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Your guide to Lane Poole Reserve Dwellingup

Wake up in the jarrah forest

Pitching a tent in the jarrah forest by the Murray River is an experience that draws thousands of visitors back to Lane Poole Reserve every year.

Just 100 kilometres from Perth, the reserve covers nearly 55,000 hectares, ranging from the forested steep valley slopes and rock-rimmed pools of the Murray River near the Darling Scarp to the more open, undulating jarrah and wandoo woodlands further east.

Tall blackbutt, jarrah and marri forests shade the river valley, and on either side of the river gravel roads lead to recreation areas. Popular camping spots include the site of the old jarrah mill at Nanga, burnt in the Dwellingup fires of 1961, and now sheltered by a grove of tall pines. Nearby, Nanga Brook flows down a trout ladder and into the Murray River.

The Murray is the largest river in the Darling Plateau not dammed for water supply. The river

forms rapids, small waterfalls and deep still pools along its course. In winter, it can be a raging torrent, and in summer, a slow moving stream for swimming, canoeing or fishing.

In spring, the forest floor fills with wildflowers and in autumn you can hear the calls of brilliantly coloured parrots and magpies echoing through the early morning mist along the valley floor.

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Lane Poole Reserve

Lane Poole Reserve was declared in 1984 to protect the conservation and recreation values of the northern jarrah forest and the Murray River – the longest permanent river in a jarrah forest.

Jarrah tends to dominate the dry upland areas within the reserve. On the lower slopes of the reserve, marri occurs in greater numbers and may predominate in moist gullies.

In the western portion of the reserve where the valleys are relatively narrow and steep, the soils are usually more fertile red loams, the lower slopes of the valleys support yarri, or WA blackbutt, and flooded gums.

In the eastern part of the reserve, the landscape flattens out into a series of broad undulating valleys and low ridges. Here wandoo forms attractive woodland on the clay flats. Other areas of the reserve support bullich, a striking white-barked



ABOVE Lane Poole Reserve is a popular spot for picnics. Photo – Alex Bowlay/CALM

eucalypt that occurs in pure pockets in gullies near the western fringes of the Darling Range.

Apart from the dominant eucalypts, a variety of smaller understorey trees occur in various mixtures throughout the reserve. These include bull banksia, which often grows in pure stands on disturbed areas; sheoak, which occupies sandy sites; and snottygobble, a graceful tree with dark, flaking bark and long, narrow leaves.

The lower layer of forest vegetation is formed by the reserve's 500 species of shrubs and herbaceous plants. They include many of the better-known

wildflowers, such as blue leschenaultia, pink boronia and native wisteria.

Twenty-nine species of native mammals, 56 species of reptiles and amphibia, 10 species of fish and 120 species of birds are either known inhabitants or occasional visitors to Lane Poole Reserve.

These include marsupials such as the mardo, the short-nosed bandicoot, the brush-tailed wambenger, the chuditch and the quokka. Few people realise that the quokka, better known as a resident of Rottnest Island, is also found in swamps and valleys in the jarrah forest.



ABOVE Bob's Crossing is a well-visited area. Photo – Alex Bowlay/CALM

Facilities for visitors

Lane Poole Reserve offers several camping and day-use areas with facilities including toilets, barbecues and tables and activities that include swimming, bushwalking, canoeing, fishing and bike riding.

Camping fees are \$5 per adult (16 years of age or over) and \$2 per child (aged between five and 16 years). There is no charge for children less than five years of age.

Dogs are allowed at the campsite and day-use areas, but only on a leash. Unrestrained pets risk eating one of the baits laid as part of CALM's wildlife recovery program, *Western Shield*, which aims to reduce feral cat and fox populations.

Most of the roads in the reserve have gravel surfaces that can be tricky for inexperienced

drivers so please observe the maximum driving speed of 40 km per hour. The nearest towns to the campsites and day-use areas are Dwellingup (7.5 km) and Waroona (32 km).

Rangers, CALM officers and fee collectors work in Lane Poole Reserve and are happy to answer any questions.

Long weekends and school holiday periods often result in large numbers of campers and day users. Please arrive early to secure a campsite.

If camping sites are full, contact CALM's Dwellingup office on (08) 9538 1078 for advice on possible alternatives. Sites cannot be booked.

Please remember the campers code of respecting others, keeping noise to a minimum after 9pm and placing rubbish in the bins provided.



RIGHT A scene near the Baden Powell camping and day rest area. Photo – Ingrid Hunt/CALM



RIGHT Murray Valley has some high vantage points for sightseers. Photo – Alex Bowlay/CALM

Conditions of entry to Lane Poole Reserve

Visitors to Lane Poole Reserve are welcome as long as they do not disrupt other visitors, and they are not intoxicated.

As a condition of entry into the reserve, CALM reserves the right to inspect vehicles and containers for excessive quantities of liquor. Liquor may be off-loaded and collected on departure, or entry to the reserve may be refused. Entry to the reserve will also be refused if you or any of your passengers are intoxicated.

The following behaviour will not be tolerated and may lead to eviction from Lane Poole Reserve and/or legal proceedings:

- abusive, offensive language;
- threatening behaviour, both to CALM staff or other campers;
- any behaviour that disturbs the proper use of the reserve by other campers, including the excessive use of amplified music;
- erratic driving of motor vehicles;
- failing to obey the directions of CALM staff;
- failing to obey fire restrictions during prohibited times; and/or
- damage to property, wildlife or vegetation.

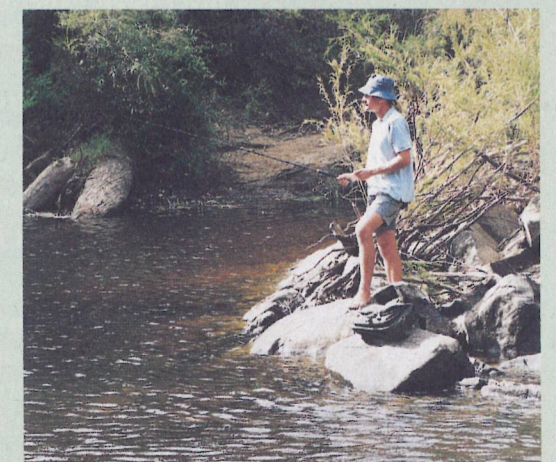
Visitors who fail to leave the reserve when requested will be prosecuted and may face a fine.

Unlicensed off-road vehicles are prohibited in Lane Poole Reserve.

For assistance, phone:

- CALM's Dwellingup office on (08) 9538 1078;
- the entry station on (08) 9538 1536; or
- the Police on 9538 1057 or 000 for emergencies only.

BELOW Fishing in the Murray River is an activity loved by many. Photo – CALM



SERVICES

Police - (08) 9538 1057 or 000
Ambulance - 000
Hospital - (08) 9531 8000
Fire - (08) 9531 1988
SES - (08) 9531 3044

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* All information and fees/prices are correct at time of publication.

Enjoy sights and sounds of new national parks and reserves

Visitors to the forests in the South-West now have 36 new national parks and nature reserves and 10 new conservation parks to enjoy.

WA's newest parks, which total nearly half-a-million hectares, were established through three Acts of Parliament assented to by the Governor in 2004. They stretch from Perth's doorstep in the hills to those that will be part of the vast Walpole Wilderness Area on the south coast.

The new parks occur in old-growth forests of karri, jarrah, marri and tingle to wandoo, granite outcrops, tea tree heath and swampy banksia woodlands.

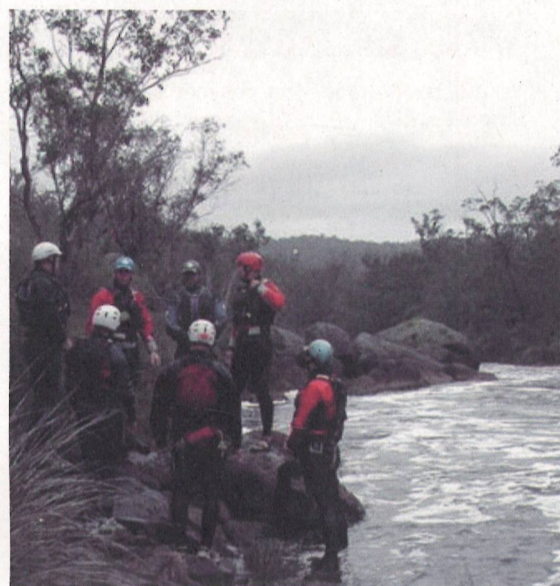
They are home to a diverse range of wildlife and play host to a range of nature-based recreation and tourism activities.

Many of the areas have facilities for visitors, including lookouts, walk trails, access for people with disabilities, barbecues, boardwalks, campsites, picnic sites, shelters and information panels. Projects to improve the existing facilities and install new facilities will continue to be undertaken.

For more information about the new national parks or to find out about new attractions, check with the local CALM office, or visit CALM's NatureBase website at www.naturebase.net or call (08) 9334 0333.



ABOVE There are many safe spots for swimming at Lane Poole Reserve. Photo - Alex Bowlay/CALM



ABOVE White-water rafting tours on the Murray River are always in high demand. Photo - Alex Bowlay/CALM

Healthy parks, healthy people

It's official: parks don't just protect biodiversity and other essential life systems, but are also a great way to improve your health and well-being.

There is considerable evidence worldwide that spending time in natural areas results in increased physical and mental health of individuals and, therefore, in healthier communities.

Apart from providing space for physical pursuits and tranquility for restoration from urban stress, they're a place to socialise and enhance personal relationships.

Parks and other natural areas also keep the environment healthy by improving air quality, reducing erosion, delivering clear drinking water and contributing to clear waterways.

CALM manages 25 million ha of national parks, marine parks, State forests, conservation parks and nature reserves and is the largest provider of outdoor recreational opportunities in WA. Lane Poole Reserve plays host to many exciting and interesting outdoor recreational pursuits.

For example, tackle some challenging white-water in a kayak or inflatable raft during winter, enjoy vigorous bicycle rides along the Munda Biddi Trail or four-wheel-drive tracks, stroll along the Bibbulmun Track, or stay in one of many river-side campsites and soak up the tranquility.

So, give your health a boost by stepping out into the bush!

Bibbulmun Track

The Bibbulmun Track is an award-winning, continuously-marked walk trail that stretches 1000 km from Kalamunda, near Perth, to Albany on the southern coastline of WA.

It passes through some of the most beautiful areas of WA's South-West, including impressive stands of northern jarrah forest at Lane Poole Reserve. Jarrah and marri are the dominant tree species in the area.

Since its opening in September 1998, the realigned track has played host to many different groups and individuals. The track can be used for a gentle stroll, or end-to-end walk in a challenging eight-week adventure. Walkers can take advantage of the 48 strategically-placed timber shelters and campsites, complete with fireplaces and water tanks, which can accommodate up to 16 people, or choose to stay in the many accommodation options in towns along the way. Guided walks are also run throughout the year.

From Dwellingup, the track winds through State forest before entering Lane Poole Reserve. It passes through Swamp Oak Campsite and follows Swamp Oak Brook before crossing Yarragil Brook. It then meanders south along the Murray River eventually emerging near the town of Collie.

The campsites were built by Karnet Prison Farm prisoners as part of an important partnership between CALM and the Department of Justice.



ABOVE Sitting around a campfire at a shelter on the Bibbulmun Track. Photo - Bibbulmun Track Foundation

Prisoners also built other structures such as boardwalks and footbridges across low-lying areas.

A map or guidebook is essential to ensure a safe and enjoyable walk on the Bibbulmun Track.

There are eight maps published by CALM that cover the entire track. Maps two and three and *A Guide to the Bibbulmun Track: Northern Half*, cover the section of the track that passes through the reserve. These are available for purchase from CALM offices, the Bibbulmun Track Foundation and some bookstores.

Contact the Bibbulmun Track Foundation on (08) 9481 0551 for details about events, planning advice, guided walks and walk packages or visit www.bibbulmuntrack.org.au.

Who was Lane-Poole?

The reserve is named after C. E. Lane-Poole, WA's first Conservator of Forests and a devoted conservationist.

Before the Forests Act was passed in 1918, there was no legislation to control the amount of timber cut, or where and how it could be cut, or to provide for the regeneration of the forest after the mills had finished in an area.

No information had been gathered on the extent of the forest, or the amount of timber that could be taken without reducing the size of the forest. Exploitation was the cry of the day, and land cleared by sawmilling operations was generally turned over to agriculture.

In 1918 Lane-Poole saw the disastrous consequences of 70 years of uncontrolled felling and realised that, without regulation, the forest would be devastated within a generation.

He then set about formulating forest management regulations to reduce the amount of cutting to a level the forest could withstand. To make his plans a reality it was essential that all remaining forest areas be dedicated as State forest by Parliament, and that forest officers were given the legal power to enforce management regulations on the mill owners.



Against powerful opposition from sawmilling and commercial interests, Lane-Poole pushed for legislation, laying the foundations for management aimed at conserving rather than exploiting the forest. Without his efforts, and those of his successors, it is highly likely that there would be little forest for any purpose left to us today.



ABOVE Adventurers get into their canoes on the start of a trip on the Murray River. Photo – Alex Bowlay/CALM

Canoeing and rafting

Canoeing is best in spring when water levels are high enough for easy passage, the wildflowers are out and the weather is warming up.

All sections of the Murray River are suitable for canoeing, but rafting is limited (see map on page 8). Conditions on some sections of the river will vary according to the season.

Protective safety equipment is recommended, as well as letting someone know where you plan to go canoeing.

Always use one of the many canoe launch sites marked on the map to keep bank erosion to a minimum.

Canoeing brochures are available from the Department of Sport and Recreation, or CALM.

Fishing on the Murray

The Murray River, and some of its permanent tributaries, are home to WA's delicious freshwater crayfish, marron, as well as rainbow trout, redfin perch and cobbler.

Closed seasons, bag limits and minimum legal sizes help protect stocks from over-fishing so the available catch can be shared between the thousands of fishers who target these species.

You must have a fishing licence, issued by the Department of Fisheries, if you wish to fish for these species. Licences are available from any Australia Post Office, or the Department of Fisheries. Contact the Department of Fisheries in Mandurah on (08) 9535 1240 or fax (08) 9581 5115.

Walk trails

King Jarrah Walk

Where: Starts at Nanga Mill running south along the North Junction formation.

Distance: 18 km

Time to complete: 6 hours

Markers: Black hiker on yellow triangle.

Why: An enjoyable walk, which takes you through a lovely section of jarrah forest with river views along the way.

Chuditch Walk Trail

Where: Starts at Nanga Mill and runs through to the Nanga townsite and back again.

Distance: 1.5 km

Time to complete: 90 minutes

Markers: Red hiker on yellow triangle.

Why: Provides a picturesque walk through the old mill and townsite areas of Nanga.



Murray Valley Circuit

Where: Three starting points at various sections along the walk circuit – railway crossing in Dwellingup, Scarp Pool and the Nanga Mill opposite the trout ladder on Murray Valley Road.

Distance: 46 km

Time to complete: 3 days

Markers: Green hikers on yellow triangle.

Why: Excellent opportunity to see beautiful scenery, heritage and cultural locations, the Murray River, and to view the native flora and fauna of the area.

Bridle trails

The Les Couzens Bridle Trail begins at the town oval in Dwellingup and covers a loop of 24 km down to the Murray River at Baden Powell, and back to town.

Detailed maps are available from CALM's Dwellingup office.



ABOVE Cyclists enjoy the Marrinup Cycle Trail. Photo – CALM

Mountain bike trails

Marrinup Cycle Trail

The trail begins at the Marrinup townsite carpark, heading north-east next to Freeman Road and is marked at regular intervals along the way.

The trail is rated as easy for beginners and family groups and offers the choice of a five or 10 km loop.

For information about more competitive trails, contact CALM's Dwellingup office, or the Peel and Districts Mountain Bike Club in Mandurah.

Munda Biddi Trail

Stage One of the Munda Biddi Trail, the 330 km section of the bike track from Mundaring to Collie, is already popular among cyclists – especially in the Lane Poole Reserve.

When complete, the Munda Biddi Trail will extend 1000 km from Mundaring to Albany and is predicted to become one of the world's most renowned wilderness cycling trails and an important eco-tourism attraction.

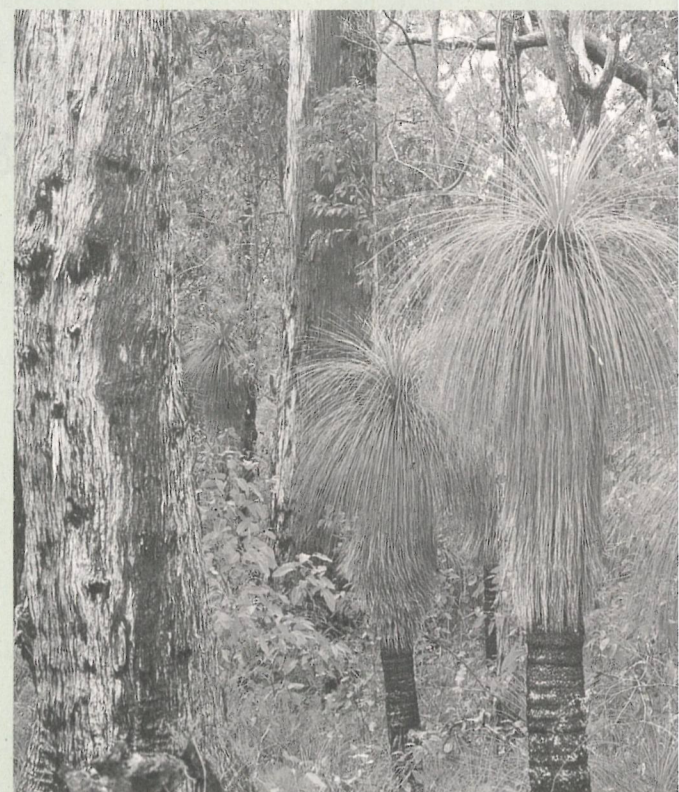
Marrinup tour

A unique, 16 km vehicle and walk tour through the jarrah forest, including the site of WA's only Prisoner of War camp.

You can also inspect bauxite mining and rehabilitation work, learn about dieback and see the natural beauty of the Marrinup and Oakley Brook catchments.

Ask at CALM's Dwellingup office for a tour guidebook.

LEFT Chuditch in their nest. Photo – Babs and Bert Wells/CALM



ABOVE Balga trees are a common feature. Photo – CALM

Nanga Heritage Circuit

The Nanga Heritage Circuit winds through high quality jarrah forest and river valley along a network of timber tramways, steam train tracks and trestle bridges.

The circuit begins and ends at Nanga townsite, following a loop of about 50 km that takes three to four hours to complete.

There is a southern extension for those who want to continue south along the river. The link can be made at point eight on the heritage circuit by turning left on Driver Road, and then onto Muddy Landing Road. This then follows the river south down to Tumlo pine plantation and the Harvey/Quindanning Road.

On track

WA's longest walking trail, the 1000 km Bibbulmun Track, passes through Lane Poole Reserve as it winds from Kalamunda, on the outskirts of Perth, to Albany.

The Dwellingup section is 140 km from north of Albany Highway to Dwellingup itself and on to the Harvey/Quindanning Road. It takes in some spectacular views along the way, from the rocky outcrops of the White Horse Hills in the north, to the Murray River in the south.

Just north of Dwellingup, the track follows the largely disused Dwellingup to Boddington rail line. The rail line from the Etmilyn Siding to Dwellingup is used occasionally by the Hotham Valley Tourist Railway, and it's possible to make a day's outing from Dwellingup by taking the train one way and walking the other.

There are timber huts spaced by a day's walk, each with its own facilities – a barbecue, toilets, table, tent sites and water. Designated vehicle drop-off zones have been nominated along the track to enable people to enjoy shorter one, two and three-day walks.

The track is named after an Aboriginal language group known as the Bibbulmun, who inhabited some of the areas through which the track passes, and is marked by a stylised image of the Waugal, or rainbow serpent, an Aboriginal spirit.

Detailed maps and books are available from all CALM offices or CALM's NatureBase website at www.naturebase.net and some book stores.

Care for your environment

Leave nothing but footprints, take nothing but memories...

Leave no trace is the key to leaving campsites and the surrounding environment and vegetation in the same condition as you found them.

It should be your goal to leave them in better condition than before you passed by:

- Disposing of waste properly.
- Carrying a bag for your rubbish.
- Carrying your rubbish out.
- Not burying waste at campsites – pack it out.
- If there are no toilets, burying human waste 15 cm deep and at least 100 m away from any water source.
- Carrying a map and if you're going on a long hike, informing someone at home and at CALM of your intentions.
- Being aware of all the restrictions relating to the areas in which you're staying.

Park rangers often see the damage caused by visitors.

Campfires can cause problems, as can rubbish left by visitors.

After busy times, some campsites look like the aftermath at the showgrounds and not a secluded bush camp.

Native animals can be seriously affected by litter left behind at campsites. Traces of food and their odours may cause small pieces of rubbish to be swallowed, resulting in serious injuries or death. Aluminium cans and plastic bags can be particularly hazardous for curious snakes and lizards.

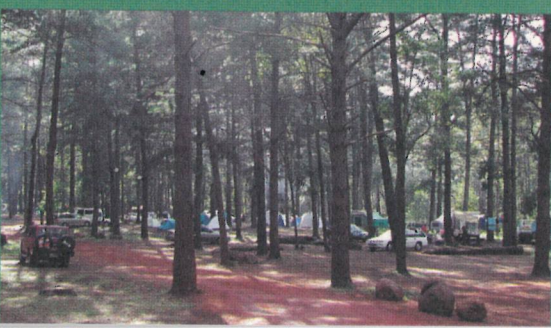
All parks and reserves are wonderful natural assets. Take the time to look after the environment and these beautiful natural areas will remain attractive for many generations to come.

Bring your own firewood

Dead logs, twigs, leaves and branches are an important resource for many species including spiders, reptiles and insects. These in turn support animals such as birds, echidnas and small marsupials.

Some areas in Lane Poole Reserve are under threat because visitors are continuously collecting dead wood for their fires faster than it can accumulate naturally. Wood collection within the reserve is not permitted.

Please bring your own firewood to use in the reserve on days when open wood fires are allowed (see page 7). Firewood is for sale in Dwellingup (look for signs) for about \$5 a bag, and is available from Public Firewood Areas (contact CALM's Dwellingup office for details). It is an offence to take firewood from State Forest or within Lane Poole Reserve.



ABOVE After busy times, some campsites look like the aftermath of a concert rather than a secluded bush camp. Photo – Alex Bowlay/CALM



ABOVE Try to leave everything in a better state than you found it and take your rubbish home with you. Don't be like the people who left this mess. Photo – Ingrid Hunt/CALM

Back from the brink

Foxes and cats are making a meal of WA's wildlife.

These foreign predators have already contributed to the extinction of 10 native mammals and another 31 animal species are threatened, surviving in low numbers with six of them found only on islands.

But, thanks to CALM's *Western Shield* program – the world's largest campaign against feral predators – foxes have been successfully controlled in many areas, enabling native animals to be saved from the effects of introduced species and returned to their former habitats.

The *Western Shield* program is being operated in areas all around the State – in the north from Cape Range National Park near Exmouth to Peron Peninsula at Shark Bay, in the south from the South-West forests to the south coast and the edge of the Wheatbelt, and inland to the arid regions.

The program has several elements, which include the largest ever undertaking of fox baiting and substantial research into feral cat control. 1080, a naturally-occurring toxin, is used in the fox baits and is lethal to introduced predators. Baiting takes place on more than 3.5 million hectares of CALM-managed land.

Several native animal species have been returned to their former ranges because of the success of fox control under *Western Shield*.

CALM has established a number of captive breeding programs, in collaboration with other agencies such as Perth Zoo and private wildlife carers, for animals whose numbers are extremely low in the wild.

Monitoring the impact of baiting shows that WA's fauna emblem, the numbat, has been brought back from the brink of extinction.

Another three threatened species, the woylie, quenda and tamar wallaby have increased in abundance to the point where they have been taken off State and Commonwealth lists of threatened animals – a first on mainland Australia.



ABOVE The feral cat, one of Australia's worst introduced predators. Photo – Babs and Bert Wells/CALM



ABOVE The western grey kangaroo, one of the creatures in Lane Poole Reserve. Photo – Babs and Bert Wells/CALM

LEFT One of the camping spots at Lane Poole Reserve. Photo – Alex Bowlay/CALM

Unlikely companions

Two unlikely companions share the forest in this area – Alcoa World Alumina Australia and the noisy scrub-bird.

Alcoa mines bauxite in two locations in the Darling Range – Huntley and Willowdale – to supply the ore to its three alumina refineries in WA. In bushland at Willowdale, not far from the crushing plant, CALM has reintroduced one of the State's rarest animals, the noisy scrub-bird. It is now back in an area where it was first discovered 150 years ago by collector John Gilbert.

The sudden disappearance of the noisy scrub-bird in the early 1900s concerned ornithologists. Extensive searches could find no further record of the species and it was thought to be extinct until it was rediscovered in 1961 at Two Peoples Bay, near Albany.

Male scrub-birds were reintroduced to Willowdale in 1997 and, encouraged by their progress, females were released a year later. From 1997 to 2003, 80 noisy scrub-birds were released in the Darling Range. Four of the eight release sites are within the Willowdale mining area.

At Willowdale, excavators and loaders fill 85 tonne trucks with ore that is transported to a mobile crusher prior to the 19 km conveyor belt journey to the Wagerup refinery. After mining, the area is rehabilitated, topsoil is replaced and

contour ripped to ensure good tree root penetration, water infiltration and erosion control.

Alcoa's aim is to return a self-sustaining jarrah forest ecosystem to mined areas and restore the same number of plant species prior to mining. Typically, this is achieved by returning fresh topsoil, maximising the number of plant species in the seed mix, and hand planting species that produce little or no viable seed.

It was this kind of commitment that led to the establishment of the CALM/Alcoa Forest Enhancement (CAFE) fund in 1994. The fund finances conservation and recreation projects in northern forests and, from 2001 to 2003, supported the noisy scrub-bird reintroduction project. The CAFE fund committee, which consists of representatives from CALM and Alcoa, is responsible for allocating the funds. Most of the funding for the noisy scrub-bird project was spent on habitat management at release sites, improving firebreaks and protecting sites from wildfires.

Other programs in the region have also benefited from funds generated by bauxite mining. Alcoa is also a major sponsor of *Operation Foxglove*, CALM's *Western Shield* fauna recovery program, which works to bring native mammals back from the brink of extinction by controlling feral predators such as foxes and cats.



TOP The noisy scrub-bird found in the Lane Poole Reserve. Photo – Babs and Bert Wells/CALM

ABOVE The habitat favoured by the noisy scrub-bird. Photo – CALM



ABOVE The Forest Heritage Centre. Photo – CALM

Leafy sanctuary in the trees

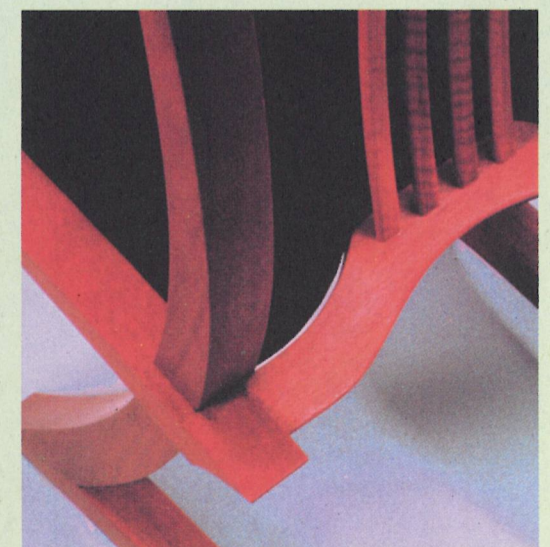
The leaf-shaped buildings of Dwellingup's Forest

Heritage Centre in the jarrah forest contain timber industry machinery, a museum of social, industrial and natural history, and a working school of fine wood crafting.

The centre gives visitors the chance to increase their awareness and understanding of WA's forest heritage and the ways it can be most effectively conserved, managed and used. The focus of the centre is to cater for environmental and community education, industry training, tourism and recreation, and accommodation.

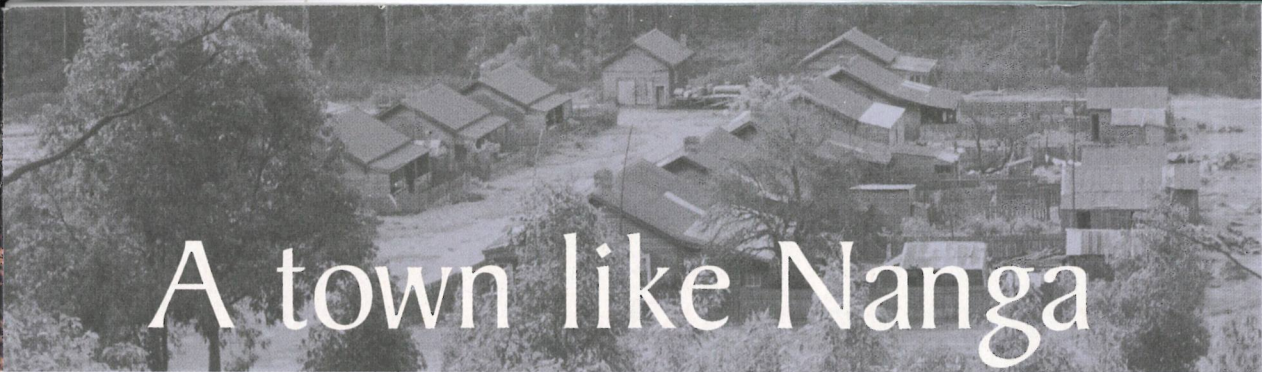
The centre is managed by an independent board as a non-profit making venture and is funded by private enterprise, State, Commonwealth and local government agencies.

Make sure you spend enough time in Dwellingup to wander through this amazing facility.



TOP A Forest Heritage Centre student learns the craft of making beautiful timber furniture. Photo – Chris Garnett/CALM

ABOVE Fine furniture is made by Forest Heritage Centre students. Photo – Eddie Resera



A town like Nanga

ABOVE Nanga townsite. Photo – CALM

The once-thriving timber town of Nanga is now a quiet camping ground.

The signs of Nanga's past are largely absent, due to a mill fire in 1941 and the infamous bushfire that destroyed the townsite in 1961. But, if you look closely, you might see some rose bushes, bougainvilleas, poplars and old railway formations that give clues to the area's past.

Timber was taken from the Nanga Brook region from as early as 1898. In 1902 a lease was granted to Millars Karri and Jarrah Company to establish a mill on the banks of the Murray River. The Nanga Mill was the biggest timber centre in the area for many years, employing more than 100 men.

The Nanga townsite came into existence in 1909.

There was a store, a butcher's shop, a hall, a billiard room and a school, although only six children attended in 1923. By 1940 this had increased to 100 and the town had acquired three tennis courts and a sports oval.

Millars Company virtually owned everything, even the houses. Nanga had 56 homes in the main town along with 12 single men's huts and a boarding house.

Nanga Brook, along with other WA milling communities, was severely affected by the First World War. Production dropped off and with only five people left to operate the mill, it was forced to close between 1914 and 1919. After the war and throughout the 1920s, production improved until the Depression.

Life was difficult during this period. Food was

expensive and families had to survive on seven shillings (about 70 cents) per week. Many of the mill hands left Nanga never to return and production was reduced to one-sixth of its former rate. World War II saw mass enlistment and the mill was forced to function on half crew. In 1941 the mill burnt down; arson was suspected.

A much smaller mill requiring only 16 employees was then built. This considerably reduced employment prospects and very few mill workers returned to Nanga.

Nanga Brook continued to function throughout the 1940s and 50s, but was slowly dying, unable to compete with the mill at nearby Dwellingup.

In 1961, the Dwellingup fire incinerated the town and devastated the countryside. In 1962, the Governor General declared the town of Nanga would no longer exist.

The area was replanted with pines by the then Forests Department and has become a popular camping and picnic spot.



ABOVE A reminder of the threat posed by wildfires — the remains of Dwellingup after the devastating 1961 wildfire. Photo – CALM

Why can't I light a fire, and what's that plane doing?

Open wood fires cannot be lit during the prohibited fire season from 15 December to 15 March because of the dry, windy and hot climate, and dangerous fire conditions.

A 24-hour total fire ban may also apply on any day outside this period when the forecast issued by the Bureau of Meteorology is 'Very High' or 'Extreme'.

On days of Very High or Extreme fire danger, you can cook with gas appliances at designated sites, if all combustible material has been cleared for at least a five metre radius around the cooker. Or, you can visit the Chuditch camping area where CALM has provided gas barbecues and hotplates.

Fire weather forecasts are issued daily by the Bureau of Meteorology and broadcast on radio. Roadside fire hazard signs also indicate the daily forecast. During the summer, check with the local CALM or shire offices before lighting a fire. Please observe fire ban signs and fire danger boards at all times.

Each summer, wildfires started by lightning strikes and people (either accidentally or deliberately) cause varying degrees of damage to forests, people and property.

CALM has a program of early detection to help control wildfires and minimise damage, based on lookout towers and spotter aircrafts.

One of the first fire lookout towers built after the Forests Department was established in 1919 was located at Dwellingup. A network of towers and lookout trees eventually extended across the South-West forests.

The first trial using aircraft to spot fires was carried out in the summer of 1972-73 and aerial surveillance is now a regular part of CALM's fire detection operations. You'll certainly hear the planes if you visit Lane Poole during the summer.

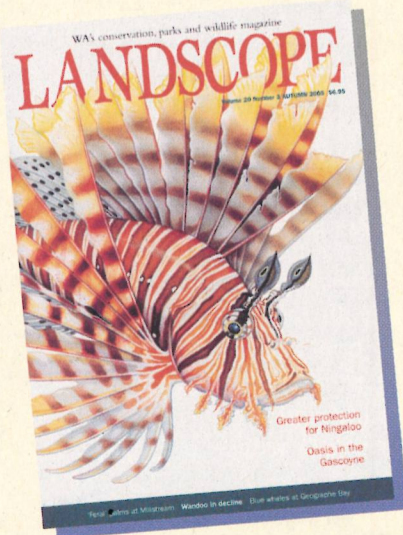


ABOVE A spotter's plane in action. Photo – CALM

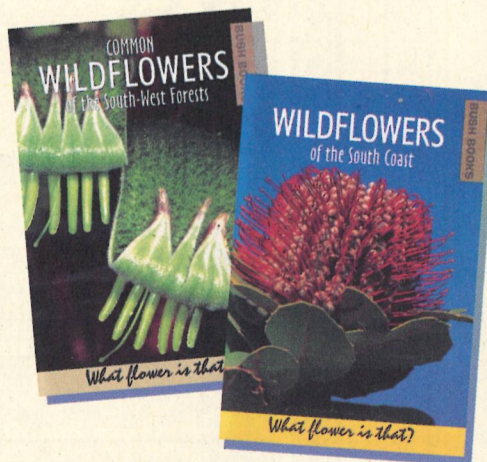
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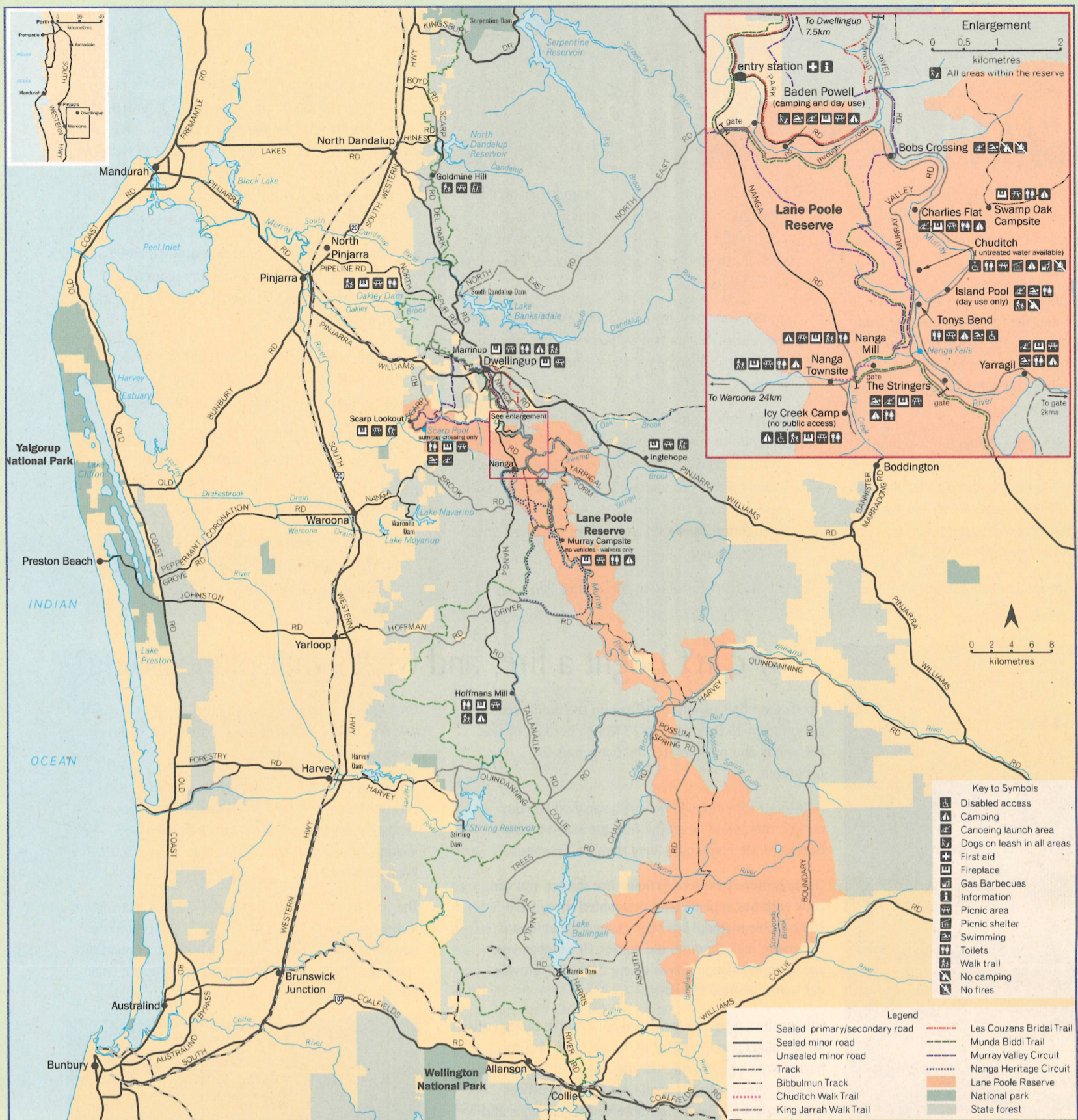


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Guide to Lane Poole Reserve



Where is it?	Toilets	Picnic tables	Barbecues	Bins	Tap water	Swimming	Fishing	Canoeing	Picnic area	Walk trails	Individual campsites	Campgrounds	Steps down to water	Concrete river crossing	Day-use facilities	What to do?	Other information
Baden Powell campground	9.5 km from Dwellingup and 2 km from entry station on Park Road	*	*	*	*	*	*	*				*				Swimming, canoeing	Can be very busy during holidays and weekends
Baden Powell day-use area	9 km from Dwellingup	*	*	*	*	*	*	*					*		*	Swimming, fishing, canoeing, picnicking, bushwalking	No camping
Bob's Crossing	12.5 km from Dwellingup and 5 km from entry station on River Road					*	*	*						*		Swimming, fishing, canoe pickup and drop-off - 10 minute parking area	Concrete river crossing provides access to Nanga Mill and Stringers except when the river floods. No camping
Charlie's Flat	14.5 km from Dwellingup and 7 km from entry station on River Road	*	*	*	*	*	*	*			*	*				Camping, swimming, fishing, canoeing	Not suitable for large groups
Island Pool day-use area	16.5 km from Dwellingup and 9 km from entry station on River Road	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	Swimming, fishing, canoeing, bushwalking	No camping
Tony's Bend	17 km from Dwellingup and 9.5 km from entry station on River Road	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*				Swimming, fishing, canoeing, bushwalking	Not suitable for large groups
Nanga Mill	18.5 km from Dwellingup and 11 km from entry on Park Road via Bob's Crossing	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*			*	Camping, bushwalking, short walk to river	Suitable for larger groups and vans
Nanga townsite	13.5 km from Dwellingup and 6 km from entry via Nanga Road	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*			*	Camping, bushwalking	
Stringers	19 km from Dwellingup and 11.5 km from entry on Park Road via Bob's Crossing	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*			Camping, swimming, fishing, canoeing	
• Yarragil	20 km from Dwellingup and 12.5 km from entry on River Road	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*				Camping, swimming, fishing, canoeing	Not suitable for large groups
Chuditch	16 km from Dwellingup and 8.5 km from entry on Park Road and over Bob's Crossing	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*		Camping, bushwalking, short walk or drive to river	No fire rings provided at Chuditch. Free gas barbecues provided