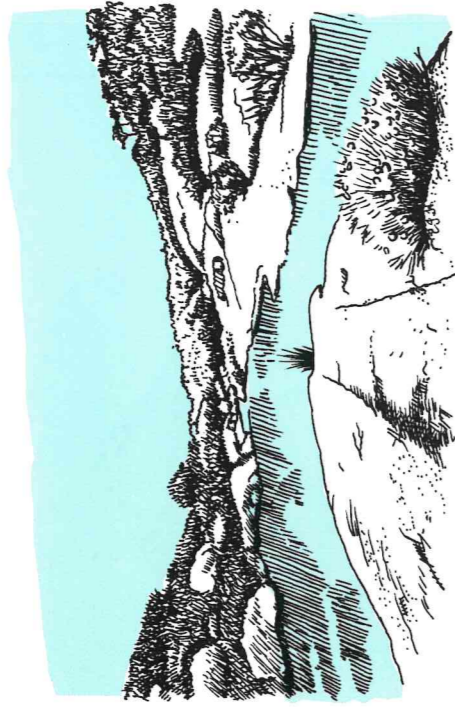
Impressively designed to allow information to be available during daylight hours and generally open every day from 10am to 4pm for the convenience of visitors during the summer. Open Sunday, Wednesday and Saturday during other times. (Note: the centre may be closed for safety reasons when the fire danger is "very high" or "extreme".)

Enjoy a video, or from the bird hide, listen to the noisy scrub-bird defend its territory.

A range of information publications and souvenir items is available for purchase from the sales outlet.

WAYCHINICUP NATIONAL PARK

Waychinicup National Park includes the lower reaches and inlet of the Waychinicup River and granite outcrops extending east to Cheyne Beach. Deeply incised gullies run down to the sea from these boulder-strewn hilltops and among its tree-filled gullies rare and elusive animals survive.



As well as boasting unspoilt coastal scenery, the Park is a haven for threatened animal species. Noisy scrub-birds first re-introduced from Two Peoples Bay are now established as another major population, sharing habitat with western bristlebirds and whipbirds. Another ground dweller, the western ground parrot, also appears to be making a comeback.

The picturesque inlet of the Waychinicup River lies 65 kilometres east of Albany and is a unique South Coast estuary.

The nearby Mt Manypeaks Nature Reserve is generally not publicly accessible. This is to protect the reserve's extremely high conservation values, including threatened species, and to reduce the risk of fire and disease spread.

TRAVELLING TIME: 45 minutes from Albany. The unsealed entry road can be hazardous, or closed after bad weather.

WHAT TO DO: Sightseeing, swimming, bushwalking, nature study, exploring, fishing and family recreation.

FACILITIES: Small bush camping area, sealed vault toilet, gas barbecue. Fresh water is not available.

GULL ROCK NATIONAL PARK

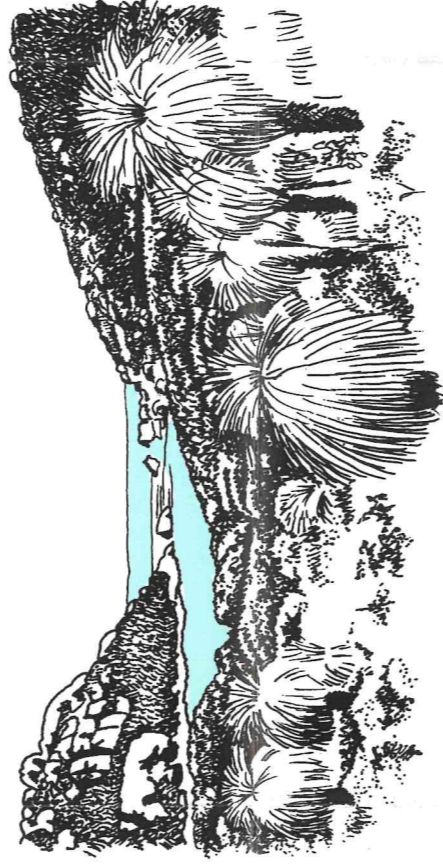
Gull Rock National Park forms a link between the communities of the City of Albany and special areas of conservation to the east. It provides for the diverse recreational pursuits that a growing population desires, but also provides native flora and fauna with a sanctuary from urban development.

Community input was sought to determine best use and help identify what needs to be undertaken to return used areas to a degree of naturalness. Over time, misaligned vehicle tracks need to be rehabilitated, with one sustainable track developed to required access points. CALM is working in partnership with the community to achieve this.

Gull Rock National Park adjoins the Mount Martin Regional Botanic Park, and while they have separate purposes, there is a shared vision of conserving the uniqueness of the region's biodiversity and providing for community use without compromising conservation principles.

The climate here is warm and temperate, with wet winters and dry summers. The average rainfall is 900 mm. Severe winter storms with heavy rain are common and saturated soils increase the risk of spreading dieback. Native vegetation is at risk from bushfire during the hot dry summer.

Vegetation associations include jarrah/marri woodlands and mallee on the shallower laterite soils. On deeper sands, banksia woodlands are dominant. Heathlands extend along the coast. Valley floors support diverse swamp associations with melaleuca woodland and scrubland with a sedge and rush understorey.



WHAT TO DO

Visitors to higher vantage points are rewarded with extremely enjoyable views along the coast to Princess Royal Harbour and off-shore islands, and beyond the hinterland to Mount Gardner in the east.



A wide range of colourful flora and many species of local and migratory birds can be identified in all vegetation associations.

Recreation, however, is mostly concentrated along the seaside, with many popular fishing sites accessible to both conventional and four-wheel drive vehicles.

Four-wheel drive tracks provide access to several popular fishing destinations.

Exercise areas are catered for on Ledge Beach. Family groups often prefer the shelter of Ledge Point Beach, also known as Boiler Bay.

Over time, facilities will be developed at recreation sites, allowing the remaining natural areas to be preserved for future generations.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers give their time to help conserve their natural heritage and to return something for the enjoyment they receive from recreating in a natural environment. Have you considered helping in this way but not known where to start? People of all ages and professions are needed. Contact the South Coast Regional volunteer co-ordinator by telephoning (08) 9842 4500 for information on how you can help.

