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Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

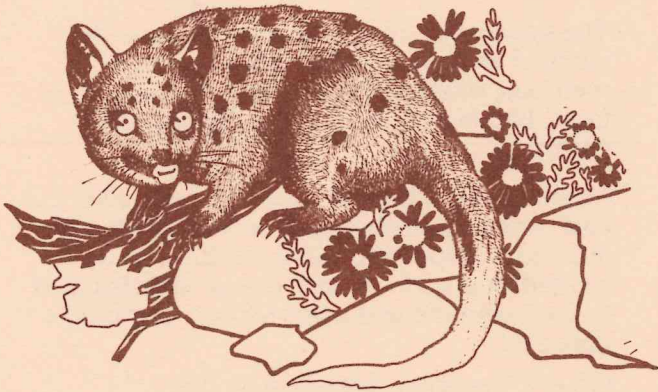
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Accommodation and Facilities

Accommodation and facilities are provided for 16 people in a house with a kitchen and three bedrooms; two transportable sleeping units; a large workroom; and an ablution block.

Cooking facilities include gas stoves and a wood stove. Cooking utensils, pots, pans, cutlery and crockery etc. are provided.

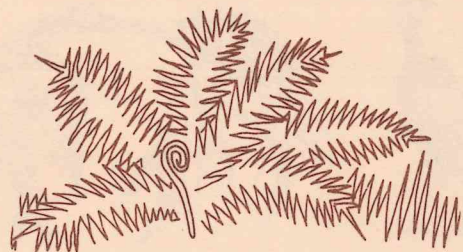
The ablution block has four showers and four toilets and is serviced by a wood fuelled hot water system, and a rainwater storage tank.



Field equipment includes a range of different traps including possum cage traps, Elliot traps, pit traps with drift fences, insect traps, bat traps and mist nets for birds. Radio tracking equipment and binoculars are also available.

The workshop area houses microscopes and other laboratory equipment, herbarium, specimens, displays and audio visual equipment.

There is a telephone at the Field Study Centre for emergency communications.

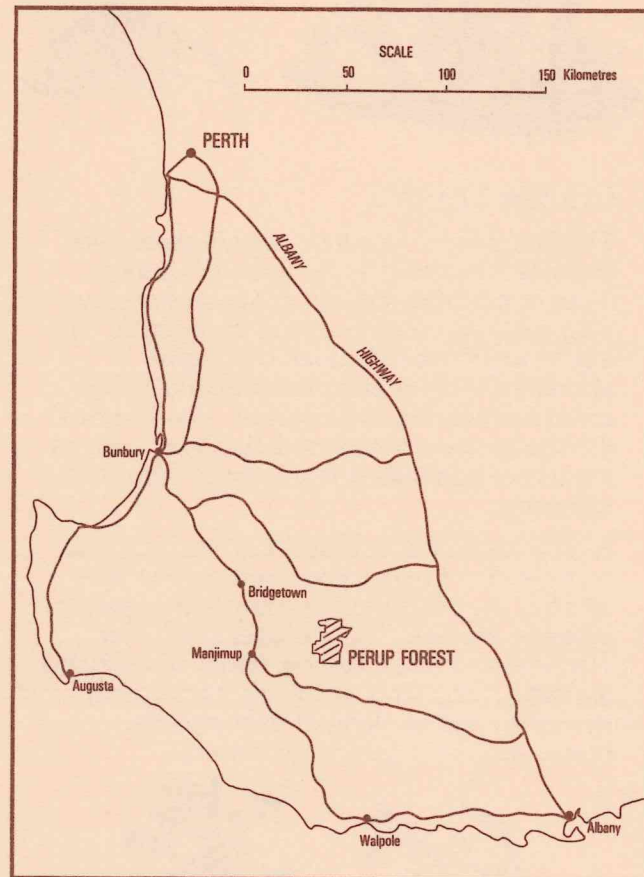


General Information

Participants need to bring their own bedding (including pillow and blankets), a towel and washing and shaving equipment, clothes and boots suitable for field work, effective wet weather gear and very warm clothing for night work. Additional useful equipment includes camera, binoculars, field guides to flora and fauna, rubber boots and more warm clothing.

Further Information

For further information please contact the Information Branch, Department of Conservation and Land Management, Perth, on (09) 367 0333 or Manjimup on (097) 71 1988.

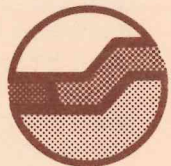


Perup Forest Ecology Study Centre



Field Course Brochure

Department of Conservation
and Land Management



Location and Background

The Perup Forest east of Manjimup has one of the best populations of native fauna in the south-west. In its 40000 ha of jarrah forest and wandoo woodland, it also contains one of the largest known populations of the rare and endangered woylie or rat-tailed kangaroo.

The entire forest has been set aside by the Department of Conservation and Land Management for the study of forest animals and their management. Large-scale ecological studies have been carried out there since the early 1970s and a wealth of knowledge has been accumulated on the animals and their habitat.

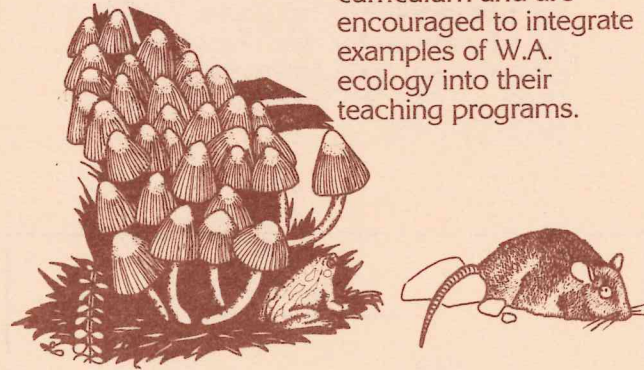


The Perup Forest Ecology Field Study Centre located in the forest is used by Conservation and Land Management research workers, as well as other researchers. The short course in field ecology methods offered at the Centre is designed to cater for teachers, naturalists and interested laymen. It consists primarily of field work and is designed so that the data collected by participants contributes to the overall research effort and the long term study of fauna and flora populations of the area.

Why Field Courses?

One of the attractions of ecology lies in the nature study aspect of the subject. In attempting to interest students in this subject, teachers are often handicapped by their limited practical experience. This course introduces teachers to the practical aspects of ecology and the application of ecological methods in the field. Teachers will have the opportunity to investigate ways in which the field ecology techniques can be related to their existing

curriculum and are encouraged to integrate examples of W.A. ecology into their teaching programs.



Course Content

The Perup area's greatest natural asset is its animals. Therefore, to do them full justice, most of the study on plants concentrates on their value as cover and food for animals. The way in which plant frequency, density, abundance, cover and other attributes may affect animals is demonstrated. This involves the use of basic botanical techniques such as the use of quadrats, line transects and point sampling.

A great deal of time is spent on the practical aspects of animal ecology, setting trap lines and the use of various trapping techniques for different animals. This includes the correct placement of traps, baiting, handling captured animals, measuring, weighing, ear tagging, recording and booking of data, and the preparation of museum specimens.



The application of special techniques in the study of animals such as radio tracking methods, mist netting for birds, the use of bat traps, bird boxes and spotlighting are all covered.

Methods which require no equipment, such as bird censusing techniques, searching for animals, interpretation of signs etc. are also studied. A portion of each day is also allocated to the treatment and interpretation of the data collected.

On one evening a speaker from the Department of Conservation and Land Management at Manjimup will explain an aspect of forest ecology and management related to the Perup area.

Another component of the course is an educational workshop in which teachers can investigate ways of encouraging environmental awareness in their students as well as developing activities to supplement their existing programs. Informal discussion of teaching methods and the sharing of practical ideas has proved to be one of the benefits of this course.

