



WESTERN AUSTRALIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION
LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

DEC currently has 5 major library collections which provide an information service to Departmental officers and the general public. **The collection provides knowledge and information on the environment and emergency sector, particularly fire management.**

The Forest Science (FSL) collection at Kensington holds the main stock of books and journals on all aspects of forestry **and fire management, suppression and behaviour**. The library also has Departmental publications, WA statutes and a collection of coloured slides and historical photos relating to WA forestry. The Marine Science special collection is housed here as well as a small special collection on environmental education for teachers.

The W.A. Herbarium (HL) collection, also in Kensington, contains material on botanical subjects for use by botanists and other staff. The collection's emphasis is on systematic botany and related disciplines. As well as books and journals, there are microfiche, original illustrations, maps, coloured slides relating to taxonomy and an extensive collection of journal articles and reprints.

The Wildlife Science (WSL) collection at Woodvale holds the main stock of books and journals on the environment, ecology, conservation, wildlife, national parks and nature reserves. The Department's archives are also held at Woodvale, where a comprehensive range of materials (books, journals, reports, reprints, videos, photos, maps, aerial photos etc.) produced by Departmental officers or for the Department and its departmental predecessors (Dept of Conservation & Land Management, Forests Dept. Dept of Fisheries & Wildlife, Dept of Fisheries & Fauna, National Parks Authority/Board) are retained permanently.

The Environmental Services (ESL) collection, in the CBD, holds publications by the Department (including archives of Dept of Conservation & Environment, EPA, Dept. of Environmental Protection and Dept. of Environment publications) and documents relating to all the projects assessed by the EPA. As well there are general texts on environmental science, law and education, journals, maps and aerial photographs. This library is also a distribution point for the Department's publications.

The WA Observatory Library in Bickley is not maintained by Library staff, but has an extensive astronomical collection.

The main catalogue database is compiled using Inmagic DBTextWorks. This system is used by WSL & FSL. The HL catalogue is compiled using Texpress and the combined catalogue for these collections, CONSLib, can be found at <http://science.calm.wa.gov.au/conslib.php> ESL uses First as their library system.

In the next 12-18 months the FSL, HL and WSL collections will be combined in the Biodiversity Conservation Science Centre, now being built at Kensington. This is going to be a very interesting challenge for us all.