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Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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Below Bungarra (Gould's goanna). Photo - Dana Norman

are used to maintain and develop park facilities. box is located at the park entrance off Monkey Mia Road. Your fees Entrance and camping fees apply. A self-registration fee collection

driving on birridas after rain. (gypsum claypans) which can be boggy when wet. Take care when stay on marked tracks. Some sections traverse large birridas Be aware of oncoming traffic, drive to the conditions and please

to avoid getting bogged or damaging tracks. Reduce tyre pressure to 20psi (or less) at the tyre pressure station

suitable for caravans or large boat trailers.

The four-wheel-drive tracks are single-lane soft sand. They are not before driving into the park.

Check track conditions at the Parks and Wildlife Service office

of Francois Peron National Park. High-clearance four-wheel drive is needed to access the rest The Peron Heritage Precinct is two-wheel-drive accessible.

ACCess

habitats has also allowed woma pythons to flourish. returning bilbies and malleefowl to the park. Restoration of natural Project Eden, an ecological restoration project, has succeeded in

Project Eden

and Regional Development's regulations in the recreational fishing brochure for details. Abide by the Department of Primary Industries surrounding the park. Please see the Shark Bay Marine Reserves Special rules apply to fishing and other marine activities

bream and kingfish, to name just a few. The waters of Shark Bay Marine Park abound with whiting, snapper,

Marine

Skipjack Point. manta rays and sharks. They are best seen from Cape Peron and bottlenose dolphins, dugongs, green and loggerhead turtles, The sea around Peron Peninsula teems with wildlife, including scattered over the red sand. but the tracks of euro kangaroos, echidnas and native mice are

eagles may be seen riding thermals. on dry land. Wedge-tailed eagles, osprey and white-bellied sea emus, fairy-wrens, scrubwrens, finches and wedgebills are common plovers and sandpipers can be seen around the coastline while Migratory and wading birds including godwits, greenshanks,

Mammals are mostly nocturnal and tend to be harder to spot,

mulga and woma python. and bearded dragon are abundant. Snakes include the gwardar, thorny devil, racehorse goanna, bobtail skink, knob-tailed gecko Mearly 100 reptile and amphibian species live in Shark Bay. The

thick-billed grass-wren and malleefowl. are home to threatened species including the bilby, woma python, Francois Peron National Park and the Shark Bay World Heritage Area

SlaminA

tomato, halgania and his namesake, the hoary dampiera. particularly impressed by the blue-flowering plants, including wild William Dampier collected plants from the region in 1699 and was

grevilleas, are not found north of this area. while flowering plants from cooler climates, such as hakeas and Red, sandy plains are dominated by desert-adapted acacias

vegetation types found in Francois Peron National Park. desert vegetation of the north and east. The result is two distinct the southern temperate vegetation of the south-west and the Meeting at Shark Bay are plants of two vegetation provinces -

Plants

Below left Thick billed grass wren. Photo – Mary Barrett Vatch out for echidnas on the road. Photo – Rebecca Stanley

p fires are not permitted in Francois Peron National

k This includes the use of heat beads. Penalties apply.

ntain the natural environment and visitor

emergencyplus.com.au

Download the free Emergency+ app before your visit. Use the app

coverage you WILL NOT be able to call 000 but the app will provide

Front cover Big Lagoon aerial view. Photo - Chris McMonagle

in an emergency to call for assistance. If there is no mobile phone

nce of parks, domestic animals are not permitted.

lease bring gas appliances for cooking.

National Park was declared in 1993. State Government. Francois Peron 1990, when it was bought by the litran noitete qooha sheep station until today. Peron Peninsula was managed the remains of which are still visible was also the site of a canning factory, pearl shells still litter the beach. It established at Herald Bight, where

In the late 1880s a pearl camp was contribution to recording Australia's natural and social history. expeditions. The park bears Peron's name in recognition of his meteorology and zoology during Nicholas Baudin's 1801 and 1803 meticulously documented anthropology, oceanography, the Malgana people early in the 19th century. François Peron French explorers were the first Europeans to provide reports of

Gutharraguda, meaning 'two bays', is the name for Shark Bay. years. Wulyibidi is the Malgana name for Peron Peninsula and of Shark Bay, including the Peron Peninsula, for about 25,000 Malgana language speakers have occupied the central part

The national park is the traditional country of the Malgana people.

Aboriginal and other Australian heritage

reasons for its heritage listing. coastal scenery and diverse wildlife habitats are among the many The park lies within the Shark Bay World Heritage Area and its

World Heritage

National Park

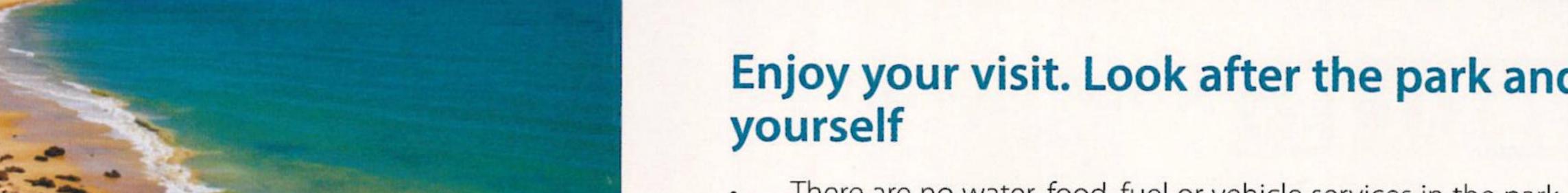
Wulyibidi

coastal scenery on the Peron Peninsula. rolling sandplains and circular depressions bounded by spectacular Francois Peron National Park covers 52,000ha of arid shrublands,

Francois Peron National Park

Francois Peron

unesco



and mobile phone coverage is limited.

- Take care when diving or snorkelling
- Stay alert for boat traffic.

Only dive and snorkel on a slack tide.

- Display a dive flag when diving. Dive flags should be at least 750mm by 600mm.
- It is recommended that a dive flag is displayed when snorkelling more than 200m from the shore.
- Interaction with marine plants and animals is both a privilege and a responsibility. Leave areas as you find them.
- Make sure your diving gear is secured, not dangling, and be careful where you kick.
- Always leave someone on board when diving or snorkelling from a boat.
- Shark Bay Marine Park is zoned to protect marine life and habitats in certain areas. Please observe regulations for the area in which you are diving or snorkelling.
- Many marine animals use venom or toxins for catching prey or defending themselves. Some can cause serious harm to people.
- Shipwrecks are protected and the removal of artefacts is prohibited. Please help preserve our maritime heritage by leaving wrecks undisturbed.

Below Fishing at Cape Peron.

Enjoy your visit. Look after the park and

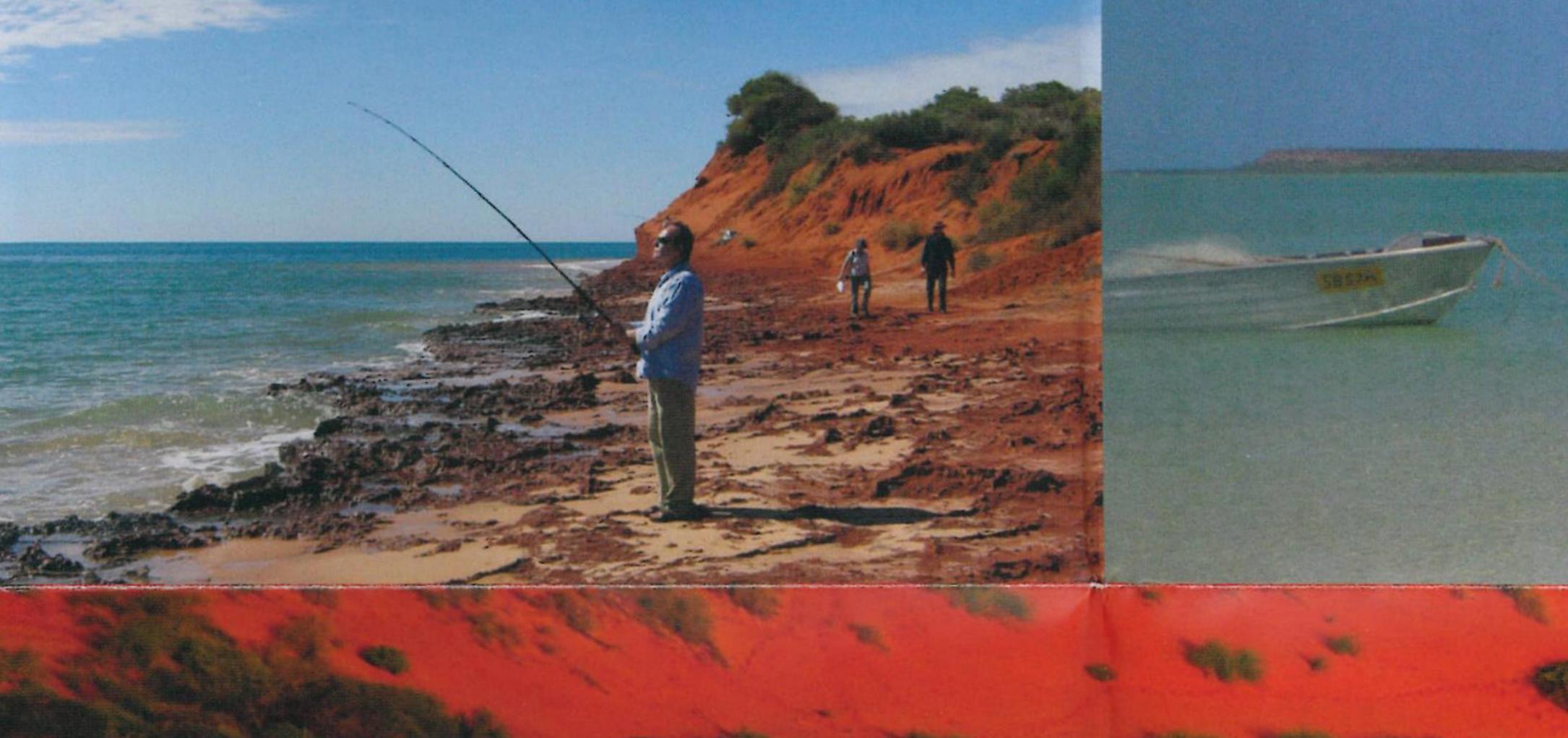
- There are no water, food, fuel or vehicle services in the park
- Fires are prohibited in Francois Peron National Park. This includes the use of heat beads. Please bring gas appliances for cooking.
- Heat is a potential safety hazard make sure you take enough drinking water. Allow at least 3L per person
- Do not empty chemicals into toilets as chemicals destroy composting micro-organisms.
- Where there are no toilets, bury human waste at least 30cm deep and 100m from public areas and the water.
- Firearms, weapons and fireworks are not permitted.
- Pets are not permitted in the national park.
- Poisonous stonefish are common around reef areas supervise children at all times, wear reef shoes or sandals to protect your feet and be careful what you pick up.
- If stung by a stonefish immerse affected area in hot water (test it's not too hot with unaffected limb) and seek medical
- All native wildlife is protected. Leave all plants, animals, rocks and shells as you find them.
- Fish bag limits and size restrictions apply. Please check and abide by Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development regulations (dpird.wa.gov.au). Fisheries officers conduct regular patrols within the park.

Below Herald Bight.

- There are zones in the Shark Bay Marine Park where recreational activities are restricted. See the Shark Bay Marine Reserves brochure or go to sharkbay.org for further information.
- Keep your rubbish contained away from wildlife and protected from the strong winds.
- Take your rubbish away with you. A bin is provided at the tyre pressure station near the Peron Heritage Precinct.

Boat safely in Shark Bay Marine Park

- Plan your trip well and observe standard safety precautions.
- Always check the weather forecast before you leave.
- Boat according to your skills, experience and the conditions.
- While on the water, keep an eye on the weather and the water at all times. Boats have been swamped and lives have been lost as a result of unexpected waves.
- Carry the safety equipment relevant to your vessel and enough life jackets for each person on board.
- Ensure your boat is in good working order and has extra fuel.
- Carry enough water, food supplies and sun protection for your trip.
- Let a responsible adult know about your trip, and remember to let them know when you have returned safely.
- Keep at least 50m clear of dive flags.
- Avoid anchoring on fragile corals.



Things to see and do









This precinct offers an insight into what life was like during the pastoral era. Explore the history of the area around the self-guided walk and see how the shearers worked and lived.

Enjoy a dip in the hot tub, a popular place to soak in artesian waters.

Big Lagoon









Soak up spectacular scenery while picnicking or camping at Big Lagoon. Bring a kayak, stand-up paddle board, or other small craft and enjoy sights from the water. You may fish in the special purpose zone from the campground towards the sea, but not in the sanctuary zone north of the campground. See the Shark Bay Marine Reserves brochure for details.

Kraskoes Tank



Krasker was a one-legged entrepreneur who rode his horse from Denham to Herald Bight every week to buy pearls and collect mail. He perished trying to reach this water tank after falling off his horse and breaking his remaining good leg.

Cattle Well

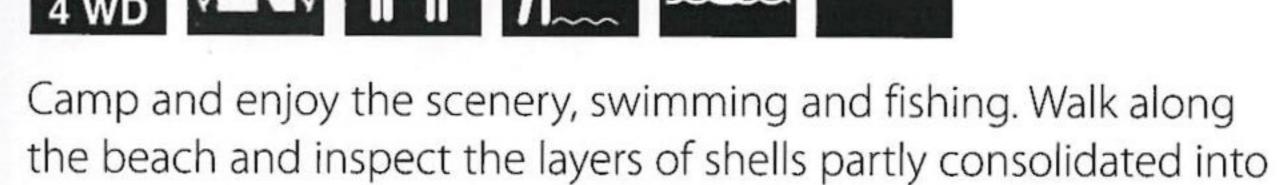


Throw in a line and enjoy the fishing at Cattle Well.



South Gregories

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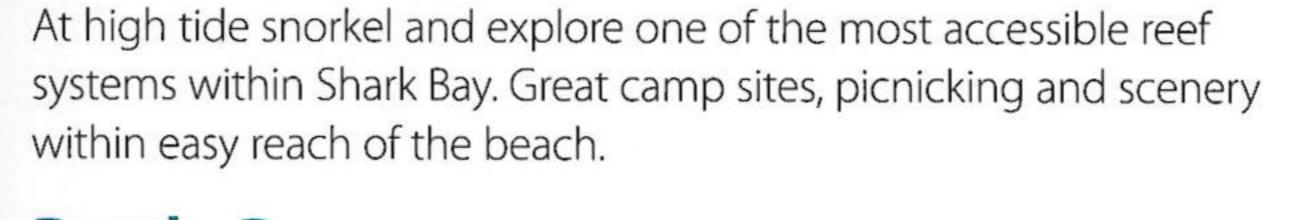


rock. You can also launch small boats here over very soft sand.

Gregories







Bottle Bay







See the line where ocean and bay waters converge at Cape Peron and enjoy a picnic with a view. Beware of the dangerous currents

people)-crowding the water's edge.

Wanamalu Trail, 1.5km, 45 minutes one-way

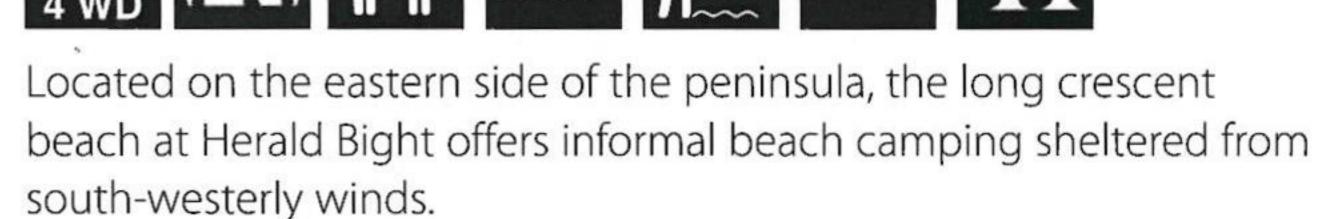


This walk from Cape Peron to Skipjack Point has outstanding views of the coastline and colours of Shark Bay. If you have someone to drive the car and meet you at Skipjack Point, this is an easy short walk although the sand is soft. Otherwise it will be a 3km, 1.5-hour return walk. Make sure you protect yourself from the sun, and keep hydrated, especially during the hot summer months.

Skipjack Point



Itis just a five-minute walk from the carpark to the lookouts at Skipjack Point where you may see dolphins, dugongs, turtles, stingrays, manta rays and sharks cruising in the shallows below the



Keep an eye out for the remains of a fish canning factory established in 1933 and converted to a fish freezer in 1938. The freezer was closed in 1947 when a new freezer plant was built in Denham. You can launch small boats here over very soft sand.

Below Lookout at Skipjack Point.



Above Bottle Bay. Photo – Chris McMonagle Drive carefully

- Always watch out for wildlife on roads and tracks. A high-clearance four-wheel drive is required for tracks north of Peron Heritage Precinct.
- The access road north of the Peron Heritage Precinct is a sandy, single-lane track. Watch out for oncoming traffic and drive to the conditions. Reduce tyre pressure to 20psi or less (trailers included) to
- according to vehicle type and load as well as type of Unlicensed off-road vehicles (quad bikes, motorbikes) are

negotiate the soft sand tracks. The pressure will vary

- not permitted. Remember to inflate tyres when you return to the tyre
- pressure station near Peron Heritage Precinct. Drive only on existing vehicle tracks and keep four-wheel drive engaged to minimise track damage.



Department of Biodiversity,

Conservation and Attractions

PARKS AND
WILDLIFE
SERVICE

you with your GPS location

Parks and Wildlife Service

Knight Terrace, Denham WA 6537

Gascoyne District

sharkbay.org

dbca.wa.gov.au

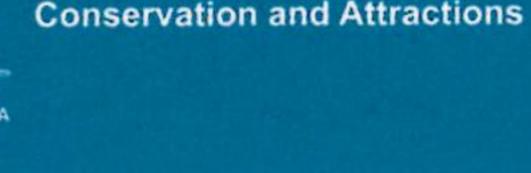
Phone (08) 9948 2226

More information



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Information current at January 2024. Available in alternative formats on request



Visitor guide



RECYCLE Please return unwanted brochures to distribution points



Right Shearing shed at Peron Heritage Precinct.











Walk to the top of the dune at the start of the Wanamalu Trail to soak up the views and striking colours of Peron. From there you can also see many cormorants (known as wanamalu to Malgana







Above A four-wheel-drive vehicle bogged at Herald Bight

Four-wheel driving in Shark Bay

Only high-clearance four-wheel-drive vehicles with low range capability can safely traverse the soft sandy tracks in Shark Bay. All-wheel-drive vehicles are not suitable.

Reduce tyre pressure

Prepare for driving on soft sand by deflating your vehicle's tyres. If you are towing, also deflate your trailer tyres. Reduce tyre pressure to 20psi (140KPa or 1.4 bar) or less if required. Lower driving speeds are essential when driving with deflated tyres.

Remember to reinflate your tyres when returning to two-wheel-drive roads.

Engage four-wheel drive

Make sure four-wheel drive is engaged at all times on sandy tracks. Some vehicles have hubs on the front wheels that need to be locked for four-wheel drive to be engaged. Use H4 and only switch to low range if you get bogged.

If you are not familiar with the vehicle you are driving, check its instructions for engaging four-wheel drive.

If you get stuck

- Check the vehicle is in four-wheel drive. Ensure wheel hubs are locked and the underbody is clear of the sand.
- Reverse over your tracks. If this doesn't work immediately, deflate your tyres a little more.
- You can deflate tyres to 15psi (100KPa or 1.1 bar) if necessary without problems in soft sand but reinflate to 20psi once the vehicle is free.
- If you cannot get out, contact Shark Bay Towing on 0428 481 141 or Outback Coast Towing on 0427 333 590 (service fee applies).

Never leave your vehicle to get help, especially in hot weather.

Driving on sand and clay pans

Most of the four-wheel-drive tracks in Shark Bay are single-lane, soft sand. Be aware of oncoming traffic, especially when approaching bends and corners.

prepare to pull over to the side. Brake gently and come to a rolling stop – avoid sudden braking.

When you see a vehicle coming towards you slow down and

Clay pans are treacherous when wet. Stay on the main track to avoid getting bogged.

In summer, the sand gets extremely hot and softer than normal.

Emergency contact

Mobile telephone coverage is limited or non-existent in most fourwheel-drive areas. In a life threatening situation call 000. If you can only get enough signal for an SMS, text the SES on 0417 097 330.

Below Give way to oncoming traffic and beware of blind bends.

