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The Shannon Forest and D'Entrecasteaux National Park

A Strategy for Management Planning

September 1984

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The Shannon Forest and D'Entrecasteaux National Park

A Strategy for Management Planning

produced for the

Acting Conservator of Forests

and the

Director of National Parks

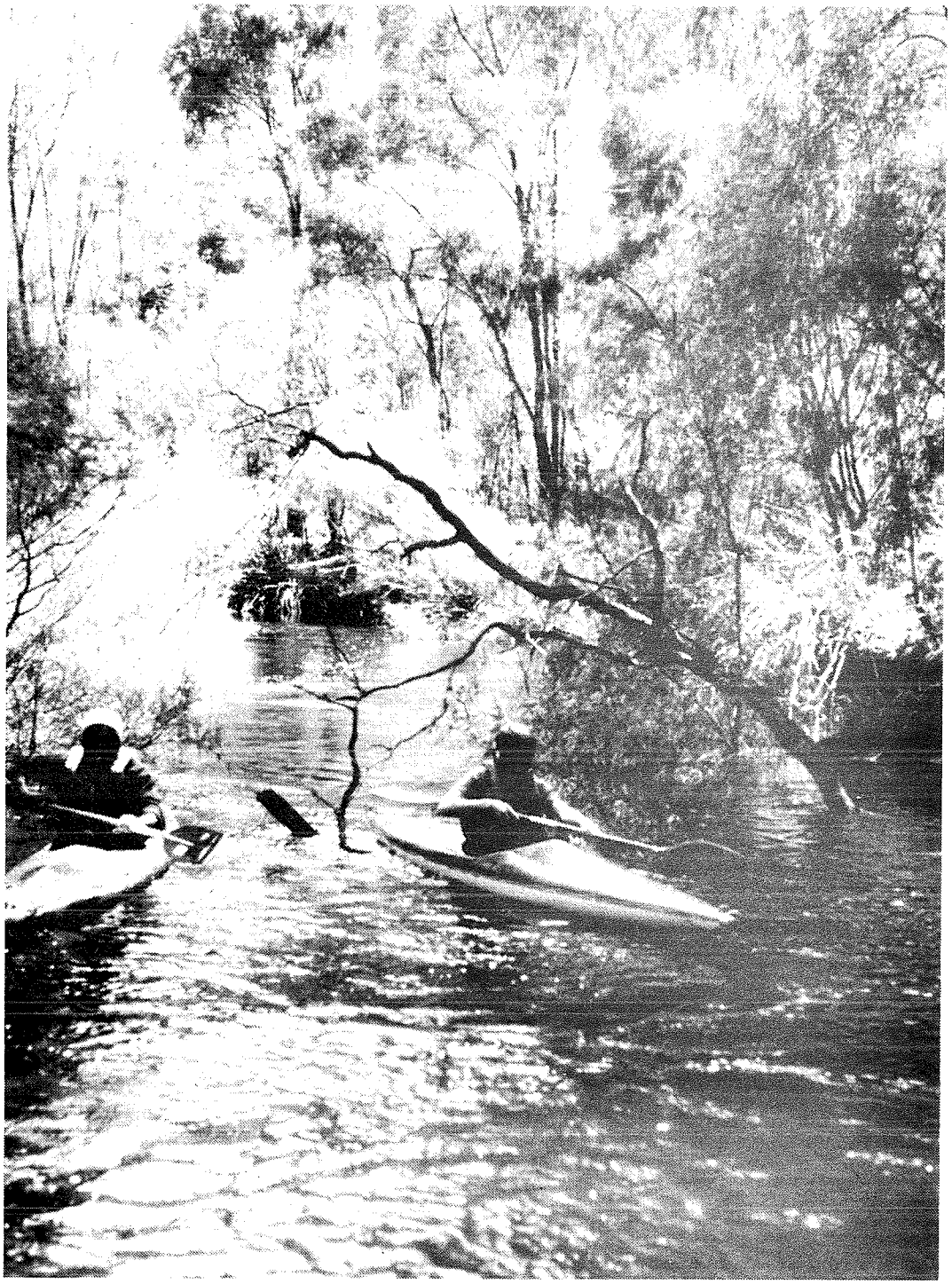
by the

Shannon/D'Entrecasteaux Planning Group

September 1984

CONTENTS

	Page No.
An Introduction	5
The History	7
Purpose of National Parks	10
Basis for zoning	11
A description of the Shannon-Broke 'System'	11
A description of the D'Entrecasteaux - South Coast 'System'	17
Suggested zoning for the two parks	18
Facility and Camping areas	19
Natural Areas	23
Landscape Conservation areas	27
Special Areas	31
Special considerations	35
Conclusion	38
Public Participation	39
Map 1 Regional Locality Map	41
Map 2 Ecological and Landform Units	pocket
Map 3 Zone - Access Plan	pocket



Canoeing is possible on the Shannon when in flood during the winter months.

AN INTRODUCTION

The proposed Shannon Forest and D'Entrecasteaux National Parks are the most significant reserves to have been set aside in Western Australia, in recent times. The 'Shannon' is a household word in Western Australia, but comparatively few people have visited the area. The D'Entrecasteaux National Park (adjacent to the Shannon Forest), though less widely known, is an area used extensively for recreation and relaxation by the people of the lower South-West. Both are important as significant areas of botanical variety and abundance.

This is an interim report to inform interested groups and members of the public about the proposed parks, to suggest a strategy for planning, and to invite informed public input for the continued process of management planning.

The report deals specifically with vehicle access and the zoning of the proposed park into areas of different use.

More detailed management plans treating all aspects of park use will be published for public comment at a later stage.

The mouth of the Shannon River and Broke Inlet.

THE HISTORY

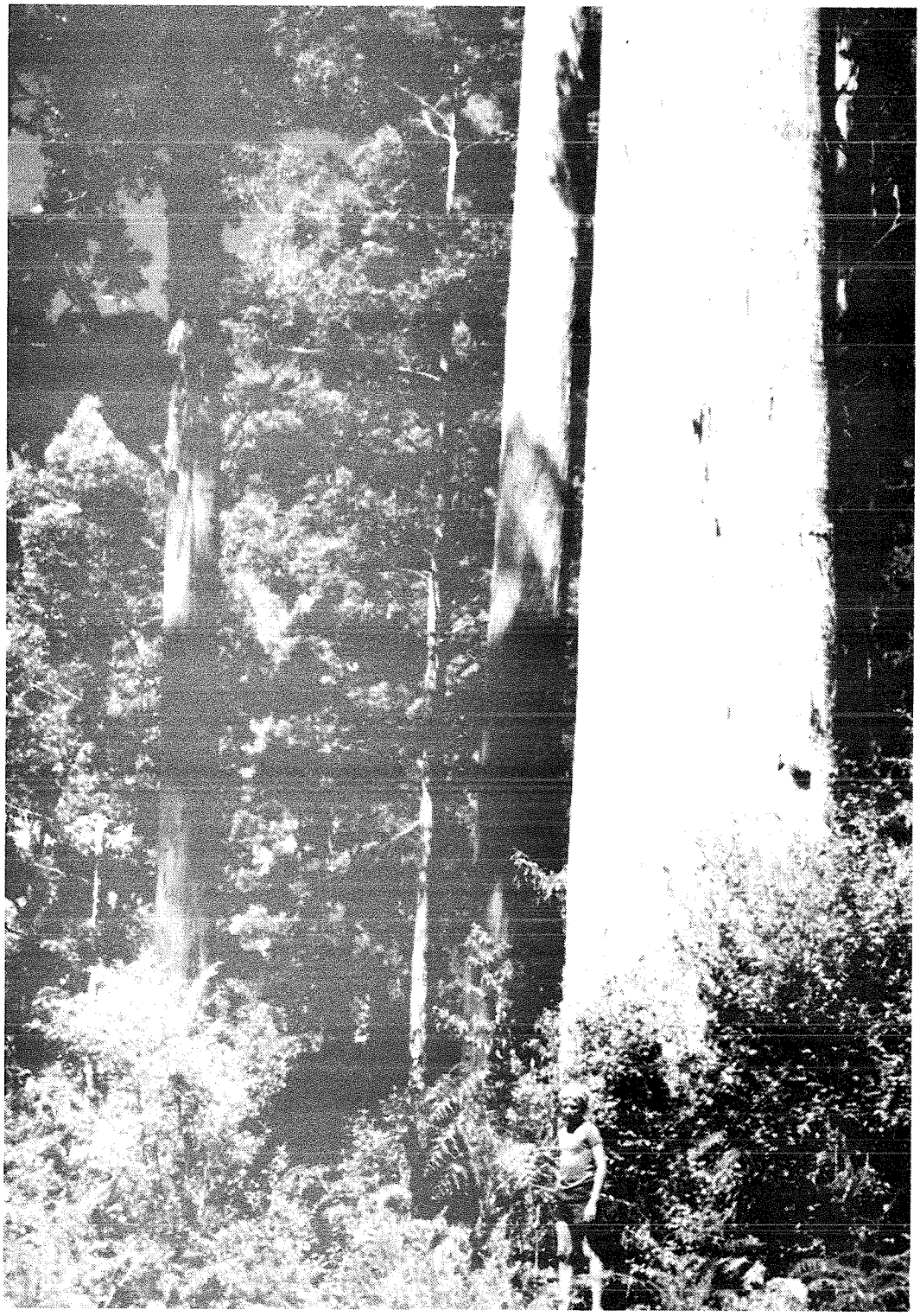
In the early 1970's the West Australian Government saw a need to add to the existing system of national parks and reserves in the South-West, to ensure that a representative selection of forests, woodlands, and coastal heath-lands were conserved for the future. Mounting pressure for timber, minerals and agriculture was gradually diminishing such areas.

A special group, the 'Conservation through Reserves Committee' (CTRC) was appointed by the Environmental Protection Authority to report on possible new conservation areas. In their report, completed in 1974, they recommended that the Shannon River basin be reserved as a national park. They also confirmed an earlier proposal, by the W.A. Institute of Foresters, that a South Coast national park (now D'Entrecasteaux) be created.

The Shannon Forest was proposed for reservation by the CTRC because it represented a large unbroken area of forest within an entire drainage basin. In addition, the Shannon River drains into Broke Inlet, one of the region's largest estuaries still in a relatively undisturbed state.

The D'Entrecasteaux national park was proposed for reservation chiefly for its extensive system of wetlands, sand dunes, beaches and ruggedly beautiful coastline. The Karri Coast, as it is also known, represented an opportunity to conserve a large stretch of coastline and its near hinterland in a comparatively 'natural' state.

In each area, there was the opportunity for planned future management to ensure the continued conservation of the natural values.



The central part of the Shannon basin contains many fine stands of karri with some of the tallest trees in the State.

The National Parks Authority has had responsibility for some small areas of the South West coast since 1977. In 1980 major additional areas (35 000 ha) were set aside, and the remainder of the D'Entrecasteaux National Park will be gazetted shortly. Total area of the new coastal park will be 70 000 ha.

In 1983, the W.A. Government proposed that the Shannon River basin (60 000 ha) should also be set aside as a national park, and decreed that all timber cutting in the area should cease.

For the present, the Shannon Forest remains under the control of the Conservator of Forests on the understanding that it be managed 'as if it were a national park'.

Shortly after setting aside the Shannon Forest, the Government appointed a two-man committee (one representative each from the National Parks Authority and the Forests Department) to co-ordinate a planning strategy for the Shannon Forest and the adjoining D'Entrecasteaux National Park. The South Coast National Park Advisory Committee, comprising shire representatives (from Manjimup and Nannup), various government departments and a conservation representative was also re-activated. Funds were later made available to the Forests Department, under the Special Employment Relief Programme Agreement (SERPA), for recreation developments in the Shannon Forest, and a professional planning team was employed to initiate management proposals for both parks.

The old Shannon town and mill sites have since been cleared, and recreational facilities have been developed at the mill site. A lot of information has also been gathered for the development of this strategy and the proposed management plans.

PURPOSE OF NATIONAL PARKS

Before becoming involved in the parks' management, it is important to understand what national parks are for. *"The basic purposes of W.A.'s National Parks are the conservation of the environment, the preservation of natural beauty, and the provision of access and facilities for public recreation".* Noble aims, but the statement involves a fundamental contradiction of purpose - the inevitable result of an attempt to preserve nature on one hand, while catering for public demands on the other.

This dual role can place the park manager in a dilemma. If overall access and recreational use of the park is allowed in an unregulated manner, then the natural values of the park will inevitably be degraded. If, on the other hand, access for park users is denied we will certainly succeed in preserving the natural environment, but few will be able to enjoy or appreciate its natural values.

One solution to this dilemma is the division of the park into zones which are allocated different management objectives. In this way it is possible to maximize the range of park uses, and at the same time minimize the public's impact on more delicate park environment. Thus, for example, one area may be zoned for intensive recreational use and the provision of public facilities because the land can withstand those activities without great damage, whilst another more sensitive area may be zoned for passive recreation such as walking, bird watching and nature appreciation. Zoning is therefore a fundamental tool which can be used to achieve the aims of national park management.

BASIS FOR ZONING

The zoning and management of parks should first be examined in a regional context, for there may be adjacent areas of land which also offer a range of recreational and conservation opportunities (Map 1 - Regional Locality). In this broad context, priorities are organized.

Although zoning is about the appropriate control of park usage, it is, first and foremost, a basis for the protection of the natural environment for the enjoyment of present and future generations. Therefore, zoning the park should be primarily based on environmental factors, and it is essential that the park's natural resources are clearly defined and mapped. These features (the lakes and rivers; swamps and sand dunes; the soil, vegetation and topography) must then be examined to find patterns which can be used to sub-divide the park into 'natural' units (Map 2 - Ecological and Landform Units).

In addition to information on the park environment, present and past use of the area must be recognized and taken into account. For example, existing holiday settlements and established roads and tracks may be inappropriately located (with respect to the natural zones), so they would have to be given special consideration (Map 3 - Zone Access Plan).

A DESCRIPTION OF THE SHANNON-BROKE 'SYSTEM'

This area forms a natural self contained drainage system, almost all of which is within the proposed park. The Shannon is a major river in the area, draining the southern portion of the karri forest, and the distribution of karri forest types has been used to highlight the distinct ecological patterns of the Shannon basin and the Pingerup plains (Map 2).

Jarrah forest occurs predominantly in the northern section of the Shannon forest.

Three distinct natural units can be recognized in the Shannon basin. They include :

1. The upper north-eastern sector, an area of relatively sluggish streams draining from the Gobblecannup swamp. The surrounding soils are typically reddish clays or iron stones which support extensive areas of jarrah forest association. Some of this area is subject to State Forest Quarantine regulations for dieback prevention (Map 2 - Predominantly Jarrah);

2. The northern and central basin is characterized by faster flowing streams in more incised valleys. The soils are the typical red and yellow brown loans which support karri and karri-marri forest associations. The most extensive pure karri stands and the largest karri trees occur in this area (Map 2 - Predominantly Karri). Further south, karri distribution becomes more mosaic, being interspersed with tall jarrah and marri forest types (Map 2 - Karri mosaic); and

3. The lower Shannon area is essentially an area of impeded stream flow, where the river and its tributaries flow through extensive old sand deposits. It is a region of extensive flats, waterlogged in winter. The soils are typically humic podsols, supporting sedgelands, heathlands and low open woodlands. Karri and jarrah forest occurs in patches, on granite monadnocks rising like islands from the surrounding flats (Map 2 - Predominantly Flats and Scrub). The flora here is particularly abundant and is the home of such specialized animals as the honey possum.

The Broke Inlet system also contains three major units. Drainage patterns, land form and ecology have been used to define and highlight them as:-

1. The Pingerup Plains area, essentially similar to the lower Shannon but with more extensive flats (Map 2 - Extensive flats and woodlands);

2. Wetlands on the western side of the inlet (to the south of the Shannon River) sandwiched between the coastal dunes and the forests and flats to the north. These wetlands are a part of an extensive belt extending the entire length of the D'Entrecasteaux National Park; and

3. Huge stabilizing coastal dunes to the north and south of the inlet's mouth. This is a fragile ecosystem with a thin mantle of vegetation covering the easily eroded sand.

Past use of the Shannon basin has been primarily for timber cutting. As a result, the area has a well developed network of roads and tracks, and extensive areas of young karri regrowth. The area has had limited use for recreation, and there is no single outstanding feature in the basin.

The Broke Inlet is a remarkable natural area, almost totally unspoilt. A small holiday settlement at Camfield is used as a base for fishing in the inlet and on the coast.

The Shannon-Broke System is almost entirely surrounded by State forest. In the south-east it joins national park and in a small area on the west there is adjacent private property.

Warren Beach, one of the long beaches in the D'Entrecasteaux Park.

Lake Maringup, one of the most important of the freshwater lake habitats and a part of the coastal wetlands.

A DESCRIPTION OF THE D'ENTRECASTEAUX - SOUTH COAST 'SYSTEM'

The coastal section west of the Broke Inlet to Black Point, is characterized by the terminal drainage of a number of rivers - the Donnelly, Warren and Gardner. The Meerup River and Doggerup Greek also have a large proportion of their catchments within the park. The continual lashing by winds from the Southern Ocean has resulted in the formation of an extensive system of sand dunes. Some of these are stabilizing with the growth of vegetation, while others form extensive mobile systems (Yeagarup, Meerup and Doggerup).

The interpretation of this park centres on the transition between the coastal belt and the forested areas inland. The dunes block the flow of coastal drainage to the sea, creating a series of lakes and wetlands - Lake Jasper (the largest fresh water lake in the south-west) Lake Quitjap and Lake Maringup. This chain of wetlands, extending from the west of Broke Inlet to the north of the park, provides a focal point for an understanding of the area's ecology.

The zoning and management of these wetlands should be related to the local drainage patterns, to prevent disruption to the ecological balance.

Mount Chudalup (refer to Map 2) is totally surrounded by wetlands formed in old alluvial sand deposits. Stream flow is sluggish and has resulted in the formation of extensive flats, similar to those in the lower Shannon. The catchment boundaries of the Doggerup Creek, Blackwater Creek and the Gardner River (in the west) provide a basis for splitting this large area into ecological units.

Stabilization of the sand dunes in the D'Entrecastreaux National Park is at an early stage. Most of the dunes, except for those in the Long Point - Lake Jasper area, are only covered with a thin mantle of peppermint and scrub. They are therefore susceptible to degradation and erosion

An area of woodland which occurs north of Long Point includes some of the largest stands of yate *(Eucalyptus cornuata)* and bullich *(E. megacarpa)* in the southern region. The limits of this woodland system can form the basis of another ecological unit.

The south coast has been used for fishing by local people. From the early days there have been tracks through the dunes to the coast, but in recent years, with the popularity of four wheel drive vehicles, access points have multiplied.

There are now cross-over tracks up and down the coast, and new ones are being opened up all the time.

There are also small settlements in several places along the coast, and huts for overnight camping have been built in places. Marroning is a favoured pastime in the rivers, the numerous small lakes and ponds.

More recently, other activities such as bush walking, canoeing and camping have become popular. The area's outstanding natural features - including spectacular coastal cliffs, huge mobile sand dunes, lakes and wide open vistas - are its most important asset.

SUGGESTED ZONING FOR THE TWO PARKS

Before planning the zoning of the two parks, their regional context was considered. There are large tracts of State forest in the lower South-West which are available for recreation and other pursuits, so it was considered that the new national parks should be seen as more specialized areas, primarily set aside for conservation.

The region also contains a series of smaller national parks and reserves near Walpole, Pemberton and Northcliffe, and at Lake Muir (Map 1). Each of these have been set aside for specific conservation values which complement those of the Shannon Forest and the D'Entrecasteaux.

Both parks may be zoned using the broad ecological and landform units, in conjunction with the past and present use of the area, by adapting a system of categories which has been used in Western Australia (Map 3).

FACILITY AND CAMPING AREAS

"Areas in which facilities for the park users may be provided with the minimum of interference to the natural environment. Sites may be specified within such an area so that accommodation and other essential services may be provided."

Only two facility areas are considered necessary to service the proposed parks. Accommodation and other services are available at nearby towns: Manjimup, Pemberton, Northcliffe and Walpole. Other local tourist resort and recreation facilities include Karri Valley, Tone River, and the Pimelia Youth Hostel.

Shannon Facility Area.

This site occupies the old Shannon townsite and is the major facility area for the Shannon Forest. It is located close to the centre of the basin, on the South-West Highway (about halfway between Manjimup and Walpole). A large cleared area, the site is adjacent to the river and some fine karri forest, and is in close proximity to the Shannon River dam.

A well-earned rest after bushwalking in a woodland area.

Available facilities include a range of walk trails (one with a sealed section for the physically disabled), a sheltered barbecue area and picnic facilities. An information centre, toilets and a tent camping area are under construction, and a range of information pamphlets are being produced. The site is also a 'start-point' for the Bibbulman Walk Trail and several local 'self-guide' car tours. Further developments are being planned for this area, and it is proposed that a park manager be stationed here.

Windy Harbour Facility Area.

A developed fishing/holiday settlement on the coast to the east of Point D'Entrecasteaux, Windy Harbour is accessible from Northcliffe via the Windy Harbour Road. Facilities include fresh water, a caravan park, telephone and public toilets. Activities include fishing, spear-fishing, boating, swimming and bushwalking. This is the main coastal settlement in the park and is well suited to some further limited expansion of facilities. It is situated just south of a proposed special zone, so further development needs to be well planned.

Windy Harbour is under the control of the Manjimup Shire, and future management will involve cooperation with the Shire.

Camping areas: Some of the existing 'holiday' settlements which have developed at isolated locations have been designated camping areas. It is proposed that no further development should take place until each location has been assessed in terms of the broader objectives of park management.

Donnelly River Mouth

This area is the site of a fishing holiday settlement, accessible via the river. Hut owners have non transferable life tenancy only, and pay an annual rental to the National Parks Authority. This is one of the most beautiful and remote spots in the park. Activities include fishing, bush walking and canoeing. Swimming is popular in sheltered parts of the river.

Limited camping sites may need to be considered as many people, other than hut owners, are starting to use the area. It is suggested that development be kept to a minimum and that access be restricted to river transport.

Campfield

This area is accessible via Broke Inlet Road, from Chesapeake Road or the South-West Highway. Several holiday huts have been built close to the edge of the inlet. There are no developed public facilities, but possible activities include canoeing, swimming, bushwalking, sailing and fishing.

Gardner River Mouth

A reserve with attractive camping grounds, this area is accessible via a coastal track from Windy Harbour. Two huts have been built and there is a water well. The area is suitable for limited camping only.

Picnic sites and barbeques are not considered facility areas and may be developed in suitable locations where zoning permits.

NATURAL AREAS

"An area which is maintained in its natural state but where park roads, tracks, small parking areas, lookouts and appropriate outlying huts may be provided. Camping sites in natural areas would not incorporate any special amenities such as caravan power points, buildings or other organized facilities. Picnic tables, fireplaces and simple toilets may be supplied."

Shannon Natural Area

More than half of the proposed Shannon Forest Park is zoned natural area. This includes most of the northern section of park and the area west of Deeside Coast Road.

The area north of Preston Road contains most of the extensive tall karri and jarrah forest types to be found in the park. The South-West Highway crosses the area going through the Shannon townsite. There are many small forestry tracks, and large sections (particularly in the south-east) are regenerating after clearfell forestry operations. Most of the area is still uncut. Vehicle access routes which have been proposed for the area provide an opportunity for people to enjoy self-guided tours through the forest, along scenic routes on maintained forest tracks. Other tracks may be left open for park management purposes.

The upper Shannon natural area is sufficiently large to support a wide range of forest recreation. The area is well suited for track and bush walking. The zoning of this large section of park as a natural area should accommodate the needs of a wide variety of forest park visitors.

Back-packing is not everyone's cup of tea, most prefer to use the family car to see the parks.

The strip of park west of Deeside Coast Road also contains attractive tall forest. This broad band of forest is being proposed as a buffer for the protection of internal areas, but it is suitable for the development of facilities which will serve as staging points for access to the centre of the park.

Pingerup Natural Area

The Pingerup plains contain the most extensive areas of flats and woodland vegetation in the park. A visit to Mount Pingerup, just three kilometres off the South-West Highway, can give a park visitor a full view of this exceptional undisturbed landscape. The highway forms the eastern boundary of the Pingerup natural area for 24 km. The area is traversed by Chesapeake Road and Pingerup Road in the north, and by Inlet Road which gives access to Broke Inlet. These roads follow attractive scenic routes and should be maintained for public use. In the far south, a track runs from Crystal Springs to Banksia Camp affording access to an exceptional and remote location.

The Pingerup natural area is very large and offers a unique and spacious experience for both tourists and more hardy recreators. Its natural values are also enhanced by the Broke Inlet, which forms most of the south-western boundary. The area has few access tracks.

West Broke Natural Areas

West of the Broke Inlet, the ecology and landform units become slightly more intricate. Planning is also complicated by the existence of a large enclave of private property. Most of the Pingerup natural area is extended south of Chesapeake Road, forming a band of natural areas along the south coast to Point D'Entrecasteaux (Windy Harbour facility area). This natural area weaves between zones identified as having high ecological and landscape values, and acts as a management buffer to these areas.

Chesapeake Road forms part of the northern boundary and there are two tracks which provide vehicular access for the area to the south. Springbreak Road runs from Chesapeake to a point near the mouth of the Shannon River. Another track runs to the private property and gives access to the beach. The same band of natural area extends west of the Gardner River, making most of the coast between Point D'Entrecasteaux and Westcliffe Point accessible by vehicle, via Windy Harbour Road.

Provided vehicles are used in a responsible way, on designated access routes, there is unlikely to be a conflict of interests at present-levels of use.

Jasper Natural Area

An area north-west of the Donnelly River and along the coastline to Black Point gives access to Lake Jasper, the coastal cliffs and beaches. This natural area envelopes a unique system of wetlands and woodlands, and provides them with a management buffer.

The zone includes areas of stabilizing sand dunes, so vehicles will need to be confined to designated tracks.

Landscape Conservation Areas

"An area which is to be maintained in its natural state and be protected from disturbance because of its sensitivity with respect to landscape, ecological or other conservation values. No assisted means of access, including horses, is permitted, except in the interests of safety, the rehabilitation of disturbed areas or for research. Corridors of vehicle access will continue where appropriate."

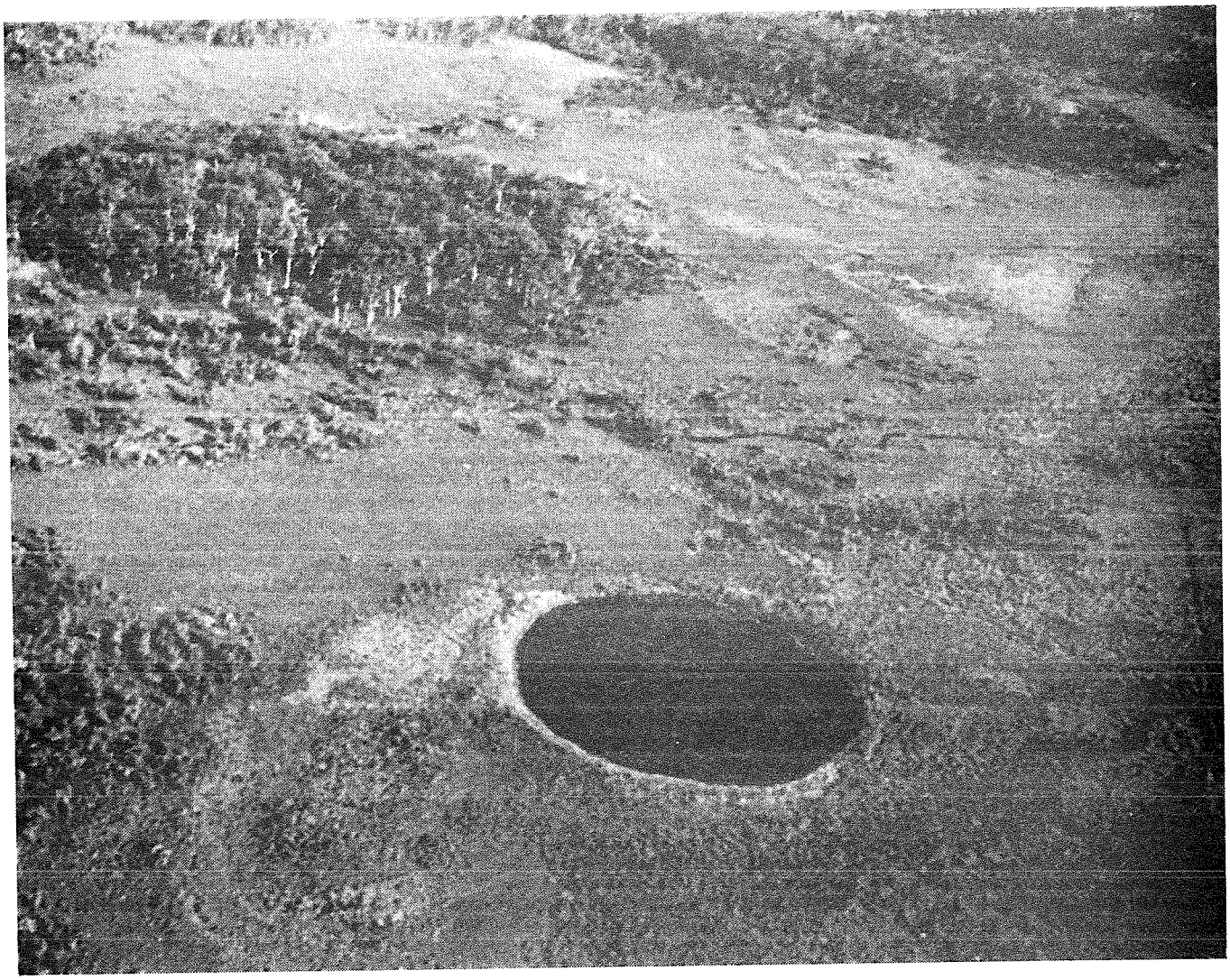
Lower Shannon Landscape Conservation Area

The Lower Shannon landscape conservation area includes the most diverse vegetation system of the two parks. It is bounded by Deeside Coast Road, Chesapeake Road, and the Pingerup Road and Nelson Road access routes. Self-guiding drive brochures are being drafted to cover these routes, so that park visitors can become acquainted with the ecology and other aspects of the park environment. It is also proposed that the sections of Dog Road (giving access to Dog Pool) and Marron Road should remain open, but not be maintained.

This particular zone would be of high value for people prepared to put in the physical effort required to visit the area. It is large enough to prevent conflict of interests between user groups at anticipated visitor levels, provided sensible and appropriate use is made of the area.

Broke Inlet Landscape Conservation Area

The area south of the Broke Inlet represents an ideal opportunity to keep a large section of coastal landscape free from any type of development. It is well protected by Broke Inlet and the Southern Ocean. Its landscape values are



Extensive flats (sedgelands) with 'islands' of karri are a feature of the Pingerup plains and lower Shannon.

exceptional and require special management consideration to ensure their preservation. No assisted means of access is proposed within this area. Consideration should also be given to the inclusion of the inlet in the Landscape Conservation category.

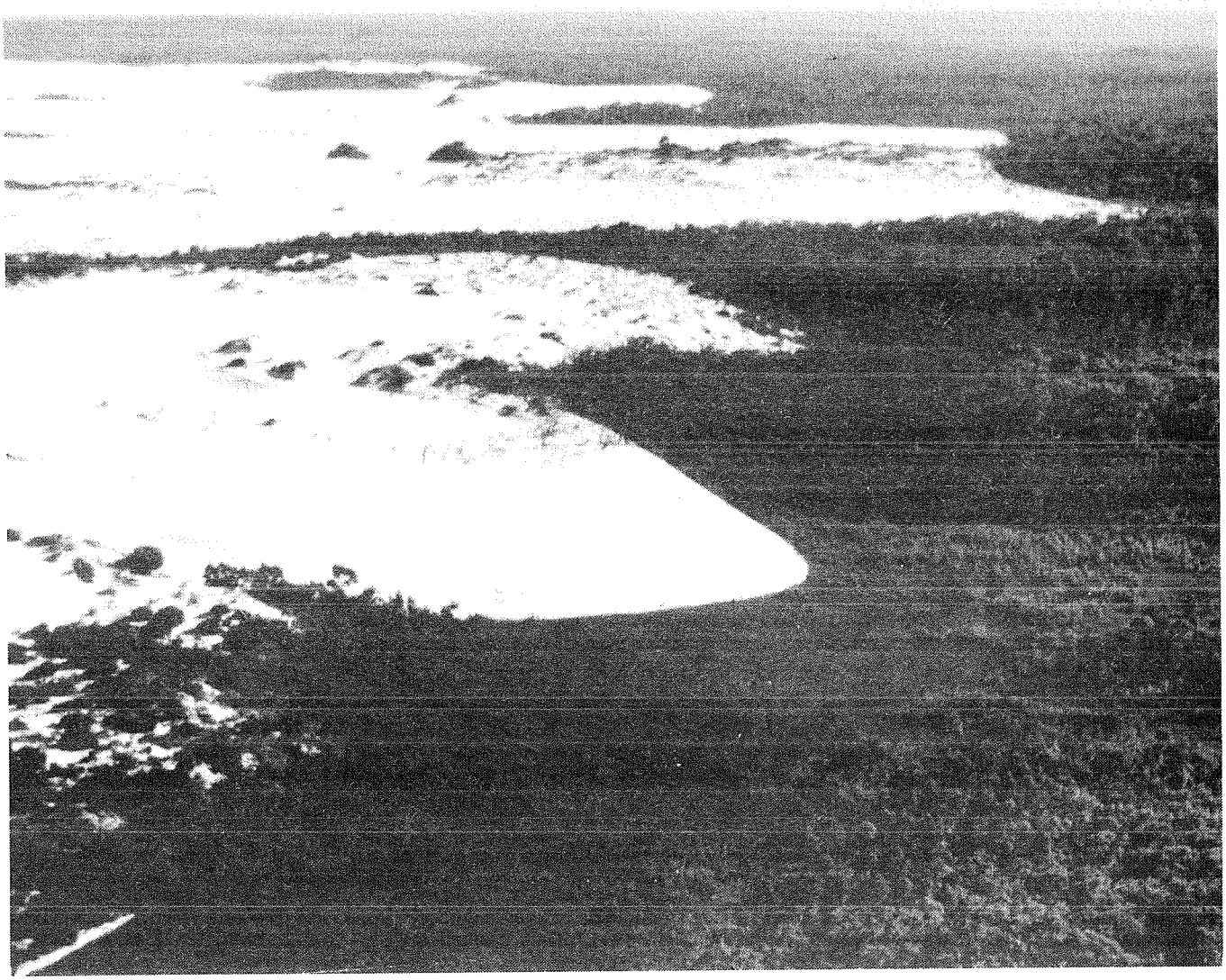
Calcup Landscape Conservation Area

The area between Doggerup Creek and Donnelly River represents a unique section of the coastal belt, having extensive mobile and stabilizing sand dunes. This section of park is particularly attractive, with long wide beaches and an open spacious landscape. The zones are split lengthwise into areas for the conservation of landscape and ecological values, based on the previously described natural units.

The area between the Warren River and Doggerup Creek contains the Calcup and Meerup systems of mobile dunes and has a long standing history of local use. Access is via Warren Beach Road to Callcup Hill and it is proposed that this should remain open. Vehicular access to the beach will continue to be available via a track to private property (location 3869). Vehicle use, however, should be restricted to the area between high and low water marks. Discreet camping and other appropriate park uses are acceptable in this area. Access should be restricted to designated routes, and a programme implemented to monitor the impact of vehicular use.

Yeagarup Landscape Conservation Area

This area has similar conservation values as the Calcup, but it has been set aside for use without vehicles. A designated private right of way will continue to the property at location 3656. The block contains the only section of continuous beach (along the entire length of the coastal park) which is not available for vehicular use, and presents an opportunity to preserve a section of the coastal belt as a primitive area.



Yeagarup dunes, the largest of a series of moving sand dunes along the coast.

Jasper Landscape Conservation Area

A zone of landscape conservation includes the Lake Jasper area, an integral part of the park's wetland system. The lake itself is accessed by a track servicing private property. Any future public use of the area should be carefully designed to avoid degradation of the ecological and landscape values. The use of power boats on the lake is inconsistent with the conservation zoning of the area.

SPECIAL AREAS

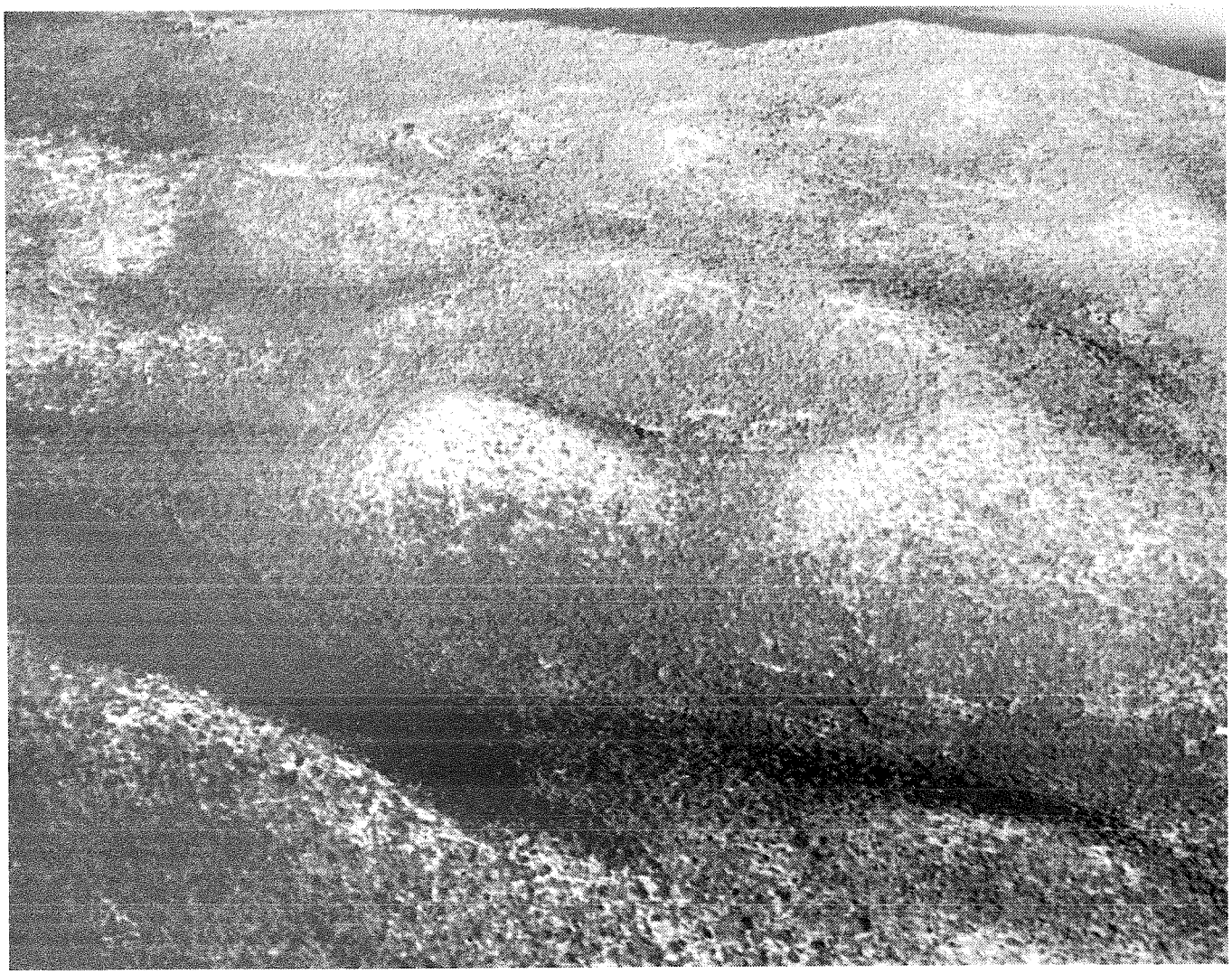
"An area possessing indigenous plant or animal life, geological or archaeological features of such significance that it should, as far as possible, be preserved intact. To minimize human interference, assisted means of access is not permitted, except in the interests of safety or research."

Shannon Special Area

The mosaic of forest vegetation between Preston and Nelson Roads represents an interesting transition of types. This block is largely undisturbed, and its conservation as a reference area should prove to be a valuable forest asset. The area is highly suited to nature study and appreciation. A substantial buffer strip would be required to off-set the impact of the log haulage road in the north (Preston Road).

West Broke Special Area

This area of wetlands is the first in the chain of lakes and swamps which extends the length of the park. It is relatively inaccessible and offers a good opportunity for conservation of its exceptional ecological values. Its proximity to Broke Inlet and the landscape conservation area to the south enhances its potential as an ecological reference area.



West Broke is a landscape of huge consolidated sand dunes vegetated with low heath.

Broke Inlet Islands Special Area

There are several islands in the Broke Inlet, the two largest being Shannon Island and Clarke Island. The islands represent unique opportunities to protect ecological communities which have largely developed in isolation.

Maringup Special Area

Lake Maringup is of particular ecological interest, being surrounded by islands of coastal karri forest, swamp and woodland vegetation. The zone is defined by the sub-catchment area of the lake, and, if well protected, will serve as a valuable ecological benchmark.

The Maringup area offers exceptional opportunities for nature study and ecological research. The use of power and sail boats is inconsistent with environmental management of special areas, but row boats or canoes would be acceptable. The carrying capacity of the lake is limited.

The Chudalup Special Areas (Doggerup, Gardner, Chudalup/Blockwater).

The area known as the Chudalup Plains represents an extensive system of wetlands, swamps and flat's vegetation. It is therefore treated as one complete management unit, broken into ecological sub-units based on the internal drainage patterns of the area. Management of these sub-units can be rationalized, where necessary, using the nearest existing tracks as boundaries.

Although the area is traversed by well established access (Windy Harbour Road, Chesapeake Road), it is felt that this is not sufficient reason to break it into different zones. The special area units are large, but they are also reasonably accessible from the existing roads and surrounding natural areas. It would be undesirable to have any further public road or track access through the area. Windy Harbour Road and Chesapeake Road should be considered as corridors of access, allowing the appropriate public use of this special environment.

The panoramic views available from Mount Chudalup lookout are exceptional and it should remain as an important educational facility.

The Chudalup Plains support a diverse and valuable ecology. Under the special area zoning they will remain protected for the enjoyment and education of all park users, with the minimum of disturbance.

The Quitjup Special Area

The Quitjup special area offers a variety of different environments for park visitors. Its sensitivity with respect to landform and its susceptibility to dieback mean that the area requires careful management to ensure that it remains a viable ecological reference point.

Zoned for special purposes, the area aims at protecting two distinct ecological types, the wetlands surrounding Lake Quitjup and the extensive woodlands to the south.

It remains accessible by Black Point Road, and via a circuit passing Lake Jasper. The roads servicing the private property on the coast (Lot 8520) also access the coastal woodlands. It would be undesirable to have any further road or track development.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Vehicular Access

In designing adequate park access, we have taken into account existing usage patterns.

The indiscriminate use of motor vehicles and the development of new roads and tracks can cause tremendous disturbance of the natural environment. In order to minimize this impact all vehicular usage (including off-road vehicles) should be restricted to designated access routes.

It will be necessary to monitor the impact of visitors and vehicles on the parks. This will be particularly important when refining the management of the fragile coastal landscape areas of the D'Entrecasteaux National Park.

Because of the location of the Shannon Forest Park it is not possible, in the short term at least, to exclude the through traffic of log trucks. However, this will be kept to a minimum, along designated routes currently being considered by the Planning Committee.

Power boat access

Power boat access to the lower Donnelly River will continue from Boat Landing Road. Their use on the lakes should be consistent with the adjacent park zoning.

The use of sail and power boats on the Broke Inlet should be rationalized on a regional level, considering that boating and associated services are already available along the South Coast. Management of the Broke Inlet should be consistent with the zoning of adjacent land.

Beach fishing is a popular pastime on the D'Entrecasteaux coast.

Beach access

One of the main reasons for the proliferation of tracks to the beaches on the South Coast is the hunt for new fishing beaches. Everybody wants to be 'the only one on the beach'. This is a luxury which is no longer available, and, as time passes, more and more people will want to use all the beaches. To preserve a substantial area for those who still seek some peace and quiet it is considered that vehicles should be excluded from a major section of the beach. The beach will be preserved for anglers, hikers, naturalists and others prepared to put in a little effort, and will ensure that the experiences of exploring new areas and fishing remote beaches are preserved for a long time into the future.

Either the Warren or the Yaegerup beach is considered suitable for this proposal. Both are large, have limited access and are remote from any significant developments.

Fire management

The parks are situated in an environment where fire plays a role in the natural processes. But wildfire in heavy fuels, apart from being very costly to control, has the capacity to seriously disturb the environment and to cause serious damage to property and other human assets. It will be necessary to carry out prescribed burning as an integral part of park management. A fuel management plan which will take account of the zoning and ecology of the areas, as well as their protection requirements, is being prepared. The basic aim of the plan will be to provide as much fire diversity as possible (in order to enhance ecological values) without compromising the responsibility to protect natural values, as well as the life and property of neighbours. Co-operative fire management strategies will involve park neighbours.

So that fire management can be improved in the long term, it is proposed that the effects of all fires should be monitored, that an on-going research programme should be implemented, and that the planning process will be updated as new data and techniques become available.

Unauthorized use of park resources

In the past there has been some unauthorized use of the resources in both areas. The D'Entrecasteaux area, in particular, has a history of squatting, grazing, the removal of vegetation for fencing material and uncontrolled wildflower gathering.

These practices are not compatible with National Park's policies. Adjoining landowners will be expected to control their stock, and dwellings erected without approval will have to be removed from park land.

The whole suggested programme of management for both parks will require the allocation of adequate staff and finances, and these considerations must be accounted for in the completed Management Plan.

CONCLUSION

Zoning of the two areas has been the priority of this report (Map 3). The zoning process is fundamental to our strategy for park planning because many aspects of future use will be dictated by the zones. It is therefore most important, for anyone who wishes to contribute to the planning process, to comment at this stage. Once the zones have been agreed to, and accepted, they should remain substantially unaltered. They have been based on natural units and, to a lesser extent, past use. Future changes should be confined to appropriate alterations and refinement of zone use, rather than changes to the zones themselves.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

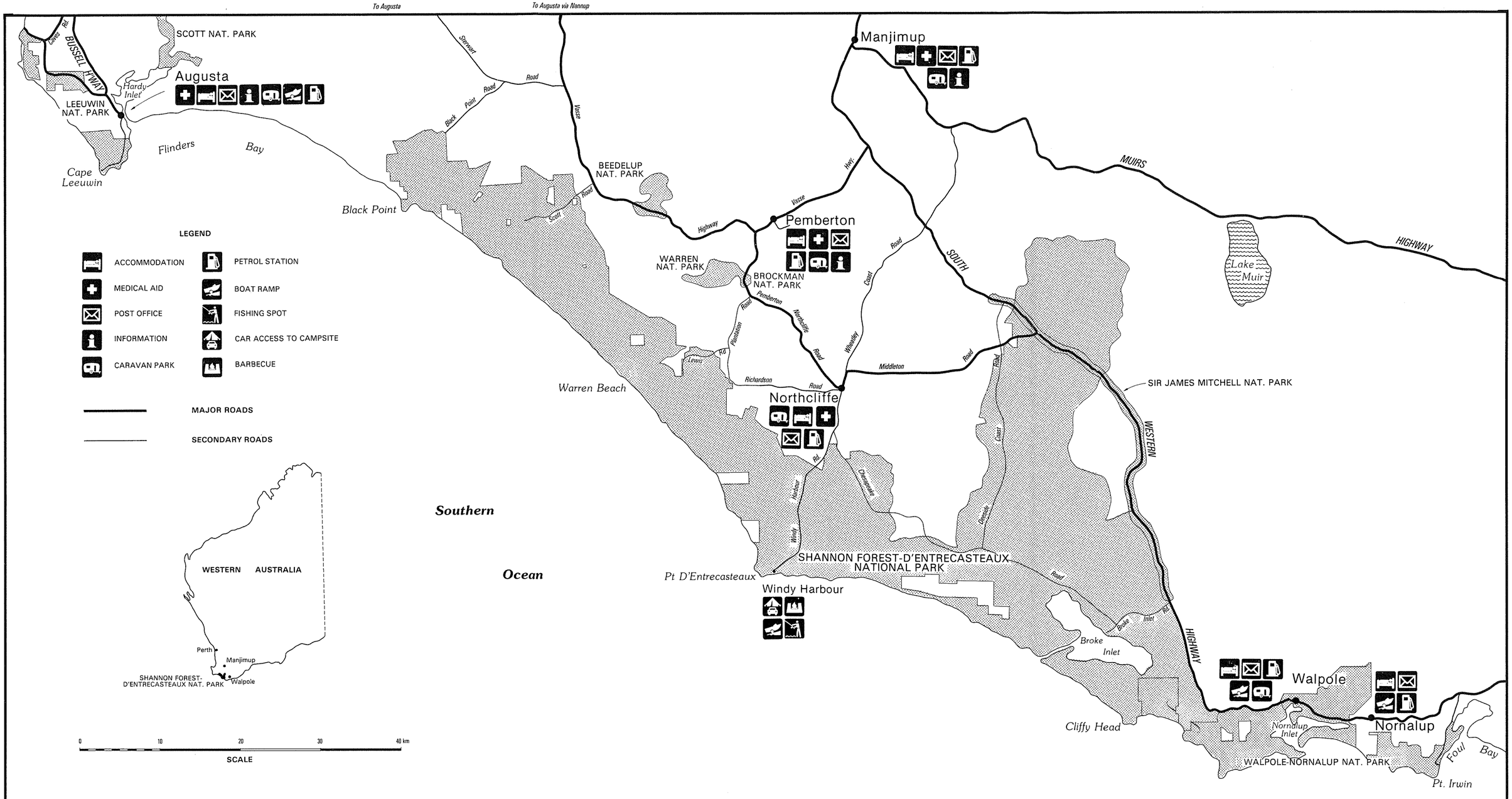
To enable the Planning Committee to now prepare an on-going Management Plan for the proposed parks, interested people and organizations are invited to comment on our 'Zone Strategy'.

All submissions will be considered, and draft management plans will be made available for further public comment at a later date.

Please send your submission to:-

Shannon/ D'Entrecasteaux Planning Group
c/o Forests Department
Manjimup W A 6258

Submissions must be received within two months of the release of this interim report.


To Augusta
To Augusta via Nannup
SCOTT NAT. PARK
Caves Rd
BUSSELL HWAY
Augusta
Hardy Inlet
LEEUWIN NAT. PARK
Cape Leeuwin
Flinders Bay
Black Point Road
Stewart Road
Vasse Highway
BEEDELUP NAT. PARK
Black Point
Scott Road
Manjimup
Hwy
Vasse
Highway
Pemberton
WARREN NAT. PARK
BROCKMAN NAT. PARK
Coast Road
SOUTH
MUIRS
HIGHWAY
Lake Muir
Pemberton Road
Northcliffe Road
Plantation Rd
Lewis Rd
Wheatley Road
Middleton Road
Richardson Road
Warren Beach
Northcliffe
SIR JAMES MITCHELL NAT. PARK
WESTERN HIGHWAY
Jasper Rd
Ormsbury Rd
Windy Harbour Rd
Owinda Rd
SHANNON FOREST-D'ENTRECASTEAUX NATIONAL PARK
Pt D'Entrecasteaux
Windy Harbour
Road
Broke Inlet Rd
Broke Inlet
HIGHWAY
Walpole
Nornalup Inlet
Nornalup
Cliffy Head
WALPOLE-NORNALUP NAT. PARK
Foul Bay
Pt. Irwin
Southern Ocean
LEGEND
ACCOMMODATION
MEDICAL AID
POST OFFICE
INFORMATION
CARAVAN PARK
PETROL STATION
BOAT RAMP
FISHING SPOT
CAR ACCESS TO CAMPSITE
BARBECUE
MAJOR ROADS
SECONDARY ROADS
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Perth
Manjimup
SHANNON FOREST-D'ENTRECASTEAUX NAT. PARK
Walpole
0
10
20
30
40 km
SCALE

THE SHANNON FOREST AND D'ENTRECASTEAUX NATIONAL PARK
ZONE / ACCESS PLAN

SCALE 1:100 000

N

SOUTHERN OCEAN

Black Point
Quitjup
LAKE QUITJUP
BLACK POINT ROAD
JASPERVALE ROAD
LAKE JASPER
JASPER
SCOTT ROAD
Jasper Beach
DONNELLY RIVER
Donnelly River Mouth Camping Area
SILVER MOUNT
YEAGARUP
Yeagarup Beach
WARREN RIVER
LEWIS ROAD
CALLCUP HILL
Warren Beach
CALLCUP
Malimup Beach
SUMMERTIME ROAD
Doggerup
DOGGERUP RIVER
Doggerup Beach
MT. CHUDALUP
CHUDALUP
WINDY HARBOUR ROAD
Blackwater
Gardner
CHESAPEAKE ROAD
Salmon Beach
Point D'Entrecasteaux
WINDY HARBOUR
Gardner Beach
GARDNER RIVER
Gardner River Mouth Camping Area
LAKE MARINGUP
MARINGUP
Maringup
Coodamurrup Beach
Westcliff Point
West Broke
PINGERUP
CAMFIELD ROAD
PRICE PEEL ROAD
Camfield Camping Area
BROKE INLET
BROKE
MANDALAY BEACH ROAD
Cliffy Head
SOUTH-WESTERN HIGHWAY
CREEKBEND ROAD
SPRACHAN ROAD
UPPER SHANNON
MIDDLETON ROAD
UPPER SHANNON ROAD
SHANNON
LOWER SHANNON ROAD
CENTRAL SHANNON
PRESTON ROAD
WALSH ROAD
TOM ROAD
DESSERT COAST ROAD
Shannon Forest
NELSON ROAD
LOWER SHANNON
MARRON ROAD
TOM ROAD
CHESAPEAKE ROAD

LEGEND

- Park Boundary
- Internal Zone Boundary

PARKLAND ACCESS
- Sealed Road
- Unsealed Road
- 4 × 4 Access

PARKLAND ZONES
- Facility
- Natural
- Landscape Conservation
- Special

THE SHANNON FOREST AND D'ENTRECASTEAUX NATIONAL PARK
ECOLOGICAL AND LANDFORM UNITS

SCALE 1:100 000

N

Black Point

Point D'Entrecasteaux

Cliffy Head

SOUTHERN OCEAN

WETLAND AREA

LAKE JASPER

PRIVATE PROPERTY

P.P.

DONNELLY RIVER

SILVER MOUNT

YEAGARUP DUNES

WARREN RIVER

*CALCUP HILL

MEERUP

MEERUP DUNES

DOGGERUP CREEK

DOGGERUP DUNES

DOGGERUP

MOUNT CHUDALUP

BLACKWATER

GARDNER RIVER

MARINGUP

Lake Maringup

SHANNON RIVER

SHANNON

KARRI PREDOMINANTLY JARRAH

KARRI PREDOMINANTLY

MOUNT BURNSIDE

KARRI MOSAIC

PREDOMINANTLY FLATS AND SCRUB

EXTENSIVE FLATS AND WOODLANDS

MOUNT PINGERUP

BROKE INLET

EXTENSIVE FLATS AND WOODLANDS

LEGEND

- Park Boundary
- Wetland Area
- Cliffs
- Catchments
- Sub-Catchment
- Lakes and Inlet
- Wetlands
- Stabilising Dunes with Low Shrubs and Open Woodland
- Mobile Dunes
- Woodland Ecology
- Karri Forest
- Jarrah Forest
- Open Flats with Pockets of Jarrah Forest and Woodlands