

# DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT

## POLICY STATEMENT NO 1

### PLANNING

JANUARY 1986

#### INTRODUCTION

Planning is a key feature of the activities of the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM). It is important to have a planning policy so that all those interested can understand the approach of the Department of Conservation and Land Management to land management planning.

The planning policy of the Department of Conservation and Land Management conforms with the Conservation and Land Management Act, whose main requirements with respect to management plans are that:

- (1) Management plans are to be prepared by CALM for all land and water vested in the National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority (NPNCA) or the Lands and Forest Commission (LFC), who forward them to the Minister for approval. Appendix 1 lists these and an additional category relevant to management plan preparation.
- (2) Draft management plans must be open to public submissions for a minimum period of 2 months.
- (3) Once approved by the Minister, a management plan will apply for a maximum period of 10 years.
- (4) Where there is no management plan, certain operations described in the Act, are allowed. These must be consistent with the objectives for the area concerned as described in the Act, whether it is National Park, Marine Park, Nature Reserve, Marine Nature Reserve, State Forest or other reserve.

The term 'management plan' in this policy statement is used for plans where public participation is a statutory requirements under the CALM Act, and is covered in policy points 1 to 8.

Implementation of this planning policy is described in policy point 9.

Other planning matters, that have no statutory requirement for public participation, are dealt with in policy point 10.

#### PLANNING POLICIES

1. The same planning policy will apply to all land and water vested in the NPNCA or the LFC.

2. Although the same planning policy will apply to all land and water vested in the NPNCA or the LFC, differences in the objectives for each area and the kind of operations that apply there, will be taken into account.
3. There shall be a hierarchy of types of plans to cater for the need for broad policy statements over the whole State, more detailed plans for regions, and still more detailed plans for specific areas. The hierarchy of plans shall be:

Statewide plan  
Regional management plan  
Area management plan

Appendix 2 summarises their characteristics which are further described below.

4. The Statewide plan will contain broad policy statements for all major aspects of land use for all land and water vested in the NPNCA or the LFC in Western Australia. Being a collection of broad policy statements, the Statewide plan is not considered to have a statutory requirement for public participation.
5. A Regional management plan will be prepared for each CALM administrative region. The plan will cover all categories of land and water vested in the NPNCA or the LFC.
6. An area management plan will apply to a specific area such as a National Park, Marine Park, Nature Reserve, Marine Nature Reserve, State Forest, or other reserve. These are the most detailed management plans of all. Area management plans will be prepared only where there are requirements above and beyond those that can be considered by a Regional management plan.
7. Priorities for the preparation of management plans will need to be set from time to time by the Departmental Policy Directorate in conjunction with the Commission or the Authority. Priorities will be assessed taking the following factors into account:
  - 7.1 Any threats to the values of the National Park, Marine Park, Nature Reserve, Marine Nature Reserve, Forest or other reserve, that may be present. These threats are generally from people use, fire, disease, competing land use or development proposal.
  - 7.2 The presence of exceptional cultural, geological, hydrological, features or landscape, of rare or endangered species, or of poorly conserved habitat.
  - 7.3 The need to develop examples of different approaches to planning for a variety of ecosystems and for all CALM regions.
  - 7.4 Existing commitments.
  - 7.5 Government directions.
8. Management plans will contain clear statements on:
  - 1 The purpose and background of the plan;
  - 2 the source information on which the plan is based;

- 3 management problems, and discussion of options where appropriate;
  - 4 management prescriptions, including sections on implementation and monitoring.
9. Implementation of the planning policy for preparation of management plans will be along the following lines:
- 9.1 To ensure that the Department's resources are used to greatest effect in the highest priority areas, management plans are not to be commenced except with the approval of the Policy Directorate.
  - 9.2 The Policy Directorate, as the need arises, will prepare a new list of 'existing approvals for management plan preparation' (i.e. revise appendix 3) based on the criteria of point 7 of this planning policy, and 'likely future approvals for management plan preparation' (i.e. revise appendix 4).
  - 9.3 When approval is given by the Policy Directorate to begin preparation of a management plan, the Planning Branch is to be involved.
  - 9.4 In most cases a project team will be formed to produce the management plan. At least one representative from the region or district to which the plan refers, and at least one representative from Planning Branch will be on the team.
  - 9.5 It is the responsibility of the project team in conjunction with the Manager Planning Branch:
    - (1) to decide how much non statutory public involvement occurs during the preparation of draft plan;
    - (2) to submit the draft plan to the Policy Directors for comment and approval before it is released for the statutory public comment period of at least 2 months;
    - (3) to prepare a briefing session for the NPNCA or the LFC if required by the Executive Director;
    - (4) at the close of the public submission period, to analyse the public submissions, to prepare a summary of them, and to prepare a final plan, incorporating wherever possible, the points made in the submissions;
    - (5) to submit the final plan to the Policy Directorate for departmental approval;
    - (6) following approval by the Policy Directorate and depending on the vesting of the area concerned, to submit the final plan for approval to the NPNCA or the LFC.
  - 9.6 The NPNCA and the LFC under the Act, can submit the plan to any organisation they consider relevant, and must also submit the plan to the relevant Shires, before submitting the plan to the Minister for his approval.
  - 9.7 After ministerial approval, management plans will be distributed throughout the Department. Copies of approved management plans must be available to the general public.

10. Plans with no statutory requirements for public participation will cover planning matters not covered by management plans. Although they are not required to have public participation, this may often be appropriate. These plans are necessary for implementing management plans, or for forming the basis of good land management until management plans are prepared.

Examples are:

- 10.1 Interim guidelines for operations in areas where no management plans exist. See Appendix 5.
- 10.2 Site plans.
- 10.3 Resource allocation plans. These kinds of plans deal with the allocation of management resources i.e. people and machinery, eg, plans for large fire emergencies on a regional basis, plans for a search and rescue emergency.
- 10.4 Issue plans, eg. plans for fire, dieback, recreation. These are prepared either as a follow-up stage to an approved management plan, or as an interim guideline where there is no management plan. These plans are generally prepared by district or regional staff in conjunction with a specialist branch within the Department, and bearing in mind other management issues in the region.
- 10.5 Wildlife management programs. These apply to a single species of animal or plant, or to a group of species (such as several kangaroo species). They are generally prepared by the research branches. The relevant data in them can be incorporated into a regional or area management plan. The relevant policies in them can be incorporated into the Statewide plan. Where there is no management plan, the data in them can be incorporated into interim guidelines

Syd Shea  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## APPENDIX 1

### CATEGORIES OF LAND FOR WHICH MANAGEMENT PLANS AND OTHER PLANS ARE PREPARED BY CALM.

- (1) Forest areas vested in the Lands and Forest Commission (S.5 (a) and (b) of the CALM Act).
- (2) National Parks (S.5 (c) of the Act). (Vested in the National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority).
- (3) Nature Reserves (S.5 (d) of the Act). (Vested in the NPNCA).
- (4) Marine Parks and Marine Nature Reserves (S.5 (e) and (f) of the Act). (Vested in the NPNCA).
- (5) Any other land vested in either the Commission or the NPNCA (S.5 (g) of the Act). There are already various possibilities in this category, e.g. - Reserves previously vested in the National Parks Authority, but not as National Parks.
- (6) Land (S.16 of the Act) that the Executive Director has entered into an agreement to manage.

APPENDIX 2

TABLE SUMMARISING TYPES OF PLANS

PLAN CLASSIFICATION	SCOPE	DETAIL	IMPORTANCE	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
STATEWIDE PLAN	STATEWIDE	+	++	
REGIONAL MANAGEMENT PLAN	CALM ADMIN REGION	++	++++	++
AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN	SPECIFIC AREA	+++	+++	+++

APPENDIX 3

EXISTING COMMITMENTS FOR MANAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION

At January 1986

(Note that other sections of the Department are also contributing to these plans besides Planning Branch, so that their works programmes are also affected.)

STATEWIDE PLAN:

NIL

REGIONAL MANAGEMENT PLANS: South Coast Region

Northern Forest Region

Central Forest Region  
Southern Forest Region.

AREA MANAGEMENT PLANS:

Shannon D'Entrecasteaux Park

Lane Poole Reserve

Nature reserves for the Shire  
of York and Northam

Nature reserves for the Shire  
of Wyalkatchem

Nature reserves of the Dampier  
Archipelago

Mooradung Nature Reserve

Benger Swamp Nature Reserve

Ningaloo Marine park

Forrestdale Lake Nature Reserve

Kemerton - Leschenault \*

Leeuwin - Naturaliste National  
Park

Hamersley Range National Park

Two People Bay and Nature Reserve

Rottnest Island \*

Star Swamp \*

\* In association with other organisations.

ISSUE PLAN : Dieback Management on the South Coast.

RESOURCE ALLOCATION PLANS: Various - under preparation as the responsibility of Regions and Districts.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM: Revision of Kangaroo Management Plan.

APPENDIX 4

LIKELY FUTURE COMMITMENTS FOR MANAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION

At January 1986

Future commitments are being evaluated using the criteria listed in point 7 of this policy statement on planning. Priorities may have to be revised as circumstances change, but it is likely that the following management plans will be commenced during the next 12 months, subject to staff being made available.

Statewide plan for CALM land.

Regional management plan for:

The Wheatbelt Region.

Area management plans for:

Bungle Bungle Area

Yanchep National park

Work is also under way to prepare a 3 year rolling plan showing commitments for management plan preparation. This is needed to allow sufficient lead time for integration with biological surveys.

## APPENDIX 5

### INTERIM GUIDELINES FOR OPERATIONS ON CALM LAND WHERE A MANAGEMENT PLAN HAS NOT YET BEEN PREPARED

For substantial areas of land under the control of the Department of Conservation and Land Management it will be many years before management plans are prepared for them. In the meantime the C.A.L.M. Act provides in Section 33(3)(b) that certain operations can be carried out when there is no management plan.

For National Parks and Nature Reserves these are defined as those actions necessary for the preservation or protection of persons, property, land, flora or fauna, or for the preparation of a management plan.

For indigenous State forest they are defined as those actions that ensure the multiple use and sustained yield of that resource for the satisfaction of long term social and economic needs.

Interim departmental guidelines will be developed for these operations. They are technical matters within the professional competence of the Department of Conservation and Land Management and are not required to involve public participation, nor consideration by the NPNCA or the LFC.

These guidelines are still being developed, and will consist of;

- (1) a brief description and a brief written guideline for major potential activities.
- (2) a map showing the locality.
- (3) a table showing who must give approval before an operation can be carried out on a particular area.

The example given in the next few pages is still being refined, but shows how the concept is intended to work.

DRAFT

INTERIM GUIDELINES  
FOR OPERATIONS ON CALM LAND, WHERE A MANAGEMENT PLAN  
HAS NOT YET BEEN PREPARED

DESCRIPTION

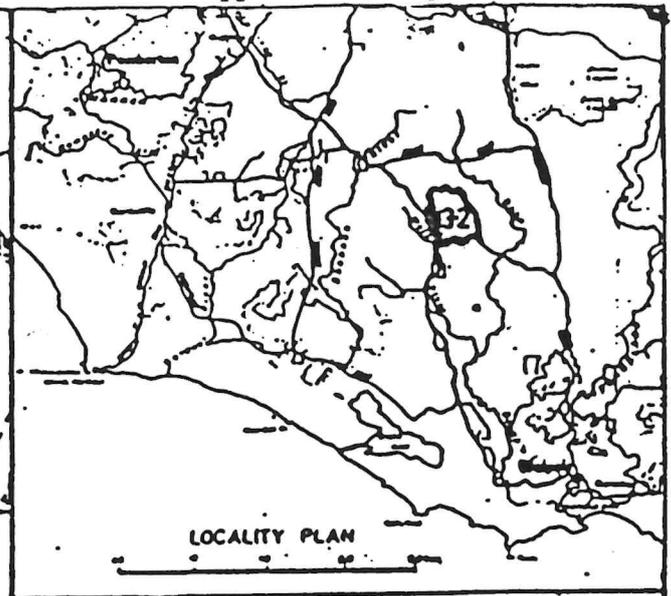
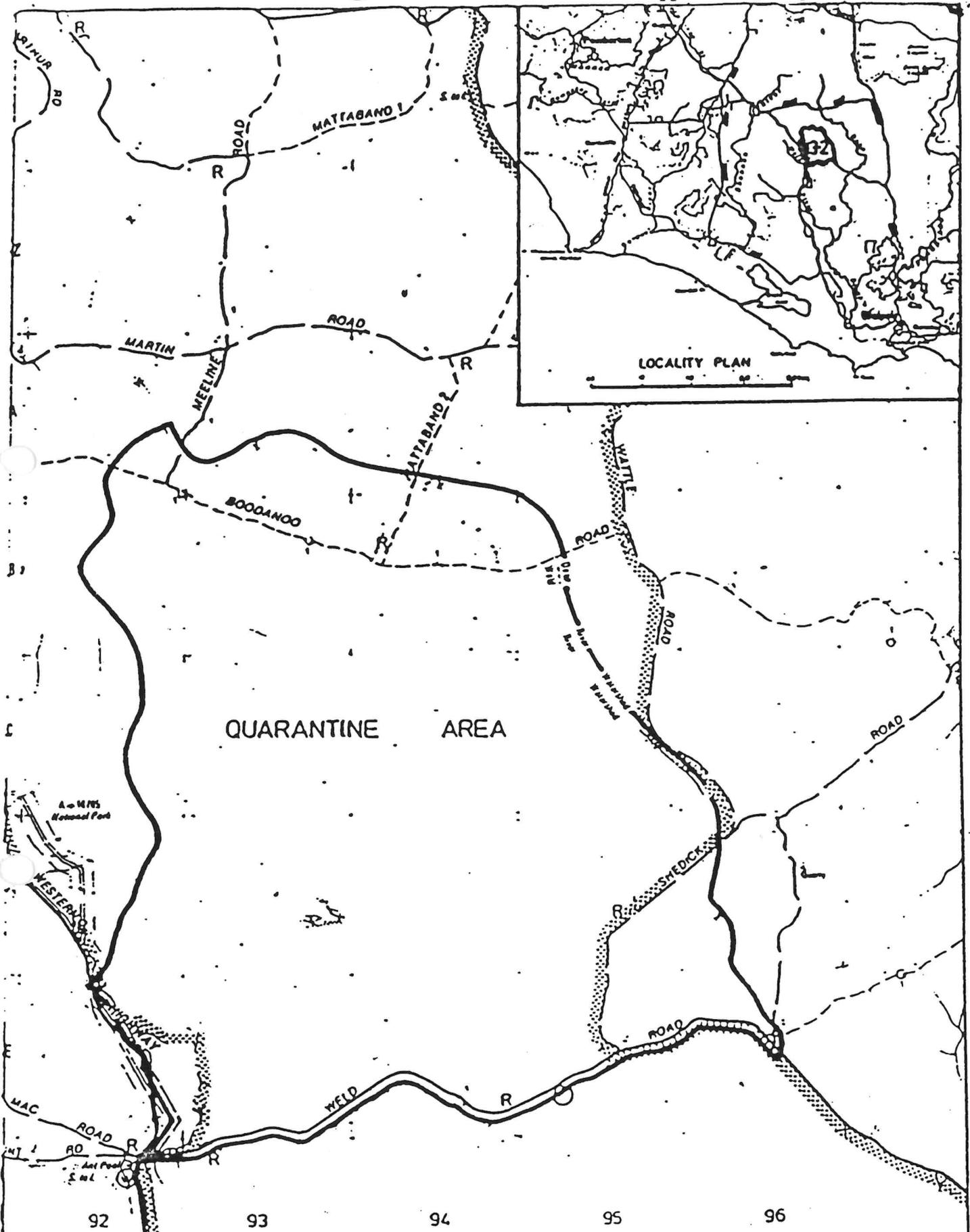
- NAME: Wattle Forest Sanctuary. Priority Area 13.2.
- PURPOSE: Conservation of virgin karri, marri and jarrah.
- AREA: 2,900 ha.
- LOCATION: 37 kilometres north north west of Walpole.  
See map.
- TENURE: The entire area is in State forest and  
surrounded by State forest.
- MAJOR  
ASSETS: Areas of high quality virgin karri, marri and  
jarrah forest. The area is also an entire  
subcatchment of the Weld river and is part of  
the Australian standard catchment system. (\*See  
Forest Focus No.18, August 1977).
- MAJOR  
LIABILITIES: There is a small patch of dieback infection in  
the north west corner.
- RESOURCES: The vegetation ranges from high quality virgin  
karri through karri-marri and jarrah-marri  
mixtures to treeless flats. It contains a large  
quantity of high quality karri timber. All the  
main tree species are important sources of  
honey. The stream draining the area yields high  
quality water, as yet not utilised. Detailed  
ecological surveys are yet to be completed.

GUIDELINES FOR MANAGEMENT

The aim for this forest sanctuary is to manage it in an undisturbed state.

- Access: Access routes are to be maintained under strict  
hygiene conditions. Vehicle access is to be  
restricted to essential purposes.
- Disease: Retain this forest sanctuary as a proclaimed  
disease risk area.

- Fire:** Maintain a prescribed burning programme to favour floral and faunal values. See Appendix 6.
- Gravel:** No gravel is to be removed from the sanctuary.
- Honey:** Apiary sites are not allowed in the sanctuary.
- Mining:** Proposals for mining in this forest sanctuary to be strongly opposed and referred to the Department of Conservation and Environment for resolution.
- Recreation:** Recreation involving vehicles is not allowed in this forest sanctuary.
- Wood Production:** Commercial cutting is not allowed.
- Other:** Permits for harvesting native flowers and vegetation are not to be issued for the sanctuary.



QUARANTINE AREA

**LEGEND**

BOUNDARY.....  
 QUARANTINE BOUNDARY.....



**WATTLE NATURE CONSERVATION FOREST 13.2**  
 ACCESS THROUGH QUARANTINE VIA WELD ROAD ONLY

Scale 1:50000



	PRODUCTION FOREST		PROTECTION FOREST		AMENITY FOREST		CONSERVATION FOREST		NATIONAL PARK		WILDLIFE RESERVE		OTHER	
	WOOD	WATER	CATCHMENT	GENERAL	RECREATION	SCIENTIFIC	SANCTUARY	MANAGED	PARK	SANCTUARY	MANAGED	(VCL MRPA)		
Felling (i) Logging (ii) Dangerous Trees (iii) Fire and Emergency	RM CH DH	RM DM DM	RM DM DM	RM DM DM	PDF DM DM	PDR RM RM	PROHIB PDC RM	PDF DHO RM	PDNP DHO RM	PROHIB PDC DHO	PROHIB PDC DHO	RM DM DM		
Clearing (i) Roading (ii) Power Lines, SEC, HMG, Telephone (iii) Communications (iv) Other (Parking, Survey Lines) Exploitation	RM DHO DHO DHO	DHO DHO DHO	DHO DHO DHO	RM DHO DHO DHO	DHO DHO DHO	PDR PDR PDR PDR	PROHIB PROHIB PROHIB PDC	PDF PDF PDF PDF	PDNP PDNP PDNP PDNP	PROHIB PROHIB PROHIB PDC	PROHIB PROHIB PROHIB PDC	RM RM RM RM		
(i) Gravel, Sand & Minerals (ii) Wildflowers (iii) Fauna (iv) Apiary Sites (v) Firewood (vi) Grazing (vii) Camping (viii) Recreation Vehicles (ix) Hunting (x) Mining (Exploration)	RM RM PDC RM RM RM RM RM RM PDF DHO	RM RM PDC RM RM DHO DHO DHO PDF DHO	RM RM PDC RM RM DHO DHO DHO PDF DHO	RM RM PDC RM RM DHO DHO DHO PDF DHO	DHO DHO DHO DHO DHO DHO DHO DHO PDF DHO	PDR PDR PDR PDR PDR PDR PDR PDR PDR PDF	PDC PDC PDC PROHIB PROHIB PROHIB PROHIB PROHIB PDC	PDF PDF PDF PDF PDF PDF PDF PDF PDF PDF	PDNP PDNP PDNP PDNP PDNP PDNP PDNP PDNP PDNP PDNP	PDC PDC PDC PROHIB PROHIB PROHIB PROHIB PROHIB PDC PDC	PDC PDC PDC PROHIB PROHIB PROHIB PROHIB PROHIB PDC PDC	RM PDC PDC RM RM RM RM RM PDC DHO		
Protection (i) Fuel Reduction (ii) Pest Control (iii) Weed Control (iv) Prohibited Access Emergency (i) Fire (ii) Lost People (iii) Disaster (Crash, etc.)	RM PDF RM DHO DM DM DM	RM PDF DHO DHO DM DM DM	RM PDF DHO DHO DM DM DM	RM PDF DHO DHO DM DM DM	DHO DHO DHO DHO DM DM DM	PDR PDR PDR PDR RM DM DM	PDC PDC PDC PDC DHO DM RM	PDF PDF PDF PDF RM DM DM	PDNP PDNP PDNP PDNP DHO DM RM	PDC PDC PDC PDC DHO DM RM	PDC PDC PDC PDC DHO DM DM	RM DHO RM DHO DM DM DM		

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**AUTHORITY REQUIRED**  
 District Manager  
 Regional Manager  
 Divisional Manager Operations  
 Policy Director Conservation  
 Policy Director National Parks  
 Policy Director Forestry  
 Policy Director Research

INTERIM FIRE PROTECTION GUIDELINES.

INDEX

1. Scope (This example is for the Fitzgerald River National Park).

These guidelines for Fire Protection Management are an appendix to the Interim Guidelines for operations on the Fitzgerald River National Park as laid down under Item 10 of the Planning Policy of the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

The sectional headings in these guidelines provide a checklist for those operations considered necessary to achieve the fire protection of this National park. Only relevant sections need to be detailed.

These guidelines will be presented to the Bush Fires Board after consultation with the Ravensthorpe and Jerramungup Shire Councils. Once approved by the Board, the guidelines will be gazetted as a suitable fire management plan as required under Section 34 of the Bush Fires Act.

2. Objectives :
3. Fire Prevention Measures
  - 3.1 Boundary Firebreaks and Buffers
  - 3.2 Internal Firebreaks and Buffers
  - 3.3 Research Burning
  - 3.4 Burn Prescription
  - 3.5 Water Supplies and Access
4. Fire Suppression :
  - 4.1 District Fire Plan
  - 4.2 Fire Detection and Reporting
  - 4.3 Command Structure
  - 4.4 Fire Suppression and Environmental Protection
  - 4.5 Fire Emergency Plans
5. Review