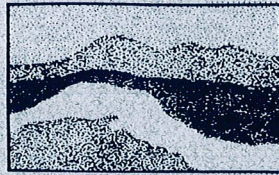
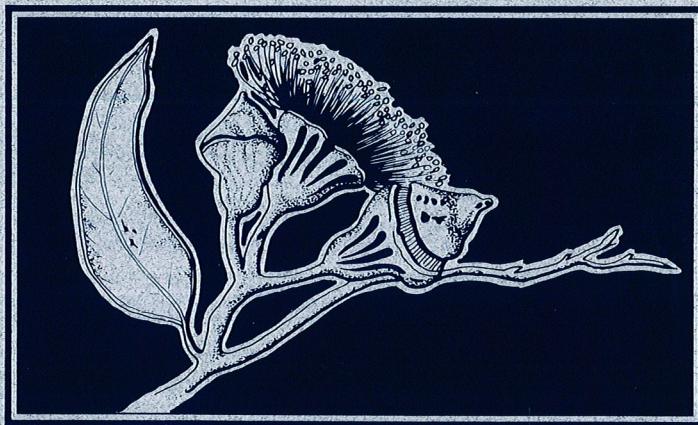


National Parks and Nature
Conservation Authority



ANNUAL REPORT

1 July 1993 - 30 June 1994



National Parks and Nature
Conservation Authority

ANNUAL REPORT

1 July 1993 - 30 June 1994

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National Parks and
Nature Conservation Authority

HON MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

In accordance with Section 31 of the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984, I submit for your information and presentation to Parliament the report on the proceedings of the National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority for the year ending 30 June 1994.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a trailing line, positioned above the typed name.

Tom Day
ACTING CHAIRMAN

12 October 1994

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ACTING CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW

As Acting Chairman it gives me great pleasure to introduce this report of the activities of the National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority for the period 1 July 1993 to 30 June 1994. During this year substantial changes in the membership of the Authority occurred due to the expiry of the terms of appointment of a number of its members. It is appropriate that the dedication, and contribution of outgoing members, Dr Libby Mattiske, Mr Doug Bathgate, Mr Angus Horwood, Mr Rory Neal, Mr Malcolm Trudgen, Mr Michael Hill and Ms Jill Reading be formally acknowledged. Each of these members brought to the Authority a wide array of expertise and knowledge on matters pertaining to the conservation of this State's natural environment. In thanking these outgoing members I must also welcome the new. Members Councillor Don Paterson, Mr Graeme Rundle, Mr Terry Adams, Mr Kelly Gillen, Professor Brian Collins, Mr Kevin McMenemy and myself were appointed to the Authority mid-way through this year. We indeed look forward to carrying out our functions in the same professional and thoughtful manner as our predecessors.

Mention of membership would not be complete without paying special tribute to Professor Arthur McComb, the Authority's Chairman from August 1991 until March 1994. Arthur unexpectedly resigned during the year due to sudden ill health. His excellent chairmanship, dedication, depth of knowledge and tremendous capacity for work will undoubtedly be hard to replace. Arthur's untiring enthusiasm for the work of the Authority coupled with his interest in conservation in this State has been an example for all those who know and have been fortunate to work with him. The good wishes of all his colleagues are extended to him.

Once again it has been a busy year for the NPNCA. New members have assumed their responsibilities admirably and with very little disruption to the flow of work and decision making processes. The consideration of management plans has, as always, occupied a significant proportion of our time. Plans to come before the Authority during the year included the draft plans for the Yalgorup National Park and Lesueur National Park and Coomallo Nature Reserve. Final management plans considered included the John Forrest National Park, West Cape Howe National Park and the Goldfields Region. This latter plan was considered in conjunction with the Lands and Forest Commission. The monitoring of the implementation of approved management plans has also continued with field inspections of the Cape Range National Park and Ningaloo Marine Park taking place.

Significant effort has been dedicated to policy issues. The Authority has developed a further two policies during the period, namely on Drainage and Basic Raw Materials. The need for the former policy arose out of an increasing number of requests from property owners adjoining land vested in the Authority to discharge water into these vested lands. The latter policy details the Authority's position with respect to access to basic raw materials by Government and Local Government within the conservation estate. A new position statement covering "Petroleum exploration and production in marine parks and marine nature reserves" was also finalised and revision made to existing position statements which reflect the Authority's attitudes to mineral and petroleum exploration within the conservation estate. The Authority has also considered matters relating to water skiing and horse riding in the conservation estate. Our positions with respect to these activities are detailed further in this report.

A major concern of the Authority that was discussed on a number of occasions during the year was the protection of the conservation values of our Wheatbelt nature reserves. The NPNCA is frequently faced with applications for exploration and mining in these reserves and has adopted a position where it would normally recommend against these activities in these

areas. It is our view that extensive clearing for agriculture purposes over the years has resulted in salinity and land degradation problems in this area and that remaining pockets of natural vegetation should be protected from further exploitation. We have expressed this view to our Minister in our efforts to secure protection for these reserves. On a similar mission the Authority in conjunction with the Soil and Land Conservation Council prepared a joint report on the "Management of Remnant Vegetation in WA". This was submitted to the Ministers for Primary Industry and the Environment.

Vesting and management of regional parks became a topic of debate during the year. The Authority has advised the Hon Minister that it would be prepared to take on this role since it already has the appropriate community representation, and has responsibility for the preparation of management plans for those parts of a regional park already vested with us. Resolution by Government on future vesting and management of these areas is awaited.

Once again visits have been made possible during the year for representatives of the Authority to a number of our national parks and reserves. The Authority is appreciative to CALM in its support of these visits and also to the many CALM staff in country locations who have been extremely helpful in pointing out various management issues and achievements to us. I thank the CALM *ex officio* members on the Authority and their associated staff for their professional and dedicated approach to the management of the lands and waters vested in the NPNCA. Finally I would like to thank fellow members on the Authority who have provided me with their support during my interim chairmanship and to the Authority's Secretary for her continuing hard work and assistance.

GENERAL INFORMATION

FUNCTIONS OF THE AUTHORITY

The National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority (NPNCA) was created as a Controlling Body under Part III, Section 21 of the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984. The Authority is responsible to the Hon Minister for the Environment.

Western Australia's national parks, conservation parks, nature reserves, marine nature reserves, marine parks and some miscellaneous conservation reserves are vested in the NPNCA. With the exception of some nature reserves which are vested jointly in the NPNCA and another body, the Authority is the sole vestee for these reserves. Day to day management of these vested lands and waters is carried out by the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM).

In addition to being the vested authority for these conservation reserves, Section 22(1) of the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 prescribes the functions of the Authority. These are:

1. Development of Policies
 - (a) for the preservation of the natural environment of the State, and the provision of facilities for the enjoyment of that environment by the community;
 - (b) for promoting the appreciation of flora and fauna, and the natural environment;
 - (c) to achieve and promote the management objectives of the various types of conservation reserve vested in it, as outlined at Section 56 of the Act.
2. With the approval of the Minister, cause study or research to be undertaken to assist in policy development.
3. To consider and advise (in accordance with Section 17) any proposed cancellation, change of purpose or boundary alteration in respect of land vested, whether solely or jointly with an associated body, in the Authority.
4. To submit proposed management plans, for the conservation reserves vested in it, to the Minister for consideration and approval (Part V of the Act).
5. Monitor the carrying out of the management plans, by the Department of Conservation and Land Management, relating to those conservation reserves that are vested in the Authority.
6. Advise the Minister on the development of policies for the conservation and management of the flora and fauna of the State, whether on public or private land.
7. Inquire into and advise the Minister on any matter the Minister has sought the Authority's advice. However, if the matter involves a specific piece of land, the Authority is required under Section 22(4), to first contact the relevant local government council to provide an opportunity for it to comment.

8. In response to requests, provide advice to any person or body on matters relating to conservation reserves vested in the Authority - if it is practical for the Authority to do so and if also in the public interest.

(Note: Except where otherwise indicated, the terms "the Minister", "the Department" and "the Act" used in this report refer to the Minister for the Environment, the Department of Conservation and Land Management and the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984.)

AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

The Authority is made up of 15 members who are appointed under the provisions of Sections 23(1) and 23(2) of the Act, comprising:

- (1) (a) Four *ex officio* members from the Department, being -
- (i) the Executive Director;
 - (ii) the Director of Nature Conservation;
 - (iii) the Director of Parks, Recreation, Planning and Tourism;
 - (iv) the Director of Forests
- (b) Eleven persons appointed by the Governor on the nomination of the Minister, of whom -
- (i) two shall be representative of voluntary organisations having a special interest in conservation, being organisations that are affiliated with the Conservation Council of Western Australia Inc;
 - (ii) two shall be representative of voluntary organisations having a special interest in the use of land, flora and fauna for recreation purposes;
 - (iii) one shall be representative of tertiary education institutions in the State and shall be a person with special knowledge of, and experience in, a discipline relevant to nature conservation;
 - (iv) one shall be representative of bodies or persons the members of which, by reason of their profession, are concerned with nature conservation;
 - (v) two shall be representative of local government and shall be at the time of nomination elected members of a local authority;
 - (vi) one shall be representative of fishing interests;
 - (vii) one shall be a person employed in the Department, not being an *ex officio* member, whose duties relate principally to the management of land vested in the Authority; and
 - (viii) one shall be representative of Aboriginal interests.
- (2) One of the members appointed under subsection (1)(b) shall, on the nomination of the Minister, be appointed by the Governor as chairman and another as deputy chairman.

During the year the terms of appointment of a number of members expired. Interest on serving on the Authority was sought by the Minister for the Environment from the wider community. As a result seven new members, to replace some of those whose terms had expired, were appointed during November 1994. Membership and the category appointed under for the period July 1993 to June 1994 are recorded below.

Ex officio Members

- (1)(a)(i) Dr S R Shea, Executive Director (deputy Mr R J Underwood until 22 April 1994 and Mr C D Haynes from 10 May 1994)
- (1)(a)(ii) Mr K J McNamara, Director of Nature Conservation (deputies Mr J Blyth, Mr F Batini and Mr H Chevis from 12 January 1994)
- (1)(a)(iii) Mr C D Haynes, Director of Parks, Recreation, Planning and Tourism (deputies Mr J Sharp, Mr W Schmidt and Mr J Williamson)
- (1)(a)(iv) Mr D Keene, Director of Forests (deputies Mr D Haswell to 18 October 1993, Mr G Heberle from 18 October 1993 and Mr P Jones)

Appointed Members

- (1)(b)(i) Mr M Trudgen to 9 November 1993
Mrs J Reading to 10 December 1993
Mrs M Blackwell from 9 November 1993
Mr G Rundle from 10 December 1993
- (1)(b)(ii) Mrs M Blackwell to 9 November 1993
Professor B Collins from 9 November 1993
Mr S Wilke
- (1)(b)(iii) Professor A J McComb (Chairman) to 28 March 1994, then vacant
- (1)(b)(iv) Dr E M Matiske (Deputy Chairman) to 9 November 1993
Mr K McMenemy from 9 November 1993
- (1)(b)(v) Cr D Bathgate to 9 November 1993
Cr M Greenup to 9 November 1993
Cr T Day (Deputy Chairman) from 9 November 1993
Cr D Paterson from 9 November 1993
- (1)(b)(vi) Mr A Horwood to 9 November 1993
Mr T Adams from 9 November 1993
- (1)(b)(vii) Mr R Neal to 9 November 1993
Mr K Gillen from 9 November 1993
- (1)(b)(viii) Mr M Hill to 9 November 1993, then vacant

AUTHORITY MEETINGS

Meetings of the full Authority were held on eleven occasions during the period. These were:

9 July 1993	11 February 1994
13 August 1993	11 March 1994
10 September 1993	8 April 1994
8 October 1993	13 May 1994
10 December 1993	10 June 1994
14 January 1994	

The Authority did not meet in November 1993 due to the impending announcement of membership changes at the time of its scheduled meeting. In addition to the above meetings, the Authority has a number of smaller committees formed to deal with specific issue and policy matters. These committees met on an "as needs basis" during the period.

RESOURCES

The Department provides the necessary secretarial staff to the Authority, being part of one officer's duties plus typing services. The Department's *ex officio* members on the Authority provide substantial input to the Authority, from their own resources and drawing upon various departmental officers as required.

The NPNCA has no financial functions. Costs relating to honoraria, travel costs and day to day running costs are met from the Consolidated Fund appropriation of the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

THE CONSERVATION ESTATE

LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

Under Section 22(1)(a) of the CALM Act, the NPNCA is the vested authority for conservation reserves to which the Act applies. The Authority considers any cancellation and change of purpose or boundary for its B and C Class reserves under Section 22(1)(c).

CATEGORIES OF RESERVE AND FUNCTIONS

National parks, conservation parks, nature reserves, marine nature reserves and marine parks are the five main conservation reserve categories vested in the NPNCA under Section 7 of the CALM Act. Other reserves may be vested in the Authority under the Land Act. These categories are defined as:

National parks. These are usually Class A (some are Class C) and are for the purposes of wildlife and landscape conservation, scientific study and preservation of features of archaeological, historic or scientific interest, together with recreational enjoyment by the public. The classification of national park applies to areas which have national or international significance for scenic, cultural or biological values.

Conservation parks. These can be Class A, B or C. Conservation parks have the same purposes as national parks, but they do not have the same national or international significance. They also may be relatively small in size or their landscape or biota affected by past land use. The first conservation parks were gazetted in June 1992.

Nature reserves. These can be Class A, B or C. Nature reserves are for the purposes of wildlife and landscape conservation, scientific study and preservation of features of archaeological, historic or scientific interest. These are areas in which nature conservation values may not be commercially exploited, and no recreation which damages natural ecosystems is allowed.

Marine parks. These can be Class A. (To date all marine parks are Class A reserves under the CALM Act.) Marine parks are West Australian waters reserved and managed for marine conservation and recreation. Areas may be zoned for commercial fishing on an ecologically sustainable basis.

Marine nature reserves. These can be Class A. (To date there is only one marine nature reserve established. It has been classified Class A under the CALM Act.) Marine nature reserves are West Australian waters managed for the conservation of marine and terrestrial flora and fauna and their habitats. Fishing and collecting are not permitted.

Section 5(g) reserves. These can be Class A, B or C. Reserves with purposes other than those established under the CALM Act may be reserved and vested in the Authority under the Land Act. Most of these reserves have a conservation purpose, for example land abutting the Ningaloo Marine Park between the High Water Mark and the Ningaloo, Cardabia and Warroora pastoral leases has been reserved for the purpose of marine park and vested in the Authority.

The management of all vested conservation reserves (both terrestrial and marine) is carried out by the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

LAND CLASSIFICATIONS AND SECURITY OF TENURE

All Land Act reserves are classified as either Class A, Class B or Class C. Marine reserves established under the CALM Act may be classified as Class A. The level of classification reflects the level of approval required to alter their boundaries or purpose:

<i>Class A</i>	Approval of both Houses of Parliament (Western Australia)
<i>Class B</i>	Approval of the Governor, provided the Minister for Lands presents a report to Parliament
<i>Class C</i>	Approval of the Governor

Class A reserves are therefore more "secure" than Class B or C reserves.

AREA VESTED

National park. As at 30 June 1994, 63 national parks totalling 4,836,571 hectares were vested in the Authority. Some notable changes to the national park estate during the year consisted of an increase of 20,848 hectares to Karijini National Park, a net increase of 300 hectares to Rudall River National Park and an increase of 264 hectares to Tuart Forest National Park as a result of the inclusion of revoked State Forest No. 1 (Minninup Block).

Conservation parks. The area of conservation park vested in the Authority as at 30 June 1994 was 87,119 hectares. Notable additions include the creation of Devonian Reef (41,371 hectares), Geikie Gorge (5332 hectares) and Brooking Gorge (7967 hectares) Conservation Parks.

Nature reserves. The area of nature reserves vested in the Authority as at 30 June 1994 was 10,769,699 hectares. Notable additions included the creation of a new nature reserve in the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes (399 hectares) and a new reserve in the Esperance district of 11,571 hectares.

Marine parks and marine nature reserves. There were no changes to the area of marine park and marine nature reserve vested in the Authority during the period. Total vested areas as at 30 June 1994 were:

Marine park	1,013,940 hectares (approximately)
Marine nature reserve	132,000 hectares (approximately)

Further details of these areas are embodied in the annual report of the Department.

CONSIDERATIONS OF PROPOSED CHANGES FOR VESTED LANDS AND WATERS

As the vested controlling body, the Authority considered a number of proposals presented to it throughout the year relating to boundary changes, classification changes and vesting. These are summarised below.

- The relocation of Reserve 24916, vested in the Minister for Education for a Youth Hostel site, from the centre of Stinton Cascade Nature Reserve 19662 to the boundary of the reserve and adjacent to Brookton Highway was agreed to. The relocation was considered advantageous to the protection of the values of the reserve.

- Ways of preventing stock from neighbouring privately owned land entering the adjacent Lukin Lake Nature Reserve which adjoins the Normans Lake Nature Reserve, Shire of Narrogin were discussed. The Authority endorsed an option for the landowner to construct a stock-proof fence outside the Lukin Lake Nature Reserve boundary to increase the fringing vegetation around the lake. In exchange for this land which would be included in the nature reserve boundary, it was agreed that the landowner should either receive freehold the laneway between the two lakes or it would be covered by an agreement. The Authority agreed that the greater area of vegetated freehold land adjoining the lake fringe being exchanged for the cleared laneway within Reserve 26785 would benefit nature conservation values.
- A proposal for the excision of 10 m by 84 m along the boundary of Nature Reserve 14493 within the Mt Barker district to allow the owners of adjacent private property permanent access to their land was discussed. The Authority agreed to the excision from the nature reserve.
- The Authority considered and approved an excision of 3 hectares from Brookton Highway Nature Reserve C36742 (vested for the purpose of "Conservation of Flora and Fauna") to allow for realignment of the Brookton Highway. The excised area would be vested with Main Roads, Western Australia.
- Approval for the excision from the Beekeeper Nature Reserve C24496 of the Coolimba to Illawong Road (constructed and sealed in the period 1983-1990, prior to the vesting of the reserve in the NPNCA) was given. The road forms the border between Beekeeper Reserve C24496 and Parkland, Recreation and Letting of Cottages Reserve 42477, vested in the Shire of Carnamah. The excision would not result in any division of the nature reserve.
- Reserve A24943, of 1.6187 hectares, located on the Albany Highway south of Mt Barker was considered for offering to Main Roads WA as an addition to the road reserve. The Authority agreed that the reserve was unsuitable for retention as a nature reserve, being too small, too vulnerable to invasion by weeds, and of little value as a corridor.
- Reserve 18155 (10 km north-east of Quairading), of about 7 hectares, became vested in the NPNCA in 1991 as a result of provisions in an amendment to the Conservation and Land Management Act. During a subsequent review of B and C Class reserves the Authority recommended in July 1991 that the reserve be vested with the Shire of Quairading for Landscape Protection and Conservation. Following further investigation the Department advised this year that it considered that the reserve would be useful as a site for threatened flora recovery. The Authority agreed that its July 1991 recommendation be rescinded and the reserve be vested in the Executive Director for the purpose of Native Flora Re-establishment under section 5(g) of the CALM Act.
- The Authority concurred with a proposal for excision of approximately 1.4 hectares from Reserve C39322 within the Shire of Victoria Plains to accommodate the Waddington-Wongan Hills Road. It was noted that the road had been in existence for some time and forms a major transport link to the Great Northern Highway for residents of Wongan Hills and Piawanning.

allow the legal continuation of water skiing. The Authority's earlier advice on this matter recommended against the gazettal of the activity as it was not consistent with the purpose of nature reserve.

- The Authority agreed to a proposal for the excision of a section of C Class Nature Reserve 24496, known as Beekeeper Reserve, and its temporary vesting in the Shire of Irwin for the purpose of squatter shack removal under the State Government Squatter Policy. Agreement to the excision was on the grounds of a Memorandum of Understanding being established between CALM and the Shire for return of appropriate areas to the conservation estate after the six year period.
- The Authority considered a proposal for the revesting of Reserve 24439 in the Shire of Cuballing, with a change in purpose to "Landscape Protection". The reserve, consisting of about 2.3 hectares, had suffered a high degree of disturbance and was considered no longer suitable as a nature reserve. The proposed revesting and change in purpose was endorsed.

MINING ISSUES

BACKGROUND

Mineral development within Western Australia is permitted under a variety of tenements (licences, leases, permits) which are regulated under the Mining Act 1978. The Mining Act 1978; Petroleum Act 1967; Petroleum Pipelines Act 1969; Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1982 prevail over the Conservation and Land Management Act. Environmental conditions imposed on tenements and projects vary according to the nature of the project and the tenure of the land affected. Details on these environmental conditions are available from the Department of Minerals and Energy.

STATE GOVERNMENT POLICY

Current Government policy allows exploration and mining in terrestrial and marine conservation areas in accordance with the Mining Act, Petroleum Act, Petroleum Pipelines Act and Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act. Table 1 shows the procedural and statutory requirements for terrestrial exploration and mining.

NPNCA POLICY

The NPNCA is opposed to mining in nature reserves and national parks, because mining is not compatible with the purposes for which such lands are vested in the Authority. The Authority, however, acknowledges Government's prerogative to determine policy in this area and is

- (a) involved in the process of reviewing applications for exploration, prospecting and mining;
- (b) identifies the most important biological values and natural landscape features of the conservation estate, and seeks to protect them from any detrimental impact; and
- (c) recommends appropriate conditions and restrictions so as to minimise detrimental environmental impacts.

The Authority scrutinises applications to mine or explore in conservation reserves vested in it and provides advice to the Minister for the Environment on such proposals.

With respect to NPNCA involvement concerning petroleum exploration and production in national parks, nature reserves, marine parks and marine nature reserves, current legislation does not contain a formal requirement for comment by the NPNCA or Minister for the Environment, until such time as an area has been declared "Crown land" within the meaning of the Petroleum Act, and then only in relation to flora and fauna conservation. Current involvement of the NPNCA relies on the Environmental Protection Act and on administrative arrangements.

Further information in relation to NPNCA position on mining and hydrocarbon extraction and exploration is available from our position statements.

REFERRAL PROCEDURES FOR MINING ACT TENEMENTS

Referral procedures for Mining Act tenements affecting NPNCA vested lands are displayed in Table 1.¹

1993/94 MINING ISSUES CONSIDERED

Matters relating to mining and exploration in NPNCA vested lands and waters continued to occupy a large percentage of the Authority's time. Details on the numbers of tenements processed during the year and in comparison to the previous three years are shown at Figure 1.

- **Geological Survey Permits**

The Authority considered and gave advice to the Minister on applications for geological survey permits over parts of the Great Victoria Desert Nature Reserve A30490, Plumridge Lakes Nature Reserve A34605, Dundas Nature Reserve B36957, Nuytsland Nature Reserve A27632, Karroun Hill Nature Reserve A36936, Wongmine Nature Reserve A33697 and Rudall River National Park A34607.

- **Exploration Licences**

The Authority considered and gave advice to the Minister on a number of exploration and prospecting licences over the year. These included:

- (i) a recommendation against the granting of exploration and prospecting licences within the Bodallin Nature Reserve due to the diversity of Eucalypts and poor conservation status of wheatbelt communities;
- (ii) consideration to the granting of exploration licences within the Ravensthorpe Range, Pinjarrega, Gingilup Swamps, Jilbadji and Beekeeper Nature Reserves;
- (iii) recommended refusal of prospecting licence 77/3024 affecting Lake Campion Nature Reserve;
- (iv) exploration licence applications affecting parts of the Karijini and Rudall River National Parks.

- **Seismic Surveys - Petroleum**

Applications were referred to the Authority for seismic surveys affecting Barrow Island, Thevenard Island, Serrurier Island (Pilbara Region) and Woodada gas field (Midwest Region) (affecting private property and conservation reserves). Approval was recommended in each case subject to conditions, one of which would involve an experienced botanist walking the lines prior to any clearing.

¹ Department of Minerals and Energy, WA. Information Series - Guidelines for the Applications of Environmental Conditions for Exploration and Mining.

Table 1

REFERRAL PROCEDURES FOR MINING TENEMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH AREAS OF ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY (NPNCA VESTED LANDS)

TENEMENT	LAND TENURE		
	NATIONAL PARK	"A" NATURE RESERVE, CONSERVATION PARK	"B" & "C" NATURE RESERVES, CONSERVATION PARK
Geoscientific Survey - (no environmental significant disturbance) Note (d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to CALM (& NPNCA) Min. for Env. concurrence GSP Conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to CALM (& NPNCA) Min. for Env. concurrence GSP Conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to CALM (& NPNCA) Min. for Env. recommendation GSP Conditions
Grant of Prospecting & Exploration Licences (no environmentally significant disturbance)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess by DOME Refer to CALM/NPNCA DEP notified (not referred to EPA) Note (e) Min. for Env. concurrence A1 Conditions Note (c) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess by DOME Refer to CALM/NPNCA DEP notified (not referred to EPA) Note (e) Min. for Env. concurrence A1 Conditions Note (c) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to CALM & NPNCA Min. for Env. recommendation A1 Conditions Note (c)
Prospecting & Exploration activity (environmentally significant disturbance) Note (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to CALM/NPNCA. DEP notified. Refer to EPA if required by CALM. Forward to DEP for information for subsequent stages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to CALM/NPNCA. DEP notified. Refer to EPA if required by CALM. Forward to DEP for information for subsequent stages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to A1 conditions Refer to EPA if required by CALM
Grant of Mining Lease (no environmentally significant disturbance) Mining activity (environmentally significant disturbance) Note (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess by DOME Refer to CALM/NPNCA NOI, required by DOME/CALM EPA assessment Parliamentary concurrence Title granted and conditions set 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess by DOME Refer to CALM/NPNCA NOI, required by DOME/CALM EPA assessment Parliamentary concurrence Title granted and conditions set 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess by DOME NOI required by DOME/CALM Refer to EPA if significant impact (MOU) Min. for Env. recommendation Title granted and conditions set - based on F Conditions
Miscellaneous Licences, General Purpose Leases	Case by case basis - DOME refers to EPA only if potential significant environmental impact		

EXPLANATORY NOTES

In accordance with the Mining Act any proposals can be referred at any time to EPA

- Note(a) Environmentally significant disturbance based on agreed list developed between CALM, EPA and DOME.
- Note(b) Other Environmentally Sensitive areas as agreed between DOME, EPA and CALM and marked on public plans.
- Note(c) Apply "No Mining" conditions for minor overlaps if not important to applicant. Notify CALM after grant.
- Note(d) Geoscientific Survey permits issued pursuant to S24 of the Mining Act.
- Note(e) If referred by member of the public EPA will obtain further advice from NPNCA and DOME before deciding on assessment.

MOU Memorandum of Understanding negotiated between EPA and DOME.

NPNCA National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority

LFC Land and Forests Commission

DRF Declared Rare Flora

DOME Department of Minerals and Energy

EPA Environmental Protection Authority

DEP Department of Environmental Protection

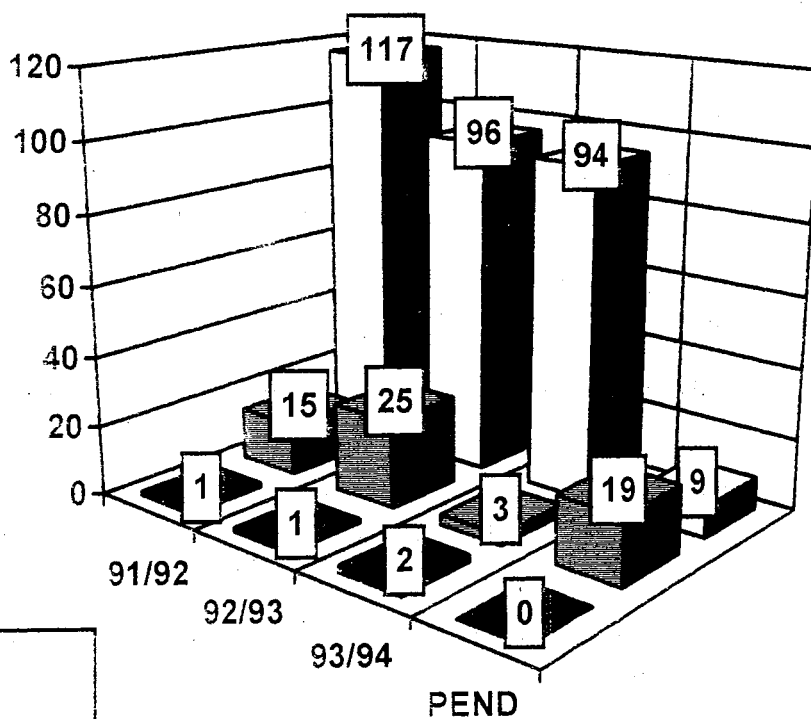
NOI Notice of Intent

Re DEP/EPA involvement: "Refer" means formal referral under the Environmental Protection Act; "Notified" means DEP advised of issue but it is not a formal referral; and "Forwarded" means exploration program details are sent to DEP for information.

All productive mining proposals in sensitive environments will be referred to the EPA.

Figure 1

TENEMENTS PROCESSED FOR
LAND VESTED OR PROPOSED VESTED NPNCA
AND TENEMENTS PENDING FOR LAND VESTED NPNCA
25 MAY 1994



■ OTHER
■ MINING
□ EXPLORE/PROSPECT

- **Petroleum - Drilling**

Applications were received during the period for drilling on Varanus Island (Tanami 3 well) and on Thevenard Island (Pilbara Region) (Crest proposal and Saladin 11). Approval for drilling was recommended subject to conditions.

- **Petroleum - Other**

Other issues discussed relating to petroleum operations on offshore islands included: Thevenard Island - relocation of the WAPET helipad, new access road and additions to the accommodation camp; Varanus Island - mice infestation, seagull control and a management plan for the island; Airlie Island - demanning proposal and annual report of operations.

The Authority continued to interact on a positive note with two oil companies having leases on NPNCA lands, ie WAPET and Hadson Energy Ltd. Considerable feedback was received from WAPET on the Authority's report from its 1992/93 biennial inspection of Barrow and Thevenard Islands. The Authority was also briefed by Hadson Energy on its Tanami 3 drilling program, Varanus Island.

OTHER MINING ISSUES

- The Authority towards the end of 1992/93 provided advice to the Minister against the granting of three exploration licences applied for by FALX Pty Ltd which covered a significant part of the wilderness area of the Fitzgerald River National Park. We are pleased to record that the portions of the applications which fell inside the national park were refused by the Minister for Mines on environmental grounds.
- The Authority finalised its position statement on "Petroleum exploration and production in marine parks and marine nature reserves" during the period.
- Draft "Guidelines for flora and fauna surveys on land vested in the NPNCA" were prepared and provided to the Department of Environmental Protection for comment. The Authority decided to prepare these guidelines when it became apparent that the level of information presented by some proponents for proposed activities which impinged on the natural resources of vested lands was inadequate to assess the potential impacts.
- The Authority is pleased to record the upgrading of the classification of the Capel Nature Reserve 16144 from C Class to A Class following unsuccessful exploration.
- During the period the Minister for Transport and the Minister for the Environment established a State Gravel Supply Strategy Group to report and make recommendations to the Government for the future supply of road building materials within the State. The NPNCA is pleased to be represented on this group. In regards to the extraction of basic raw materials from conservation reserves the Authority has finalised its policy statement and has provided it to CALM suggesting it be adopted jointly.
- The Authority provided comment to the EPA on the Consultative Environmental Review (CER) for a "Proposal to mine agricultural gypsum from Lake Chinocup A Class Nature Reserve 28395." Due to the high nature conservation values of the reserve the Authority opposed the project. The EPA recommendation to the Minister

for the Environment is that the project be opposed on environmental grounds. An appeal on this recommendation has been lodged by the proponents.

- The Authority recommended against a request by Gascoyne Gold Mines N.L. to make a light vehicle access track from the Mt Day Road to the E77/168 baseline through the Jilbadji Nature Reserve 24049.
- A representative from the Authority accompanied departmental staff on an inspection of mining activity affecting Mt Hampton, Jilbadji, Bodallin and Lake Campion Nature Reserves. A breach of conditions had occurred at Cheritons Nevoria gold mine, Jilbadji Nature Reserve, involving the removal and burial of top soil. Urgent action was subsequently taken by CALM and DOME to ensure the company remedied the problem, which was done. The mining operation has now ceased and the area has been rehabilitated.

MINING EXPLORATION AND MINING IN NPNCA VESTED WHEATBELT NATURE RESERVES

Following an increased number of exploration and mining applications affecting Wheatbelt Nature Reserves the NPNCA has adopted a position where it will normally recommend against applications for exploration and mining in these reserves. The Authority considers that this is a region which has been subject to massive clearing (figures indicate that as much as 93 percent of the region has been cleared) for agricultural purposes and as such is now suffering in terms of salinity and other land degradation problems. Often these Wheatbelt reserves support rare flora and undoubtedly provide important wildlife corridors. The Authority considers that the value of the conservation estate in this area may, in many cases, be considered greater than the economic value of the mining. This view was expressed by the Authority to the Minister.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

A statutory function of the Authority (refer Section 22 1(b) of the CALM Act) is to develop policies: for the preservation of the natural environment of the State, and the provision of facilities for the enjoyment of that environment by the community; for promoting the appreciation of flora and fauna, and the natural environment; and to achieve and promote the management objectives of the various types of vested conservation reserves as outlined at Section 56 of the Act.

CALM POLICY STATEMENTS

The Department produces policy statements on relevant matters. They serve to provide practical guidelines for CALM staff in the performance of their duties and also to provide to the public, if called upon, a statement about these management guidelines. Where directly relevant to the Authority they are presented to us for comment and formal endorsement. Once endorsed they are accepted as NPNCA policy. Where the policy is one of an administrative nature and does not relate to the Authority's function these are simply noted. Table 2 lists the CALM Policy Statements now endorsed and adopted by the Authority. Table 3 lists those noted by us.

During the year the following CALM Policy Statements were discussed in detail and endorsed by the Authority:

No. 13	Commercial flora harvesting
No. 24	Conservation and management of crocodiles
No. 50	Setting priorities for the conservation of WA's threatened flora and fauna
No. 51	Access for commercial fishing through CALM lands
No. 52	Management of north-west islands for conservation

NPNCA POLICY AND POSITION STATEMENTS

A number of policy and position statements have also been formulated by the Authority. These are listed at Table 4. Copies are available on request.

The two policies developed during the period were Drainage Policy and Basic Raw Materials Policy. The need for the former policy arose from an increasing number of requests from property owners adjoining land vested in the Authority to discharge water into these vested lands. The latter policy details the Authority's position with respect to access to basic raw materials by Government and local government within the conservation estate.

The Authority's earlier position statements on "Mining in National Parks and Nature Reserves" and "Petroleum Exploration and Production in National Parks and Nature Reserves" were revised during the year and a further position statement on "Petroleum Exploration and Production in Marine Parks and Marine Nature Reserves" formulated and provided to the Minister. Work was also undertaken towards drafting "Guidelines for flora and fauna surveys on land vested in the NPNCA".

Table 2

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT

**POLICY STATEMENTS ENDORSED AND ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL PARKS
AND NATURE CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

NO.	TITLE	DATE OF ISSUE
1	Planning	January 1986
3	Phytophthora dieback (Revised)	February 1991
4	Cancelled - see 15	
7	Cancelled	
9	Conservation of threatened flora in the wild (Revised)	December 1992
10	Rehabilitation of disturbed land	November 1986
11	Protection of Aboriginal sites	Yet to be issued
13	Commercial flora harvesting	November 1993
14	Weeds on CALM lands	November 1986
15	Community involvement	May 1991
18	Recreation (Revised)	May 1991
19	Fire management	May 1987
20	A marine and estuarine reserves system in Western Australia (Revised)	November 1990
22	Taking, keeping and display of live reptiles	November 1992
23	Conservation and management of emus	May 1990
24	Conservation and management of crocodiles	June 1993
25	Community education and interpretation	January 1988
27	CALM's role in management of native vegetation in rural areas	August 1990
28	Reporting, monitoring and re-evaluation of ecosystems and ecosystem management	September 1988
29	Captive breeding and cultivation of endangered species and their re-establishment or translocation in the wild (Revised)	December 1991
31	Management of reserves for the conservation of nature	March 1990
32	Cancelled - see 15	
33	Conservation of endangered and specially protected fauna in the wild (Revised)	December 1991
34	Visual resource management of lands and waters managed by CALM	November 1989
39	Fees and charges	January 1991
40	Road management	November 1991
41	Beekeeping on public lands	April 1992
44	Wildlife management programs	May 1992
45	Environmental monitoring of pesticides used by CALM	July 1992
49	Radio communications facilities	July 1993
50	Setting priorities for the conservation of WA's threatened flora and fauna	Yet to be issued
51	Access for commercial fishing through CALM lands	November 1993
52	Management of north-west islands for conservation	Yet to be issued

Table 3

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT

**ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY STATEMENTS FORWARDED
TO THE NATIONAL PARKS AND NATURE CONSERVATION
AUTHORITY FOR INFORMATION**

NO.	TITLE	DATE OF ISSUE
2	Local Government Authority Access to Basic Raw Materials from State Forest and Timber Reserves (Revised)	February 1993
5	Research and Technical Publications (Revised)	August 1988
6	Staff Training and Career Development	January 1986
8	Budget Preparation and Control (Revised)	April 1992
12	Arbor Day	August 1986
16	Computer Purchase and Use	December 1986
17	Housing	February 1987
21	Communications	August 1987
26	Equal Employment Opportunity (Revised)	February 1990
30	Harassment in the Workplace	December 1988
35	Aboriginal Employment and Training	December 1991
36	Post-graduate Studies and Study Grants (Revised)	January 1991
37	Filling Vacancies by Promotion or Transfer	December 1990
38	Business Units	January 1991
42	Staff Counselling	April 1992
43	Occupation Rehabilitation	March 1992
46	External Funds	August 1992
47	Control of Sirex Woodwasps in Pine Plantations	June 1993
48	Freedom of Information in CALM	September 1993

Table 4

NATIONAL PARKS AND NATURE CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

POSITION AND POLICY STATEMENTS

DATE	POLICY STATEMENTS
August 1989	Wilderness Policy
December 1991	Aboriginal involvement in National Parks and Nature Conservation
April 1993	Mosquito Control
April 1994	Drainage Policy
May 1994	Basic Raw Materials Policy

DATE	POSITION STATEMENTS
September 1993	Mining in National Parks and Nature Reserves (Revised)
September 1993	Petroleum Exploration and Production in National Parks and Nature Reserves (Revised)
September 1993	Petroleum Exploration and Production in Marine Parks and Marine Nature Reserves

OTHER POLICY AREAS

- A committee of the Authority was convened to formulate a position on horse-riding in vested lands. This has culminated in a number of suggested amendments to CALM Policy Statement 18 - Recreation, Tourism and Visitor Services. The Authority recognised that horse riding is an appropriate activity in some areas where environmental and social impacts are manageable. Horse-riding will not be permitted in wilderness areas, areas of special scientific or cultural value, or other areas requiring special protection. Horse-riding may be provided for in national parks, conservation parks, and in some circumstances in nature reserves, by way of an approved management plan.
- The Authority continued to be represented on the State Weed Strategy Working Group. The Working Group (consisting of representatives from the Soil and Land Conservation Council, Agriculture Protection Board and the NPNCA) was formed last year to develop a Weeds Strategy for WA.
- In conjunction with the Soil and Land Conservation Council, a joint report on the "Management of Remnant Vegetation in WA" was submitted to the Ministers for Primary Industry and the Environment. The report will provide input to Government consideration of policy on this important conservation issue.
- Policy in relation to water skiing within nature reserves arose during the period. The Authority concluded that where there was evidence that water skiing had an historical basis it would be considered in accordance with the protection of nature conservation values of the reserve.
- The Authority participated in a review conducted by the Fisheries Department on the recreational fishing rules for the Ningaloo Marine Park. The amended rules were endorsed by the Authority and presented by the Fisheries Department to the Ministers for Fisheries and the Environment for their consideration. The recommendations included, amongst others, the retaining of a possession limit as a recreational fishing control on Ningaloo Marine Park. The bag limit provisions for Ningaloo Marine Park remain and the current restrictions on spearfishing as indicated in the management plan for the park remain.
- The Authority was advised by SECWA of the intention to modify legislation for control of vegetation near powerlines. The Authority considers that SECWA should be accountable and responsible for its activities on conservation lands.
- An oral submission was given by representatives of the Authority to the Ministerial Review Panel looking at CALM's prescribed burning practices and wildfire threat analysis. Points addressed included management plans and fire management regimes, the purposes of burning including protection of life and property and the NPNCA's role.
- The Authority considered a position paper prepared by CALM's Wheatbelt Region on "Options for the management of small and badly degraded nature reserves". The position paper was endorsed subject to minor amendment.
- The Authority was briefed on the progress of a literature review and eastern states research into the interaction of hive bees with conservation values. Results of these studies are awaited.

- Proposed changes to the Schedule of Declared Rare Flora were considered and endorsed for submission to the Minister. The proposed changes included 13 additions and 12 deletions to the Schedule along with 2 transfers from "Presumed Extinct" to "Taxa known to be Extant" and 11 nomenclature changes.
- Kangaroo Management: The Authority endorsed the 1994 commercial harvest quotas for Western Australia for the Red Kangaroo (220,000), for the Western Grey Kangaroo (60,000) and for the Euro (18,000).

MANAGEMENT PLANS

LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND AND MANAGEMENT PLAN DEVELOPMENT

The Authority (under Section 22(1)(d) of the Act) is required to submit proposed management plans for lands vested in it to the Minister.

The CALM Act commits CALM to the preparation of management plans for all lands and waters under its control, including those vested in the NPNCA. The Authority appreciates the work done on its behalf and thanks those staff involved for their assistance and cooperation.

Management plans contain statements on the purpose and background of the plan; the resource information on which the plan is based; management problems and discussion of options where appropriate; and a summary of the operations proposed to be undertaken in respect of that land during a period not exceeding 10 years. The Authority scrutinises all draft plans for areas vested in it. The draft plan is then released for public comment for a period not less than two months and written submissions are received from any interested person or group during that time. The Planning Team for each plan analyses and summarises all public submissions and makes changes to the plan where appropriate. A suggested final plan is then presented to the Authority for consideration and forwarding to the Minister (with any amendments) for approval for adoption. Table 5 lists the management plans approved whilst Table 6 shows those currently in preparation.

During the year the Authority approved for forwarding to the Minister for his approval the final management plans for John Forrest National Park, West Cape Howe National Park and the Goldfields Region (in conjunction with the Lands and Forest Commission).

The following draft management plans were approved for public release during the year:

- Yalgorup National Park
- Lesueur National Park and Coomallo Nature Reserve

The following final management plans were approved by the Minister during the year:

Final Management Plan	Date approved by Minister
John Forrest National Park	26 April 1994

In addition to consideration of the above draft and final management plans the Authority was briefed on progress with management planning for the Shark Bay World Heritage area and corresponded with the Lands and Forest Commission (LFC) with respect to management plan development for the Dryandra Woodland. As it is the intention that the vesting of a large section of the Dryandra Woodland be transferred to the NPNCA, the LFC has agreed that consideration of the final plan be handled jointly.

MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The NPNCA has a responsibility under the Conservation and Land Management Act to monitor the implementation of approved management plans (Section 22 1(e) of the CALM Act). As stated in previous annual reports a method of reviewing the progress of implementation of the management plans has been developed by departmental officers in

consultation with NPNCA representatives. Due to considerable changes to our membership midway through this year effort in this area was not as concentrated as we would have liked, however it is pleasing to record that inspections were made late in the period by Authority representatives and local CALM staff of the Cape Range National Park and Ningaloo Marine Park. This now brings those plans reviewed by the Authority to those listed below:

Management Plan	Review Date
Benger Swamp Nature Reserve	November 1991
Leeuwin Naturaliste National Park	November 1991/March 1993
Lane Poole Reserve	November 1992
Shannon D'Entrecasteaux National Park	November 1992
Nature Reserves of the Shires of York and Northam	October 1993
Cape Range National Park	May 1994
Ningaloo Marine Park	May 1994

Criteria for assessing each of the prescriptions in the management plans have now been progressively developed and refined to include - completion status; quality of work; ease of implementation; relevance to future plans; revised priority and primary responsibility. Some positive outcomes of these reviews have been noted as: achievements readily recognised; completion status of each strategy readily shown; local skill and effort acknowledged by NPNCA; input of knowledge and experience of NPNCA members; higher profile of NPNCA; continued interaction of NPNCA members and CALM staff; continued refinement of implementation review process.

In addition to the above the full Authority was also briefed by departmental officers on progress with the implementation of the Yanchep National Park and Fitzgerald River National Park Management Plans.

MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Interim management

Necessary Operations. In the absence of an approved management plan for NPNCA vested lands and waters certain necessary operations may be undertaken by the Department on nature reserves and marine nature reserves in accordance with Section 33(3)(b)(i) of the Act. Such operations are defined as "those that are necessary for the preservation or protection of persons, property, land, flora or fauna, or for the preparation of a management plan". CALM's Administrative Instruction No. 23 "Interim Guidelines for Operations" applies to the implementation of necessary operations. It is not a requirement that necessary operations be referred to the Authority, however our advice is often sought.

Compatible Operations. Section 33(3)(b)(ii) provides that "compatible operations" may be undertaken in national parks, conservation parks and marine parks where there is no approved management plan. Compatible operations include "necessary operations" (see above) but may also include operations approved by the Minister for the Environment as being compatible with the purpose for which the park is managed. Before the Minister can approve such an operation it must be publicly notified and an opportunity for public submissions must be provided as for management plans. Advice from the Authority on compatible operations is sought as required.

Issues Considered

Many issues relating to management plans and interim management matters were considered during the year. These included:

- Briefings by departmental officers on the outcomes of the Leeuwin Naturaliste Task Force.
- Consideration of a proposal from the Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee on a proposed fishing enhancement program for Rowles Lagoon within the Rowles Lagoon Nature Reserve. The Authority considers that further research is required on the impacts of introduced fish on the native fauna and existing ecosystems.
- Discussed a proposal for water skiing on Rowles Lagoon within the Rowles Lagoon Nature Reserve. The Authority recommended against the activity as it was not considered consistent with the purpose of a nature reserve. The Authority wishes to record, however, that the activity will be allowed following Ministerial decision to change the purpose of that part of Rowles Lagoon from nature reserve to conservation park.
- Approved continuing water skiing on Bennetts Lake and noted the Interim Guidelines for Necessary Operations for the lake. The monitoring program for the skiing contained in the guidelines was endorsed by the Authority.
- Consideration of the final lease agreement for the Yanchep Inn, Yanchep National Park.
- Consideration of a new lease for the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club.
- Approval of a proposal subject to conditions for a road through Rudall River National Park to provide a safer road to Punmu.
- Approval of a diversion bank within the Kodjilup Nature Reserve to divert poorer quality water to the already saline Tone River. The diversion would ensure saline water is kept away from the nature reserve.
- The Authority noted the Interim Guidelines for Necessary Operations for the Beekeepers Nature Reserve and adjoining Crown lands of the Northern Sandplain; and the Queen Victoria Springs Nature Reserve.
- Approved the licensing of continued commercial rabbit shooting in the Great Victoria Desert Nature Reserve for a period of five years.
- Consideration was given to a request from the Minister for the removal of the five year time limit set by the previous Government on the Shire of Dandaragan's access to gravel from Reserve 35593 adjoining the Lesueur National Park. The Authority concurred with the request for an extension of the time limit for gravel extraction and suggested annual renewal. The Minister however requested CALM prepare a lease for 21 years and supported the NPNCA suggestion that the Shire provide an annual report of extraction and also be asked to seek alternative sources and technologies to meet their long-term needs.
- Agreed to the construction of the Karijini National Park link road between Marandoo access road and Mt Bruce.

- Noted progress with the control of goats and box thorn on Cull Island near Esperance. Briefed on gull control on Lancelin Island.
- Considered and agreed to in principle a sub-catchment drainage package for Lake Toolibin following increased waterlogging in the catchment and pressures from landholders for increased drainage into the lake.
- Agreed to the issuing of a sub lease on a portion of the Freshwater Bay Yacht Club premises for the purpose of a shipwright's premise.
- Approved access to the wilderness zone of Fitzgerald River National Park to enable work to control track erosion to be conducted (under dry soil conditions) between January and March 1994. A helicopter program (under appropriate conditions) was also endorsed for this area to enable DOLA to complete a project which aims to provide a 1:25 000 map base.
- The Authority was briefed by departmental officers on the proposed final Forest Management Plan. The Authority concurred with proposed tenure changes outlined in the plan.
- Considered reserve purposes and boundaries of the proposed Caraban Reserves.
- Agreed to the harvesting of marram grass (*Ammophila arenaria*) from an area of D'Entrecasteaux National Park.
- Briefed by departmental officers on various matters affecting the Kimberley area, including progress of the Karijini and Purnululu Management Plans.
- The Authority was briefed by representatives from the Water Authority of WA in relation to progress with the Perth Coastal Waters Study and levels of acceptable change in the Marmion Marine Park.
- Agreed to a drainage proposal for Location 6207 into Nature Reserve 26264, located 8 km east of Stirling Range National Park (Albany district), subject to conditions.
- Approved the issuing of a peppercorn rental lease to the owner of Nelson Location 8189 in exchange for CALM having access to the location for fire management purposes.
- Advised on status of declared rare flora *Lambertia echinata* sub sp. *echinata*.

Tour Operator Licences

In February 1993 the Conservation and Land Management Regulations were gazetted. These require commercial operations on NPNCA vested lands and waters to be licensed. The issuing of licences enables the Department to monitor access and use of lands under its control and to ensure through application of conditions that the conservation values of these areas are maintained. Licences require the approval of the NPNCA and the Minister for the Environment. The requirement for a licence came into force on 31 July 1993. During the year the Authority considered and approved a number of commercial tour operator licences including the 1994 whale shark watching licences in Ningaloo Marine Park.

RECOVERY PLANS

Recovery plans are prepared by the Department to delineate, justify and schedule management actions necessary to support the recovery of an endangered or vulnerable species or ecological community. Recovery plans require the approval of the Executive Director of CALM, the NPNCA and the Minister.

During 1993/94 the Authority endorsed the Western Swamp Tortoise Recovery Plan.

Table 5**APPROVED MANAGEMENT PLANS
by plan number**

NUMBER	PLAN	DATE APPROVED BY MINISTER
1	Mooradung Nature Reserve	28 November 1985
2	NR of the Shire of Wyalkatchem	21 January 1986
3	Forrestdale Lakes NR	29 April 1987
4	NR of the Shire of York/Northam	19 May 1987
5	Lane Poole Reserve	30 October 1990
6	Shannon Park and D'Entrecasteaux National Park	2 December 1987
7	Benger Swamp NR	1 December 1987
8	Cape Range National Park	1 December 1987
9	Northern Forest Region Regional (NPNCA and LFC)	14 December 1987
10	Central Forest Region Regional (NPNCA and LFC)	14 December 1987
11	Southern Forest Region Regional (NPNCA and LFC)	14 December 1987
12	Ningaloo Marine Park	12 October 1989
13	Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park	24 February 1989
14	Yanchep National Park	3 July 1989
15	Fitzgerald River National Park	6 June 1991
16	not allocated	-
17	not allocated	-
18	Dampier Archipelago Nature Reserves	6 June 1990
19	Waroona Water Catchment Area (LFC and WAWA)	18 December 1989
20	Logue Brook Water Catchment Area	18 December 1989
21	Shoalwater Islands	13 June 1992
22	Walpole/Nornalup National Park	5 February 1992
23	Marmion Marine Park	30 January 1992
24	South Coast Region Regional (NPNCA and LFC)	23 December 1992
25	Matilda Bay	7 December 1992
26	John Forrest National Park *	26 April 1994

* Not yet released by the Minister

Table 6

MANAGEMENT PLANS BEING PREPARED

1. DRAFT PLANS RELEASED (and final plans being prepared)	Date of release
• Goldfields Region Regional	5 August 1992
• Purnululu National Park	15 May 1989
• Two Peoples Bay Nature Reserve	3 June 1993
• West Cape Howe National Park	22 August 1992
• Yalgorup National Park	21 December 1993

2. DRAFT PLANS BEING PREPARED (or about to be released)
• Karijini National Park
• Leschenault Conservation Park
• Lesueur National Park
• Nambung National Park
• Shark Bay Marine Reserves
• Shark Bay Terrestrial Reserves
• Shark Bay Strategic Plan
• Serpentine National Park
• Shoalwater Marine Park
• Swan Estuary Marine Park
• Stirling Porongurup National Park

ADVICE TO THE MINISTER AND OTHERS

LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

The Authority provides advice to the Minister on:

- the development of policies for the conservation and management of the flora and fauna of the State;
- any matter in which advice is sought by the Minister

and to any other body, including the Department on matters relating to conservation reserves vested in the Authority - if it is practical for the Authority to do so and if also in the public interest. (Refer Section 22(f)(g) and (h) of the CALM Act.)

ACTION DURING 1993/94

- Advice was provided to the Minister, for onward transmission to the Commonwealth Environmental Protection Agency, on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement - Additional Developments at Jandakot Airport.
- Submitted comments to the Environmental Protection Authority on the Consultative Environmental Review for the Mt Hampton Water Supply Source.
- Advised the Minister on the conservation values of the Burrup Peninsula and the Authority's view that reservation of appropriate areas with the NPNCA is recommended.
- Provided comment to the Soil and Land Conservation Council on their discussion paper "Agricultural Fertilisers and Eutrophication in WA".
- Provided comment to the Environmental Protection Authority on the Consultative Environmental Review for the "Construction of Reservoir and Associated Pipework, Water Supply Reserve 34537, Neerabup National Park".
- Provided comment to the Department on the Dryandra Woodland Draft Management Plan released by the Lands and Forest Commission. The plan proposes that a significant area become vested with the NPNCA for conservation. The Authority strongly supports this proposal.
- Suggested to the Department that consideration be given to amending Section 56 of the CALM Act to identify nature appreciation as an acceptable management objective of a nature reserve. The Department has concurred with this suggestion and will include this with any future amendments to the Act.
- The Authority has submitted its policy on Basic Raw Material to the Department for consideration of adopting as a CALM Policy Statement.
- Provided comment to the Fisheries Department on the Fisheries Management Bill 1993.

- Provided advice to the Minister on the Authority's view with respect to responsibility for regional parks. The Authority suggested it should take on this role, since it already has the appropriate community representation, and has responsibility for the preparation of management plans for those parts of a regional park already vested in us. Resolution of this matter by Government is awaited.
- The Authority recommended to the Minister on its favouring of a regional approach to reservation in the Kimberley and recommended that Government considers adopting the recommendations of the CALM document "Nature Conservation Reserves in the Kimberley".

In addition to the above the Authority has corresponded over the period with a variety of community groups and individuals on matters pertaining to vested lands and waters.

LIAISON

In carrying out its functions the Authority visited a number of places during the year, attended meetings with other organisations and was briefed by representatives from Government and private companies. These included:

- Meeting with Dermot Smyth, consultant to the Resource Assessment Commission for the Coastal Zone Inquiry (Aboriginal Interests).
- A briefing by representatives of the EPA on the development of the South West Wetlands Environmental Protection Policy.
- A field inspection to the Wheatbelt Region which included Mt Hampton, Jilbadji, Bodallin, Lake Campion, Brown and Chandler Nature Reserves.
- Attendance by an Authority representative at a meeting of the Coral Coast Parks Advisory Committee in Exmouth in relation to a review, coordinated by the Fisheries Department, of the recreational fishing controls in Ningaloo Marine Park.
- A briefing by Dr Bill Humphreys from the WA Museum on the conservation values of Cape Range, with particular emphasis on troglodytic fauna species.
- Briefings by departmental officers on various management issues.
- A briefing by the Chief Executive Officer of the National Trust (WA) on its Urban Bushland Policy.
- A briefing by Jones Lang and Wootton representatives in relation to their report to Government on proposed tourist developments for the North West Cape area.
- Input to the Office of Public Sector Management Review of Government Boards and Committees instigated in order to determine responsibilities, workloads, functions, establishment of remuneration of Government boards and committees.
- A briefing by Hadson Energy Ltd representatives in relation to their application for the drilling of the Tanami 3 Well, Varanus Island.
- A briefing by representatives from Cable Sands on possible future exploration programs.
- The Authority continued to provide input via its representation on the Beekeepers Consultative Committee, Threatened Fauna Scientific Advisory Committee, Endangered Flora Consultative Committee, WA Flora Industry Advisory Committee, State Gravel Supply Strategy Group.
- A field visit to Cape Range National Park and Ningaloo Marine Park.

ENDORSEMENT OF GRANTS MADE FROM THE NATURE CONSERVATION AND NATIONAL PARKS TRUST ACCOUNT

The Act provides the Department with the responsibility to disburse funds from this account, but the Executive Director has agreed to consult with the Authority on proposed disbursement.

During the year funds were allocated for the following projects:

- Declared Rare Flora database
- Wildflower industry research
- Spring surveys of breeding waterbirds in South Coast Wetlands
- Noisy Scrub Bird
- *Verticordia eriocephala* research
- Narrogin District Threatened and Priority Flora Management Program
- Develop kangaroo aerial survey methodology
- Conservation of the Western Mouse
- Assessment of impact of fox on native mammals in the jarrah forest
- Research into status of three heavily exploited *Banksia* species
- *Boronia megastigma* research
- Spring survey of frogs in South Coast Wetlands

Note:

Section 68 of the Act provides for the establishment of the Nature Conservation and National Parks Trust Account within the Conservation and Land Management Trust Fund. The account is credited with money derived under the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 and income from investments, gifts, devises, bequests and donations. The funds may only be applied to scientific research relating to flora and fauna, subject to compliance with any conditions imposed in connection with any gifts or bequests.

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