

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

PERTH

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

1975

= ANNUAL REPORT =

FAUNA CONSERVATION BRANCH

AND

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN WILD LIFE AUTHORITY



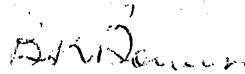
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

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, 1975, together with comments relating to the administration of this Act.


(B.K. Bowen)
CHAIRMAN

Western Australian Wild Life Authority

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DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN WILD LIFE AUTHORITY

I ADMINISTRATION

A. WESTERN AUSTRALIAN WILD LIFE AUTHORITY

1. MEMBERSHIP

(a) Names and Organisations

Ex Officio Members:-

Mr B.K. Bowen - Director of Fisheries and Wildlife -
Chairman
Mr H.B. Shugg - Chief Warden of Fauna - Deputy
Chairman
Mr D.W. Arnold - Assistant Administrative Officer -
Chief Executive Officer
Mr B.J. Beggs - Conservator of Forests
Deputy - Mr W.H. Eastman, Deputy Conservator
of Forests
Mr A.R. Tomlinson - Chief Vermin Control Officer
Deputies - Mr M.D. Gooding
Mr A.J. Oliver

Appointed Members:-

Mr R.D. Royce - Government Herbarium - Botanist
Professor A.R. Main - University of W.A. - Zoologist
Dr D.L. Serventy - Zoologist
Dr W.D.L. Ride - Director of W.A. Museum
Mr N.A. Beeck - Farmer
Mr H.G. Hall - Farmer

(b) Appointments and Resignations

The following members were appointed to the Authority:-

Mr W. Lacey - Farmer
Dr B.R. Wilson - W.A. Museum - vice Dr W.D.L. Ride
Dr S.J.J.F. Davies - C.S.I.R.O. Division of Wildlife
Research - Zoologist, vice Dr D.L. Serventy

2. 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.

Names of Committees

Reserves Committee
Game Committee
Bird Committee

Membership

Reserves Committee:-

Mr B.K. Bowen - Chairman
Mr H.B. Shugg - Deputy Chairman
Mr D.W. Arnold - Chief Executive Officer
Mr N. Beeck - Authority member
Mr W.H. Eastman - Deputy Conservator of Forests
Dr D. Kitchener - Deputy for Director of W.A. Museum
Dr A.A. Burbidge - Reserve Management Branch
Dr N.L. McKenzie - Reserve Acquisition Branch

Game Committee:-

Mr B.K. Bowen - Chairman
Mr H.B. Shugg - Deputy Chairman
Mr D.W. Arnold - Executive Officer
Mr N. Beeck - Authority member
Mr H.G. Hall - Authority member
Dr D.L. Serventy - Authority member (resigned)
Mr T. Spence - Director, South Perth Zoological Gardens
Dr T.L. Riggert - Senior Research Officer - Waterfowl
Mr S.W. Bowler - Supervising Warden

Bird Committee:-

Mr H.B. Shugg - Chairman
Mr D.W. Arnold - Executive Officer
Dr G.M. Storr - W.A. Museum
Dr D.L. Serventy - Authority member
Dr S.J.J.F. Davies - C.S.I.R.O., Division of Wildlife
Research
Deputy - Mr I. Rowley
Mr T. Spence - Director, South Perth Zoological Gardens
Mr N.A. Beeck - Authority member
Mr H.G. Hall - Authority member

Mr A.R. Tomlinson - Chief Vermin Control Officer
Deputies - Mr A.J. Oliver
 Mr J. Long
Mr J.R. Masters - Authority member
Dr T.L. Riggert - Senior Research Officer
Mr S.W. Bowler - Supervising Warden

3. MEETINGS

Western Australian Wildlife Authority

The Authority met on five occasions during 1974/75.

Standing Committees

Reserves Committee:-

This Committee met four times in 1974/75.

Game Committee:-

The Game Committee met twice during 1974/75. As from 1st January, 1975 this Committee was amalgamated with the Bird Committee.

Bird Committee:-

The Bird Committee met on six occasions during 1974/75.

B. POLICY

Policy decisions made by the Western Australian Wild Life Authority in 1974/75 -

1. Responsibility for indemnifying the Agriculture Protection Board against claims for damages arising from vermin control on Reserves was accepted.
2. An Emu Management Plan was adopted. The Plan was recommended by the Vermin Control Fauna Conservation Co-ordinating Committee and closely followed the recommendations contained in Dr Riggert's Report on Emus which has been published and issued as Wildlife Research Bulletin No. 4.

C. THE FAUNA

1. Number of indigenous species of:-

	Recorded in W.A.	Numbers of Species			
		Pro- tected	Not pro- tected	Open Season	Rare & En- dangered
Birds	464	449	15	21	16
Marsupials	61	60	1	3	27
Other					
Mammals	58	55	3	-	7
Reptiles	299	271	28	-	3
Amphibia	50	50	-	-	-
Totals	932	885	47	24	53

2. List of unprotected indigenous species:-

Mammals

Sandy Wallaby	<i>Macropus agilis</i>
Black Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus alecto</i>
Red Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus scapulatus</i>
Black Rat (Tree or Ship Rat)	<i>Rattus rattus</i> and <i>Rattus alexandrinus</i>
Wild Dog (Dingo)	<i>Canis dingo</i>

Birds

Black Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
Goshawk	<i>Accipiter fasciatus</i>
Collared Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter cirrocephalus</i>
Wedge-tailed Eagle	<i>Euroaetus audax</i> (Pro- tected in Shire of Kojonup)
Little Falcon	<i>Falco longipennis</i>

White-tailed Black Cockatoo
 Galah
 King Parrot
 Port Lincoln Parrot
 (Twenty-eight)
 Western Rosella
 Budgerygah
 Silvereye
 Raven
 Little Crow
 Crow

Calyptorhynchus baudinii
Kakatoe roseicapilla
Purpureicephalus spurius

Barnardius zonarius
Platycercus icterotis
Melopsittacus undulatus
Zosterops australasiae
Corvus coronoides
Corvus bennetti
Corvus ceciliae

Reptiles

Front-fanged Snakes (Family Elapidae):-

(a) Large Venomous Snakes

Dugite
 Gwardar
 Mulga Snake
 Whip Snake or Wyree
 Spotted-headed Snake
 Western Tiger Snake or
 Norne

Demansia nuchalis affinis
Demansia nuchalis nuchalis
Pseudechis australis
Demansia reticulata
Demansia olivacea
Notechis scutatus occident-
alis

(b) Small Venomous Snakes

Common Death Adder
 Desert Death Adder
 Rosen's Snake
 Ringed Snake
 Bandy Bandy

 Northern Bandy Bandy

 Half-ringed Snake
 Narrow-banded Snake
 Five-ringed Snake
 Little Whip Snake
 Black-naped Snake
 Black-striped Snake
 Allied Bandy Bandy
 Crowned Snake or Werr
 White-lipped Snake
 Spotted Snake
 Northern White-lipped
 Snake
 Red-naped Snake
 Yellow-naped Snake
 Little Brown Snake

Acanthophis antarcticus
Acanthophis pyrrhus
Denisonia fasciata
Vermicella annulata
Rhynchoelaps bertholdi
bertholdi
Rhynchoelaps bertholdi
anomalus
Brachymorphus semifasciatus
Rhynchoelaps fasciolatus
Demansia modesta
Denisonia gouldii
Vermicella bimaculata
Vermicella calonota
Rhynchoelaps approximans
Denisonia coronata
Denisonia coronoides
Denisonia punctata

Denisonia suta
Aspidomorphus diadema
Aspidomorphus christieanus
Elapognatus minor

Mueller's Snake
Bardick

Rhinoplocephalus bicolor
Denisonia curta

It is to be noted that since the Government Gazette of the 17th April 1970 there has been two deletions from the above list under the heading 'Birds'. These were:-

Little Corellas, *Cacatua sanguinea*, Government Gazette
4th May, 1973.

Smoker, *Polytelis anthopeplus*, Government Gazette
7th June, 1974.

3. List of Rare and Endangered Species:-

		<u>Government Gazette</u>
<u>Birds</u>		
Noisy Scrub Bird	<i>Atrichornis clamosus</i>	23. 6.72
Bristle-bird	<i>Dasyornis brachypterus</i>	"
Rufous Bristle-bird	<i>Dasyornis broadbenti</i>	"
Black Grass Wren	<i>Amytornis housei</i>	"
Western Whipbird	<i>Psophodes nigrogularis</i>	"
Ground Parrot	<i>Pezoporus wallicus</i>	"
Night Parrot	<i>Geopsittacus occidentalis</i>	"
Naretha Blue Bonnet	<i>Psephotus haematogaster narethae</i>	"
Cape Barren Goose	<i>Cereopsis novae-hollandiae</i>	"
Freckled Duck	<i>Stictonetta naevosa</i>	8. 2.72
Partridge Pigeon	<i>Geophaps smithii</i>	9. 2.73
Burdekin Duck	<i>Tadorna radjah</i>	"
Red-tailed Tropic Bird	<i>Phaethon rubricauda</i>	"
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	"
Princess Parrot	<i>Polytelis alexandrae</i>	"
Grass Owl	<i>Tyto longimembris</i>	"
<u>Mammals</u>		
Barrow Island Euro Crescent Nail-tailed Wallaby	<i>Macropus robustus isabellinus</i>	2. 5.73
Spectacled Hare Wallaby	<i>Onychogalea lunata</i>	"
Western Hare Wallaby	<i>Lagorchestes conspicillatus</i>	"
Banded Hare Wallaby	<i>Lagorchestes hirsutus</i>	"
Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby	<i>Lagorstrophus fasciatus</i>	"
Rothschild's Rock Wallaby	<i>Petrogale pencillata</i>	"
	<i>Petrogale rothschildi</i>	"

Woolie	<i>Bettongia penicillata</i>	2. 5.73
Boodie	<i>Bettongia lesueur</i>	"
Broad-faced Potoroo	<i>Potorous platyops</i>	"
Gilbert's Potoroo	<i>Potorous tridactylus</i> <i>gilberti</i>	"
Little Barred Bandicoot (Marl)	<i>Perameles boungainville</i>	"
Pig-footed Bandicoot	<i>Chaeropus ecaudatus</i>	"
Dalgyte (Rabbit- eared Bandicoot)	<i>Macrotis lagotis</i>	"
Rusty Numbat	<i>Myrmecobius fasciatus rufus</i>	"
Dibbler	<i>Antechinus apicalis</i>	"
Little Red Antechinus	<i>Antechinus rosamondae</i>	"
Long-tailed Dunnart	<i>Sminthopsis longicaudata</i>	"
White-tailed Dunnart	<i>Sminthopsis granulipes</i>	"
Troughton's Dunnart	<i>Sminthopsis murina ooldea</i>	"
Narrow-nosed Planigale	<i>Planigale tenuirostris</i>	"
Kimberley Planigale	<i>Planigale subtilissima</i>	"
Rock-haunting Ring- tail	<i>Petropseudes dahli</i>	"
Scaly-tailed Possum	<i>Wyulda squamicaudata</i>	"
Big-eared Hopping Mouse	<i>Notomys megalotis</i>	"
Long-tailed Hopping Mouse	<i>Notomys longicaudatus</i>	"
Dusky Hopping Mouse	<i>Notomys fuscus</i>	"
Stick-nest Rat	<i>Leporillus conditor</i>	"
White-tipped Stick-nest Rat	<i>Leporillus apicalis</i>	"
Western Mouse	<i>Pseudomys occidentalis</i>	"
Shark Bay Mouse	<i>Pseudomys praeconis</i>	"
Gould's Native Mouse	<i>Pseudomys gouldii</i>	"
Shortridge's Native Mouse	<i>Pseudomys shortridgei</i>	"
Dugong	<i>Dugong dugon</i>	"

Reptiles

Western Swamp (Short-necked) Tortoise	<i>Pseudemydura umbrina</i>	"
Saltwater Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus porosus</i>	"
Freshwater Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus johnstoni</i>	"

II FINANCE

A. FAUNA CONSERVATION ACT

Increased CRF expenditure of 20% over that expended in 1973/74 was necessary to maintain existing activities. Additionally the sum of \$12,000 was provided from CRF to support a grant of \$14,000 by the Commonwealth Government for a biological resource study of the Prince Regent Reserve.

A further amount of \$29,000 was provided by the Commonwealth through the Aboriginal Affairs Authority to finance the employment of aboriginals as trainee fauna wardens. Finance is expected to be provided in ensuing years for this purpose.

B. FAUNA CONSERVATION TRUST FUND

An audited statement as at 30.6.1975 is shown overleaf.

FAUNA CONSERVATION TRUST FUND

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 1974 TO JUNE 30, 1975

Receipts

Balance brought forward on July 1, 1974	44,496.15
Game License Fees	12,707.00
Donations and Bequests	102.00
Other (Interest etc.)	1,368.62

Payments

Grant to Bayswater Shire re proposed Waterbird Sanctuary	400.00
Balance of Aboriginal Affairs	
Grant for Special Works transferred to Fisheries and Fauna Research and Development Fund at the Treasury	21,829.71
Needoonga and Chittering Lakes construction of sandbag weir	239.06
Contributions to Conservation projects	415.29
Beverley Lakes System - Salinity tests	1,960.00
Balance carried forward at June 30, 1975.	33,829.71

\$58,673.77

\$58,673.77

N.B. Investments from this fund total \$22,525.00 and are lodged in R&I Savings Bank A/c No. 35/94203.

October 22, 1975

W. Imms (signed)
ACCOUNTANT

I certify that this statement is correct.

B.K. Bowen (signed)
DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

W. Adams (signed)
AUDITOR GENERAL

III 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. WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Date 30 June	Total Number	Area (ha)	Vested in the W.A. Wild Life Authority	
			No.	Area (ha)
1969	278	2,342,966	127	818,442
1970	315	2,100,318	156	867,362
1971	359	4,955,893	213	4,415,595
1972	404	5,077,224	242	4,533,944
1973	440	5,013,287	265	4,607,266
1974	454	5,033,935	281	4,626,617
1975	491	5,103,037	320	4,713,482

B. SUMMARY OF WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES - 30 JUNE, 1975

As at June 30, 1974	454 Reserves	5,033,934.9783 ha.
New Reserves 1974/75	38 Reserves	50,946.6293 ha.
	492 Reserves	5,084,881.6076 ha.
Amendments	+	18,510,4945 ha.
	492 Reserves	5,103,392.1021 ha.
Change in Purpose	- 1 Reserve	354.7474 ha.
	TOTAL 491 Reserves	5,103,037.3547 ha.

C. RESERVES VESTED IN W.A. WILD LIFE AUTHORITY

As at June 30, 1974	281 Reserves	4,626,617.0000 ha.
New Reserves 1974/75	29 Reserves	45,331.4090 ha.
	310 Reserves	4,671,948.4090 ha.
Amendments 1974/75	+ 18,281.4755 ha.	
	310 Reserves	4,690,229.8845 ha.
Existing Reserves Vested	10 Reserves	23,512.2687 ha.
TOTAL	320 Reserves	4,713,742.1533 ha.

D. NEW RESERVES

No.	Name	Vesting	Area (ha)	Gazetted
A 26259	Carlyarn Rocks	W.A.W.L.A.	2724.84	12. 7.74
A 5456	-	W.A.W.L.A.	125.3513	19. 7.74
32776	-	W.A.W.L.A.	4732.1055	2. 8.74
32777	-	W.A.W.L.A.	9039.4782	2. 8.74
32779	-	W.A.W.L.A.	1045.7709	2. 8.74
32780	-	W.A.W.L.A.	1485.0799	2. 8.74
32783	-	W.A.W.L.A.	7082.1326	2. 8.74
32784	-	W.A.W.L.A.	1708.942	2. 8.74
32800	-	Nil	20.2647	23. 8.74
30443	-	W.A.W.L.A.	99.652	27. 9.74
26692	-	W.A.W.L.A.	1914.9725	25.10.74
26905	-	W.A.W.L.A.	292.9924	25.10.74
6711)	Wambellup	Nil	521.1086	25.10.74
11760)	-	Nil		
A 32906	-	W.A.W.L.A.	62.9615	8.11.74
A 32907	-	W.A.W.L.A.	50.9752	8.11.74
23338	Geeraning Rock	Min for Water	676.60	6.12.74
32993	-	Nil	40.5597	6.12.74
32995	Mt Hampton	W.A.W.L.A.	1886.0468	6.12.74
20526	Mt Hampton	W.A.W.L.A.	375.9530	20.12.74
23601	-	W.A.W.L.A.	581.53	17. 1.75
33113	-	W.A.W.L.A.	923.9492	31. 1.75
18239	Kulikup	W.A.W.L.A.	61.71	31. 1.75

NEW RESERVES (cont)

No.	Name	Vesting	Area (ha)	Gazetted
16801	Truslove	W.A.W.L.A.	6325.4518	14. 2.75
17617	Lake Bidy	W.A.W.L.A.	40.4686	14. 2.75
33174	Thevenard Is.	W.A.W.L.A.	581.4827	14. 3.75
33188	Mt Westdale	W.A.W.L.A.	802.4201	14. 3.75
21067	Yilliminning	W.A.W.L.A.	260.00	14. 3.75
A 33216	Gndaroo Is.	W.A.W.L.A.	3.0594	27. 3.75
21287	-	W.A.W.L.A.	202.24	16. 5.75
11688	Cullimbin Well	Min W.S.S.D.	339.9359	16. 5.75
15794	Cullimbin Well	Min W.S.S.D.	40.4858	16. 5.75
33287	Hill River	Nil	293.2656	16. 5.75
33300	Ngalbain	Nil	3683.0	23. 5.75
26234	Tinkelup	W.A.W.L.A.	575.4630	30. 5.75
26381	-	W.A.W.L.A.	353.19	30. 5.75
12329	Baandee	W.A.W.L.A.	41.1006	27. 6.75
24589	-	W.A.W.L.A.	1952.0898	27. 6.75

TOTAL: 38 RESERVES - 50,946.6293 ha.

TOTAL VESTED IN W.A.W.L.A.: 29 RESERVES - 45,331.4090 ha.

E. AMENDMENTS TO AREA 1974/75

No.	Name	Vesting	Area (ha)		Change	Gazetted
			Old	New		
32257	Lake Warden	W.A.W.L.A.	817.0	735.2350	-81.765	26. 7.74
A15231	Woody Lake	W.A.W.L.A.	159.8508	371.1152	+211.2644	26. 7.74
19210	Chiddarcooping	W.A.W.L.A.	2639.7644	5216.5917	+2576.8273	9. 8.74
31378	-	W.A.W.L.A.	1168.7321	914.9284	-253.8037	20. 9.74
A23756	Harvey Estuary	Nil	783.8761	1019.0	+235.1239	25.10.74
32142	Wilgarup	Nil	197.3374	191.2040	-6.1334	25.10.74
23171	Pardelup	Nil	607.0	607.0285	+0.0285	8.11.74
25210	Lake Eganu & Pinjarega Lake	W.A.W.L.A.	1661.8668	16928.4616	+15266.5948	6.12.74
32400	Clackline	W.A.W.L.A.	429.2	458.9	+29.7	14. 2.75
20836	Dongolocking	W.A.W.L.A.	112.1457	112.6417	+0.496	2. 5.75
26679	Lake Pindicup	W.A.W.L.A.	280.9716	280.9657	-0.0059	23. 5.75
A26793	Corackerup	W.A.W.L.A.	4379.7570	4345.0967	-34.6603	30. 5.75
28324	Cairlocup	W.A.W.L.A.	1009.7165	1587.6577	+577.9412	27. 6.75
A26793	Corackerup	W.A.W.L.A.	4345.0967	4333.9834	-11.1133	27. 6.75

TOTAL + 18,510.4945 ha.

TOTAL W.A.W.L.A. + 18,281.4755 ha.

F. EXISTING RESERVES VESTED 1974/75

No.	Name	Vesting	Area (ha)	Gazetted
24599	John's Well	W.A.W.L.A.	358.9562	19. 7.74
31378	-	W.A.W.L.A.	914.9284	20. 9.74
24979	Edward and Lancelin Is- lands	W.A.W.L.A.	8.0937	8.11.74
25210	Lake Eganu & Pinjarega Lake	W.A.W.L.A.	16928.4616	6.12.74
32552	Binaronca Rock	W.A.W.L.A.	185.9880	14. 2.75
A25711	Tarin Rock	W.A.W.L.A.	2014.97	14. 3.75
17115	Yilliminning	W.A.W.L.A.	216.5068	14. 3.75
24367	P.A. Maughan	W.A.W.L.A.	815.8463	18. 4.75
23686	Mokami Springs	W.A.W.L.A.	480.86	30. 5.75
28324	Cairlocup	W.A.W.L.A.	1587.6577	27. 6.75

TOTAL - W.A.W.L.A. 23,512.2687 ha.

G. EXISTING RESERVES MADE CLASS A - 1974/75

No.	Name	Vesting	Area (ha)	Gazetted
A25711	Tarin Rock	W.A.W.L.A.	2014.5251	14. 3.75

H. EXISTING RESERVES CHANGED FROM FAUNA 1974/75

Reserve No. 31746 in Esperance Shire not vested, changed from Conservation of Flora and Fauna to Townsite. Gazetted 27.6.75.

TOTAL: 354.7474 ha.

I. CHANGE OF PURPOSE OF EXISTING RESERVES 1974/75

No.	Name	Vesting	From	To	Gazetted
25210	Lake Eganu & Pinjarega Lake	W.A.W.L.A.	Recreation & Cons. of Flora and Fauna	Cons. of Flora and Fauna	6.12.74
17115	Yilliminning	W.A.W.L.A.	Timber and Cons. of Flora and Fauna	Cons. of Flora and Fauna	14. 3.75

J. RESERVE DEVELOPMENT

This year the Reserve Management Officer has been involved in:

Pollution of lakes of South Perth.
 Proposal to divert a stream into Lake Unicup.

Current Projects are:

Management burning plan for Kojonup Shire Reserves.
 Possible acquisition of Lake Dumbleyung foreshores.
 Purchase of other areas for new reserves.
 Investigations into desirable regimes and water levels of Benger Swamp.
 Development of Woody Island in the Recherche Archipelago to allow for limited use by visitors with minimum disturbance.
 Evolution of management regimes in the lakes of the Cockburn district.

1. METROPOLITAN PROBLEMS

Metropolitan reserves serviced by the Department are approximately 4,000 hectares in area. Other reserves are vested in local Government Authorities. Other sites, although not set aside, are important to many species. All these types of areas are wildlife refuges, and therefore are of special concern to this Department.

One problem in managing such refuges is their proximity to large concentrations of people. For obvious reasons this fact can be detrimental. On the other hand because these refuges are accessible to large numbers of people, such refuges can be used to advertise Departmental policies, and can be used for purposes of environmental education.

Many reserves of the metropolitan area will always be valuable for wildlife conservation. However during the year a Departmental policy has crystallized that some selected reserves could be used for environmental education purposes. For example the W.A.W.L.A. has recommended the appointment of a part-time officer at Thompson's Lake Reserve. The officer will implement educational programs as well as usual enforcement measures.

Another educational activity has begun in association with Melville City Council. Plans are almost completed for wading bird interpretive facilities to be installed between Alfred Cove and Point Waylen. Moreover, the Department circularised educational literature in relation to wader use of the Swan Estuary.

A second problem associated with refuges of the metropolitan area is the fact that almost all the metropolitan lakes have a drainage purpose. Pollution caused by drainage-use can conflict with conservational-use of the lakes. On the other hand the drainage purpose ensures a supply of water to the lakes over summer. Therefore under appropriate management, the metropolitan lakes would be safe summer refuges for waterbirds. The lakes complement the country wetlands, many of which dry-out over summer.

Successful multiple-use of the metropolitan lakes would involve a joint approach by many Government Departments. Such an approach began this year when the Department was requested to have its representatives serve on two committees concerned with management of the metropolitan lakes. The first committee is the Alga Odour Control Working Group. The latter aims to alleviate from all urban lakes, odours caused by algal blooms which are the result of pollution.

The second committee is steering a study of the lakes of Cockburn Town area. At committee meetings, this Department's representatives have been advising on aspects of wetland conservation, and environmental education.

2. WOODY ISLAND
(Archipelago of the Recherche A 22796)

The Islands of the Archipelago are generally rich in native animals and plants. However, Woody Island because of a history of intensive grazing is relatively biologically depauperate.

For this reason, and to illustrate to the public reasons why such unique island environments should be protected, the W.A.W.L.A. declared Woody Island to be a restricted access area, and gave to an Esperance Honorary Warden permissive use of the Island. Such use involves the transport of visitors to the Island during a tour of the Archipelago. The Warden gives informative talks during the tour. The operation is controlled by the Wildlife Branch through the resident Esperance Warden.

During the year a wharf was completed on Woody Island, and negotiations concerning other developments have almost been completed.

It is envisaged that Woody Island will function as an important environmental educational facility of the South Coast.

3. HOUTMAN ABROLHOS RESERVE (A 20253)

Management of the Houtman Abrolhos Islands is a continuing challenge.

The Islands are set aside for various purposes - flora and fauna, recreation, conservation, tourism and fishing. The Islands once were vested in a local Board which relinquished control after the development there of the rock lobster fishery.

In absence of appropriate management techniques, the three purposes could be almost mutually exclusive. However, the challenge of accommodating the three purposes is being met by an emerging management policy. Fishermen who seasonally use the Islands, and other interested members of the public agree that the wildlife and community values of the Islands must be protected. To such an end, there is a consensus

that recreational-use should, for the present, be restricted to aerial tours over the Islands.

During the year the emerging policy has been steadily implemented. Scientific groups have undertaken surveys. Health regulations have been enforced, and domestic pets have been prohibited from being taken to the Islands. Conditional permission has been granted to install a service airstrip on North Island. Moreover, zonation of the Islands on a use basis has been introduced. Seasonal residential-use by fishermen is now restricted to some Islands, while no access whatsoever is allowed on other Islands.

4. BROADWATER RESERVE (NO. 27080)

A feasibility study of water level manipulation of the Broadwater at Busselton began during the year. The study is being undertaken jointly with the Department of Public Works. A component of the study has been the construction of 100 artificial fixed swan nests throughout the swamps in which the 25 hectare reserve is located. Honorary Wardens Mary McGregor and John Bell are assisting with the study.

It has been usual for the swamps to dry out over summer, and then gradually fill to a maximum stable level during winter. At this stage many water birds are stimulated to nest. Swans are conspicuous in the swamps during the nesting season.

During recent seasons a second unseasonal rise in water level, late in the season, has drowned eggs on the verge of hatching. Egg loss has been 100%. Another complication is the fact that the swans have been unable to raise their nests above the second rise in water-level because of the lack of nest building vegetation. Moreover, the second rise in water level has caused financial loss to farmers whose properties abut the reserve. Consequently, they support control of water levels.

Vegetation has been destroyed by several factors. The swamps' catchments have been cleared, causing increasing salination, and widely fluctuating water-tables.

These unnatural events have had far less effect on smaller more mobile waterbirds than the larger swans. The smaller birds are able to utilize nest-building vegetation from sources usually unavailable to the swans. Because the

swamps are subject to integrated use by all waterbirds, the needs of the latter could be provided by attending to the swans requirements in relation to water-level control. In fact, the feasibility study has used the swans as an indicator species.

Reinstatement of a natural flooding regime would have three consequences. Firstly, the threat to the swans would be removed. Secondly, vegetative regeneration would be encouraged. Thirdly, the needs of nearby farmers would be satisfied.

The feasibility study has not yet been completed, but so far promises success. All artificial swan nests were used by the swans. Many nests produced young. Nests which did not, were inundated by the second rise in water-level.

At this stage it appears that management of the Reserve, so that it continues to function as a swan nursery is practicable. It is envisaged that the use of artificial nests, and control of water levels will be involved.

IV WILDLIFE RESEARCH

A. BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

The 1974/75 year showed a trend towards surveys in more remote areas of W.A.

Much of July 1974 was spent in compiling data on the flora reserves associated with Lake Grace and Lake Chinokup. An aerial survey was undertaken to delineate vegetation boundaries for a vegetation map. The work continued in December 1974 and January 1975 and a final draft submitted for publication as a report in May 1975. It highlighted the importance of this area to wildlife conservation.

The survey of the Prince Regent River Reserve was carried out between 10 and 30 August 1974. The months following the survey were spent in compilation and preparation of Wildlife Research Bulletin No. 3. "A Biological Survey of the Prince Regent River Reserve, North-West Kimberley, W.A."

This was part of an ongoing survey of the North Kimberley which began with work on the Kimberley coastal islands in 1971, 1972 and 1973. Part of April, May and most of June 1975 were spent in preparation for the survey of the Drysdale River National Park; a continuation of the Kimberley work.

The survey of the Prince Regent River Reserve was financed by both the Western Australian Government and the Australian Biological Resources Study Interim Council. It was undertaken in conjunction with staff from other government organizations.

February 1975 saw further survey work on an area of Vacant Crown Land west of Lake Moore. In March 1975 surveys associated with the Report of the Conservation Through Reserves Committee were commenced with a survey of reserves and proposed reserves in the southern desert areas of the State. Queen Victoria Spring, Plumridge Lake, Neale Junction and Baker Lake were visited. A report on this work will be published in the Wildlife Research Bulletin.

B. MACROPODS

1. RED KANGAROO MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

Considerable office time was taken up during this year in the preparation of documents required for the functioning

of the Red Kangaroo Advisory Committee.

Detailed field sampling was carried out in the Gascoyne Junction area during January 1975. Two hundred and two individuals were taken by Departmental staff and additional information was obtained from three licensed kangaroo shooters working in this area.

The field programme was complemented by additional work carried out at Wandagee by research staff of the Agriculture Protection Board.

Data from these sampling programmes has been utilized by the Advisory Committee in regulating the commercial harvesting of this species.

2. GREY KANGAROO MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

One major field trip to collect sample material covered areas of the south-west and lower south-west (Waroona, Collie, Donnybrook, Bridgetown, Manjimup, Lake Muir, Boyup Brook). One further short trip to the Collie area was undertaken.

General

The addition of a Technical Assistant to this research team in July 1974 promised some improvement in the research coverage which could be given to these programmes. This situation was however not realised due to the subsequent resignation of the Technical Officer attached to the team in March 1975. The vacancy arising for a third member of this research team has not yet been filled.

The major effort through this year was therefore directed towards the consolidation of the work initiated in previous years.

C. ESTUARINE BIRDLIFE

Monthly surveys of the birdlife of Hardy Inlet (Augusta) were made from July 1974 to June 1975. This project was a part of the Environmental Protection Authority's "Blackwood River Estuary Environmental Study" and 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 important as waterbird habitat.

Monthly surveys of the Black Swan, White Egret and Pelican populations of Leschenault Inlet (Bunbury) which were initiated in July 1973, were continued through 1974/75.

The migratory wading-bird banding programme which commenced on the Swan River in January 1973 was continued through 1974/75.

The Pelican banding programme which commenced in January 1974 continued through 1974/75 with banding of young at the Derby and Mandurah breeding colonies.

D. PESTICIDES AND WILDLIFE

The 1973/74 programme was continued, with further samples of Pelican eggs and Cormorant eggs from Lake Argyle being analysed for DDT and its metabolites.

E. POTOROOS

Research aimed at discovering whether potoroos still exist in Western Australia was commenced in April 1975 under a grant from the Commonwealth Department of Environment. Dr A.N. Start, a graduate of Aberdeen University was employed to carry out this work. Following an initial background study, Dr Start spent 2 weeks in Victoria with the Fisheries and Wildlife Division of the Department of Conservation inspecting areas where potoroos are still found, and investigating trapping techniques.

Since then, work in W.A. has been concentrated along the south coast and in the extreme south-west.

A brochure seeking information was produced and circulated widely in the South-west. Field studies have been carried out at a number of sites.

This work is proceeding and it is anticipated that it will be funded for a further year.

F. WATERFOWL RESEARCH AND GAME MANAGEMENT

During the past year the Waterfowl Research Unit has been involved in bringing to completion the following projects:-

The general waterfowl banding programme was terminated in August and the research data is now being analysed by computer for scientific interpretation.

A study of the population dynamics of the Mountain Duck (*Tadorna tadornoides*) on Rottnest Island has been completed and a report on the research has been submitted for publication. The data should be published in the 1975/76 financial year.

Data from the scientific programmes on the erection of artificial nesting boxes and research on the study of the Magpie Goose are still ongoing due to insufficient data which should be forthcoming this year.

In summary the efforts of the Waterfowl Research Unit this year are directed towards completing the research programmes previously commenced and preparing these in form for publication in various scientific journals.

G. PLANT ECOLOGY

A programme of research into aspects of vegetation regeneration following fire was initiated this year, to provide an improved basis for future reserve management work. The study is expected to provide information on optimal burning conditions and intervals between fires, which will enable maintenance of a desirable quality and quantity of animal habitat.

The fire ecology studies are being carried out initially in areas of high fire risk and will be expanded to include other important conservation areas as results become available.

Some work is also being carried out on the rehabilitation of disturbed areas of reserves to promote the return of native vegetation.

H. RESERVE MANAGEMENT

Once again little actual research has been done, largely because of the involvement of the Senior Research Officer in administrative and advice work and in the Conservation Through Reserves Committee.

Studies on the Short-necked Tortoise have continued but have been limited in their depth because of other commitments. No decision has yet been made on the proposal for a brickworks

adjacent to the Ellen Brook Wildlife Sanctuary.

Work on prescribed burning has continued at Tutanning and at the Wildlife Research Centre reserve.

Firebreak construction on reserves controlled by the W.A. Wildlife Authority has been stepped up with \$15,000 being allocated this year. The following new work was done:-

<u>Reserve Name</u>	<u>Reserve No.</u>	<u>Distance</u>
Bendering	30844	64 km
Bindoo Hill	A20338	10 km
Capamaura	24610	48 km
Two Peoples Bay	A27956	2 km
Tutanning	A25555	15 km
Yuna	28415, 29231	29 km

Maintenance work was carried out at the following reserves:-

Lake Magenta, Unicup, Boyagin, Buntine, Nugadong, Tutanning, Johns Well, Thompson Lake, Twin Swamps, Ellen Brook and Austin Bay.

The Department again contributed \$3,000.00 to the Avon Valley Fire Protection Plan.

I. PUBLICATIONS

Burbidge, A.A., Kirsch, J.A.W. and Main, A.R., 1974. 'Relationships within the Chelidae (Testudines : Pleurodira) of Australia and New Guinea'. *Copeia* 1974 (2) : 392-409.

Burbidge, A.A. 1975. 'History of the Prince Regent River Reserve' In Miles J.M. and Burbidge A.A. (Eds.) 'A biological survey of the Prince Regent River Reserve, north-west Kimberley, Western Australia in August, 1974'. *Wildl. Res. Bull. West Aust.* 3 : 7-10.

Burbidge, A.A. 1975. 'Conclusions and recommendations' In Miles, J.M. and Burbidge, A.A. (Eds.) 'A biological survey of the Prince Regent River Reserve, north-west Kimberley, Western Australia in August 1974'. *Wildl. Res. Bull. West Aust.* 3 : 113-114.

McKenzie, N.L., Chapman, A. and Youngson, W.K. 1975. 'Mammals of the Prince Regent River Reserve, north-west Kimberley Western Australia'. In Miles, J.M. and Burbidge, A.A. (Eds.). 'A biological survey of the Prince Regent River Reserve, north-west Kimberley, Western Australia in August 1974'. *Wildl. Res. Bull. West Aust.* 3 : 69-74.

McKenzie, N.L. and Youngson, W.K. 1975. 'Notes on the wildlife of a proposed nature reserve around Lake Grace and Lake Chinokup, Western Australia'. Report No. 16, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Perth.

Miles, J.M. and Burbidge, A.A. (Eds.) 1975. 'A biological survey of the Prince Regent River Reserve, north-west Kimberley, Western Australia in August 1974'. *Wildl. Res. Bull. West Aust.* 3 : 1-116.

Riggert, T.L. 1975. 'The management of the Emu *Dromaius novaehollandiae* in Western Australia'. *Wildl. Res. Bull. West Aust.* 4 : 1-14.

V ENFORCEMENT

A. LITTER

The problem of litter still continues on reserves and sanctuaries, despite notices and the vigilance of Wardens. The lighting of fires, picking of wildflowers, removal of timber and soil, and the dumping of rubbish has shown a slight decrease, but the problem of litterbugs still remains. It is hoped that education of the public, and the efforts of the "Keep Australia Beautiful Council" will reduce this problem to a more acceptable level.

B. GREY KANGAROOS

DAMAGE INSPECTIONS

Complaints of grey kangaroos causing damage to farming properties in the South-west of this State during the past year have caused the Department considerable concern. During the growing season April-October, Wardens stationed in these areas were hard pressed to give adequate time to investigate complaints and ensure that the Grey Kangaroo Management Programme was adhered to.

C. RED KANGAROOS

Regular inspections were made during the year of all licensed shooters to ensure that the Red Kangaroo Management Programme was adhered to. With the breaking of the severe drought in the Eastern Goldfields, and part of the Murchison Districts, the red kangaroo stocks are recuperating. Complaints by pastoralists suffering damage by red kangaroos were in most cases promptly attended to but some, due to distances involved and staffing problems, were temporarily deferred.

D. DISTRICTS

1. KIMBERLEY AND PILBARA

The vastness of the far north of this State still poses problems for wardens based at Onslow and Wyndham. It is hoped when finances improve that a new fauna district will

be based at Derby. This would greatly help to control the many illegal activities such as crocodile poaching, bird smuggling, illegal bird trapping, taking of protected reptilian fauna, and the wanton destruction of the Australian Bustard and other vulnerable species, which are reported from time to time.

2. WONGAN HILLS-GERALDTON-MT. MAGNET

The Department has experienced considerable trouble with illegal bird trappers taking protected parrots and cockatoos in the Midlands, and some other areas. These protected species are mainly taken from nests when they are young. Investigations are continuing during the current nesting season. Some apprehensions have been made, and prosecutions carried out.

E. FAUNA WARDENS

1. APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS

R. Gardiner	Resigned.
K. Miller	Transfer from Relieving Staff to Moora.
K. Marshall	Appointed to vacant item on Relieving Staff (ex Fisheries Inspection).
J. Neal	Transfer from Wongan Hills to Manjimup.
R. Dear	Transfer from Manjimup to Wongan Hills.
D. Noble	Transfer from Onslow to Pingelly.
R. Smith	Promoted to District Warden Onslow
A.R. Marshall	Promoted to Senior Warden (new item) from Metropolitan Warden.

2. DISPOSITION OF WARDENS AT 30.9.1975

Perth:	Supervising Warden S.W. Bowler
	Senior Warden A.R. Marshall
	Trainee Warden M. Osborn
	Trainee Warden J. Quinn
	Warden - Kangaroo Control - W. Mahoney
Wyndham:	Warden I. Cooke
Onslow:	Warden R. Smith
Mt Magnet:	Warden P. Pennings
Carnarvon:	Warden L. Silvester
Geraldton:	Warden L. Moss
Moora:	Warden K. Miller
Wongan Hills:	Warden R. Dear
Pingelly:	Warden D. Noble

Waroona:	Warden D. Mell
Busselton:	Warden K. Morrison
Manjimup:	Warden J. Neal
Albany:	Warden R. Grayson
Kalgoorlie:	Warden P. Lambert
Esperance:	Warden G. Hanley

Relieving Staff

Warden J. Wilson
Warden K. Marshall

3. EMPLOYMENT OF ABORIGINALS AS TRAINEE WARDENS

At the request of and with financial assistance from the Australian Government, the Department has undertaken the employment of aboriginals as Trainee Wardens. These Trainee Wardens have been stationed at Perth, Wongan Hills, Albany, Kalgoorlie, and Carnarvon.

F. HONORARY WARDENS

The Department's sincere thanks are extended to all Honorary Wardens of Fauna throughout the State for their efforts in wildlife conservation. Over the past year many Hon. Wardens have worked in close liaison with departmental officers.

G. PROSECUTIONS 1.7.1974 - 30.6.1975

Various offences against the Fauna Conservation Act and Regulations occurred throughout the year. Details of convictions were recorded as follows:-

FAUNA DISTRICT 1. WYNDHAM		
Prosecutions 1	Fines \$ 25.00	Costs \$ 2.70
FAUNA DISTRICT 2. ONSLOW		
Prosecutions 3	Fines \$ 180.00	Costs \$ 34.80
FAUNA DISTRICT 3. MT MAGNET		
Prosecutions 1	Fines \$ 120.00	Costs \$ 24.00
FAUNA DISTRICT 4. CARNARVON		
Prosecutions 3	Fines \$ 190.00	Costs \$ 44.70

FAUNA DISTRICT 5. GERALDTON Prosecutions 25	Fines \$ 545.00	Costs \$367.25
FAUNA DISTRICT 6. MOORA Prosecutions 8	Fines \$ 510.00	Costs \$ 91.40
FAUNA DISTRICT 7. WONGAN HILLS Prosecutions 3	Fines \$ 300.00	Costs \$ 42.00
FAUNA DISTRICT 8. WAROONA Prosecutions 9	Fines \$ 245.00	Costs \$135.85
FAUNA DISTRICT 9. PINGELLY Prosecutions 13	Fines \$ 275.00	Costs \$ 99.50
FAUNA DISTRICT 10. KALGOORLIE Prosecutions 2	Fines \$ 60.00	Costs \$ 32.80
FAUNA DISTRICT 11. BUSSELTON Prosecutions 7	Fines \$ 340.00	Costs \$ 74.90
FAUNA DISTRICT 12. ALBANY Prosecutions 1	Fines \$ 75.00	Costs \$ 12.10
FAUNA DISTRICT 13. METROPOLITAN AREA Prosecutions 42	Fines \$2275.00	Costs \$532.60
FAUNA DISTRICT 14. MANJIMUP Prosecutions - Nil	Fines Nil	Costs Nil
FAUNA DISTRICT 15. ESPERANCE Prosecutions - Nil	Fines Nil	Costs Nil
<hr/>		
GRAND TOTALS:		
PROSECUTIONS 106	FINES \$4815.00	COSTS \$1494.60
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Full details of prosecutions overleaf.

Section of Act or Regulation	No.	Description	Fine	(Total) Costs
DISTRICT NO. 1 - WYNDHAM				
Sect. 16	1	Taking Australian Bustard	\$ 25.00	\$ 2.70
DISTRICT NO. 2 - ONSLOW				
Sect. 17(2)(e)	1	Taking protected birds	100.00	3.60
Sect. 18(8)	1	Untagged kangaroos	50.00	17.10
Reg. 6(8)	1	Failure to submit shooter's returns	30.00	14.10
DISTRICT NO. 3 - MT MAGNET				
Sect. 16	1	Taking Red Kangaroos	120.00	24.00
DISTRICT NO. 4 - CARNARVON				
Sect. 16	2	Taking protected birds	50.00	32.70
Sect. 16	1	Shooting Red Kangaroos	140.00	12.00
DISTRICT NO. 5 - GERALDTON				
Sect. 16	4	Taking Grey Kangaroos	150.00	51.00
Reg. 50(1)	1	Possession of fauna (birds)	30.00	14.10
Reg. 46K	11	Dog on fauna reserve	Cautioned	143.00
Sect. 16	3	Taking protected fauna (birds)	150.00	34.20

Section of Act or Regulation	No.	Description	Fine	(Total) Costs
DISTRICT NO. 5 (cont.)				
Sect. 25	1	Obstruction and abuse	\$ 50.00	\$ 52.75
Reg. 12 (5)	1	Illegal dealing in birds	30.00	12.10
Reg. (50) (1)	2	Using Grey Kangaroos for bait	60.00	48.00
(a) and (b)	1	Taking protected fauna (turtles and birds)	75.00	8.00
Sects. 16,17(b)				
DISTRICT NO. 6 - MOORA				
Sect. 16	8	Taking Grey Kangaroos	510.00	9.40
DISTRICT NO. 7 - WONGAN HILLS				
Sect. 16	3	Taking Grey Kangaroos	300.00	42.00
DISTRICT NO. 8 - WAROONA				
Sect. 25(1)(a)	1	Wilfully misleading Warden	5.00	42.10
Sect. 16	7	Taking Grey Kangaroos	245.00	85.95
Sect. 16	1	Taking Bronzewing Pigeon	5.00	7.80

Section of Act or Regulation	No.	Description	Fine	(Total) Costs
DISTRICT NO. 9 - PINGELLY				
Sect. 17(B)(2)	1	No duck shooter's license	\$ 5.00	\$ 12.10
Sect. 16	1	Trapping Wild Ducks	15.00	12.10
Reg. 49(4)(i)	1	Lighting fire on game reserve	25.00	12.10
Sect. 16	1	Taking protected birds	40.00	12.10
Reg. 49(5)(i)	8	Lighting fire on game reserve	185.00	39.00
Reg. 56(2)(b)	1	Taking Pink-eared Duck	5.00	12.10
DISTRICT NO. 10 - KALGOORLIE				
Sect. 17B	2	No duck shooter's license	60.00	22.10
DISTRICT NO. 11 - BUSSELTON				
Sect. 16	5	Taking Grey Kangaroos	240.00	41.50
Reg. 11(6)	1	Trapping parrots in State Forest	25.00	12.10
Sect. 16	1	Taking protected fauna (birds)	75.00	21.30
DISTRICT NO. 12 - ALBANY				
Sect. 17(e)	1	Sale of fauna (birds)	75.00	12.10

Section of Act or Regulation	No.	Description	Fine	(Total) Costs
DISTRICT NO. 13 - METROPOLITAN AREA				
Sect. 13-6	1	Not keeping returns	\$ 40.00	\$ 13.60
Sect. 15 & 17	1	In possession of untagged kangaroos	50.00	12.10
Sect. 16	1	Taking protected birds	40.00	14.10
Sect. 14	1	Taking Grey Kangaroos	50.00	17.10
Sect. 16	1	Killing Seagull	50.00	13.60
Reg. 7(6)	9	Non lodgement of processor's returns	330.00	129.30
Sect. 16	14	Taking Grey Kangaroos	1490.00	211.30
Sect. 17B(2)	1	Shooting wild ducks out of season	40.00	13.60
Reg. 28	1	Keeping birds without a license	40.00	12.10
Reg. 28(1)	1	Unlicensed bird trading	5.00	11.00
Sect. 16a	1	Taking protected birds	50.00	12.10
Sect. 46(g)	1	Horse riding on reserve	5.00	12.10
Reg. 12	1	Importing birds without license	40.00	12.10
Reg. 52	1	Taking fledgling from nest	50.00	12.10
Reg. 32	1	Breach of cages for transport of birds	50.00	12.10
Reg. 13(1)	1	No recording of Form 7 bird dealer's license	20.00	14.10
Reg. 52	1	Taking immature bird from nest	50.00	12.10
Sect. 15 & 17	1	Untagged Grey Kangaroos	50.00	12.10
Sect. 16	1	Taking Peregrine Falcon	40.00	12.00
Reg. 50(1)	1	Untagged Grey Kangaroos	50.00	12.10
Sect. 46(g)	1	Using beach buggy on sanctuary	5.00	12.10

VI 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, 1975, the following licenses were issued:-

A. SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES - REGULATION 7

These licenses were issued mainly to official organizations or their employees. 56 persons were licensed to take fauna for general scientific purposes. 22 persons were licensed to take specific fauna.

B. EDUCATIONAL AND PUBLIC PURPOSES - REGULATION 15

There were 55 licenses issued for the following purposes -

Care of derelict fauna	7
Collection and study	14
Study and Display	3
Educational	12
Photography	10
Miscellaneous purposes	9

C. AVICULTURE

1. LICENSES TO KEEP AND BREED FAUNA IN CAPTIVITY - REGULATION 12

2811 licenses were issued, mainly to aviculturists.

2. LICENSES TO DEAL IN AVIAN FAUNA - REGULATION 13

Forty-four were issued.

3. LICENSES TO TRAP AVIAN FAUNA FOR SALE - REGULATION 11

Twenty-two were issued.

(a) List of Parrots Trapped

Twenty-eight	1933
Western Rosella	1330
Western King	101
White-tailed Black	24
Galahs	425
Red-rumped	10

(b) List of Finches Trapped

Longtail	4588
Mask	1664
Star	4848
Gouldian	4579
Blood	228
Double Bar	1823
Chestnut	458
Yellow-rumped	8
Pictorella	3919

D. GAME

LICENSES TO TAKE GAME

99 Quail shooters licenses were issued. 6254 Duck shooters licenses were issued.

E. KANGAROOS

1. LICENSES TO TAKE RED KANGAROOS FOR SALE - REGULATION 6
Fifty-one licenses were issued throughout the year.
2. LICENSES TO DEAL IN KANGAROO CARCASSES - REGULATION 8
Four licenses were issued.
3. LICENSES TO DEAL IN KANGAROO SKINS - REGULATION 10
Seventeen were issued.
4. LICENSES TO PROCESS FAUNA - REGULATION 7
Twenty-three licenses were issued to process kangaroos.

F. 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. EXPORT INTERSTATE

(a) Birds

Finches:-

Blood	84
Chestnut	100
Double Bar	566
Gouldian	1956
Longtail (Blackhearts)	2377
Mask	662
Pictorella	2384
Star	2278

Parrots:-

Bourke	6
Budgerygah	105
Cockateil (Weiro)	1
Lovebirds - Masked	7
Mulga	3
Port Lincoln	22
Rosella - Adelaide	4
Rosella - Western	1046
Smoker	2
Twenty-eight	1813
Western King	113

Cockatoos:-

Major Mitchell	1
P & G Galah	6
Sulphur - Crest	7
White-tailed Black	24

Pigeons:-

Spinifex Western	11
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Canaries:-

82

Ducks:-

6

Swans:-

1

Silver Gulls:-	10
Crest Terns:-	5
Cormorants:-	3
Black-breasted Buzzard:-	1

(b) Mammals

Brush-tailed Rat-Kangaroo	7
Euro	3
Kangaroo, Red	1
Marsupial Mice	123
Possum, Northern Brush-tailed	2
Possum, Ring-tailed	1
Quokka	10
Tammar	12
Wallaby, Agile	2

2. IMPORT INTERSTATE

(a) Birds

Pheasants:-

Lady Amherst	21
Golden	30
Reeves	27
Ringneck	36
Silver	14
Swinhoe	16

Finches:-

African fire	6
Aurora	2
Blood	102
Chestnut	526
Cordon bleu	19
Cuban	6
Cutthroat	6
Diggles	2
Double Bar	24
Gouldian	2
Hecks grassfinch	14
Jacarini	11
Canaries	460
Mask	6
Melba	9

Orange-breasted Waxbill	30
Painted (Emblema)	60
Parrot blue-faced	49
Pictorella	2
Plumhead	4
Star	15
Yellow-rumped	8
Zebra	83

Parrots:-

Barraband	46
Bluebonnet	29
Blue-winged	12
Bourke	77
Budgerygah	1369
Clencurry	4
Cockatiel (Weiro)	497
Crimson-wing	45
Elegant	83
Eastern king	49
Golden-shouldered	9
Hooded	40
Indian ringneck	31
Mallee ringneck	6
King	1
Princess	60
Rainbow lorikeet	103
Musk Lorikeet	3
Red-collared lorikeet	6
Red-rumped	222
Rock	10
Rosella - Adelaide	12
Rosella - crimson	130
Rosella - eastern	145
Rosella - green	4
Rosella - northern	10
Rosella - pale-headed	65
Rosella - yellow	24
Scaly-breasted Lorikeet	43
Scarlet-chested	144
Smoker	1
Swift	4
Torquoisine	93
Varied Lorikeet	84

Cockatoos:-

Corella short-billed	40
Gang Gang	2
Major Mitchell	53

Pink and Grey Galah	3
Sulphur-crested	699
Red-tailed Black	1

Doves and Pigeons:-

Diamond Dove	135
Peaceful	64
Wonga	2
Topknot Pigeon	4

Quail:-

Brown	28
Button	6
King	100
Painted	22
Black-breasted	14
Red-chested	7
Red-backed	29
Stubble	8
Cinnamon	45

General:-

Burdekin Duck	2
Indian runner Duck	14
Wood Duck	2
Black Swan	4
Mallard Duck	1
Satin Bowerbird	1
Kookaburra	1
Royal Spoonbill	2
Fairy Penguin	6
Tasmanian Water Hen	3

(b) Mammals

Wombat	1
Tammar	100
Koala	8
Wallaby	7
Kangaroo, Grey	3
Kangaroo, Red	3
Euro	3
Marsupial Mice	162

3. EXPORT OVERSEAS

(a) Birds

Banded Plover	4
Budgerygah	2
Black Swan	16
Corella	3
Crested Pigeon	10
Crested Tern	2
Duck, Blue-billed	6
Duck, Musk	4
Galah	23
Heron, Nankeen Night	6
Honeyeater, Singing	4
Honeyeater, White-plumed	2
Kookaburra	2
Magpie	4
Magpie Geese	20
Quail	147
Silver Gull	8
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	10
Twenty-eight	1
Wedge-tailed Eagle	2
Weiro Finch	2
Zebra Finch	50
Various bird species	220

(b) Mammals

Kangaroo, Red	5
Kangaroo, Grey	6
Euro	11
Wallaby, Agile	3
Possum	1
Bandicoot	1

G. LICENSES TO KEEP FAUNA - REGULATION 16

LICENSEE	SPECIES
J. Weeldenburg, Bakers Hill	Grey Kangaroos, Brush Wallabies.
Dr B. McLaughlan, Mt Lawley Teachers College	Birds
Col. Murdock, Shire of Exmouth	Birds
J. Stewart, W.A. Museum	Snakes
Shire of Collie	Quokkas, Tammars, Bettongs.

LICENSEE

V. Cox, Yampi Sound
J. Murray, Mullewa

G. Doyle, West Swan
N. Sorbello, Gosnells

R. Fairfax, Gooseberry Hill
I. Anderson, Denmark
K. Gaikhorst, High Wycombe
C. Lasky, West Perth
Mt Magnet School
C. Kennedy, Moora
L. Stockdale, Kalgoorlie

A. Bassett, Denham
R. Martin, Mandurah Shire

SPECIES

Crocodiles
Birds, Kangaroos, Emus,
Waterfowl.
Possums
Kangaroos, Walleroo,
Wallabies, Quokkas, Water-
fowl, Birds, Brushtail Rat
Kangaroos.
Marsupial Mice
Sick and injured fauna.
Snakes
Sick and injured fauna.
Birds
Birds, Kangaroos.
Waterfowl, Birds, Emus,
Kangaroos, Euros.
Injured fauna.
Injured fauna.

H. EMUS

LICENSE TO PROCESS FAUNA - REGULATION 7

Two licenses were issued to process Emu eggshells.

VII LEGISLATION

A. FAUNA CONSERVATION ACT AMENDMENTS

There was no amendment made to the Fauna Conservation Act during the twelve months ended June 30, 1975, but legislation to that end was introduced on August 13.

The following Ministerial notices were published in the Government Gazette:-

Government Gazette (No. 66) of August 30, 1975 -

Classification of Reserve 25809 (Lake Powell) as an Unlimited Access Area.

Classification of Reserve A22796 (Middle Island) as a Prohibited Entry Area.

Classification of Reserve 32339 (Lake Shaster) as a Game Reserve.

Government Gazette (No. 77) of October 4, 1974 -

Deletion of the Wedge-tailed Eagle (*Euroaetus audax*) within the Shire of Kojonup from the schedule of species declared to be unprotected.

Government Gazette (No. 93) of December 6, 1974 -

Open Season on wild duck within the Kimberley, North-west and Eastern Land Division from January 1 to December 31, 1974. Open Season on wild duck within South West and Eucla Land Divisions from January 11 to April 30, 1975.

Government Gazette (No. 1) of January 3, 1975 -

Classification of part of Reserve A9838 (Lake Wannamal) as Limited Access Area.

Classification of Reserve A24556 (Lake Toolibin) as Limited Access Area.

Classification of Reserve 25210 (Lakes Pinjarega and Eganu) as Game Reserves.

Amendment to the notice (Government Gazette 6.12.74) declaring an open season on wild duck in the South West and Eucla Land Division.

B. FAUNA CONSERVATION REGULATIONS AMENDMENTS

There was no amendment to the Fauna Conservation Regulations during the twelve months ended June 30, 1975.

VIII RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

A. DISTRICTS SERVICED

1. BASE STATIONS

The main transceiver is located at the Wildlife Research Centre, Wanneroo and with the use of three frequencies its range is almost Statewide. This installation can be operated from the Wildlife Research Centre or from the remote control unit in Head Office, Perth.

One other base station is installed at the Geraldton District Office to serve patrol vessels and vehicles in that area.

2. WILDLIFE RESEARCH

Fauna Research has a variety of vehicle mounted and portable radios fitted with frequencies of the Department and the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Vehicles fitted with radio are used in many roles including:-

- Reserve Management
- Estuarine Research
- Kangaroo Research
- Potoroo Research
- Sanctuary Control - Two Peoples Bay

Portable radios are used for control and safety of research operations. They are an essential part of research in the Kimberley Region.

3. WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT

The following Districts are served by vehicle-mounted radios:-

(a) Royal Flying Doctor Service and Departmental frequencies -

- Wyndham
- Pingelly
- Esperance
- Kalgoorlie

(b) Royal Flying Doctor Service frequency only -

Carnarvon
Onslow
Mt Magnet

(c) Departmental frequencies only -

Geraldton
Albany
Jurien Bay
Lancelin
Cervantes
Broome

B. EQUIPMENT

1. HIGH FREQUENCY SINGLE SIDE BAND

Marine Installations - Patrol Vessels are equipped with 100 watt (Peak Envelop Power) Single Side Band Transceivers, fitted with ten channels. Each channel is tuned to a twelve-foot marine whip through an antenna tuning unit which is separate from the main transceiver.

Fixed Vehicle Installations - These radios are either 100 watt or 25 watt and are permanently mounted in vehicles. On some installations the radio operates into a six foot pre-tuned whip and the whip antenna must be changed with every frequency change. On other installations pre-tuned whips are used for some frequencies and an antenna tuning unit is provided for use with a dipole or end fed wire antenna.

Removable Vehicle and Portable Installations - Radios in this category can be used in the vehicle or carried in a pack. The sets have a power output of 25 watts and antenna tuning is provided in the body of the transceiver. These sets can be used with pre-tuned whip antennas, dipole antennas or end fed wires. When used as a portable (man pack) the transceiver is powered by rechargable nickel cadmium or small (motor cycle) lead acid batteries.

2. HIGH FREQUENCY - DOUBLE SIDE BAND

Four sets are in use in the Department, mainly on Royal Flying Doctor Service frequencies. These sets must be replaced by Single Side Band equipment before December 1977 as required by Telecom Aust.

3. PORTABLE HANDPHONES

At present there are thirty-two low power handphones used in the Department. Their range of 3 to 8 kilometres restricts their use to local research or inspection operations. However, their compactness and price often gives them an advantage over other equipment.

C. FUTURE PLANS

1. EXPANSION OF SINGLE SIDE BAND NETWORK

The current network has only 75% of the stations originally envisaged. It is hoped that the remaining 25% of equipment will be acquired over the next two years.

2. REFINEMENT OF EXISTING EQUIPMENT

Security - Currently there is little security for the Departmental Radio System. It is possible to receive it on any short wave radio capable of detecting single side band. In future years it is hoped that speech security (scrambling) devices can be added to some of the existing transceivers. The initial cost is high but it must be considered in relation to the cost of failure for an operation involving patrol vessels, vehicles and personnel which are deployed at considerable expense to the Department.

Codes and other methods are currently being compiled to give some measure of security. However, such devices are slow to use and limit the amount of secure traffic that can be sent.

Problems of noise and interference particularly for night working must be looked at with regard to training field officers in the erection of more efficient antenna systems and the introduction of Very High Frequency (Frequency Modulated) equipment.

3. REPLACEMENT OF HANDPHONES

For enforcement purposes it may be necessary to replace existing handphones with VHF or UHF equipment in the future due to:-

Problems of distortion and interference.

Current equipment is not really suited to the enforcement role (i.e. bulky with large antenna).

Other people and organizations are sharing our frequency. Allocation of another frequency in the same band would not be possible due to overcrowding.

IX STAFF

A. ADMINISTRATION

The Fauna Conservation Act is administered by Mr B.K. Bowen, Director of the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife and Chairman of the Western Australian Wild Life Authority, Mr H.B. Shugg, Secretary of the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife and Chief Warden of Fauna, and Mr D.W. Arnold, Assistant Administrative Officer of the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife and Chief Executive Officer of the Western Australian Wild Life Authority, and clerical staff of the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.

B. ENFORCEMENT

Due to public awareness of the need for fauna conservation in this State, Wardens in the field have been hard pressed to fulfil their work during the past year.

Although an additional relieving warden was appointed, this falls far short of the requirements to relieve our staff during their annual and long service leave, absence through accident or ill health, or any urgent work which cannot be attended to by District Wardens.

There is a most urgent need for additional staff.

C. RESEARCH

Professional officers of this branch continue to spend a considerable amount of their time on advice work and committees and this makes serious inroads into the amount of time available for research. This situation can only be remedied by the appointment of additional graduates.

The operations side of the management of reserves controlled by the W.A. Wild Life Authority continues to be the primary responsibility of a small group at the Wildlife Research Centre. Since this group consists at present of only four people the amount of work which can be carried out on the large number of reserves is minimal. Only one reserve, Two Peoples Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, has a ranger resident on it.

X 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.

A photographic display, approximately 40 metres x 3 metres on the conservation of wetland areas, was mounted in the Concert Hall foyer for the Triennial Conference of the Association of Country Women of the World.

The 1974/75 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 Wildlife Reports and Research Bulletins were published from 1.7.1974 to 30.6.1975:-

REPORTS No. 14 - Wilson Inlet
 A Seasonally Closed Western Australian
 South Coast Estuary
 by R.C.J. Lenanton

No. 16 - Notes on the Wildlife of a Proposed Nature
 Reserve around Lake Grace and Lake Chino-
 kup, Western Australia
 by N.L. McKenzie and W.K. Youngson

FISHERIES BULLETINS

No. 16 - Spawning Variation and its Relationship to
 Growth Rate and Density in the Marron,
 Cherax tenuimanus (Smith)
 by Dr N.M. Morrissy

WILDLIFE BULLETINS

No. 3 A Biological Survey of the Prince Regent
 River Reserve, North-West Kimberley,
 Western Australia in August, 1974.
 by Jenefer M. Miles
 and Andrew A. Burbidge

No. 4 The Management of the Emu *Dromaius
novaehollandiae* in Western Australia

by Dr T.L. Riggert

The publication of the Department's quarterly journal, S.W.A.N.S. was recommenced after a lapse of 18 months. A special leaflet on Potoroos was printed for distribution to the public as an identification chart and request to report sightings.

A leaflet on Conservation of Wetlands by Dr T.L. Riggert was published for the A.C.W.A. Triennial Conference.

Stocks of brochures, leaflets and general school project materials were maintained throughout the year.

With growing public awareness for wildlife conservation, requests from students and teachers were more sophisticated and they were referred elsewhere for specialist material.

Talks on wildlife and conservation were given by the publicity staff to several schools and scouting associations during the year.

The 1974 Annual Report of the Fauna Conservation Branch and Western Australian Wild Life Authority was collated and published.