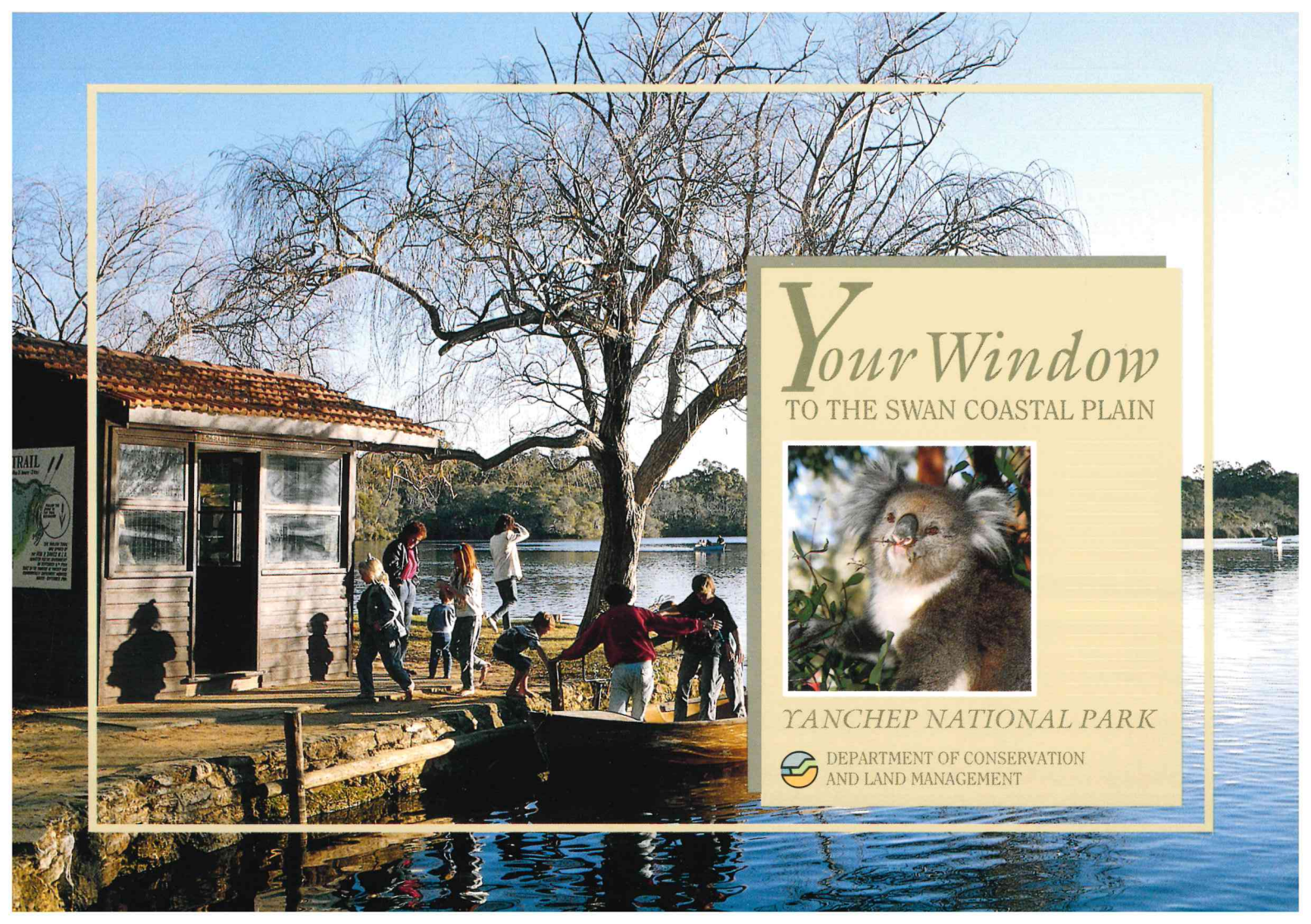


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TO THE SWAN COASTAL PLAIN



YANCHEP NATIONAL PARK



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND LAND MANAGEMENT

*in
the right
direction*



SINCE 1905 Yanchep National Park has been an important recreation area for many Western Australians.

Today, it is the State's most popular park attracting more than 250,000 visitors last year, many of whom came from interstate and overseas.

Visitors enjoy the tranquility and beauty of the park's setting on the Swan Coastal Plain, the unique flora and fauna, and its historical and natural features.

A management plan has been prepared in consultation with park visitors, the community and special interest groups. It is an important achievement as this document outlines the directions for the park over the next 10 years.

This plan acknowledges the important natural and cultural values of the park and the wishes of visitors and the community to maintain the park's essential character.

The management plan also reflects the conservation values of this ecologically important wetland, the many and scientifically important caves in the park, the growing



Yanchep National Park is a pleasant location for recreation activities such as bushwalking and picnicking.



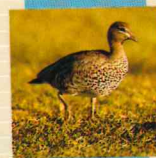
The historic Yanchep Inn, a popular location for park visitors.

and changing demands of the visitors, and the need to protect these values from an expanding urban population.

The plan recommends that Yanchep's traditional values be retained and enhanced while the park is further developed as a window to the important natural features of the Swan Coastal Plain.

As custodian of the park, the Department of Conservation and Land Management is determined to continue to provide those facilities and recreational opportunities for which Yanchep National Park is famous, while further enhancing the park's role as a major tourist destination in Western Australia.

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HE management plan highlights the redevelopment and landscaping of the recreation area that will be carried out to provide more and improved public facilities to cater for the needs of this and the next generation of park visitors. This will take into account past, present and future activities.

Visitors will be encouraged to take part in activities such as bushwalking, photography and birdwatching, and to discover many of the park's unique features.

One of the park's most popular attractions, the koala colony, will be restocked and relocated and veterinary assistance will continue to be provided. A suitably qualified person will continue to be employed to care for the koalas.

The viewing of the park's population of kangaroos and emus will be in more natural surroundings.

Recreation facilities, such as the picnic areas and gardens, will be upgraded, and an adventure playground for children will be developed, as will a small backpack camping area.



A ranger feeds an emu and kangaroo. These animals will be allowed to roam through the park.



Park rangers assist visitors.

Particular attention will be paid to vehicle access to and from the park and safe, one-way routes to recreational sites that will improve the traffic flow through the park will be provided.

Some roads will be redesigned and others will be upgraded to encourage visitors to explore the park. A scenic drive will also be provided.

Carparks will be relocated and upgraded to provide direct access to facilities while maintaining the park's aesthetic values.

Walkways that link major facilities and carparks will be established away from vehicle traffic. More nature trails that link up with the walkways will be established. Park rangers will provide regular guided walks, such as the adventure caves tour and wildflower walks, to highlight the park's unique ecological features.

Hides for viewing the park's fauna will also be established.

One of the sports ovals will be retained and the other two will be developed as parkland areas. Recreation

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facilities such as the swimming pool, golf course, cave tours and rowboats will be maintained under a new lease arrangement, as will the souvenir shop. This is a new and important concept in park management in Western Australia.

Yonderup Cave will be reopened for special tours, while Cabaret Cave will be used for a special interpretive cave tour.

Historic McNess House will be renovated and developed as a visitor information centre and will be the centre from which many of the park's activities will begin.



*Visitors can take a guided
tour through the spectacular
Yonderup and Cabaret Caves.*



Black swans are among the many birds that use the park's wetlands.



ANCHEP NATIONAL PARK will be more than doubled in size to nearly 6000 ha by the inclusion of ecologically important State forest areas near the park.

These forest areas consist of limestone ridges that support a variety of heath vegetation, mature paperbarks and jarrah woodlands as well as declared rare plants.

Currently, Yanchep National Park contains only small areas of these species and their inclusion will add to the diversity of flora in the park and ensure the protection of representatives of these communities on the Swan Coastal Plain.

As well as increasing the park's size, management programmes and procedures designed to protect park features from wildfire, dieback, feral animals and the effects of an expanding population will be continued.

Eroded and degraded areas of the park will be rehabilitated and feral animal and weed control practices continued. Feral animals are a major threat to the park's fauna.

*conserving
yanchep's
heritage*



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A biological survey will determine the extent of the rare flora in the park and this will be mapped and monitored to ensure its survival. Indigenous fauna, such as the western native cat, the carpet python, the black striped snake, Freckled Duck and Perigrine Falcon, all of which are rare, will continue to be monitored.

A study of the relationship between the park's groundwater, the wetlands and caves will be encouraged to determine the effect of the Water Authority's plan to pump water from the Gnangara Mound.

A cave management committee, which will include representatives from speleological groups, will be established and will contribute to the management of the park's unique caves.

To ensure the long-term survival of the intricately balanced ecosystems of Loch McNess, special guidelines will be established, such as no further clearing in the lake's catchment, no further dredging and the monitoring of activities on and around the lake to ensure they do not have any detrimental effect on the lake.

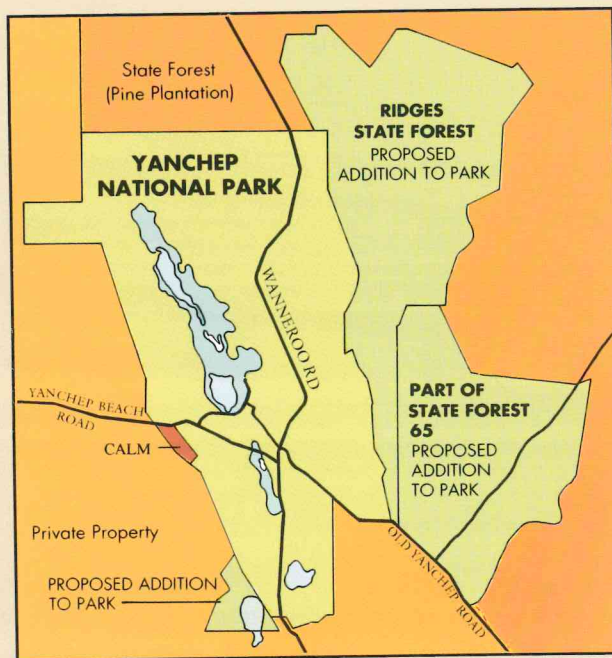


The Eurasian Coot is one of Perth's most common wetland birds.



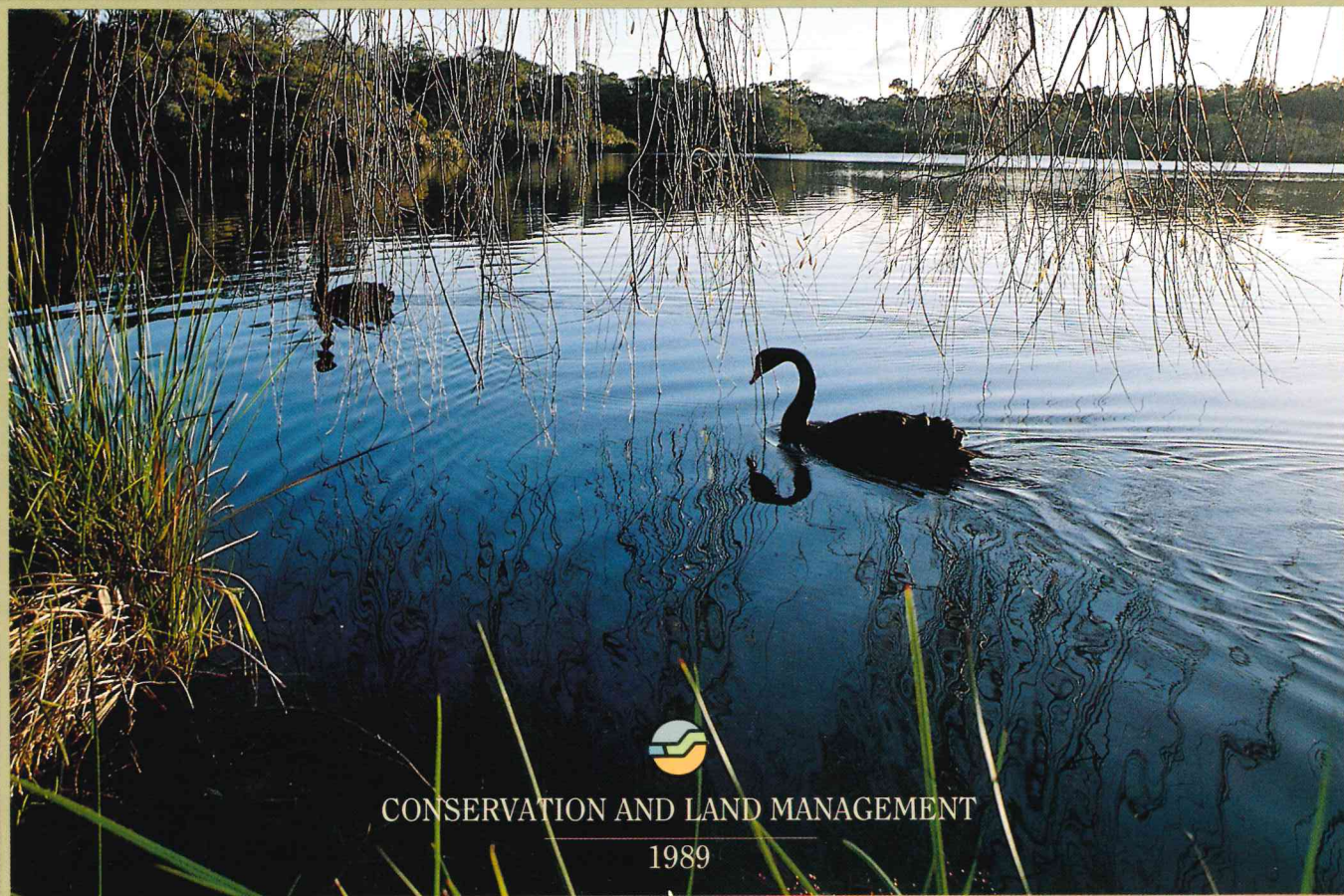
Commercial operators will lease out the park's rowboats.

For further information or copies of the plan, contact the Department of Conservation and Land Management, 50 Hayman Road, Como, telephone (09) 367 0333.



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CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT

1989

PHOTOGRAPHS ROBERT GARVEY DESIGN ROBYN MUNDY