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Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions

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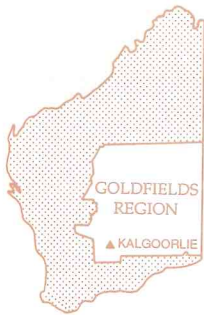
Recreation  
Sites  
Of The  
Goldfields  
Region



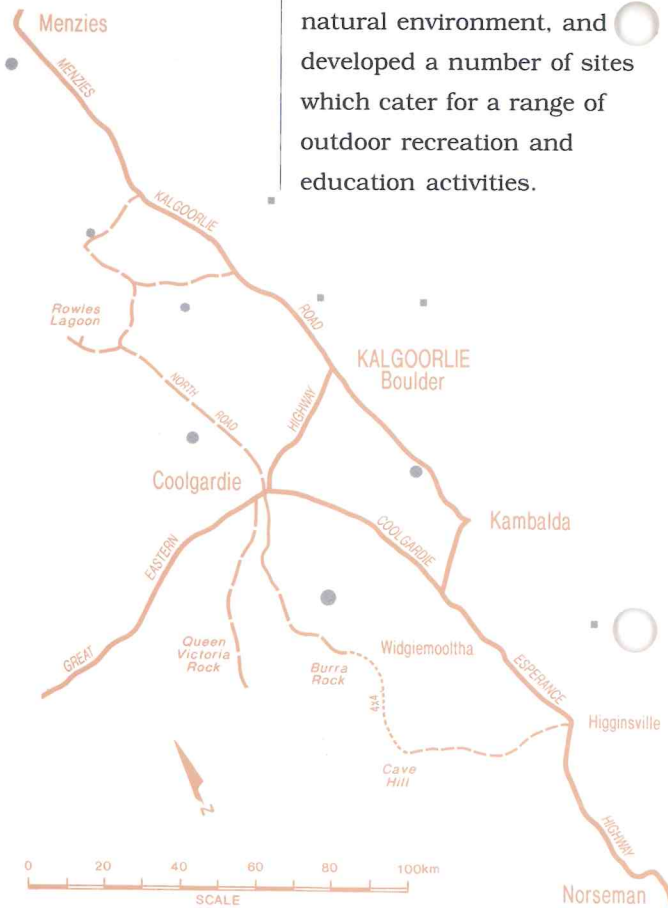
Conservation  
and  
Land  
Management

## The Goldfields Region

The Goldfields region of Western Australia has always been an area of intense mining activity. The population has only recently stabilized, and there is growing concern about improving the quality of life.



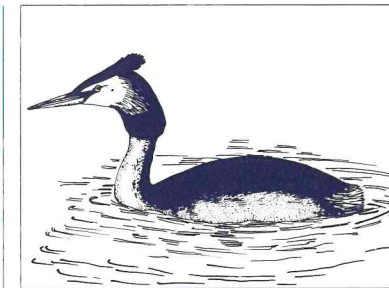
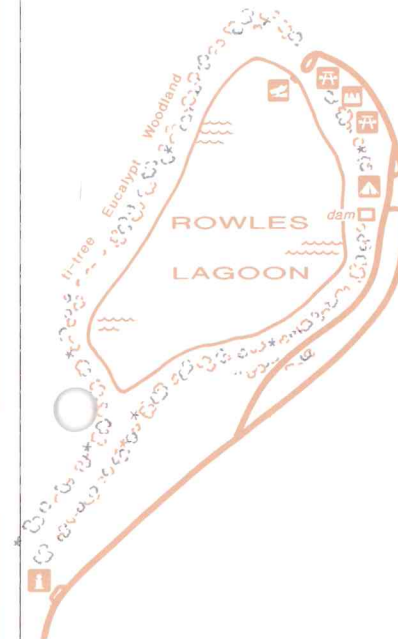
With this shift towards a better lifestyle, a concern for the environment has developed. The Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) has recognized that the people of the Goldfields need areas where they can experience the natural environment, and developed a number of sites which cater for a range of outdoor recreation and education activities.



### Rowles Lagoon is 73 km north of Coolgardie, along the Bonnie Vale Road.

Rowles is a small freshwater lake that is completely reliant on rainfall to maintain its depth. The area, used for recreation for many years, is also environmentally significant.

The Reserve caters for a range of activities, from day trips for sightseeing to extended camping trips by larger groups.



Barbecues and picnic tables are located in shaded areas around the lake.

Rowles Lagoon is a unique area for bird watching. One of the rarest waterfowl in the world, the Freckled Duck, which is closely related to the swan, was recorded as breeding at Rowles Lagoon in October 1973. Black Swans, Mountain Ducks, Grey Teal, Coots, Galahs, Miners and Willie Wagtails are more common. A comprehensive list is available in our handout, "Birds of Rowles Lagoon Nature Reserve".

## Rowles Lagoon Nature Reserve





## Queen Victoria Rock



**This site is located within the Victoria Rock Nature Reserve 43 km south of Coolgardie, on the Queen Victoria Rock Road.** The reserve is dominated by a spectacular granite rock surrounded by dense woodland. Near the rock the woodland consists mainly of dense *Allocasuarina huegeliana* thickets. Further away *Eucalyptus transcontinentalis*, *E. salubris* and *E. salmonophloia* dominate.

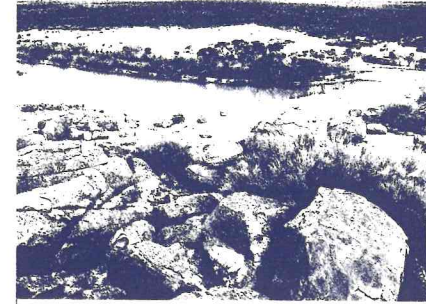
Here, one can experience relatively undisturbed Goldfields woodlands. Barbeques and picnic tables are provided at the base of the rock for day visitors. There is a campsite at the rear of the rock. A walk trail traverses the rock and a pamphlet about the trail, compiled by the Goldfields Naturalists Club, is available.



## Burra Rock Nature Reserve is 60 km south of Coolgardie, past the Nepean Mine on the Burra Rock Road.

The reserve contains several large granite rocks surrounded by regrowth woodland. It also has a dam and other historical features associated with the woodlines.

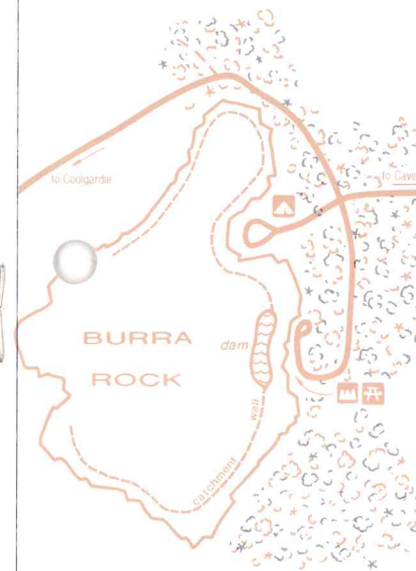
The dam and catchment wall supplied water for locomotives operating on the woodlines in the late 1920s. The area south of Burra Rock was clearfelled in 1927 to supply structural



timber and fuelwood for steamdriven engines for the goldmining industry. A number of old woodline camps, littered with old bottles, rubbish or ash pits left by the cutters, can be seen between Burra Rock and Cave Hill. The many visitors to the area can be assured that there will be water all year round, unless there is severe drought.

Activities such as swimming, nature study and exploring the granite rock are popular. The view from the summit stretches for kilometres over regenerated woodlands.

Picnic tables and barbeques are supplied. Visitors should not drive off any of the tracks, as vehicles can damage historical features or the fragile granite.



## Burra Rock Nature Reserve

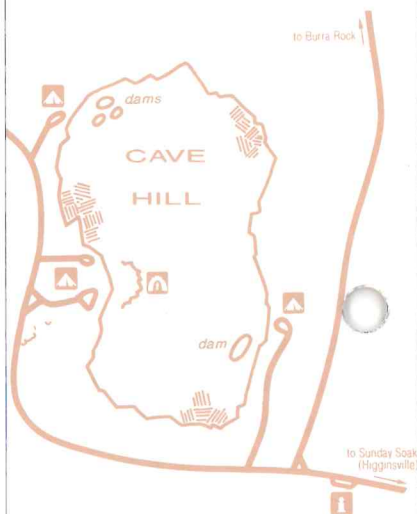
## Cave Hill Nature Reserve

**Cave Hill Nature Reserve is 50 km west of Higginsville, along a track past Sunday Soak.**

The track is maintained on an irregular basis; visitors should take care especially after rain. A large granite outcrop covers most of the Reserve. The site is ideal for escaping into the bush for a quiet weekend.

Like Burra Rock, Cave Hill has permanent water in the dams, rock climbing is popular and it takes several hours to explore the rock. From Cave Hill visitors can explore the surrounding woodlands or travel, by 4WD, up the old woodline to Burra Rock.

Cave Hill is a relatively undisturbed site. You can camp on the eastern side of the rock. Day visitors can use the barbecue facilities below the dam.



**The Arboretum is located off Hawkins Street alongside Hammond Park.**

It gives Kalgoorlie's visitors and residents the chance to see the trees of the Goldfields' woodlands without leaving the town.



The Arboretum was established in 1954 to evaluate Goldfields' trees for use in the Kalgoorlie area.

The area provides passive recreational activities such as picnics, walks and short drives. Picnic tables are supplied in shaded grassed areas. A short drive takes the visitor around the Arboretum, where trial plots are clearly marked with species names for identification. A shady walk trail meandering through the Arboretum allows visitors to identify single trees from marked signs.

The bird life is extensive, probably because of the permanent water and different flowering times of tree species. Visitors are encouraged to notify our office of any unusual sightings.

## Kalgoorlie Arboretum



## Further Information



Visitors to CALM nature reserves are reminded that open fires (except for barbeques), dogs, and driving on granite outcrops are not permitted.

Other publications about the reserves include, "Exploring Granite Outcrops" and "Birds of Rowles Lagoon Nature Reserve".

Further information can be obtained from:

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and Land Management  
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