

LIBRARY

Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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REMEMBER

BE CAREFUL: Your safety in natural environments is our concern, but your responsibility. **TAKE CARE ON THE COAST.**

BE CLEAN: Put your litter in bins, or better still, take it with you.

BE COOL: Light fires only in the BBQs provided, or bring your own portable gas stove.

PROTECT ANIMALS AND PLANTS: Pets and firearms are not permitted in national parks.

STAY ON THE ROAD: Follow signs in the parks, and stay on the roads marked in this brochure. Normal road rules apply.

FURTHER INFORMATION

National park rangers are always glad to help make your visit more enjoyable and informative. Do not hesitate to contact them if you need information or assistance.

Department of Conservation and Land Management

Torndirrup and West Cape Howe National Parks
PO Box 904, Albany, W.A. 6330.
Ph: (098) 44 4090

William Bay National Park
PO Box 180, Denmark, W.A. 6333.
Ph: (098) 409255

Two People's Bay Nature Reserve
RMB 8609, Albany, W.A. 6330
Ph: (098) 46 4276

Albany Regional Office
44 Serpentine Road
ALBANY, W.A. 6330
Ph: (098) 41 7133

50 Hayman Road, Como, 6152.
Ph: (09) 3670333

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ALBANY- DENMARK COAST NATIONAL PARKS



Torndirrup
William Bay
West Cape Howe
Two People's Bay Nature Reserve



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT W.A.

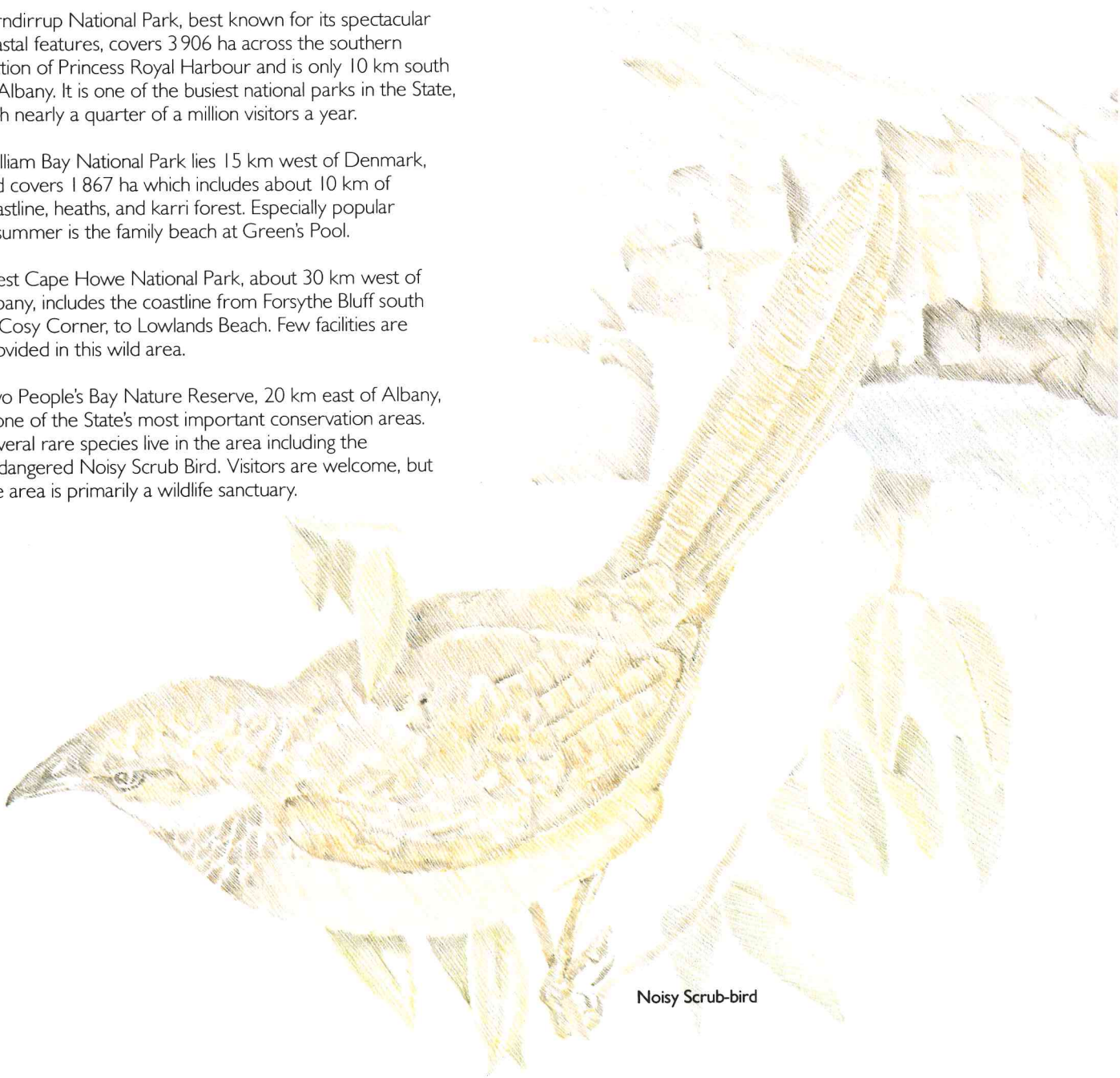
Rugged granite headlands, windswept heaths, sheltered bays: the national parks of the Albany-Denmark coast provide some magnificent locations for both recreation and learning about the environment we live in.

Torndirrup National Park, best known for its spectacular coastal features, covers 3 906 ha across the southern section of Princess Royal Harbour and is only 10 km south of Albany. It is one of the busiest national parks in the State, with nearly a quarter of a million visitors a year.

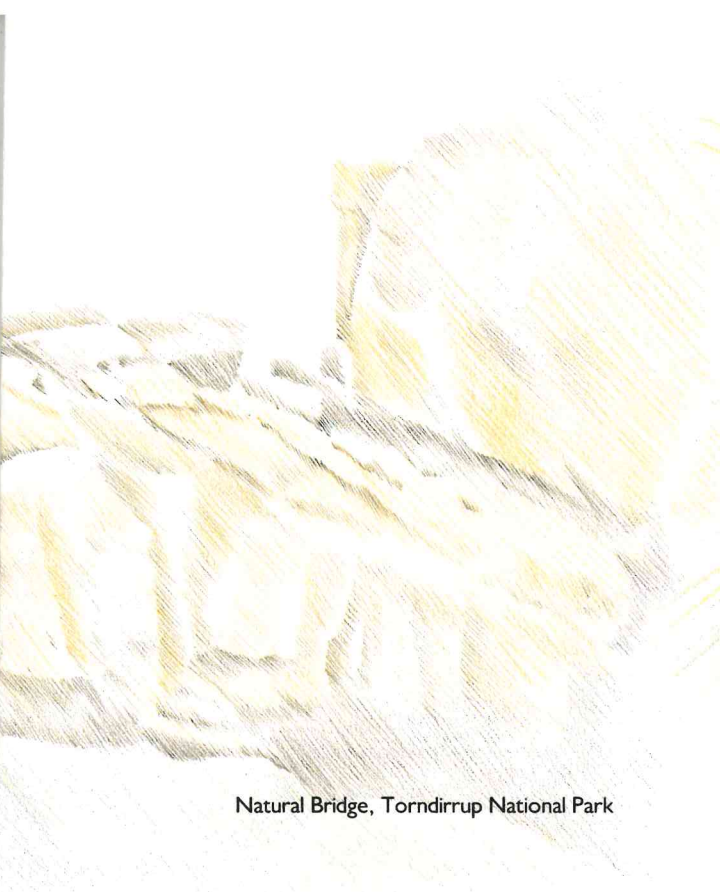
William Bay National Park lies 15 km west of Denmark, and covers 1 867 ha which includes about 10 km of coastline, heaths, and karri forest. Especially popular in summer is the family beach at Green's Pool.

West Cape Howe National Park, about 30 km west of Albany, includes the coastline from Forsythe Bluff south of Cosy Corner, to Lowlands Beach. Few facilities are provided in this wild area.

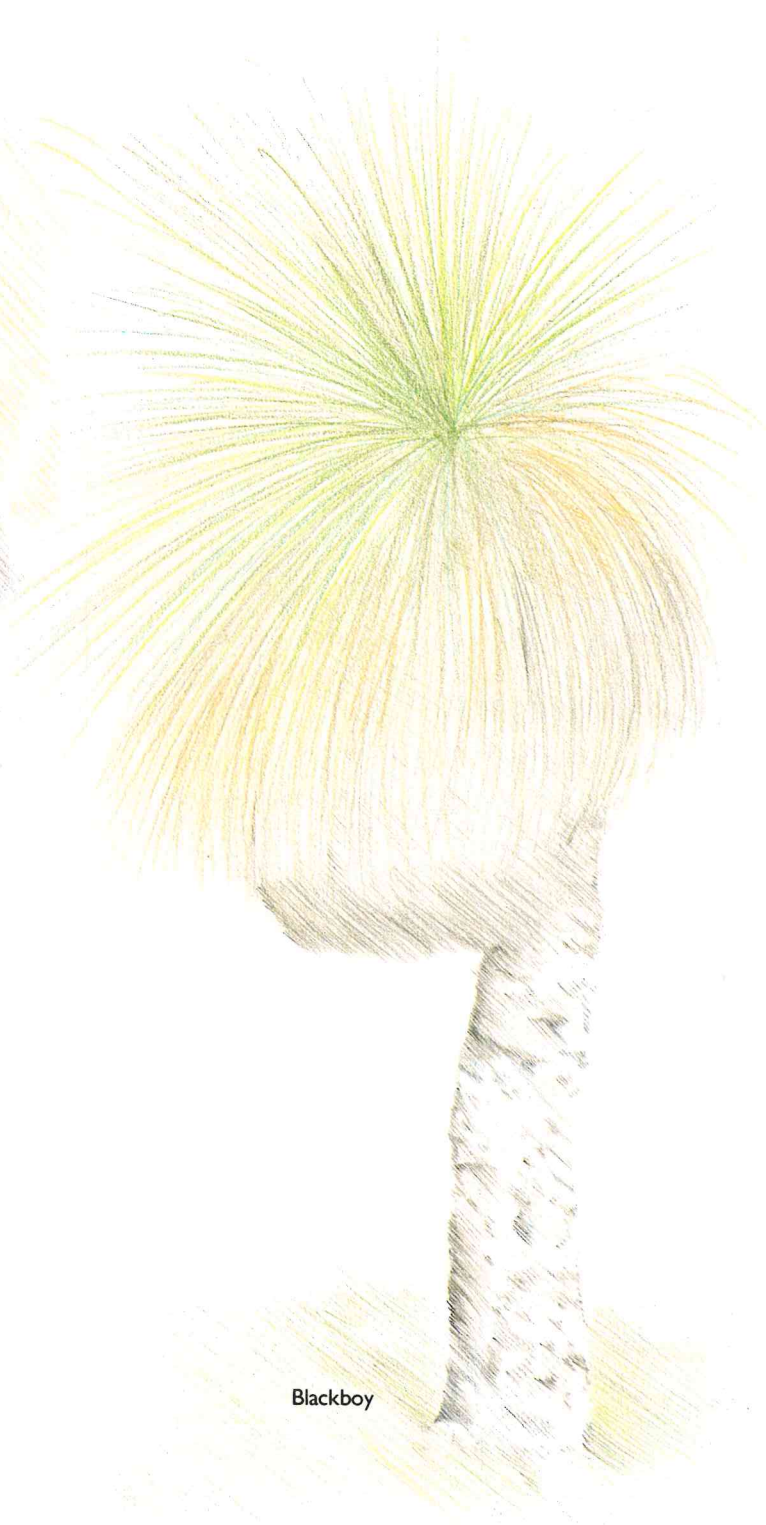
Two People's Bay Nature Reserve, 20 km east of Albany, is one of the State's most important conservation areas. Several rare species live in the area including the endangered Noisy Scrub Bird. Visitors are welcome, but the area is primarily a wildlife sanctuary.



Noisy Scrub-bird



Natural Bridge, Torndirrup National Park



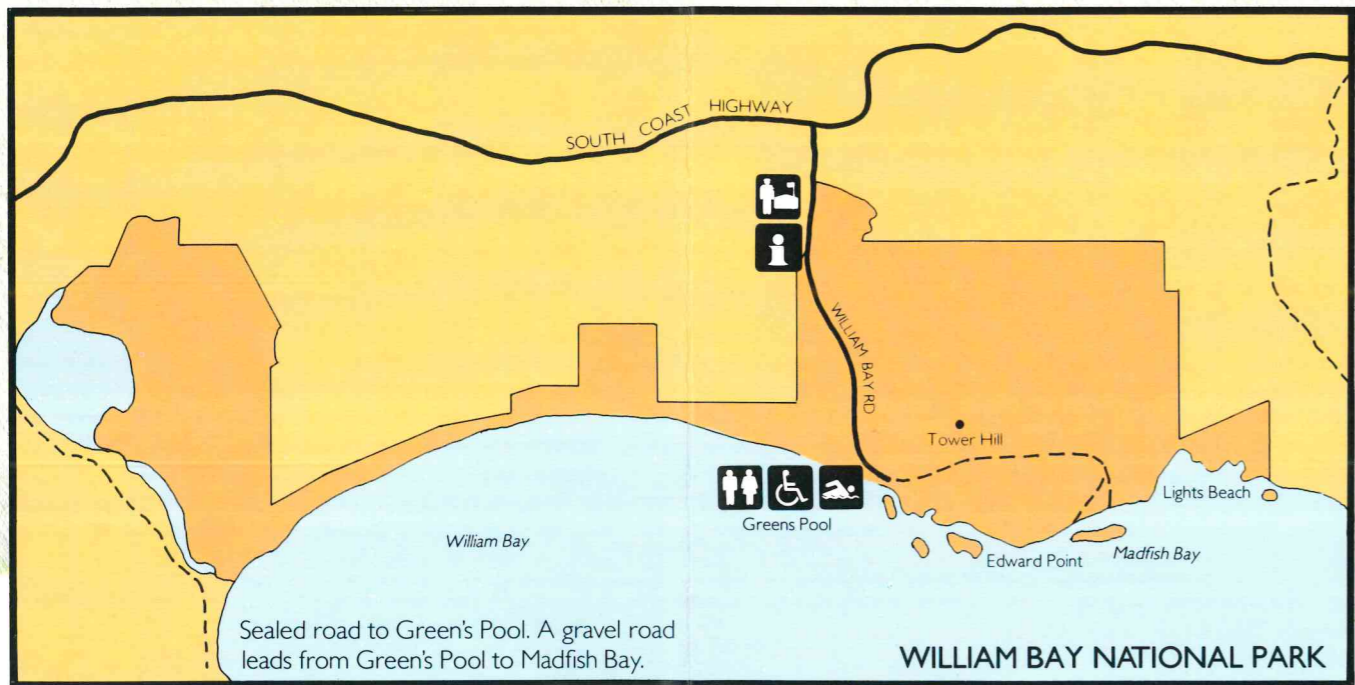
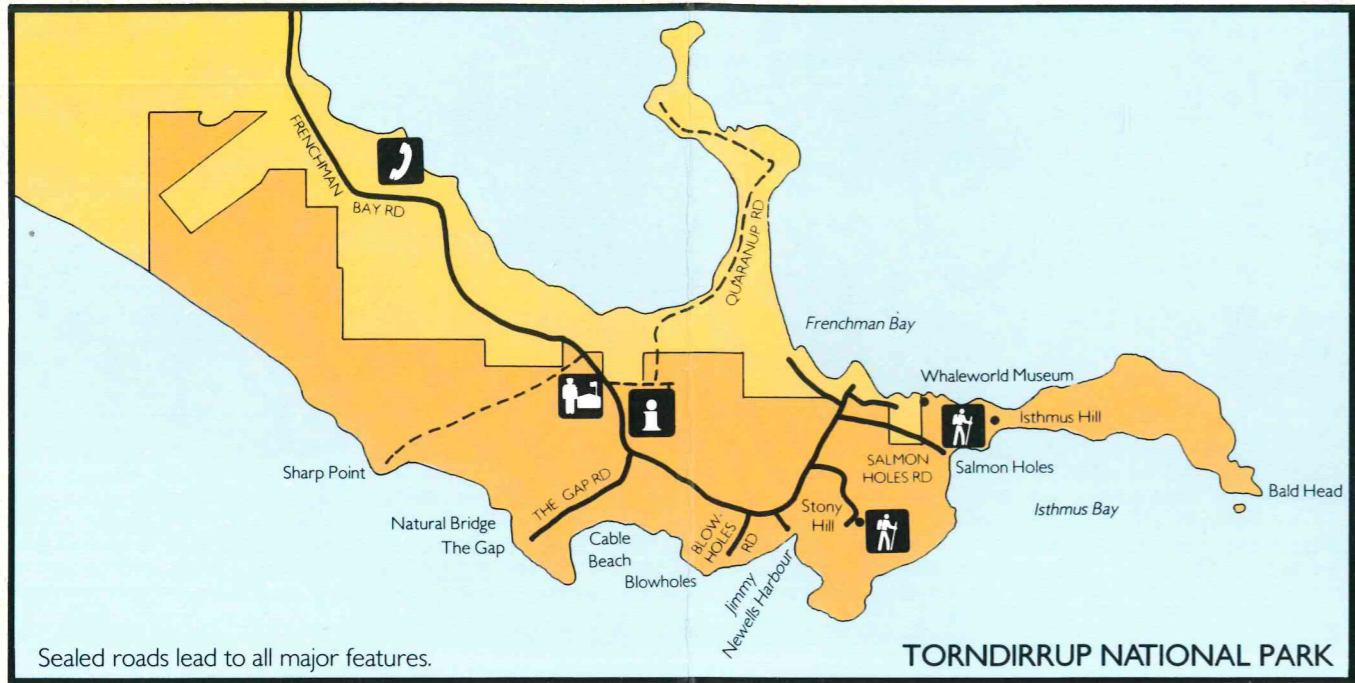
Blackboy

DIEBACK – HELP STOP THE ROT

Dieback is a plant disease caused by a fungus called *Phytophthora cinnamomi*. The fungus was introduced from the tropics. It is microscopic and lives in the soil. Plants die when the fungus infects their roots because their roots rot and they can not take up water.

Because vehicles spread dieback, it is sometimes necessary to close tracks and restrict access to certain areas. When visiting national parks near Albany and Denmark keep to well-formed, well-drained roads and obey 'road closed' signs. As few areas as possible will be closed and by keeping out of them you will help preserve the beauty of these magnificent national parks.

Bushwalkers can help by cleaning mud or soil from their boots before entering a park.



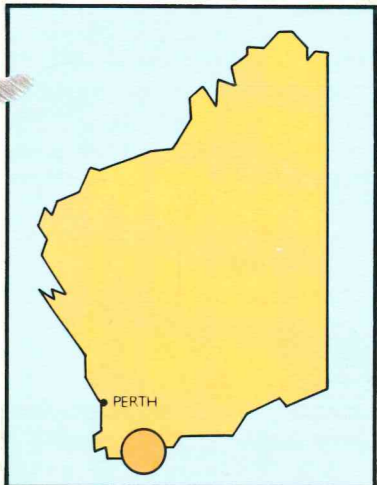
LEGEND

	Boat Ramp		Information
	Bushwalks		Ranger Station
	Disabled Toilets		Swimming
	Hang Gliding		Telephone
			Toilets

Roads

———— Sealed Road

- - - - - Unsealed Road



THE ENVIRONMENT

Habitats for wildlife in the area range from low heath and scrub on the infertile sand near the coast to low banksia forest, swampy areas, and tall karri and jarrah-marri forest.

At Torndirrup the heathlands put on good displays of wildflowers in spring, a woodland of peppermints occurs throughout the Park, and south of Vancouver Peninsula karri forms a forest of medium height in combination with swamp yate. The rare flowering-plant *Adenanthos cunninghamii*, the Albany woollybush, has been found in the Park.

William Bay features a similar coastal vegetation, but permanent streams and seepages occur through the extensive areas of heathland. Between Green's Pool and Madfish Bay granite boulders and rock shelves extend from the shoreline up to 100 m out to sea. These act as reefs, bearing the brunt of heavy seas, and forming sheltered pools and channels. In the lee of Tower Hill a striking patch of 60 m tall karri forest occurs.

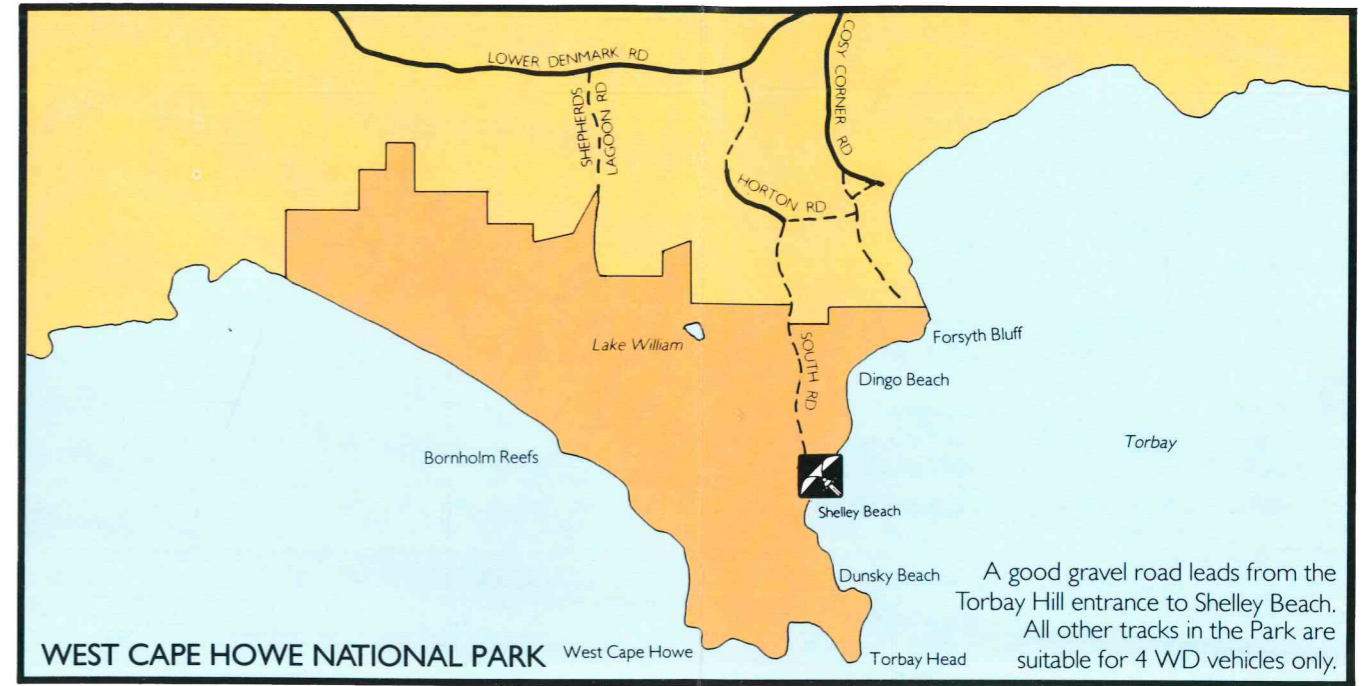
West Cape Howe contains some superb coastline and a great variety of plants. Swamp areas in the Park form a habitat for the insect-eating Albany pitcher plant, and many birds. Patches of karri forest, and granite and limestone cliffs are also features of the Park.

Two People's Bay Nature Reserve is an area of coastal heathland and swamp which is the last known habitat of the Noisy Scrub Bird. First identified in the forest of the Darling Scarp near Perth in 1842, the bird virtually disappeared, and was thought extinct for many years. In 1961 a small colony was located at Two People's Bay.

Banksia praemorsa

Honey-possum

Elephant Rocks, William Bay National Park



THINGS TO SEE AND DO

Basic facilities such as bush toilets, fireplaces, and tables are provided at places shown on the maps. Information shelters on site will tell you more about the parks.



CAMPING

Camping is not permitted at Torndirrup or William Bay National Parks. The towns of Albany and Denmark near each park provide ample facilities.

No facilities are provided for campers at West Cape Howe, and we ask you to leave no trace of your visit.



FISHING

Normal fisheries regulations apply. Fishing is popular at all coastal parks and species caught include Australian salmon, mulloway, whiting and herring.



BUSHWALKS

Torndirrup features several short walks to coastal attractions. A return walk of 1.5 km takes you to the Blowholes and back. Short trails lead from the carparks to the Gap, and Natural Bridge. A six-hour return walk leads over Isthmus hill to Flinders Peninsula, Limestone Head, and Bald Head. If you intend to bushwalk in the wilder areas contact the ranger before you set out and let him know your route and expected time of return.

Help stop the rot. Bushwalking can spread dieback, so please clean your boots before entering a national park.



HANG-GLIDING

Hang-gliding is popular at Shelley Beach in West Cape Howe National Park. During the prevailing summer easterlies the hills backing the beach create good steady flying conditions. Take-off is from the lookout carpark.



ROCK-CLIMBING

Popular spots for experienced rock-climbers with proper equipment are at Torndirrup (The Gap/Natural Bridge, and Peak Head), and West Cape Howe.



TAKE CARE ON THE COAST

Even on calm days unpredictable surges rising from the southern ocean hundreds of kilometres away may sweep over the shore. Because the edge of the continental shelf is so close to the coast the energy of these waves is not

broken up before they reach the shoreline. Don't risk being the next victim. Always watch the ocean, and stay well clear of the sea level.

A special safety Information Bay is located at the main entrance to Torndirrup National Park on Frenchman Bay Road. Please, read it on your way in.



Splendid Fairy-wren