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Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions

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# Dieback disease

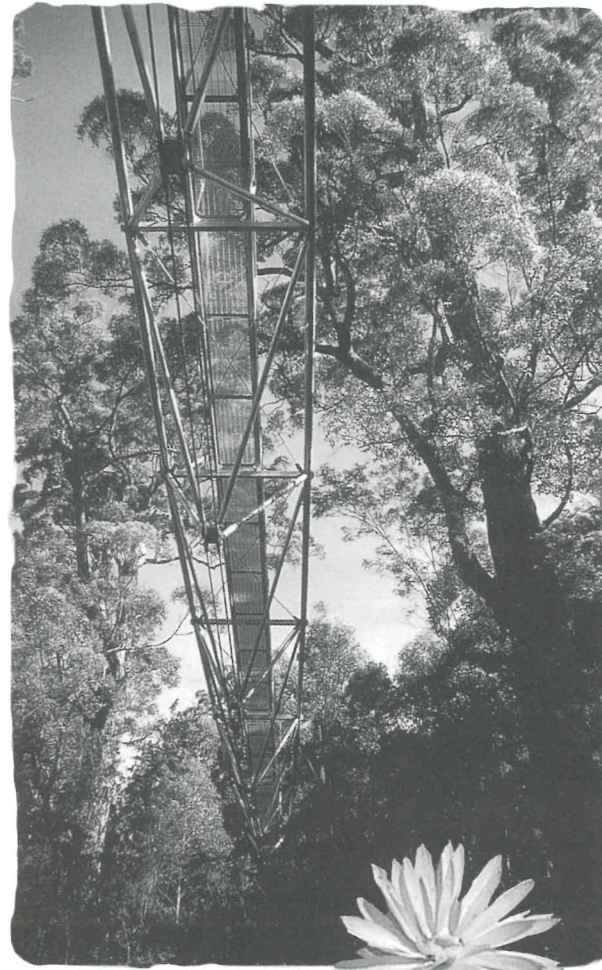
Dieback is a fungus which attacks the root systems of trees, shrubs and wildflowers. It is an introduced disease which has ravaged areas of forest, woodland and heath from Kalbarri to the east of Esperance. The fungus is carried in infected soil that sticks to boots, wheels and mudguards. When it drops off, it contaminates new areas and multiplies.

There is no widespread cure for this disease. Some areas in national parks and State Forest are closed to vehicles to prevent dieback being carried into these areas. You can help combat the spread of dieback by observing all signs and not taking cars, motorbikes, horses or any form of wheeled transport into closed areas.

# Enjoy

We hope you enjoy Western Australia's national parks and forests.

Check out CALM's award-winning range of publications and CD-rom to help you get the most out of your visits. These include our popular *Bush Book* series, pocket-sized guides to plants, animals, and landforms designed to make understanding nature easy. Plus there are maps and guide books to the State's most spectacular areas. For information call (08) 9334 0333 or call into *WA Naturally*.



YOUR GUIDE TO  
Western Australia's  
NATIONAL PARKS AND FORESTS

W A N A T U R A L L Y

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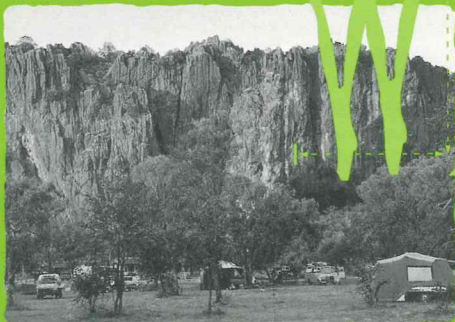
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT



# Your Guide to Western Australia's National Parks and Forests

Western Australia is a State of contrast, diversity and surprises. From the rugged gorge country in the north, to the beautiful coral reefs along the coast and magnificent tall forests of the south-west corner, Western Australia has something for everyone.

There is no better way to discover the beauty of Western Australia than to visit the State's national parks, forests and reserves. These protected areas showcase spectacular natural attractions and cover a wide range of climates, landscapes and wildlife.



## A guide to help

Western Australia has 63 national parks, 2.5 million hectares of State Forest and six marine parks. In total, more than five million hectares of the State are protected in these and other reserves (about half the size of Japan).

Facilities vary depending on the location and type of park. Some offer many services such as kiosks and hire equipment, e.g. Yanchep National Park near Perth, while visitors to Purnululu National Park (the Bungle Bungle) in the Kimberley need to provide their own food and water.

The *Services and Facilities at a Glance* overleaf provides details of facilities in each location. Not all parks and reserves are listed, as some protected areas are remote and have no facilities. For further information about these areas contact CALM's customer service centre (08) 9334 0333.

Western Australia's parks, forests and reserves are managed by the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) .... caring for WA naturally.



## Camping

Camping areas are provided in many parks and forests unless the environment is particularly fragile, or if there is commercial accommodation or a caravan park nearby.

In some areas, bush camping is allowed, but please don't leave any trace of your stay. Choose an area that looks as if it has been used before. Avoid creating a new area, and be sure to camp away from streams, rivers and lakes, as the soil on banks is fragile and subject to erosion and pollution.

To avoid annoying other park visitors, generators can only be used in specific areas designated for them.



## Caravans

Commercial caravan parks operate in towns near most parks and reserves, and in some forests. Some national parks have powered van sites and hot water. Check the *Services and Facilities at a Glance* for facilities within parks and forests, or the Western Australian Tourist Centre or tourist information centres for details of commercial caravan parks.

## Bushwalking

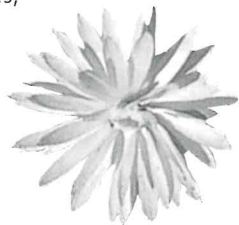
There are walk trails in many parks and forests. These vary from short strolls to long distance hikes through rugged country. Check information panels on-site or ask park staff for details.

Choose walks to suit your level of fitness. For comfort and safety, wear sturdy shoes or boots and a hat, and apply sunscreen. For longer walks, carry a good map, compass, and plenty of water. Tell someone where you are going and when you intend to be back. Permanent water spots, if they exist, are not usually suitable for drinking.

CALM produces a range of publications on bush walking in and around Perth and country areas. These are available at good book stores, CALM's *WA Naturally* outdoors information centre, and CALM offices. For details of the range available and stockists call (08) 9334 0333.

The Bibbulmun Track, a 950 km trail from Perth to Albany, is one of the great long-distance walk trails in the world. Shelters are spaced about a day's walk apart. Detailed maps are available from most tourist information centres, CALM offices, and *WA Naturally*.

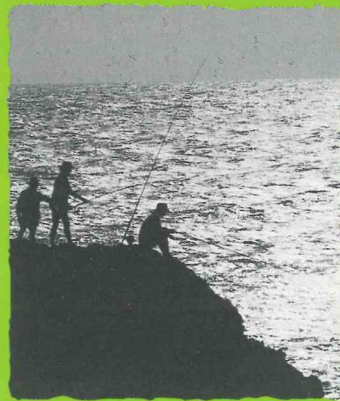
For details of stockists call (08) 9334 0333.



## Fishing

You are welcome to fish in national parks, forests and reserves but you may need a licence. For further information, contact the Fisheries Department on (08) 9482 7333. Please conserve fish numbers, only take enough for your own needs and observe size and bag limits.

There are special sanctuary zones in marine parks, to protect marine life. You can observe wildlife in these areas but may not fish or remove crabs, shells or any other wildlife in these areas.



## Fees

Day visitor fees apply at many national parks, and may be collected at entry points by park staff or left in collection boxes on an honesty basis. Fees are retained locally to manage the areas from where they are collected and to provide better facilities and services for park visitors.

The easy way to discover WA's national parks is to buy a national park pass, particularly if you intend to visit several parks or make regular visits to one park. Holiday passes (up to four weeks) and annual passes are available from most tourist information centres, *WA Naturally*, RAC offices, CALM offices and the WA Tourist Centre.





## More information

### WA Naturally Outdoors Information Centre

47 Henry Street

Fremantle 6160

(08) 9430 8600 Fax (08) 9430 8699

Open 10am to 5.30pm every day except Tuesday

### CALM's Customer Service Centre

50 Hayman Road

Como 6152

(08) 9334 0333 Fax: (08) 9334 0498

Open 8am to 5pm Monday - Friday



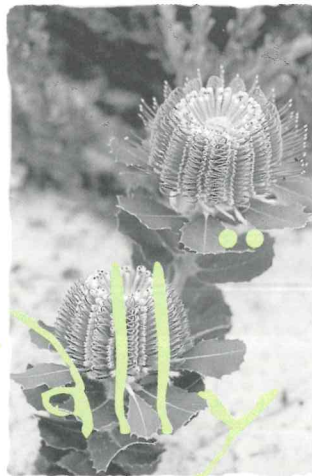
or check out **NatureBase**, CALM's website for current information on national parks. You can visit NatureBase at <http://www.calm.wa.gov.au>



## Caring for the bush

Special care is needed to protect Western Australia's natural environment for the enjoyment of future generations. Many areas are fragile and tramping your own path through the bush can result in long-term damage. By remembering a few basic rules, you can do your bit to protect the environment:

- ➡ Stay on paths and help to prevent erosion
- ➡ Take special care in sensitive areas such as sand dunes, and areas with steep slopes or sparse vegetation
- ➡ Wash at least 50 metres from streams, rivers and lakes. Detergents and toothpaste harm aquatic life
- ➡ Use sand instead of detergent to wash your dishes and keep rubbish or food scraps out of streams, rivers, and lakes.



## Fires

Bushfires are a real danger, particularly during summer. Only use fireplaces provided or bring a portable gas stove. Campfires are not permitted in many parks to minimise the risk of bushfire.



## Rubbish

Rubbish can cause major problems for wildlife. Please use bins if they are provided. If there are no bins, take your rubbish with you and leave the area tidy for other users. When camping or walking in the bush, bury organic waste at least 15 centimetres deep and 100 metres from any waterway, picnic area or campsite. Never throw rubbish overboard in marine parks - plastics and other rubbish can kill marine animals.

## Pets

Pets are not allowed in national parks. They can disturb wildlife and annoy other park visitors. Please help by leaving your pets at home. Pets are allowed in State Forest but be wary of fox baits which are used in these areas.

# WA Naturally







