



Parks & Visitor Services Workshop & Research Forum

Point Walter & Kensington 26-28 November 2001

Parks & Visitor Services Workshop

Point Walter Conference Centre

26 – 27th November 2001

Program

Monday, 26th November

8:45 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Welcome and workshop overview (Jim Sharp)
9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	Director's presentation – the resourcing and delivery of the Parks and Visitor Services Output (Jim Sharp)
9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Questions/discussion
10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Morning tea
10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Strategic Planning and Forward Estimates for the PVS Output – 2002/03 and beyond (Gae Mackay & Wayne Schmidt)
11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Presentation by A/Executive Director followed by questions (Keiran McNamara)
12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.	Lunch
1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	Issues Identification – open forum to nominate and prioritise issues for discussion in smaller workshop groups (Chair: Sue Hancock)
2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Discussion of key issues in small workshop groups
3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Afternoon tea
3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.	Continuation of small workshop discussion groups
4:45 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Free time (or organised sporting activity)
6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Dinner
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	Global Eco-tourism: Issues and Trends (Prof. Ross Dowling)
8:30 p.m. - ??	Great Rock'N Roll BUSST Party – an evening to remember (hosted by Gil Field & Stev Slavin)

Tuesday, 27th November

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
8:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	Information Exchange (series of brief 10 – 15 minute presentations on PVS issues of Department-wide interest (Chair: Colin Ingram) <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Leasing & Licensing issues (Rod Quartermain)◆ Visitor fee collection – future strategies (Tracy Shea)◆ Role of environmental education programs (Tony Jupp)◆ Contract (Volunteer) Eco-guide program (Gil Field)◆ The status of RATIS/GIS (Kate Hassall & Matt Cavana)◆ Use of infringement notices (Peter Fishwick)◆ Site & facility maintenance standards (Dave Meehan)◆ Regional Parks Unit sign system and brand images (Mike Bodsworth)◆ Project management and interaction with CAMS and Housing & Works (Tracy Churchill)
9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Questions and discussion on information exchange topics
10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Morning tea
10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Outcomes based management planning (Aberline Nix)
11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	An update on Native Title, Aboriginal consultation and heritage issues (Peter Sharp & Noel Nannup)
12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.	Lunch
1.15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Small workshop discussion groups: summary/consensus/conclusions
2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Reporting back on outcomes/recommendations from small group workshop sessions (Chair: Sue Hancock)
3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Afternoon tea
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Wash-up of issues and workshop summary

Parks & Visitor Services Workshop

List of Participants

CORPORATE EXECUTIVE

Keiron McNamara

Jim Sharp

REGIONAL SERVICES STAFF

John Skillen (Crawley)

Kimberley Region

Kevin White (Broome)

Geoff Young (Kununurra)

Pilbara Region

Dave Whitelaw (Karratha)

Jennie Cary (Exmouth)

Midwest Region

Andy Darbyshire (Lancelin)

Peter Fishwick (Jurien)

Sue Hancock (Geraldton)

Keith Hockey (Jurien)

Swan Region

Kellie Agar (Kensington)

Tony Jupp (Yanchep)

Gae Mackay (Kensington)

Mark Moore (Dwellingup)

Stev Slavin (Mundaring)

Phil Smeeton (Yanchep)

Rob Towers (Kensington)

South West Region

Peter Henderson (Bunbury)

Dave Lathwell (Kirup)

Mark Pittavino (Busselton)

Leon Price (Collie)

Glenn Willmott (Margaret River)

Warren Region

Rod Annear (Pemberton)

Jacki Baxter (Manjimup)

Tim Foley (Manjimup)

Howard Manning (Walpole)

John McKenzie (Pemberton)

David Meehan (Pemberton)

Cliff Winfield (Manjimup)

Vicki Winfield (Manjimup)

South Coast Region

Peter Bidwell (Albany)

Wheatbelt Region

Paul McCluskey (Wheatbelt Region)

Goldfields Region

Barry Hooper (Kalgoorlie)

PARKS, RECREATION, PLANNING & TOURISM DIVISION STAFF

Mike Bodsworth

Laurina Bullen

Val Cave

Matt Cavana

Lorna Charlton

Tracy Churchill

John Clayton

Koodah Cornwall

Steve Csaba

Terese Dimascia

Eamonn Fennessy

Gil Field

Denise Griffiths

Dave Hampton

Kate Hassall

Colin Ingram
Annie Keating
Luisa Liddicoat
Marissa Maher
Kathryn Muir
Noel Nannup
Aberline Nix
Chontarle Pitulej
Rod Quartermain
Wayne Schmidt

Peter Sharp
Tracy Shea
Amanda Smith
Burke Stephens
Robert Thorne
Kieran Wogan

OTHER STAFF

Chris Simpson (Fremantle)

Parks & Visitor Services Workshop

Summary list of issues raised and subsequent discussion

The following issues were raised during the morning presentations by the A/Executive Director and the Director of Parks and the subsequent group discussion session on day one of the workshop. At the conclusion of this latter session, participants were each given three “votes” and asked to nominate those issues they were most interested in discussing further. In descending order of importance, the issues that attracted greatest interest were as follows:

- ◆ Linkages between Nature Conservation and Parks and Visitor Services Outputs (21)
- ◆ Joint management & lack of awareness; diversity that exists across the State and how to achieve outcomes (20)
- ◆ Funding for Aboriginal traineeships, particularly Certificate 4 and future employment opportunities (14)
- ◆ Incorporating maintenance into what we do – need for a strategy (11)
- ◆ What do people want – the need for social research (11)
- ◆ Visitor impact monitoring – need for systematic approach (10)
- ◆ Management planning – need to workshop planning manual (10)
- ◆ Identification of staff skills and training for project management (10)
- ◆ New parks – effective use of recurrent and capital funding and expectations (8)
- ◆ Strategic planning and forward estimates process (7)
- ◆ Strategies for increasing funding (7)
- ◆ Fees policy and State Government decision in relation to beach access in Leeuwin Naturaliste NP – reluctance for user pays (6)
- ◆ Ecological indicators for monitoring impacts for sustainability (4)
- ◆ Greater emphasis on quality versus quantity of facilities – complete works already started (3)
- ◆ Relationship and lines of authority between specialist and regional staff (3)
- ◆ Move towards greater staff specialisation (2)
- ◆ Matching expectations of Regional Services staff against PRPT Division’s capabilities and vice versa (2)
- ◆ Authority versus responsibility – clarification of decision making powers (2)
- ◆ Lighthouse management and maintenance – heritage management requirements and lack of resources (2)
- ◆ Cross cultural awareness training outside forest areas – need for MOU’s (2)
- ◆ Corporate sponsorship opportunities, particularly visitor interpretation programs (1)
- ◆ Linkages between internal planning groups – need for a framework (1)
- ◆ State-wide booking system for camping (1)

- ◆ Gascoyne Murchison Strategy – management of homesteads and facilities and associated liabilities and risks to neighbours (1)
- ◆ Effectiveness of Parks & Visitor Services in marine estate (1)
- ◆ Human resource issues – employment of contract and casual staff unsustainable
- ◆ Different planning formats for marine and terrestrial management plans
- ◆ Lack of uniformity in Service Provision Agreements (SPA's) for different outputs
- ◆ Uniform an equitable approach to use of entry fees in recurrent budgets
- ◆ Importance of revenue as budgets become tighter
- ◆ Skills and knowledge of staff, particularly in dealing with international visitors
- ◆ Need for standardised forms for recreation maintenance works
- ◆ Role of State Trails Co-ordinator
- ◆ Ability to carryover PVS capital funds
- ◆ Research (particularly social research) and where are we heading
- ◆ Integrating RecData and RATIS
- ◆ Devolution of corporate costs to regions

At the conclusion of the general forum, the workshop participants were divided into 6 smaller discussion groups, assigned one of the top ranking issues and asked to come up with suggested recommendations and/or actions that should be undertaken. The results of these smaller workshop discussions were then presented to the larger forum and are briefly summarised in the following notes;

<p><i>Linkages between Nature Conservation and Parks & Visitor Services Outputs</i></p>

Issue: Need to better integrate Parks & Visitor Services and Nature Conservation to achieve effective land management and develop effective land management systems.

Recommendations/examples:

- ◆ Management planning process – involve both PVS and NC staff on management planning teams
- ◆ Pursue research projects that solve management problems
- ◆ Community involvement & liaison
- ◆ Co-ordinate research and management programs together
- ◆ Training – share courses
- ◆ Management structures – NC similar to PVS
- ◆ Us e/link strategic plans

Action: Arrange for PVS presentation to NC Workshop; present suggestions as to how we can work together more effectively and seek a response. Demonstrate how the Corporate Plan can be used to build strategic plans.

Joint management & lack of awareness

Issues:

- ◆ Staff in the field are not aware of joint management processes or what we are expected to do
- ◆ There is a lack of coherent policy framework for us to work within
- ◆ We require a definition of “joint management” – what is it? The term will mean different things in different parks
- ◆ Need to workshop MOU’s and discussion papers on joint management
- ◆ Need to determine who will drive the discussions on joint management
- ◆ Need to identify who to talk to in some cases

Recommendations:

- ◆ Start/continue talking with Aboriginal people – find out about their wants and expectations
- ◆ Build relationships locally
- ◆ Don’t create false expectations
- ◆ Resource the communication process
- ◆ Provide a policy framework and process so that staff feel empowered to initiate discussions of joint management

Funding for Aboriginal Traineeships (particularly Certificate 4)

Recommendations:

- ◆ Need to go through organisations such as NEDDAC or SAC for employment opportunities (CALM to act as training provider)
- ◆ CALM needs to seek some seed funding to ensure programs “get up”
- ◆ Look at possibility of introducing a lower certificate level for Aboriginal people to enter CALM – include grandfather clause
- ◆ Establish a committee to develop a suitable curriculum. Seek comment from Aboriginal leaders and tailor the curriculum to reflect their feedback

- ◆ Establish an Aboriginal Co-ordinator's position in People Services Branch
- ◆ Use Aboriginal Heritage Unit more often for traineeships (provide training, assistance and advice to trainees)
- ◆ Provide increased funding for the Aboriginal Heritage Unit so they can better service regional and district needs
- ◆ Engage some Aboriginal elders in the system so they can help teach young people
- ◆ Provide positions to retain trainees once their training is completed
- ◆ Pursue external sponsorship

<i>Incorporating maintenance into what we do - need for a strategy</i>

Issue: Lack of staff skills and resources

Strategy (staff skills): Training on recreation maintenance similar to that provided by Donnelly District should be carried out for operations staff at all levels (i.e. volunteers, AWU and field staff) and should be incorporated into District IDAPES.

Strategy (resources): Increase resources available for maintenance through staff recruitment processes by targeting specialised people skills and increasing the use of seasonal employees (e.g. seasonal fire fighters) to supplement skills shortfall and trade shortfall. Increase mobility opportunities throughout the Department and appoint dedicated personnel to undertake PVS duties in all areas to achieve consistently high standards.

Issue: In the strategic planning process, there is no specific provision for maintenance in the capital budget.

Strategy: As part of the planning process, identify and incorporate provision for ongoing maintenance when allocating capital funds to approved projects. Utilise RecData to help determine and justify the amount of maintenance funds required. Enable revenue funds to be retained for future maintenance via roll over schemes and trust accounts.

Issue: Maintenance is not being carried out with regard to Departmental requirements. Access to computerised records (e.g. RecData, Vistat) is not always readily available to staff and/or known about. Update of maintenance records is not being completed on time or when needed.

Strategy: Assessment of visitor risks and reassessment of assets for RecData to be completed at the same time to minimise costs and maximise the effective use of available

time and staff resources so as to achieve top results in both assessments. Utilise the VRM and RecData databases to help determine works program priorities.

Issue: The destruction of recreation sites and facilities from natural disasters.

Strategy: Identify the icon values within the park, district or region and protect them using appropriate methods without disturbing the visitor experience. Make this a particular feature of the asset protection program for the area in question.

Visitor impact monitoring

Current situation:

- ◆ Basically attempting to catch up on damage – little monitoring undertaken
- ◆ Marine Conservation Branch does some monitoring
- ◆ Tertiary institutions have been involved with monitoring projects at a local level
- ◆ Some monitoring occurs within the Nature Conservation Output
- ◆ Co-operative Research centres and other agencies are working nationally and overseas on the development of suitable monitoring frameworks
- ◆ The “Green Globe” certification system is being introduced for tourist operators; tourism businesses are underwriting a university chair of environmental sustainability

Issues:

- ◆ No formal monitoring of visitor impacts on terrestrial parks (ecological, social, cultural and managerial factors need assessment)
- ◆ No ownership, driver or co-ordination of visitor impact monitoring
- ◆ Base-line data is largely absent
- ◆ We have a responsibility to the Conservation Commission to monitor impacts and report on these

Solutions:

- ◆ Start with management plan setting an obligation to monitor impacts. The plan needs to define and describe values and threats and identify strategies/actions that need to be undertaken to protect/preserve values. Key result areas and key performance indicators need to be established and reported on.
- ◆ Establish management planning protocols.
- ◆ The role and function of Science Division in management planning and monitoring needs to be clarified.
- ◆ Establish a VIM pilot study at Shark Bay (requires steering group).
- ◆ Establish monitoring nodes or precincts.

- ◆ Re-focus the former ANZECC working group project – establish a national framework for visitor impact monitoring through CRC and/or the working group that has replaced ANZECC and implement locally.
- ◆ Develop cost-effective and useable management tools for visitor impact monitoring.
- ◆ Involve the community and tertiary institutions in visitor impact monitoring. Develop volunteer programs on VIM.
- ◆ Establish visitor impact monitoring databases as part of RATIS.

Identification of skills and training for project managers

Issues: Recognition of (i) different levels of expertise; (ii) different scales and complexities of projects; (iii) need in the short term to develop and deliver a training course.

Training: a range of staff skills is required for project management. These include personal communication, line management, budgeting and financial management, construction and contract management. The proposed training course needs to recognise and be tailored to the Department's context and should be delivered by a mix of internal and external presenters. The training program should also be accompanied by a list of associated or related courses that will build on project management skills.

Recommendations: Establish a working group to develop a training course and associated training materials including a manual on project management. Carry out an audit to identify staff with project management expertise and establish a project management mentoring or support network.

Summary of other actions arising out of the workshop & Regional PVS Leaders meeting

1. Infringement notices - a corporate approach is required for recording and maintaining an up-to date record of breaches of Departmental regulations by visitors to CALM managed lands and waters.

Action: a small working group comprising Peter Fishwick, Andy Darbyshire, Rod Annear and Matt Cavana to develop a uniform approach to recording infringements and ensuring this information is accessible to region, district and park staff.

2. Tracking the activities of commercial tour operators – a system needs to be developed and implemented whereby we can record the activities of CTO's (i.e. what parks and reserves they are visiting, when these visits are occurring, number of passengers, etc.) as this information is essential for planning and management purposes.

Action: Elena Aniere is currently developing a standardised logbook and procedures for recording information by commercial tour operators in marine reserves. The intent is to extend this approach to terrestrial reserves.

3. Park entry fees – a range of issues relating to the scale, coverage and administration of the current schedule of park entry fee were raised in the presentation by Tracy Shea and in subsequent discussions. There was general agreement that a review of the existing arrangements is required.

Action: A working group consisting of Tracy Shea (convenor), Peter Bidwell, Sue Hancock, Dave Meehan, Phil Smeeton and Kieron Wogan is to review the existing schedule of park entry fees and develop recommendations and an action plan to guide future fee collection arrangements.

4. Site and facility maintenance standards – there is a need to establish standards for site and facility maintenance (similar to those developed by Warren District) and apply these more uniformly across all Department recreation areas.

Action: David Meehan, Steve Csaba and Wayne Schmidt to meet and progress this recommendation.

5. Project management – operational guidelines and training on the administration and management of PVS projects is regarded as a high priority in many regions and districts. Such guidelines will become increasingly important as the new strategic planning and forward estimates process for the PVS Output is implemented. As part of the recent review of the Graduate Officer recruitment and training program, the Corporate Executive have endorsed the development of several new training courses including one on project management.

Action: Tracy Churchill to set up a small working group consisting of Tim Foley, Wayne Schmidt (and any other interested members of staff) to develop appropriate guidelines and training materials on project planning and management.

6. Growing reliance on PVS revenue to underpin operational budgets – a number of regional and district cost centres have become increasingly dependent on the revenue generated from park entry, camping and other fees to fund the PVS Output component of their budgets. There has been some “erosion” of PVS recurrent budgets as available funds have been used to support Nature Conservation programs and staff while Parks and Visitor Services initiatives are paid for out of revenue. There are also some perceived inequities in the current revenue incentive scheme dating back to its introduction in 1993/94.

Action: Regional PVS Leaders, Val Cave and Wayne Schmidt to review the existing revenue incentive scheme and prepare a discussion paper and options to the Director of Parks outlining how the existing arrangements can be improved.

*Parks & Visitor Services
Workshop Presentations*



**Strategic Plans & Forward Estimates
Parks & Visitor Services Output**

CALM's Budgeting Process



Departmental Budgets should:

- reflect corporate priorities;
- incorporate those services the Output Directors wish to purchase;
- be based on costed works programs that are integrated between the various service providers.

For this to be achieved, there are several key changes that need to be made to the way budgets have traditionally been prepared.

Changes required:

- We need to rethink our approach to "historical-based" budgeting;
- We need to clearly indicate what the corporate priorities are early in the budget preparation cycle (i.e. **before** target budgets are set);
- We need to adopt a more strategic outcome-based approach to budgeting that considers funding allocations over the longer term (i.e. greater than a single financial year).

Strategic Operations Plans and Forward Estimates:

Desired Outcomes

The strategic planning & budgeting process should:

- be clearly linked to the Corporate Plan, the Parks & Visitor Services Strategic and Business Plans and to PVS Service Provision Agreements;
- enable staff to see where they "fit" in terms of the bigger picture;

The strategic planning & budgeting process should:

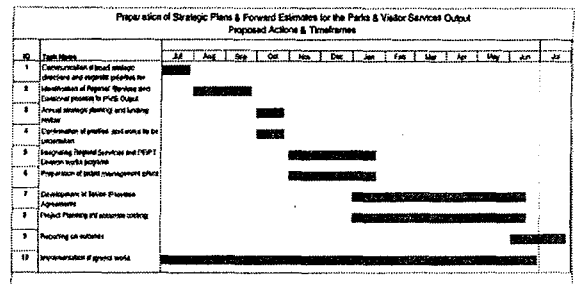
- be readily accommodated within the existing budget cycle;
- facilitate the linkage between Regional Services and PRPT Division works programs
- be forward looking and recognise that the "life cycle" of most Parks and Visitor Services initiatives and projects extends beyond a single financial year;

The strategic planning & budgeting process should:

- provide sufficient lead-time for the negotiation and obtaining of planning or other approvals and the preparation of any associated plans and specifications
- enable "estimates of probable cost" to be obtained for budgeting purposes.

Implementation

In the ideal world.....



Implementation

Phase 1: Setting strategic direction

When	What	Who
Jul	Outline the broad strategic directions & corporate priorities for PVS for next 3 yrs	Director of Parks
Aug-Sept	Develop a provisional 3 yr strategic plan, with capital & MRWA funding requests •Regions & Districts •PRPT Division	•Coordinated by RPL •Divisional Coordinators
Oct	Review of provisional 3 yr plans and funding requests	Director of Parks + PRPT Strategic Planning Group

Implementation

Phase 2: Setting works priorities

When	What	Who
October	Identify approved funding requests for following financial year and indicate which projects are supported for next 2-3 years; finalise provisional strategic plans;	Director of Parks RPLs and PRPT Coordinators update strategic plans to reflect endorsed projects
November - January	Integration of RS and PRPT Division works programs; assignment of project managers; preparation of project management plans	RPLs + PRPT Divisional Strategic Group Project managers

Implementation

Phase 3: Integration of Strategic Plans and SPAs

When	What	Who
January - June	Incorporate approved works program into the SPA for next financial year, reflecting allocated capital and MRWA funding, and target PVS budgets. Obtain estimates of probable costs, and incorporate accurate costings into SPA, works programs and 3 year strategic plans	RPLs + Divisional Coordinators
July	Report on Outcomes/achievements against funded works as agreed to in financial year just ended	RPLs + Divisional staff

Implementation

"Second verse, same as the first!"

When	What	Who
June - July	Repeat the cycle, using updated estimates of probable costs, and expanding the strategic plan to three years	The whole choir

Proposed Strategic Planning & Forward estimates

A simplified guide for *Dumby's-Dummies*

- 1st quarter What are we going to do
- 2nd quarter How are we going to do it
- 3rd quarter How much is it really going to cost, and how much money is Jim going to give us to do it

Proposed Strategic Planning & Forward estimates

A simplified guide for *Dumby's-Dummies*

- 4th quarter What can we carry over when we've failed to do what we said we could
- End of year Report on our achievements and disguise our failures

**Preparation of Strategic Plans & Forward Estimates for the Parks & Visitor Services Output
Proposed Actions & Timeframes**

ID	Task Name													Jul		
		Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun			
1	Communication of broad strategic directions and corporate priorities for															
2	Identification of Regional Services and Divisional priorities for PVS Output															
3	Annual strategic planning and funding review															
4	Confirmation of priorities and works to be undertaken															
5	Integrating Regional Services and PRPT Division works programs															
6	Preparation of project management plans															
7	Development of Service Provision Agreements															
8	Project Planning and accurate costing															
9	Reporting on outcomes															
10	Implementation of agreed works															

Preparation of Strategic Plans & Forward Estimates for the Parks & Visitor Services Output

Outline of actions to be undertaken & proposed timeframe

As well as helping to ensure that future Service Provision Agreements are clearly linked to the Department's Corporate Plan and to the Parks & Visitor Services Strategic and Business Plans, the following strategic planning and forward estimates process is designed to:

- ◆ adopt a longer term view of project planning and budgeting, recognising that the life cycle of many PVS initiatives and projects extends beyond a single financial year;
- ◆ facilitate the linkage between Regional Services and Parks, Recreation, Planning and Tourism Division works programs (that is, identify what various work centres, work teams and individuals need to contribute to provide a given service or achieve an agreed outcome);
- ◆ provide greater lead time for negotiating and securing planning and other approvals, preparing associated plans and specifications and obtaining estimates of "probable cost" for budgeting purposes;
- ◆ fit within the existing budget cycle.

Timeframe	Action(s) & responsibilities
July	<p>1. Communication of broad strategic directions and corporate priorities for PVS Output</p> <p>The Director of Parks will advise Regional Services and PRPT Division staff as to the broad directions and priorities for the PVS Output over the short to medium term (i.e. 1 to 3 years). This advice will outline future Government and corporate directions and commitments as they affect the PVS Output and the implications of these on both a whole of Department and regional level.</p> <p>Action: Director to write to regions and districts advising them of the broad strategic directions and priorities for the Parks & Visitor Services Output over the short to medium term (next 1 to 3 years).</p>
August & September	<p>2. Identification of Regional Services and Divisional priorities for PVS Output</p> <p>Regions, districts and the PRPT Division will identify and prioritise Parks & Visitor Services projects and services that are (1) in accordance with the Director's advice and (2) that they regard as being of strategic importance over the next 3 years. These projects and services should be aligned with Government and Conservation Commission directions and priorities as well as the Department's Corporate, regional and area management plans and should also be clearly linked to the Parks and Visitor Services Strategic and Business Plans.</p> <p>The strategic plan should identify projects and services and consider their key objective(s), desired outcomes, anticipated benefits and costs and any associated risks of deferring or not undertaking the proposed work. The anticipated financial</p>

and staff resources required to initiate, complete and manage proposed projects and services should at the same time be identified. Where the possibility exists for external funding or sponsorship, the potential source(s) of such funds should also be identified. This information will then be submitted to the Program Co-ordinator for compilation and review by the Director.

Action: Regional and District Managers and PVS Leaders to prepare and submit their rolling 3-year PVS strategic plans to the Program Co-ordinator by the end of September each year. These regional based plans are to be accompanied by specific submissions for PVS capital and MRWA funding. Likewise, the PRPT Division to prepare and submit their 3 year strategic plans and capital budget requests.

October

3. Annual strategic planning and funding review

The Director of Parks and a PRPT Division Strategic Planning Group (comprising Parks, Recreation, Planning & Tourism Division managers and key section leaders – refer to attached list) will meet to review and discuss regional and divisional strategic plans and funding proposals. The main purpose of this annual one-day meeting will be to assist the Director in assessing and linking PVS operational priorities for regions and the PRPT Division for the coming financial year.

Action: Director and Strategic Planning Group to meet and review Regional and district plans.

October

4. Confirmation of priorities and works to be undertaken

Based on the assessment of the divisional and regional strategic plans, the Director of Parks will determine which Parks and Visitor Services initiatives and capital works projects he wishes to pursue across the State for the following financial year. At the same time, those project initiatives that the Director would like regions, districts and the PRPT Division to pursue over the medium term (i.e. for the next 2 to 3 years) will also be identified to enable the necessary planning, consultation and design requirements to commence.

Action: Director to advise cost centre managers of those projects and other works he wishes to fund in the next financial year and supports in future years. Regional PVS Leaders and PRPT Divisional Co-ordinators to update their provisional strategic plan to reflect those projects that have been funded or endorsed.

November –
January

5. Integrating Regional Services and PRPT Division works programs

The PRPT Division Strategic Planning Group will meet with the regional and district managers and PVS Leaders from each region to review and discuss their respective provisional strategic plans. The intended outcome from these interactive, pre-budget planning meetings is to commence the preparation of integrated works programs that reflect the Director's priorities over the next 2-3 years and which link Regional Services and PRPT Divisional resources.

Action: Regional and District PVS Leaders and PRPT Division Strategic Planning Group staff to meet and commence preparation of integrated works programs for each region.

November –
January

6. Preparation of project management plans

Significant capital works projects and services involving the development of new visitor facilities or infrastructure that have received Director endorsement will be recorded on a project register and assigned a project manager by the Region. Project managers will, in consultation with the relevant members of the Strategic Planning Group, discuss those projects and services where specialist input and assistance is required. The nature and source of such assistance (e.g. business planning, recreation master planning and site design, interpretation planning, etc.) will be identified and arrangements made to secure this support. In turn, specialist staff will incorporate these projects into their upcoming annual works programs.

The project manager will be responsible for preparing a brief project management plan (see attachment) that assigns tasks to staff and identifies important target dates. The project manager will also be responsible for co-ordinating the preparation of subsequent plans and cost estimates and ensure the project is planned in accordance with other Departmental and government requirements. Project planning tools such as Microsoft Project Planner can be used for this purpose.

Action: Project managers to be appointed and commence preparation of project management plans.

January-
June

7. Development of Service Provision Agreements

The results of the strategic planning meetings between the Regional Services and Divisional staff will be used by Cost Centre Managers and their Output Leaders to incorporate their works programs into the Service Provision Agreements (SPA's). Following the distribution of target budgets, the SPA's between the Director of Parks and the Director of Regional Services for the following year will be prepared as per the normal budget cycle. Funding for major recreation and tourism facility developments and road improvement projects and other PVS capital works approved by the Director of Parks will also be finalised and distributed at this time and incorporated in the annual Regional Services – Parks & Visitor Services SPA.

Action: Regions, districts and PRPT Division to prepare works programs and draft SPA's in accordance with allocated funding.

January-
June

8. Project planning and accurate costing

Planning will commence on the highest priority projects and services approved by the Director of Parks and listed on the project register. Plans and, where appropriate, detailed specifications will be prepared for approved projects. This information will in turn be used to obtain estimates of probable cost for those projects that have been nominally approved by the Director of Parks for funding in subsequent years. These project cost estimates and proposed timelines for implementation will be compiled by the Regional PVS Leaders and incorporated into each Region's updated 3-year strategic plan. Where a major recreation infrastructure development or road construction project is planned to extend over several financial years, the estimate of probable costs should be incorporated into the 3-year strategic plan.

Action: Project managers to co-ordinate project planning and obtain estimates of probable costs. Regional PVS Leaders and where applicable PRPT Divisional Leaders to incorporate accurate costings into 3 year strategic plans.

June

9. Reporting on outcomes

As part of the annual reporting cycle, outcomes for those PVS projects, services and activities that have been funded by the Director of Parks through the SPA process will be documented. This information will in turn be used to prepare the Department's annual report for the PVS Output and will provide the basis for the review of the following year's works program.

Action: Regional Services and PRPT Division staff to report on outcomes/achievements against funded works as identified in the SPA at the end of each financial year.

July – June

10. Implementation of agreed works

Work that has been planned and budgeted for during the preceding year and documented in the Service Provision Agreement between the Director of Parks and the Director of Regional Services will be carried out according to agreed plans and timeframes.

Action: Regions, districts and PRPT Division to undertake budgeted works programs.

11. Re-commencement of process

The process as outlined is cyclical and will be repeated annually. That is, regions, districts and the PRPT Division will review and update their Strategic PVS plans and submit these by the end of September each year. These plans will in turn be reviewed at a Strategic Planning meeting held in the last quarter of each calendar year. The Director will then identify what projects and other initiatives he wants to "purchase" for the next financial year. This will be followed by pre-budget meetings with each region to discuss and commence the preparation of integrated works programs that reflect the Director's nominated priorities for the Parks and Visitor Services Output.

As well as identifying what work is to be undertaken, the pre-budget planning and review meetings will also assist cost centre managers in identifying work that is unbudgeted. This latter information can be utilised by the Director of Parks when discussing Departmental priorities at a corporate level and determining proposed budget allocations to Outputs and cost centres for the coming financial year.

Action: Second verse, same as the first

Preparation of Strategic Plans & Forward Estimates for the Parks & Visitor Services Output

Proposed timeframe for 2002/03

Timeframe	Action(s) & responsibilities
Mid December	1. Communication of broad strategic directions and corporate priorities for PVS Output
Mid December to early February	2. Identification of Regional Services and Divisional priorities for PVS Output
Mid February	3. Annual strategic planning and funding review
End of February	4. Confirmation of priorities and works to be undertaken
March & April	5. Integrating Regional Services and PRPT Division works programs
March to June	6. Preparation of project management plans
March to June	7. Development of Service Provision Agreements
March to June	8. Project planning and accurate costing
June & July	9. Reporting on outcomes
July - June	10. Implementation of agreed works

Parks & Visitor Services Capital Funds Application (2002-03)

Region/District: _____

Submitted by: _____ Position: _____ Date: _____

Project Title: _____

Location of proposed works: _____

Current tenure: National Park State Forest
 Conservation Park 5G reserve
 Nature Reserve Other _____

Description of proposed works:

Desired Outcomes:

Plans/Approvals (✓ as appropriate):

Type of plan/approval	Current Date completed	Required	Not applicable
Area management plan			
Interim Management Guidelines			
Recreation master plan			
Site development plan			
Interpretation plan			
Necessary operations			
Compatible operations			

Consultation requirements (✓ as appropriate):

Consultation with	Current/ongoing	Required	Not applicable
Community groups			
Recreation associations			
Aboriginal stakeholders			
State & local authorities			
Advisory committee			
Conservation Commission			
Other (please list)			

Indicate the nature of work to be undertaken:

Financial year	Type of work
2001/02	
2002/03	
2003/04	
2004/05	

Specialist support required (✓ as appropriate):

Type of support	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	Internal	External
Biological surveys						
Cultural site surveys						
Dieback assessment						
Community involvement						
Management planning						
Site planning/design						
Interpretation planning						
Other						

Additional comments: _____

Endorsements:

Regional Manager: _____ Date: _____
 Director of Regional Services: _____ Date: _____

Approval of funds	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Total capital funds sought				
Amount allocated				

Approval: Director of Parks _____ Date: _____

Main Roads Tourist Road Grant Project Application Form

Region/District: _____

Submitted by: _____ Position: _____ Date: _____

Road name: _____

Location of proposed works (including local government authority): _____

Current tenure: National Park State Forest
 Conservation Park 5G reserve
 Nature Reserve Other _____

Brief description of proposed works:

Status of planning approvals and documentation required (✓ as appropriate):

Type of plan/approval	Current Date completed	Required	Not applicable
Area management plan			
Interim Management Guidelines			
Necessary operations			
Recreation master plan and/or site development plan			
Biological survey for declared rare flora			
Cultural site survey			
Dieback assessment			
Engineering plans & specifications			
Tender documents			

Consultation requirements (✓ as appropriate):

Consultation with	Current/ongoing	Required	Not applicable
Community groups			
Aboriginal stakeholders and/or Native Title claimants			
Local government authorities			
Conservation Commission			
Other (please list)			

Funding details

Funds sought	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Total MRWA funds sought			
Other funds to be committed (recurrent and/or capital)			

Parks & Visitor Services Project Management Plan

This form is intended to assist the Project Manager in identifying and assessing initial planning requirements, specialist and/or technical support needs, funding sources and proposed timelines for those capital works and other significant projects that have been approved by the Parks and Visitor Services Director. The use of software packages such as "Microsoft Project" may be beneficial in preparing more comprehensive Project management Plans and in the subsequent monitoring and implementation of the project.

Project Title:

Location:

Region / District / Branch:

Project Co-ordinator:

Project Commencement Date

Anticipated Completion Date

Project Aim / Objectives:

Brief Description of Work to be Undertaken:

Global Ecotourism

- Ecotourism is one of the fastest growing segments of the global tourism industry.
- Governments and conservation organizations like it because it generates environmental & economic benefits.
- The World Tourism Organization states that ecotourists now represent 20% (1 in 5) international tourists, generating over US\$20 billion per year.

Ecotourism

Now One-Fifth of Market

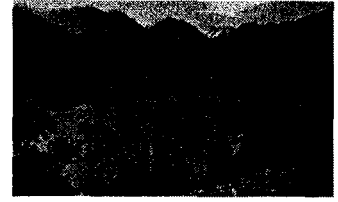


WTO's views on global ecotourism growth

Contents of Presentation

1. Introduction
2. Global Characteristics
3. Global Issues
4. Global Trends
5. Case Study: Australia
6. Future Directions

Emerging Ecotourism Destinations
Upper - China, Tianshan Lake
Lower - The Antarctic



1. Introduction

- Ecotourism is ecologically sustainable tourism with a primary focus on experiencing natural areas.
- It fosters environmental and cultural understanding & appreciation & conservation.
- It can be characterised by the three 'E's. That is it's:
 - exciting
 - educative
 - ethical.



Mt Huangshan
Anhui Province,
China

What is Ecotourism?

- *Ecotourism* is not part of mass tourism but is a form of alternative (to mass) tourism.
- It is also not the same as *sustainable tourism* which is an approach to tourism.
- Ecotourism is a niche form of tourism which fosters sustainable practices.
- It is nature based, ecologically sustainable, environmentally educative, locally beneficial and fosters tourist satisfaction.



Arq. Hector Ceballos-Lascurain
'The father of ecotourism'

Nature Based

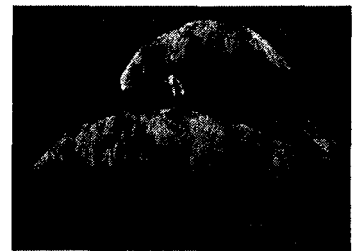
- Ecotourism is based on the natural environment with a focus on its ABC features. These are: Abiotic - eg. landscapes, Biotic - plants and animals, and Cultural - human features.
- Ecotourism fosters the conservation of natural resources.



Iguazu Falls, Brazil

Ecologically Sustainable

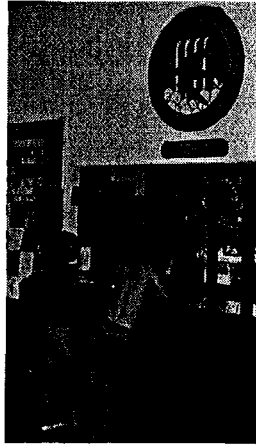
- All tourism should be sustainable - ecologically, socially & economically.
- Ecotourism should especially be:
 - ecologically responsible
 - conservation supporting
 - an environmental exemplar for all tourism.
- Ecotourism's case is built on understanding and preserving ecosystems.



Dugong protected by ecotourism in the Shark Bay World Heritage Region
Australia

Environmentally Educative

- The educative component of ecotourism is a key element that separates it from all other forms of nature based tourism.
- Ecotourism includes education:
 - In the environment
 - About the environment
 - For the environment.



Information counter at Iguazu National Park, Argentina

7

Locally Beneficial

- Ecotourism always involves local communities.
- This can occur through the provision of knowledge, services, facilities and products.
- Such benefits should outweigh the cost of ecotourism to the host community and the environment.



8

Tourist Satisfaction

- Ecotourism, like tourism generally, strives for tourist satisfaction. Without satisfied ecotourists there is no ecotourism.
- Ecotourists are becoming better informed and more discerning.
- Ecotourism must provide ecotourists with a high degree of quality in regard to tourism and hospitality services.



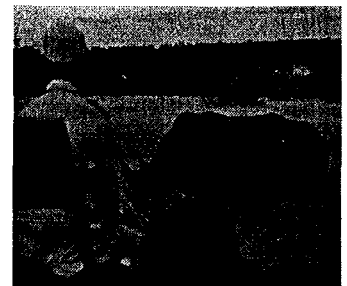
A forest ecotour, Mt Kinabalu Sabah, Malaysia

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2. Global Characteristics

Globally ecotourism has made remarkable progress in the last decade. These include the introduction of:

- sustainable development
- government support
- excellent products
- innovative ecologies
- industry associations
- improving education
- industry certification
- discerning ecotourists.

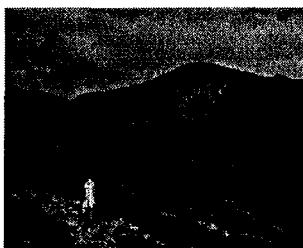


Kruger National Park, South Africa

10

Sustainable Development

- Sustainability underpins ecotourism development.
- For example, the WWF's Carpathian Ecotourism Initiative in eastern Europe is based on ecoregions.
- The initiative aims to secure both conservation as well as sustainable development across a number of countries.
- Sustainability is only achieved through appropriate planning and management.

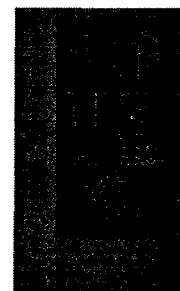
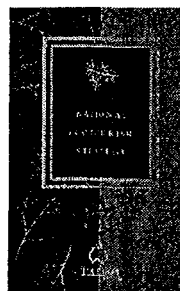


Snowdonia National Park
Wales, United Kingdom

11

Government Support

- Many governments are supporting ecotourism as part of their national development strategies.
- Such strategies must be based on conservation principles.

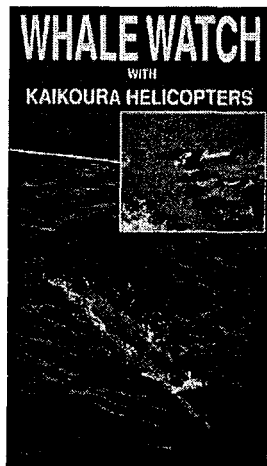


Ecotourism strategies for Australia, Thailand and South Africa

12

Excellent Products

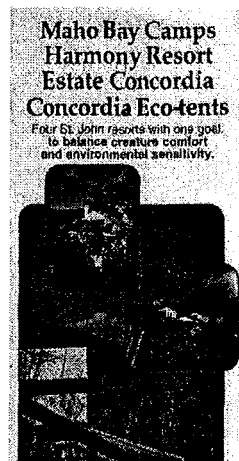
- A number of key factors underscore product excellence. These include:
- Tourists are seeking experiences that are unique and authentic.
- Products should be controlled to minimise adverse impacts
- Ecotourism products should be marketable.
- Products must be financially viable.



South Island, New Zealand
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Innovative Ec lodges

- Ec lodges should be a 'window to the natural world'. They should:
- be well designed and appropriate to their environment
- be low-key and small-scale
- have minimal impact
- foster authenticity
- include ecotours
- provide local employment.



St John, Virgin Islands, USA
14

Industry Associations

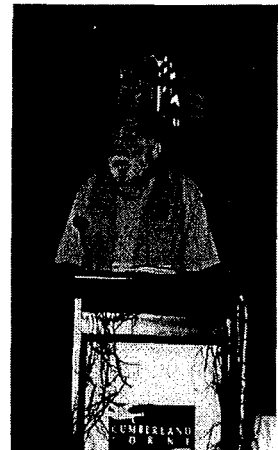
- There is a growing number of ecotourism associations.
- The US based International Ecotourism Society (TIES) is 11 years old and is on the cutting edge of global ecotourism.
- It undertakes a range of major initiatives around the world.
- A large number of countries have national associations (eg. the Ecotourism Association of Australia) as well as regional ones (eg. Forum Advocating Cultural and Ecotourism in Western Australia).



TIES Brochure, USA
15

Education & Training

- There is a strong demand for ecotourism education and training.
- Education needs to include interpretation.
- Training needs to have a practical component.
- Such programs should focus on replicable techniques and skills.
- Training should be directly linked to jobs.



Dr David Bellamy launching the Australian EcoGuide Program 2000
16

Industry Certification

- There are a large number of ecotourism guidelines and codes for developers, operators and tourists. Examples include:
- The Green Globe Program (International)
- Blue Flag Scheme (European)
- Nature and Ecotourism Accreditation Program (Australia)



A recently published book on industry certification.
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Discerning Ecotourists

- There is a growing demand by tourists for 'eco' products.
- They are becoming better informed and more discerning.
- Ecotourists are not homogenous but many are generally older, well educated and affluent.
- They seek a range of natural experiences.
- Security of travel is vital.



Ecotourists in Antarctica
18

3. Global Issues

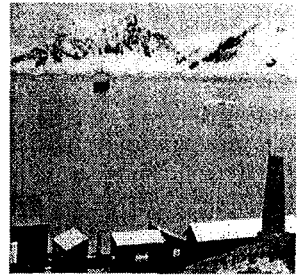
- There are a number of issues in global ecotourism. They are:
- The name 'ecotourism'
- Environmental sustainability
- The need for ethics
- The role of indigenous peoples
- A quality focus
- Increasing competition



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The Name 'Ecotourism'

- Ecotourism is becoming a buzzword which has a range of meanings.
- Some operators are using the word to market ecotourism products which are clearly not ecotourism in orientation.
- There is little uniformity in the industry with ecotourism often being used in place of nature based tourism, wildlife tourism, adventure tourism.

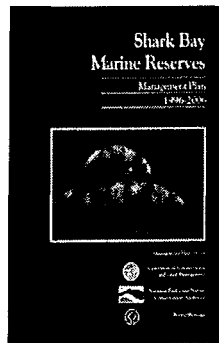


Argentina's Almirante Brown Station
The Antarctic Peninsula

20

Environmental Sustainability

- Since the natural environment underpins ecotourism it is essential that it be protected and conserved.
- Ecotourism operators must undertake best practice principles and be conservation supporting.
- If governments are to reap the rewards of ecotourism then they must put more money and resources into nature conservation management.

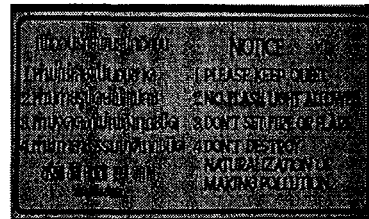


Management plan for conservation and tourism Shark Bay, Australia

21

The Need for Ethics

- There is a need for ethics in the advertising and delivery of the ecotourism product.
- Some operators are now being sued for non-performance of the tourism product.
- This need for ethics supports the introduction of accreditation schemes.



Notice for tourists at sea cave entrance, Ko Phi Phi, Southern Thailand

22

The Role of Indigenous People

- A key characteristic of ecotourism is that it is based on cultural as well as natural values.
- Native peoples must be given the opportunity to be included in ecotours through their lands.
- Partnerships of indigenous peoples and ecotourism operators are working well in a number of countries.

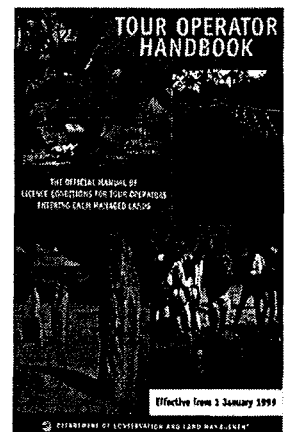


Mpumalanga Province
South Africa

23

A Quality Focus

- For ecotourism to survive anywhere it must have a quality focus.
- All operations should strive to provide exceptional standards, especially if the cost of the ecotourism experience is high.
- Quality experiences include first class interpretation of the environment and interaction with local peoples.

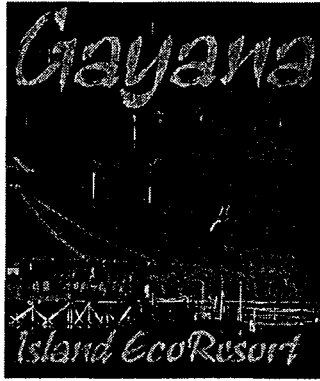


CALM's handbook for tour operators, Western Australia

24

Increasing Competition

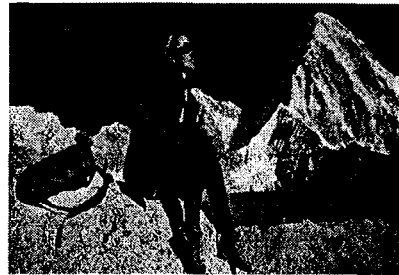
- Ecotourism is becoming very competitive.
- Scores of countries are now marketing themselves as ecotourism destinations.
- To stay ahead of the competition countries must develop new products and market themselves selectively.
- Ecotourism developments must differentiate their products according to their natural and cultural environments.



Ecoresort in Tunku Abdul Rahman National Park, South China Sea, Malaysia 26

4. Global Trends

- Global ecotourism trends include:
- Strong market demand, increased professionalism, exemplary principles, expanding knowledge and emerging partnerships.



Mt Sagamatha (Everest) Base Camp, Nepal 28

Strong Market Demand

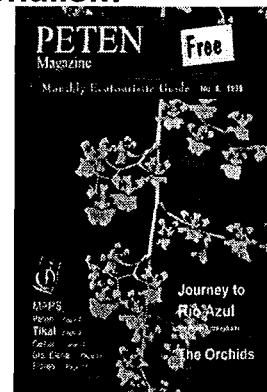
- There is a strong market demand for global ecotourism.
- Its demand currently exceeds that for tourism generally.
- It is a high yield industry with informed consumers.
- Ecotourism markets seek a range of safe 'eco' experiences.



Ecotourism Brochure, Panama 27

Increased Professionalism

- The industry is undergoing increased professionalism.
- Developers are usually more 'green' than they were in the past.
- Operators and guides are better educated, trained and informed.
- Ecotourists are more knowledgeable and demanding.



Ecotourism Guide, Guatemala 29

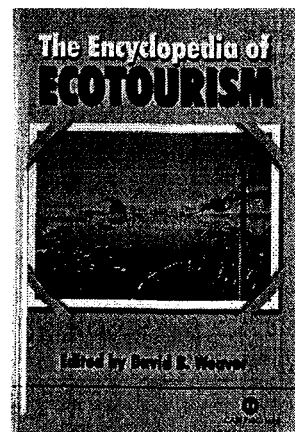
Exemplary Principles

- The principles of ecotourism have widespread application.
- It should act as an exemplar for other forms of tourism through its environmentally responsible practices.
- These incorporate best practice in planning, design, management, operations and monitoring.
- Ecotourism fosters ethics and honesty in its development.



Expanding Knowledge

- Ecotourism is rapidly expanding in regard to knowledge through research and education.
- There are many books on the subject including the new *Encyclopedia of Ecotourism* (2001).
- New WA books for 2002 include *Ecotourism* and *Natural Area Tourism: Ecology, Impacts and Management*.



Emerging Partnerships

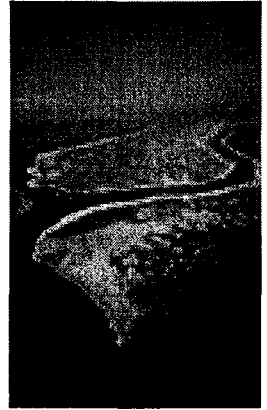
- Ecotourism is a natural advocate of partnerships.
- All partnerships have a number of common elements including a shared vision, shared risks & shared benefits.
- Such partnerships can take many different forms including amongst industry, government and non government organizations.
- Community participation is the essence of most partnerships.



South Africa's Department of Environment and Tourism

5. Case Study - Australia

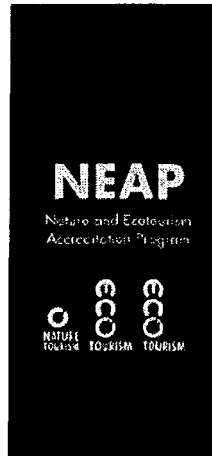
- Australian ecotourism is the best in the world.
- We have implemented a national strategy, developed an accreditation process and recently established a guide certification scheme.
- The industry association is professional and growing.
- Ecotourism in Australia provides considerable financial, social and environmental benefits generated by tourism in forests and marine areas.



The Great Barrier Reef 22

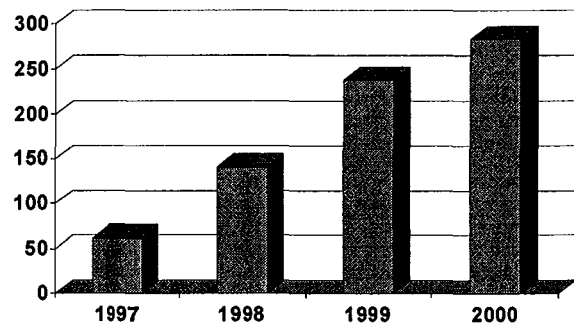
National Program of Accreditation

- The Nature and Ecotourism Accreditation Program (NEAP) operated by the Ecotourism Association of Australia is a world first. It accredits quality ecotourism attractions, accommodations and tours.
- There are now 400 products accredited in Australia.
- NEAP accredited products are increasingly being sought out as 'preferred' by consumers.



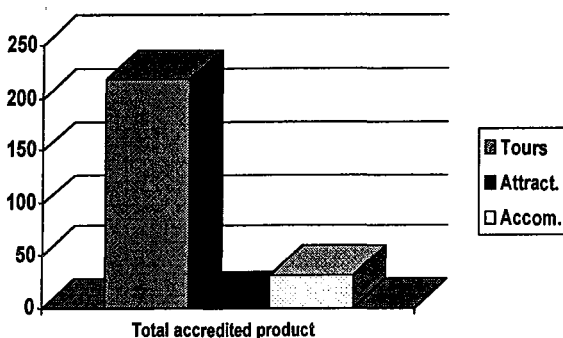
33

NEAP Growth 1997 - 2000



34

Sector Accreditation



35

National EcoGuide Program

- Australia's new national EcoGuide Program was launched by Professor David Bellamy in November 2000.
- It is an industry qualification that rewards excellence in guiding. It recognises life experience, prior qualifications as well as on-the-job training.
- EcoGuides are awarded a certificate and are provided with a pathway to nationally recognised formal qualifications



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Forest Ecotourism

- Australia has cleared most of its forests. Ecotourism is now being used as a tool for the preservation of what remains.
- This \$2 million structure was developed to protect tall Tingle trees from the impact of high visitation.
- It now attracts 200,000 visitors each year and has recently won an Australian Award for outstanding tourism.

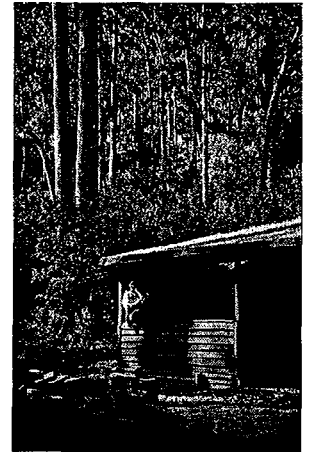


The Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk Western Australia

37

Walking Tours

- The Bibbulmun Track is a 1000 kilometre indigenous walk trail recently upgraded by the Australian Government at a cost of \$5 million.
- A major factor in its redevelopment has been the role of involving community groups and volunteers.
- Another innovation has been the use of prisoners in track development & maintenance.



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Benefits

- 40 000 people walked the track in 2000. The average walk length is 6 days making a total of 240 000 walk days.
- The track's development has generated fifteen new tour operators, a backpacker lodge, additional B&B's, as well as a new boat service.
- Overall it has renewed interests in outdoor pursuits, spawned a large volunteer involvement, and generated increased tourism profits.



The Bibbulmun Track Western Australia

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Emerging Marine Products

- The Abrolhos Islands lie off the coast of Western Australia in the Indian Ocean.
- The area has high conservation and heritage values and requires strong environmental protection measures.
- An ecotourism plan has been developed for the Abrolhos system which is low-key, small-scale and environmentally sensitive.

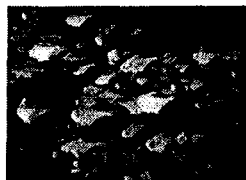
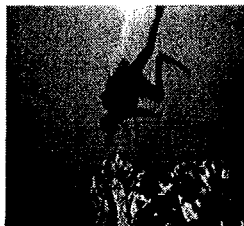


One of 14 cannon from a 17th century shipwreck resting on the the ocean floor.

40

Ecotourism Development

- Several types of commercial tourism are recommended for the Abrolhos Islands.
- These are charter boats, moored accommodation facilities and shore-based facilities.
- It is recommended that small-scale, low-impact shore-based facilities can be operated in several areas.
- Other suggestions include interpretive walk and dive trails and the establishment of educational tours.

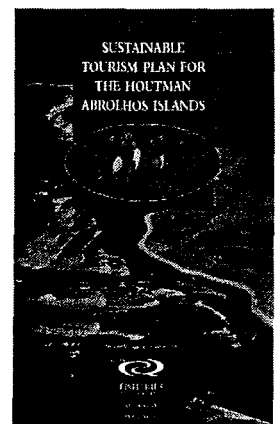


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Planning Strategies

Strategies for tourism development in the islands include:

- The conservation of land and marine environments.
- Ecotourism development through the establishment of sustainable activities and appropriate facilities.
- The incorporation of local communities into the decision-making processes for tourism development and management.



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Artificial Dive Reefs

- Diving is emerging as a rapidly growing niche. This demand for good diving sites places increased pressure on the quality of marine resources.
- It also explains an emerging phenomena, in the creation of artificial dive reefs.
- The HMAS *Swan* was recently sunk to serve as a diveable shipwreck, artificial reef and tourist attraction.

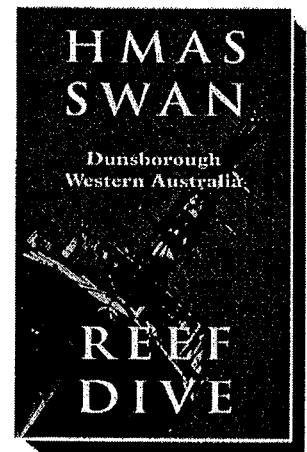


The ship is the largest in the southern hemisphere to be scuttled for a dive wreck.

43

Benefits

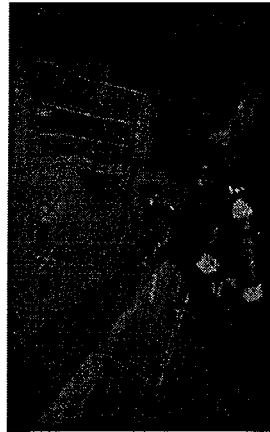
- The *Swan* Reef Dive now attracts over 12,000 divers annually
- It generates a direct annual income of \$3m.
- Environmentally it has been a success with species richness and abundance at the dive site now beginning to approximate that of other natural reefs in the region.



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Issues

- The development of a dive site based on a scuttled warship presents an unusual phenomena.
- The site sits uncomfortably between a number of traditional types of tourism.
- The question arises as to what types of tourism is it is.
- Is it natural area tourism perhaps even ecotourism, or is it a new form of incipient mass tourism?



Diving on the HMAS *Swan* artificial dive reef, 45 Australia

45

Ecologes

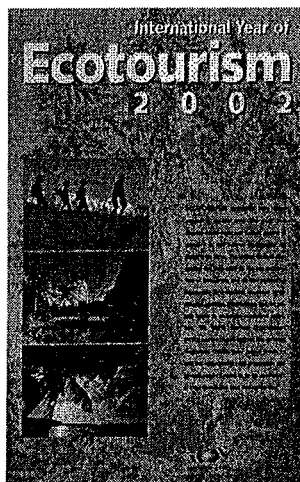
- Ecologes are in huge demand around Australia. They generally attract active, affluent, well educated, and environmentally & culturally sensitive tourists.
- The Government is currently supporting ecolodge developments as an alternative to the logging of native forests.
- An essential characteristic of ecolodges is their ability to add value. For example, CALM's Perup Forest Ecology Centre's guided interpretation walks generated \$25 000 revenue in 2000.



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6. Future Directions

- Ecotourism will become a major public item shortly with the United Nations declared International Year of Ecotourism in 2002.
- World Tourism Day will be dedicated to Ecotourism.
- The World Ecotourism Summit will be held in Quebec, Canada from 19-22 May 2002.
- CALM's contribution occurs on 21-22 May 2002.

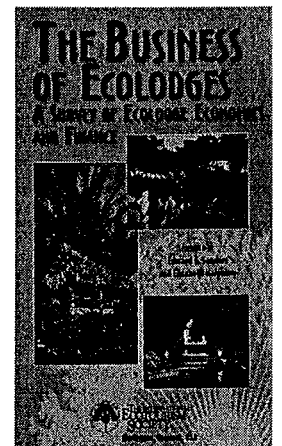


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IYE2002

Governments are encouraged to:

- Set up ministerial level groups to coordinate activities which will foster the International Year.
- Prepare national strategies for the sustainable development and management of ecotourism.
- Establish systems to regulate and monitor ecotourism activities.
- Provide technical, financial and promotional support for the establishment of ecotourism businesses.



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Ecotourism's Future

- Ecotourism will continue to grow rapidly and gain an even greater share of mainstream tourism.
- It will be the spearhead for a range of other forms of tourism in natural areas such as nature based tourism, safari tourism, wildlife tourism, and adventure tourism.
- Its growth is predicated on environmental sensitivity, community well-being and local economic benefits.



Safari Tourism in Kruger National Park, South Africa

48

Explosive Growth

- Ecotourism's growth will generate more local jobs and 'new' income for regional communities.
- The key to capitalising on ecotourism's growth is to identify local products, gain community support to develop them for tourism, and then introduce smart marketing.
- Partnerships are a key to developing a successful ecotourism industry.



The Ring of Brogar, Orkney Islands, United Kingdom. The islands successfully market their natural and cultural attractions together as one package.

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Government Directions

Governments are encouraged to:

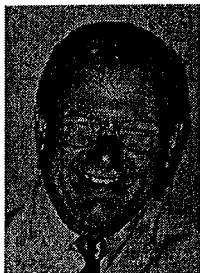
- Gain help from existing expertise in other countries, international organisations such as the WTO and WWF, as well as from NGOs and the International Ecotourism Society.
- Secure the future of their protected areas through appropriate ecotourism development.
- Empower communities to secure their own futures through the opportunities that ecotourism development presents.
- Provide technical, financial and promotional support for the establishment of ecotourism businesses.
- Gain an understanding of tourism certification and implement national schemes for both ecotourism products and guides.

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A Personal Response

- Ecotourism development demands a personal, sustainable response. Becoming involved in ecotourism should foster:
- our thinking about the relatively fragile environments (local, regional, national and global) in which we live (an environmental response)
- our feelings towards the sanctity of these environments and the communities with which we share this planet (a social response), and
- our actions so that we actually do something affirmative for the earth and its peoples in whatever way we are able (an economic response).
- All of these things require a burning passion for ecotourism so that its promise is delivered in a ethical and timely way.
- This has been the message I have shared with you tonight.

A final thought

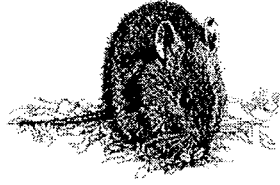


Your future is in his hands
- scary isn't it!

THE END

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THE STATUS OF RATIS



<http://ratis.calm.wa.gov.au>

The System

Updating software & hardware

Improving access

Databases

RecData: GPS data capture of RecData sites

RecData asset values

Visitor Risk Management

VISTAT: VISTAT figures

Visitor Survey Program

Cultural Heritage

Volunteers

NATIONAL PARK VISITOR FEES

*Current issues and
Strategies for the future*

ENTRY FEE REVENUE 1992 - 2001

1992/93	\$612,191
1993/94	\$657,283
1994/95	\$934,599
1995/96	\$1,213,764
1996/97	\$1,396,723
1997/98	\$1,698,533
1998/99	\$1,971,333
1999/00	\$2,238,664
2000/01	\$2,239,000 (draft fig.)
<i>Total 1992 - 2001</i>	<i>\$12,962,090</i>

Expenditure in Fee Collection Parks

1992/93	\$4,764,950
1993/94	\$5,967,090
1994/95	\$6,880,820
1995/96	\$7,355,140

Expenditure in Fee Collection Parks

1996/97	\$8,083,940
1997/98	\$8,972,400
1998/99	\$10,757,600
1999/2000	\$11,181,530
<i>Total 1992-2000</i>	<i>\$63,963,530</i>

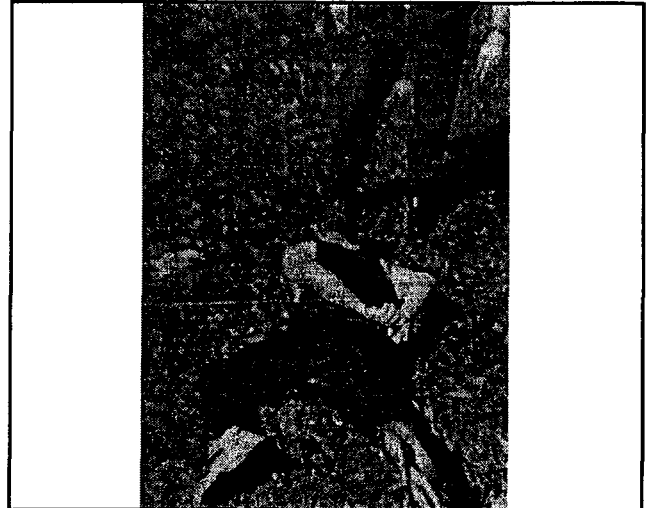
Revenue from entry fees alone accounts for about 20% of the costs of managing and maintaining the parks where fees are collected.

Recreation Income 2000/01

Southern Forest	\$1,218,833
Kimberley	\$ 976,096
South Coast	\$ 304,377
Central Forest	\$ 141,842
Midwest	\$ 719,414
Pilbara	\$ 594,714
Swan	\$ 906,272
Wheatbelt	\$ 3,666
Goldfields	\$ 12,821
Regional Parks	\$ 126,371
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$5,004,406</i>

Leeuwin Naturaliste Decision

- Removed entry fees from beaches in LNNP
- Based on unique standing of the surfing beaches
- Did not remove concept of user pays from the rest of the park
- Capes Pass to be developed when nearby new parks come on stream



Chased armed robbers invade picnics

By [Name]

Public safety officers and police officers were called to a picnic area at Leeuwin Naturaliste National Park on Monday night after a group of armed men invaded the area and chased away the picnicers.

The men, who were armed with rifles and handguns, were seen running through the picnic area and chasing away the picnicers. The police officers arrived on the scene and chased the men away.

The picnicers were told to leave the area and the police officers were told to search for the men. The picnicers were told to stay in the picnic area and the police officers were told to search for the men.



Public safety officers and police officers were called to a picnic area at Leeuwin Naturaliste National Park on Monday night after a group of armed men invaded the area and chased away the picnicers.

Vandals threaten values in area's national parks

ENVIRONMENTAL values in the Department of Conservation and Land Management (DCLM) have been threatened by vandals who have damaged the park's natural beauty and disrupted the peace of the park.

Vandals have been seen removing rocks and other natural features from the park's beaches and picnic areas. The vandals have also been seen cutting down trees and other vegetation in the park.

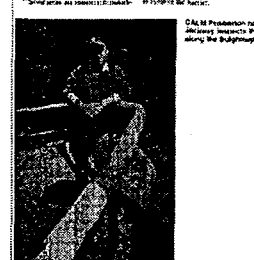
DCLM has been alerted to the problem and is taking steps to protect the park's natural values. The department is working with the police to identify and catch the vandals.

He said it would cost DCLM \$200,000 to replace the lost, which could be taken as a double environmental indictment.

The vandals also damaged the park's natural beauty and disrupted the peace of the park.

The vandals have also been seen cutting down trees and other vegetation in the park.

DCLM has been alerted to the problem and is taking steps to protect the park's natural values. The department is working with the police to identify and catch the vandals.



DCLM Protection national park ranger John Williams inspects the damaged barrier gate along the Sulphur Traces.

Strategies

- Do nothing - be reactive. Run with the status quo.
- Abolish entry fees.
- Address equity question by introducing fees at all parks.
- Continue with gradual introduction of fees at parks where services and visitor numbers justify collection



Department Of Conservation and Land Management

MEMO

To: Recreation Team
From: David Meehan
Inquires: Pemberton – Phone (08) 9776 1207
Fax (08) 9776 1410
Email: davidme@calm.wa.gov.au

SUBJECT: Recreation Site Prescription

VISION;

To have the best maintained recreation sites and facilities within the Department.

INTRODUCTION

Donnelly District currently has 60 facilitated recreation sites. All sites require maintenance at least once per week with the more popular sites requiring daily maintenance.

The visitation to the sites varies significantly from season to season and is also prone to changes in visitor numbers due to changes in weather and holiday periods. If we break this down by season, in a typical year you can expect the following visitation:

Winter; visitor numbers are low due to unpleasant weather. The winter in the Pemberton and Manjimup area is cold and wet and not very nice for camping or sightseeing especially with children.

Spring; visitor numbers start to increase with the improving weather. Wildflowers start to emerge which proves popular with older visitors with caravans. You can expect low to moderate visitor numbers during this season.

Summer; this is the Districts most popular season especially during the Christmas school holidays and marron season. Expect visitation to increase dramatically with camping, walking and sightseeing becoming more popular. Moderate to high visitor numbers is experienced during this period.

Autumn; expect moderate visitor numbers during this season with a significant increase over the Easter school holidays. Camping, salmon fishing and outdoor activities are still popular as the District receives beautiful autumn weather.

It is important to be responsive to the changes in visitor numbers and vary the maintenance program to match visitation. The more visitors the more maintenance requirements the sites will have. It is important to program your maintenance run to ensure the most efficient coverage of the sites. Select the most efficient route to save on travelling time and cost. Also liaise with other maintenance staff (including Rangers) to ensure the required coverage is achieved and there is no unnecessary overlaps.

Communicate issues to all of the team so everybody concerned is aware of developments that may involve them directly or indirectly.

It is important for staff to program the required maintenance work at each site over the course of a two-week period to achieve the expected standards. Due to time constraints it is not appropriate or effective to do all of the maintenance required at a

site every visit. It is however important that all of the prescribed maintenance does get achieved over this two week period.

An example of this is the Gloucester Tree where the toilets are cleaned every day by sweeping and replacement of paper etc but they are given a hose out and thorough clean once per week or as required. The walk trails at the Tree are checked once a fortnight in winter and once per week in summer. It is important to do most of the more time consuming tasks during the quieter times when visitor pressures are not as great. Winter is a good time to slash walk trails or road corners, to replace old furniture, open up drains and clean gutters, etc.

If a task is too big for you to achieve, then you have two options; 1) a maintenance/hazard form is to be submitted so the task can be programmed for a crew to attend to or 2) program assistance from other members of the recreation maintenance team. (Eg: get others to help with replacement of a heavy BBQ.)

Finally, liaison with visitors is an essential component of your work. It is important that you are approachable and take the time to answer questions and to give advice. If you are unsure of the correct response then you should refer them accordingly.

Your personal appearance is to be neat and tidy (a uniform is desirable if allocated) and you are to act in a professional and responsible manner. Your vehicle is also to be in a presentable condition.

Remember that this is your program and it is up to you to achieve the required standards. This will be best achieved by working as a team to ensure coverage and tasks are completed.

GLOUCESTER TREE

Located in the Gloucester National Park and on the Karri Forest Explorer drive (KFE), this is Pemberton's most visited Recreation site with about 250 000 people visiting per year. This site requires daily maintenance all year round and may require two visits per day during peak times.

The site has three associated walk trails and modern facilities. The blowing of leaves from the bitumen surface a few times per year makes the site look great and it is essential that the toilet is kept clean. The 400m and 800m walk trails require regular checks.

Maintenance requirements;

- Clean toilet every visit and wash weekly or as required. This includes checking the septic or composting tank for emptying or rotation (1)
- Empty bins and remove all rubbish from site (2)
- Blow/sweep leaves from bitumen surfaces as required (3)
- Empty park fees and or camping fee box as required (4)
- Ensure entry fee envelopes and other brochures are present and up to date (5)
- Check gas bottles are full and replace when required (6)
- Clean gas bbq's (7)
- Site Presentation and functionality: Clean, repair/replace all facilities including, interp/signage, bbq's, tables, bins, etc and remove any overhanging scrub and fire hazards from around these facilities (including the cleaning of gutters and roofs) as required. Also attend to any maintenance issues such as erosion control, culverts, posts, potholes, etc this includes the access roads and associated tourist roads in and around the site (8)

- Deliver firewood to bbq's and remove leaves for a 3m radius. Remove ash when BBQ is getting full. Ensure firewood deliveries are programmed well in advance so stocks do not run low especially at remote sites. (9)
- Check all walk trails fortnightly. Check for scrub, erosion, damage to board walks, bridges, etc and report any hazards or major maintenance. It is essential that the signage around the trails is clear and unambiguous to visitors(10)
- Inspect for and mitigate any hazards, this includes the filling out of maintenance and hazard report forms where appropriate. Ensure all VRM signs and infrastructure are in good order (11)
- Check security of site and facilities such as gates, locks, buildings, bollards, illegal entry, new tracks, etc (12)
- Check water taps and lines for leaks and water tanks for filling requirements (13)

CASCADES

Located in the Gloucester National Park and on the KFE drive, this is a very popular site with visitors. This site requires maintenance daily during peak times and every two days during other times. The site has mostly modern facilities with one main walk trail leading around the Lefroy Brook. A regular check of the walk trail is required.

Maintenance requirements;

1,2,8,9,10,11,12.

EASTBROOK TRAIL

This is a 6-kilometre drive that runs along the Eastbrook Trail. There are two walk trails that link onto this drive that require checking including the Eastbrook Trailhead.

Maintenance requirements;

Check for erosion, potholes, overhanging scrub, blocked drains and safety signage. There are no facilitated sites on this drive.

BIG BROOK DAM

This site is located along the KFE drive and is within Big Brook State Forest. The site is most popular during the summer months when swimming and marroning are the main activity. This site requires daily maintenance during summer months and every two days during quieter times.

The site has mainly modern facilities and has one main walk trail around the dam, which requires daily checks in marron season. The Bib Track also runs along part of this walk trail.

Maintenance requirements;

1,2,3,8,9,10,11,12,13.

KARRI OAK

This is a picturesque little picnic and fishing site located on Rainbow Trail within Big Brook State Forest. The site is more popular in the summer months and during marron season. The visitation is low compared to the neighbouring Big Brook Dam and it requires maintenance every two days. Limited facilities are present but a check of the near by marron tracks for rubbish is required and ensures nice presentation of the site.

Maintenance requirements;

2,8,9,10,11,12.

RAINBOW AND TRAMWAY TRAILS (not inc KFE)

These tourist roads form a network, which links Big Brook Dam and Arboretum to Pemberton and to Stirling Road. They are moderately popular and require checking once per week.

Maintenance requirements;

Check roads for erosion, signage, potholes, blocked drains and overhanging scrub.

BIG BROOK ARBORETUM

Located along the KFE drive within Big Brook State Forest, just a few kilometres northwest of Big Brook Dam. This site comprises a camping area and a day use area. The camping area is more popular than the Arboretum day use site but both sites attract visitors all year round. Both sites require maintenance daily during peak times and every two days during the wetter months.

The Arboretum day use site has a walk trail and associated Bib Track that requires checking every fortnight. Ensure that campers do not stay more than 3 nights. Because this is a free campsite we only supply basic firewood provisions and large groups should provide their own.

Maintenance requirements;

1,2,8,9,10,11,12.

WARREN RIVER CEDAR

This new site was built in 2001 and is located along the KFE drive in the Big Brook State Forest. The site is located two kilometres north of the Arboretum. It has limited facilities and will require maintenance every two days.

Maintenance requirements;

2,8,10,11,12.

BIG KARRI

This new site was built in 2001 and is located along the KFE drive in the Big Brook State Forest. The site is located a few kilometres north of Warren River Cedar. It has limited facilities and will require maintenance every two days.

Maintenance requirements;

2,8,10,11,12

KARRI FOREST EXPLORER DRIVE

This 80-kilometre drive starts and finishes in Pemberton and links the Big Brook precinct with Giblett, Beedelup, Warren and Gloucester National Parks. The drive has 6 FM radio transmitters located around the circuit that requires regular checks. The drive should be checked in conjunction with the associated site maintenance work. The drive in its entirety should be checked at least once per week.

Maintenance requirements;

Check for erosion, potholes, blocked drains, FM transmitters, overhanging scrub and safety signage.

100 YEAR FOREST (FOUNDERS FOREST)

This site is located within Big Brook State Forest north of the Big Karri site a few kilometres off Channybearup Rd. It is moderately popular with visitors and requires maintenance every two days. There are two walk trails that require checking as well as BBQ and picnic tables.

Maintenance requirements;

2,8,9,11,12,13.

BICENTENNIAL TREE

Located in the Warren National Park on the KFE drive this site is becoming more popular every year. The site is most popular during peak times and quietens off during the colder months. It requires maintenance daily during busy times and every second day during winter. The site has modern facilities and has three associated walk trails. The toilets and gas BBQ's require regular cleaning. (Tip: don't use the same cleaning brush for both jobs)

Maintenance requirements;

1,2,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13.

HEARTBREAK TRAIL CAMPING AND DAY USE SITES

Located in the Warren National Park and on the KFE drive, there are seven sites located along Heartbreak Trail overlooking the Warren River. There is the information/entry site, Heartbreak picnic site and the close by Crossing picnic site, Drafty's Campsite, Maidenbush Camping area, Warren Lookout and the Blackbutt picnic site. These camp sites and picnic sites require maintenance every day during busy times and every second day during winter months. School holidays are particularly busy.

Maintenance requirements;

1,2,4,5,8,9,10,11,12.

BEEDELUP FALLS

This site is Pemberton's second most popular site with close to 100 000 visitors per year. It is located within the Beedelup National Park and is on the KFE drive. It requires daily maintenance all year round. The facilities are all modern. The site has a main walk circuit that navigates the falls and also has two walk trails to Karri Valley and a walk circuit to the Walk-Trough Tree. The Bib Track also runs through this site. A regular blowing of leaves from the bitumen surface and regular cleaning of the toilets are essential. Ensure the entry fees infrastructure is ok.

Maintenance requirements;

1,2,3,4,5,8,9,11,12,13.

WALK THROUGH TREE

Visitors can only access this site by walk trail from Beedelup Falls. The site is located within the Beedelup National Park about 20 minutes walk from the falls. Maintenance at this site is minimal and requires checking twice per week. The associated walk trails require checking every two weeks. There is a MAO track into this site for maintenance vehicles.

Maintenance requirements;

2,8,10,11,12.

YEAGERUP LAKE

This site is located within the D'Entrecasteaux National Park. The site attracts low visitor numbers in its own right but receives moderate to high visitor numbers during salmon fishing season when through traffic to the coast use this site as a stop off point. Long weekends are particularly busy. Camping is allowed around the vicinity of the site but is not well catered for. The site requires maintenance every day during salmon season but every two to three days in the quiet season.

Maintenance requirements;

1,2,4,5,8,9,10,11,12.

DONNELLY BOAT LANDING

This site is located within the D'Entrecasteaux National Park on the banks of the Donnelly River. It receives low visitor numbers during the winter months but is very popular during the warmer months. Most visitors use the site to launch boats so they can access the river mouth. The site needs maintenance daily during peak periods and two to three times per week during off peak months. Camping is presently allowed in the designated sites.

Ensure bollards are in place to prevent illegal parking.

Maintenance requirements;

1,2,8,9,10,11,12.

CLEAVE ROAD

This site is located on the banks of the Carey Brook within State Forest a few kilometres east of Donnelly Boat Landing. The site is predominantly a camping area with limited facilities. The site has low to moderate visitation with most visits occurring during the summer months. The site requires maintenance daily during busy times and only every two to three days during winter.

Maintenance requirements;

1,2,8,9,10,12.

LAKE JASPER

This site is located within the D'Entrecasteaux National Park. It is very popular during the warmer months but numbers fall away in winter. The site allows for camping and day use and is accessible by 4wd only. The site requires daily maintenance during peak times and every two days during the quieter months. A check of neighbouring lake Wilson and Lake Smith is also required.

Maintenance requirements;

1,2,4,5,8,9,10,11,12,13.

BLACK POINT

Located in the D'Entrecasteaux National Park, this site is similar in visitation to neighbouring Lake Jasper and is accessible by 4wd only. Camping and dayuse are allowed at this site. The site requires maintenance every day during peak seasons and every two days during the quieter months. Ensure VRM signs are in place.

Maintenance requirements;

1,2,4,5,8,9,10,11,12,13.

SHANNON RECREATION SITE

This site is located in the Shannon National Park with the day use site on the north side of the highway and the camping on the south side of the highway. Visitation to the site is moderate with the usual seasonal peaks and troughs. The sites require maintenance every second day all year round although the quieter times allow for more time to be spent on other tasks.

The day use site has two main walk trails. The Dam walk trail starts at the undercover BBQ and links the dam and the rocks walk trail goes via Mokares rock and returns to the Dam. The dam is also a destination point by vehicle and by foot and requires incorporating into the maintenance program.

It is essential that chlorine be administered to the water tank for health purposes. Prescription and instructions available.

Maintenance requirements;

1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13.

GREAT FOREST TREES DRIVE

This is a 48 kilometre drive within the Shannon National Park that starts and finishes at the Shannon recreation site. Not counting the Shannon recreation site and the dam, there are 5 sites around this drive that require maintenance. They are Which Tree is That, Curtin Tank, Snake Gully, Big Tree Grove and Cowbells. These sites need limited maintenance but the sites and the drive should be maintained at least once per week. There is a walk trail that starts at Which Tree Is That on the northern loop. There are seven FM repeaters along this drive and a radio check to ensure that they are operational is required when maintaining the sites.

Note that the southern section of the drive may have to be closed at Deeside Coast Road due to seasonal inundation in winter. If closure occurs, use your notification check list to notify the relevant people and stakeholders.

Maintenance requirements;

2,4,5,8,9,11,12.

BOORARA TREE AND LANE POOLE FALLS

This site is located within the Boorara Conservation Park. The site has low visitation and requires maintenance twice per week in peak times. From the main site a walk

trail links to the falls. This can be driven by a service vehicle for most of the way and should be checked every two weeks.

Maintenance requirements;

1,2,8,9,10,11,12.

POINT D'ENTRECASTEAUX

Located near Windy Harbour in the D'Entrecasteaux National Park, this newly developed site is becoming more and more popular. The site includes walk trails and lookout platforms. It requires maintenance two to three times per week depending on the season. The checking of VRM signs at this site is essential.

Maintenance requirements;

2,8,10,11,12.

TOOKALUP

Located on the way to Pt D'Entrecasteaux, this site has walk trails and picnic nodes. It requires maintenance two to three times per week depending on the season. As with Pt D'Entrecasteaux, the checking of VRM signs is essential.

Maintenance requirements;

1,2,8,10,11,12,13.

SALMON BEACH

This site is located within the D'Entrecasteaux National Park. The site is most popular in the summer months and in salmon season but receives only low visitation during winter. It is popular with surfers and offers 2wd access to a carpark close to the beach. The site should be maintained three times per week in peak season and once or twice per week in winter.

Maintenance requirements;

1,2,3,8,10,11,12.

MOUNT CHUDALUP

This site is located in the D'Entrecasteaux National Park and was redeveloped in 2001. The site receives moderate visitation and requires maintenance two or three times per week. There is a walk trail to the summit that also requires checking at least every 2 weeks. Ensure VRM signs are in place.

Maintenance requirements;

1,2,8,10,11,12.

MOONS CROSSING

Located in State Forest on the north and south side of the Warren River, this is a moderately popular camping and day use site. The facilities are basic and the main activities are camping, marroning and sightseeing. The site requires maintenance three times per week during busy periods but can be reduced to once or twice per week in quieter times.

Maintenance requirements;

2,8,9,10,11,12.

RIVER ROAD BRIDGE

Located in State Forest on the north and south side of the Warren River, this is a low to moderately visited camping and day use site. The facilities are basic and the main activities are camping, marroning and sightseeing. The site requires maintenance twice per week most of the year round but may need to be increased in marron season. The Bib Track runs through this site.

Maintenance requirements;

2,8,10,11,12.

BROCKMAN SAWPITS

Located in State Forest, this site receives low to moderate visitation. There are limited facilities and most visitors only stay for a short period of time. There is a walk trail and the site requires maintenance twice per week most of the year.

Maintenance requirements;

2,8,9,10,11,12.

BROCKMAN LAYBY

This site is located within the Brockman National Park right on the Pemberton/Northcliffe Road. The site only has a table and is just a rest stop or picnic place. Only opportunistic maintenance is require a couple of times per week.

Maintenance requirements;

2,11,12.

BIBBULMUN TRACK HUTS x9

There are 9 huts that require maintenance once per week or once a fortnight depending on seasons. The huts from north to south are; Tom Road, Boarding House, Beavis, Beedelup, Warren, Shaffer, Gardiner, Marringup and Dog Pool. Key issues for maintenance staff include checking the security of the huts from illegal vehicle access, ensuring there is some dry wood and paper for fires, ensuring the water tanks are ok and checking for trends in the walkers books.

Maintenance requirements;

1,2,5,8,9,10,11,12,13.

DIAMOND TREE

Located within State Forest on the Southwest Highway, this is a very popular site that receives a lot of through traffic. The site requires daily maintenance in peak times and every second day in quieter times. The site has one walk trail and has modern facilities.

Maintenance Requirements;

1,2,8,9,10,11,13.

KING JARRAH

Located on Perup Road just a few km out of Manjimup this is a popular State Forest site. This site requires daily maintenance in peak times and every two days during quieter times. The site has modern facilities and has one walk trail.

Maintenance Requirements;

1,2,8,9,10,11.

LAKE UNICUP

This site is located east of Manjimup and has bbq's and picnic facilities. The site will require maintenance once per month all year round but maintenance is to be increased as required in busier times.

Maintenance Requirements;

1,2,8,9,11.

CHINDALUP POOL

Located near the Tone River settlement east of Manjimup, this site has bbq's and tables and is a popular swimming spot. The site requires maintenance once per month all year round but maintenance is to be increased as required in busier times.

Maintenance Requirements;

1,2,8,9,11.

TONE RIVER BRIDGE

Located on the Boyup Brook Cranbrook Road, this site receives through traffic and is used as a rest stop by travellers. The local community traditionally maintains it but a check of the site is recommended when passing the site. The site has bbq's, tables and interpretation shelter as its main infrastructure.

Maintenance Requirements;

2,8,9,11.

HEARTLEA

Located 10 km to the north west of Perup on the Boyup Brook Cranbrook Road, this site has bbq's, tables and interpretation. The site requires maintenance once per month all year round but maintenance is to be increased as required in busier times.

Maintenance Requirements;

1,2,8,9,11.

PERUP

Located within the Perup Nature Reserve, this site is for bookings only and maintenance is generally taken care of by the caretaker. There is an ongoing requirement to assist with wood delivery and general maintenance requirements on an as needed basis.

Maintenance Requirements;

As requested by caretaker.

LAKE MUIR

Located on Muir Highway adjacent to the lake, this site has a boardwalk and picnic facilities. The modern facilities require maintenance once per month most of the year. Fortnightly visits may be required in peak times once the site is fully functional.

Maintenance Requirements;

1,2,8,9,10,11.

ONE TREE BRIDGE

Located in the popular Donnelly Bridge precinct on the north side of Davidson Road, this site is walking access only. The area is popular with fishers and walkers. The Bibbulmun track traverses the site and there is a walk trail leading to the 4 Aces. The site requires minimum maintenance of twice per week all year round.

Maintenance Requirements;

2,8,10,11.

GLENORAN POOL

Located adjacent to One Tree Bridge on the south side of Davidson Road, this site provides picnic and BBQ facilities, flushing toilets and has a walk trail along the edge of the Donnelly River. The site is popular with fishers and swimming does occur. Maintenance is required at least twice per week all year round.

Maintenance Requirements;

1,2,8,9,10,11,13.

FOUR ACES

Located 500m west of the Donnelly Bridge on Davidson Road, this site is part of the popular Donnelly River precinct. The site has BBQ and picnic facilities and has two associated walk trails, the longest leading to One Tree Bridge. The site requires maintenance at least twice per week all year round.

Maintenance Requirements;

1,2,8,9,10,11,13.

GREENS ISLAND

Located on the Donnelly River just off Donnelly Drive, this is a popular day use and camping site. The site has bbq's, tables and an enviro loo but little other infrastructure is present. The site requires maintenance at least twice per week all year round.

Maintenance Requirements;

1,2,8,9,11.

DONNELLY DRIVE

This is a two-way tourist drive that runs from Davidson Road near the 4 Aces to Donnelly Mill. The drive should be checked in its entirety at least once per week.

Maintenance Requirements;

Check roads for erosion, signage, potholes, blocked drains and overhanging scrub. There are no facilitated sites on this drive.

CHAPPELS BRIDGE

Located on the Donnelly River south of Glenoran Pool, this site is popular with fishers and sightseers. The Bibbulmun Track runs through the site and there is a restored hut that offers some protection to campers. The site requires maintenance twice per week in summer and once per week in quiet times.

Maintenance Requirements;

2,8,9,11.

TOILET CLEANING PRESCRIPTION

Flushing type; (eg Gloucester Tree, Bicentennial Tree, Big Brook Dam, Shannon, One Tree Bridge, Diamond Tree, 4 Aces)

Do every visit (or as required) –

- Sweep out, remove rubbish and cobwebs
- Renew toilet rolls and paper towels
- Renew scented blocks
- Scrub bowls, seats and tray including application of disinfectant
- Renew water and disinfectant in buckets for the visitors to use
- Check for any problems such as vandalism or malfunctions

Do once per week (or as required) –

- As above in normal visits
- Hose out and scrub entire toilet block
- Check level of septic tanks and organise pumping when required
- Check level of water in tank and fill when required
- Check the service/cistern area for problems (eg water leaks)

Composting type; (eg Tookalup, Marringup, Greens Island)

Do every visit (or as required) –

- Sweep out and remove rubbish
- Renew toilet rolls and paper towels (biodegradable paper only)
- Check solar panel and fan rotation is operational (if applicable)
- Scrub and clean bowl and seat. No chemical to be used and limited water

- Check for any problems such as vandalism or malfunctions
- Toilet lids to be down at all times

Do once per week; (or as required) –

- As above in normal visits
- Rotate composting tanks when required and empty when full rotation is complete
- Check the tank area for problems

Long Drop type; (eg Heartbreak Trail, Cleave Rd, Arboretum, King Jarrah)

Do every visit (or as required) -

- Sweep out and remove rubbish
- Renew toilet rolls
- Scrub bowls and seats and apply disinfectant/chemicals as required
- Renew water and disinfectant in buckets for visitors to use
- Check for any problems such as vandalism or malfunctions

Do once per week; (or as required) –

- As above in normal visits
- Check level of septic tank and organise pumping when required
- Apply chemical and water after pumping
- Level pyramid of waste if required (water works well)
- Spray bowls with surface spray to assist with future cleaning

GAS BBQ CLEANING PRESCRIPTION

Do as required;

- Sweep and clean pavement and BBQ surrounds including building
- Clean and scrape hot plate
- Empty out the fat tray inside the BBQ
- Clean the tiles around the hot plate
- Check the level of the gas bottles and organise replacements if required

TOURIST DRIVES AND ROADS

Below are the key tasks that are to be addressed when checking these roads;

- Check signage is present, slashed around, straight, clean and appropriate
- Check there is no overhanging vegetation on road and that the corners are slashed for safe vision
- Potholes are to be filled, drains and culverts are to functioning and guide posts are to be in place
- FM stations are to functioning (GFTD and KFE)
- Check for any safety issues such as missing regulatory signs, etc

WALK TRAILS

Refer to maintenance criteria 10

David Meehan

Parks and Visitor Services Officer

Donnelly District

4 December, 2001

Perth Regional Parks

Sign System and Brand Images

Project Products

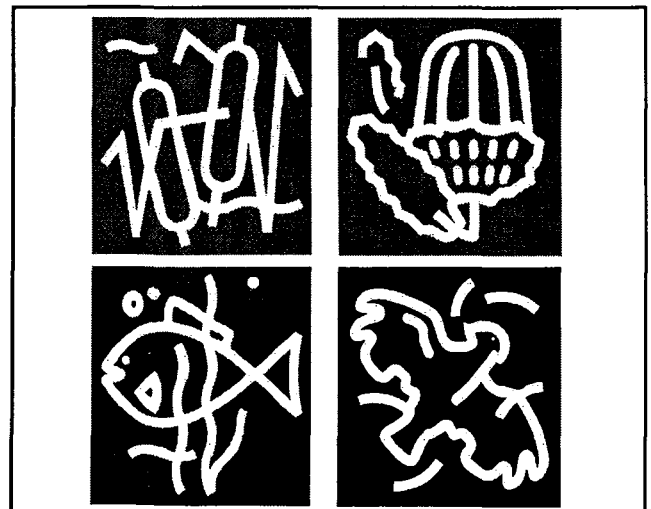
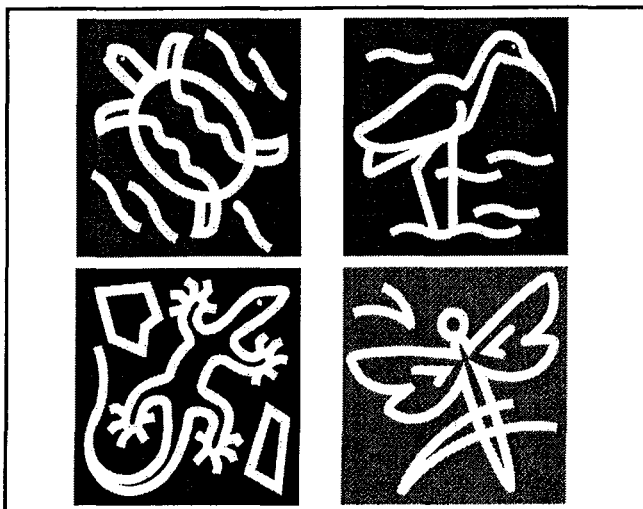
- Brand Image for each Regional Park
- 28 new signs or structures
- Sign System manual

Project Details

- Project team from the Department
- Consultants - The Shorter Group

Brand Images

- Unite the Parks as a suite or 'family'
- Graphically simple
- Work in monochrome or colour, at any size, many applications
- Evoke key characteristics of each Park & incorporate community input
- Look funky

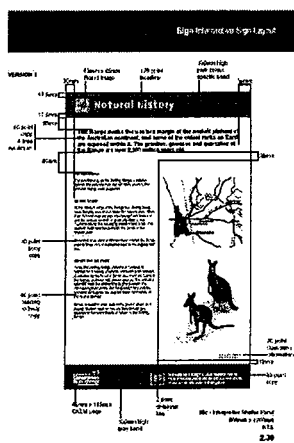
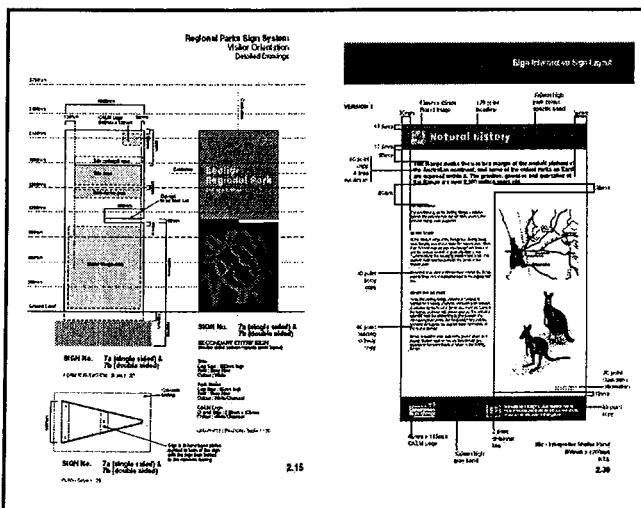
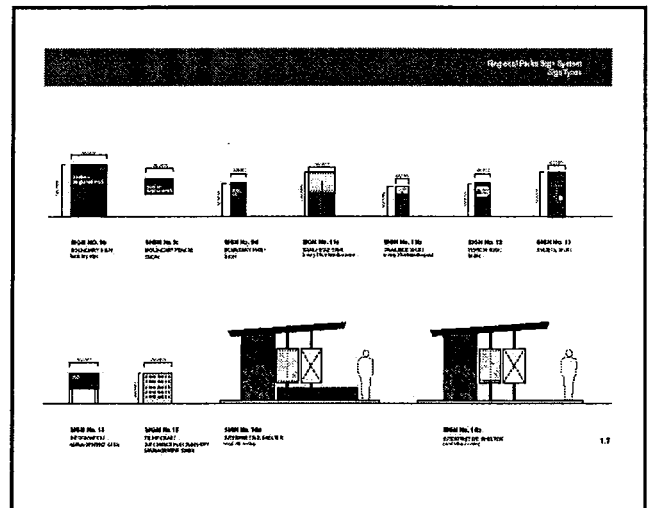
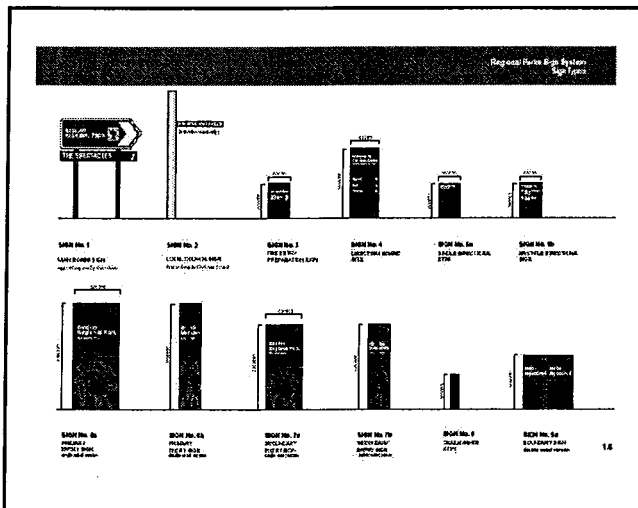


Sign System

- Unite the Parks as a suite
- Effectively convey req'd information
- Suit the Parks' cultural & aesthetic contexts
- Incorporate and reinforce the Dept's corporate identity
- Be cost effective in the long term

Sign Classes & Types

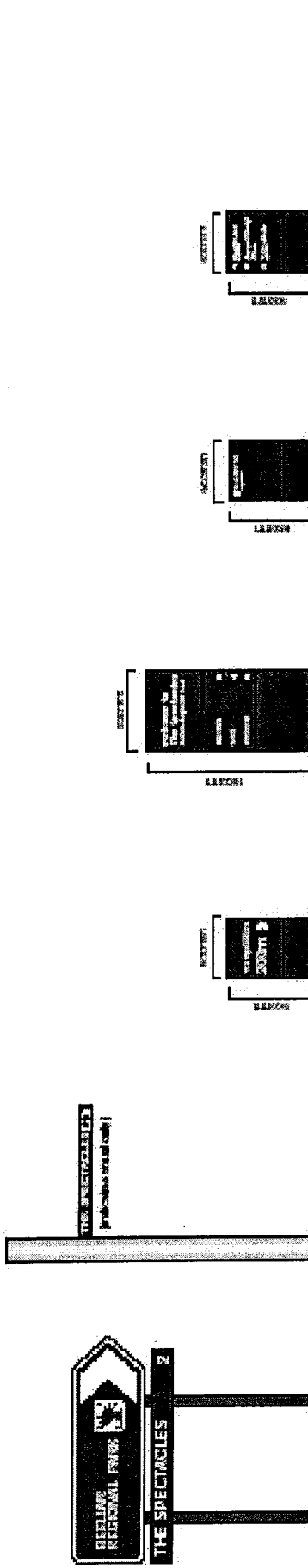
- Three Classes: visitor orientation, management, interpretation
- Orientation includes main roads and fingerpost signs, directory signs etc
- Management includes visitor risk signs, symbol signs, temp. signs
- Interp. includes signs and shelters



Sign Attributes

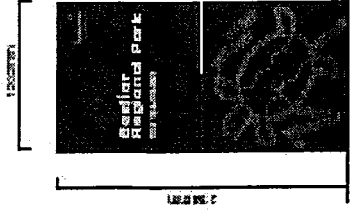
- Mostly mild steel plate up to 6mm
- Some types aluminium
- Coloured surface painted, type and other graphics self-adhesive vinyl
- Designed to look contemporary, resist vandalism, suit a range of regional parks settings

Regional Parks Sign System Sign Types



SIGN No. 1

MAIN ROAD SIGN
Approved by local Council



SIGN No. 1a
PRIMARY ENTRY SIGN
single sided version

SIGN No. 2

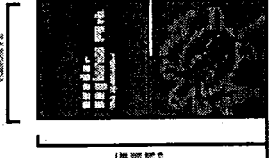
LOCAL COUNCIL SIGN
Approved by local Council



SIGN No. 2a
PRIMARY ENTRY SIGN
double sided version

SIGN No. 3

PRE ENTRY PREPARATION SIGN



SIGN No. 3a
SECONDARY ENTRY SIGN
single sided version

SIGN No. 4

DIRECTORY BOARD SIGN



SIGN No. 4a
SECONDARY ENTRY SIGN
double sided version

SIGN No. 5a

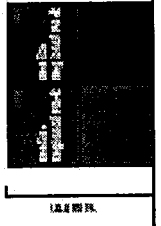
SINGLE DIRECTIONAL SIGN



SIGN No. 5a
TRAILMARKER SIGN

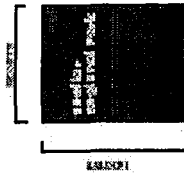
SIGN No. 5b

MULTIPLE DIRECTIONAL SIGN



SIGN No. 5b
BOUNDARY SIGN
double sided version

Regional Parks Sign System
Sign Types



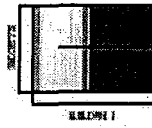
SIGN NO. 9b
BOUNDARY SIGN
boundary sign



SIGN NO. 9c
BOUNDARY FENCE
boundary fence sign



SIGN NO. 9d
SECONDARY PATH
secondary path sign



SIGN NO. 11a
TRAILHEAD SIGN
trailhead sign



SIGN NO. 11b
TRAILSIDE SIGN
trailside sign



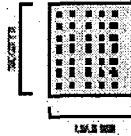
SIGN NO. 12
VISITOR RISK
visitor risk sign



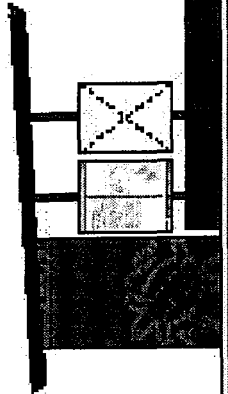
SIGN NO. 13
SYMBOL SIGN
symbol sign



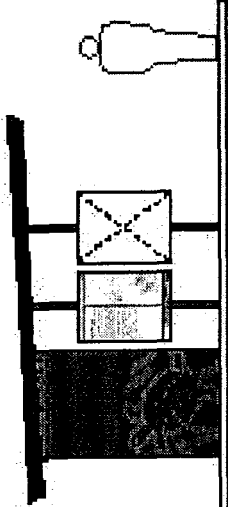
SIGN NO. 14
INFORMATION
MANAGEMENT SIGN



SIGN NO. 15
TEMPORARY
INFORMATION/COMMUNITY
MANAGEMENT SIGN

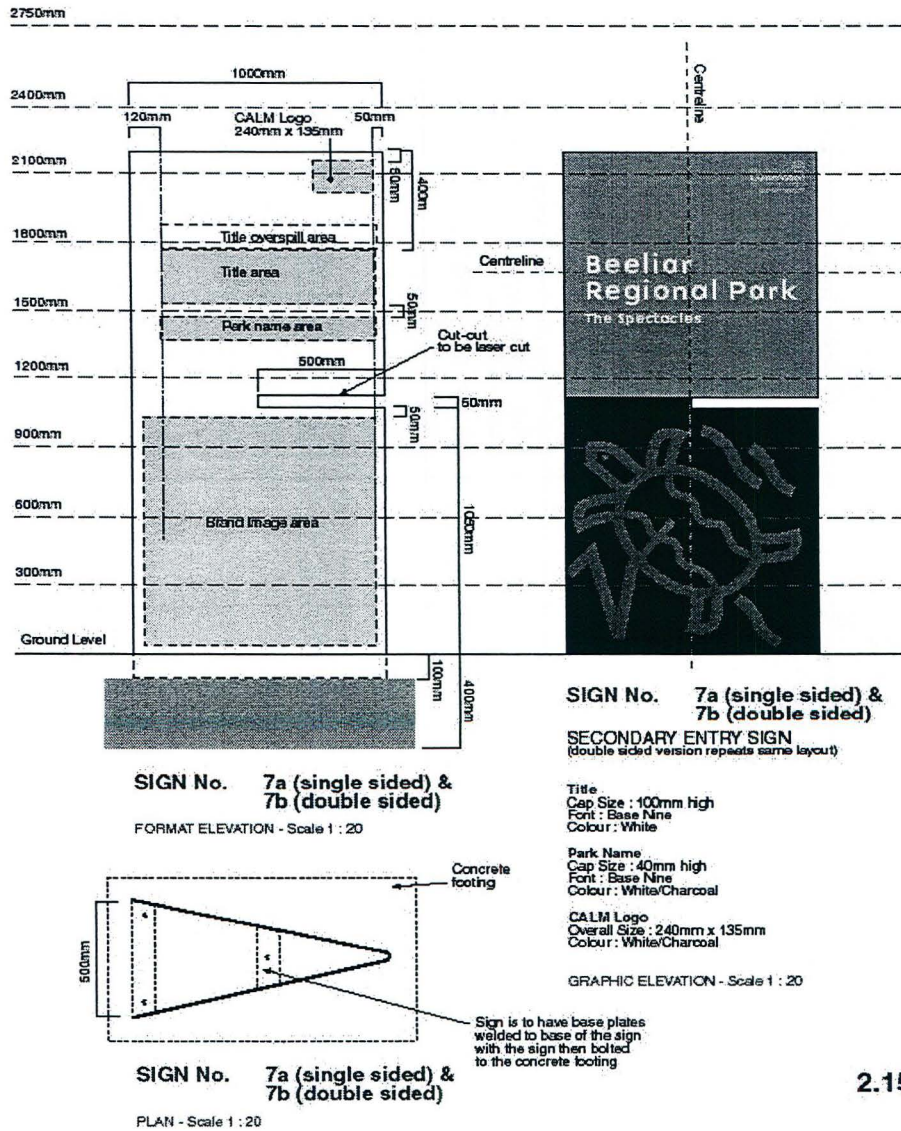


SIGN NO. 16a
INTERPRETIVE SHELTER
interpretive shelter sign

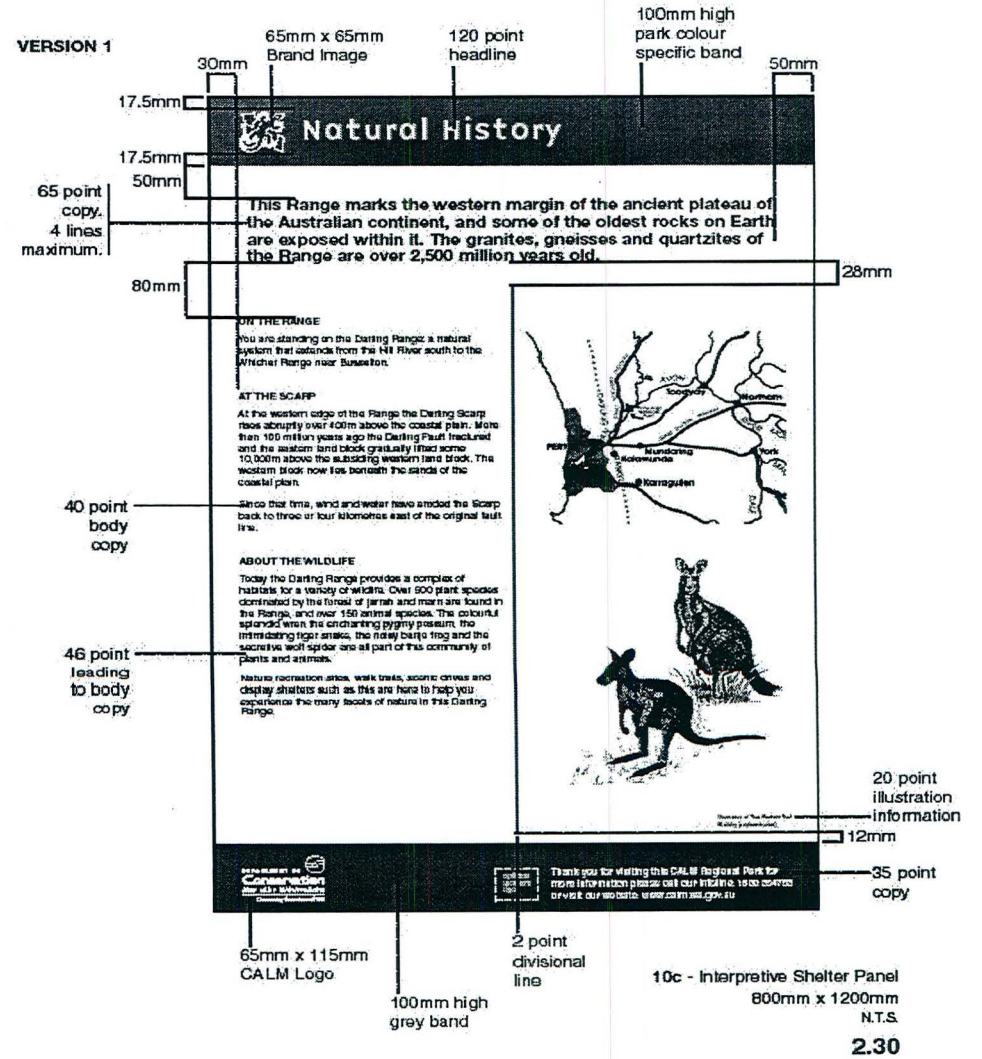


SIGN NO. 16b
INTERPRETIVE SHELTER
interpretive shelter sign

Regional Parks Sign System
Visitor Orientation
Detailed Drawings



Sign Interpretive Sign Layout



Implementation

- Prototyping
- Dress Rehearsal
- Round One Installations
- Later Installations

Prototyping

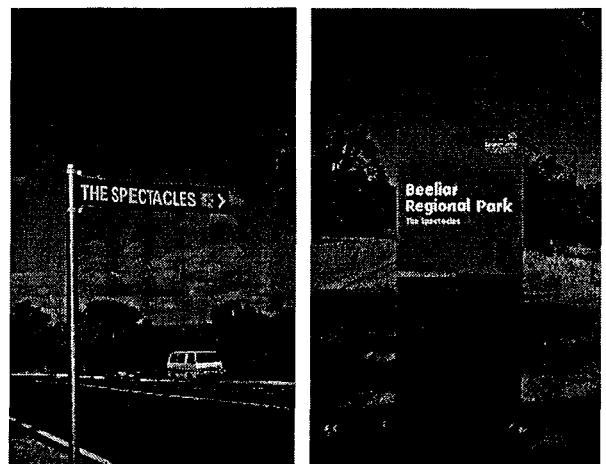


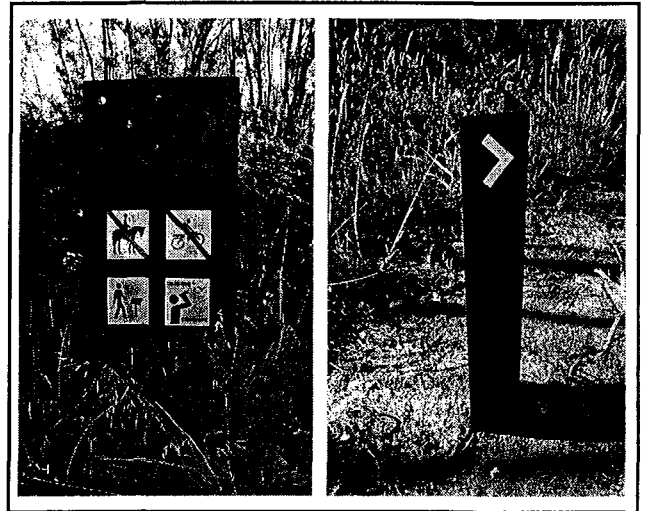
Prototype entry statements



Dress Rehearsal

- Full sign fitout at The Spectacles
- Variety of sign types
- 'Torture Testing' opportunity
- Chance to try out sign maintenance options!

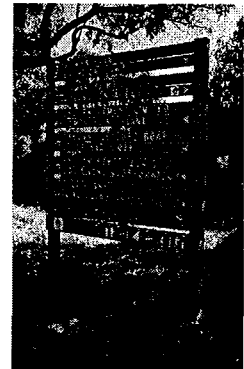
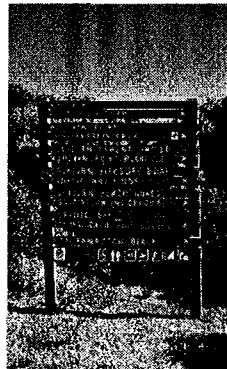




Installations

- Round One: feature entry and boundary signs by May 2002
- Local government estate as well
- Signs with site/facility developments
- Later rounds to install all sign types
- Contract manufacture and install

Replacing...



Key Issues

- Present Departmental standards are bloody good and are under appreciated
- A new sign system is a big commitment
- Brand Imaging and colour are good variables to start with, but handle with care!

Management Planning Section

PVS Workshop November 2001

1

Recent Initiatives

- Prioritising management plans
 - Scoring matrix
 - Options to consider
 - Interim Management Guidelines
 - A2 Management Plans eg Carnac Island Draft MP
- Evaluating management plans
 - Plan evaluation
 - Implementation schedule
 - Performance indicators
- Zoning/recreation management settings

2

Prioritising MPs

- Scoring matrix
 - As a response to the Conservation Commission
 - Assessed how a proposed management plan would assist in meeting the objectives and strategies of the Corporate Plan
 - Weightings applied according to their corporate and statutory importance

3

Scoring matrix

- Scoring allows planning to be prioritised within regions, however difficult across the State
 - For example the top five scores for the Midwest Region were also the top five for the State!
- Process will continue to be refined and kept in line with the Corporate Plan

4

Options to consider

- Now we have a list of management priorities
 - How do we decide what sort of plan to write?
- The choices in the past have been:
 - Interim Management Guidelines or
 - A Management Plan
- And now also a A2 Management Plan

5

Carnac Island

- Originally an IMG and now about to be released as an A2 Management Plan
- Based on the A3 plans produced by QLD parks
- Supported by the Conservation Commission
- Will have 5 month public submission period

6

A2 plans

- Are to be used where there are few issues, may be large issues but are simple to deal with
- Small areas

7

Evaluating MPs

- Need to achieve sound and effective management of existing protected areas
- Interest has grown internationally on
 - ways of monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of protected areas and
 - applying these findings to progressively improve the on-going management of these areas

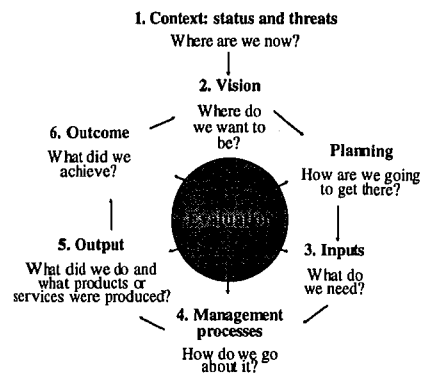
8

Plan evaluation

- Can evaluate whether management of individual protected areas or protected area systems is effective
- Evaluation of management plans
- There are six areas to look at for assessing management effectiveness

9

Six areas for assessment



10

Output assessment

- What were the results?
 - What prescriptions have been implemented?
 - What products and services have been delivered?
- This type of monitoring can be useful
 - To ensure management plans are not shelf documents that are ignored and
 - To determine whether more resources needed to implement the plan

11

Implementation schedule

- All our management plans will have an implementation schedule as an appendix
- Also useful in programming management operations within the SPA framework
- Will be audited by the Department every two to three years

12

Is the MP effective?

- Output assessment does not address the question of whether the plan is effective or adequate
- The adequacy of the management plan is better assessed by the outcome approach to evaluation

13

Outcome-based objectives

- Outcome-based evaluation measures the real impacts of management action
- It assesses the extent to which the management objectives are being achieved
- First step is therefore setting clear, measurable, outcome-based objectives

14

Outcome-based indicators

- Performance indicators will be used to measure the outcomes of management plans from now on
- We have attempted to do this by first choosing which strategies ('key result areas') from the Corporate Plan are most applicable
 - Given the purpose, profile and values of the plan area
- Then identifying at least one performance indicator for each KRA

15

Identifying indicators

- People in CALM places has potential indicators for recreation and tourism
- Science Division will assist in performance indicators for nature conservation values
- The how/when/who and how much discussed with Science Division, the Region and Management Planning Section during the planning process

16

Conservation Commission

- The Conservation Commission will audit management plans from now on based on the outcomes and the key performance indicators every five years

17

More information

- IUCN (World Conservation Union) Report
 - *Evaluating Effectiveness - A Framework for Assessing the Management of Protected Areas*
- http://wcpa.iucn.org/pubs/pdfs/Evaluating_Effect.pdf

18

Zoning schemes

- Previously various different systems used across State
- Will now use two types of 'zoning' schemes in management plans
 - A standard non-regulatory scheme of recreation management settings and
 - A regulatory zoning scheme as defined in the CALM Act
- Will be considered in every new draft and final management plan across State

19

Recreation management settings

- In most cases the non-regulatory scheme of recreation management settings would be sufficient
- Could guide the use of various lease and licence provisions to achieve desired settings or define the level of recreation development

20

Recreation management settings

- Will be applied to terrestrial parks unless park is too small, very fragmented or linear
- There are five settings, not all are needed
 - ranging from remote to developed and including special protection areas which can overlay the other settings
- The definitions of the settings – at the moment derived from other States & the USA/Canada will be discussed in a proposed workshop early next year

21

Zones under the CALM Act

- Zones from s62 can overlay the settings to give added protection
- For terrestrial parks:
 - Wilderness, prohibited area, limited access area, temporary control area, forest conservation area, recreation area for a particular purpose or any class as deemed necessary by the Minister on advice by the CCWA
- For land and water within marine parks:
 - Recreation, general use, sanctuary area and special purpose

22

Finally

- In the process of updating our web page on Nature Base
- Most of our final area management plans are on the internet
- New ways of obtaining and storing public comment on plans are being trialled
 - *Have your Say* brochures for Yanchep and Esperance Coastal Parks
 - Online public submissions on Draft Turquoise Coast Islands Nature Reserves

23

Regional PVS Leader Reports

Memorandum

To: Jim Sharp
Director of Parks

From: Geoff Young
Senior Operations Officer

Date: 16/11/01

Subject: CURRENT P & VS INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS KUNUNURRA WORK CENTRE

Priority within Kununurra Work Centre is currently being given to Purnululu National Park and Mitchell River National Park.

Purnululu is an “icon” park which has suffered from a lack of continuity through regular turnover of key staff in recent years.

Mitchell River National Park was created last year and is under pressure from increasing visitation.

In both parks we are putting an emphasis on liaising and working with the traditional owners, bringing existing facilities up to standard and planning for future upgrades.

Purnululu has been inscribed on the list for potential World Heritage nomination.

Negotiations have almost been finalised for the establishment of two Living Area Leases within the park, and the formation of the long awaited Park Council will be progressed shortly.

Lindsay Brown has placed his stamp on Purnululu since taking up the Ranger in Charge position earlier this year.

Current projects include a major upgrade of Bellburn airstrip to allow a regular passenger transport (RPT) service and a make over of existing park facilities.

Future proposals will include a disabled access boardwalk loop, upgrading of the park water supplies and major improvements to the public campgrounds.

At the Mitchell Plateau we have established an excellent relationship with the traditional owners largely through the efforts of our Seasonal Ranger, Chris Brown.

Chris is a former tour company driver who has had a long association with the area.

One of the most exciting current projects is to record Aboriginal knowledge, history and culture of the Mitchell Plateau on videotape with the assistance of the Senior Traditional Owner.

November 18, 2001

Future proposals include negotiating joint management arrangements, tour operator licensing, establishing a reliable water supply for the Mitchell River Ranger Station and Campsite and planning major upgrades to all facilities.

Geoff Young
Senior Operations Officer
Kununurra Work Centre

PARKS & VISITOR SERVICES LEADERS REPORT 2001/02
PILBARA REGION

MILLSTREAM-CHICHESTER NATIONAL PARK

The priority project in the region is the planning and implementation of an alternative campground in the homestead (southwest) area of the Park. Discussions with the Roebourne community and their legal representatives continue at a slow pace, although progress towards a suitable outcome is happening.

The pursuit of a Park Council and an interim management plan for the MCNP is also a high priority that will hinge on the progression of the above campground planning process.

Current as of 11th December 2001: The State Government has recently entered into negotiations with the Roebourne community (Ngaluma/Yinjibarndi) for compensation related to the Burrup Peninsula. The community has been offered the opportunity to broaden the scope of negotiations and they have nominated joint management at MCNP as an inclusion to those discussions. The State is yet to formally agree.

The Ministry of Justice prison work camp located in the park (next to the Park HQ) is to expand to fourteen inmates in the near future. Planning for infrastructure and management for this 75 % increase in prisoner workforce is ongoing between agencies.

KARIJINI NATIONAL PARK

The completion of the *Dales Day Use Area* at the popular eastern end of the Park's recreation area is continuing. The fabrication of toilets, information shelters, and barbecue/pot boilers is being progressed by the Roebourne Regional Prison. The Day Use Area is functional with 90% of the site works completed.

Kalamina Day Use Area is a site that is proposed to be developed for the tour operator's entering the Park. The provision of facilities and appropriate site works is designed to encourage this under-utilised site for larger vehicles, hence reducing pressures on other sites in the Park.

Future management of the KNP recreation areas (particularly camping areas) is currently being studied for the possibility private enterprise involvement and/or external funding opportunities. The region aims to provide an alternative campground at the western (Weano) end to cater for the increasingly high visitation, whilst also providing facilities for a broader range of the visitors entering the Park.

The management of the Karijini Visitor Centre is currently operated by the local aboriginal community members (Ashburton CDEP), with CALM providing administrative and financial support. External funding is being sought via other government agencies to supplement the existing budget for staff training, promotions, etc. so that future management may become operational on a cost recovery basis.

EXMOUTH DISTRICT

Preparation for the revisions of both the Ningaloo MP/Cape Range NP management plans is in full swing within the district. Issues related to the recreation master plan for CRNP are being identified that would coincide with management planning process.

Further site works at Turquoise Bay is planned for the construction of a second carpark that will compliment the existing carpark and interpretation shelter.

A new entrance station for the northern entry to CRNP is considered to be the district's next major project, with concept approvals in place, there is the need for detailed design to be undertaken in early December.

Commercial tour operators; their roles in relation to tourism and conservation, their impacts, their relationships with CALM, their regulation, and the future businesses that will be encouraged versus those that are proposed are all ongoing issues at Exmouth. Coral Bay is ongoing.

PILBARA REGION

Road maintenance in the National Parks continues to be managed by the region. Staff changes at the Shire of Ashburton is encouraging greater cooperation between agencies for roading responsibilities, with joint submissions to the Regional Road Group hopefully leading to future partnerships with on-ground road works (& maintenance).

Current as of 11th December 2001: RRG has supported the inclusion of Pilbara Park roads on their 5 Year Program. Shire of Ashburton staff has supported CALM to this point. SoA Council support still pending.

Strategic Development & Corporate Affairs Division is paying for the publication of a walk trail book for the Pilbara region, in line with the series of books in the southwest. A number of objectives for the book include the provision of safety information, detailed walk notes, interpretative information, visual aids (maps), and the linking of Exmouth coastal area with the inland Parks, as well as the Dampier Archipelago/Burru Peninsula.

David Whitelaw
Parks & Visitor Services
19 November 2001

MIDWEST PVS REPORT NOVEMBER 2001 - KEY INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS

MOORA	Develop relations with Aboriginal claimant groups and establish process for site surveys and work clearances.
Turquoise Coast	Finalise masterplan for coastal sites in Nilgen NR, Wanagarren NR and Nambung NP. Prepare priority site plans. Seek funds to redevelop about 30 sites. Prepare for construction of Indian Ocean Drive from Lancelin to Cervantes.
Stockyard Gully NP	Prepare IMG. Install info shelters. Redefine carparks. Seek funds for walk trail.
Lesueur NP	Construct new 4WD loop road (20km). Implement stage 1 development of 2 new recreation sites and walk trails.
Nambung NP	Prepare Pinnacles Visitor Centre schematic design and business plan through DHW. Seek funds to continue sealing of Pinnacles Drive.
Island NRs	Release draft management plan. Develop works program and seek funds for implementing plan.
Wedge and Grey	Evaluate and administer EOI for tourism development. Squatter management.
Jurien MP	Release final plan. Develop works program and seek funds for implementing plan.
GERALDTON	
Kalbarri NP	Build new Park headquarters. Finalise draft management plan. Finalise recreation masterplan. Develop proposal for new and sealed road to river gorge and associated recreation sites. Develop proposal for new coastal walk trail and dual use path. Install rails to define safe coastal lookouts. Prepare site development plans (Hawks Head, the Loop, Natural Bridge) and implement subject to funding. Progressively replace vault toilets with dry composting. Establish Aboriginal partnership for design and development of a new gorge lookout site. Prepare and implement interpretation plan. Finalise style guide.
Coalseam CP	Prepare IMG.
Abrilhos Islands	Liaise with Dept of Fisheries
SHARK BAY	
Francois Peron NP	Commence redevelopment of Cape Peron road (10km) and 3 recreation sites. Complete Peron homestead carpark. Revise Peron Homestead masterplan including review of proposal for fauna viewing. Implement stage 1 rehabilitation of Red Cliff quarry and erosion.
Monkey Mia Reserve	Complete reconstruction of carpark, entry station and trailer parking. Prepare business plan and interpretation plan. Convene management advisory committee. Call EOI for marine operations.
World Heritage Area	Finalise WH communication plan and implement priorities eg. WH branding, interp facilities and services, develop proposal for tour operator training. Coordinate consultancy to prepare a management strategy for South Peron UCL. Coordinate consultancy to prepare a tourism strategy for the WHA (2.2m ha) to monitor and control visitor impacts. Promote use of the Shark Bay WH landscape study and management guidelines. Participate in planning for the WH interpretation centre and management precinct.
Shark Bay MP	Install signs and demarcation of zones.
GASCOYNE	
Kennedy Range NP	Commence management plan. Prepare recreation masterplan and priority site development plans. Liaise with Aboriginal claimant group including field inspections. Prepare and implement interpretation and vistat plans.
Mt Augustus NP	Update visitor information to improve risk management. Assess recreation potential of new estate. Commence management plan.
Carnarvon Coast	Participate in coastal planning between Carnarvon and Cape Range NP
MIDWEST	Prepare visitor risk management guidelines for region.

SWAN REGION PVS UPDATE **(PVS Workshop, Nov 2001)**

Swan Region PVS in the CALM Context:

The table on the following page has been put together to assist in placing the Swan Region PVS Output, in the context of the State PVS program. From the information provided in the table, it is possible to draw the following conclusions:

- Swan Region attracts 43% of the total visitor's to CALM Estate
- Swan Region has 23% of the State's developed recreation sites
- Swan Region PVS budget (including target income) accounts for 27% of RS PVS allocation
- Of Swan Region's PVS budget, 36% is based on target recreation income
- Swan Region is required to generate 30% of the State's target recreation income
- The average budgeted cost per visitor in the Swan Region is 30% of the average budgeted cost per visitor for the State (i.e. we are spending far less per visitor than anywhere else in the State (except the Wheatbelt)
- Visitor satisfaction levels for sites in the Swan Region are consistently below average for the State.

Implications:

Target recreation income for Swan Region is becoming increasingly difficult to meet, due to a variety of factors including:

- Huge range of competing sites available to the public in the metropolitan area, (particularly non-fee paying sites)
- Facilities are becoming increasingly worn out, and the declining visitor satisfaction levels experienced by visitors to the Swan Region will result in reduce visitation in future years
- Very high visitation rates at a limited number of recreation sites is placing unsustainable pressures on existing sites, resulting in a downward spiral in visitor satisfaction levels, which in turn affects ability to generate income.

Strategic Directions:

Our key strategic focus for Swan Region's PVS Output is:

To improve both the public's awareness and perception of CALM and its facilities, as well as the visitor's experiences of CALM managed sites.

Key issues and emerging trends:

1. Visitor Education and Information Opportunities: Nearer to Nature Program
 - The intention of the Nearer to Nature program is to improve the awareness of CALM managed sites (potentially improving revenue-generating opportunities), as well as improving the management of visitors and recreation activities in CALM managed estate. Resources will be directed into the development, marketing and

implementation of a Regionally focused initiative, known as “Nearer to Nature”, including the provision of educational and informational opportunities.

2. “Perth Outdoors” Strategy

- The “Perth Outdoors” Strategy has lost momentum over recent years. The original intention for the strategy was to “help people get outdoors and enjoy nature”. This is still relevant today, and consequently, the strategy will be re-energised rather than replaced. Resources within the Swan Region will be directed into
 - Sites which have a detailed site plan
 - Sites where education and interpretive opportunities exist
 - Sites where inappropriate visitor behaviour is adversely affecting the public’s experiences

3. New Parks

- Planning for the new parks has commenced, and will include the development of interpretive plans, IMGs, conducting inventories of each of the Parks, and examining recreation opportunities within each Park.

4. Other issues requiring attention

- Recdata update for all recreation sites within the Region
- Expansion and continued implementation of VISTAT Plans
- “Nature Network” volunteers within Swan Region
- VRM mitigation works at a number of sites within the Swan Region.

Region	1. No of Visitors 2000\01	2. No of Recreation Sites 2000\01	3. \$ Total Recurrent funds 2001\02	4. \$ Recurrent Funds "given" to each Region 2001\02 (excludes target income)	5. \$ Target Income * (% of total)	6. \$ Cost per Visitor Based on 2000\01 & 2001\02	7. \$ Recurrent Allocated Funds per Visitor	8. \$ Income Generated per Visitor
Swan	3,732,318	257	4,504,455	2,904,455	1,600,000 (36%)	1.21	0.78	0.43
Goldfields	133,040	11	339,060	339,060	0 (0%)	2.55	2.55	0
Kimberley	111,711	55	1,668,748	518,748	1,150,000 (69%)	14.94	4.64	10.30
Midwest	552,188	64	1,452,715	785,215	667,500 (46%)	2.63	1.42	1.21
Pilbara	223,870	104	1,522,937	1,042,937	480,000 (32%)	6.80	4.66	2.14
South Coast	545,279	165	1,531,327	1,276,327	255,000 (17%)	2.81	2.34	0.47
South West Region	2,120,601	165	2,628,544	2,531,544	97,000 (4%)	1.24	1.19	0.05
Warren	1,044,003	229	2,741,396	1,574,396	1,167,000 (43%)	2.63	1.51	1.12
Wheatbelt	140,655	51	150,111	150,111	0 (0%)	1.07	1.07	0
Total	8,603,665	1,101	16,539,283	11,122,793	5,416,500	# 3.99	# 2.24	# 1.75

Average across the Regions.

The following explanatory notes (disclaimer) apply:

1. Visitor Numbers: These figures were obtained from the Visitor Total Annual Report 1994-2001, produced by Luisa Liddicoat and Kate Hassall
2. No of recreation sites by Region: These figures were obtained from the Recdata database in RATIS.
3. \$ Recurrent funds: These figures were obtained from the indicative target budget figures supplied by Glen Urquart. They reflect last year's allocation, less PVS cuts, plus increases for payroll, overheads and CUC heavy fleet, including target income figures.
4. \$ Recurrent Funds "given" to each Region 2001/02 The figure represents the funds actually given to each Region, (i.e. excluding target recreation income).
5. Target income: These figures were obtained from Glen Urquart, and are based on 2000/01, with the exception of Swan Region, which has been adjusted for 2001/02.
6. \$ Cost per visitor: These figures are calculated using the total recurrent allocation, divided by number of visitors.
7. \$ Recurrent "given" per visitor: These figures show the \$ given to each Region, per visitor
8. \$ Income generated per visitor: These figures are based on the \$ per visitor that must be raised through revenue generation



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT

YANCHEP NATIONAL PARK

To: Wayne Schmidt
Cc: Jim Sharp, Alan Sands, Tony Jupp
From: Phil Smeeton
Your Ref:
Our Ref: Parks & Visitor Services Workshop – Swan Coastal initiatives report.

Enquiries: Phil Smeeton
Phone: (08) 9561 1004
Fax: (08) 9561 2316
Email: philism@calm.wa.gov.au
Date: 8th November 01.

Subject: Parks & Visitor Services Workshop– Swan Coastal initiatives report.

Following the recent human resources restructure in the regions, Swan Coastal District has likewise restructured its human resources to reflect the more significant roles we all now have in achieving outcomes in the larger district. Previously Perth District, Swan Coastal has responsibilities from Yalgorup in the south, Penguin Island in the west, Moore River in the north and across to the hills in the east.

The restructure has enabled a number of specialist positions to be established including:

- Visitor Services Officer- Marketing (level 3)
- Visitor Services Officer- Education (level 3)
- Visitor Services Officer- Volunteer/Ratis (level 2)
- Visitor Services Officer- Activity Support (level 1)
- Horticultural Apprentice
- Maintenance Officer

The restructure has taken place within the current budget allocation and whilst new positions have been created, others have been abolished.

Yanchep National Park continues to consume most of the Parks and Visitor Services Management time with a number of initiatives underway.

- Development of a new management plan
- Development of Aboriginal participation in the park including employment opportunities, consultation and potential joint management initiatives.
- Development of a concept plan for an Aboriginal Cultural/Training Centre (joint initiative with West Coast College of TAFE)
- Hardening of the main recreation area with paths.
- Interpretation signage throughout the rec site and trailhead signage on the many walk trails.
- Completion of the lake rowboat jetties for safer public use.
- Completion of McNess House refurbishment with shop and staff facilities.

- Visitor Risk Management objectives.
- Access control for potential Western Shield program.
- Cabaret cave upgrades for improved catering requirements.
- Development and implementation of a recycling project.
- Crystal Cave booth structural upgrade and renovation.
- Redevelopment of the Koala interpretation and nursery area.
- Development of new accommodation in the park as part of the Yanchep Inn lease arrangements.
- Development of a staff intranet for sharing data and reporting.
- Development of a tree-planting program within the rec area.
- Broadening of the target markets for activity programs including schools and universities.
- Development of data base marketing initiatives.
- Development of 4 significant events to be held each year attracting approximately 25,000 pax.
- Development of a marketing approach to all that we do in the park

Other sites likewise have development planned or currently underway including Yalgorup, Matilda Bay, Neerabup, Penguin Island and Gnangara.

Report to annual PVS Conference

South West Region – Highlights 2001

There have been significant achievements this year despite the turmoil resulting from uncertain budgets, restructuring from 3 districts to two, the introduction of the New Parks Program, and the Government's priority for further development in Leschenault Peninsula CP.

Regional teams

- District PVS teams were enhanced by the inclusion of dedicated AWU crews in the teams. We now have a consistent core group of skilled workers in each District.
- Wellington District's carpenter is now responsible to the Region and has become the leader of the Regional Construction crew. We plan to have 2 tradesmen working on projects across the Region.

Wellington District

- The Environmental education program, now in its second year at Wellington Discovery Forest expanded with over 2000 students attending a variety of forest based excursions.
- The focus has been on maintenance of existing facilities and planning for the implementation of New Parks projects early in 2002.
- Projects that are about to commence are: Wellington NP (proposed) - re development of the day use area at Honeymoon Pool, including river access, canoe launching, bank stabilisation and viewing deck; King Tree boardwalk, viewing platform and interpretation; Collie valley walk/cycle trails upgrade; Leschenault Peninsula CP --development of the park entry with access for all trail, toilets, JB O'Reilly memorial interpretation project.
- The Friends of Crooked Brook Forest successfully completed trails, interp and picnic facilities funded by a Centenary of Federation grant. They have contributed more than 800 hours of voluntary work this year.
- Excellent working relationships with the 4WD Association and the Trail & Enduro Club have been developed by District staff. This has led to better understanding by both the clubs and CALM staff. We are now working together to provide access and facilities that are acceptable environmentally.

Blackwood District

The District has completed many projects, including working with the community on a number of Coastcare funded projects. Considerable staff time is being spent on planning and consultation: for road realignment and toilets at Hamelin Bay, New parks Projects, coastal access stairways, and cave boardwalk/stairways. We expect to complete these works in 2002.

Projects completed in 2001 include:

- Malbup Creek Birdhide boardwalk in the Tuart Forest NP

Leeuwin Naturaliste NP:

- Ellensbrook lookout
- Testing and replacement of a number of Cave abseil anchor points
- Lefthanders car park construction & seal.
- Canal Rocks car park and boat ramp construction & seal.
- Lefthanders toilets
- Gate construction and installation throughout NP
- Cape to Cape Track toilets and camping areas
- Wharnccliffe Environmental Education centre - paving and bar wall – general maintenance and cleaning
- Hamelin Bay dune rehab
- Injidup dune rehab
- Big Rock dune rehab and steps
- VRM signage and ongoing works
- Conto – storage compound
 - Bricks for kitchen
 - Office casuals
- Volunteers – hosts and others

Other Parks:

- Chapman Pool group camping site
- Picnic Shelters – 10 Mile Brook

Peter Henderson
Regional Leader
Parks & Visitor Services
18/12/01

Rabbit-oh! A difficult year in Warren Region

The 00/01 financial year started with a flurry as the RFA projects gained momentum. The 66km Karri Forest Explorer Drive around Pemberton included upgrades to major sites such as Big Brook Dam, Beedelup Falls and Warren National Park, plus four new sites and a major camping area. Around 40 km of forest roads were upgraded.

The \$1.4m project occupied John G, Doc, Macka, and most of the Pemberton based recreation construction team full time for most of the year and more, with help from neighbouring Districts and regional staff. Some rigorous community consultation took place on the development projects, including robust debate and reconciliation with stakeholders going on up till Christmas Eve. Jacki is working on the interop with external consultants. The project is continuing, and approaching completion, with some stunning results on the ground.

The other two RFA projects were expected to receive federal funding later in the year, so the Forest icon project went into a design competition phase, which led to the Sky Jetty proposal for the Donnelly Valley. The forest camping and cabins project, otherwise known as the Ecolodge project went into a market research, planning and prospectus phase. Concurrently, supported by a comprehensive regional appraisal of forest camping and accommodation opportunities by Vicki W, and followed by the commencement of negotiations with potential private enterprise partners.

As the differences in forest policy between State and Federal governments surfaced, and with the electoral cycles lining up, it became evident that the Federal RFA Tourism Infrastructure funding had been diverted to other “regional solutions”. There were not many pigs roaming the streets of Manjimup – they were all in barrels! After nearly eighteen months of work, both projects are in suspension, although there is some commitment to reviving the Ecolodge proposals.

Meanwhile, Vicki, Jeff and Jeff were performing other miracles at Point D’entrecasteaux and Mount Chudalup. These two developments in the most difficult settings have become pearls in the in their own right. Tim began another “special” project – an observation deck in a very sensitive environment looking out over Lake Muir, and finished the King Jarrah remake. Howard battled fires and falling bridges at Nuyts Wilderness, but still managed to build new roads and car parks at William Bay and Conspicuous Cliff Beach.

The arrival of the cavalry from planning branch saw Rod dust off the boxes that had been under his under his desk for a while, and reboot the new Shannon D’Entrecasteaux Management Planning process.

An iconic human retired. Drafty Hunter had been servicing rec sites since the dinosaurs, and received more fan mail than Madonna.

After the State election, the area of national parks in our region more than doubled. On one hand we were in the process of restructuring and cutting budgets and jobs. On the other hand we were being asked to hastily prepare contingencies to deliver a massive planning and development program which creates jobs for workers displaced

as a result of the governments “Protecting Our Old Growth Forest Policy” - all within one electoral cycle.

Through all this, with help from Peter Keppel and support from Jim Sharp, we managed to spend the budget surplus in PVS - generated by skilful merchandising and management by Greg and Trevor at Valley of the Giants. The result is an enlarged, tastefully designed and placed Visitor Services building at the Valley.

The new financial year brought budget cuts, the farewell of Manjimup, Pemberton and Walpole Districts and Southern Forest Region, and several staff taking the option to exit with a little extra money. Having unwelcome names imposed - Warren Region, Donnelly and Frankland Districts – contributed to much scepticism, doubt and confusion within the troops. The trauma of restructuring and budget fiasco and the need to rapidly reshape and create employment added to the pressures on the Regional Management team.

There appears to be light at the end of the tunnel. We have Tim Firth on board as a recreation planner, the appointment of a new landscape architect and regional planner are in final phase, and new ranger positions and park workers are being appointed. In all we have an increase of 24 new positions in progress, and more to follow. We still have a deficit of project team leaders. We would be very interested to hear from anyone with experience in leading recreation construction projects, interested in a secondment to Pemberton or Walpole for any time from six months to two years to take charge of one of the many exciting developments in the new parks.

Cliff Winfield

SOUTH COAST REGION PVS UPDATE 2001

Two Peoples Bay

The Rangers at the Bay have had a busy time this year with some new initiatives and major developments undertaken. Neil Scott introduced campground hosts last summer to staff the Visitor Centre. This has proved very successful and resulted in hosts being available for the centre from October to April this season. The hosts have a newly screened-off pad with improved lighting and access. This was developed with a small grant from Marg Buckland's volunteer funds.

Capital works funding this year has seen the construction of a new compound, workshop and office complex. This has been a long time coming but is a superb asset with much of the fitting out and painting being completed by Neil and Dave.

The Toilet block at the beach has had a major refurbish and a new roof constructed. This has given new life to what were very basic facilities. A large sailshade has been erected at the rear of the Visitor Centre and banners placed inside to complete works at the Centre.

Torndirrup National Park

Many months of planning, research, designing and writing culminate this month with the arrival of a whole suite of new information and interpretative signage for this extremely popular park. Whaleworld, the only centre in the world to interpret whale-processing complements Torndirrup N.P..

Whaleworld is due for a major \$4million upgrade and is located on the Torndirrup Peninsula along with Western Powers newly developed Windfarm, making the whole area a site of major visitation.

Albany Front Office Display

Front counter staff conducted a survey of public enquiries to determine what information visitors were seeking at the Albany office. From the data obtained, a set of information panels have been developed by Corinn Hine and erected in the display room. They depict the Parks of the Albany district and feature activities in the parks that visitors can enjoy.

The room has been remodeled, with polished jarrah floorboards (discovered under the old carpet) new storage cupboards installed, polished benches constructed from local timbers, a new lighting system and repainted. The results are fantastic and are a credit to our front office staff.

Fitzgerald River National Park

Point Ann has become a haven for Southern Right Whales in the last few years. These magnificent creatures, almost hunted to extinction, are re-appearing at sites along the South Coast in larger numbers as they are left to breed. It is not unusual to visit Point Ann between July and October and site 10 – 20 whales in the bay.

Growing interest in the area has resulted in the need to construct a new staircase, boardwalk and viewing platform at the site. The camping area has been spruced up recently under the guidance of new Ranger in Charge, Peter Wilkins. Three new toilets were erected last season.

Road upgrades in the Park are continuing, with works being completed on Hamersley Drive, Point Ann and Fitzgerald Inlet roads. We have been successful in receiving a Coastcare grant to develop new steps to access Barrens and Four Mile Beach on the eastern end of the Park.

Stokes Inlet

The new Stokes office complex including a visitor information area has recently been completed. This facility allows access and parking for long vehicles including caravans. The office will be utilised as a control centre for fires to the west of Esperance and is a welcome relief for Ranger in Charge, Ian Hughes to have office duties removed from his residence.

Cape Le Grand & Woody Island

A new staircase and viewing platform have been constructed at the headland on the eastern end of Lucky Bay beach. It provides visitors with extensive views over the Bay and has halted the degradation from people scrambling over the fragile vegetation.

Following a successful 12 month program by Lorna Charlton in Esperance, we have been fortunate enough to secure sufficient funding to allow for the interpretative and information panels at Cape Le Grand and Woody Island to be produced and erected.

Southern Aboriginal Corporation MOU

John Hayden from SAC and Peter Bidwell have recently developed an MOU that will see 10 Aboriginal people undertake a 3 year training program to achieve a Certificate 4 in Land Management. The program is mostly funded through STEP, CDEP and Department of Training funding for the wages component with funding from Lotteries and other sources for vehicles and equipment.

The program, a pilot for the State, will see the trainees employed by SAC but working on the CALM managed estate. The Department will provide on the job training plus workplace assessment. Trainees will be available for employment with the Department as positions become available

Peter Bidwell

Regional Leader, PVS. South Coast Region

P&VS MAJOR INITIATIVES

WHEATBELT REGION - 2001

Regional projects

Writing the Regional Plan continues to be a major task for regional senior staff. The document will vary from other Regional Plans by not containing any tenure information. It will provide direction and a planning framework for the Department's management in the region. This Plan has been in progress for several years but there is now light at the end of the tunnel. Rather than completing the whole document before circulating for internal comment, a decision was made to 'release' sections of the Plan as they reach final draft stage. It is likely that the 'fire' and 'enjoying the wheatbelt' sections will be circulated early in 2002.

The emphasis on community involvement in the region has expanded in the past year. There are several community-based projects across the region with most aimed at increasing community participation in the planning and development of recreation and tourism facilities at Dryandra Woodland, Mt Matilda, Korrelocking, Yorkrakine Rock, Totadgin, Wagin Lakes, Boyagin Rock and others.

A review of Recdata has commenced and will continue into 2002. It is over 3 years since sites were assessed and all sites will be re-visited and re-assessed. A Visitor Risk Management assessment of sites has commenced and will continue into 2002.

Narrogin District

The upgrading and development of roads in Dryandra Woodland continues and probably entering its final phase. A single main access road has been developed (Tomingley Road) and two loop roads north and south of this main route will be finalised in the next year (funding permitted).

The construction of a viewing enclosure to permit visitors to view the threatened animals that compose the breeding program will commence in January. This has been a project suffering from poor planning and cost estimates but an opening is anticipated for May or June 2002. Tours each night of the year will be offered by staff but the long term aim is to encourage existing and new tour operators to undertake accredited training to conduct their own tours.

The Dryandra Woodland Focus Group has been strengthened by the appointment of a Tourism Development Officer, substantially increasing the Department's support role and contribution to tourism development and particularly promotion in the Greater Dryandra area.

Interpretation at Dryandra Woodland has increased with new signs along a walk trail connecting Congelin campground and picnic area. New shelters containing signs on Sandalwood at the Dryandra and Highbury blocks have also been installed.

There are two projects involving Aboriginal people in the District. The cooperative management project at Highbury concerns addressing hunting and other issues at Quinns Block and involves adjacent landholders as well as certain local Aboriginal people. The project is funded by EA to the Narrogin Aboriginal Corporation who unfortunately was placed in liquidation. The future of the project is uncertain.

The Ecology courses conducted biannually at Dryandra were very successful in 2001 with high attendance. The popularity of the course as well as the increased numbers of visitors on tours and hits on the Dryandra Woodland website demonstrates the increasing awareness of Dryandra as a nature-based destination.

Merredin District

Facilities at Totadgin, Yorkrakine, Korrelocking and Yorkrakine Rock have been upgraded in the last year. The access road and parking areas have been improved to all these sites and some furniture (tables) have been provided. Interpretive shelters will be provided this financial year and after consultation with the local people, signs will be developed then installed.

The work undertaken at Wongan Hills by a local support group demonstrates the highs and lows of using 'friends'. With Trailswest funding, a walking track, parking area, signs and shelter have been constructed. Although the standard of work may not be to Department levels, there is no way the work could have been undertaken solely by staff.

During the year, proceedings commenced to transfer Mooranoppin Nature Reserve to the local Aboriginal group at Kellerberrin. Subject to production of a suitable management plan DOLA will arrange the transfer.

During the year meetings were held with the Trayning Shire about the transferring management of Billyacatting reserve to the Department. Producing a Recreation Development Plan addressing the Shire concerns of access and future use has commenced.

Katanning District

The focus in the District has been on community involvement. Projects in the Wagin Shire are highlights including the Wagin Lakes project and Mt Latham. The Wagin Lakes project is managed by the local landcare group and involves local Aboriginal people in constructing a walking track along several lakes south of the town (including nature reserves), undertaking other environmental management tasks and providing interpretation along the walk. A group at Lake Grace are investigating constructing walks near the town.

The position has been involved in producing a fire management plan for the eastern half of the Katanning District. This involves meeting with landholders and interested parties in the area and resolving outstanding issues.

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To: Jim Sharp – Director – Parks & Visitor Services
From: Barry Hooper
Date: 16 November 2001
Ref:
SUBJECT: **PVS OUTPUT INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS FOR THE GOLDFIELDS REGION**

As per your memo dated 2 November the following is an outline of the current Goldfields Region activities, priorities, initiatives and projects:

- We continue to implement the Rowles Lagoon Management Plan in consultation with the newly appointed management advisory group made up of local stakeholders. We have commenced the latest works using the allocated capital funding for the recreation, tourism and interpretation components of the plan including:
 - ❖ Detailed site design
 - ❖ Designing and improving access to all weather standard. This will take several years.
 - ❖ Development and installation of new interpretative signage
 - ❖ Upgrade of the day use and camping sites

- We continue to liaise with indigenous groups particularly the Goldfields Land and Sea Council as the representative body (MoU implementation) and Native Title claimants by contact, consultation and forming partnerships to define needs develop understanding, joint management and input to reserve management including:
 - ❖ Traineeships and employment
 - ❖ Cultural tourism initiatives education and opportunities (a south west tour for Goldfields aboriginal group and interested individuals and representatives is planned)
 - ❖ Cross cultural workshops
 - ❖ A HCO course
 - ❖ Establishing management advisory groups
 - ❖ Existing CDEP projects for reserve management to continue and expand
 - ❖ Site clearance along the proposed new road alignment from Burra Rock to Cave Hill.

- Planning is well underway for developing the Goldfields Woodland National Park including consultation, site planning and management planning. Including:
 - ❖ Preparing IMG's for approval
 - ❖ Links with the National Trust – Golden Pipeline Project
 - ❖ Development and management, in partnership with 4WD groups, of the Holland Track and input to the 'Holland Way'
 - ❖ Identifying potential camping/day use sites and design
 - ❖ An interpretation centre along the Great Eastern Highway or in Coolgardie
 - ❖ Possible road networks and links to existing Department sites (around the rocks).

- We have finalised, installed and continue to promote and develop the new interpretative biogeographical (bioregions) panels of the Goldfields Region. This is a new standard of

interpretation panel developed through strong links to corporate sponsorship e.g. existing arrangement with Delta Gold.

- We are liaising with the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission and Australia Unlimited Task Force to input and to identify specific Department managed sites along the new and developing Goldfields Heritage Drive Trails. This maximises visitor opportunities on Departmental Estate in the Goldfields Region.
- We are working closely with the 4WD Associations in forming partnerships in track and reserve management. Recent examples are:
 - ❖ Holland Track – Toyota Club of WA track repair and maintenance
 - ❖ Cave Hill area – Woodlines – 4WD Club of WA – track and reserve maintenance and woodline track development
 - ❖ Outback desert tracks – Tread Lightly
 - ❖ Progress with investigating and developing partnerships with the WA 4WD Association for the management ('adoption') of the newly acquired Lake Mason and Lorna Glen pastoral stations with a view to 'Homestead Hosts', assistance with management, sponsorship and caretaker options
- We continue to develop Goongarrie Station, in conjunction with preparing a business plan for the future. Options include; campground hosts to facilitate fee collection and maintenance; identifying additional special event options; expanded nature based programmes; tourism partnerships and volunteer projects.
- The region has had good PVS output support with Richard Hammond, Wayne Schmidt, Tracy Churchill and Gil Field all visiting during this year and providing input and expertise relative to their specific areas.
- Some constraints during the year were:
 - ❖ Timing of the budget (delays)
 - ❖ Ongoing delays in tenure changes, ie extensions of Goldfields Woodland National Park, mainly due to new policy, Native Title approvals and more meaningful consultation
 - ❖ Native Title implications and requirements for tenure changes, eg Jaurdi and Mt Elvire Stations
 - ❖ Developed recreation sites on Nature Reserves – ie tenure changes to Conservation Park in progress
- The newly appointed position of Regional Leader Parks and Visitor Services in the Goldfields Region has provided the opportunity and focus for the PVS output area in line with Service Provider Agreements closely linked to Departmental corporate goals and objectives. This has been a huge development as a regional priority.

Barry Hooper
Regional Leader
Parks and Visitor Services

Recreation & Tourism Research Forum

Kensington SOHQ Training Centre

28th November 2001

Program

Wednesday, November 28th

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. | Regional PVS Leaders meeting (Chair: Gae Mackay) |
| 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | Morning tea |
| 11:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m. | Welcome & Overview (Wayne Schmidt & Kate Hassall) |
| 11:10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | The Department's perspective on the value of student research – how we benefit (Rod Annear) |
| 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Environmental Impacts of Horse Riding in D'Entrecasteaux National Park (Nick Phillips, Murdoch University) |
| 12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Rural Tourism: A case study of Exmouth (Rebecca Hollet, Curtin University) |
| 12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. | Lunch |
| 1:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. | The Universities perspective – what they need from the Department to get the best outcome for students (Sue Moore, Murdoch University) |
| 1:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. | Nature Tourism in the temperate eucalypt forest of Western Australia: a case study of five forested areas (Amanda Smith, Murdoch University) |
| 2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. | On-site communication and enrichment of the visitor experience in natural areas managed by the Department of Conservation and Land Management (Michael Hughes, Notre Dame University) |
| 2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. | Wildlife tourism and macropod conservation: a case study of the black flanked rock-wallaby in the Wheatbelt Region of Western Australia (Michelle Davies, Murdoch University) |
| 3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. | Discussion for further advancement and future direction of the research program |

**Recreation And Tourism Research
Forum**

28th November 2001

**The Value Of Student Research –
How Does The Department of
Conservation and Land Management
Benefit?**

**The Outcomes Of The Study – Most Are
Obvious**

The Process

Independent Analysis Of An Issue

**Provides The Ability To Act On Otherwise
Impossible To Complete Needs**

Other Issues

Needs Trust And Commitment

It Is Not Free

It Will Take Some Of Your Time

Accommodation And Transport

A Field Experiment to Quantify the Environmental Impacts of Horse Riding in the D'Entrecasteaux National Park

Nick Phillips, Murdoch University

The Department of Conservation and Land Management manages the D'Entrecasteaux National Park located in the south-west corner of Western Australia. The Department has identified recreational horse riding as an appropriate means of enjoying some areas of their estate where environmental and social impacts are acceptable. The problem for the Department is that there is very little quantitative information on the environmental impacts of recreational horse riding. Such information is vital for a proper assessment of the significance of any impacts and for the adequate development of management actions. In the D'Entrecasteaux National Park the 'lack of real hard evidence' concerning the environmental impacts of recreational horse riding has created conflict between the horse riding lobbyist and park managers about how to manage recreational horse riding activities.

This study uses a baseline experimental approach in an attempt to determine the quantitative relationship between environmental impacts and the level of horse use in various major vegetation habitats and soil types of the D'Entrecasteaux National Park. Because of the experimental nature of this work the approach and methods applied in this study are carefully described, with close scrutiny of biophysical impact parameters sampled using a 'point intercept frame'. The point intercept frame remains one of the most reliable and objective sampling methods available to ecologists, and it is a distinguished feature of this experiment.

The results showed that horse trampling seriously deteriorated the environmental quality of the randomly selected study sites. Horse trampling altered species composition, increased exposure to bare ground, decreased vegetation cover and height, reduced soil penetration resistance and decreased soil depth. More importantly, the curvilinear relationship between the level of use and the degree of quantitative impact is such that low levels of use caused a significant amount of impact, with cumulative quantitative impacts being clearly reflected in visual impacts. Since national parks were established for many purposes of which horse riding is one, the finding that horse riding has the potential to cause a significant rate, degree and extent of environmental impact is a serious management issue.

Since prohibiting recreational horse riding is neither desirable or a recommended management action, management efforts should be directed towards minimising impacts by restricting the extent of use and thus the spatial nature of impact. The recommended management action is to prohibit public access and authorise a commercial tour operator as they have direct control over the number of users and the extent of use. Commercial tour operators provide controlled recreational horse riding opportunities, whilst being an accountable body to environmental impacts.

**A Field Experiment to Quantify the
Environmental Impacts of Horse Riding
in the D'Entrecasteaux National Park**

**By: Nick Phillips
(Murdoch University)**

**Project Supervisors:
Dr David Newsome
(Murdoch University)
Rod Annear
(CALM)**



Free-Range Riding



Trail Riding



Riding Group Size



Other Impacts



Today's Presentation

Introduction
Study Site
Methodology
Results
Discussion
Conclusion



Introduction

Project Objectives

- 1). To develop a brief profile of horse riding in the D'Entrecasteaux National Park.
- 2). To define the environmental impacts caused by horse riding, and quantify the level of impact to the level of horse use.
- 3). To determine the significance of horse riding impacts to the National Park.
- 4). Discuss appropriate management actions.

Study Site

Study Site

Park History & Current Use

Aboriginal

Nomadic lifestyle
Burnt the coast

European

Grazed cattle from late 1800's to early 1980's
Also burnt the coast

Current Use

Recreation in a natural environment
Dramatic increases in use
Horse riding in some areas

Study Site

Horse Riding Status

Park Objectives

To provide opportunities for access by horse back in the Park, while ensuring that adverse impacts on the natural environment and other park users are contained.

Current Horse Use

- Public horse riding is prohibited in the study area.
- Horse riding is provide for by a commercial horse tour operator.
- 200 punters went on the tour in 1999, with numbers predicted to increase.

Study Site

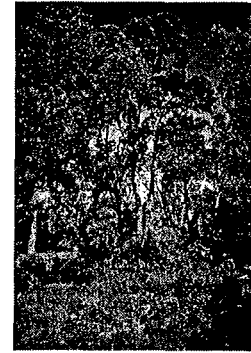
Environmental Characteristics

- The horse riding area is a complex of dune systems and seasonally inundated swamp lands.
- Un-vegetated mobile dunes are close to the coast, and the coastal dunes become more stable and vegetated inland from the coastline.
- Un-consolidated calcareous and siliceous sands are the dominant soils.
- Series of vegetation types:
→Forest, Woodland, Heath, and Sedgeland.

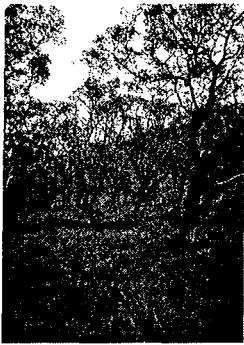
Study Site DE1



Study Site DE2



Study Site DE3



My Next Holiday

“The South Pacific”



Methodology

Methodology Overview

- Three study sites:
 - DE1 - Coastal Heath
 - DE2 - Woodland (E, A, B)
 - DE3 - Woodland (A)
- Each study site had:
 - 3 Test Transects
 - 1 Control Transect
- Each transect had:
 - 5 CrossSections (Point Intercept Frame Locations)
- Each cross section had:
 - 3 Vegetation Measurements
 - 2 Soil Measurements
- Measurements were made after the following horse passes (intensities).
 - Base, 20, 100, 200 & 300.
- Control transects were not subjected to horse trampling, but measured in conjunction with the test transects.

Methodology

What is a Point Intercept Frame?

- One of the most trustworthy and objective ecological methods for estimating change.
- Consists of a frame, which has a number of thin pins (20pins).
- The pins are lowered vertically through the vegetation until a root, stem, soil or rock prevents further downward movement.
- In order to sample, you measure what comes into contact with the pin on its way to the ground.

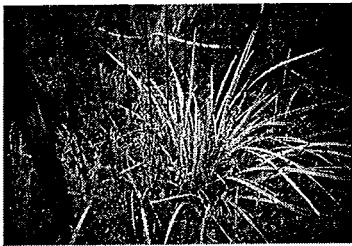
Methodology

Point Intercept Frame



Methodology

Point Intercept Frame



Methodology

What was measured?

- Vegetation Variables:**
- 1). Species Composition
 - 2). Vegetation Cover
 - 3). Vegetation Height
- Soil Variables:**
- 1). Micro-topography
 - 2). Soil Penetration

Methodology Overview

- Three study sites:
 - >DE1 - Coastal Heath
 - >DE2 - Woodland (E, A, B)
 - >DE3 - Woodland (A)
- Each study site had:
 - >3 Test Transects
 - >1 Control Transect
- Each transect had:
 - >5 Cross Sections (Point Intercept Frame Locations)
- Each cross section had:
 - >3 Vegetation Measurements
 - >2 Soil Measurements
- Measurements were made after the following horse passes (intensities)
 - >Base, 20, 100, 200 & 300.
- Control transects were not subjected to horse trampling, but measured in conjunction with the test transects.

Methodology

Variability Test

- Theory was to test variability, or consistency, in the point intercept frame.
- One transect was marked out at two study sites:
 - >DE2
 - >DE3.
- Three cross sections for each transect.
- Each cross section was sampled three times for:
 - >Vegetation Cover
 - >Vegetation Height
 - >Micro-topography.

Results

Results

Overview

•For the three study sites:

→DE1 (*Example*)

→DE2

→DE3

•The following results:

→Sampling Variability Test

→Species Composition

→Vegetation Cover (*Example*)

→Vegetation Height

→Micro-topography

→Soil Penetration Resistance

Results

Vegetation Cover Overview

For each site:

•As horse trampling intensity increased, the percentage of vegetation cover decreased.

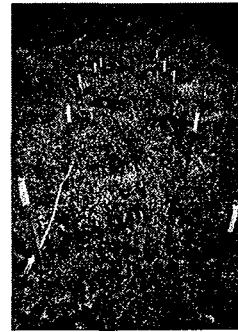
•The rate at which the percentage of vegetation cover decreased was overall greatest after the initial horse trampling intensities.

•A significant decrease in percentage of vegetation cover occurred throughout the centre of the transects, but not on the edges of the transects.

•Changes in the percentage of vegetation cover after various intensities of horse trampling were not significantly different between the three study sites.

•No significant changes in the percentage of vegetation cover over the control transects.

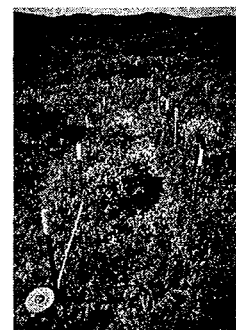
Results Study Site DE1 Baseline



Results Study Site DE1 20 Passes



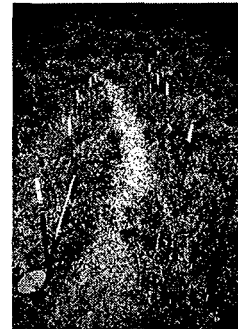
Results Study Site DE1 100 Passes



Results Study Site DE1 200 Passes



Results Study Site DE1 300 Passes



Results Summary

- Overall the results showed that horse trampling:
 - Altered species composition
 - Increased exposure to the ground
 - Decreased vegetation cover & height
 - Reduced soil penetration (2 sites)
 - Decreased soil depth (i.e. trench)
- Level of impact was found to be significantly different
 - With increasing intensities of horse trampling
 - Across the width of most transects
- The curvilinear relationship between the level of use and degree of biophysical impact was such that low levels of use caused the greatest amount of measurable impact.
- Level of impact was not found to be significantly different:
 - Between the three study sites (except for soil penetration)
 - On the edges of most transects
 - On the control transects
 - On the sampling variability test transects

My favourite cricket player!

“David Clarence Boon”



Test Ave: 43.65

Discussion

Discussion

Does the methodology work?

- Yes

Why?

- It quantifies the impact.

- The sampling variability tests showed that the point intercept frame produces a consistent result for:

- Vegetation Cover
- Vegetation Height
- Micro-topography

Discussion

Four main sections:

- 1). **Vegetation and Soil Impacts**
 - a). Use-impact relationship
 - b). Relative resistance of both parameter to trampling impacts
- 2). **Significance of the results at a landscape scale**
 - a). Rate
 - b). Degree
 - c). Extent
- 3). **Potential Management Actions**
 - a). Prohibit Use
 - b). Open Access
 - c). Commercial Operator
- 4). **Considerations and Limitations**

Discussion

1). Vegetation and Soil Impacts

a). Use-impact relationship

→The relationship between the level of use and degree of impact was generally non-linear or curvilinear.

→Significant impacts occurred at low levels of use.

→With increasing use the degree of measurable impact (amount of change) increases but at a less substantial rate.

b). Relative resistance of both parameter to trampling impacts

→Overall vegetation and soil types were equally susceptible to horse trampling impact

Discussion

2). Significance of the results at a landscape scale

•Three main dimensions of the use-impact relationship:

- a). Rate (ie. amount of impact per horse pass)
- b). Degree (ie. total amount of change)
- c). Extent (ie. spatial or areal extent of impact)

2a). Rate Impact

•Overall, vegetation and soil impact parameters of the three study sites responded to the effects of horse trampling at a similar rate.

•Limiting horse use to anyone of these study sites will not necessarily alleviate the vegetation and soil impacts.

Discussion

2). Significance of the results at a landscape scale

•Three main dimensions of the use-impact relationship:

- a). Rate (ie. amount of impact per horse pass)
- b). Degree (ie. total amount of change)
- c). Extent (ie. spatial or areal extent of impact)

b). Degree of Impact

•Low levels of use bring about significant measurable impact.

•Horse trampling impacts are unlikely to be greatly diminished merely by reducing use from high to low levels, unless use levels can be reduced to almost nothing.

Discussion

2). Significance of the results at a landscape scale

•Three main dimensions of the use-impact relationship:

- a). Rate (ie. amount of impact per horse pass)
- b). Degree (ie. total amount of change)
- c). Extent (ie. spatial or areal extent of impact)

c). Extent Impact

•Problematic - spatial requirements.

•Key relationship is that 'relatively low levels of use caused a significant degree of both quantifiable and visual impact, and thus the 'areal extent' of both use and impact are a significant management issue'.

•High potential to cause 'extensive' environmental damage.

Discussion

3). Potential Management Actions:

- a). Prohibit Horse Riding
- b). Open Access
- c). Commercial Horse Riding Operator

•The recommended management action that attempts to balance both objectives of conservation and recreation is to:

→Authorise a commercial tour operator

•'On the basis that you have an accountable body to the impacts and thus a means of controlling the factors that influence horse riding impacts'.

Discussion

4). Limitations & Considerations

- Obviously, there are some conceptual problems in trying to quantify horse impact:
 - > Intensity of the study (week/year)
 - > Sampling regime (day/weeks)
 - > Transect methodology (width)
 - > Spatial requirements for horse riding (landscape).
- The study focused on quantifying trail impact. Other impacts include:
 - > Erosion
 - > Accidental transport of fungal pathogens, exotic plants and weeds
 - > Camping, grazing, and tethering areas
 - > Access area
- The factors that will influence the significance of the impacts include:
 - > Regeneration capabilities
 - > Management practices ie. burning and ranger patrols.
 - > User habits

Conclusion

Conclusion

- > Horse riding is a highly controversial activity in many national parks
- > Perceived environmental impacts, but a lack of local information and hard data.
- > Horse riding in the D'Entrecasteaux National Park has the potential to cause significant environmental impacts in a short period of time.
- > Recommendations are designed to have a balance between conservation and recreation.
- > Prohibit public access and authorise tour operators, on the basis that there is an accountable body to control the factors that influence impacts levels.

Conclusion

Because the 'lack of hard evidence' concerning the environmental impacts of recreational horse riding has been a topic of controversy in the management of Western Australia's National Parks, this comprehensive field experiment makes a significant contribution to the management of horse riding in the D'Entrecasteaux National Park.



Rural Tourism: Panacea or Predicament Exmouth Resident Survey

Rebecca Hollett, Curtin University

A survey of Exmouth residents was undertaken in April 2001 as part of a broader planning research study to analyse the following hypothesis: while tourism is conceived by many as a panacea, could it be a predicament that is creating conflict within communities and putting pressure on other successful industries?

It is this question that the report seeks to answer through the examination of a unique case study of Exmouth within the broad context of other state and regional examples. The report examines the issue of regional economic decline that has been prevalent in Australia in recent years and asks how tourism can contribute to the economic and social future of declining rural towns.

The survey was undertaken between the 13-20th April 2001 in Exmouth, Western Australia. It included both quantitative and qualitative methodology through the use of coded and discussion questions. Approximately 200 surveys were randomly distributed by hand to households and businesses within the Exmouth townsite and Harold E. Holt Naval Base with 145 surveys completed. With an estimated resident population of 2600 people, this is only 5.6% of the total population but accounted for approximately 20% of the households in Exmouth.

The study of rural tourism and regional economic development is significant for several reasons. First, regional Australia has faced population and economic decline for a number of years now and it is necessary to understand the diverse theoretical perspectives of the phenomenon. Secondly, there appears a need to diversify the economic base of the traditionally agricultural areas to ensure their social and economic future. Tourism is being adopted as a development strategy in many areas with little research into its social, economic and environmental impacts. Finally, it will increase the understanding of planners and others in related disciplines in regional tourism development. This study will advance planning knowledge, contributing to existing scholarly research and literature in this field.

More specifically, the survey can help the Department of Conservation and Land Management and related agencies in responding to the needs of residents in Exmouth and similar areas, and will contribute to knowledge of the specific social, environmental and economic impacts that residents of Exmouth perceive tourism is having on the area.

Rural tourism: Panacea or predicament?

- Introduction
- Tourism in Context
- Case Study, Exmouth
- Exmouth Resident Survey
- Summary and Conclusions

Reason for Study

- ♦ Interest in rural and regional economic development
- ♦ Site visits to Exmouth 2000/2001
- ♦ Unique historical background and contemporary circumstances
- ♦ Tourism has become important for diversification of the economic base of rural towns in decline
- ♦ To better respond to the needs of residents with regard to the social, environmental and economic impacts of tourism on their area

Tourism in Context

- ♦ Economic returns from tourism are rising incrementally.
- ♦ Increasingly rural communities are looking to tourism to diversify their economic base... what 'type' of development works, what is feasible, and what kind of tourists are they in a position to attract?
- ♦ It must be ensured that tourism planning precedes tourism development.
- ♦ Scope for more critical evaluation of the effectiveness of tourism, especially rural tourism
 - linkages between tourism and the social, cultural and economic elements of rural areas.

Tourism in Context

- ♦ Local community 'ownership' and influence over tourism, economic and environmental policy.
- ♦ 'For tourism to help rural communities in achieving sustainable futures, the local people must be involved in policy and development in order for them to maintain the lifestyle that they enjoy in the community in which they reside.'
- ♦ Basis of the research approach undertaken in Exmouth case study; the role of the local residents in tourism development and its effects their lifestyle and community life.

Case Study, Exmouth

- ♦ Exceptional historical circumstances
- ♦ US military withdrawal in 1991/92 creating an element of uncertainty for the remaining residents.
- ♦ Unique natural environment for growth of tourism, an internationally significant destination.
- ♦ Development constraints and industry conflicts impede the future of the town. Tourism employment numbers rising, while employment in government and defence related sectors is dwindling
- ♦ Seasonality of the tourism industry.
- ♦ Residents perceptions - while some welcome it, others perceive it as a threat to the natural environment and social amenity of Exmouth.

Case Study, Exmouth

- ♦ All industries reliant upon the balanced and sustainable long term management of the natural resources available to them.
- ♦ While tourism has provided an economic direction for development of the town, the natural resource that made this option viable in the first place must be protected and managed to ensure its long-term sustainability for successful industries.
- ♦ Policy and development should be inclusive to prevent feelings of antipathy. Local residents need to feel that the development of the tourism industry is for their benefit also, and is not just catering for the needs of tourists.

Exmouth Resident Survey

145 surveys were completed accounting for approximately 20% of the households in Exmouth

Employment & Economy:

- ◆ 32% self employed, 30% are employed full time
- ◆ 9.0% of respondents are retired, correlating directly with the percentage of respondents who are over 55 years of age
- ◆ 35.2% in Commerce & Industry. 17.6% in Tourism
- ◆ Local businesses and businesses associated directly with tourism account for approximately 53% of respondents indicating that local business and tourism are the major employers in the town
- ◆ The *average* percentage of their income that is believed by all respondents to be derived from tourism is 28.54% - indicating the major contribution of tourism to the local economy.

Exmouth Resident Survey

- ◆ Locals spend (on average) \$155 per person/per recreation trip in their local area, or \$57 per person/per night.
- ◆ International tourists average \$36 per night expenditure in the Gascoyne Region.
- ◆ Some residents spend up to 80% of their income on recreation, although the average amount of income spent on outdoor recreation is 16.5%.

Exmouth Resident Survey

Participation in recreation:

- ◆ Participation in Water/beach based activities:
Inside Marine Park 78%, Outside 79%
 - ◆ Participation in land based activities:
Inside National Park 57.6%, Outside 60%
- 73.4% participate mainly in water and beach based activities.

Activities in order of popularity:

Beach activities, Snorkeling (shore), Fishing, Viewing wildlife, Snorkeling (boat), sightseeing, coral viewing, camping, scuba diving, swimming with whale sharks, cultural events and boating

Exmouth Resident Survey

Importance Ratings

All of the following rated 4 or more in terms of importance (5 being extremely important) in declining order of importance:

- ◆ Clean water (4.88), marine life, amount of living coral on reef, natural environment, uncrowded conditions, protection of Cape Range from mining, local tourism industry, recreational fishing, and Learmonth Airport (4.01).
- ◆ Only Commercial fishing rated below 4.0 at an importance rating of 3.34, being neutral to slightly important.

Exmouth Resident Survey

Satisfaction Ratings

Satisfaction with a number issues varied far more. Items that rated less than 3.0, meaning respondents were neutral to displeased with them were:

- ◆ Availability of public facilities (2.77), Condition of roads/paths and sidewalks, the direction of planning in Exmouth (2.99).
- Other issues that rated from 3 (neutral) to 5 (pleased) were:
- ◆ Community involvement and consultation in the planning of Exmouth (3.01), Marina and boat facilities, Services provided for tourists, Tourism growth in Exmouth, Cleanliness of public areas, Management of natural conservation areas (3.51), Access to areas of local significance and shoreline(3.53), Availability of fish to catch/view, Opportunities to view large wildlife (3.87), Variety and availability of marine life to view, and the quality of the beaches (4.42)

Exmouth Resident Survey

Environmental Concern Index

Determination of how local residents rate local sustainability:

- ◆ 93% of respondents place a very high priority on protection of the environment or are concerned about protection of the environment.

Summary

Dynamic employment structure, state of flux since the withdrawal of the United States Defence Forces. No longer a government town.

Exmouth Resident Survey

- ◆ Seasonal nature of tourism – difficulties in pinpointing the exact contribution of the tourist trade to local employment
- ◆ Key themes:
 - Itinerant labour
 - feelings of antipathy towards tourists
 - effect on local services, particularly the hospital
 - environmental preservation and access issues
 - dissatisfaction with direction and promotion of the town by local authorities
 - uncooperative and competitive nature of tourism operators

Summary

- ◆ Exmouth: tourism presents neither a panacea, nor a complete predicament. Benefits and disadvantages exist for the town and its residents
- ◆ Planning must take into account the needs and wants of the local community.
- ◆ The development of any one industry cannot be seen as a panacea to rural decline, but rather should be investigated as an avenue for diversification of the local economy to assist in the long term sustainability of the area.

Recommendations

Rural Tourism:

- Ensure adequate planning and investigation precedes tourism development.
- Prevent unregulated proliferation and inadequate planning, design and environmental standards by implementation of local codes of conduct.
- Scope for research into rural tourism and its potential impact on local landholders, communities and economies.

Recommendations

- Ensure local people have a say to avoid feelings of antipathy and alienation between residents and tourists
- If the government is to intervene, they must be responsive to the environment within which they work to decide on application of regulatory, voluntary or expenditure instruments, financial incentives, or deliberate non-interventionist instruments of policy to ensure the best possible outcome.
- Encourage a balanced partnership between key players for the effective implementation of tourism development.

Recommendations

Exmouth:

- Monitoring of industry relationships and conflict management
- Recognition of development constraints and fragility of the unique Cape environment in future planning
- Ensure, where possible, the involvement of the local community in future decision making on a local and regional scale
- Encourage local government to take a leadership role and work proactively to ensure the future of Exmouth's tourism industry.
- Authorities, residents, tourists and tourism operators to work interactively

Conclusions

Benefits/outcomes for CALM:

- In Exmouth - better understanding of the local people, their needs and aspirations.
- Appreciation of contribution of tourism to the local economy
- Benefits both for students and CALM field staff in undertaking research projects in general.

The University Perspective -
What's Needed from CALM for
the Best Outcomes for Students
(and CALM)
Sue Moore
Murdoch University

What do Universities Do?

- Teach
- Research and consulting
- Community service

Who's Who in Western Australia

- Murdoch University
- Edith Cowan University
- Curtin University
- The University of Western Australia
- The University of Notre Dame
- *CALM Tourism and Recreation Research Reference Group*

Types of Research

- Student-centered research:
 - research project (individual/group)
 - coursework project
- 'Academic'-centered research:
 - grants
 - contracts
 - sabbatical
- 'Mercedes to VW' spectrum of research possibilities

Student-Centered Research

- Research by an individual student:
 - honours (9 months fulltime)
 - postgrad. coursework (9 months @ 12 hrs/wk)
 - 4th year project (9 months @ 12 hrs/wk)
 - PhD (3 yrs fulltime)
 - MPhil (2 yrs fulltime) - increasingly rare
- Research by a group of students:
 - 4th year project (3-4 students)

Student-Centered Research (cont.)

- Honours - well-defined question, uses prior knowledge, discrete data collection, involves thinking
- PhD - larger but still focused project, multiple parts, data collection over 1+ years, original contribution
- 4th year projects - tightly organised and run, parallel data collection

'Academic'-Centered Research

- Grants:
 - from government (e.g. CALM)
 - from Commonwealth granting body
 - from industry
- Contracts = consulting
- Sabbatical = secondment

'Academic'-Centered Research (cont.)

- Grants - longer-term (3 mths+), research & outcome focus, results applicable beyond WA - research assistant(s) and academic
- Contracts - short-term, outcome-focused - academic and/or research assistant
- Sabbatical - 3-6 mths, research & outcome focus - academic

'What is Research?

- Building on previous knowledge
- Clearly defining a problem (i.e. a research question) and then trying to answer it
- Explaining and justifying methods used
- In applied research, providing outcomes useful for managers

What are 'Best Outcomes' for Students?

- Project that matches academic & lifestyle interests
- Within their comfort zone
- Project that can be finished
- Project that helps them get the best possible mark
- Networking that helps get a job

What are 'Best Outcomes' for Academic Supervisors?

- Project matches current research interests
- Project attracts good research student
- Project completed by student
- Journal article an output from project
- Project helps student get a job
- Project develops collaborative opportunities for chasing large grants

What are 'Best Outcomes' for CALM?

- Access to overseas and interstate thinking/practice
- Answers to question(s) and better defined questions
- Location-specific answers
- Opportunity to step back and think about how things are going/how to do things better

How to Get 'Best Outcomes' for Students

- Co-supervision
- Contact people in regions and/or district
- Take into/assist in the field (esp. with data collection)
- Logistical support (e.g. transport, accommodation, office space, phone)
- Clear, regular communication with CALM

How to Get 'Best Outcomes' for Students (cont.)

- Optimising input to student's project:
 - defining research question (what is "the problem")
 - helping to collect data
 - reading the results & discussion
 - reading the draft thesis/examining

How to get the 'Best Outcomes' for CALM

- Clearly define research question with student and supervisor
- Understand the scope of the project
- 'Assist' with field work
- Read results and discussion
- Clear, regular communication with student & supervisor

Conclusions

- Student projects help answer recreation and tourism management questions
- Partnership approach of university (academic & student) and CALM based on clear, ongoing communication most effective
- Students need intellectual and practical input from CALM to get the best outcomes for all involved

Nature Tourism in the Temperate Eucalypt Forests of Western Australia

Amanda Smith, Murdoch University

Forest-based tourism and recreational use of forested areas are growing steadily, producing ecological and social impacts that present significant management challenges.

This study aims to: determine the biophysical impacts of a range of recreation and tourist activities; develop and apply methods for assessing impacts using both multiple-parameter and rapid-assessment techniques; assess the nature and significance of social impacts by surveying user perceptions of problems in relation to actual and proposed management actions; monitor impacts at selected sites and determine management outcomes across a range of land tenures; assess the effectiveness of a range of management tools in dealing with these impacts; and develop best practice management techniques for the Australian context, with wide application in both wet and dry eucalypt forest ecosystems.

Five eucalypt sites have been selected in south-west Western Australia, covering a range of land tenures, management regimes, activities, use levels and visitor types.

Nature Tourism and Recreation in the Temperate Eucalypt Forests of Western Australia

By

Amanda Smith

Postgraduate Researcher, Environmental Science

Supervisors: David Newsome and Sue Moore, Murdoch University

In collaboration with CALM



Overview

- ◆ Tourism in South West Western Australia
- ◆ Background
- ◆ Impacts of Recreation and Tourism
- ◆ Aims of this study
- ◆ Site Selection
- ◆ Methodology and Research Conducted to date
- ◆ Outcomes for Management



Tourism in the South West Western Australia

- ◆ Visitor trips to forests predicted to increase from 812,500 in 1996 to between 1.28 and 1.33 million by the year 2018.
- ◆ Demand for natural area recreation and tourism is increasing.
- ◆ Important that informed management decisions are made to minimise the impact from increasing tourism pressure.



- 20-30% per annum expansion (baseline growth figure)
- Lane Poole Reserve
1978 60,000 visitors/annum } over a 20 year period there has been a
1998 approx. 250,000 visitors/annum } (approx 24% growth figure).
- In WA there has been a 60% increase in visitation 1990-2000
- Area of the resource, particularly forested areas remains largely static

Background

- ◆ In Western Australia there have been no published studies to date on the effects of camping in forested areas.
- ◆ Only limited studies of the ecological and social impact of recreation have been published.
- ◆ Recreational use of forested areas inevitably results in changes to ecological and social conditions.



- Extensive literature review revealed – Western Australia no published studies to date on the effects of camping in forested areas. 1% of the total studies relate to Australian conditions.
- Australia most studies are limited to coastal, alpine and sub-alpine environments
- OVERSEAS: majority of studies from USA, UK and northern Europe
 - Backcountry camping areas
 - Mountainous (alpine fields and meadows)
 - Radically different environment eg. Fir, spruce forests.
 - Access is often non-motorised eg. Foot, horse
- In forests, disturbance is often highly concentrated in popular destinations and exhibits signs of deterioration shortly after use begins.
- Monitoring is a means to provide information about when management intervention is required and can improve understanding of the cause-effect relationship between levels and types of visitor use and the resultant impacts.
- Baseline data is required so that there is a benchmark for comparison.
- A time and cost efficient monitoring system is required.



IMPACTS OF RECREATION AND TOURISM

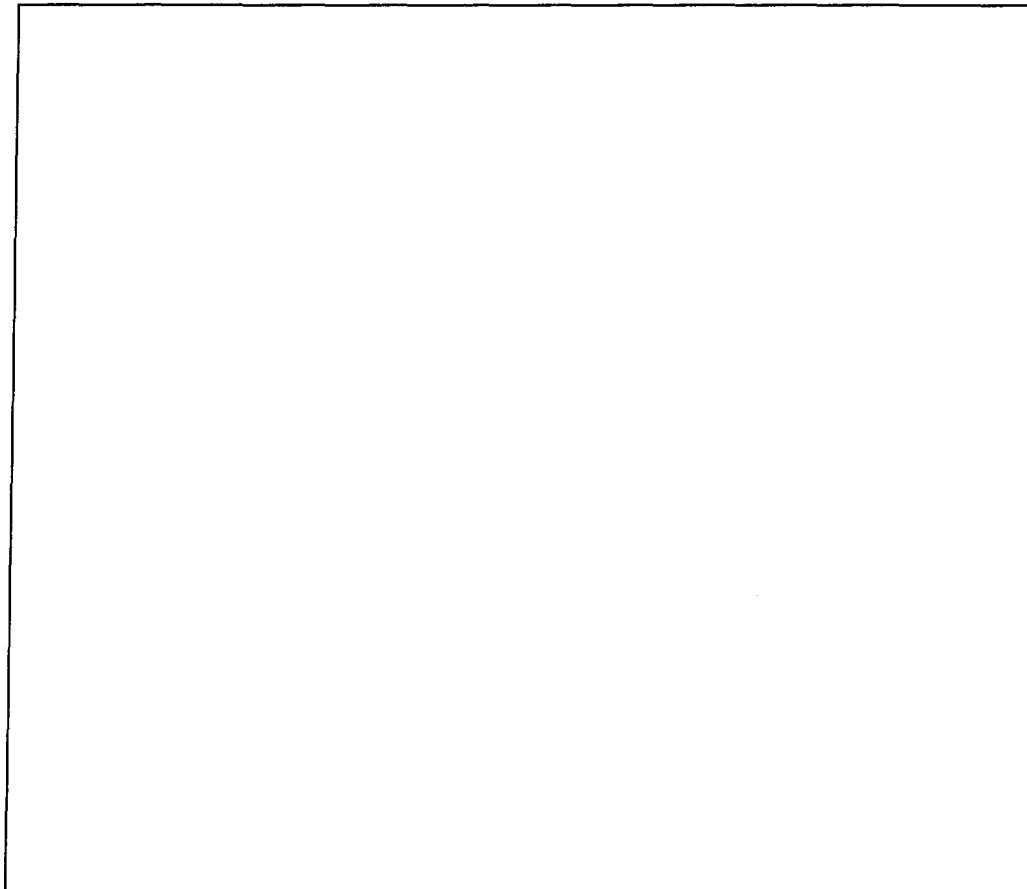
GULLY EROSION

- Damage to vegetation and vegetation loss
- Track formation (through collection of firewood, access to other sites) and search for toilet sites)
- Soil compaction
- Soil erosion
- Littering
- Spread of soil pathogens and weeds
- Tree and seedling damage
- Vandalism

- Visitors have also expressed concern about
 - Amount of litter
 - Wildlife presence
 - Tree damage
 - Vegetation loss

Aims of this study

- ◆ Develop and apply methods for assessing the impacts of recreation and tourism in the temperate eucalypt forests of south-western Australia both social and biophysical.
- ◆ Assess the effectiveness of a range of management tools in dealing with these impacts.
- ◆ Develop best practice monitoring and management guidelines for temperate eucalypt forests for the Australian context.



Site Selection

Sites chosen because:

- ◆ Eucalypt forest
- ◆ Different forest regions ie. northern, southern, central
- ◆ Varying management regimes
- ◆ Water body (river, stream etc.) contained within the park and a feature of visitation
- ◆ A range of activities offered and experience within the park (often some level of camping).
- ◆ Varying use levels (often formal and informal recreation sites)
- ◆ Different visitor types visiting the park and different seasons of visitation dependent on location and proximity to Perth.



- Focusing on concentrated use such as day-use, picnicking, camping and activities associated with this.
- Most highly visited sites.
- Not possible to review all activities occurring.
- Management regimes – (effectiveness will be measured by visitor response in social survey)
 - Ie. Limits of use
 - Behaviour restrictions eg alcohol restrictions, policing behaviour, single entry access and manned entry stations.
 - Firewood provisions
- Varying use levels between parks ie. Parks closer to Perth have higher visitation numbers than those further away.

Site Selection (cont...)

◆ Lane Poole Reserve – Dwellingup

- Northern Jarrah Forest (State Forest) (jarrah, marri, wandoo)
- 250,000 visitors per year (mostly day trippers)

◆ Wellington Forest – Collie

- Central Forest Region (State Forest) (jarrah, marri, wandoo)
- Estimated 250,000 visitors per annum (mostly day trippers).



All parks have fees introduced.

All parks have some level of development and facilities provided.

Informal sites can also be found in the parks.

Site Selection (cont....)

- ◆ **Warner Glen Recreation Area – Margaret River**
 - State Forest to become National Park (jarrah, marri)
- ◆ **Sues Bridge Recreation Area – Margaret River**
 - State Forest to become National Park (jarrah, marri)
- ◆ **Warren National Park – Pemberton**
 - Southern Forest (karri, marri)
 - 40,000 visitors per year (mostly day trippers)
 - New campsites to be opened early 2002



- Warner Glen/Sues Bridge
 - approx. 10,000 visitors (still to get accurate VISTAT data).
State Forest to become Blackwood National Park.
- Variety of activities:
 - sightseeing
 - picnicking
 - bushwalking
 - camping
 - canoeing
 - swimming
 - 4WD, mountain biking, marroning in season.

Approx. total: Over 100 recreation sites in all of the parks.

Lane Poole – 31 sites (3 areas plus day use)

Wellington – 26 sites (2 areas)

Warner Glen – 12 sites

Sues Bridge – 16 sites

Warren NP

- New campsites will enable examination rate and degree of deterioration.

Methodology & Research conducted to date

- ◆ Social surveys
- ◆ Rapid assessment techniques
 - Site condition
 - general description of area
 - condition of vegetation at perimeter
 - human damage to trees
 - visible signs of erosion such as root exposure
 - cleanliness (litter)
 - tree seedlings and mature trees counted
 - Riverbank condition
 - Development of walk trails



Extensive literature review conducted.

SOCIAL SURVEY

- Been distributed since April 2001. Good return cont. over summer & 2002
- Based on personal interviews (use of trained volunteers) and combined with distribution by CALM staff and camp hosts.
- Standards for indicators are being sought by asking visitors through a social survey to give the maximum level of change they would accept.
- These levels of acceptance will then be compared to biophysical measurements to assess their applicability.
- Questions in the survey addressed visitor and visit characteristics, reasons for visiting, visitor perceptions regarding existing environmental conditions and management preferences.

RAPID ASSESSMENT TECHNIQUES

- Using both multiple indicator rating and measurement systems and compared to an undisturbed control site to provide comprehensive coverage of information.
- Photographs are also being taken to record campsite condition and obvious deterioration along trails and the river bank.
- Development, toilet, firewood collection or delivery
- RIVERBANK – width & depth, erosion obs., veg. Quadrats
- WALK/SOCIAL TRAILS – distance, width & depth, visual measurement.

Recreation Site Inventory Form



Date: ____/____/____

Name of recorder: _____

Human damage to trees (eg. Axe marks, initials) _____ (other than natural causes)

- none
- slight (nails, nail holes, small branches cut off or broken, small superficial trunk scars)
- moderate (large branches cut off or broken, trunk scars & mutilations)
- severe (trunk scars that total $>0.09\text{m}^2$, large branches cut off or broken, extensive mutilations)

Cleanliness – Presence of human sourced litter

- none
- 1-3 pieces of rubbish
- 4-6 pieces of rubbish
- >6 pieces of rubbish



Methodology & Research conducted to date

- ◆ Multi-parameter measurements
 - Areal measurements
 - Soil parameters
 - Understorey vegetation
 - Firewood collection
- ◆ Assessment of management tools.
 - Via social surveys, letters of complaints and interviews with Managers



•CAMPSITE CONDITION

- human damage to trees (At Sues Bridge over a 6 month period there has been an increase of approximately 50% in tree damage).
 - visible signs of erosion such as root exposure (not as prevalent in deep rooted eucalypt trees but evident in *Agonis flexuosa* and other smaller trees or shrubs). Tent ditching also relatively frequent.
 - Development and cleanliness (litter mainly found around campsite – bread ties, and cigarette butts among most common)
 - social trails and campsite area (created either to access other campsite
- Rating systems involve the assignment of ratings mostly to a number of visual indicators, whereas in measurement systems actual quantitative data is also collected. Ratings give rapid estimate of condition.
- AREAL – From central point (fire) to perimeter (1-2m into veg) distance & compass bearing. Size (overall disturbance).
 - SOIL – Penetrometry to determine compaction
 - VEGETATION – % veg. Cover in 1x1m frame quadrats
 - soil & groundcover directly related to trampling loss of vegetation & accompanying soil exposure and erosion.
 - FIREWOOD – line of known length (10m) laid over area and diameter of each piece of wood in a size class recorded. Three survey lines laid out to form an equilateral triangle.

Outcomes for Management

- ◆ Increasing pressure to measure environmental performance across all sectors.
- ◆ A monitoring system that is time and cost efficient is required.
- ◆ Best Practice monitoring & management guidelines.



- CALM required to report both for management plans and annual report.
 - building performance indicators into management plans
 - assessment systems need to become an integral part of the way agencies manage to provide a basis for adaptive management and reporting.
 - environmental reporting is necessary to promote better management policies and practices or use the results to highlight problems and set priorities.
- Where monitoring data is made publicly available is one way of meeting public requests for accountability.
- This monitoring system has been timed – it takes approximately 4-5 minutes to complete on-site measurement and then would have to be analysed (given a score to). This could be done when facility inventories are being completed. The more detailed measurements are more time consuming however would only need to be done either every other year or every 3 years.
 - BEST PRACTICE – guidelines would be used for training and direction. Would consist of a series of photographs to depict various levels of impact eg. Photo's of tree damage showing slight, moderate and severe.

Outcomes for Management

◆ Photopoints:

- Provides a visual record
- Taken from a fixed point (can assess change over time)
- Recommended as a supplement to other forms of data collection rather than a technique used on it's own.
- Quick, relatively low cost, visual documentation
- Does not provide accurate quantitative measurements, comparisons between photos often difficult due to difference in cameras, lens and film.



•Similarly, rather than physically measure vegetation loss, can a visual appraisal using a scale give qualifiable results? We are building performance indicators into all our management plans, using veg loss etc as indicators. We need a rapid assessment method that is cost efficient. If we start to ask rangers to physically measure environmental change, it will never happen. However, they might use photopoint monitoring.

Outcomes for Management (cont...)

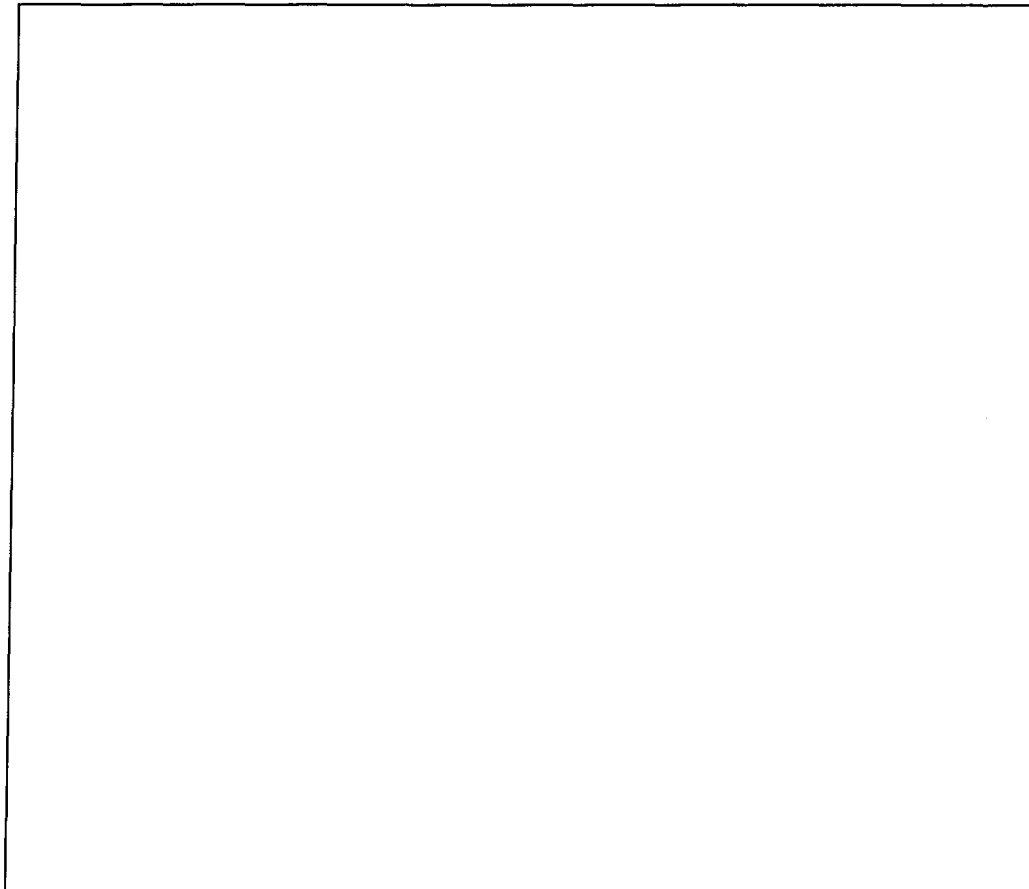
- ◆ Multiple indicator ratings:
 - Collecting information on a number of indicators.
 - Quick (campsite evaluated in 5-10 minutes)
 - Relatively low cost, providing a lot of information
 - Accuracy is sufficient to detect changes over time and categorises the status of existing sites
 - Can identify the most serious impacts
 - Large variations in ratings for an indicator made by different evaluators may occur although the overall score does not vary greatly



- Variations could be reduced by guidelines and training.

Outcomes for Management (cont...)

- ◆ This study has raised many questions. It cannot answer all of the questions.
- ◆ Emerging research projects
 - further evaluate effectiveness of management tools
 - Removal of course woody debris – ecological impact
 - 4WD impacts and other activities
 - Further refine social surveys to look at depreciative behaviour
 - Effective interpretation and environmental education



On-site Communication and Enrichment of the Visitor Experience in Natural Areas managed by the Department of Conservation and Land Management

Michael Hughes, Notre Dame University

This project examines the on-site communication strategies used by the Department of Conservation and Land Management in natural areas and the subsequent impacts on visitor enrichment, which is to raise understanding, awareness and appreciation of the natural environment at sites managed by the Department. The project relates directly to a component of the Department's mission to encourage the public's enjoyment and sense of value of the natural environment. Underlying this initial objective is a reassurance that best practice is undertaken in management on behalf of the wider community. While significant resources are spent on communication to achieve these aims, to date there has been little controlled evaluation of the effectiveness of such communication. The lack of evaluation puts reliance of effective design and management of on-site communication mainly to the experience of staff. Experience is obviously a vital aspect of design and management. However, having in-depth knowledge of 'how' and 'why' certain methods work under given circumstances as well as 'what' enables better efficiency in design and more scope for successful experimentation in terms of on-site communication strategies.

Two sites form the focus of this study; The Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk and Penguin Island. These were chosen for the differing communication strategies employed while both being representative of the natural WA environment. The Tree Top Walk presents a minimalist approach to communication while Penguin Island employs a more overt program of communication. A suitable evaluation framework has been selected from literature sources to provide a valid assessment of the sites chosen for the project. The central problem that this project will address is expressed in the following questions:

1. Do Departmental communications strategies promote public empathy with the Department's philosophy with regards to management of natural areas?
2. Do visitors support the values and objectives promoted at sites managed by the Department through experiencing various communication media?
3. Is visitor experience enhanced by the presence of communication media?
4. Which communication strategies are most effective in enhancing visitor experience?

Comparisons will be made between communication strategies both within each site as well as between sites. This will assist in identifying the impact of on-site communication strategies on visitors in terms of their understanding, appreciation and awareness of the natural environment.

Impact of on-site communication on the natural area visitor experience.

Michael Hughes
PhD Candidate

University of Notre Dame
Murdoch University

Project Questions

- Is visitor experience enriched by the presence of communication media ?
- Which communication strategies are most effective in enriching the visitor experience ?

Visitor Enrichment

An umbrella term that encompasses the ultimate aims of interpretation:

- Knowledge and understanding,
- Awareness and appreciation
- Sense of place

Method

- Selected two sites with differing communication strategies.
- Conducted pre and post visit surveys.
- Observed visitor behaviour.

Tree Top Walk

- Minimalist approach to on-site communication
- Fairly limited range of activities
- Unique design intended as central interpretive tool.

Penguin Island

- More overt approach to on-site communication
- Broad range of activities
- Penguin Experience centre designed as central interpretive tool.

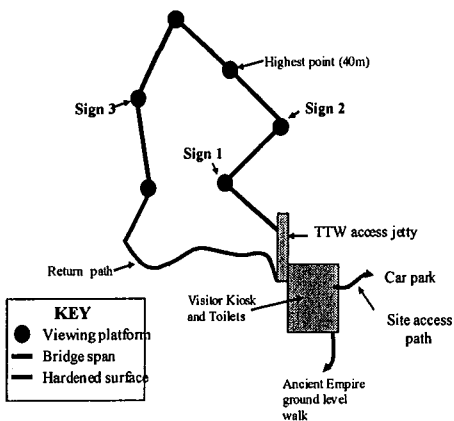
Survey design

- Knowledge
- Environmental Attitude
- Attitude to site experience
- Motivation for visitation
- Repeat visitation
- Regularity of natural area visitation
- Information sources used while at site
- Perceived knowledge and attachment to site
- Demographic information

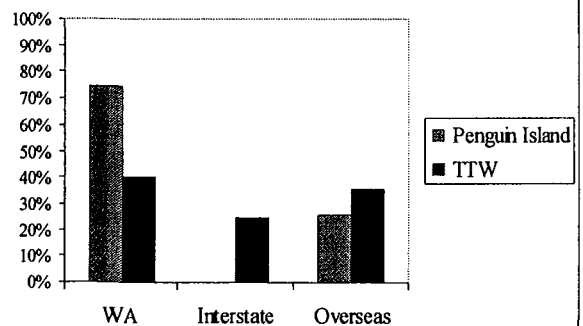
TTW Sign Trial

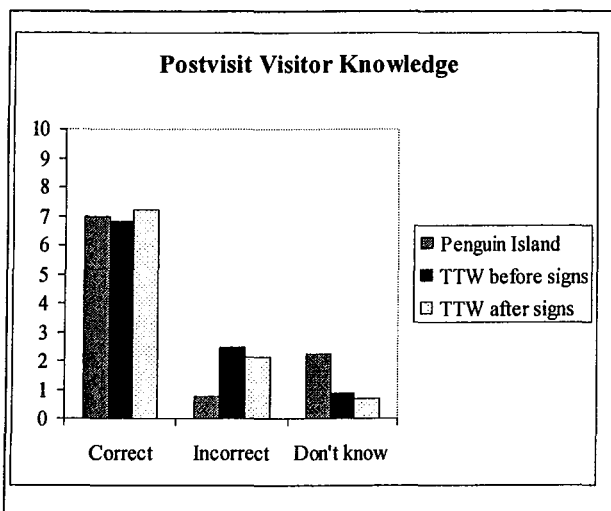
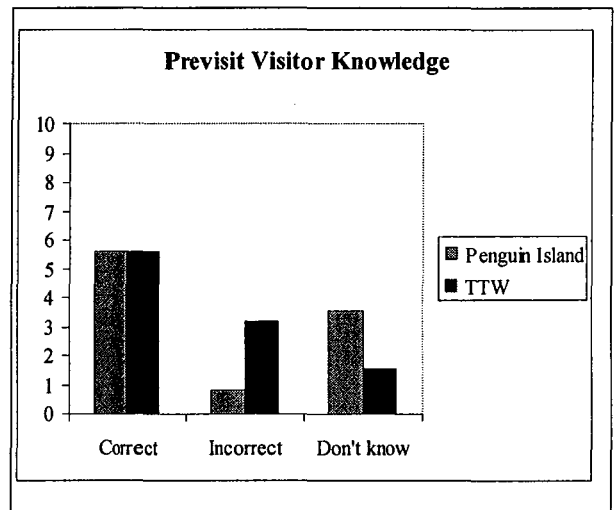
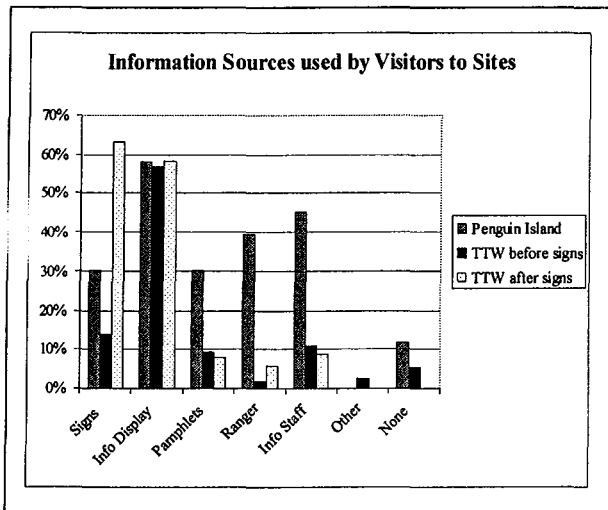
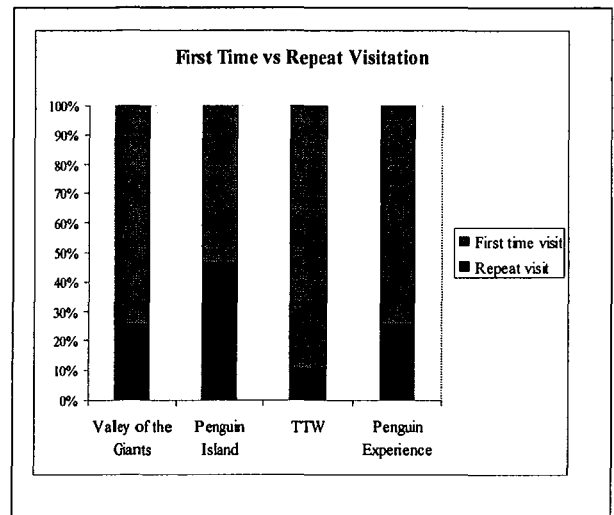
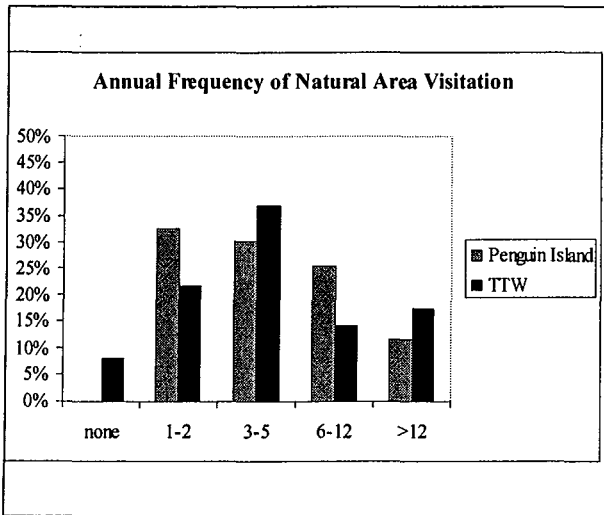
- 1999 Pilot study indicated 25% of visitors wanted more signs along walk trails
- Interpretive signs designed for TTW based on information available on pre-existing signs.
- Trail-side sign trial carried out in second week of survey period, 2001.

Location of Experimental Signs



Place of Residence of Visitors



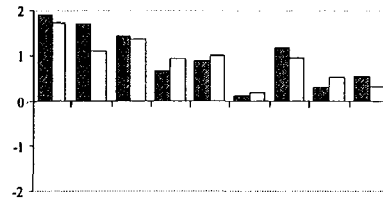


- ### Pre visit Site Attitude Statements
- Opportunity to enjoy the beauty of Penguin Island
 - Opportunity to participate in recreation on Penguin Island.
 - Opportunity to learn more about Penguin Island
 - Opportunity to see and experience nature as our ancestors did.
 - Opportunity to think creatively and be inspired by Penguin Island.
 - Opportunity to obtain spiritual meaning through contact with nature.
 - Opportunity to exercise a moral obligation to respect and protect Penguin Island
 - Opportunity to see and experience Penguin Island enhanced by human made facilities.
 - Opportunity to maintain or regain physical or mental well-being through contact with Penguin Island.

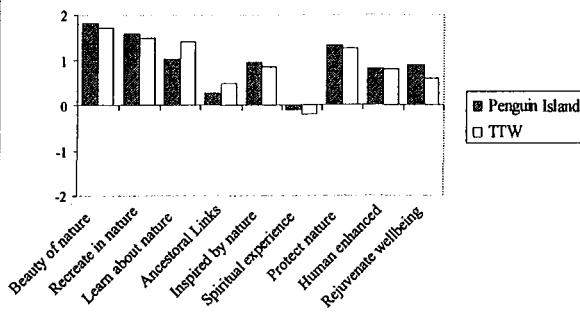
Post visit Site Attitude Statements

- Enjoyed the beauty of Penguin Island
- Had a fulfilling recreational experience on Penguin Island.
- Learnt more about Penguin Island
- Experienced nature as our ancestors did.
- Inspired by Penguin Island to think creatively.
- Had a spiritual experience through contact with nature.
- Exercised a moral obligation to respect and protect Penguin Island
- human made facilities enhanced the experience of Penguin Island.
- Rejuvenated physical or mental well-being through contact with Penguin Island.

Previsit Attitudes to Site Experience



Postvisit Attitudes to Site Experience



Outcomes

- The project will contribute to understanding the nature and effects of visitor use of on-site communication media.
- This will aid in developing a model of the relationship between visitors, sites, and communication media used.
- This will contribute to a framework for enrichment of the visitor experience.

Wildlife Tourism and Macropod Conservation: a case study of the black flanked rock-wallaby *Petrogale lateralis lateralis*

Michelle Davies, Murdoch University

European settlement in Western Australia has greatly altered the landscape through land clearing, introduction of exotic wildlife and changed fire regimes. As a consequence, many native animals have experienced a reduction in range and population numbers. The black-flanked rock-wallaby (*Petrogale lateralis lateralis*) was once widespread throughout Western Australia but due to a number of factors its' range has declined quite significantly with present distribution limited to a few widely scattered isolated populations. The black-flanked rock-wallaby is gazetted as vulnerable and requires active management to ensure its' survival. Translocating a species to an area of suitable habitat is a method of expanding a species current distribution as well as increasing population numbers. Wildlife tourism is another method of conservation that can have benefits for both stakeholders and wildlife. Wildlife tourism in Australia has not been developed or marketed to its full potential and compared to research conducted overseas; there are still many gaps in our knowledge.

Both translocations and the development of wildlife tourism were investigated in this study using the black-flanked rock-wallaby as a case study. The aim of this study was to aid the Department of Conservation and Land Management in the identification of translocation sites suitable for rock-wallaby tourism. Selected sites needed to fulfil both habitat requirements for black-flanked rock-wallabies and possess sufficient recreation and tourism potential. No assessment of habitat suitability for translocation and wildlife tourism has been conducted in Australia.

The results of the site assessment indicate that Avon Valley National Park and Billyacatting Nature Reserve satisfy both habitat and recreation and tourism requirements. However these sites may be more suitable as general wildlife tourism sites. If the Department desires to develop wildlife tourism based exclusively on rock-wallabies then a site of present colonisation at Nangeen Hill was found to be the most suitable.

A social survey of wildlife tour operators was also conducted by the Department and the results were analysed in this study. The aim of the survey was to assess interest in rock-wallaby tourism and to aid in formulating management recommendations. Management recommendations were suggested for translocation management, stakeholder management and site management.

This study was a pilot study in conserving black-flanked rock-wallabies via wildlife tourism and has the potential to be used as a baseline for other studies of this nature.

Wildlife Tourism and Macropod Conservation



A Case Study Of The Black-Flanked Rock-Wallaby *Petrogale lateralis*

By
Michelle Davies

Overview

- Introduction & aims
- Approach used
- Need for research
- Reasons for the decline of *P.lateralis*
- Wildlife tourism in Australia
- Factors influencing appeal of animals
- Habitat requirements & control sites
- Methodology & Results
- Management recommendations
- What this means and Outcomes

Introduction The aims of the project:

CONSERVATION REQUIREMENTS

Detail the habitat requirements of the Black-flanked Rock-wallaby in the SW of WA

TOURISM REQUIREMENTS

Rank sites in their tourism potential using a recreation assessment system

Decide on the potential translocation site and formulate management recommendations

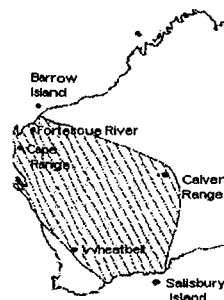
Approach Used

- Literature review
 - ◆ Background on biology and habitat requirements of *P.lateralis*
- Field work
 - ◆ Control sites
 - ◆ Potential sites
 - ◆ Development of ranking system to rate sites according to their suitability in rock-wallaby tourism
- Wildlife tour operator survey

Need For Research

- Limited research on wildlife tourism in Australia
- No systematic studies on habitat requirements on *P. lateralis* have been done
- *P. lateralis* is vulnerable and it's former range has decreased significantly since European settlement

Past vs. Present Distribution

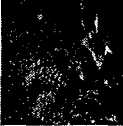


- Past Distribution
- Present Distribution



Reasons For Decline

- Predation
 - ◆ Foxes
 - ◆ Feral Cats
- Habitat Degradation
 - ◆ Land Clearing
 - ◆ Introduced grazers – sheep, rabbits
 - ◆ Changed Fire Regimes



Wildlife Tourism in Australia

- Largely uncoordinated and poorly marketed compared to other overseas countries
- High interest in observing wildlife among international and domestic visitors in Australia
- Surveys overseas show observing mammals to be more popular than other animals

Factors Influencing Appeal of Animals

- Body Size – prefer larger animals
- Unusual Behaviour
- Uniqueness
- Vulnerability Status
- Ease of locating and viewing

Habitat Requirements

- Rock outcrops that have caves, ledges and crevices – provide protection
- Preferred food is grass – generalists
- Do not require free water- moisture from plants ingested

Control Sites

- Mount Caroline, Nangeen hill, Mount Stirling and Gundaring Nature Reserve
- Core sites – large populations
- Used to define desirable habitat characteristics
 - ◆ Complex boulders with caves, ledges and fissures
 - ◆ Vegetation consisting of an Acacia canopy with a grassy understorey

Nangeen Hill 20/20



Boyagin Rock 14/20



Site Selection

- Selection of sites was based on:
 - ◆ Presence of large granite outcrops
 - * High topographical complexity score in rec. assessment
 - ◆ Proximity of sites to major highways/Metro areas
 - * Great Eastern Highway, Brookton Highway
 - ◆ Sites of past occurrence
 - * Avon Valley National Park,
 - * Kokerbin Hill



Development of a Habitat Ranking System

- Two main questions were asked:
 - ◆ Is there habitat complexity?
 - ◆ Is the site suitable for tourism?
- Application of a habitat ranking system and a recreation assessment ranking system
- Sites with high scores in both categories were considered as potential translocation sites

Habitat Ranking System



- Rocky complexity /20
 - ◆ Complex boulders vs. granite domes
- Vegetation type /12
 - ◆ Dense shrublands vs. woodlands
- Fox control /1
 - ◆ Absent or present

Habitat Ranking System (cont.)



- Area of rock to vegetation ratio /10
 - ◆ High ratio vs. Small ratio
- Area of suitable rock habitat /10
 - ◆ Dictate population size
- Aspect /5
 - ◆ North facing slopes vs. South facing slopes
- Evidence of past occurrence /2

Recreation Potential

- Tourism potential was calculated using a system developed by Moncrieff (1997)
 - ◆ Physical attributes /100
 - ◆ Threats and uses /30
 - ◆ Current Management /34
 - * Excluded and instead added a category for how well rock wallabies could be observed /10

Survey



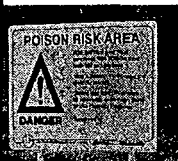
- Tour operator survey to determine the level of interest in rock-wallaby tourism
- Pilot Survey
- Wildlife Tourism Operator survey
 - ◆ Wildlife as part of your tour
 - ◆ Visitor characteristics
 - ◆ Operation, Management and Marketing used



Average rank of wildlife in relation to their perceived appeal to visitors

Kangaroos	4.0
Koalas	6.3
Wallabies	9.0
Rock-wallabies	9.1
Quokkas	11.2
Brush-tailed possums	11.2
Ring-tailed possums	11.6

Management Recommendations



- Recommendations for rock wallaby management
 - ◆ Including further studies
- Recommendations for tourist management
 - ◆ Education, participation, separation and integration
- Recommendations for reserve management
 - ◆ Fox baiting

What This Means

- Development of nature based tourism linked to nature conservation
- Opportunity for management to be designed to optimise best result

Outcome

- 50 Rock-wallabies were recently translocated to Avon Valley National Park, one of the highest ranked sites

