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The Institute of Foresters of Australia

(W.A. Division)

Lobby.

CHAIRMAN: R. Underwood
COMMITTEE: J. Bradshaw
 J. Williamson
 B. White
HON. SEC.: J. Kaye

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

1. MANJIMUP "WOOD OF FAMOUS TREES"

Since the November Newsletter progress on the Manjimup Wood project has been rapid. The response to the questionnaire seeking endorsement of the membership was excellent. To date 75 positive responses have been received, many with helpful suggestions. The Committee would like to thank the membership for their endorsement of the project. The Terms of the lease with the Forests Department are being negotiated and Jack Bradshaw has been appointed Project Co-ordinator and Martyn Rayner Project Secretary. Jack Bradshaw has also made presentations of the enclosed paper to members at Como and Bunbury.

Enclosed is a copy of this detailed outline of the project and the membership is asked to:

- a) add to the list of potential species and reason for fame.
 - b) add any additions to reasons for fame of existing list.
 - c) give suggestions for what the wood should be named.
 - d) indicate to the Project Secretary, if not already done so on the questionnaire, a desire to help on any one of the committees suggested in the report.
 - e) suggest any sources of reference material that could be useful.
 - f) suggest any species themes or groups of species you are interested in.
- Any additional comments should be sent to:

Project Secretary
Mr M. Rayner
C/- Forests Department
Manjimup

by the 25th January, 1985.

We hope to keep things moving on this project with the aim of having a symbolic initial tree planting ceremony to co-incide with the IFA 50th Anniversary in 1985.

2. PHOTOGRAPHY DISPLAY

As part of the ANZIF conference in Hobart there will be a photo display on show to the public for the week preceding and the week of the conference. The aim is to have each Division of the Institute prepare a folio of 6 to 10 photographs of forest scenes or activities. The theme is forest land use management - satisfying community needs.

To recognise the artistic merit of the best photographs, four small prizes hand made from Tasmanian timbers will be presented.

Please contact Cliff Winfield if interested. Phone 367 6333.

3. COMMENTS LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF WEST AUSTRALIAN

Several IFA members contacted me after a letter criticising the capacities of foresters was published in The West Australian in October.

The enclosed reply was sent to the Editor, but not published. I have, however, sent a copy to Mr Masters. He is the Senior Geologist with Westralian Sands.

The committee has resolved to handle these sort of attacks on the profession by drawing attention to our positive achievements.

This approach is commended to IFA members dealing with community and political groups.

Any comments would be appreciated. Roger Underwood.

4. SHANNON D'ENTRECASTEAUX MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Institute is preparing comments on the Shannon D'Entrecasteaux Management Plan.

5. UNDERWOOD REPORT FROM ANNUAL IFA COUNCIL MEETING

IFA Council met this year on December 10, 11 & 12 at Gympie in QLD. Council comprises the President (Keith Jennings), Secretary (Garry Bacon), and the six State divisional Chairmen. The Honorary Business Manager and Proxy Councillors from QLD division also attended.

Key reports will be published in the Newsletter, so I will not cover them here. But the highlights of the Meeting were decisions:

- a) To employ a salaried Business Manager.
- b) To fund the publication of three Institute books, some promotional pamphlets and several national projects.
- c) To develop new policies on Fire, Rural Tree Loss, and Water, but not to develop a policy on 245-T.
- d) To support the Manjimup Woods Project.
- e) To redefine qualifications for student and corporate membership.

Final details for The 1985 Conference were dealt with and there was enthusiastic endorsement of W.A. proposals for the 1987 Conference.

Council dealt with about 40 agenda items over the 3 days and worked well into the night twice. However, the atmosphere was good-humoured and constructive throughout and sessions were conducted in a most business-like fashion, and this helped us to survive the long hours and often very intensive debating on issues.

In about a month I will have a full copy of the minutes and can make this available to any interested member.

ROGER UNDERWOOD.

The Institute of Foresters of Australia
(W. A. Division)

PO Box 123
NEDLANDS WA 6009

30 October 1984

The Editor
"The West Australian"
Newspaper House
125 St George's Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Sir

I am surprised at the views expressed by Bernard Masters ("Foresters to dominate Conservation Department") in his letter of 29 October.

As a geologist in a mining company whose eyes are firmly fixed on the tuart forest, Mr Masters should by now have had enough contact with professional foresters to realise that their interests are not simply "restricted to timber production".

Quite apart from timber production, Western Australian foresters have been responsible for: the original establishment and protection of the State's forests; development of an exemplary multiple land-use system which makes provision for the full range of forest values (including conservation, as in the tuart forest); outstanding research into fauna, dieback, fire control, hydrology and nutrition; the development of numerous recreation areas and tourist attractions in the forest; very effective regeneration and reforestation programmes; and the establishment of the D'Entrecasteaux National Park. The former Director of National Parks in W.A. was a forester, and foresters have contributed significantly to the protection and management of National Parks in the south west over the last 30 years. There are many foresters already working outside the timber production zones in this State today, and their work is highly professional and inter-disciplinary.

Like any member of the community, Mr Masters is free to question forest management practices (such as prescribed burning) or forest policy. This is healthy. Foresters have also debated these issues with governments over the years.

However, there are no grounds for his questioning the breadth of interest or the professionalism of Western Australian foresters. If called to manage public lands according to policies developed by a new Department of Conservation and Land Management, foresters have the track record to prove that they can do so effectively. I am unaware of any evidence which suggests otherwise.

Yours faithfully



R J UNDERWOOD
CHAIRMAN, W.A. DIVISION
INSTITUTE OF FORESTERS OF AUSTRALIA

The Institute of Foresters of Australia

(W.A. Division)

THE MANJIMUP "WOOD OF FAMOUS TREES"

Objective

To create and maintain a wood dedicated to the Famous Trees of Commerce, Culture, Legend and Literature, and to publish a book on the trees and their place in history.

Purpose

1. To illustrate the importance of trees by showing how they have influenced or been an integral part of the development of man's civilisation through the wider human interest and historical context rather than their ecological or botanical value. For example, to show that oak was not only an important tree in Europe but because of its importance for ship building, had a major influence on the exploration of the New World and the development of the British Empire.
2. To plant a wood of famous trees which will grow on the site in such a way as to create the atmosphere of the forest concerned, not just an attractive park or arboretum.
3. To provide a view of trees and forests which has not been done before and at the same time establish a public amenity which will be unique in this State. The book will provide the opportunity to cover the subject in depth as well to describe species which we will not be able to grow on the site.

Benefits to the IFA

1. The project should provide a focus for IFA activity and identity especially at a time when it may become more difficult to retain our identity.
2. The IFA will be seen to be associated not only with an attractive public facility but to have a much deeper association and understanding of the value of fascination of trees than usually portrayed.
3. It will provide an opportunity for the foresters to demonstrate their skills and at the same time illustrate the international perspective of the profession.

The Site

1. A forest lease is being negotiated with the Forests Department for 20 years (renewable) at \$1.00 per annum. An offer of assistance with the project has also been received. The land is freehold owned by the Conservator of Forests.
2. The site consists of two locations (77 ha) adjacent to the Donnelly River just south of One Tree Bridge. An access road terminates at the eastern boundary and the Bibbulum track runs along the river at the western end.

2.

3. The area is bordered on two sides by State forest and on two sides by private property. Part of the S.F. is excellent karri regrowth about 40 years old.
4. About 38 ha is cleared, 5 ha is planted with a karri seed orchard and other eucalypt species and the remainder is karri and marri regrowth.
5. The cleared site includes the foundations of the old house, a small dam and several chestnut, oak, walnut, radiata and poplar trees. A large irrigation pipe runs from the dam to the top of the hill on the southern side. The cleared area includes flat ground in the gully bottom and the top of the hill as well as steep ground of both northern and southern aspects. There is a stream running the entire length of the block and there are two soaks on one slope. Blackbutt naturally occurs well up the northern slope indicating excellent moisture holding capacity. The cleared area contains excellent soil throughout. Fine views of the karri forest and the Donnelly valley exist from the hill on the southern boundary.

Strategy

1. Species selected should be well known, be famous for some special reason or have some interesting or historical significance (botanical representation is not necessary).
2. Species should have a reasonable prospect of growing healthily, but slow growth should not be a reason for exclusion. Trees which cannot be grown would still be included in the book.
3. Plantings will require variable areas for each species, depending on their significance or aesthetic requirements. A forest tree would normally require at least 1/5 ha but larger trees (e.g. Sequoia) would require a larger area. Mixtures of complementary species would allow larger areas. Other species (e.g. Coolibah) may only require a ½ dozen individuals in an appropriate woodland setting.
4. Planting should be in natural mixtures or natural juxtapositions where possible and be arranged to be visually complementary. The feeling or atmosphere of the forest concerned should be the aim.
5. Seed will be obtained from the most likely provenance and silvicultural advice is to be obtained from overseas sources where necessary or from sources such as ACT Parks and Gardens.
6. Silvicultural treatment will aim at creating a tree form appropriate to the species in its natural environment and be given the best opportunity possible for development by way of fertilising, thinning etc. Nurse crops may be necessary to provide improved microclimate for other species.
7. Assistance should be sought from any interested individuals or organisations, particularly in the research relating to the significance of individual species or themes. The book should aim at being comprehensive and authoritative but directed towards the interested public rather than the academic or scientist.

8. While a conceptual landscape plan needs to be prepared at an early stage, the whole area may not be prepared initially. Sufficient opportunity for creativity by future foresters needs to be provided so that they are not left simply with a maintenance task.
9. Provision will be made for appropriate public use and IFA activity.
10. Consideration will be given to complementary management of the native forest areas on the site, subject to agreement of the Forests Department.
11. A formal management plan is to be prepared to ensure continuity of objectives and scheduled maintenance.

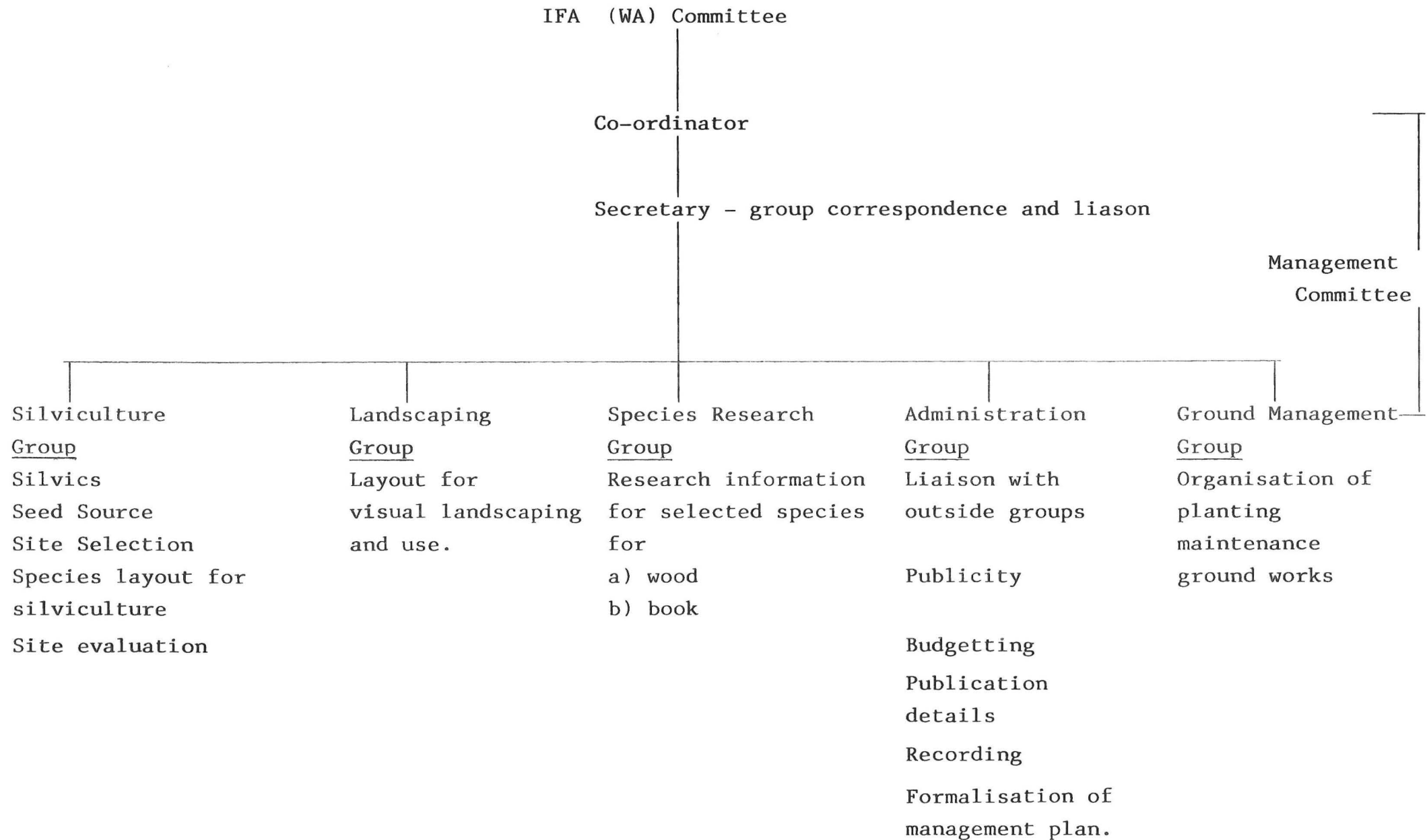
Proposed Program - Phase 1

1. Familiarise members with objectives and strategy and invite comment through meetings at Manjimup, Bunbury, Perth.
2. Invite members and other likely interested people to contribute to species list or themes.
3. Invite members to volunteer for one or more groups within the management committee.
4. Establish the management committee.
5. Management committee to prepare detailed program of work.

Priorities

1. Finalise lease.
2. Finalise species list.
3. Prepare preliminary species layout to allow landscape group to proceed with conceptual plan.
4. Prepare area and seedlings for ceremonial opening and planting in 1985.
5. Arrange for field inspection of draft plans by members of the Division.

Proposed Structure of Management Committee for the Initial Stages of the Project



PRELIMINARY SPECIES LIST

Initial Suggestions for the Book and Wood

Apple	William Tell, Newton
Acacia	Tannin - Ark of the Covenant
Aleppo (?) Pine	Lone Pine of Gallipoli
Beech	Furniture, carvings, pianos
Birch (Paper)	Indian Canoes
Balsa	Early aircraft
Blackwood	Furniture
Bread Fruit	Captain Cook, Captain Bligh
Camphor laurel	Aromatic, coffins
Chestnut	Julius Caesar to Britain, Village blacksmith fame
Cedar (Western Red)	Totem poles West Coast Indians
Cedar of Lebanon	Oldest surviving ship, Solomon's Temple
Cedar (Toona Australis)	Cedar getters - opening up of East Coast
Cinchina Tree	Quinine
Coolibah	Waltzing Matilda
Cottonwood	Mark Twain
Cork Oak	Cork
Douglas Fir	General timber, large sizes, masts
Elm	Buggy wheels, piles Rialta, Venice
E.?	Eucalypt Oil
E. globulus	Drain Swamps, Italy, Malaria
Ebony	Piano keys
Elder (Judas Tree)	Judas
Fir	Timber, Trojan Horse (?)
Huon Pine	Furniture, boats
Hemlock	Timber
Hickory	Mosquito aircraft, spokes, shafts
Holly	Christmas
Kauri	Yallourn coal fields
Kurrajong	Man From Snowy River
Ironbark	Man From Ironbark
Japanese Cherry	National Tree
Juniper	Gin
Larch	
Laurel	Symbol of Victory

2.

Lime	Nordic Ships
Lime	Scurvy
Lodge pole Pine	Indian Tepees
Maple	Syrup
Mahogany	Furniture
Mountain Ash	Man From Snowy River
Mulberry	Silk
Mulga	Mulga bill
Norfolk Island Pine	Masts
Oak	British fleet, British Empire
Olive	Peace
Palm - Date/Coconut	Food
Poplar	
Plane	Handel's 'Friendly Tree' - Opera Serse
P. pinaster	Reclamation of land, Portugal
P. taeda	Naval stores
Red Gum	Hans Heysen
Rubber	Transport
Salmon Gum	Gold
Sandalwood	Incense
Spruce	Timber - deal, Aircraft
Scots Pine	Largest supplier of timber
Sycamore	Violins
Sequoia	Largest living organism - written language of Cherokees
Taxodium	Everglades
Teak	Furniture
Willow	Cricket bats
Yew	Long bow - Robin Hood, furniture, panelling (Q. Victoria special train). Symbol of life.

Themes - Architecture/Shelter
Music
Medicine
Transport
Food/nuts etc
Religion
Weapons
Industry

3.

What was - the cross in the crucifixion ?
- Noah's Ark ?

Please add to the list if you know a famous tree which should be included - it must include the reason why it is famous. If you can, also add reasons for fame to the existing list and return it to the Secretary.