

RESPONSE OF THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE AUTHORITY  
TO THE SYSTEM 6 STUDY REPORT (1981)

1. GENERAL

1.1 Vesting of reserves in two or more Ministers

1.1.1 A number of reserves in the report are proposed for more than one purpose with vesting in two or more Ministers. This Authority believes that this arrangement is unnecessarily cumbersome and should be avoided.

1.1.2 In many cases such recommendations are made for areas seen as important for mining and conservation. However, in view of the overriding nature of the Mining Act it does not appear necessary for Mining to be in the (Land Act) purpose of the reserve. Furthermore, as we understand the Mining Act 1979, Land Act reserves that include the purpose Mining are "Crown Land", and sections 23-6, relating to reserves, do not apply.

1.1.3 This Authority believes that, for areas that are important both for mining and for the conservation of flora and fauna, alternatives to joint-vesting in Ministers, such as the following, should be adopted:

(i) The areas remain vacant Crown land until conflicts are settled. Such areas may suffer from lack of management, although some management is available through the Bush Fires Board.

(ii) In cases where the conflict involves only a small part of the area proposed, the conflict areas should be excluded at present until the conflicts are settled, and the remainder set aside for conservation.

1.2 Water as a purpose of a nature reserve

1.2.1 For many reserves proposed for vesting in the Western Australian Wildlife Authority, or already so vested, Water is recommended as an addition to the reserve's purpose. This Authority does not see the need for the addition of Water to the purpose of such reserves unless there is good potential for the development of water resources *on that piece of land*.

1.3 Preparation of management plans

1.3.1 A number of recommendations involve this Authority in the preparation of management plans. Management plans are prepared for reserves vested in this Authority as the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife's time and resources permit. In the preparation of such plans, the Department refers to all relevant information including points or guidelines raised in reports such as the Green Books, and actively seeks the opinions of Local Authorities, holders of adjoining land, and the public in general.

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- 1.3.2 Some such recommendations refer to private land. This Authority does not wish to become involved in the management of private land unless specifically requested to do so by the landholder, and then only if there is *long-term* benefit to conservation.
- 1.3.3 The Report in its definition of "conservation buffer zones" (section 5.4) implies that fences be constructed. However, it is the Government's policy *not* to be involved in the fencing of private land, even when the private land adjoins a reserve. The financial implications of a change in policy in this area are obvious.

## 2. SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Below are the Western Australian Wildlife Authority's comments on the specific recommendations in the Report.
- C1 C1.1 Agreed, except that the purpose Parkland is unnecessary, since appropriate forms of recreation are permitted in nature reserves, as defined in a management plan.
- C1.2 This Authority would accept a management plan prepared for the reserve by the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife. Fencing, however, would be the responsibility of the owners of adjoining land (see paragraph 1.3.3). The Department only fences reserves in exceptional circumstances (e.g. Thomsons Lake Nature Reserve, which is of outstanding importance and threatened by incompatible uses), and even then only if the boundary adjoins Crown land.
- C2 C2.3 Agreed.
- C2.4 Agreed.
- C4 C4.1 Disagreed. See paragraphs 1.3.1 and 1.3.2.
- C6 C6.1 This Authority believes that the purpose of the reserve should remain as is, since we see no justification for the inclusion of Water (see paragraph 1.2.1). We support the reclassification to Class A.
- C7 C7.1 This Authority believes that the purpose Recreation should be retained, since it more clearly defines the use to which the area is put. We see no justification for the inclusion of Water in the purpose (see paragraph 1.2.1).
- C7.2 Disagreed. See paragraphs 1.3.1 and 1.3.2.
- C8 C8.1 Agreed, except that we see no justification for Water to be in the reserve's purpose (see paragraph 1.2.1). Since the reserve is on the Darling Scarp, we wonder whether it is suitable for the extraction of ground water. In any case, it is a small reserve, from which water extraction is undesirable.

- C9 C9.1 Agreed.
- C9.2 Agreed.
- C9.3 Agreed.
- C9.4 Agreed.
- C9.5 Disagreed. See paragraphs 1.3.1 and 1.3.2.
- C10 C10.1 Disagreed. See paragraphs 1.3.1 and 1.3.2.
- C11 C11.1 Agreed.
- C11.2 Agreed.
- C14 C14.1 and C14.2  

Agreed, except that we see no justification for Water to be in the reserve's purpose - see paragraph 1.2.1.

C14.3 A management plan will be prepared in due course.
- C15 C15.1 and C15.2  

Agreed.

C15.3 Disagreed. See paragraphs 1.3.2 and 1.3.3.
- C17 C17.1 Agreed. It should be noted that the area of the reserve is not the same as shown in Figure 16.
- C18 C18.1 Agreed.
- C19 C19.1 Agreed.
- C20 C20.1 Agreed.
- C22 C22.1 Agreed.
- C23 C23.1 Not agreed. We believe that this Authority should retain reserve 22096, since -
  - (i) it is of high biological importance in containing a complete cross-section of the landscape of the area and supporting a large population of the pigmy possum;
  - (ii) it is in effect isolated from the narrow adjoining strip of State Forest by a dissected gully.
- C24 C24.1 Agreed.
- C25 C25.1 Agreed.
- C27 We point out that the area south-west of Morangup Road (Location 28292) included in the Area Boundary in Figure 21 is neither part of reserve 659 nor land that should be proposed for reservation

- C27.1 Agreed.
- C27.2 Agreed.
- C27.3 Disagreed - see paragraph 1.3.2. However, we point out that there is a good chance that the land can be gained through a proposal to obtain it as a condition of subdivision; the Study should support this proposal.
- C29
  - C29.1 Agreed.
  - C29.2 Agreed.
  - C29.3 Agreed, except that two further areas marked vacant Crown land on Figure 23 - Avon Location 15435 and the unnumbered lot - should also be included.
  - C29.6 A management plan will be prepared in due course.
- C30
  - C30.1 Agreed.
- C35
  - C35.1 Agreed.
  - C35.2 Agreed.
  - C35.3 The Department of Fisheries and Wildlife will prepare management plans in due course for reserves 34442 and 33188 (see paragraph 1.3.1).
- C46
  - C46.1 Agreed, except that there is no such thing as a Class C Aquatic Reserve; under the Fisheries Act aquatic reserves may either be Class A or "other". Also, the purpose and permissible uses of the reserve should be defined.
- C50
  - C50.1 Agreed, except that in this case, we believe, the purpose and vesting should be changed even if the controlling body disagrees. The Department of Fisheries and Wildlife has attempted in the past to have the purpose and vesting changed but the Shire did not agree.
  - C50.2 Agreed.
  - C50.3 As per comment on C46.1. The purpose should be Conservation of Flora and Fauna. This Authority believes that the boundaries should be as marked on Attachment 1.
  - C50.4 Agreed.
  - C50.5 As per comment on C46.1. The purpose should be Conservation of Flora and Fauna. The drainage channel that encroaches into the proposed aquatic reserve in the north (shown in Figure 37) should be excluded.

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- C50.6 Agreed.
- C50.7 Management plans will be prepared in due course for all reserves vested in this Authority (see paragraph 1.3.1).
- C51
- C51.1 Only the southern part of reserve 2990, shown on Attachment 2, should be a nature reserve, since the northern boundary of the proposed aquatic reserve in the south of Harvey Estuary should be south of the ford (as shown) and it is appropriate that the nature reserve be adjacent to the aquatic reserve.
- C51.2 This area is in the Shire of Mandurah, not Waroona. This Authority disagrees with this recommendation, for the reasons given in paragraph 1.3.2.
- C51.5 The northern boundary should run south of the ford - see Attachment 2. There is no such thing as a Class C Aquatic Reserve.
- C52
- C52.1 and C52.2  
Agreed.
- C52.3 Disagreed. See paragraph 1.3.2.
- C53
- C53.1 and C53.2
- Of these reserves the only one that should become a nature reserve is reserve A20585, which is of a more compact shape and less affected by other uses.
- Reserves 31437 and 31438 could perhaps be vested in the Main Roads Department as a roadside conservation area.
- C59
- C59.1 Agreed.
- C60
- C60.1 The purpose of the reserves should be changed to Conservation of Flora and Fauna, which is the standard purpose for a nature reserve. This Authority sees no justification for retaining the purpose Water (see paragraph 1.2.1), and the purpose Aquatic Life is unnecessary.
- C62
- C62.1 Agreed.
- C63
- C63.1 Disagreed. See paragraph 1.3.2.
- C64
- C64.1 Agreed.
- C64.2 Agreed.
- C65
- C65.1 and C65.2
- Agreed. These are already in progress but some land remains to be bought.
- C65.3 A management plan will be prepared in due course.

- C68      C68.1    Agreed.
- C68.2    Agreed.
- C68.3    Agreed.
- C78      C78.1    This Authority agrees that the purpose of reserve C22977 be Conservation of Flora and Fauna, but believes that the reserve should be vested solely in the Western Australian Wildlife Authority, unless more justification can be given for joint-vesting.
- C80      C80.1    Agreed.
- C80.2    Agreed.
- C80.3    Agreed.
- C80.4    Agreed.
- C80.5    Agreed.
- C96      C96.1    Agreed, except that the purpose of reserve 29121 should be changed to Conservation of Flora and Fauna, which is the standard purpose for a nature reserve.
- C98      C98.1    Not agreed. This Authority believes that reserve A25446 is of value to conservation, for its stands of flooded gum (*Eucalyptus rudis*) and the nest-hollows they provide, and should be retained as a nature reserve.
- C98.2    See comment on C98.1.
- C98.3    This Authority believes that the freehold land referred to should be added to reserve A25446 but with the reserve keeping its present purpose and vesting, thus including the whole of the freshwater swamp in the nature reserve.
- M5      M5.1    Agreed.
- M7      M7.1    This Authority reserves its decision on the incorporation of reserve A31048 in a regional park until the legislation is available.
- M7.4    This Authority can see no justification for including Water in the purpose of reserve A31048 (see paragraph 1.2.1); in fact the purpose Water could well cause problems in managing the reserve for conservation and recreation.
- M16     M16.1    This Authority disagrees with this recommendation. Moondyne Nature Reserve (reserve A30192) is one of the few major nature reserves in System 6, and the only nature reserve of significant size in the northern jarrah forest. It is also of great value for environmental education in its size and location close to Perth (and to research institutions). The Department of Fisheries and Wildlife has

prepared a management plan with the aims of educating the public about nature and nature reserves and conducting research on forest ecosystems.

- M17 M17.1 There is already in operation a management plan for the reserve; it will be revised and updated in due course.
- M27 M27.1 Agreed.
- M27.2 Agreed.
- M28 M28.1 Agreed.
- M35 M35.1 Agreed, except that we see no justification for the inclusion of Water in the purpose (see paragraph 1.2.1).
- M35.2 It appears that the intention of this recommendation is for the part of Location 564 within the Area Boundary in Figure 108 to be added to the existing reserves; this idea is supported. While the land remains privately owned, however, this Authority does not wish to become involved in its management (see paragraphs 1.3.2 and 1.3.3).
- M36 M36.2 This Authority does not wish to have or share the vesting of these reserves. Since the reserves are small and located in a built-up area (and are thus subject to heavy pressure), we believe that in this case the vesting should be wholly in the City of Stirling.
- M45 M45.1 "W.A. Wildlife Authority" should read "Department of Fisheries and Wildlife".
- M58 M58.1 This Authority cannot see why the reserve should be of Class C if it is to be excised from a Class A reserve, and believes that it should be of Class A.
- This Authority does not wish to have or share the vesting of this reserve. Since the reserve is subject to heavy recreation pressure, we believe that in this case the vesting should be wholly in the City of Melville.
- M60 M60.1 This Authority believes that this aquatic reserve is certainly important enough to be of Class A. The purpose of the reserve should be Conservation of Flora and Fauna.
- M61 M61.1 See comment on M60.1.
- M67 M67.1 This Authority should not be mentioned here, although the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife has responsibility towards (a).

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- M68      M68.1    Agreed.
- M68.3    See comment on M67.2.
- M69      M69.2    Agreed, except that the land should become a Class A reserve, since it would be bought with public funds, and also because it has extremely high value to conservation, as summarized in the preamble.
- M70      M70.1    Disagreed. See paragraph 1.3.2.
- M74      M74.1    Agreed.
- M74.2    Agreed.
- M74.3    "W.A. Wildlife Authority" should read "Department of Fisheries and Wildlife".
- M81      M81.1    It seems that there is no need for joint-vesting since the area surrounding the reserves is not built up, and no justification for joint-vesting is given in the preamble. It should therefore be decided whether the reserve proposed should be a nature reserve vested in this Authority or should go to the local authority.
- M90      M90.1    Agreed, except that in view of the area's importance to conservation it should be declared a Class A reserve, and that the boundaries should be as per Attachment 3..
- M90.4    A management plan will be prepared in due course for that part of the area that becomes vested in the Western Australian Wildlife Authority (see paragraphs 1.3.1 - 1.3.3).
- M93      M93.1    This Authority declines to comment until the legislation on regional parks is defined, and it is clear what is intended for this area. However, in view of the special value of reserves A15556 and 29241, and the management plan in operation for reserve A15556, it is unlikely that this Authority would ever agree to the incorporation of these reserves in a regional park.
- M93.4    This Authority sees no justification for including Water in the purpose - especially of reserves A18556 and 29241 (see paragraph 1.2.1).
- M95      M95.1    A management plan will be prepared in due course for the existing nature reserve.
- M98      M98.1    This Authority agrees with this recommendation, except that we see no justification for including Water in the purpose of the reserve, when the only reason given is that groundwater extraction may affect water levels (see paragraph 1.2.1).

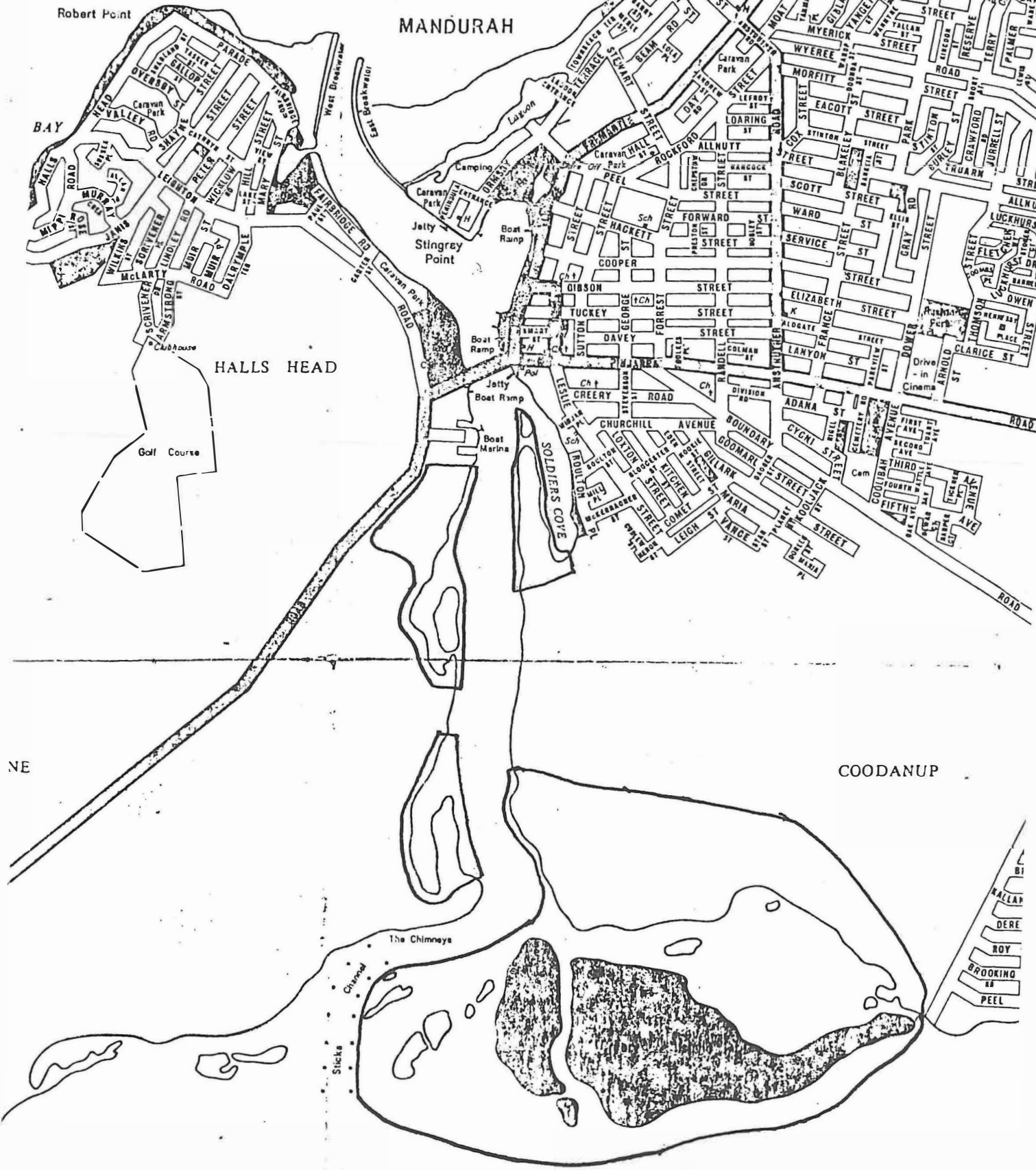


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- M99 M99.1 See comment on M98.1.
- M100 M100.1 See comment on M98.1.
- M101 M101.1 Agreed, but there is no such thing as a Class C aquatic reserve. Also, the purpose and permissible uses of the reserve should be defined.
  - M101.2 Agreed.
  - M101.3 Agreed.
- M102 M102.1 This Authority believes that in this case, where the reserve is in an urban setting, has little remaining vegetation and is much used for recreation, it should not be a nature reserve but should go to the Shire.
  - M102.2 See comment on M102.1.
  - M102.3 See comment on M102.1.
  - M102.4 See comment on M102.1.
- M105 M105.3 Agreed, except that "W.A. Wildlife Authority" should read "Department of Fisheries and Wildlife".
- M108 M108.1 Agreed.
  - M108.2 Agreed.
  - M108.3 Agreed.
  - M108.4 Disagreed. See paragraph 1.3.2.

ALLEGATIONS 1  
(refers to C50)

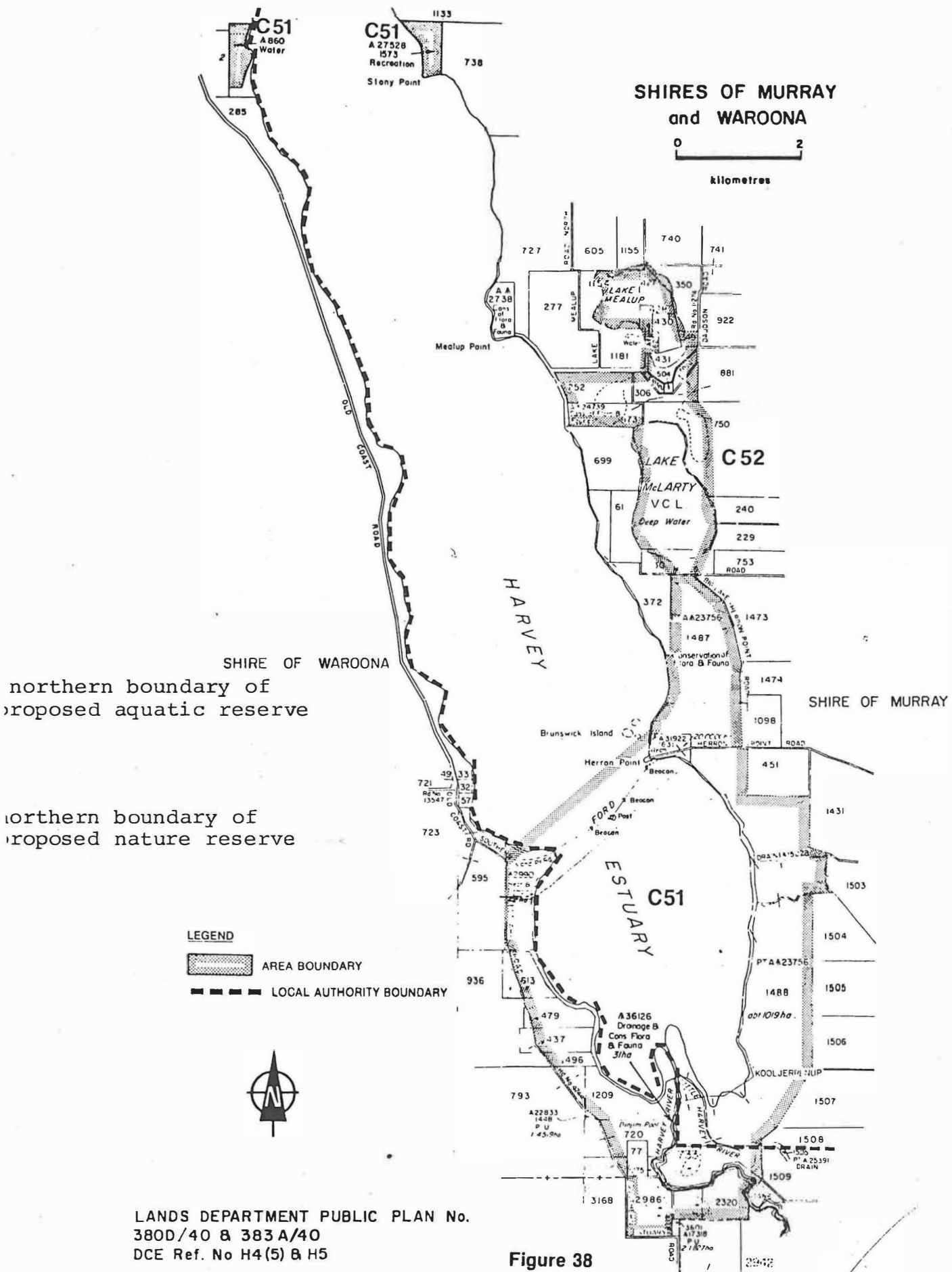
# MANDURAH


















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COODANUP

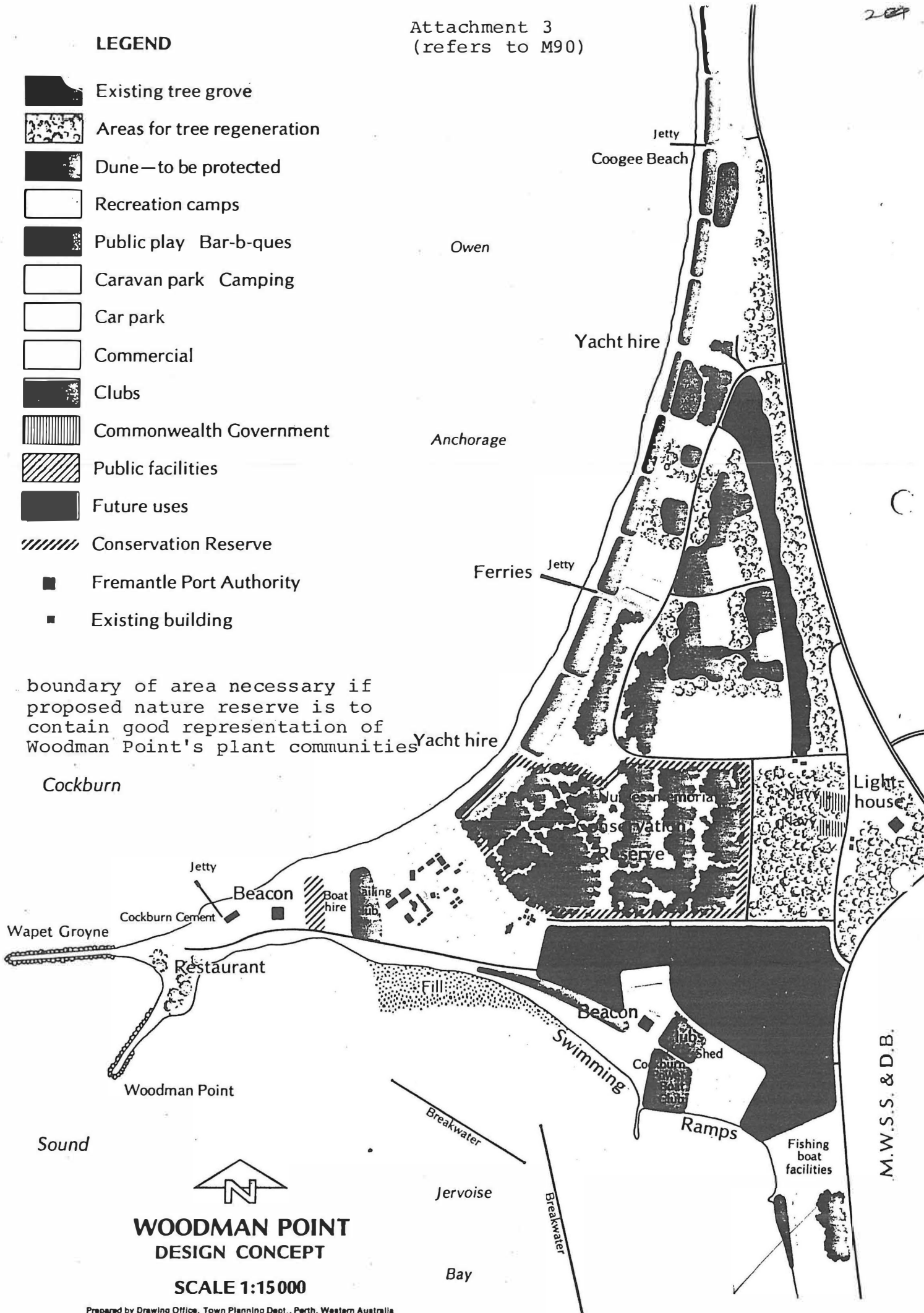
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**LEGEND**

-  Existing tree grove
-  Areas for tree regeneration
-  Dune—to be protected
-  Recreation camps
-  Public play Bar-b-ques
-  Caravan park Camping
-  Car park
-  Commercial
-  Clubs
-  Commonwealth Government
-  Public facilities
-  Future uses
-  Conservation Reserve
-  Fremantle Port Authority
-  Existing building

boundary of area necessary if proposed nature reserve is to contain good representation of Woodman Point's plant communities



**WOODMAN POINT  
DESIGN CONCEPT**

**SCALE 1:15000**