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Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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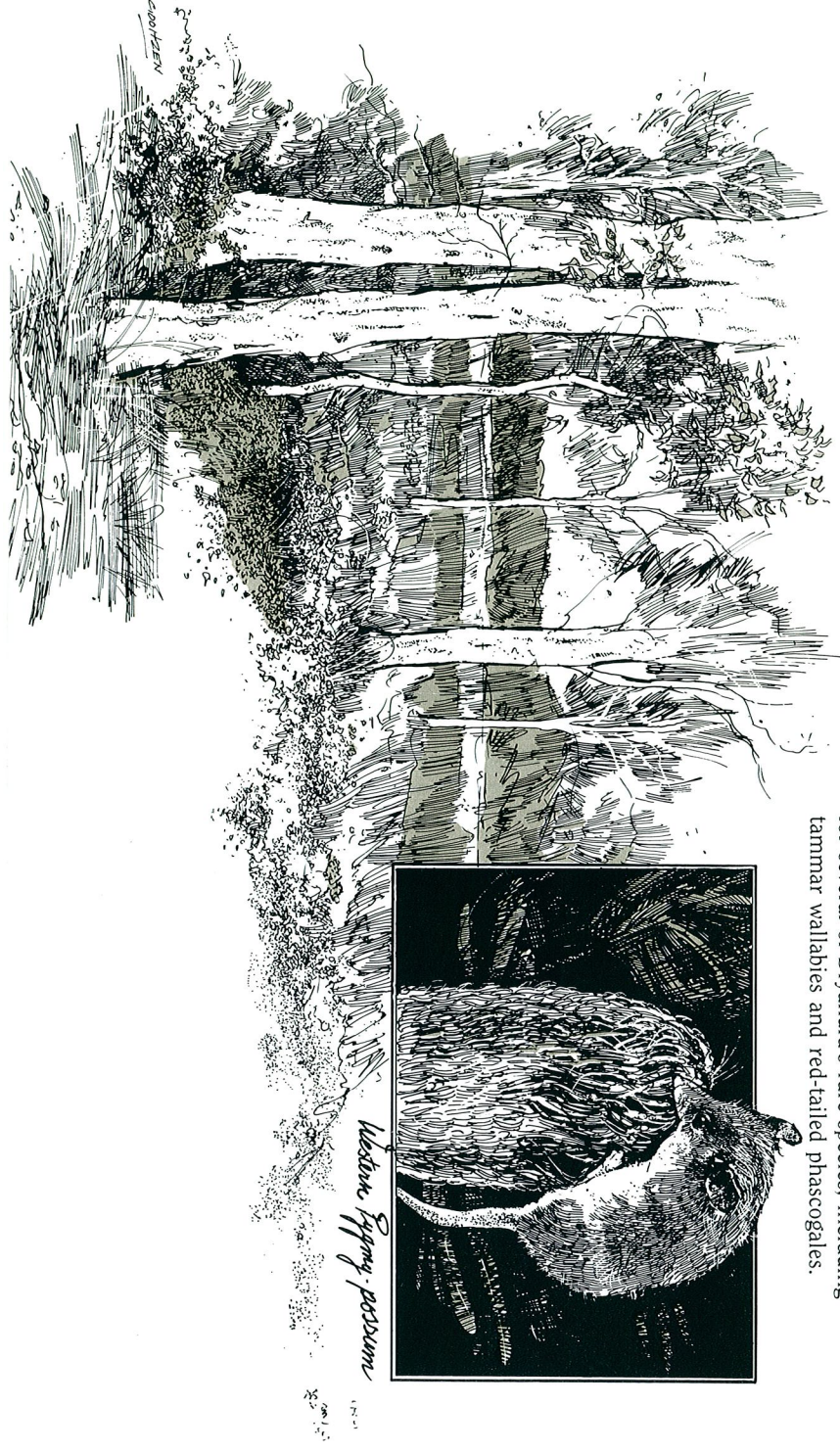
A hundred or so bird species, including the malleefowl, have been recorded in the area. You can hear more about the malleefowl on the Sounds of Dryandra Woodland Drive Trail.

Those who enjoy a quiet walk in the bush may be rewarded with a glimpse of the timid numbat, but to see woylies, tammar wallabies and most of the other mammals in Dryandra, you will need a torch—they only come out at night.

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Dryandra supports 13 species of native ground-dwelling mammals. These include the small kangaroo-like woylie, the tammar wallaby and the numbat, a small striped marsupial that feeds exclusively on termites. These three species have responded dramatically to fox control, although they are still rare elsewhere. CALM is contributing towards the long-term recovery of these and other rare species.

ANIMALS



Isolated areas of mallee and rock sheoak also occur. Thickets of rock sheoak provide habitat for several of Dryandra's rare species, including tammar wallabies and red-tailed phascogales.

The plateaus also contain pockets of jarrah, often associated with kwongan—the Aboriginal word for heath and shrublands. Kwongan is renowned for its brilliant spring displays of large and colourful blooms. The flowers provide food for a wide range of nectar-feeding animals, including insects, honeyeaters, honey possums and pygmy possums.

Open woodlands of wandoo and powderbark, and plantations of brown mallet predominate in Dryandra. The smooth, white-barked trees growing on the lower slopes are wandoo. Powderbark has larger fruits and thicker, rounder buds. It grows on the higher, gravelly slopes and plateaus, and its bark is powdery to touch.

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VEGETATION

DRYANDRA WOODLAND

The Wheatbelt is the most highly disturbed region of Western Australia. Extensive clearing of bushland for farming, and the introduction of exotic plants, diseases and predators such as the fox, have severely depleted the native plants and animals.

The 17 separate bush blocks that make up Dryandra Woodland are among the largest and most valuable for nature conservation in the central western Wheatbelt. Extensive fox control since the mid-1980s has resulted in large increases in the populations of several rare mammals. Some of these species can now readily be seen by visitors, and this, coupled with the high scenic quality of the landscape, makes Dryandra an outstanding area for education and recreation.

SOUNDS OF DRYANDRA WOODLAND

This unique, 25-kilometre radio drive trail is the first of its kind in Western Australia. Short-range, solar-powered transmitters are used to broadcast commentaries as you move from site to site along the trail.

The trail will help you discover the relationships between people and Dryandra Woodland through the years. The sounds of the past come to life with tales of the local Nyoongar Aborigines, early forestry days, bush railways and some of Dryandra's unique wildlife.



Start from the information shelter at the Old Mill Dam and head west, away from the Settlement. Look for this symbol and tune in to the 'Sounds of Dryandra Woodland'.

Numbat symbols and numbers on your map correspond to the locations of sites along the trail. At each posted site, stop your car and tune your radio to 100 FM.

Kangaroos, birds, numbats and reptiles cross the roads in Dryandra, so please travel carefully and give them right of way.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

CALM officers are always glad to help you. Do not hesitate to contact them if you need information or assistance.

Narrogin District Office
PO Box 100
Hough Street
Narrogin WA 6312
Phone: (098) 81 1113

State Headquarters
50 Hayman Road
Como WA 6152
Phone: (09) 334 0333



ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is available at the Settlement. For information contact:
Lions Dryandra Village Inc.
Phone: (098) 84 5231

REMEMBER

- ❖ **Be clean:** Put your litter in bins, or better still, take it with you.
- ❖ **Be cool:** Take care with fires. Light fires in constructed fireplaces only. Use gas BBQs wherever possible.
- ❖ **Protect animals and plants:** Wildflower picking, pets and firearms are not permitted.
- ❖ **Stay on the road:** Normal road rules apply. Please stay on formed tracks and roads. Observe all closures.

DRYANDRA WOODLAND



VISITOR INFORMATION AND TRAIL GUIDE

WALKS AND TRAILS

CALM has developed a series of great walks and trails for you to enjoy by foot, bicycle, horseback or in the comfort of your car. They vary in length from one to more than 25 kilometres, and cover most of the features in the area. Times given are generous to allow for maximum enjoyment.

NOTE: There is no water available on any of the walks or trails. Please make sure you carry sufficient water when attempting any of the longer walks, especially in summer (at least two litres per person in summer or one litre per person in cooler months). Drinking water is available at the Settlement.

A. THE OCHRE TRAIL

Discover the Aboriginal heritage of Dryandra. Signs along the way help explain the special relationship between the Nyoongar people and the natural environment. Walkers only.



Distance: 5 km return
Time: 2 hr
Grade: medium

B. WOYLIE WALK

This trail takes you through a number of different vegetation types, including woodlands of powderbark and jarrah, kwongan heathlands and mallet plantations. One of the highlights is a thick stand of rock sheoak, featuring a lush fern understory in winter. Look for the diggings and scratchings of woylies in this area. Start at the Old Mill Dam picnic area.



Distance: 5.5 km return
Time: 2 hr
Grade: medium

C. WANDOO WALK

Dryandra's bird life is best illustrated on this short walk through a wandoo woodland. You can extend the walk if you wish. Start at the Old Mill Dam picnic area. Walkers only.



Distance: 1 km return
(extended walk 4 km)
Time: 30 min (or 1.5 hr)
Grade: easy-medium

D. KAWANA ROAD WALK

The section of this walk that follows Kawana Road is one of the best places in Dryandra to view kangaroos and brush wallabies. If you are lucky, you might even see a malleefowl. Start near the tennis court in the Settlement.



Distance: 8 km return
(2.7 km for first section only)
Time: 2.5 hr (or 45 min)
Grade: easy

E. LOL GRAY TRAIL

This trail takes you to the Lol Gray picnic area and back. The main features of the trail are the diversity of the vegetation types (including a magnificent stand of rock sheoak), the old Lol Gray fire tower, and the great views over Dryandra from near the tower. Kangaroos are often seen immediately east of the Wandering Road. Start near the tennis court in the Settlement or at the Lol Gray picnic area.



Distance: 12.5 km return
Time: 4 hr
Grade: medium

F. LOL GRAY LOOP

Follow the old telegraph line down the hill from the Lol Gray picnic area. Note the many coppiced powderbarks on the south side of the track, and the large dead trees that were ringbarked during the establishment of the mallet plantations. The walk also features a patch of kwongan, where there is always something interesting in flower. Small possums and honeyeaters find these flowers irresistible. Start at the Lol Gray picnic area. Walkers only.



Distance: 3.2 km return
Time: 1 hr
Grade: medium-difficult (steep sections)

G. CONTINE BRIDLE TRAIL

This trail has been designated specifically for horse riding. It takes in some of the outer blocks of Dryandra, surrounding farmland, mallet plantations and wandoo woodland. Start at the Contine Hill picnic area.



Distance: 27 km return
Time: 5 hr (on horseback)
Grade: easy

H. SOUNDS OF DRYANDRA WOODLAND DRIVE TRAIL

1. THE NYOONGAR WAY

Nyoongar Aborigines are thought to have occupied this region for about 40 000 years. Discover how their intimate knowledge of the bush helped them in their day to day lives.

2. BACK FROM THE BRINK

Why did numbats reach the brink of extinction? How are they faring today? Discover the secret of their amazing recovery.

3. BUSH FIRE!

In the 1930s, a series of towers were built in the tops of the tallest trees to help locate fires that threatened the mallet plantations. Hear the story of one woman on firewatch duty.

4. DAYS OF STEAM

In the early days, huge quantities of water were required not only for people in bush towns, but also for the steam engines that serviced them. Discover how Congelin Dam played its part in early rail transport.

5. FROM TANNIN TO TOOL HANDLES

The demands of the tannin industry in the 1930s led to widespread mallet planting in the Dryandra area. Competition from synthetic products in the 1950s saw the tannin market collapse, yet the demand for mallet products continues. Discover how mallet is used today.

6. THE INCUBATOR BIRD

Observe the impressive handiwork of the malleefowl and discover its unusual lifestyle. Find out how we can safeguard the future of this amazing bird and other woodland creatures, while benefiting agriculture, industry and the local community.

NOTE: Numbers relate to the stops as marked on the map below.

