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Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions

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photo: Cliff Winfield



Sue's Bridge camping area

# F oresters at work

**Recreation** places in the forest are a special concern of foresters. A healthy forest with its giant trees and clear flowing streams can, be a haven for such peaceful pursuits as bird watching, nature study, photography, general sightseeing and picnicking.

But the forest provides active recreational opportunities too. Fishing, canoeing, orienteering, bush walking, horse riding, rock climbing and cave exploration are some of these.

To make these and other recreations possible our foresters provide such facilities as cleared barbecue areas, bush tracks, signs to historical sites, restored pioneer buildings and bridges, and other reminders of the lifestyle of our early explorers.

A number of forest settlements no longer in use by the Forests Department are now leased to welfare and community organisations for recreation camps.

Further information on life in the forest can be obtained from the Information Branches of the Forests Department at Como, Bunbury or Manjimup.



Rae Burrows is currently busy designing the recreation plan for the Shannon Forest.

She and her husband Neil, who is a fire research officer at Manjimup, are dedicated to their work in the forest.

Rae came to the Department as a young graduate in geography six years ago.

Swimming and hobby farming occupy what little spare time she has.



# Guide for forest recreation

## Water

Nearly all creeks and rivers in state forest are dry during summer, especially in the northern Jarrah and Wandoo forests. Permanent water points are shown on Forests Department maps but even at these places water should always be boiled before use. The water points are relatively far apart and walkers should always carry water.

Much of the northern portion of state forest is within proclaimed water catchments for the Perth Metropolitan area. It is illegal to camp, shoot or fish in water catchments or to pollute them in any manner.

## Toilets

Toilets are being established at all proclaimed camping areas. When wild camping please bury your waste at least 30cm deep.

## Environment

- Place all litter in bins provided or if wild camping, take out what you take in.
- All native plants and animals are protected – please do not disturb. Consider your fellow campers – no loud noise and always leave your campsite in as good condition or better than you found it.
- Firearms are prohibited in state forest.
- Vehicles and motorbikes may be driven only on formed roads and tracks, must be road registered and roadworthy, and drivers must be licenced.

## Bushwalking hints

- Obtain a Forests Department map of the area before setting out into unknown territory. These are available from the State Headquarters building, 50 Hayman Road, Como, WA, 6152.
- Walk in a party of three or more people for safety.
- Make sure you have adequate water.
- Wear comfortable walking shoes with thick woollen socks.
- Take a light raincoat and spare jumper.
- Keep your things together in a light rucksack or shoulder bag in order to keep your hands free.
- Take a first aid kit; insect repellent is also advisable.
- Always carry a compass. If you become lost follow one of the numerous forest tracks which, if followed systematically with a compass, will eventually lead to some habitation.
- If you are making an extended walking/camping trip, it is wise to notify friends or relatives of your estimated time of arrival and route.
- The Bibbulmun Bushwalking Track is a long distance walking track which traverses State forest from Kalamunda to Boorara tree, south east of Northcliffe. A guide book is available from State Headquarters.
- Please take note of any local information given to you by forest officers.