

DUPLICATE

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

PERTH

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

1974

= ANNUAL REPORT =

FAUNA CONSERVATION BRANCH

AND

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN WILD LIFE AUTHORITY



DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

108 Adelaide Terrace
Perth, W.A.

The Honourable P.V. Jones
Minister for Fisheries and Wildlife

Sir,

In accordance with the requirements of Sub-section (5) of Section 7 of the Fauna Conservation Act, I have pleasure in submitting to you my report on the proceedings and work of the Western Australian Wild Life Authority for the period ending June 30, 1974, together with comments relating to the administration of this Act.

B.K. Bowen

(B.K. Bowen)
CHAIRMAN

Western Australian Wild Life Authority

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DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN WILD LIFE AUTHORITY

I. MEETINGS AND MEMBERSHIP

A. THE AUTHORITY

Meetings

During 1973/74 the Authority met on five occasions; in the previous year, six meetings were held.

Membership

	<u>No. of Meetings</u>	
	<u>attended</u>	
<u>Ex Officio Members</u>	<u>1973/74</u>	<u>1972/73</u>
Director of Fisheries and Fauna - Mr B.K. Bowen Chairman	4	5
Chief Warden of Fauna - Mr H.B. Shugg Deputy Chairman	5	4
Assistant Administrative Officer - Mr A.J. Mearns Chief Executive Officer	-	4
Mr A.J. Mearns was appointed to the position of Administrative Officer of the Department on 15th March, 1974, and Mr D.W. Arnold was appointed to the position of Assistant Administrative Officer on 7th June, 1974		
Conservator of Forests - Mr B.J. Beggs Deputy - Mr W.H. Eastman - Dr E.R. Hopkins	4	4
Chief Vermin Control Officer - Mr A.R. Tomlinson Deputy - Mr M.D. Gooding		
 <u>Appointed Members</u>		
Botanist - Mr R.D. Royce - Government Herbarium	3	4
Zoologists - Professor A.R. Main - University of W.A.	4	6
- Dr D.L. Serventy	2	4
Dr W.D.L. Ride - Director, W.A. Museum	2	5
Deputy - Mr J.L. Bannister		
Mr N.A. Beeck - Farmer	3	6

	<u>No. of Meetings</u>	
	<u>attended</u>	
	<u>1973/74</u>	<u>1972/73</u>
Mr H.G. Hall - Farmer	4	5
Mr A.H. Robinson - Farmer	-	5

Mr H.B. Shugg acted as Chairman on one occasion, Mr D.W. Arnold acted as Chief Executive Officer on one occasion and Mr P.W. Smith acted as Chief Executive Officer on four occasions.

B. STANDING COMMITTEES

The Authority appointed from among its members, Standing Committees on which a number of co-opted members from departments and authorities involved, kindly agreed to serve.

1. The Reserves Committee

This Committee met five times in 1973/74. In the previous year six meetings were held.

Membership

	<u>No. of Meetings</u>	
	<u>attended</u>	
	<u>1973/74</u>	<u>1972/73</u>
Mr B.K. Bowen - Chairman	5	5
Mr H.B. Shugg - Acting Chairman	-	1
- Deputy Chairman	5	3
Mr A.J. Mearns - Acting Deputy Chairman	-	2
- Chief Executive Officer	-	3
Mr D.W. Arnold - Acting Chief Executive Officer	2	3
Mr P.W. Smith - Acting Chief Executive Officer	2	-
Mr D.L. Jennings - Acting Chief Executive Officer	1	-
Mr R.H. Robinson - Authority Member	-	1
Mr R.D. Royce - Authority Member	5	6
Mr N. Beeck - Authority Member	5	6
Professor A.R. Main - Authority Member	-	-
Mr B.J. Beggs - Conservator of Forests	-	1
Mr W.H. Eastman - Deputy for Conservator of Forests	1	1
Mr J. Bannister - Deputy Director - W.A. Museum	2	5
Dr D. Kitchener - Deputy for Deputy Director - W.A. Museum	1	-

	<u>No. of Meetings</u>	
	<u>attended</u>	
	<u>1973/74</u>	<u>1972/73</u>
Dr A.A. Burbidge - Reserve Management Branch	4	6
Mr N. McKenzie - Reserve Acquisition Branch	3	4
Mr R.I.T. Prince - Fauna Research	-	-

2. Game Committee

This Committee met three times during 1973/74. In the previous year two meetings were held.

Membership

	<u>No. of Meetings</u>	
	<u>attended</u>	
	<u>1973/74</u>	<u>1972/73</u>
Mr B.K. Bowen - Chairman	2	2
Mr H.B. Shugg - Acting Chairman	1	-
- Deputy Chairman	2	2
Mr A.J. Mearns - Chief Executive Officer	-	1
Mr D.W. Arnold - Acting Chief Executive Officer	1	1
Mr P.W. Smith - Acting Chief Executive Officer	2	-
Mr N. Beeck - Authority Member	2	2
Mr H.G. Hall - Authority Member	3	2
Professor A.R. Main - Authority Member	-	-
Mr A.H. Robinson - Authority Member	-	2
Dr D.L. Serventy - Authority Member	3	-
Mr T. Spence - Director, South Perth Zoo	2	2
Dr T.L. Riggert - Senior Research Officer - Waterfowl	3	2
Mr S.W. Bowler - Supervising Warden	1	-

3. Bird Committee

During the year 1973/74 this Committee met five times, as it did the previous year.

Membership

	<u>No. of Meetings</u>	
	<u>attended</u>	
	<u>1973/74</u>	<u>1972/73</u>
Mr H.B. Shugg - Chairman	5	5
Mr A.J. Mearns - Chief Executive Officer	-	3

	<u>No. of Meetings</u>	
	<u>attended</u>	
	<u>1973/74</u>	<u>1972/73</u>
Mr A.J. Mearns - Acting Chief Warden of Fauna	-	1
Mr D.W. Arnold - Acting Chief Executive Officer	2	2
Mr P.W. Smith - Acting Chief Executive Officer	2	-
Mr D.L. Jennings - Acting Chief Executive Officer	1	-
Mr A.H. Robinson - Authority Member	1	2
Dr D.L. Serventy - Authority Member	2	3
Dr S.J.J. Davies - C.S.I.R.O. Wildlife Research	4	4
Mr T. Spence - Director, South Perth Zoo	4	3
Dr G. Storr - Curator of Birds, W.A. Museum	5	2
Mr S.W. Bowler - Supervising Warden	3	5
Mr A.R. Marshall - Acting Supervising Warden	2	-
Dr T.L. Riggert - Senior Research Officer	4	4
Mr A.R. Tomlinson - Chief Vermin Control Officer	-	-
Mr A.J. Oliver - Deputy for Chief Vermin Control Officer	4	3

4. Secretariat

Mr I.R. Wight-Pickin and Mr A.B. Wilton carried out the secretarial functions of the Authority and its various standing committees.

II. RESERVES (SANCTUARIES)

A Sanctuary is defined in the Fauna Conservation Act as an area of land "vested in the Crown and which the Governor, subject to such conditions and limitations as he thinks fit, reserves to Her Majesty or dispose of in such a manner as for the public interest may seem fit for the conservation of fauna ..."

A. NUMBER OF SANCTUARIES

30 June 1974

454 reserves totalling 5 033 935 ha.

281 of these reserves, totalling 4 626 617 ha are vested in the W.A.W.L.A.

During the year 15 new reserves were acquired (total 17 928 ha) and 1 reserve (7 ha) was relinquished. Of the 15 new reserves, 12 (17 415 ha) were vested in the W.A.W.L.A.

The area of reserves previously held was increased by a total 2 727 ha.

B. SANCTUARIES RECLASSIFIED (under Section 12A)

The Authority recommended, and the Minister subsequently approved, the following classification:-

Bald Island Reserve No. 25869 "A" Class

C. MINING ON SANCTUARIES

Exploration for minerals on sanctuaries was again on a small scale compared with earlier years. However a number of mineral claims were made on reserves and both formal and informal objections were lodged by the Authority to the Under Secretary for Mines. Some mineral claims were withdrawn.

SUMMARY OF MINING TENEMENTS ON FAUNA
RESERVES AGAINST WHICH THE AUTHORITY HAS
LODGED INFORMAL OBJECTIONS

Reserve No. 26808

Barlee Range Mineral Claims

Reserve No. 24049

Lake Barker Mineral Claims

Reserve No. 29073

Eneabba Mineral Claims

SUMMARY OF MINING TENEMENTS ON FAUNA
RESERVES AGAINST WHICH THE AUTHORITY HAS
LODGED FORMAL OBJECTIONS

Reserve No. 31048

Lake Joondalup Dredging Claim

Reserve No. 7349

Lake Jandabup Mineral Claim

Reserve No. 27886

Rocky Springs Mineral Claim

Lake Gngarra
Lake Marinbup

In conjunction with Shire
of Wanneroo
Mineral Claim

D. CONSERVATION THROUGH RESERVES

The Conservation Through Reserves Committee of the Environmental Protection Authority continued its assessment of the State's National Park and Flora and Fauna Reserves Systems. Because of the magnitude of the job Dr A.A. Burbidge, a member of the Scientific Sub-Committee, was seconded to the Department of Environmental Protection for 3 months during the summer of 1973/74.

III. GAME MANAGEMENT

The 1973/74 Duck Shooting Season opened at 6.00 p.m. Saturday, January 1974 and closed at midnight on March 31, 1974.

A bag limit was set up at ten ducks per shooter per day from those game species listed on opening day and 20 ducks after opening day.

Game Species

Species declared as game for the season were:-

Whistling Tree-Duck	(<i>Dendrocygna arcuata</i>)
Plumed Tree-Duck	(<i>Dendrocygna eytoni</i>)
Mountain Duck	(<i>Tadorna tadornoides</i>)
Black Duck	(<i>Anas superciliosa</i>)
Chestnut Teal	(<i>Anas castanea</i>)
Grey Teal	(<i>Anas gibberifrons</i>)
Blue-winged Shoveler	(<i>Anas rhynchotis</i>)
White-eyed Duck	(<i>Aythya australis</i>)
Wood Duck (Maned Goose)	(<i>Chenonetta jubata</i>)

IV. LICENSED TRAFFIC IN FAUNA

A. IMPORT AND EXPORT OF BIRDS AND MAMMALS

The Fauna Conservation Regulations provide that no fauna shall be imported or exported from this State without a license. Licenses were issued for the movement of the scheduled fauna.

1. Import of Mammals and Birds
2. Export of Mammals and Birds - Interstate
3. Export of Mammals and Birds - Overseas

1. Import of Birds and Mammals (Period 1.7.73 - 30.6.74)

Species	Private or Commercial	Scientific or Zoological
<u>Birds</u>		
Apostle Birds		3
Budgerygahs	520	
Canaries	245	
Cockatoos		
Major Mitchells Palm	4	
Red-tailed Black Sulphur Crested Weiro	1 297 72	1
Doves		
Bar-shouldered Diamond Peaceful Ruddy Ground	126 7	4 2
Finches		
African Fires Auroras Blackhearts	18 124 2	
	8	

1. Import of Birds and Mammals (contd.)

Species	Private or Commercial	Scientific or Zoological
<u>Birds</u>		
Blue-faced Parrot	4	
Chestnut	252	
Cordon-bleu	103	
Cuban	52	
Cut-throat	48	
Diggle	4	
Double-bar	248	
Emblema	200	
Gouldian	6	
Jacarini	26	
Melba	64	
Orange-breasted	66	
Plumheaded	25	
Red-browed		10
Red-faced Parrot	4	
Ruddies	10	
Star	80	
Zebra	8	
Galah	9	
Goshawk		1
Guinea-fowl White-breasted	6	
<u>Lorikeets</u>		
Musk	41	
Purple-crowned	2	
Rainbow	44	
Red-collared	2	
Scaly-breasted	12	
Nightjar - White-throated		1
<u>Parrots</u>		
Barraband	38	
Blue Bonnet	10	
Blue-winged	5	
Bourke	98	
Crimson-winged	12	
Eastern King	48	
Elegant	15	

1. Import of Birds and Mammals (contd.)

Species	Private or Commercial	Scientific or Zoological
<u>Birds</u>		
Hooded	2	
Kakariki	2	
Mulga	12	
Princess	7	
Red-rumped	202	
Regent	4	
Ring-necked	40	
Scarlet-chested	14	
Turquoise	67	
Pheasants		
Indian Ring-neck	18	
Lady Amherst		20
Reeves	20	
Swinhoe	20	
Pigeons		
Spinifex	2	
Squatter		4
Torres St.		2
Trumpetter	4	
White-headed		2
Wonga		3
Quail		
Button	2	
King	126	
Painted	2	2
Stubble	12	
Tas. Swamp	4	
Rosellas		
Adelaide	2	
Crimson	54	
Eastern	80	
Northern	10	
Pale-headed	44	
Tasmanian	10	
Yellow	106	

1. Import of Birds and Mammals (contd.)

Species	Private or Commercial	Scientific or Zoological
<u>Birds</u>		
Spoonbills		
Royal		8
Yellow-faced		6
Tern, Crested		1
<u>Mammals</u>		
Deer, Fallow	4	
Kangaroo, Eastern Grey		1
Mouse, Brown Hopping		12
Wallabies		
Agile	1	
Black-striped		1
Red-necked		3
Wallaroo		2

2. Export of Birds and Mammals - Interstate (Period 1.7.73 - 30.6.74)

Species	Private or Commercial	Scientific or Zoological
<u>Mammals</u>		
Bandicoot, Short-nosed		1
Kangaroo, Brush-tailed Rat		3
Lions	2	
Numbat		1

2. Export of Birds and Mammals - Interstate (contd.)

Species	Private or Commercial	Scientific or Zoological
<u>Mammals</u>		
Possum, Brush-tailed		5

3. Export of Birds and Mammals - Overseas (Period 1.7.73 - 30.6.74)

Species	Private or Commercial	Scientific or Zoological
<u>Birds</u>		
Brolgas		6
Budgerigahs	6	
Cockatoo, Major Mitchell	1	
Cockatoo, Sulphur Crested	1	
Corella, Short-billed	2	
Duck, Musk		4
Eagle, Wedge-tailed		3
Emus		3
Galah	12	12
Honeyeater, Yellow-winged		2
Pigeon, Crested		4
Plover, Banded		4
Rail, Banded		4
Stone Curlew		2

3. Export of Birds and Mammals - Overseas (contd.)

Species	Private or Commercial	Scientific or Zoological
<u>Birds</u>		
Swan, Black		4
Tern, Crested		2
Wrens, Banded		7
<u>Mammals</u>		
Kangaroos		
Grey - western		5
Red		3
Wallabies - Agile		2

B. BIRD TRADING

The demand for Western Australian native birds continued and 21 trappers were licensed. The majority of trapped birds were exported interstate. Twenty nine persons were licensed to deal in birds.

Birds trapped in year ending June 30, 1974

Finches

Double Bar	887
Star	2906
Blood	490
Blackheart	4646
Gouldian	8372
Masked	1903
Pictorella	1204
Chestnut	304
Yellow-rumped	23
Zebra	12

Cockatoos

White-tailed Black 4

Galahs 406

Parrots

Little Corellas 41

Smokers 155

Twenty-eights 2126

Western Rosella 560

Red-capped Parrot 151

C. OPEN SEASON - FINCHES

An open season on finches in the Kimberley Land Division was declared for the period September 1, 1973 to December 31, 1973. The Bird Committee of the Western Australian Wild Life Authority reviewed trapping statistics for the last three years. Due to the increase in the number of finches taken the Committee discussed the possibility of shortening the period of the open season or imposing other restrictions limiting the number of finches to be trapped.

The Western Australian Wild Life Authority endorsed a recommendation from the Bird Committee that no new finch trapping licenses were to be issued for the 1973 season. A review with regard to the 1974 season was held in early 1974 after consideration of the finch trapping statistics compiled from the 1973 season. It was decided to reduce the 1974 open season to three calendar months from September 1 on the grounds that finches are weakened by hot weather and there was a reported high mortality rate in birds trapped in December.

D. BLACK GRASS WREN

A specimen of this rarely collected species was taken inside the Prince Regent River Wildlife Sanctuary by a joint Fisheries and Fauna, W.A. Museum survey team in July 1973. Moves to obtain a reserve for this species have been postponed pending a more detailed survey of the Prince Regent River Area which will be undertaken during the coming year.

E. EMUS

A Wildlife Research Bulletin will be published incorporating a report on Emus in Agricultural and Pastoral areas in the State.

V. KANGAROO MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

A summary of the management programme for the three main species of kangaroos in Western Australia was published in Vol. 4 No. 3 the Winter 1973 edition of S.W.A.N.S. It includes descriptions of the range of each species, evaluations of the reserve/sanctuary systems and the philosophies behind each of the three programmes.

A. RED KANGAROOS AND EUROS

The combined effects of uncertainty in the trade due to the export embargo on kangaroo products, and the widespread heavy rains over the pastoral areas during 1973, led to a substantial reduction in the numbers of red kangaroos and euros taken during the 1973/74 licensing year. Approximately 129 000 animals were taken over this period, mostly by licensed professional shooters. Relatively few animals were taken by other persons under Damage License authority only.

Relocation of available shooting effort northwards into the Ashburton and Pilbara areas continued. Commercial shooting was virtually halted in the Leonora district from April 1973 onwards.

Overall the most substantial reductions in total harvests occurred in the Gascoyne Catchment area where approximately 21 000 animals were taken, as opposed to about 44 000 in the preceding licensing year (1972/73), and in the Leonora district where less than 2 000 animals were taken in this year. More than 16 000 had been taken from this district in the previous year. A relatively large reduction in total harvest was also noted in the Carnarvon area. Lesser changes were noted elsewhere.

Dispersion of limited populations in some areas following the rains, e.g. Leonora district following the break of the drought, was undoubtedly a major contributory factor leading to the reduced harvest, but in other areas the relationship between the actual abundance and status of the kangaroo populations being hunted and the other factors which can influence the actual harvest obtained was not readily apparent. A continued trend towards a reduced proportion of males included in the harvests from some areas suggested however that over-exploitation of the male sector of the populations concerned may have been occurring. This matter is under investigation.

B. GREY KANGAROOS

In conjunction with the current Grey Kangaroo Management Programme instituted in 1971 the number of Damage License tags issued for the year 1973/74 was 16 550.

VI. GENERAL

The Western Australian Wild Life Authority is serviced by the Department of Fisheries and Fauna which controls all finance and staff. Many of the following items were the subject of discussion by Authority members on various Departmental and inter-departmental committees and are directly related to the administration of the Fauna Conservation Act.

A. SMUGGLING AND ILLEGAL DEALING IN PROTECTED FAUNA

(1) Birds

Investigations into bird smuggling and the illegal dealing and taking of protected birds was continued on a larger scale.

Increased vigilance has resulted in a number of persons being apprehended for being in possession of protected birds which resulted in a number of prosecutions.

It was pleasing to note that both the Commonwealth Police and the Customs Department have worked in close co-operation with officers of this Department over the past year on bird smuggling.

(2) Crocodiles

Investigations into illegal crocodile poaching has continued.

Our sincere thanks are extended to members of the Police Department stationed at Wyndham, Halls Creek, Fitzroy Crossing and Derby for their active and valued assistance against crocodile poachers.

A special thanks is again extended to Father Sanz, our Honorary Warden at Kalumburu Mission and his staff, and Managers and owners of cattle stations in the Kimberlies for their valued assistance to our Warden at Wyndham in his endeavour to stop the poaching problem. The numbers of freshwater crocodiles have shown a considerable improvement in the watering places of our far north over the past year.

However, the saltwater crocodiles which were badly depleted in numbers when this species of crocodile was unprotected is making a slow recovery.

(3) Kangaroos

The problem of illegal kangaroo shooting is still considerable. A number of persons have been apprehended and prosecuted for the taking of Red and Grey Kangaroos and the Black-gloved Brush Wallaby.

(4) Ducks

Although it was pleasing to note reports that out of season Wild Duck shooting had decreased, it was disturbing to find that a few shooters exceeded their bag limit and took protected waterfowl during the open season for wild duck shooting. Some prosecutions have resulted.

B. PRIVATE WILDLIFE PARKS

A number of applications for licenses to establish wildlife zoos to display local fauna for commercial or tourist purposes were received during the last twelve months.

Concern is felt over the lack of professional expertise of those controlling some zoos and the condition under which exotic fauna is sometimes held which could lead to escape and possible new acclimatizations to the detriment of the native fauna.

Private zoos currently licensed include -

Bullens African Lion Safari - Wanneroo
Exmouth Zoo
Cohunu Wildlife Park - Gosnells
Jandakot Wildlife Park - Jandakot
J. Murray - Mullewa
A. Chugg - Dunsborough
Collie Game Sanctuary - Collie
Manjimup Game Sanctuary - Manjimup
Wave Rock Tourist Development - Hyden
W.A. Marine Aquarium and Oceanarium - Cottesloe
Wellesley Wildlife Park - Benger

C. LICENSING

The keeping of or dealing in fauna not in its natural environment is controlled under the licensing system. During the twelve months ending June 30, 1974, besides those mentioned previously, the following licenses were issued:-

Licenses to take fauna for Scientific purposes - Regulation 7

44 persons were licensed to take fauna for general scientific purposes. 15 persons were licensed to take specific fauna.

These licenses were issued mainly to official organisations or their employees.

Licenses to take fauna for educational and public purposes - Regulation 15

There were 47 licenses issued for the following purposes -

Care of derelict fauna	8
Collection and study	10
Study and Display	3
Educational	6
Photography	9
Miscellaneous purposes	11

Licenses to Keep and Breed Fauna in Captivity - Regulation 12

The 1789 licenses issued were mainly to aviculturists.

Licenses to take Red Kanagaroo for Sale - Regulation 6

Fifty two licenses were issued throughout the year.

Licenses to deal in Kangaroo Carcasses - Regulation 8

Sixty six licenses were issued. These are issued to chiller operators.

Licenses to Process Fauna - Regulation 7

Licenses to deal in Kangaroo Skins - Regulation 10

Eighteen were issued.

Licenses to deal in Avian Fauna - Regulation 13

Twenty nine were issued.

D. SCIENTIFIC COLLECTIONS (July 1, 1973 to June 30, 1974)

1. Amphibia

<u>No. Licensed</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
6	<i>Crinia pseudinsignifica</i>	

<u>No. Licensed</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
9	<i>Helioporus albopunctatus</i>	Spotted Frog
13	<i>Hyla adelaideness</i>	
27	<i>Hyla moorei</i>	
3	<i>Limnodynastes dorsalis</i>	Banjo Frog
4	<i>Litoria cyclorhyncha</i>	Marbled Tree-frog
2	<i>Neobatrachus</i> sp.	
4	<i>Neobatrachus pelobatoides</i>	
1	<i>Pseudophryne quentheri</i>	

2. Birds

<u>No. Licensed</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
2	<i>Accanthagenys rufogularis</i>	Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater
1	<i>Acanthiza apicalis</i>	Broad-tailed Thornbill
5	<i>Acanthiza chrysorrhoa</i>	Yellow-rumped Thornbill
2	<i>Acanthiza irornata</i>	Western Thornbill
7	<i>Acanthiza pusilla</i>	Brown Thornbill
3	<i>Acanthiza reguloides</i>	Buff-rumped Thornbill
2	<i>Acanthiza unopygialis</i>	Chestnut-tailed Thornbill
15	<i>Acanthorhynchus superciliosus</i>	Western Spinebill
1	<i>Accipiter cirrocephalus</i>	Collared Sparrow-Hawk
3	<i>Aegotheles cristata</i>	Owlet Nightjar
1	<i>Amytornis housei</i>	Black Grass Wren
20	<i>Amytornis purnelli</i>	Dusky Grass Wren
9	<i>Amytornis striatus</i>	Striated Grass Wren
1	<i>Anthochaera carunculata</i>	Red Wattle-bird
2	<i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i>	Australian Pipit
3	<i>Aphelocephala leucopis</i>	Southern Whiteface
1	<i>Aphelocephala nigrincincta</i>	Banded Whiteface
1	<i>Ardea novaehollandiae</i>	White-faced Heron
1	<i>Ardea pacifica</i>	White-necked Heron
1	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Ruddy Turnstone
5	<i>Artamus cinereus</i>	Black-faced Wood-Swallow
10	<i>Artamus cyanopterus</i>	Dusky Wood-Swallow
1	<i>Artamus leucophynchus</i>	White-breasted Wood-Swallow
7	<i>Artamus personatus</i>	Masked Wood-Swallow
1	<i>Barnardius barnardi</i>	Ringneck Parrot
18	<i>Barnardius zonarius</i> <i>Zonarius</i>	Port Lincoln Parrot
13	<i>Biziura lobata</i>	Musk Duck

<u>No. Licensed</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
1	<i>Cacatua leadbeateri</i>	Major Mitchell Cockatoo
2	<i>Cacatua sanguinea</i>	Little Corella
1	<i>Calanianthus fuliginosus</i>	Field Wren
1	<i>Calidris accuminata</i>	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
2	<i>Calyptorhynchus baudini</i>	White-tailed Black Cockatoo
3	<i>Certhionyx nigra</i>	Black Honeyeater
3	<i>Certhionyx variegatus</i>	Pied Honeyeater
4	<i>Charadrius alexandrenus</i>	Red-capped Dotterel
3	<i>Charadrius veredus</i>	Oriental Dotterel
8	<i>Chenonetta jubata</i>	Maned Goose
1	<i>Cheramoeca leucostrum</i>	White-backed Swallow
2	<i>Chlamydera guttata</i>	Western Bower-bird
1	<i>Chlamydera michalis</i>	Spotted Bower-bird
2	<i>Chloebia gouldiae</i>	Gouldian Finch
1	<i>Chrysococcyx lucidus</i>	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo
11	<i>Cinclorhampus cruralis</i>	Brown Songlark
2	<i>Cincolosma alisteri</i>	Nullabour Quail-Thrush
7	<i>Cincolosma castanotum</i>	Chestnut Quail-Thrush
1	<i>Cisticola exilis</i>	Golden-headed Fantail-Warbler
1	<i>Climacteris melanura</i>	Black-tailed Tree-creeper
7	<i>Climacteris rufa</i>	Rufous Tree-creeper
2	<i>Colluricincla harmonica</i>	Grey Shrike-Thrush
1	<i>Colluricincla rufiventris</i>	Western Shrike-Thrush
3	<i>Conopophila rufogularis</i>	Rufous-throated Honeyeater
1	<i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrike
6	<i>Coturnix pectoralis</i>	Stubble Quail
2	<i>Coturnix ypsilophora</i>	Brown Quail
2	<i>Cracticus argenteus</i>	Silver Butcher-bird
2	<i>Cracticus nigrogularis</i>	Pied Butcher-bird
7	<i>Cracticus torquatus</i>	Grey Butcher-bird
13	<i>Cygnus attratus</i>	Black Swan
3	<i>Dacelo gigas</i>	Kookaburra
1	<i>Dendrocyena arcuata</i>	Whistling Duck
3	<i>Dicrurus bracteatus</i>	Spangled drongo
3	<i>Dromaius novaehollandiae</i>	Emu
1	<i>Emblema oculata</i>	Red-eared Firetail
7	<i>Emblema picta</i>	Painted Finch
2	<i>Entomyzon eyanatis</i>	Blue-faced Honeyeater
5	<i>Eolophus rosucapillus</i>	Galah
3	<i>Eopsaltria australis</i>	Southern Yellow Robin
4	<i>Eopsaltria georgiana</i>	White-breasted Robin
2	<i>Eopsaltria griscopularis</i>	Western Yellow Robin
8	<i>Epthianura albifrons</i>	White-fronted Chat
1	<i>Epthianura aurifrons</i>	Crimson Chat
1	<i>Eudyptes sclateri</i>	Erect-crested Penguin
1	<i>Eulabeornis castaneoven-</i> <i>tris</i>	Chestnut Rail

<u>No. Licensed</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
1	<i>Eurostopodus guttatus</i>	Spotted nightjar
5	<i>Eupoditis australis</i>	Australian Bustard
3	<i>Falco berigora</i>	Brown Falcon
20	<i>Falco centchroides</i>	Nankeen Kestrel
1	<i>Fregata oriel</i>	Lesser Frigate-bird
2	<i>Gerygone chloronata</i>	Green-backed Warbler
9	<i>Gerygone fusca</i>	White-tailed Warbler
3	<i>Gerygone magnirostrus</i>	Large-billed Warbler
1	<i>Gerygone olivacea</i>	White-throated Warbler
1	<i>Gliciphila melanops</i>	Tawny-crowned Honeyeater
1	<i>Gymnorhina dorsalis</i>	Western Magpie
1	<i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i>	Black-backed Magpie
2	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	Pied Oystercatcher
2	<i>Haliaster indus</i>	Brahminy Kite
1	<i>Halcyon chloris</i>	Mangrove Kingfisher
2	<i>Halcyon sancta</i>	Sacred Kingfisher
1	<i>Lalage leucomela</i>	Varied Triller
3	<i>Lalage sueurii</i>	White-winged Triller
5	<i>Leipoa ocellata</i>	Mallee Fowl
6	<i>Leptolophus hollandicus</i>	Cockateil
18	<i>Lichmera indistincta</i>	Brown Honeyeater
1	<i>Malurus assimilis</i>	Purple-backed Wren
7	<i>Malurus callainus</i>	Turquoise Wren
8	<i>Malurus coronatus</i>	Lilac-crowned Wren
1	<i>Malurus duleis</i>	Lavender-flanked Wren
3	<i>Malurus lamberti</i>	Variegated Wren
2	<i>Malurus leucopterus</i>	White-winged Wren
1	<i>Malurus melancephalus</i>	Red-backed Wren
5	<i>Malurus pulcherrimus</i>	Blue-breasted Wren
19	<i>Malurus splendens</i>	Splendid Wren
9	<i>Manorina flavigula</i>	White-rumped Miner
2	<i>Manorina melanocephala</i>	Yellow-throated Miner
3	<i>Megapodius freycinet</i>	Scrub Fowl
1	<i>Meliornis novaehollandiae</i>	New Holland Honeyeater
2	<i>Meliphaga albilineata</i>	White-lined Honeyeater
2	<i>Meliphaga cratitia</i>	Purple-gaped Honeyeater
9	<i>Meliphaga flavesens</i>	Yellow-tinted Honeyeater
3	<i>Meliphaga keartlandi</i>	Grey-headed Honeyeater
2	<i>Meliphaga leucotis</i>	White-eared Honeyeater
4	<i>Meliphaga ornata</i>	Yellow-plumed Honeyeater

<u>No. Licensed</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
2	<i>Meliphaga penicillata</i>	White-plumed Honeyeater
9	<i>Meliphaga plumula</i>	Yellow-fronted Honeyeater
12	<i>Meliphaga virescens</i>	Singing Honeyeater
2	<i>Pelithrephus brevirostris</i>	Brown-headed Honeyeater
1	<i>Melithrephus laetior</i>	Golden-backed Honeyeater
4	<i>Melithrephus lunatus</i>	White-naped Honeyeater
1	<i>Merops ornatus</i>	Rainbow-bird
2	<i>Microeca leucophaea fascians</i>	Brown Flycatcher) or
1	<i>Microeca leucophaea</i>	Brown Flycatcher) Jacky
2	<i>Microeca brunneicauda tormenti</i>	Brown Flycatcher) Winter
2	<i>Mirafra javanica</i>	Singing Bushlark
1	<i>Myiagra alecto</i>	Shining Flycatcher
1	<i>Myiagra cyanoleuca</i>	Satin Flycatcher
1	<i>Myiagra ruficollis</i>	Broad-billed Flycatcher
3	<i>Myzomela pectoralis</i>	Honeyeater
5	<i>Neophema bourki</i>	Bourke Parrot
1	<i>Neophema elegans</i>	Elegant Parrot
2	<i>Neositta leucoptera</i>	White-winged Sittella
9	<i>Neositta pileata</i>	Black-capped Sittella
2	<i>Ninox novaeseelandiae</i>	Boobook Owl
1	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>	Wilson's Storm-Petrel
5	<i>Ocyphaps lophotes</i>	Crested Pigeon
3	<i>Oriolus sagittatus</i>	Olive-backed Oriole
1	<i>Oxyura australis</i>	Blue-billed Duck
4	<i>Pachycephala inornata</i>	Gilbert Whistler
2	<i>Pachycephala melanura</i>	Mangrove Golden Whistler
6	<i>Pachycephala pectoralis</i>	Golden Whistler
7	<i>Pachycephala rufiventris</i>	Rufous Whistler
4	<i>Pardalotus punctatus</i>	Spotted Pardalote
1	<i>Pardalotus rubricatus</i>	Red-browed Pardalote
1	<i>Pardalotus striatus</i>	Yellow-tipped Pardalote
1	<i>Pardalotus substriatus</i>	Striated Pardalote
1	<i>Pardalotus xanthopygius</i>	Yellow-tailed Pardalote
1	<i>Peltohyas australis</i>	Australian Dotterel
1	<i>Peophila acuticauda</i>	Long-tailed Finch
306	<i>Peophila guttata</i>	Zebra Finch
1	<i>Pelecanoides exsul</i>	Diving Petrel
1	<i>Petrochelidon nigricans</i>	Tree-Martin
2	<i>Petroica cucullata</i>	Hooded Robin
4	<i>Petroica goodenovii</i>	Red-capped Robin
11	<i>Petroica multicolour</i>	Scarlet Robin

<u>No. Licensed</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
1	<i>Petrophassa albipennis</i>	White-quilled Rock Pigeon
2	<i>Philemon argenticeps</i>	Silver-crowned Friar-bird
4	<i>Philemon citreogularis</i>	Little-crowned Friar-bird
5	<i>Phylidonynis albifrons</i>	White-faced Honeyeater
7	<i>Phylidonynis novae-hollandiae</i>	New Holland Honeyeater
1	<i>Pitta iris</i>	Rainbow Pitta
1	<i>Platycercus flaveolus</i>	Yellow Rosella
7	<i>Platycercus icterotis</i>	Western Rosella
2	<i>Platycercus venustus</i>	Northern Rosella
1	<i>Pluvialis dominica</i>	Eastern Golden Plover
3	<i>Podargus strigoides</i>	Tawny Frogmouth
2	<i>Podiceps poliocephalus</i>	Hoary-headed Grebe
2	<i>Pomatorostromus superciliosus</i>	White-browed Babbler
4	<i>Pomatorostromus temporalis</i>	Grey-crowned Babbler
1	<i>Psephotes varius</i>	Mulga Parrot
1	<i>Pterodroma brevirostris</i>	Kerguelen Petrel
3	<i>Ptilinopus</i>	Red-crowned Pigeon
9	<i>Purpureicephalus spurius</i>	Red-capped Parrot
3	<i>Pyrholaemus brunneus</i>	Redthroat
2	<i>Rallus philippensis</i>	Banded Land-Rail
1	<i>Ramsayormis fasciatus</i>	Bar-breasted Honeyeater
2	<i>Recurvirostra novae-hollandiae</i>	Avocet
7	<i>Rhipidura fuliginosa</i>	Grey Fantail
1	<i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i>	Willy Wagtail
2	<i>Rhipidura rufifrons</i>	Rufous Fantail
5	<i>Sericornis maculatus</i>	Spotted Scrub-Wren
7	<i>Smicrornis brevirostris</i>	Weebill
3	<i>Sterna anaethetus</i>	Bridled Tern
3	<i>Sterna bengalensis</i>	Lesser-crested Tern
2	<i>Sterna dougalli</i>	Roseate Tern
1	<i>Sterna juscata</i>	Sooty Tern
1	<i>Sterna neries</i>	Fairy Tern
1	<i>Sterna nilotica</i>	Tern
1	<i>Strepera versicolor</i>	Grey Currawong
2	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	Ringneck Dove
6	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	Senegal Dove
2	<i>Stromiopera unicolor</i>	White-gaped Honeyeater
6	<i>Sula leucogaster</i>	Brown Booby
7	<i>Tadorna tadornoides</i>	Mountain Duck
5	<i>Tringa brevipes</i>	Grey-tailed Tattler
1	<i>Turnix varia</i>	Painted Quail
3	<i>Turnix velox</i>	Little Quail
1	<i>Tyto alba</i>	Barn Owl
1	<i>Zosterops lateralis</i>	Grey-breasted Silvereye
237	<i>Zosterops lateralis gouldi</i>	Western Silvereye

3. Fish

<u>No. Licensed</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
3	<i>Galaxias spp.</i>	

4. Mammals

<u>No. Licensed</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
16	<i>Antechinus flavipes</i>	Mardo
1	(Species not known)	Bandicoot
9	(Species not known)	Bats
63	<i>Bettongia penicillata</i>	Woolie
5	<i>Dasyurus geoffroyi</i>	Chudich
5	<i>Eptesicus pumilus</i>	Little Bat
10	<i>Isodon obesulus</i>	Quenda
1	<i>Lagorchestes conspicillatus</i>	Spectacled Hare-Wallaby
9	<i>Macropus eugenii</i>	Tammar
1	<i>Macropus fuliginosus</i>	Grey Kangaroo
1	<i>Macropus robustus</i>	Euro
33	<i>Mus musculus</i>	House Mouse
125	<i>Rattus juscipes</i>	Southern Bush-rat
15	<i>Rattus rattus</i>	Black Rat
107	<i>Setonix brachyurus</i>	Quokka
2	<i>Sminthopsis murina</i>	Dunnart
2	<i>Tachyglossus aculeatus</i>	Echidna
12	<i>Taphozous georgianus</i>	Sharp-nosed Bandicoot
14	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>	Brush-tailed Possum
3	<i>Wallabia irma</i>	Western Brush Wallaby

5. Reptiles

Snakes

<u>No. Licensed</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
1	<i>Aconothophis antarcticus</i>	Common Death Adder
2	<i>Brachyospis curta</i>	Bardick
3	<i>Demansia nuchalis</i>	Western Brown Snake
1	<i>Demansia psammophis reticulata</i>	Yellow-faced Whip-snake
1	<i>Denisonia coronata</i>	Little Whip-snake Myall Snake
5	<i>Denisonia gouldii</i>	
1	<i>Denisonia suta</i>	

Lizards, Monitors, Dragons,
and Geckos etc.

1	<i>Amphibolurus barbatus</i>	Common Bearded Dragon
1	<i>Amphibolurus cristatus</i>	Crested Dragon
17	<i>Amphibolurus fordi</i>	Dragon
28	<i>Amphibolurus inermis</i>	Dragon
1	<i>Amphibolurus isolepis rubens</i>	Dragon
9	<i>Amphibolurus maculatus dualis</i>	Western Military Dragon
8	<i>Amphibolurus minor</i>	Small Bearded Dragon
53	<i>Amphibolurus ornatus</i>	Ornate Dragon
26	<i>Amphibolurus scutulatus</i>	Painted Dragon
1	<i>Amphibolurus solinarum</i>	Bearded Dragon
1	<i>Chlamydosaurus kingii</i>	Frimled-necked Lizard
3	<i>Crenadactylus ocellatus</i>	
10	<i>Cryptoblephorus plagiocephalus</i>	
2	<i>Cryptoblephorus virgatus</i>	
1	<i>Ctenotus gemula</i>	
1	<i>Ctenotus leseurii</i>	
1	<i>Ctenotus schomburkii</i>	Western spiny-tailed skink
1	<i>Diplodactylus alboguttatus</i>	Spiny-tailed gecko
4	<i>Diplodactylus spinigenus</i>	Spiny-tailed gecko
1	<i>Diplodactylus vittatus</i>	Stone gecko

<u>No. Licensed</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
14	<i>Egernia kingii</i>	King Skink
1	<i>Egernia nitida</i>	Skink
1	<i>Egernia viticeta</i>	Skink
5	<i>Gehyra punctata</i>	Spotted Dtella
4	<i>Gehyra variegata</i>	Tree Dtella
3	<i>Hemiergis initials</i>	
4	<i>Heteronota binoei</i>	Prickly Gecko
1	<i>Lecolopisma trilineatum</i>	
1	<i>Lirista distinguenda</i>	
1	<i>Lirista frosti</i>	
1	<i>Lirista lineopunctulata</i>	
2	<i>Lucasium dameum</i>	
1	<i>Mentia greyii</i>	
2	<i>Morethia obscura</i>	
24	<i>Phyllodactylus marmoratus</i>	Marbled Gecko
2	<i>Phyllurus milii</i>	Gecko
2	<i>Physignathius longirostris</i>	Dragon
3	<i>Pygopus lepidopus</i>	Common Scaly-foot Dragon
1	<i>Rhamphotyphlops australis</i>	
1	<i>Rhamphotyphlops bituberculatus</i>	
2	<i>Rhynchoedura orata</i>	Beaked Gecko
39	<i>Tiliqua rugosa</i>	Blue-tongued Lizard
2	<i>Tympanocryptis lineata</i>	Dragon
3	<i>Underwoodisaurus milli</i>	
2	<i>Varanus acanthurus</i>	Spine-tailed Rock-Monitor
1	<i>Varanus brevicauda</i>	Pigmy Monitor
3	<i>Varanus gouldii</i>	Goulds Sand Goanna

E. AMENDMENTS TO THE ACT

There was no amendment made to the Fauna Conservation Act 1950 during the year 1973/74.

The following Ministerial notices were published in the Government Gazette.

Government Gazette (No. 54) of 20th July, 1973 -

Classification of Reserve 4182 as a Shooting or Hunting area.

Government Gazette (No. 58) of 3rd August, 1973 -

Open season for finches from September 1, 1973 to December 31, 1973 in the Kimberley Division.

Government Gazette (No. 58) of 3rd August, 1973 -

Deletion of the Pigmy Fruit Bat from the schedule of species declared to be not protected.

Government Gazette (No. 79) of 12th October, 1973 -

Working plan for Woody Island (Archipelago of the Recherche).

Government Gazette (No. 79) of 12th October, 1973 -

Classification of Woody Island (Archipelago of the Recherche) as unlimited access area.

Government Gazette (No. 87) of 16th November, 1973 -

Open season for wild duck from January 5, 1974 to March 31, 1974 in the South West Division and Eucla Division.

Government Gazette (No. 87) of 16th November, 1973 -

Classification of portion of Reserve 31880 (Lake Muir) as shooting or hunting area.

Government Gazette (No. 4) of 11th January, 1974 -

Open season for wild duck from January 1, 1974 to December 31, 1974 in the Kimberley, North-west and Eastern Divisions.

Government Gazette (No. 40) of 24th May, 1974 -

Open season for finches from September 1, 1974 to November 30, 1974 in the Kimberley Division.

Government Gazette (No. 44) of 7th June, 1974 -

Deletion of the Smoker from the schedule of species declared to be not protected.

Government Gazette (No. 51) of 28th June, 1974 -

Classification of Reserve 12996 as unlimited access area.

F. FAUNA CONSERVATION REGULATIONS

The Fauna Conservation Regulations were amended on October 5, 1973 to convert measurements shown within the regulations from the imperial to the metric system.

No other amendments were made to the regulations during the 1973/74 year.

G. FINANCE

While the cost of administration of the Fauna Conservation Act is met from the Consolidated Revenue Fund, the Act provides that all fees for licenses issued to take wild duck or quail shall be deposited in the Fauna Conservation Trust Fund account kept at the Treasury. A copy of a statement on the Fauna Conservation Trust Fund signed and certified by the Auditor General is on the following page.

The Act provides that the Minister may apply moneys from the Fund to research relating to fauna conservation or for other purposes relating to the conservation of fauna. License fees credited to the fund increased the balance by \$10 600.00 indicating that 5 300 persons had taken out game licenses. A total of \$22 525.00 has now been invested by the Treasury in a savings bank account. The Western Australian Wild Life Authority continued to investigate projects for financing from Trust Fund moneys.

An amount of \$25 000.00 was deposited in the fund being a grant from the Aboriginal Affairs Authority for special works projects for Aborigines. This amount was deposited with the approval of the Treasury as a means of accounting for this special project. Expenditure for this project amounted to \$3 170.29.

FAUNA CONSERVATION TRUST FUND
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 1973 TO JUNE 30, 1974

RECEIPTS	\$	¢	PAYMENTS	\$	¢
Balance brought forward at July 1, 1973	11	515.20	Salaries	2	848.00
Game License Fees	10	600.00	Travelling		322.29
Donations and Bequests		20.00			
Other (Interest, etc)		531.24			
Aboriginal Affairs Grant to Special Works Programme - Aborigines	25	000.00	Balance carried forward at June 30, 1974	44	496.15
				\$47	666.44
				\$47	666.44

Balance brought forward at July 1, 1974 44 496.15

N.B. Investments from this fund, in R. & I. Savings Bank Account No. 35/94203 Total \$47 525.00 (\$25 000.00 withdrawn 18.9.74)

August 14, 1974

I certify that this statement is correct

W. Adams (signed)
AUDITOR GENERAL

W. Imms (signed)
ACCOUNTANT

B.K. Bowen (signed)
DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES

H. ACCOMMODATION

A new research centre to house staff of the waterfowl research section, reserve management and acquisitions section and the macropod research unit has been completed. The building was taken over by the Department on August 18, 1973, and was officially opened by H.R.H. The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh on Wednesday March 6, 1974. It has been officially named the Western Australian Wildlife Research Centre. The final construction cost of the Centre was approximately \$150 000.00. The research centre is set in a woodland area of 40 hectares and provides seven research laboratories, workshops, seminar facilities, library and ancilliary offices for sixteen research and technical staff. A caretaker's residence is adjacent to the main building.

The metropolitan Fauna Wardens continued to be housed in the Department's Head Office in Adelaide Terrace.

I. STAFF

Fauna Wardens

During this year a new item was created for an additional relieving warden. The item was filled in March 1974.

Appointments and Transfers

W. Gibb	Appointed to the vacant item of Mobile Kangaroo Warden Perth, (ex Waterfowl Research), but later resigned.
L. Moss	Transfer from Pingelly to Geraldton.
W. Mahoney	Transfer from Mt Magnet to Mobile Kangaroo Warden Perth after W. Gibb's resignation.
P. Pennings	Transfer from Geraldton to Mt. Magnet.
M. Osborn	Promoted from temporary staff to permanent staff.
K. Miller	Promoted to Relieving Warden.
J. Quinn	Appointed to temporary staff.

Disposition of Wardens at 30.6.74

Perth: Supervising Warden S.W. Bowler
Metropolitan Warden A.R. Marshall
Trainee Warden M. Osborn
Trainee Warden R. Smith
Trainee Warden J. Quinn
Mobile Kangaroo Warden, W. Gibb until
his resignation, then W. Mahoney

Wyndham: I. Cooke

Onslow: D. Noble

Carnarvon: L. Silvester

Geraldton: L. Moss

Wongan Hills: J. Neal

Moora: R. Gardiner

Pingelly: L. Moss, then vacant

Busselton: K. Morrison

Albany: R. Grayson

Manjimup: R. Dear

Kalgoorlie: P. Lambert

Esperance: G. Hanley

Waroona: D. Mell

Mt. Magnet: P. Pennings

Relieving Staff

J. Wilson

K. Miller

Fauna Research Staff

Mr W. Gibb, a technical assistant in the Waterfowl Section, was promoted to Fauna Warden and his place taken by Mr G. Pearson.

Mr F. Riffey resigned from the Reserve Management section to return to the United States. His position was taken by Mr R. Heckler.

Mr J.D. Sharland was promoted to Technical Officer, Estuarine Birds, from Technical Assistant, Waterfowl. The latter position is still vacant.

Mr A. Mangini took up duties as Ranger at the Wildlife Research Centre in January 1974.

Mrs T. Woodward was appointed Typist at the Research Centre in September 1973.

A new item - Reserve Management Officer - was created to ease the burden on professional officers in relation to reserve management matters. Mr J.T. Goodsell, a graduate of the Canberra College of Advanced Education took up duties in this position in October 1973.

J. ENFORCEMENT

Man Made Pollution of our Fauna Reserves and Sanctuaries

Despite the notices erected on some of our beautiful reserves and sanctuaries, a few members of the public continue to desecrate these places by dumping rubbish, depositing litter, lighting fires, picking wildflowers, cutting timber, removing soil and grazing cattle. These are offences under the Act and Regulations.

Frequent patrols and investigations are made by our Wardens and legal action has been taken where possible.

Damage Inspections

Complaints of Grey Kangaroos causing damage to farming properties in the South-west of this State over the past year caused the Department considerable concern. During the growing season April-October, our Wardens stationed in these areas were hard pressed to give adequate time to investigating complaints and ensuring that the management programme was adhered to.

Honorary Fauna Wardens

The Department's sincere thanks are extended to all Honorary

Wardens of Fauna throughout this State for their efforts of conserving our native fauna.

Kimberlies and Pilbara

The vastness of the far north of this State poses serious problems for our wardens based at Onslow and Wyndham. It would appear that a new fauna district should be created at Derby. This would go a long way in helping to control many illegal activities such as crocodile poaching, bird smuggling, illegal bird trapping and the destruction of the Australian Bustard and other vulnerable species.

Employment of Aborigines as Trainee Wardens

At the request of the Australian Government, the Department has assisted with the employment of aborigines as Trainee Wardens.

These Trainee Wardens have been stationed at Wyndham, Moora, Kalgoorlie, Carnarvon and Perth.

Details of convictions and offences continued overleaf.

Various offences against the Fauna Conservation Act and Regulations were detected in 1973/74.

Details of convictions recorded were as follows.

Section of Act or Regulation	Number	Fine
Regulation 30(3) (a) Unsatisfactory caging	1	\$ 62
Section 17(2) (e) Illegal sale	1	\$ 62
Regulation 46 Offences in Sanctuary	1	\$ 64
Regulation 46(g) Operate vehicle on Sanctuary	1	\$ 16
Regulation 46(k) Take Exotic Animal on a Sanctuary	7	\$ 84
Section 26(1) General offences	1	\$ 40
Regulation 54(1) (a) Illegal device	1	\$ 53
Regulation 52 Immature Fauna	2	\$ 56
Section 16 Infringing Protection	15	\$946
Section 16A Illegal sales	3	\$201
TOTAL	33	\$1574

K. PUBLICITY

During the year liaison with the media kept the public informed on important matters relating to fauna and habitat preservation in Western Australia.

The Department contributed a display at the annual Western Australian Wildlife Show.

On March 6, 1974 the Western Australian Wildlife Research Centre

at Wanneroo was officially opened by H.R.H. The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

After the opening ceremony, His Royal Highness toured the Centre and inspected displays depicting the Centre's work. The following day a visit to the Two Peoples Bay Wildlife Sanctuary was organised to observe the Noisy Scrub Bird.

The Department's quarterly journal, S.W.A.N.S. (State Wildlife Advisory News Service) was temporarily postponed due to a vacancy in the staff.

The 1973/74 Duck Shooters' Guide was produced publicising conditions of the open season, the daily bag and wetland reserves which were open or closed to shooting.

The following research report was published:-

Report No. 13 Results of a Biological Survey of the
Shire of Kent, Western Australia,

by N.L. McKenzie B.Sc(Hons.)

Stocks of brochures, leaflets and general school project material were maintained throughout the year. There was an increasing number of school project requests.

L. FAUNA RESEARCH

As reported in previous years Professional Officers of this Branch continue to be pressed by the time spent on committees and providing expert advice on a wide variety of biological - ecological matters.

Committees on which members of the Branch sat included:

- Swan River Conservation Board
- Peel Inlet Conservation Advisory Committee
- W.A. Wild Life Authority Reserves Committee
- W.A. Wild Life Authority Game Committee
- W.A. Wild Life Authority Bird Committee
- Red Kangaroo Advisory Committee
- Red Kangaroo Biological Working Group
- Peel Sub-region Planning Committee
- Perth Water and Burswood Island Foreshore Advisory Committee
- Technical Committee on Water Quality
- Environmental Protection Council (deputy)
- Australian Fauna Authorities Conference - Scientific Advisor

Australian Committee on Waterbirds (AFAC)
AFAC Macropod Habitat Committee
AFAC Macropod Biological Committee
APB Emu Committee
Vermin Control and Fauna Conservation Co-ordinating Committee
Conservation Through Reserves Scientific Sub-Committee
Avon Valley Fire Protection Committee

Staff also gave talks and lectures to a variety of seminars and meetings.

Research Areas

1. Biological Survey

From 26 June to 14 July 1973 the survey of the islands of the Kimberley coast was being undertaken. The research vessel "Flinders" was involved and staff were drawn from the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, the Western Australian Museum and the Western Australian Herbarium.

The Dragon Rocks Report (No. 12) was published in August 1973. It recommended an area of about 30 000 ha as an "A" class Wildlife Sanctuary. In the same month a preliminary survey of a large area of land north of Beacon yielded interesting results. Further work in this area is indicated. In August 1973 a further survey near Lake Grace was also undertaken and in October a visit was made to Lake Gounter, near Hyden, and the resulting report submitted to the Reserves Committee of the Western Australian Wild Life Authority in May 1974.

In November 1973 a fauna survey was undertaken, at the request of the Forests Department, near Ravensthorpe and a fauna list was later sent to that Department.

In December 1973 a visit was made to Dorre Island to assess the effects of a bushfire which had been reported and to set up a series of exclosures to monitor regeneration.

In November 1973, January 1974 and March 1974, surveys were made in different parts of the Kent River Catchment south of Rocky Gully. Further work is indicated in the adjacent State Forest before a Nature Reserve can be recommended in this area.

In May 1974 the Report on the Shire of Kent (No. 13) was published. It recommended a system of reserves in that shire.

In June 1974 several days were spent at Beverley Springs

Station in the Kimberley as part of the preparations for the survey of the Prince Regent River Reserve.

2. Macropods

(a) Red Kangaroo Management Programme

It was not possible over this period to undertake any detailed field sampling work related to this particular programme but collection and analysis of hunting data was continued.

A delegation comprising Dr R.O. Skoog, Chief, Office of Endangered species and International Activities, and Mr Spencer H. Smith, Western Field Coordinator, of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, United States Department of the Interior, visited Western Australia over the period 29 April - 5 May 1974 as part of an Australia wide investigation into the status of kangaroo populations. The delegates were escorted during a fact finding tour of the pastoral areas of the state by Research Officer, Mr R.I.T. Prince and Messrs A.J. Oliver and D.G. Wilcox of the Agriculture Protection Board, and Rangeland Management Section, Department of Agriculture, respectively. Areas visited included Leonora, Cue, Gascoyne Junction, and Nullagine.

(b) Grey Kangaroo Management Programme

A further five field trips were undertaken to obtain sample material. Areas covered included Northampton, Mullewa and Coorow in the Northern Agricultural zone, pastoral leases east of Kalgoorlie to Rawlinna, and parts of the Lower South West and Great Southern (Busselton, Augusta, Gnowangerup, Albany, etc.).

(c) Miscellaneous

Dorre Island

During the latter part of October and early November 1973, a fire which apparently started at the northern end of the island, resulted in the destruction of a substantial part of the vegetation on this important wildlife sanctuary.

A four man team was despatched to the island via Carnarvon to attempt to prevent any further damage if possible as soon as substantive information on the

occurrence of the fire was received by the Department. Due to the need to travel by small boat to the island equipment which could be carried was minimal. However, the fire had virtually extinguished itself by this time (November 11, 1973) and the party was able to confine itself to securing the area of the fire front by thorough taking with fire rakes, and searching for any evidence of fire killed fauna. Little evidence was found during this brief visit.

Subsequently, arrangements were made for a more detailed investigation of the post fire situation on the island. A five man research team visited the island over the period 15-22 December, 1973. During this period, further evidence was sought as to the direct effects of the fire on the fauna, and a limited number of marked transects, quadrats and exclosures were set out as a preliminary to a study of regeneration of the vegetation. These latter were established in the vicinity of Quoin Bluff, towards the northern end of the island, and also near White Beach at the southern tongue of the burnt area. Another transect was also marked out over an unburnt portion of the island south of White Beach.

Logistic problems again severely restricted the coverage which could be attempted here.

Survey suggested that the direct effect of the fire on the fauna had indeed been minimal, possibly due to the nature of the burn, and also in some cases to the habits of the animals concerned, e.g. the Boodie (*Bettongia lesueur*) which lives in underground burrows. One Boodie trapped was found to be using a burrow within the burnt area which was devoid of all surrounding ground cover.

The fire itself however appeared to have been most destructive. Complete removal of all surface organic material, leaving only a fire glazed sand surface on those areas where wind action had not yet been effective, was a common feature. Regeneration of those plants dependent on seed reserves in the soil could be doubtful in this case. Selective destruction of the acacia thickets in particular (especially *Acacia ligulata*) which appear to be the major habitat of the Banded Hare Wallaby (*Lagostrophus fasciatus*) was also apparent.

A follow-up visit was made in June 1974 (16-21). Regenerating plants noted at this time all appeared to be suckering from rootstocks etc., and it was apparent

that grazing pressure on the vegetation might also be an important factor affecting regeneration. Only a single regenerating plant of *Triodia plurinervata* was found, and this was inside an exclosure. This plant was < 10 cm in diameter and was hard up against the side of the exclosure in question. All the leaves projecting outside the exclosure had been cropped off.

Evidence on the fauna suggested that in some cases, animals which survived the fire initially may have gone, e.g. the Boodie burrow mentioned previously was no longer inhabited, while in other cases there was evidence of crowding of the remaining patches of cover by the animals still present. This was particularly noticeable among the unburnt acacia thickets to the west of Quoin Bluff, although the Banded Hare Wallabies here were by no means numerous.

This study is continuing.

At the end of this trip, June 1974, eleven Banded Hare Wallabies (4 males, 7 females) were captured from around the southernmost end of the burnt area in the vicinity of White Beach. These wallabies were subsequently transferred to small enclosures on Dirk Hartogs Island as the first stage of a programme to attempt re-establishment of the species on this island. Further visits to check progress of this colony are planned.

3. Estuarine Wildlife

Regular surveys of the birdlife of Leschenault Inlet (Bunbury) were made from July 1973 to June 1974. This study provided much-needed information concerning:

- (1) the waterbird species inhabiting the estuary,
- (2) seasonal fluctuations in their numbers, and
- (3) the areas of the estuary which are most important as waterbird habitat.

This information will be used as one of the inputs in determining how the inlet may best be conserved and managed as a multi-purpose resource.

The migratory wading-bird banding programme which was commenced on the Swan River in January 1973 was continued through 1973/74.

A research project on the Australian Pelican was initiated in January 1974. The principal aims of this project are:

- (1) to examine the breeding status of pelicans in Western Australia, and
- (2) to determine the nature and extent of their migratory movements by leg-banding and wing-tagging juvenile birds.

An initial survey of all known colonies was begun in June 1974.

4. Pesticides and Wildlife

An examination of DDT levels in eggs of the Australian Pelican was commenced in September 1973. The aim of this project is to determine whether high residue levels are accompanied by a decrease in eggshell thickness. Particular attention will be given to the Pelican Island (Joseph Bonaparte Gulf) colony, which is situated near the mouth of the Ord River.

5. Reserve Management

Due to pressures of administrative and advice work especially associated with the construction of the Wildlife Research Centre and the Conservation Through Reserves Committee, little research was undertaken.

Further work on prescribed burning has been done and prescribed burns were carried out at Tutanning and Boyagin - the latter by the Forests Department with this Department meeting costs.

Studies on the Short-necked Tortoise continued. With rainfall being higher during 1972/73 and a good break to the season in 1974, there are hopes that breeding and recruitment will be successful.

A proposal to excavate clay and construct a brickworks adjacent to the Ellen Brook Reserve is viewed with concern. Departmental officers have provided information to the Environmental Protection Authority which is examining the proposal. Water samples taken from the vicinity of the Midland Brick Company's works and which have been analysed by the Government Chemical Laboratories have shown high fluoride levels. Clays from the area contain fluoride which would be given off during the firing of bricks. If the swamp water was contaminated by fluoride it might well affect

the tortoise population since fluoride affects bone metabolism and tortoises have a higher proportion of bone in their bodies than most animals.

Because of wide concern in country districts that many Crown lands were not well protected by firebreaks, a special grant of \$10 000 was made to the Department to construct and maintain firebreaks on reserves it controls. This enabled firebreak work to be stepped up this year. The following work was done:

<u>Reserve Name</u>	<u>Reserve No.</u>	<u>Distance</u>
Boyagin	19128 and 20610	6 km
Tutanning	A 25555	5 km
Lake Unicup	A 25798	29 km
Peel Inlet	B 24036	19 km
Buntine	A 26837 and 16379	72 km
Nugedong	A 20372	16 km
Lake Magenta	A 25113	160 km
Johns Well	24599	19 km

Maintenance work included the ploughing and raking of some 114 km of firebreaks in the Lake Magenta Wildlife Sanctuary as well as work at Tutanning, Boyagin, Lake Thompson, the Wildlife Research Centre and Two Peoples Bay.

The Department contributed \$3 000 to the Avon Valley Fire Protection Plan which includes protection for the Reserve No. 30191.

6. Waterfowl Research and Game Management

The Waterfowl Research unit has been involved in the following projects during the past year:

- (a) The general waterfowl banding programme to the end of this year has a total of 26 341 ducks being trapped and banded. The principal species, Black Duck (*Anas superciliosa*) is the main bird being sought for the research programme and to date 16 254 birds have been banded.
- (b) A study of the population dynamics of the Mountain Duck (*Tadorna tadornoides*) on Rottnest Island.

A portion of this work has now been completed and a paper published and presented at the 16th International Ornithological Congress, Canberra, 13th August 1974; title "A 9 Year Census on Mountain Duck (*Tadorna tadornoides*) Broods on the Lakes and Swamps

of Rottnest Island, Western Australia".

- (c) A statistical analysis of hunter - duck kill effort on a waterfowl population on Lake View Farm - Moora.
- (d) Completion of the programme for erecting artificial nesting boxes in the lower South-west. A total of 2 590 artificial nesting boxes were erected on 44 lakes and swamps during May 1969 to May 1974. The examination of these boxes will continue for the next two years.
- (e) Aerial surveys in the month of November to evaluate waterfowl population numbers and the presence of wetland areas for the forecoming waterfowl hunting season.
- (f) Removal of domestic ducks from the Metropolitan lakes (McDougall Park, Blue-Gum, Mongers Lake and Queens Gardens).
- (g) A study of the Magpie Goose (*Anseranas semipalmata*) and its effect on Sorghum growing at Kununurra.

During the past year the Waterfowl Research Section has concentrated on the completion of some of the projects which have been carried out over the past few years.

A significant proportion of February was taken up with the preparation and installation of displays at the new Wildlife Research Centre in Wanneroo for its official opening.

No new projects were commenced due to the disruption of time schedules and staff in moving into the new Wildlife Research Centre.

Accommodation

The new Wildlife Research Centre was completed in August 1973 and the Fauna Research Branch is now housed there.

The W.A. Wildlife Research Centre was officially opened by H.R.H. The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, on March 6, 1974. After the opening ceremony His Royal Highness toured the Centre and inspected displays demonstrating work done by officers of the Fauna Research Branch. On the following day he visited the Two Peoples Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. He was shown over the reserve by Dr Andrew Burbidge of the Department and Dr G. Smith a Research Scientist with the C.S.I.R.O. Division of Wildlife Research who is carrying out a study of the Noisy Scrub Bird. His Royal Highness was able to get within a few feet of one Scrub-bird and hear its song but unfortunately no sightings were made because of the dense vegetation.