

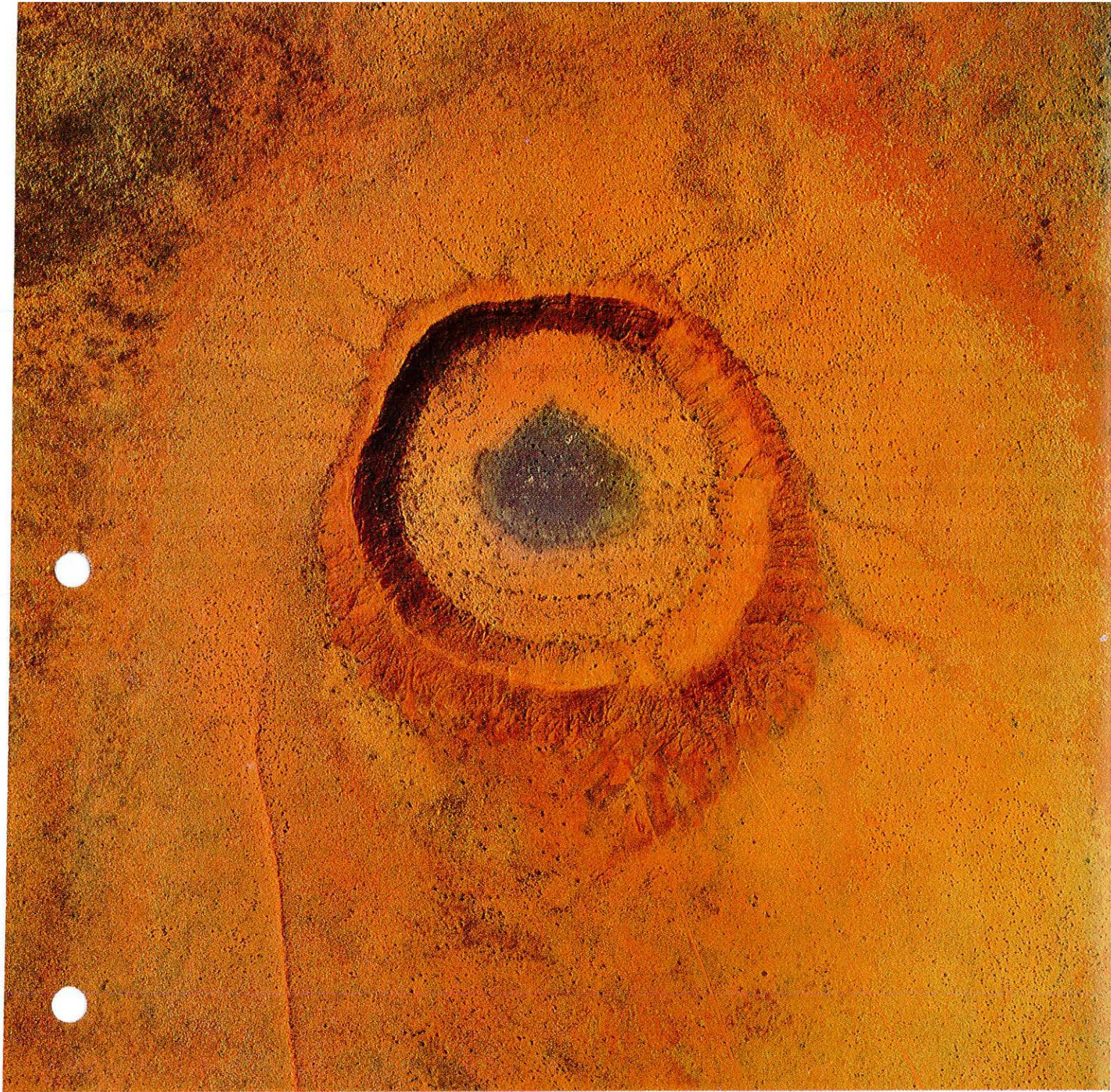


NATIONAL PARKS BOARD OF WESTERN
ANNUAL REPORT 1969-70 AUSTRALIA



Stirling Range National Park (by courtesy of W.A. Newspapers Ltd.)

NATIONAL PARKS BOARD OF WESTERN
AUSTRALIA
ANNUAL REPORT 1969-70



WOLF CREEK METEORITE CRATER
Approximate area 5 square miles
Depth 160 feet
Diameter 2,800 feet
(by courtesy of Kevron Photographics)

National Parks Board

(Report by the Acting President, Mr. C. F. H. Jenkins, M.A.)

On behalf of the National Parks Board of Western Australia, I herewith present the annual report for the year ended the 30th June, 1970. It has been a very progressive year, because of the substantial increase in acreage recently placed under the control of this Board.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Membership at the 30th June, 1970, comprised the following:—

- *R. J. Bond, I.S.O., A.A.S.A., A.C.I.S., President.
- C. F. H. Jenkins, M.A., Deputy President.
- C. R. Bunning, C.B.E., B.C.E., A.M.I.E.
- C. R. L. Gibson, A.A.S.A., J.P.
- J. E. Lloyd, M.T.P.I.
- J. F. Morgan, L.S., F.I.S. (Aust.), M.A.I.C.
- R. D. Royce, B.Sc. (Agric.)

The finance committee comprised Messrs. Bond, Jenkins and Gibson.

* Before this report was completed, Members were shocked to learn that our President, Mr. R. J. Bond died suddenly on the 27th July, 1970, after a short illness. Our sincere sympathy goes to Mrs. Bond and family, and we desire to place on record our very deep appreciation of his service to this Board during his term of office.

Mr. Gibson joined the Board on the 1st July, 1969, following the retirement of Mr. F. C. Smith.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Managing Secretary—H. E. Bancroft, A.A.S.A., A.C.I.S.

Administrative Assistant—H.R. Gorringe.

MINERAL CLAIMS

The Board is very concerned at the threat posed to National Parks by mining activities. Large areas of our National Parks are subject to mining claims, and without appropriate amendments to the Mining Act or the Land Act, serious damage could be done to valuable reserves.

It seems quite incongruous that while Parliament creates a reserve "A" Class and the instrument of vesting declares "that they shall be held for the protection of flora and fauna, the natural scenic beauty and the use and enjoyment by the people", the National Parks Board has to defend each

mining claim in a Wardens Court, and establish why the reserve should not be subjected to destructive mining activity.

Arrangements have been made for the views of the Board to be placed before the Mining Tribunal when it takes evidence in Perth.

RESERVES

New Vestings

Many new areas were placed under this Board's control during the year and included:—

National Parks—

Cape Arid National Park—Class "A" reserve of about 642,000 acres, located East of Esperance.
Hamersley Range National Park—Class "A" reserve of about 1,458,430 acres, near Wittenoom.

Sir James Mitchell National Park—Class "A" reserve of about 2,717 acres, alongside the South-West Highway in the Shannon River area.

*National Park in Chichester Range, West Pilbara—Class "A" reserve of 372,483 acres, south of Roebourne.

*National Park near Gooseberry Hill—Class "A" Reserve of 81 acres, near Kalamunda.

*National Park alongside Lake King—Norseman Road—A long narrow reserve of about 64,480 acres on both sides of the Lake King—Norseman Road.

*National Park east of Porongurup Range—Class "A" reserve of 150 acres about 25 miles north of Albany.

*National Park near Regans Ford—A reserve of 26,030 acres, south of Regans Ford.

*National Park near Watheroo—Class "A" reserves totalling 76,646 acres west of Watheroo.

Other Reserves—

*Boronia Reserve south of Wellington Dam Catchment Area—A reserve of 406 acres in the South-West.

*Flora Reserve near Tammin—Class "A" Reserve of about 1,441 acres south of Tammin.

Tourist Lookout Reserve—A small reserve of about 25 acres entirely surrounded by and treated as part of the Torndirrup National Park.

Nambung National Park Rangers Headquarters—A reserve comprising Town Lots 182, 183, and 184 at Cervantes.

Kalbarri National Park Rangers Headquarters—A reserve comprising Town Lot 197 at Kalbarri.

*Wolf Creek Meteorite Crater Reserve—A reserve of about 3,607 acres 65 miles south of Hall's Creek.

* Official names have not yet been selected for these reserves.

Amendments to Existing Reserves

National Parks—

Cape Le Grand National Park was increased in area by 15,376 acres through the addition of Esperance Locations 661, 692, 1388, 1939, 1941, and 1942 and also Neridup Location 1394.

John Forrest National Park was reduced in area by about nine acres excised from Reserve 7537 early in 1970 to widen Great Eastern Highway.

This reduction was partly offset by the addition of Swan View Suburban Lot 105 of 1a. 2r. 3p. to Reserve 2994 in February, 1970.

Walpole-Nornalup National Park was reduced in area by five acres when Nelson Location 13021 was added to Reserve No. 21092 as a sanitary and rubbish disposal site, to overcome a Shire problem.

Class "A" Reserve 997 was included in the Yalgorup National Park (Class "A" Reserve 11710) and Class "A" Reserve 998 (Camping and Recreation) vested in the Board in August, 1969. This latter reserve is being treated as part of the Yalgorup National Park following an application for its inclusion in Reserve 11710.

Swan Locations 4402, of 43a. 2r. 2p. and 6933 of 11a. 0r. 30p. were added to Yanchep National Park in August, 1969 and February, 1970 respectively.

Other Reserves—

The Old Mill Reserve, South Perth was increased slightly in size to approximately 2r. 23p. in September, 1969.

Naming of National Parks and Other Reserves

The following National Parks and other Reserves were officially named during the year:—

- Cape Arid National Park.
- Hamersley Range National Park
- Sir James Mitchell National Park
- Torndirrup National Park

Reserves Vested in the Board at the 30.6.70

There has been a substantial increase in the number and acreage of National Parks and Other Reserves vested in this Board at the 30th June, 1970. They are:—

<i>National Parks</i>	<i>Acres</i>
1. Cape Arid	642,000
2. Cape Le Grand	54,876
3. Cape Range	33,171
4. Geikie Gorge	7,750
5. Greenmount	127
6. Hamersley Range	1,458,430
7. John Forrest	3,906
8. Kalamunda	919
9. Kalbarri	358,000
10. Lesmurdie Falls	81
11. Nambung	39,991
12. Neerabup	2,785
13. Porongurup	5,531
14. Serpentine	1,571
15. Sir James Mitchell	2,717
16. Stirling Range	285,874
17. Torndirrup	8,936
18. Walpole-Nornalup	33,007
19. Walyunga	4,000
20. Yalgorup	9,890
21. Yanchep	6,895
<i>Other National Parks Not Yet Officially Named</i>	
22. National Park in Chichester Range at West Pilbara	372,483
23. National Park near Gooseberry Hill	81
24. National Park alongside Lake King-Norseman Road	64,480
25. National Park East of Porongurup Range	150
26. National Park near Regans Ford	26,030
27. National Park near Watheroo	76,646
	3,500,327

Other Reserves

28. Albany Boronia	112
29. Araluen-Canning Dam	50
30. Boronia Reserve (South of Wellington Dam Catchment Area)	406
31. East Perth Cemetery (Disused)	12
32. Hamelin Bay	366
33. Kalbarri Ranger's Residential Lots	½
34. Keane's Point	6
35. Matilda Bay	57
36. Nambung Ranger's Residential Lots	1
37. Nowergup Lake Fauna Sanctuary	288
38. Old Mill, South Perth	½
39. Penguin Island	31
40. Tammin Flora	1,441
41. Walpole Flora	228
42. Walpole Golf Course	35
43. Walpole Ranger's Residential Lot	¼
44. Walpole Yacht Club	2
45. Wolf Creek Meteorite Crater	3,607
46. Yanchep Flora	439
47. Small Portion of King's Park (Bernies)	1
	7,083

Total Acres 3,507,410

General Vesting of Reserves

Not all the national parks within this State are vested in this Board.

It is felt that eventually, all important national parks should be so vested to ensure a common policy of management and more economical administration.

The appointment of a Reserves Advisory Council has played an important part in the growth of national parks and other reserves placed under the control of the Board in the past twelve months and it is hoped that many more areas will be added in the ensuing year.

Classification of Reserves

Most of the reserves placed under the Board's control in the past year have been classified Class "A". Some amalgamation of reserves in the Walpole-Nornalup National Park is proposed so that the resultant reserve can be classified "A" Class. The Board hopes that eventually all its reserves will be so classified.

GENERAL PLANNING AND POLICY

The Board's policy is to preserve the natural beauty of its reserves, conserve native flora and fauna, and protect geological, physiographical and other features of special interest. It also develops and improves reserves for public use and enjoy-

ment. Members of the Board have visited many areas to familiarise themselves with their features and problems and to confer with local authorities and district interests.

FINANCE

The Board appreciates the sympathetic consideration given by the State Treasury to its requests for financial assistance and has noted that each year the annual grant continues to grow. However it feels that with the rapid and spectacular growth in the number and acreage of areas placed under its control in recent months, there will be need for a corresponding increase in Government grant, if the Board is to carry out its obligations of supervision and protection, bush fire control, and provision of public access. The following summary of receipts and payments is subject to audit.

RECEIPTS

1968-69		1969-70
\$	\$	\$
	National Parks and Other Reserves—	
13,824	Rents—General	14,186
4,870	John Forrest National Park	5,071
62	Matilda Bay Reserve	68
1,528	Serpentine National Park	1,888
2,192	Walpole-Nornalup National Park	2,248
36	Walyunga National Park	725
42,505	Yanchep National Park	49,060
124	Other National Parks and Reserves	58
<u>65,141</u>		<u>73,304</u>
	Other Receipts—	
7	Sundry Receipts	335
1,297	Sale of Surplus Assets	550
12,855	Refunds and Suspense	13,049
6,468	Swan River Conservation Board (Contra)	5,984
<u>20,627</u>		<u>19,918</u>
	Grants—	
246,000	Treasury	271,000
786	Tourist Development Authority	1,033
<u>246,786</u>		<u>272,033</u>
332,554		365,255
<u>—4,977</u>	Less Opening Debit Balance	<u>—384</u>
<u>\$327,577</u>		<u>\$364,871</u>

PAYMENTS

1968-69		1969-70
\$	\$	\$
	Administrative Expenses—	
27,543	Head Office Salaries and Expenses	34,692
1,607	Workers' Compensation and Public Liability Insurance	2,120
2,582	Contributions to Staff Endowment Fund	2,826
2,110	Payroll Tax	2,648
<u>33,842</u>		<u>42,286</u>
	National Parks and Reserves—	
109,563	Wages	126,481
36,545	Operating and Maintenance Costs	45,002
115,241	Improvements, including buildings, new vehicles, plant, equipment and bush fire control	125,752
5,343	Walyunga National Park—Pur- chase Instalment	5,235
<u>266,692</u>		<u>302,470</u>
	Other Payments—	
7,540	Sundry Payments	4,416
13,247	Refunds and Suspense	12,689
6,640	Swan River Conservation Board (Contra)	5,984
<u>27,427</u>		<u>23,089</u>
327,961		367,845
<u>—384</u>	Less Closing Debit Balance	<u>—2,974</u>
<u>\$327,577</u>		<u>\$364,871</u>

An overall increase in salaries and wages, and necessary additions to staff and equipment had a large bearing on the increased costs which were also affected by the need to make fairly large long service and annual leave payments to retiring senior Field Staff.

BOARD CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

The National Parks Board of Western Australia was appointed under the provisions of the Parks and Reserves Act, 1895-1963 and its powers are defined in that Act, including the power to make by-laws. Formerly, the State Gardens Board administered the reserves.

The current by-laws are exhibited in appropriate national parks and reserves.

ROADS GENERALLY

As in the past, the Main Roads Department has rendered financial and practical assistance on road construction and improvements in national parks and other reserves, in some cases in conjunction with the local authority of the district.

In the Cape Le Grand National Park, the Board provided finance and the Shire of Esperance arranged grading and some gravelling of bad sections of the access road to Lucky Bay, including branch roads to Whistling Rock and Rocky Point, pending general upgrading.

Sections of Shothole Canyon Road have been re-aligned and it is now suitable for use by conventional vehicles.

In the John Forrest National Park a new approach road from the Scenic Drive to the ticket office and tearoom was constructed by the Main Roads Department. More car parking space is being considered.

In the Kalbarri National Park, improvements and upgrading of roads are continuing.

The access road to the Serpentine Falls picnic area has been re-aligned and upgraded and a small concrete bridge is being built to provide access to the other side of the Serpentine River in the Serpentine National Park.

Improvements are planned for the Stirling Range Drive in the Stirling Range National Park, following sealing of a section of the Bluff Knoll access road, thus completing the sealing of this road for its full length of about five miles. A small parking and information bay has been built near the 42 mile post.

A further short section of the access road to Walyunga Pool was primed by the Main Roads Department and the first mile of this road from the turn-off at Great Northern Highway was reggraded by the Shire of Swan.

A new car park has been constructed at Yanchep National Park between Yanchep Inn and McNess Guest House. A drainage sump and pipeline have been installed at the lakeside end of the carpark and turn-around west of McNess Guest House. A new road culvert has been provided near the Ornamental Lakes not far from Gloucester Lodge and access to Yanchep Inn has been upgraded and sealed.

BUSH FIRE CONTROL

The W.A. Bush Fires Board is co-operating in the preparation of firebreak and controlled burning programmes for national parks.

Expert advice has been obtained on a firebreak plan for the Stirling Range National Park.

The Forests Department has helped to plan the Walpole-Nornalup National Park firebreak system.

Additional firebreaks have been constructed in the John Forrest, Kalbarri, Stirling Range, Walyunga, Yalgourup and Yanchep National Parks.

The normal maintenance work was carried out on existing firebreaks within national parks and other reserves where necessary.

Controlled burning was carried out in sections of the John Forrest, Kalamunda, Kalbarri, Neerabup, Porongurup, Serpentine, Stirling Range, Walpole-Nornalup and Yanchep National Parks. Generally autumn controlled burning of parklands is favoured where practicable, in the interests of flora regeneration.

Bush Fire Control Equipment

Fibre glass water tanks with pump and motor were supplied to the Kalbarri, Stirling Range and Walyunga National Parks for use in bush fire control. Four 200 gallon heavy duty water tanks were supplied for use in the Kalbarri National Park and six similar tanks have been strategically located in the Stirling Range National Park.

It is hoped in 1970-71 to supply a tractor and attachments for use in the Kalbarri National Park—principally for firebreak work and possibly maintenance of internal roads in an emergency.

Bush Fires

A few bush fires occurred within national parks or entered them from external sources during the year and burnt out areas of parklands. In two cases lightning strikes were suspected causes and in other cases sparks from controlled burns in adjoining properties were responsible. In some instances it would seem that careless people were responsible for the fires. Bush fires of 500 acres or more occurred at John Forrest National Park (about 500 acres), Walpole-Nornalup National Park (around 1,000 acres), and Walyunga National Park (two fires of approximately 500 acres and 2,000 acres respectively).

Assistance in Fire Control

The Board appreciates the assistance given by the W.A. Bush Fires Board in the preparation of firebreak and controlled burnings plans, and the practical help from Bush Fire Brigades in controlled burning and bush fire fighting. Conservation of native flora and fauna is most important and requires an all out effort to protect our national parks from major bush fires. Our limited field staff makes it necessary to seek outside help in controlled burning of parklands and fighting bush fires in the national parks.

CONSERVATION OF NATIVE FLORA AND FAUNA

All native flora is protected within national parks and the picking of wildflowers, removal or damage to plants or trees and the gathering of seed without authority is prohibited.

All native fauna is similarly protected and shooting or trapping is not permitted. The conditions for the issue of a permit to collect native flora specimens and/or seed for scientific purposes have been tightened up.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Biological Surveys

Following earlier surveys in the Kalbarri National Park by botanists of the Department of Agriculture and zoologists from the Western Australian Museum, plans are in course for the second stage of the zoological survey to be carried out by Museum staff in August-September, 1970.

An interim botanical survey of the Cape Le Grand National Park was carried out in October, 1969, by botanists from the Department of Agriculture as a prelude to a complete botanical survey later when staff become available. Some 219 specimens were collected on the trip, and 95 well known native and naturalised species were noted. Department of Agriculture botanical staff have previously collected in the Lucky Bay, Thistle Cove and Frenchman Peak areas in this park. Preliminary botanical survey work has been carried out by the same staff in the Fitzgerald River Flora Reserve to support the Board's objection to the granting of mineral claims in this reserve.

Karri Research Project in Porongurup National Park

A Forests Department research project on Karri in the Porongurup National Park has been delayed until 1970-71.

Research on Snails

Dr. B. R. Wilson and Mr. G. W. Kendrick of the Western Australian Museum were granted permits to collect native land-snails in the Stirling Range and Torndirrup National Parks for research purposes and they have kindly supplied reports on the results of their expeditions.

Other Research

Dr. J. Glover of the University of Western Australia was given permission to collect artifacts in the Nambung and Walyunga National Parks on a limited scale.

The Western Australian Institute of Technology was given permission to carry out geological sampling in the Walyunga National Park.

Scientific Survey Vehicles

It is proposed to provide vehicle identification notices for vehicles used on scientific surveys in national parks, so as to avoid any public misunderstanding of their activities.

Regeneration of Vegetation after Bush Fires

Botanical observations on native plant regrowth are being made by the Department of Agriculture botanists following an extensive hot bush fire which entered the Kalbarri National Park from an external source in January, 1969.

Observation of the plots at Yanchep National Park was continued following their establishment in a part of the park which was burnt out by a bush fire in the summer of 1964-65.

Cultivation and Conservation of Native Flora

Extension and replanting of wildflower beds has been carried out at John Forrest National Park, including additional planting of wildflowers near the entrance and along the main scenic drive through the park. Wildflower garden beds at Yanchep National Park were replanted where necessary, and gaps filled up in the wildflower bed at the Lookout Area in the Walyunga National Park.

Further replanting of wildflower beds was carried out in the Moingup Spring area in the Stirling Range National Park. Further tree planting has been carried out at the Yanchep, Lesmurdie and Walyunga National Parks.

In most cases native plants are acquired from nurseries and private properties and the Board appreciates the co-operation of farming property-owners concerned. However there are native plants which commercial or private nurseries cannot or are not permitted to propagate, such as plants endemic to a particular national park. With this in mind, the Board hopes to enlarge and improve the nursery at Yanchep National Park once a botanist has taken up duties for the Board as planned.

A major replanting programme has been carried out in the shrubbery beds at the Matilda Bay Reserve to replace shrubs well past their prime and a tree planting programme has been implemented.

Springtime Wildflower Walks

These are still a feature at Yanchep National Park, but have not been quite so popular at John Forrest National Park, where now they are only provided on request to the Superintendent. Wildflower plants at each of these parks are name-plated and located in centrally situated garden beds for the convenience of tourists.

Native Fauna

It is not Board policy to exhibit native fauna in enclosures within national parks. Instead it prefers to allow the fauna to move freely around in the parks. The exception is Yanchep National Park where kangaroos, wallabies, emus, parrots, rosellas, budgerigars and finches are exhibited in restricted numbers. Black swans and ducks frequent Loch McNess and the other ornamental lakes in this park.

Koalas are exhibited in enclosures at Yanchep National Park and the total on exhibit had dropped to twenty-five at the 30th June, 1970, after the death of five (four aged and one very young) during the year. This does not include five young ones believed to be in the pouches of their mothers.

Testing of eucalypt leaves fed to koalas is still being carried out regularly for cyanide content, to minimise illnesses and deaths from this source. The Superintendent has initiated research into feeding habits and food consumption of the koalas.

Noxious Weeds

Spraying of *Watsonia* was continued within the John Forrest, Lesmurdie Falls, Serpentine Walyunga and Yanchep National Parks. In some of these parks the corms and seed of the *Watsonia* are washed down the streams from external sources and at this stage seem to be a never-ending problem.

Spraying of Blackberry was carried out in the Kalamunda and Serpentine National Parks.

At Yanchep National Park some Lupins were hand pulled and others sprayed. Cape Tulip and Wild Geranium have also been sprayed, in a very selective manner in an effort to avoid loss of wildflower plants. Present indications are that this has been successful.

SIGNPOSTING OF NATIONAL PARKS AND RESERVES

Timber entrance signs of pleasing design, depicting the name of the park only, have been erected at the entrances to the Cape Le Grand, John Forrest, Porongurup, Serpentine, Stirling Range, Torndirrup, Walyunga, Yalgorup and Yanchep National Parks. The provision of further timber entrance signs for national parks and an appropriate Headquarters sign for the Matilda Bay Reserve are envisaged for 1970-71.

Attractive timber directional signs have been erected at the Walpole-Nornalup and Yanchep National Parks and other signs or replacement signs erected for bush fire warning and the protection of flora and fauna in the parks.

MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS

Important improvement works completed or in progress at the close of the year were:—

1. The erection in the Stirling Range National Park of a second ranger's house with garage, electricity and water supply, at the Bluff Knoll turn-off; the construction of a second garage and 12,000 gal. concrete water storage tank in the Moingup Spring area; and the partial enclosure of the picnic shelter at the Bluff Knoll parking area.
2. New change rooms, toilets and first aid room at the Gloucester Lodge Swimming Pool in the Yanchep National Park; a new public toilet block behind the Yanchep Inn; a new staff house, two sheds and a ramp purchased from the Forests Department; water supply improvements including a 50,000 gallon concrete water storage tank with associated mains reticulation. Six 12-foot fibre glass dinghies were purchased for use on Loch McNess and a small ticket office was erected on the lake front.
3. A small ticket office was erected in the Walyunga National Park just before the introduction of a vehicle entrance fee for this Park.

NEW VEHICLES, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

A new diesel tractor and attachments were purchased for use primarily on firebreak maintenance at John Forrest National Park and other nearby national parks.

Four-wheel drive Landrover trucks were acquired for use of the Rangers at the Kalbarri and Stirling Range National Parks and a new tip truck was obtained for use at the Matilda Bay Reserve.

PURCHASE OF PARKLANDS

A further instalment of \$5,235 was met during the year in connection with the purchase of the land acquired for the establishment of the Walyunga National Park.

YANCHEP NATIONAL PARK CAVES

A connecting passage between the Pantheon and Jewel City sections of the Crystal Cave to provide an alternative exit from the cave as a safety precaution is planned.





WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATER
Melithreptus lunatus

(by courtesy of Mr. M. K. Morcombe)

WESTERN YELLOW ROBIN
Eopsaltria griseogularis

(by courtesy of Mr. M. K. Morcombe)

LAND SQUATTERS

After taking over control of the Nambung National Park it was discovered that a problem existed in relation to squatters who had moved in and erected houses or shacks near the coast within the park. A survey of the extent of unauthorised occupation of coastal Crown Lands has been conducted by a special Committee set up by the Government to inquire into the illegal occupation of Crown Lands. It is hoped that subsequent action will result in their removal.

ALGAE CONTROL

As in the past, clerical assistance was given to the Swan River Conservation Board for algae clearance and desnagging of the Swan River. This arrangement ceased on the 30th June, 1970, when the Swan River Conservation Board took over payroll arrangements and keeping of staff records.

STANDARD BARBECUE FIREPLACES AND PICNIC TABLES

A new type of standard barbecue fireplace built of steel plate has been adopted and the old concrete barbecue fireplaces are gradually being phased out. The latest design is safer for use in national parks not under close supervision. The cost of these fireplaces has been subsidised in the past by the Tourist Development Authority, but this arrangement ceased from the end of the year under review.

Frames of standard picnic tables continue to be made up at Yanchep National Park for distribution to other parks. The main advantage of this type of combined picnic table and seats is the economy in maintenance.

MOBILE RANGERS, ETC.

Mr. C. W. Pearson, was appointed a Mobile Ranger on the 1st September, 1969. This second appointment follows that of Mr. N. Walmsley, who was appointed on the 3rd December, 1964. It is hoped to appoint a Supervising Ranger during 1970-71, to help in the supervision and co-ordination of the Field Staff in the growing number of outlying national parks.

RANGER TRAINING

Regular Field Staff Conferences of those in charge of national parks are held and staff unable to attend are supplied with minutes of proceedings and instructions.

Mr. L. G. Gunson, Ranger-in-Charge of the Walpole-Nornalup National Park, attended a Rangers' Training School conducted by the National Parks and Wildlife Service of New South Wales at Katoomba, N.S.W. in October, 1969.

The Board hopes to hold such a course in Western Australia next year.

PUBLICITY AND BROCHURES

Press, radio and television coverage of events and items of interest have been given in respect of Board-controlled national parks and other reserves, with particular emphasis on conservation. The improved Walpole-Nornalup National Park brochure proved so popular that supplies are exhausted and a reprint order has been lodged.

A new brochure for the Stirling Range National Park has been designed and copies should be available from the printer shortly. Brochures are planned for other national parks this year.

Exhibits were provided at the Wild Life Exhibition in the Perth Town Hall in September, 1969, and at the Sixth Annual Wildflower Exhibition at King's Park later the same month.

Ampol Petroleum Limited and John Sands Pty. Ltd. combined in presenting this Board with large coloured photographs of the Kalbarri and Stirling Range National Parks. These have been hung in the Board Room with other coloured photographs of the Nambung National Park and Wolf Creek Meteorite Crater. Their gesture is acknowledged with thanks.

HISTORICAL PLAQUES

Only one grant was made during 1969-70 and that was \$40 to the Eastern Goldfields Branch of the Western Australian Historical Society as part cost of erecting a plaque of historical significance at Lakeside.

VANDALISM AND BREACHES OF BY-LAWS

Acts of vandalism and breaches of by-laws are still being committed by a few irresponsible people. The carving of names on trees and painting of names on rocks are fairly prevalent and litter, empty cans and bottles are thrown from vehicles on to road verges in the parks.

Where possible action is taken to apprehend and prosecute offenders. Litter bags are provided in some parks, with varying degrees of success to control litter.

IMPORTANT VISITORS

The Governor, Sir Douglas Kendrew, and Lady Kendrew, and the British High Commissioner, Sir Charles Johnston and Lady Johnston, visited the Kalbarri National Park in October, 1969.

Mr. R. D. Piesse, Director of the Australian Conservation Foundation paid visits to the Greenmount, John Forrest, Kalamunda, Lesmurdie Falls, Walyunga and Yanchep National Parks, and a new national park at Gooseberry Hill, in November, 1969.

In May, 1970, a Queensland Ministerial Party led by The Hon. V. B. Sullivan, M.L.A., Minister for Lands, visited Yanchep National Park.

HEADQUARTERS

A building in the Matilda Bay Reserve at Nedlands, became the Administrative Headquarters of the Board on the 22nd December, 1969.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Board appreciated the professional advice and practical help given by Officers of various Government Departments and Organisations, including the Agriculture, Crown Law, Fisheries and Fauna, Forests, Government Printer, Government Stores, Labour, Lands & Surveys, Main Roads, Mines, Public Works and Town Planning Departments and others.

In addition to utilising the services of the Landscape Section of the Public Works Department, Messrs. R. J. Ferguson and Associates, Architects, have been retained in planning and supervision of individual buildings erected within the parks. Also the co-operation of local Shires, Town Councils and Bush Fire Brigades is acknowledged.

Our Honorary Building Supervisor, Mr. J. S. Sinclair had to relinquish his honorary position for health reasons and the Board expresses its sincere gratitude for his services to the Board over a fairly lengthy period.

The Board also records its appreciation of the efficient way in which the Managing Secretary and his staff have carried out their duties in one of the busiest years so far experienced by the Board.

GENERAL

Further information on activities within individual national parks and reserves is given in the Appendices to this report.

C. F. H. JENKINS,
Acting President,
National Parks Board of Western Australia.



DALES GORGE, HAMERSLEY RANGE NATIONAL PARK (by courtesy of Mr. J. W. Cox)

APPENDICES

NATIONAL PARKS AND OTHER RESERVES

APPENDIX A

NATIONAL PARKS

CAPE ARID NATIONAL PARK

Class "A" Reserve of about 642,000 acres. Placed under this Board's control in August, 1969. Located on the South Coast about 65 miles east of Esperance. Lacks good road access.

CAPE LE GRAND NATIONAL PARK

An "A" Class Reserve of 54,876 acres, which came under the control of this Board in February, 1966. In late June, 1970 its area was increased by 15,376 acres. Located on the South Coast about 20 miles east of Esperance.

Four new type metal barbecue fireplaces and three standard picnic tables have been provided in the Cape Le Grand area, a further barbecue at Lucky Bay, and one at Whistling Rock.

The cavern at Frenchman Peak was despoiled with paint by vandals. Local service groups cleaned the walls concerned.

CAPE RANGE NATIONAL PARK

Placed under the Board's control in October, 1965. Comprises about 33,171 acres. Located in the Cape Range not far from North West Cape and Exmouth.

Col. J. K. Murdoch, Civil Commissioner for Exmouth has rendered valuable assistance in the administration of the park, including helping arrange general improvements and maintenance.

Charles Knife Road and Shothole Canyon Road are the main sources of access to the scenic points and picnic areas within the park. There are four picnic areas established along the Charles Knife Road and one at the western end of the Shothole Canyon Road.

A further three of the new standard metal barbecue fireplaces and five new standard picnic tables have been provided at picnic areas. Dangerous holes adjacent to Nos. 2 and 3 Picnic Areas alongside Charles Knife Road have been provided with protective fences and warning notices.

Small blocks of public toilets have been erected near picnic areas at the western ends of the Charles Knife and Shothole Canyon Roads respectively.

GEIKIE GORGE NATIONAL PARK

Comprises Class "A" Reserve of 7,750 acres. Located about 10 miles from Fitzroy Crossing, extending outwards for one mile each side of the Fitzroy River. Placed under the control of the Board in June, 1967.

GREENMOUNT NATIONAL PARK

Comprises a small Class "A" Reserve of 127 acres. Located on the western edge of the Darling Range escarpment. Placed under the control of this Board in April, 1959.

The Superintendent and Staff of nearby John Forrest National Park exercise supervision over this small scenic lookout area. A good sealed road provides access to the lookout point.

HAMERSLEY RANGE NATIONAL PARK

This Class "A" Reserve of 1,458,430 acres is the largest national park under the control of the Board and is located near Wittenoom. Placed under the Board's control in October, 1969.

Scenic points such as Yampire Gorge, the Fortescue Falls and Circular Pool in Dales Gorge, Joffre Falls and Red Gorge have been provided with road access.

It is planned to erect public toilets near Fortescue Falls at Dales Gorge, and temporary toilets near Circular Pool, Joffre Falls and Red Gorge, finance permitting.

Mining and Mineral Claims

This Board is deeply perturbed at the extent of the areas granted for mineral claims and mining rights before this national park was placed under the control of the Board, and feels strongly that the whole position needs reviewing. Objections are being lodged against more recent applications for mineral claims in the park.

JOHN FORREST NATIONAL PARK

This national park of 3,906 acres is located at the top of the Darling Range about 17 miles from Perth. The reserves concerned are "A" Class. Superintendent Mr. G. R. Edwards is in charge of this park.

The W.A. Bush Fires Board gave assistance in the preparation of a firebreak plan, which provided for the construction of an additional 1½ miles of firebreaks in the North-West and South-East sectors of the park.

An outstanding feature of this park is its wildflowers, which bloom profusely in the Springtime and are usually at their best during the August-October period according to seasonal weather conditions.

The natural swimming pool in Jane Brook was emptied and cleaned out in December, 1969 and March, 1970.

A new walking path was constructed from near Glen Brook Dam over a nearby hill and back to the scenic drive at a point on the North end of the dam.

Three small attractive stone footbridges have been constructed over Glen Brook below the car park near the tearoom.

Stone retaining walls, garden beds, and steps have been constructed between Glen Brook and the car park near the tearoom.

KALAMUNDA NATIONAL PARK

Comprises Class "A" Reserve of 919 acres extending eastwards from the Kalamunda Townsite boundary. Placed under the Board's control in February, 1964.

Natural features of the park include fairly rugged terrain with Piesse Brook flowing through the park, which is rich in wildflowers and in particular Blue Leschenaultia.

KALBARRI NATIONAL PARK

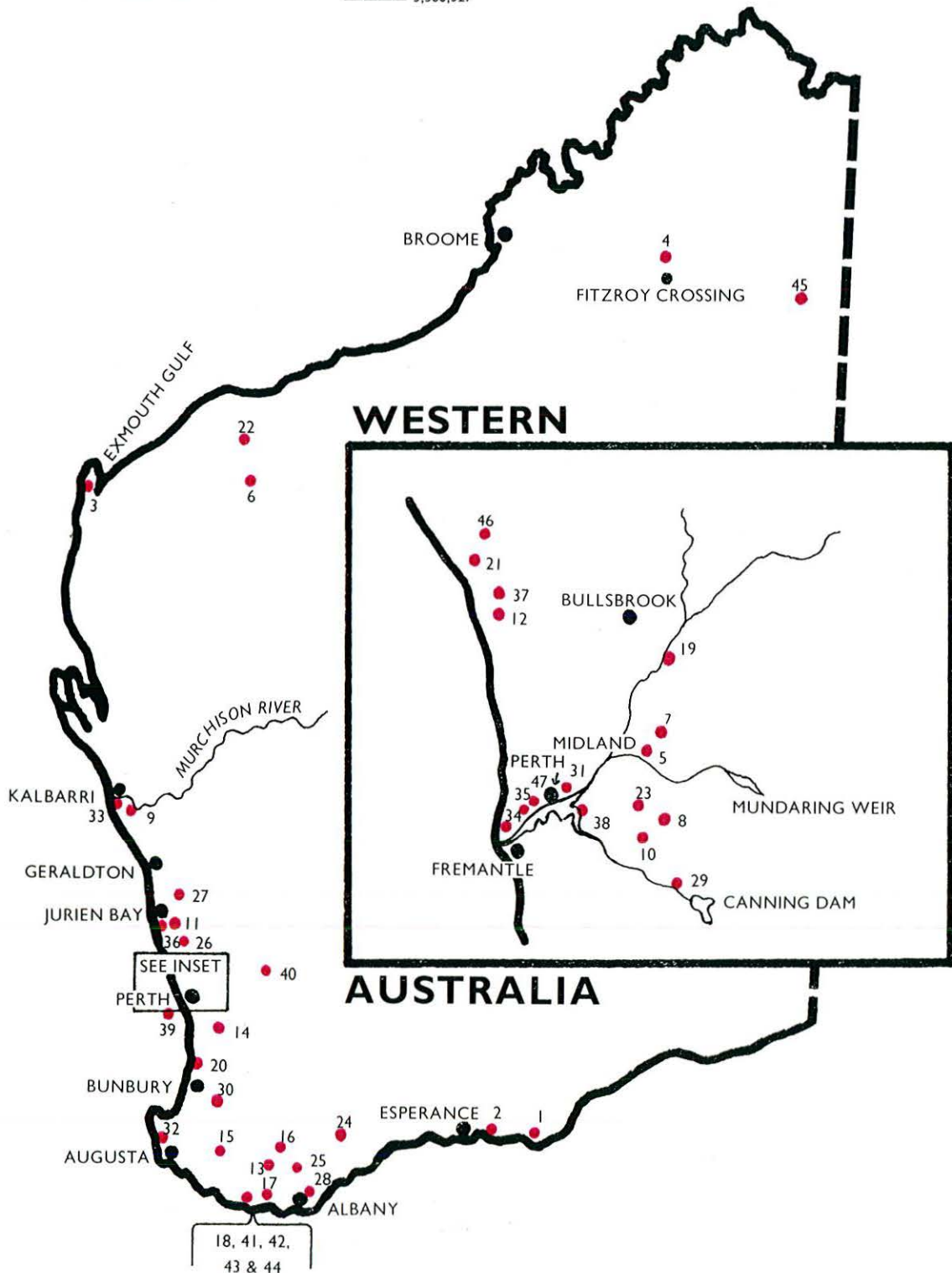
Large Class "A" Reserve of about 358,000 acres. Located around the Murchison River about 400 miles north of Perth. Placed under the control of the Board in October, 1963.

NATIONAL PARKS		Acres
1. Cape Arid	.....	642,000
2. Cape Le Grand	.....	54,876
3. Cape Range	.....	33,171
4. Geikie Gorge	.....	7,750
5. Greenmount	.....	127
6. Hamersley Range	.....	1,458,430
7. John Forrest	.....	3,906
8. Kalamunda	.....	919
9. Kalbarri	.....	358,000
10. Lesmurdie Falls	.....	81
11. Nambung	.....	39,991
12. Neerabup	.....	2,785
13. Porongorup	.....	5,531
14. Serpentine	.....	1,571
15. Sir James Mitchell	.....	2,717
16. Stirling Range	.....	285,874
17. Torndirrup	.....	8,936
18. Walpole-Nornalup	.....	33,007
19. Walyunga	.....	4,000
20. Yalgorup	.....	9,890
21. Yanchep	.....	6,895

OTHER RESERVES		Acres
28. Albany Boronia	.....	112
29. Araluen-Canning Dam	.....	50
30. Boronia Reserve (South of Wellington Dam Catchment Area)	.....	406
31. East Perth Cemetery (Disused)	.....	12
32. Hamelin Bay	.....	366
33. Kalbarri Ranger's Residential Lots	.....	1/2
34. Keane's Point	.....	6
35. Matilda Bay	.....	57
36. Nambung Ranger's Residential Lots	.....	1
37. Nowergup Lake Fauna Sanctuary	.....	288
38. Old Mill, South Perth	.....	1/2
39. Penguin Island	.....	31
40. Tammin Flora	.....	1,441
41. Walpole Flora	.....	228
42. Walpole Golf Course	.....	35
43. Walpole Ranger's Residential Lot	.....	1/2
44. Walpole Yacht Club	.....	2
45. Wolf Creek Meteorite Crater	.....	3,607
46. Yanchep Flora	.....	439
47. Small portion of King's Park (Bernies)	.....	1

OTHER NATIONAL PARKS NOT YET OFFICIALLY NAMED		Acres
22. National Park in Chichester Range at West Pilbara	.....	372,483
23. National Park near Gooseberry Hill	.....	81
24. National Park alongside Lake King-Norseman Road	.....	64,480
25. National Park East of Porongorup Range	.....	150
26. National Park near Regans Ford	.....	26,030
27. National Park near Watheroo	.....	76,646
		<hr/> 3,500,327

Total Acres 7,083
 3,507,410



Mr. C. Cockman was appointed Ranger-in-Charge in place of the late Mr. R. E. H. Gliddon.

Part of a firebreak plan was implemented during the year, when 47 miles of new firebreaks were constructed. This is in addition to about 95 miles of firebreaks previously constructed.

Shooting is not permitted and the presence of a ranger to police this aspect has helped to build-up fauna, including kangaroos and water birds in particular.

Vehicles access to the top of Red Bluff Scenic Lookout has been blocked off with white posts in the interests of public safety. A few canoeing and hiking trips down the Murchison River, involving overnight stay in the gorge, have been authorised for small parties of recognised school and youth groups, which have been required to observe strict rules.

LESMURDIE FALLS NATIONAL PARK

Small Class "A" Reserve of 81 acres. Located along the western edge of the Darling Range escarpment about 15 miles from Perth.

NAMBUNG NATIONAL PARK

A national park of 39,991 acres situated south of Jurien Bay. Caves, natural formations (pinnacles) and wildflowers form the main attractions in this coastal park.

Access roads are rather rough at present pending the planning and construction of better ones.

Every effort is being made to protect the caves and natural formations, including the pinnacles and the calcified (or fossilised) roots in the pinnacles area.

An application by Cross Country Safaris for the conduct of two day safari tours into the park was granted, subject to certain conditions including no camping in the park.

Litter deposited along the coastal vehicle tracks is an ever present problem and the Board will not hesitate to prosecute offenders if caught in the act. This also applies to vandals breaking into caves.

NEERABUP NATIONAL PARK

Class "A" Reserve of about 2,785 acres. Placed under the control of the Board in early July, 1965. Located along the Perth-Yanchep Road a few miles north of Wanneroo.

The Board has protested—so far without success—in relation to three limestone quarries, established within this national park before it gained control of the reserve. One quarry is currently being worked and has resulted in the destruction of a large area of good wildflower country.

Subject to the intrusion of limestone quarrying operations, the Board is endeavouring to maintain this comparatively small national park as far as possible in its natural state, in the interests of conservation.

PORONGURUP NATIONAL PARK

A Class "A" Reserve of 5,531 acres. Further adjustment of boundaries is being effected for inclusion of more territory. Located in the Porongurup Range about 25 miles north of Albany.

SERPENTINE NATIONAL PARK

A Class "A" Reserve of about 1,571 acres. This is one of the few W.A. national parks containing water-falls and is located just off the South-Western Highway about 32 miles south of Perth.

SIR JAMES MITCHELL NATIONAL PARK

A Class "A" Reserve of about 2,717 acres each side of the South-Western Highway in the Shannon River area. Placed under the Board's control in August, 1969.

The park contains some fine stands of Karri and is being left in its natural state.

STIRLING RANGE NATIONAL PARK

A Class "A" Reserve of about 285,874 acres. Located in the Stirling Range about 40 miles north of Albany, this park is noted for its wildflowers and mountain peaks the highest of which is Bluff Knoll which rises to 3,520 feet above sea level.

Ranger Mr. J. Andrews is in charge of this park.

The presence of the Stirling Range in this national park creates problems in relation to bush fire control, and consequently a specialist in such matters was engaged to assist in the planning of firebreaks and general bush fire control matters. Boundary firebreaks were first constructed and then a further 54 miles of firebreaks were constructed south of the Stirling Range to the east of Chester Pass Road during 1968-69. An additional 56 miles of firebreaks were constructed during 1969-70.

About 5,000 acres of parkland were control burnt in the Kojaneerup Spring area in May, 1970, with the help of the local bush fire brigade.

The Red Gum Pass Road is being upgraded and sections re-aligned. Reconditioning of the Stirling Range Drive is planned for the ensuing year, as a prelude to its eventual bituminising progressively over a number of years.

It is proposed to establish an Information Bay alongside the Chester Pass Road near the 42 mile-post south of the Stirling Range, with vehicle parking, picnic facilities and information signs on the names of mountain peaks and the road system within the park.

A new picnic area has been established in the Talyuberlup-Mt. Magog area and concrete surrounds have been constructed around fireplaces at the Mt. Hassell and Mt. Magog picnic areas to lessen bush fire risks.

Walking tracks have been constructed to give access to Talyuberlup and Mt. Magog peaks, and work is in progress to provide access to water-falls located north of Coyanarup peak.

Two interesting scenic water points have been discovered: one half-way up the side of Bluff Knoll which has been described as very picturesque; and another which takes the form of a waterspout shooting out about 3-4 feet into space from a hole in the rock formation on the south side of Bluff Knoll and falling groundwards. These features are in addition to water-falls recently located not far from Bluff Knoll.

The picnic shelter near Bluff Knoll has been partially enclosed in the interests of visitors' comfort during bad weather.

Development work has been carried out on one of the exploratory bores sunk in the Red Gum Springs area and a report is awaited before considering the establishment of picnic facilities.

A water point has been established at Middle Spring as a drought relief project, and will provide a watering point for native fauna.

A 2,000 gal. rainwater tank and stand were placed by the public toilets in the Bluff Knoll area to augment the local supply for picnickers.

TORNDIRRUPT NATIONAL PARK

Comprises about 8,936 acres. A Class "A" reserve located along the South Coast a few miles South-West of Albany. Includes rugged coastline scenery, with attractive wildflowers in season. Torndirrup is a native name for the area.

Road access and vehicle parking areas are in excellent order except for the parking area near The Gap and Natural Bridge, where ocean spray has affected the surface. Arrangements are in hand for grading and gravel patching.

People have painted their names on rocks at The Gap and Natural Bridge. However it is pleasing to report that all but one name has been removed. The remaining one is in such an awkward position facing seawards, that it is dangerous to attempt removal. Vandals have removed parking area guide posts, and there is evidence that some were used to light a fire. Action will be taken to prosecute in cases of vandalism if the culprits can be apprehended.

WALPOLE-NORNALUP NATIONAL PARK

This National Park is made up of several reserves totalling 33,007 acres and is located along the South Coast near Walpole. It is a most attractive undulating area, containing inlets and good stands of timber. Ranger Mr. L. G. Gunson is in charge of the park.

A comprehensive firebreak system has been established with the assistance of the Forests Department. The hilly nature of the country and weather conditions in this area require the firebreaks or access roads to be of a fairly high standard. A stone crossing was constructed over the Frankland River at Cottons Creek, some turn-arounds provided on Hilltop and Pool Roads and general maintenance grading carried out on existing access roads (or firelines). Additional firebreaks and another stone crossing over the Frankland River at Nunn Crossing are planned.

There were several bush fires in the park during the year, a few of which were small.

A bush fire on the 2nd January, 1970 burnt out about 1,000 acres south of the South Coast Highway near Rest Point and was caused by a spark from a controlled burn in the nearby State Forest. A further fire on the 14th March, 1970 burnt out about 300 acres of coastal country in an area programmed for controlled burning in the Autumn of 1970. The fire was caused by a lightning strike, which did more good than harm.

On the 21st March, 1970 about 20 acres of heavy Karri country were burnt out by a break-away fire from a controlled burn in an adjoining private property in the north-east region of the park. Successful prosecution action was



THE GAP, TORNDIRUP NATIONAL PARK

taken during the year in one case for unlawful lighting of a fire in the park in May, 1969. Karri Wattle was thinned out below the Rest Point Lookout to improve the view of Nornalup Inlet. Walking paths to the inlet and Sandy Beach are being improved.

Channel marker pegs were placed on sand banks opposite "The Peppermints" in Nornalup Inlet.

The diving pontoon at Coalmine Beach was serviced, repainted and anchored back on its moorings before Christmas 1969 and the swimming area defined with metal buoys.

Further planting of a native grass (*Poa poaeformis*) was carried out on sand drifts at Bald Hill near "The Depot", as marram grass was unavailable locally. An initial report indicated this was quite successful.

The information brochure is being revised and reprinted.

WALYUNGA NATIONAL PARK

A further instalment of \$5,235 was paid during the year and contracts of sale were finally executed between Mount Lawley Pty. Ltd. and the Board in respect of Walyunga National Park. The Shire of Swan has agreed to release to the Board a former gravel pit area in the western section of the park. Negotiations are being conducted to have Reserve 2065 added to the park and the whole officially created a national park vested in this Board.

Ranger Mr. J. H. Rose is in control of this area, with the assistance of another ranger transferred there from John Forrest National Park during the year to assist in general maintenance, check on unauthorised removal of artifacts from a former Aborigine workshop area, stop the taking of river washed stones and soil, and prohibit shooting.

Vehicle Admission Fees

A charge of 20 cents per car was instituted from Sunday, 29th March, 1970 after the completion of a new ticket office.

The year was a bad one for bush fires. On the 1st November, 1969 about 500 acres of parkland were burnt out in rugged hilly country through a fire started by an unknown person. The John Forrest National Park Staff helped bring it under control with the assistance of adjoining property owners.

On the 6th December, 1969 about 200 acres of hilly and rocky White Gum territory were burnt by a bush fire, again started by an unknown person.

A major bush fire originated in this park at about 4 a.m. on the 31st December, 1969 and burnt out about 2,000 acres of parkland.

The John Forrest National Park, East Bullsbrook Bush Fire Brigade and Swan Shire staff and units co-operated in bringing the fire under control by 5 p.m. the same day.

A further short section of the access road to Walyunga Pool was primed. The gravelled section of the first mile of the Walyunga Pool access road from the Great Northern Highway eastward was regraded and negotiations are proceeding in connection with its re-alignment in order to relieve a hazard for drivers of vehicles when entering the highway on the return trip to the City.

Further barbecue fireplaces (including a new metal type) and picnic tables have been provided to meet the public demand, and action is being taken to resite some of them.

Erection of a ranger's residence and workshop-garage was completed and the Ranger moved into the house on the 5th August, 1969.

A report is awaited on the results of an investigation by officers of the Public Works Department into possible sources of water supply.

Plans and specifications are practically completed for calling of tenders for erection of permanent lavatories near Long Pool.

YALGORUP NATIONAL PARK

This National Park is located south of Mandurah and totals about 9,890 acres of Class "A" Reserves.

Firebreaks were constructed during the year.

Two bush fires occurred in the park on the 6th and 8th April, 1970 when 75 acres and 400 acres respectively of parklands were burnt out. The fires were started by unknown persons.

The access road to Preston Beach, which passes through this park, is being widened and upgraded.

As pointed out in the previous year an application was not opposed for operation of a limestone quarry by private enterprise in an existing quarry on a limited scale and subject to stipulated conditions, which include subsequent rehabilitation of the area.

However further applications for mineral claims in respect of the park and Lakes Clifton and Preston are being opposed.

Two unauthorised buildings were erected in this park by private individuals before the Board gained control of the reserve and negotiations are in progress with the people and the West Australian Water Ski Association for action to be

taken to dismantle one and retain the other hut, providing it is upgraded and the surrounds cleaned up

YANCHEP NATIONAL PARK

Class "A" Reserves of about 6,895 acres. Official approval has been granted for this area to be given national park status by name. This park is only 32 miles north of Perth and it has many tourist attractions.

Mr. P. Congreve took up duties as Superintendent on the 17th January, 1970 upon the resignation of Mr. J. Dale. He exercises control over this park and nearby Yanchep Flora Reserves, Neerabup National Park and Nowergup Lake Fauna Sanctuary.

A bush fire control plan has been prepared by the W.A. Bush Fires Board and is being implemented. It involves providing additional firebreaks and a planned cycle for controlled burning. The usual maintenance of firebreaks was carried out in late November, 1969.

On the 8th December, 1969 a fire which originated from the rubbish tip, burnt out about 50 acres of parkland east of the Perth-Lancelin Road opposite the main entrance to the park. On the 28th December, 1969 another fire originated in the former market gardens area and swept towards the developed section of the park, endangering some of the staff houses and burning out about 350-400 acres of parkland.

The partial dredging of Loch McNess in the previous year does not seem to have entirely overcome our problems and the matter is currently under investigation.

Ornamental lakes near Gloucester Lodge are being cleaned out. Plans are in course to join them up as an aid to better water circulation, and to construct a small footbridge over the connecting channel.

Six areas containing plots in which regeneration of vegetation after fire are being studied were visited in early and mid 1970. All the areas apart from the one which had been burnt the previous summer, have reached a stage in the succession cycle where one would expect little change floristically and slow development in the physical dimensions of the more dominant species. The density of plant components made measurement of areas occupied by individual plants increasingly difficult.

Parts of Yanchep National Park were control burnt after the early inspection. Unfortunately the fire went through all four plots of the area covered by *Xanthorrhoea preissii-Dryandra sessilis* (Blackboy-Parrot bush) and one plot of the area covered by *Eucalyptus gomphocephala* (Tuart).

Further planting out of wildflower plants has been carried out, mainly in special centrally located garden beds, which are nameplated for identification of wildflower plants. Some of the plants were purchased from private nurseries, whilst others were collected from private properties with permission of the owners.

Replacement nameplates to a new design are being obtained. Conducted wildflower walks are available to tourists and other visitors during the Springtime.

There has been additional planting of eucalypts suitable for koala feed, and these include 173 *Eucalyptus tereticornis*, 60 *E. robusta*, 70 *E. resinifera* and 500 *E. globulus*.

Present indications are that there are possibly five baby koalas in the pouches of their respective mothers and so far two have made brief appearances. There were five deaths (1M., 4F.) of which four koalas were aged and one young koala (7 months) died from the result of a fall. Excluding the baby koalas in their mothers' pouches the stock of koalas totalled 25 at the 30th June, 1970. Two koalas were taken to Government House on the 29th August, 1969, for photographing with the Duke and Duchess of Kent on their visit to Western Australia.

The help of the Wanneroo Scouts Group, Selby Community Centre and others in pulling of lupins is appreciated. In some localities the lupins were slashed. Their intrusion from outside the park is becoming a problem. Cape Tulip and *Watsonia* were sprayed for control purposes, and a start has been made on careful selective spraying of Wild Geranium, with a view to avoiding loss of wildflower plants.

After legal advice to the effect that the Board at present has no power to grant apiary sites, the holders of licences have been given until the 31st December, 1970, to vacate the sites held within the park.

Minor repairs have been made and the hulls of the two launches treated with anti-fouling paint. Six more fibre glass dinghies and one bondwood dinghy have been acquired, and a further six fibre glass dinghies are on order. All rowing boats have been numbered and carrying capacity indicated. Regular maintenance work is carried out on the bondwood boats, which do not seem to stand up to the rough handling as well as the fibre glass ones.

A new ticket office has been built on the lake front near the launch landing and was completed in November, 1969.



SCARLET REGELIA
Regelia velutina

(by courtesy of Mr. M. K. Morcombe)

Its use has speeded up the handling of boat hiring and launch trips on Sundays and Public Holidays.

The grassed fairways and greens of this attractive nine hole public golf course have been well maintained.

The three playing fields have received the usual upkeep and maintenance. The surface of the north oval still retains a lot of dampness in the winter months, notwithstanding the provision of filling.

Patronage of the four colas surfaced tennis courts hardly justifies re-surfacing of them, even though they need treatment.

A limestone wall has been raised and extended southwards along the eastern bank of Loch McNess, filling provided and the area regressed following the receipt of plans for landscaping the lake front area. Further protection of the bank is required to combat erosion. Many loads of filling were carted and spread to build up other sections of the lake front, after which there was further planting of grass and trees. This is all part of a plan to improve the area for the benefit of the many visitors to this most popular park.

The layout of picnic areas has been improved and the old concrete barbecue fireplaces are being phased out gradually for a new and improved metal type fireplace, which is safer for use in national parks.

New public lavatories have been built between Yanchep Inn and Loch McNess not far from a picnic area.

The resiting of the existing Information Centre has been deferred pending completion of the master plan for the park and possible replanning of the road approach system.

New change rooms, lavatories and a first aid room are being built alongside the swimming pool and should be completed shortly.

Following the transfer back to the Board of land made available to the Forests Department in earlier years, arrangements have been made for four staff houses to be taken over from that Department progressively, as they are vacated by Forestry workers.

NATIONAL PARK IN CHICHESTER RANGE, WEST PILBARA

This is a Class "A" Reserve of some 372,483 acres, located south of Roebourne. Placed under this Board's control in November, 1969. The Board is awaiting a decision on a recommendation made regarding a suitable name for this national park.

NATIONAL PARK AT GOOSEBERRY HILL

This small Class "A" reserve of about 81 acres was placed under the Board's control in February, 1970. Its feature is a scenic lookout located on the western edge of the Darling Range Escarpment not far from Kalamunda. A recommendation has been made, but a decision not yet reached on a suitable name for this small national park.

NATIONAL PARK ADJACENT TO THE LAKE KING-NORSEMAN ROAD

This long narrow reserve is of about 64,480 acres, extending outwards one mile from each side of the Lake King-Norseman Road and was placed under this Board's control in May, 1970.

The reserve has not yet been inspected.

NATIONAL PARK EAST OF THE PORONGURUP RANGE

This Class "A" Reserve of about 150 acres was placed under the Board's control in May, 1970, principally because of a boronia area which was kindly made available by Mr. & Mrs. H. T. Jasper of this district for addition to an existing reserve. It is located a few miles east of the Chester Pass Road about 25 miles north of Albany.

A controlled burn was carried out on the 22nd May, 1970, to promote the regeneration of boronia.

NATIONAL PARK NEAR REGANS FORD

Comprises about 26,030 acres of wildflower country. Placed under the control of the Board in October, 1969. Located south of Regans Ford about 70 miles north of Perth.

Authority was given for the laying of part of the Dongara-Kwinana natural gas line underground across a relatively small section of the park.

NATIONAL PARK NEAR WATHEROO

Comprises Class "A" Reserves totalling about 76,646 acres. Placed under the control of the Board in October, 1969. Other reserves will be included in this national park in the near future.

APPENDIX B

OTHER RESERVES

ALBANY BORONIA RESERVE

Small Class "A" reserve of about 112 acres. Placed under Board control in 1964.

Located at Emu Point east of Albany. Being maintained in its natural state for the preservation of boronia, which does not seem to be as plentiful as originally envisaged. Control burnt in May, 1970, to promote the regeneration of boronia.

ARALUEN-CANNING DAM RESERVE

A comparatively small strip of land of 50 acres lying between the Canning River and McNess Drive and extending from the vicinity of Araluen to the boundary of the Canning Dam water reserve.

BORONIA RESERVE NO. 23886

This reserve of about 406 acres is located south of the Wellington Dam Catchment area in the South-West of the State. Placed under Board control in January, 1970. Arrangements are being made to have the reserve inspected by a botanist.

EAST PERTH CEMETERY

Comprising about 12 acres.

A gardener is employed full-time at this historical cemetery, where the remains of many of the pioneers of this State have been laid to rest.

Tree pruning and replacements were carried out during the year and many headstones repaired following the action of vandals.

St. Bartholomew's Church located on Perth Lot 767, is leased by the Department of Lands and Surveys to the Perth Diocesan Trustees for 50 years from the 1st January, 1956. This lot is nearly surrounded by the cemetery grounds. The problem of controlling unauthorised parking and driving of vehicles on the grassed street verges and grassed area in these grounds has been taken up with the appropriate authorities. Authority has been given for the State Electricity Commission to erect high tension power lines across the cemetery ground as a temporary expedient, pending the laying of them underground outside the reserve when the new Burswood Bridge is completed.

HAMELIN BAY RESERVE

Class "A" Reserve No. 21451 of about 366 acres.

Amenities include a car parking area, public change rooms lavatories and a boat launching ramp. Major renovations and repairs, including internal and external painting have recently been carried out to the change rooms and lavatories.

KALBARRI RANGER'S RESIDENTIAL RESERVE

Two reserves were placed under the Board's control in November, 1967, and June, 1969, respectively for housing purposes. A ranger's house has been built on one and the other is being held as a building site later when a second ranger is appointed for this large national park.

KEANE'S POINT RESERVE

A small Class "A" Reserve of about 6 acres. Leased to the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club Inc., which has established excellent aquatic facilities there. Many improvements have been effected and the grounds are being well maintained on this attractive site.

MATILDA BAY RESERVE

Class "A" Reserves of about 57 acres.

Additions and alterations were carried out to an existing building in this reserve, including the provision of garage space, and the Board's Head Office staff moved into this office building on the 22nd December, 1969, to establish its Administrative Headquarters within one of the reserves under its control.

Improved road access and landscaping of the surrounding area are being planned with a view to early implementation, including improved signposting.

A new garage with storage space was erected in conjunction with these additions and alterations.

Swings have been added to existing playground equipment in the reserve.

Hackett Drive has been widened, which involved resiting of a small adjacent car park, and access to the Administrative Headquarters and to Pelican Point is being improved.

The boat launching ramp was doubled in size in the year by the Public Works Department. Re-organisation of the adjacent vehicle and boat trailer parking area is being planned.

A section of the boundary fencing was re-aligned alongside Hackett Drive and a short section of pipe rail fence was erected near the Mounts Bay Sailing Club site, to keep vehicles from being driven onto a grassed area adjacent to the Matilda Bay foreshore.

Replanting of shrubbery beds, near the Pancake Grove Kiosk and Caretaker's residence was carried out, with replacement of some shrubs in a bed near Royal Perth Yacht Club. Shrubs and trees were planted in the Pelican Point area and some trees replaced alongside the access road to this Point, and elsewhere in the reserve.

The Royal Perth Yacht Club (Inc.), Mounts Bay Sailing Club (Inc.), Perth 14 ft. Dinghy Sailing Club, The Governors of Hale School and the 1st Pelican Point (Sea Scouts) Group lease sites in this reserve from the Board and the University of W.A. Rowing Club occupies a boat shed on the foreshore of Matilda Bay, erected partly on the reserve. These Clubs and the Sea Scouts Group are each in their own way making a worthwhile contribution towards improving facilities for the enjoyment of aquatic sports on the Swan River.

NAMBUNG RANGER'S RESIDENTIAL RESERVE

This reserve was placed under the Board's control in June, 1970, for the purpose of "Rangers Headquarters". It is expected to start building early in 1970/71.

NOWERGUP LAKE FAUNA SANCTUARY

A Class "A" Reserve of about 288 acres placed under the Board's control in October, 1963.

OLD MILL RESERVE, SOUTH PERTH

A small reserve of just over half an acre located at the South Perth end of the Narrows Bridge. The reserve was enlarged slightly in September, 1969.

The area is leased to the firm of H. L. Brisbane and Wunderlich Ltd., which arranged restoration of the old mill and cottage a few years ago, and established a small historical museum on the site.

PENGUIN ISLAND RESERVE

A Class "A" reserve of about 31 acres. It is for "Recreation, Camping, etc." an outstanding feature of the island being the presence of quite a sizeable colony of Penguins, which are protected. The island is about a mile offshore from Safety Bay.

Nesting facilities for Penguins were provided near the settlement in 1965-66.

Metropolitan water scheme was connected to the island on the 2nd March, 1970.

FLORA RESERVE NEAR TAMMIN

This Class "A" reserve of about 1,441 acres is of outstanding botanical interest and it was placed under the control of this Board in August, 1969.

WALPOLE FLORA RESERVE

Comprises about 228 acres adjoining the Walpole-Nornalup National Park on the north side of the South Coast Highway. Placed under the control of this Board in January, 1964, for "Conservation of Indigenous Flora".

It is treated as a part of the Walpole-Nornalup National Park for all practical purposes. Action is under way for tidying up the roadside part of the park, including treatment towards controlling kikuyu grass growing there.

WALPOLE GOLF COURSE RESERVE

A reserve of about 35 acres excised from the Walpole-Nornalup National Park in February, 1964, for a local golf course, but at present held in its natural state, pending leasing for the purpose reserved.

WALPOLE RANGER'S RESIDENTIAL RESERVE

A small reserve of about one-quarter acre, reserved for a ranger's house, but at present vacant. Placed under the Board's control in July, 1967.

WALPOLE YACHT CLUB RESERVE

An area of about 2 acres excised from the Walpole-Nornalup National Park in February, 1964, for a Yacht Club Site. Leased to the Walpole Yacht Club.

WOLF CREEK METEORITE CRATER RESERVE

A reserve of about 3,607 acres 65 miles south of Hall's Creek. Placed under the control of this Board in July, 1969, for "Protection of Meteorite Crater", but not yet officially named. The crater is said to be half a mile wide, 160 feet deep with an area of about 5 square miles.

YANCHEP FLORA RESERVES

Comprise Class "A" reserves of 160 acres and 279 acres respectively. The reserves have been left in their natural state.

SMALL PART OF RESERVE A.1720 (KING'S PARK)

A small portion of about 1 acre.

HONORARY RANGERS

Following is a list of honorary rangers as at the 30th June, 1970. These honorary rangers were appointed to assist in the patrol and supervision of the national parks concerned.

Mr. W. Kirwan	....	Cape Le Grand National Park
Mr. D. Bathgate	....	Cape Range National Park
Mr. T. Carlson	....	} Geikie Gorge National Park
Mr. C. Bell	....
Mr. D. Bell	....
Mr. R. Bell	....
Mr. E. G. McGuire	....	Hamersley Range National Park
Mr. A. Dennett	....	John Forrest National Park
Mr. R. Glass	....	} Kalbarri National Park
Mr. E. Grinham	....
Mr. W. J. Bradley	....	} Nambung National Park
Mr. J. H. Turner	....
Members of the W.A. Speleological Group	....
Mr. E. T. Hancock	....	Stirling Range National Park
Mr. R. H. Freeman	....	Torndirrup National Park
Mr. L. Carroll	....	Yalgorup National Park
Dr. D. L. Serventy	....	} National Park at Gooseberry Hill
Mr. T. E. Hennessey	....
Mr. E. M. Johnson	....	Hamelin Bay Reserve
Mr. B. Raven	....	Penguin Island Reserve

It is proposed to appoint Mr. K. Chamberlain an Hon. Ranger for Penguin Island, in place of Mr. T. Gilbert who has left the Island.