



Feeding time for Dibbler

SOFTWOOD SCHEME LAUNCHED



A JUVENILE male Dibbler, one of Australia's rarest and most elusive mammals, feeding on nectar from a bell-fruited mallee flower. The photograph was taken by Andrew Chapman who is carrying out a flora and fauna survey of the Fitzgerald River National Park. The survey is being funded by the Heritage Conmi.tee.

MORE than 90 people attended the launching of a Softwood Sharefarming Scheme at a seminar at Manjimup on November 14.

The Scheme was launched by the Minister for Conservation and Land Management, Ron Davies.

Mr Davies said the Scheme involved joint ventures between private landowners and the State Government.

He said it was important that the Scheme be managed as a community project for the benefit of the community rather than have the community perceive pine plantations as owned by the Department.

The Department's Principal Economics officer, Dr George Malajczuk, the Regional Manager, Central Region, Don Spriggins and the Senior Liaison Officer, Ross Young, outlined the economic and management aspects of the Scheme.

The Scheme aims to help the State achieve sawlog new self sufficiency and to compensate for future cuts in hardwood production.

It is designed to encourage on-farm forestry

by making annual payments to farmers.

This will overcome the long waiting time for returns — up to 30 years — and the uncertain cash flow.

Under the terms of the Scheme, landowners will be paid a predetermined annuity indexed for inflation and a predetermined proportion of the final cutting revenue.

A landowner offering 100 ha of above average quality land for pine planting could expect an annual return of between \$6,000 and \$7,000 and a payment of \$30,000 at clearfelling.

In addition to the annuity and the clearfelling payment, the landowner could also be paid to maintain the plantation on his property.

Mr Davies said the Government was committed to improving the productivity of the hardwood forest, but it was essential to reduce the hardwood cut to a sustainable level.

Mr Davies said this year's CALM \$3 million had been allocated for land purchases.

Under the Softwood Sharefarming Scheme an equivalent area of pine plantation could be established for less than \$300,000.

The Scheme initially aims to establish 500 ha of radiata pine annually in the Manjimup region.

If this proves successful it will be expanded to annual plantings of 2,500 ha throughout the South West.

The initial response to the Scheme has been excellent, with Ross Young reporting that landowners have requested CALM to evaluate more than 1,000 ha of land for pine plantation establishment.

Cadet wins award

BRADLEY FISHER, a recipient of the recently-awarded Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award, is a first-year Field Officer Cadet at CALM.

Bradley is currently completing his year at the College of the Southwest at Bunbury.

The award candidates had to complete an expedition, engage in community service and prove their ability in a particular skill and sporting activity.

His expedition was a three-day, 300km cycle around the Porongorups via Mt Barker and Denmark.

He also built a 1.5m model of an Australia II-type yacht, complete with winged keel.

Bradley also helped build the Albany Athletics Club Building, and had a successful cross-country and athletics season, including winning a WA Cross-country title.

He was one of 21 young men and women who were presented with the award by the Premier, Brian Burke, in October.

HON. ROYAL COMMISSION . . .

Report tabled in Parliament

The Honorary Royal Commission into the Conservation and Land Management Act tabled its report in the Legislative Council recently.

The Minister for Conservation and Land Management, Ron Davies, said the Commission had approached their task with enthusiasm and their report was a comprehensive review of the functions of the Act.

Mr Davies welcomed the Commission's endorsement of the concept of an integrated land management agency, but said the Government would not formally respond to the recommendations contained in the report until the public had had an opportunity to respond to them.

A public participation exercise had recently started in the Mundaring Region, and more than 10 major land management plans, including three regional plans for the South West, were being undertaken.

Mr Davies said that the Royal Commission's report would be valuable in the preparation of the review of the Department, which he was undertaking as required under the Act.

The review would be completed and available for public comment by the end of the year.

The report recommends that the Department of Conservation and Land Management remains largely unchanged.

Any changes should only be implemented after five years, which would allow the Department time to establish itself.

The Commission, however, emphasised the need for the Department to be given greater resources.

The Commission sprang from a Select Committee established late in 1984 when the Conservation and Land Management Act was before the Council.

The Commission's members were Hon. A.A. Lewis, M.L.C., Hon. V.J. Ferry, M.L.C. and Hon. F.E. McKenzie, K.L.C.

The Commission's visited all States of Australia, New Zealand, and

Province of Ontario, Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom, and received numerous submissions.

Presentation of such evidence gave the Commission a greater understanding of the problems faced by land managers and ways in which such problems may be resolved.

The Report makes 85 recommendations, a number of which propose more resources for the Department.

The Commission was concerned at CALM's inability to adequately prepare management plans for the lands and waters it has responsibility for, as prescribed in the Conservation and Land Management Act.

The Commission also recommends that greater resources be made available for creating and improving recreational facilities.

The Commission recommends the adoption of the land-use classifica-

tion scheme proposed by the International Union for Nature Conservation and Natural Resources, allowing for multiple-use of lands and waters managed by CALM.

The Commission considers that acceptance of such a scheme will allow for more rational land-use planning.

The Commission makes a number of recommendations that it says would allow the Department to operate more efficiently.



SOME of CALM's Blackwood Marathon team members pause for a well-earned beer. They are (from left to right) back row: Kevin Keally, Lachlan McCaw, John McGrath, Jim Maher and Greg Strelina. Front row: John Wray and Cliff Winfield.

MARATHON

THREE teams from CALM competed in this year's Blackwood Marathon Relay.

However, speed is not everything and teams "CALM Ones" and "Too CALM" (101 and 102), despite finishing 24th and 23rd respectively, were disqualified when their horses' pulse rates failed to return to normal within the prescribed time.

"Still CALM" (103) maintained a slower, but steadier, pace and finished without disqualification in 64th place — quite a creditable performance in a field of 277.

"Still CALM" team members were Alan Sands, Manjimup; Per Christensen, Como; Quintin Radomiljac, Manjimup; Kevin Keally, (from outside CALM) and Jim Maher, Crawley.

"CALM Ones" team members were Colin Greene, Harvey; John McGrath, Como; Rae Burrows, Manjimup; Robert Radomiljac, Manjimup; and Ray Lawrie, Manjimup.

"Too CALM" members were Greg Strelina, Manjimup; John Wray (WA Water Authority); Cliff Winfield, Como; Peter Giadresco, Manjimup; and Lachlan McCaw, Manjimup.

A number of CALM officers competed in the event on other teams.

They were Tammie Reid, Como; Ian Rotheram, Jarrahdale; Tony Friend, Woodvale; Sue Moore, Murdoch House; and Ian Darragh, Como.



He said that some of the recommendations were controversial and may not receive broad scale or community support, but the majority of the recommendations were positive and constructive.

A number of the initiatives had already been taken up by the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

Mr Davies said he was pleased that the Commission supported the concept of public participation and the preparation of land management plans because these were two areas in which the Department had placed a high priority.



From my Desk

MANY species of animals define their territory and defend it vigorously.

The "territorial imperative" is a well known biological phenomenon which humans do not escape.

In any organisation of reasonable size, the opportunities for defining and vigorously defending a territory are considerable.

Obviously, the propensity to define and defend territories is even greater in an organisation formed by an amalgamation.

While a territorial strategy confers short term advantages on the individual, history shows that organisations that achieve the most in the long term are those that have cohesion.

In general, CALM staff have achieved a remarkable degree of cohesion in the short period since the Department has been formed.

This is not surprising because the business we are in is a worthwhile and exciting one which attracts people who are dedicated to their job.

These exceptions, I am sure, have arisen because individuals and/or groups feel threatened.

Change is threatening, but I am confident that the changes that are occurring and will continue to occur as CALM develops will provide greater opportunities for everybody.

Over time, we hope to develop a system whereby any person in the Department can aspire to any position in the Department by providing training opportunities and links between different groups.

We are also working with the Public Service Board and the Industrial Commission to improve the career opportunities within specialised groups within the Department.

We have already removed the constraint on field staff moving to senior management positions and I hope that the training policy will be in place early in the New Year.

It will take time to sort out differences in employment conditions between different groups which have developed over time.

In the interim, I hope all members of the Department will resist the temptation to establish "territories".

SYD SHEA
Executive Director

FIRE SCHOOL FOR OFFICERS

SEVENTY-EIGHT officers attended two four day intermediate level Fire Schools in early October at the Geopraphe Motel, Busselton.

Course participants were drawn from a wide range of sectors within CALM, including Operations Foresters, National Park Rangers, Wildlife Reserve Officers, Researchers, Planning Officers, Pilots and Administrative Officers.

The courses were run by the Fire Protection Branch with the following aims in mind:

* To increase knowledge and understanding of the principles and practices of fire control on all types of lands;

* To encourage a common approach to the resolution of fire control problems through better understanding of CALM's fire policies, regulations, standing orders and work prescriptions, and use of common terminology;

* To provide a forum for CALM fire practitioners for informal discussion and thereby to foster better friendship and understanding, and a tolerance of conflicting viewpoints.

The course was opened by General Manager Roger Underwood, who outlined CALM's responsibilities of protecting human assets and conservation values.

Lectures were given by

Protection Branch officers and other invited guests on a range of topics, including Fire Policy and Planning, Environmental Impacts of Fire, Fire Prevention and Fire Suppression Procedures, Roles on Responsibilities in Large Fire Organizations, and Fire Safety and Fire Weather Forecasts.

A half-day field excursion was held in the nearby jarrah forests to demonstrate the latest developments in fire equipment, including foam retardants.

Field demonstrations on fuel measurements and fireline construction were found to be a real benefit to course participants.



Ian Herford tries his hand at spraying foam, one of a number of practical demonstrations at the Busselton Fire School.

The following poem about killer koalas pays tribute to the brave rangers at Yanchep National Park who, in the line of duty, met with the fearsome beasts. The koalas were being shifted to fresh yards to spell the old ones, and the incidents occurred several days apart. Ken Gibbs is one of the longest-serving rangers at Yanchep, with 27 years on the job. Rod Anear is one of our newest rangers — with only two months service. Doc Walker is the local medico and, in each case, had to give a tetanus shot, clean wounds and fill in the compo forms.

Saga of Koalas, rangers

At Yanchep there is a Ranger called Anear,
Of koalas he has a great terror and fear,
The story is sad; the koala is bad,
It was Coolah that bit the leg of the lad.
As the koala took hold Rod ran, tripped and fell,
'Get him off Hardy' was all he could yell,
Old Coolah hung on and munched shin bone,
Spectators stood and gasped; Rod let out a groan,
With a heave and a tug they pulled him free,
And Coolah scampered off and growled from a tree,
'That Ranger is in danger when he tangles with me',
So old Coolah remains unrepented,
Alas, Rod's ego is bruised and his leg a bit dented.

Two days on; the Killer Koala strikes again,
Inflicting upon Rangers fury and pain,
This time the victim was Kenny Gibbs,
You know the fella renowned for telling fishing fibs,
Kenny tripped and Lonesome slashed with claw,
Again it was Hardy to restore peace once more,
The koalas and Doc Walker have formed a pact,
And here I will relate all that's fact,
Walker to koalas: 'You guys bite, stab and scratch,
'Cos each time I get 16 bucks to write, jab and patch'.

WHALES SIGHTED AT CAPE ARID

CALM Mobile Ranger Richard Pemberton sighted the season's first whales when he noticed a few "blows" several kilometres out in Yokinup Bay in Cape Arid National Park on September 4.

Here he reports the height of the whale sightings during September.

"On a late afternoon patrol along Tagon Bay on September 6 three whales were seen within one kilometre of the central shoreline and I watched them for an hour while they circled and dived, although remaining in the same location. No positive identification was made.

"On another late patrol on September 9, I watched two pairs of whales for an hour from the rocks at Dolphin Cove, between Tagon and Yokinup Bays.

"One pair stayed close to the rocks at the eastern end of the bay, while the other pair came close to the rocks at the western end and, at a distance that was sometimes less than 100m, I was able to identify them as Southern Right Whales.

"Both pairs were full adults and about the same size.

"From September 10, the number of whale sightings reported to the Regional Office increased and on any day either whales or blows could be seen from Yokinup Bay to Tagon Bay.

"It appeared that all whales spotted were in the same group and the maximum number counted were towards the end of September when seven positive identifications were made in Dolphin Cove, and with five more possible blows at two

kilometres or more seaward.

"The main activity in the cove was less than 100m off the rocks at the western end, where one adult spent up to five minutes rolled over on its back while two other whales, seemingly attending, circled and nudged the rolling whale.

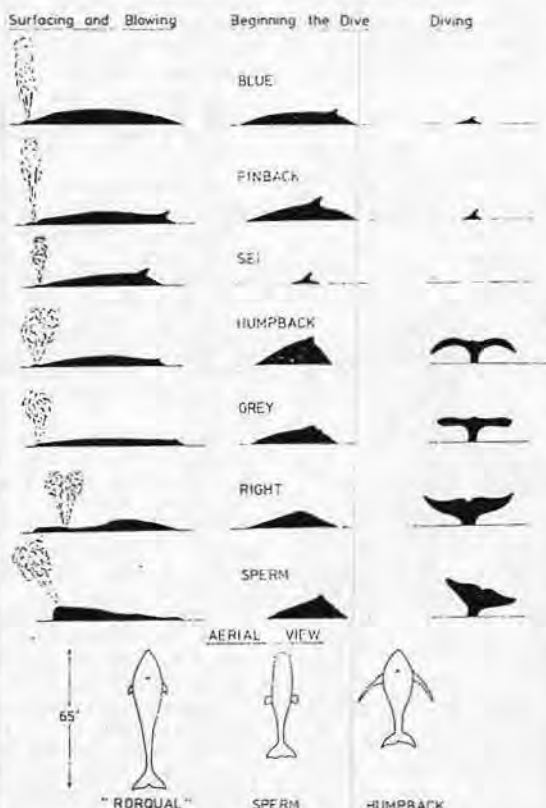
"Four other whales in the bay seemed to be watching and waiting and

continually circling at a distance of up to 500m.

"No conclusion seemed to be reached during the watching period of two hours, and other visitors later reported similar behavior the following day.

"After this sighting, whale activity decreased and fewer sightings were made from the beginning of October as the whales moved towards deeper waters."

BLOWING AND DIVING CHARACTERISTICS OF SOME OF THE LARGE WHALES



Saving Species CALM's wildlife policy

The conservation of wildlife by CALM focuses on preserving populations of species, Senior Wildlife Officer, Peter Penning, told participants of a Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference held in October.

That policy and limited resources precludes major involvement by CALM with groups and persons who work to save individual members of those populations.

However, CALM does recognise the amount of community interest in nursing sick and injured wildlife, and helps out wherever possible to see that sick and injured animals are given the right care.

CALM's efforts include appointing Peter to assist in coordinating the various

volunteer groups who could be involved in mass animals rescues.

The Minister for Conservation and Land Management, Ron Davies, opened the conference and told delegates that WA needed a single volunteer organisation to coordinate wildlife rehabilitation.

One of Peter's first tasks is to compile a list of groups and individuals who can care for sick or injured fauna.

CALM also publishes brochures on the care of injured wildlife, gives advice on suitable areas for release of rehabilitated animals and birds, liaises with interested groups and government departments and offers the use of the CALM library at the Wildlife Research Centre.

The conference, attended by about 200 people, including veterinarians and wildlife experts, was organised by Sue and Keith Smith, who have worked in wildlife rehabilitation for many years.



DENISE ALLEN, Assistant District Forest Officer from Nannup, instructs Alva Currie, a participant of the meeting, on filling out a questionnaire. John Marshall, principal research scientist with CSIRO's Division of Groundwater Research is at right.

RSI TASK FORCE IN THE S.W.

CALM's southern offices have undergone a review of keyboard work areas by a representative of the RSI Task Force.

Olive Roy, an officer of the State Government-funded body, visited most of the Southern and Central Forests' Regional Offices to evaluate furniture, lighting, keyboards and screens, noise levels and the general work environment in keyboard work areas.

She has made specific recommendations to management on what needs to be improved in each office to cut down the risk of developing RSI and moves are going ahead to make adjustments where possible.

"Like everyone else, we're concerned about the problems of RSI,"

said General Manager Roger Underwood.

"CALM supports the RSI Task Force and the inspections, and we will be trying to keep in touch with all the developments in that field to either avoid injury or to minimise the effects of injury."

Olive Roy was accompanied by CALM Safety Officer Arthur Kesners on the review.

Metropolitan and Northern Forests Region offices will be evaluated during day trips over the next few months.

The task force also provides information to individuals who have questions or who would

like to see a health counsellor about RSI.

The task force is located in Construction House, 35 Havelock St., Perth, or by telephone on 322 0331, ext. 2978.



CHRIS DONE holds a plaque identifying the *Carpenteria* palm planted by Premier Brian Burke at Kununurra's Celebrity Tree Park. Chris' son Warwick watches.

\$70,000 boost for projects

THREE CALM wildlife projects have received about \$70,000 for 1985-86 from the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service.

The first year of a two-year survey of the biology and management of the Black and the Yellow Kangaroo Paws will receive \$24,900.

The two species were identified during research into the wildflower in-

dustry as being heavily harvested.

The study will look at the impact of commercial harvesting and the regeneration of both species.

To collect information on Dugongs in Western Australia \$14,000 was set aside.

This is an ongoing pro-

gramme that should be completed in 1986.

The Dugong survey is being carried out on the Kimberley coast, north of Broome.

Contact with Aboriginal communities in the area is being made to determine the degree of exploitation of the Dugong.

Public to participate in CALM Programme

By COLLEEN HENRY-HALL

BURNING programmes, rubbish dumping and the over-use of recreational facilities and off-road vehicles in State forests and national parks were the issues people were most concerned about at a public meeting held by CALM at Mundaring recently.

About 90 people attended the meeting, which is part of the first phase of a pilot participation programme in the Mundaring District.

"What we found was that the issues of concern to us as land managers were not necessarily the issues that were most important to them as land users," said Denise Allen, assistant district manager at Nannup, who coordinated the meeting.

A wide range of interest groups were represented, including conservationists, recreationists, naturalists, commercial users, local ratepayers and progress associations.

The chairman of the Environmental Protection Authority, Barry Carbon, told the meeting that the public should have a bigger say in land management.

They were given background information on the operations carried out in the Mundaring District by District Manager Tony Raven.

The meeting included a discussion of the alternatives for future public involvement, ranging from formal advisory committees to workshops, public meetings and volunteer working groups.

"They seemed to want to work at it from the ground level, doing vol-

unteer work rather than forming committees," Denise said.

Questionnaires completed during the meeting identified important issues and the format for future discussions.

The preferred format was workshops on specific issues, which would provide a way to distribute technical information, get feedback from participants and resolve specific issues on the spot.

Follow-up activities to the meeting were suggested to CALM officers and included the improvement of public information facilities for both adults and children in the form of information sessions, written brochures and supervised interpretive trails.

Other follow-up activities were the organisation of volunteer working bees for various maintenance and development projects like the elimination of weeds and the provision of recreational facilities, and the establishment of "Friends of..." groups.

Suggestions from the meeting have been collated and given to the Policy Directorate for



Participant Sally Beck speaks with John Robley, Director of the WA Bush Fires Board.

discussion and rating of priority.

"It is hoped that some of the suggestions will be followed up in the very near future so that the enthusiasm that was expressed at the meeting can be capitalised on to CALM's benefit," Denise said.

Two workshop seminars will be held as part of the public participation programme.

One, in December, will

deal with recreational aspects.

The second, in February, will discuss protection aspects such as fire and disease.

Another development in the programme is the creation of self-supporting groups working in different areas.

"The possibility of a district advisory committee has not been abandoned," Tony Raven said.

Premier plants tree at Park

DURING a recent visit to Kununurra, the Premier, Brian Burke, planted a tree at our Kununurra Celebrity Tree Park.

He planted a *Carpenteria acuminata* (*Carpenteria* palm) from CALM's Broome nursery.

Mr Burke was the most recent of several celebrities to show faith in the future of Kununurra and surroundings by planting a tree.

Other celebrity tree planters include WA Governor, Professor Reid, singer entertainer (and politician) Ernie Bridge, singer entertainer Eric Bogle, Sir Charles Court and Mary Durack.

The park was officially opened by the Governor General Sir Ninian Stephen in July 1984 when he planted a *Melaleuca leucodendron* that is now more than two metres tall.

Almost all the trees planted are endemic to northern Australia, with emphasis on Kimberley trees.

Mr Burke agreed to provide funds to assist with the reticulation of the park.

The offer pleased two people on the park management committee who have watered the trees twice a week since the park opened.

Even more pleased will be my wife, who until recently has had to water the trees during my frequent trips away from Kununurra — Chris Done, Regional Manager, Kimberley.

Facelift at Perup

CAPITAL works worth \$21,000 will be carried out at the Perup Field Training Centre this financial year.

Two transportable accommodation units have been put on the site, and will have a roof and verandah built on in the near future.

An ablution block is also planned for the centre.

Other improvements will be the addition of more water tanks and upgrading the kitchen facilities.

The centre, about 50km east of Manjimup, is used for week-long courses in field ecology for National Parks Rangers, forests officers and school teachers.

"It raises their awareness and teaches them what is in the bush and how to find it," said Per Christensen, Research Manager at CALM.

Per said the 40,000ha area is the biggest fauna management priority in the State forest.

"It's largely there because of the endangered species that live there — the Woylie, Numbat, Ring-tailed Possum, Native Cat and Tammar Wallaby," he said.

OWEN'S BACK WITH ALCOA

OWEN NICHOLS, who was seconded from Alcoa to work on the Lane-Poole Reserve management plan, returned to his old job in October after the first draft of the plan had been completed.

Owen has worked with Alcoa for six years in planning and rehabilitation.

He came to CALM for seven months to work with a management team of CALM officers on the reserve's management plan, which he expects to be released for public comment in January, 1986.

Owen was the planning team coordinator.

Other people working on the plan were Drew Haswell, Barry Muir and Jim Sharpe.

Owen also worked on the plan's approach and wrote sections of the plan.

Owen said the planning group used public involvement before writing the draft plan for two main reasons.

The first was that Lane-Poole Reserve has high recreational use and they wanted to have public input at all stages of planning, rather than produce a draft plan that only

reflected the view of the planning group.

Secondly, they recognised the section of the CALM Act that encourages public participation and took advantage of promoting public comment from the outset.

"The experience at CALM was tremendous, I thoroughly enjoyed it," Owen said.

"I found people very helpful with whatever was needed."

"The planning group worked together well and we're happy with the way the plan worked out and that it was done on time."

Back at Alcoa, he will do much of what he did before coming to CALM: coordinating research groups, establishing priority research, doing research on fauna relating to mining rehabilitation and general environmental planning.

He would like to thank all the people at CALM who provided assistance during the planning process.

VENGEANCE FROM THE PAST

By ANDREW CRIBB

SOME people rebuild old bombs in their spare time, but Dave Saunders rebuilds old bombers.

Dave is the man who puts radios into CALM's vehicles during the day, but after hours he's off round the bush in search of fuselages, fuel tanks, tyres and tailplanes.

An aircraft engineer and frame fitter by trade, Dave joined the Department six months ago to lend his skills in the cause of effective communications.

In his garage at the moment are the pieces of several Vultee Vengeance dive-bombers, originally supplied to the Australian Air Force in the 1940s.

The Vengeance was originally produced in 1941 as an "answer" to the German JU 87 (Stuka) dive bomber.

By 1944 342 Vengeances were supplied to the RAAF, and many saw active service in Burma and the Pacific campaign.

Number 25 Squadron, based at Pearce, was equipped with the Vengeance, which was used mainly for anti-shiping patrols.

The aircraft that Dave is rebuilding will eventually consist of parts from most of the Pearce squadron.

On June 22, 1948, the entire squadron, after being in mothballs at Boulder for three years, was auctioned off.

Nineteen of the 31 aircraft at the auction were sold for five pounds each to a local scrap metal dealer, who cut off the engines and undercarriage with an oxy-torch, sold the steel for scrap and burnt the rest of the aircraft on site.

The remaining Vengeances went to local farmers and residents, mainly as playthings for their children.

By the 1970s most of these aircraft had gone to scrap dealers.

The parts of this particular aircraft were collected from properties all over the Kalgoorlie area, and the Wright GR.2600 Cyclone engine was obtained from Midland Tech.

These components were donated to the Aviation Historical Group by a resident of Albany who had intended to reconstruct the aircraft as a tourist attraction.

The undercarriage was donated by the same scrap metal merchant who had originally bought the 19 Vengeances at the Kalgoorlie auction.



DAVE and friend.

Other parts have been obtained by Dave through a system of cunning investigation and barter.

He found the tyres at Northam, where he also found a Spitfire oil tank.

He gave the tank to an aircraft builder in the Eastern States just to see the Spitfire flying.

The Vengeance will be returned to the Aviation Museum run by the Air Forces Association at Bullcreek, when the mammoth task is complete.

But it will take at least

five years just to reach static display standard.

What Dave secretly hopes is that the Vengeance can be rebuilt to flying condition, if only he can get the parts.

At present there is a one-way traffic out of Australia, as wealthy collectors, mainly from the United States, scour the Pacific for the components of historic aircraft.

A fully-rigged WW II fighter such as a P51 Mustang is worth more than \$US250,000 on the American market.

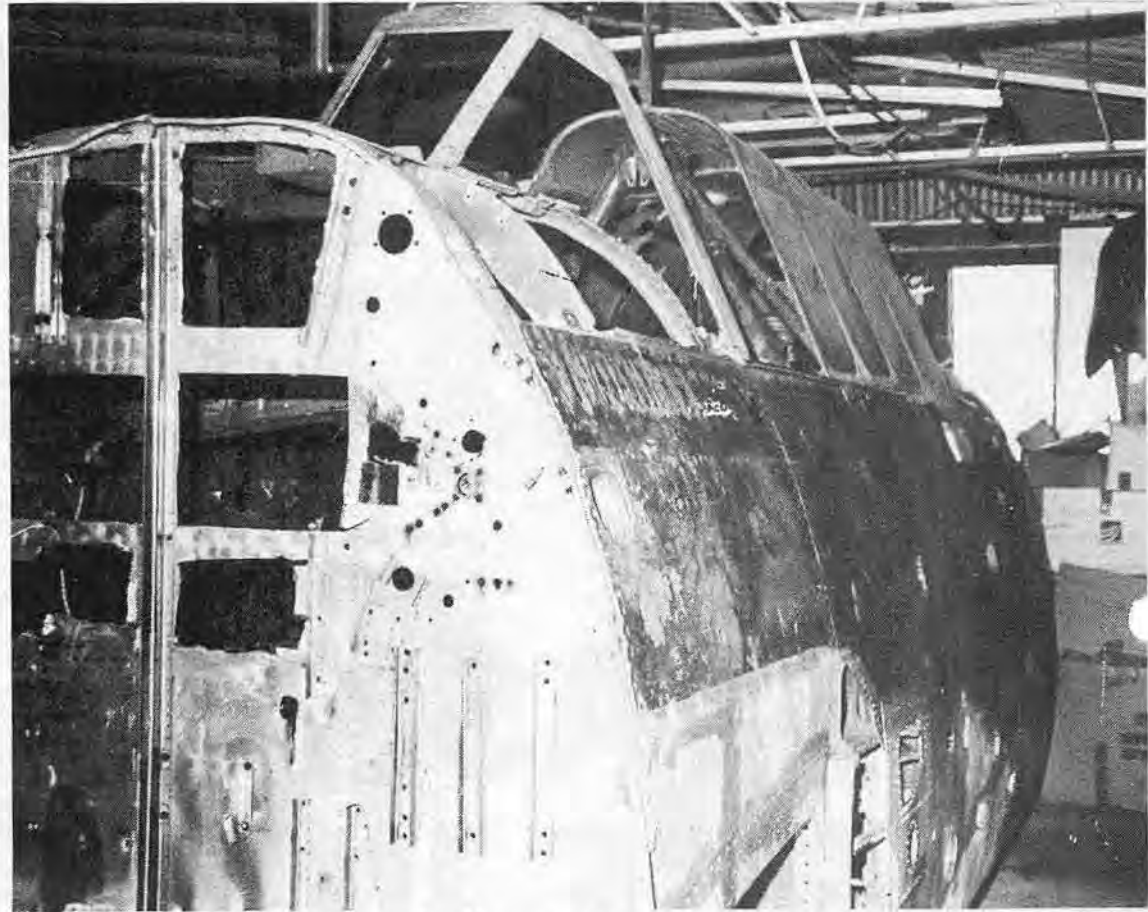
An aircraft such as the Vengeance, of which Dave's is one of the only two known to exist in the world, would be worth far more.

As a plea for a piece of W.A.'s heritage, and with the assurance that all the aircraft he touches are rebuilt for love, not for money, Dave would like to hear from anybody in CALM who knows of, or has heard of, pieces of any WW II aircraft lying around the country.

Other aircraft, apart from the Vengeance, are being reconstructed by Aviation Museums and enthusiastic volunteers all over Australia, and often the only way of obtaining vital components without being forced to pay huge sums of money is to offer another part in exchange.

Dave Saunders can be contacted at 63 Archidamus Rd., Coolbellup, or on (09) 337 1204.

In return Dave promises not to offer CALM the use of the Vengeance as a fire-spotter, although judging by the performance specifications it would probably do the job well.



RESCUED . . . the Vengeance in Dave Saunders' workshop.

Following the formation of CALM, the Southern, Central and Northern Forests Regions had large and important national parks and nature reserves within their boundaries. There was a need to have on hand in those regions specialists in recreation and conservation planning. Those specialists are Ian Herford, Northern Forests; Neil Taylor, Central Forests; and Alan Sands, Southern Forests. Their jobs focus on recreation planning and management in the National Parks and State Forests, and conservation planning for National Parks, nature reserves and areas of State Forests. Here they tell us about themselves and what they have to do as CALM Parks and Reserves Officers.

Education major concern



ALAN SANDS

EDUCATING the users of parks and reserves is one thing Alan Sands considers important in his position as CALM Parks and Reserves Officer in the Southern Forest Region.

"We have to show people what we've got and how to use and appreciate those areas, Alan said.

"Education in association with recreation is paramount."

People must be taught that reserves and parks contain special plants and animals and that they can help preserve them through proper use of the areas.

"People in the past have not necessarily understood the catastrophes one may cause if the natural systems are abused," Alan said.

Alan came to CALM after 15

months of travelling around Australia.

Before that, he worked with an environmental consultant on land rehabilitation programmes and environmental impact statements in the Eastern States.

Alan has a degree in landscape architecture and a graduate diploma in natural resources.

He is optimistic about getting people to change their attitudes toward our natural resources.

"There are a lot of people going back to the bush, becoming aware of the environment and not necessarily dominating everything."

Most of Alan's time is spent in developing recreation and information resources in forest areas. The Shannon Reserve is his major project at the moment.

INVOLVE THE PUBLIC

NEIL Taylor, who comes from Busselton, left WA in 1976 for the Eastern States on what was supposed to be a two-year working holiday. His experience there included serving as manager of various nature reserves in the ACT.

His latest position was as manager of the Jervis Bay Nature Reserve, a coastal area with waters managed as a marine park, camping areas and commercial timber operations within its borders.

Jervis Bay also had a high user-rate with about 700,000 people visiting it per year, largely in the summer months.

Working with the public, something Neil must do in his CALM position, is not new to him.

"The challenge of the job is implementing land management plans and keeping the public on side with what you do," Neil said.

He finds public participation a particularly interesting area, he said.

"What's important is the end product — that the place is well-managed," he said.

While in Canberra he studied for his graduate diploma in recreational planning at the Canberra College of Advanced Education.

tional parks especially appeals to him, he said.

"I believe an informed public is the best ally land management is going to have.

"Public participation has and will create all sorts of problems, but we'll have the chance to mould ideas into plans and cater for as many uses in the parks as we can.

"At the same time, we'll create a large number of informed and interested people to raise the public awareness of management issues."

The first step he hopes to take is to stabilise the condition of national parks close to the metro area, which get heavy use.

Once they're stabilised, work can begin on turning them around and improving their condition.

"My ten-year vision sees much nicer parks from a conservation and a visitor's point of view.

Information an ally

"Most people would think it rather inconsistent to begin life as a raper and pillager, and to end up managing land for parks and reserves," Ian Herford says.

Ian was a geologist before earning his MSc in natural resources management at UWA.

"But when you work in the outback for a few months, you get really attached to the place."

And Ian said he became so attached to the part of Queensland where he worked for a mining company that "when I lost interest in being a geologist and I was not doing a good job, I decided to find something I could put my heart into".

He said he knew he wanted to work in the area of national parks, so he sought a university with suitable qualifications and arrived in Perth



IAN HERFORD

in 1980 to study at UWA. He received his degree in 1982.

Ian has great enthusiasm for the job ahead of him as Parks and Reserves Officer of the Northern Forest Region.

Working with the public in managing na-

Geoff's a map

maker

A RELIEF map of the Bunbury region, highlighting the Leschenault Peninsula-Kemerton land study area, has been completed by Geoff Wheeler, drafting assistant in mapping at Como.

Geoff has been with the department for 35 years, making him one of its longest serving officers.

The Bunbury relief map was on display in various Bunbury and Australind shopping centres as part of a display on the Leschenault Peninsula-Kemerton study area, before the official launch of the area on November 13.

The display included a set of three panels with photographs, maps and large mosaic photographs of the study area.

Relief maps have become his specialty in the last few years.

His first relief map, done in 1980, illustrated dieback quarantine areas and logging trials and is still used for some planning purposes.

He is now working on a relief map of the Shannon Basin which will be placed in the in-

formation area of the reserve when it is completed.

A series of relief maps of national parks in the south is his next project.

Geoff constructs the maps starting with a two-dimensional topographic map of the area.

From thin polysty-

rene sheets he cuts individual shapes following the altitude lines of the topographical map.

These are glued together to build the ridges and the hills and other high points of the map.

Polyfiller is used to smoothe out the edges and fill in the contours and different areas are painted different colours to help in their identification.



GEOFF WHEELER and the relief map.

Regrowth Karri in trials

By JOHN KAIN

TRIALS are under way to determine the economic viability of operating a harvester/forwarder/faller team to remove smallwood from karri two-tiered and even-aged regrowth stands.

GARDEN PLAN AID TO FAUNA

While it is impossible to bring Perth's original wildlife inhabitants back completely, people can help some wildlife share the suburbs with us, according to Robert Powell, Senior Clerk Reserves at Como.

What's required is a little bit of thought before planting a garden.

Putting in local plants and trees provide good habitats for local fauna because the two evolved together.

Bringing back wildlife also means using all those little scraps of land we've created, such as road and railway verges, golf courses and some parks, to provide food and shelter for birds, insects and reptiles.

Habitat can be further improved by leaving logs and ground litter.

The lopping of trees and shrubs should be avoided as much as possible and natural regeneration should be preferred to planting, Robert says.

Pine Hauliers have been contracted to conduct the trials in three regrowth stands:

- Warren 1 — a 13-year-old, even-age regrowth stand;

- Northcliffe 3 — a 30-year-old even-age regrowth stand;

- Crowea 13 — a 35-44-year-old two-tiered stand.

The trial areas have been marked for retention to current thinning standards by officers from Manjimup's IMC and Research branches and Pemberton District.

In each stand there is an area in which no retention marking has taken place. This is to test the machine operator's ability to select the correct trees to retain.

If he proves capable of using his own selection, a good deal of departmental man hours can be saved.

A 50 square metre plot in each stand has also been established.

These plots were assessed while standing to current sawlog and chip specifications by two IMC officers working independently.

Once the harvester completed these plots, the timber removed was accurately recorded.

These actual removal figures were then compared with the figures of the two officers to test the accuracy and differentiation of their assessment work.

The plots were also used to determine the damage done to retained trees and the soil as a result of this new operation.

The damage assessment is being made now.

The falling operation was done in three stages.

First, the harvester, a John Deere 740D, is used.

It falls the trees with a grapple arm and a large pair of cutting blades.

It then feeds the tree through its own debarker and docks the three into pre-determined lengths with a chainsaw mounted behind the debarker.

Any trees not marked for retention and too large for the harvester to fall are dropped by a chainsaw operator.

The forwarder, a Kockums 85-35 (Granab 100) follows behind the falling team to load and cart the fallen timber to a landing.

The logs are sorted by the forwarder into either small sawlogs, general purpose logs or chip logs and put into piles.

The forwarder also loads the trucks used to transport the logs.

The trials have run smoothly as far as departmental and contractor co-operation is concerned.

The trials have, however, run into mechanical difficulties and work is still being done in Crowea 13 and Northcliffe 3.

The final figures for the completed trial areas are being monitored using the HOGS (Hardwood Operations Control System).

This system is used to monitor the timber removals from every cutting in the Southern regions via truck delivery notes to computer records.



HARVESTER operator Roland Morton taking part in the regrowth Karri trials.

VEGETATION REMNANTS

Role they play in nature conservation

THROUGHOUT much of the world, land clearing has removed most of the natural vegetation, leaving only small remnants of the original vegetation.

Areas previously containing important biological resources have been cleared and many plant and animal species are becoming restricted to remnants which now hold a vital store of genetic material.

Unlike large areas in which natural processes continue to function, the smaller remnants are subject to a variety of disturbances that generally cause a decrease in the number of species.

A recent workshop convened at Busselton in WA by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation and CALM addressed the question of how best to manage remnants to enhance their conservation value.

The major conclusions regarding the conservation of remnants concerned the needs for

management and research, and for better integration of these two activities to make more efficient use of the scarce resources allocated to nature conservation generally.

Few remnants are large enough to sustain ecological processes at rates occurring before fragmentation and many are subject to disturbances originating in the surrounding cleared land.

Management of some kind is, therefore, always required.

Objectives for management should be clearly defined and should be arranged in a hierarchy from the world level through regional to specific reserve level and from overall management objectives to those concerning the use of specific management techniques.

The public should al-

ways be involved in defining these objectives and in developing the plans for their implementation.

Properly defined programmes of relevant research provide the basis for effective management of remnants.

Research should include autecological studies, work on population genetics and studies of the dynamics of ecosystems.

Some of the single species under investigation should include "umbrella" species — species that appeal to the public and politicians and, if conserved, will also protect remnants supporting a wide range of other organisms.

Research workers should communicate their findings in the scientific literature and in popular publications and provide realistic procedures for land managers to follow.

To help achieve this, land managers, planners and researchers must work closely together at all levels.

As most management proceeds in the absence of adequate research knowledge, the proper monitoring of the results of management activities can contribute much to the understanding of the ecosystems being managed.

Monitoring programmes should be long-term since changes in many important ecological processes can only be detected over a scale of decades or even centuries.

Monitoring has for too long been considered third-rate science.

Appropriate design and execution combined with hypothesis testing can make long-term monitoring attractive to a wider scientific community.

Monitoring must not be too expensive or complicated.

It must be relevant and some studies must be designed so they can be carried out by local managers and naturalists.

Most statements on nature conservation highlight the need to conserve gene pools.

However, it appears that in relation to conserving remnant populations, too little is known about the effects of inbreeding, minimum viable population sizes, genetic drift, "bottlenecks", mutation, etc.

There is a clear need to improve genetic theory and to document actual genetic events in small populations of species from a broad phylogenetic spectrum.

Natural vegetation including remnants is being destroyed world-wide at an alarming rate.

Many remnants have no legal security to protect their conservation values.

The workshop unanimously concluded that more effort must go into protecting remnants and, where ever possible, into expanding them by land acquisition.

Education of the public is essential to enable politicians to achieve this goal.

The workshop challenged scientists and naturalists who understand the values of native vegetation to spend a significant part of their time (say 10 per cent) helping the public and politicians understand the role of remnants of native vegetation in nature conservation so that these valuable repositories of the world's heritage will not be lost forever.

DENIS SAUNDERS
GRAHAM ARNOLD
ANDREW BURBIDGE
ANGAS HOPKINS

FITNESS TESTS PROVE POPULAR

By LIANA CHRISTENSEN

Free fitness tests for CALM staff proved so popular that it was necessary to organize a second day of testing.

The fitness tests, which normally cost upwards of \$30, were part of the second stage of CALMFIT.

Twenty-five people took part in the pilot programme, and Colin Barns from U.W.A. was appointed on a part-time basis to coordinate the follow-up.

Participants in the fitness testing



ANNETTE TURPIN of Mapping Branch uses the lung function machine.

gained a comprehensive picture of their general health.

Blood pressure, flexibility, weight, heart and lung function, as well as general lifestyle, were examined.

It proved to be a relatively painless procedure.

Even on the exercise bike there was little danger of working up a sweat.

Colin Barns was pleased with the enthusiastic response to the tests, and has all sorts of plans for future events.

Swimming groups, volleyball and netball, cycling and running have all been suggested.

Any further ideas are welcome, because Colin is hoping to cover as wide a range of staff recreational interests as possible.

Fitness fanatics can be catered for, on an individual or group basis: programmes can be devised in consultation with Colin.



COLIN BARNES gets the measure of his man, John Atkinson of Registration.

Officers get new badges

CALM's National Park Rangers, Forest Officers and Wildlife Officers are to get new badges for their uniforms.

The need for a new design arose after the amalgamation in April which created a need for uniformed and field officers to have a new single departmental identification.

It was decided to investigate the requirements of the three field officer corps pertaining to Forest, National Parks and

Wildlife and a working group consisting of appropriate staff was formed.

The three corps are to have a shoulder flash with an insignia based on the CALM logo and its relevant colours, but with the officer distinction at the bottom of a shield base.

Government Stores have let a tender for the manufacture and the badges will be issued in a few weeks.

CAPTURING SHANNON IN COLOUR

JOHN GOODLAD is the inspired artist behind the series of three posters on the Shannon Basin released recently by CALM.

John is a graphic artist at Manjimup regional office who has worked for CALM since February on publications for the Shannon, among other things. The idea for the posters developed after a suggestion from Wayne Schmidt, Recreation and Landscape Planning in Perth.

"I did my homework on what could be done in terms of cost, appropriateness and time," John said.

What he came up with are three posters, one each of the birds, the animals and the flowers of the Shannon.

"The idea changed over time from being illustrations and information to being more aesthetically pleasing and still informative," John said.

The reverse side of each poster has a line drawing identifying its counterpart on the front.

John was an illustrator of books at the WA Education Department for five years before becoming a freelance graphic artist.

"I found it a challenge to walk into a country office with absolutely no graphic equipment and set

it all up and get it working," he said at Manjimup.

Other projects he has worked on have included the Fauna of the Shannon brochure and illustrations for CALM News.

John was hired on a Community Employment Programme grant for one year.

He will return to work as a freelance graphic artist when he leaves CALM.



JOHN GOODLAD with his posters.



Forest posters teaching aid

THESE two large-printed wall hangings depict the forest as a place of activity, 24 hours a day. The prints are teaching resources and educational displays.

Complimentary worksheets with coloured stickers of the plants and animals will be produced so primary students can "put together" their own forest.

They have been distributed to the 16 primary and secondary regional teacher resource centres of the Education Dept, all resource libraries of the teacher training institutions and our field study centres.

The artwork is by former CEP graphic artist, Kellee Norman.

Kellee was commissioned to produce illustrations for the Perup ecology workbook.

The workbook is still in the editing stages but the illustrations were so impressive that other methods of using them were developed. If any districts or officers involved in relevant extension duties feel that the wall hangings would be an appropriate display or teaching aid, please place your orders with Tammie Reid, Information Branch, Como.

Pig to cause no more trouble

By BOB THOMSON

SCENE: A small, pine filled valley running down from a steep ridge east of Mundaring CALM office. Houses and staff huts set amidst the sylvan surroundings. Wally is cutting the high grass with a whipper snipper.

ENTER Len (bloke in charge of the job): "Wal, shut the machine down. Do you have a gun?"

"Er, yes," said Wal.

"Why?"

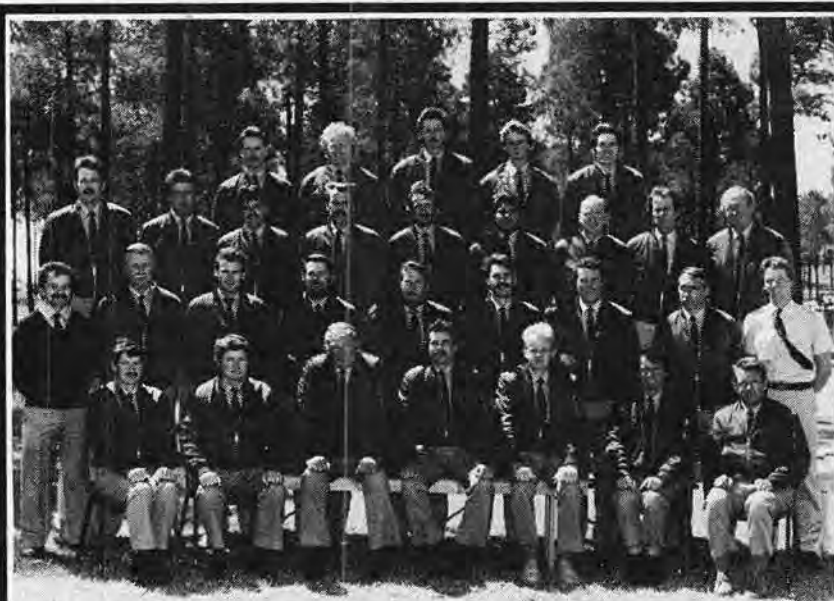
"To shoot that bloody pig," Len said. "He's trying to kill me dog."

Wal, who until that time had been unaware of anything unusual happening because of the noise of the machine, looked around and a short distance behind him stood the largest black "grunter" he had ever set eyes on.

Wal made a fast exit and headed for Stores to enlist the aid of Barry (who knows about these things).

After a somewhat frantic search of the main office to find all the parts of the disassembled shotgun, Barry, together with suitable high-powered ammunition, brought the event to a satisfactory conclusion by dispatching the pig.

And yes! We still think we have a pig problem in Mundaring.



WILDLIFE OFFICERS GATHER IN PERTH

CALM Wildlife Officers gathered in Perth in October to meet CALM's management.

The two-day seminar gave each group a chance to exchange information on responsibilities and priorities.

"It was an opportunity to put forward to senior management what to do," said Doug Coughran, Wildlife Officer at Perth.

"It's good to get down to Perth and put faces to the names," Kevin Marshall, Wildlife Officer at Karratha.

Peter Pennings, Senior Wildlife Officer at Perth, said: "A seminar like this goes a long way in bringing the department together into one department rather than three."

Funds for Greening

GREENING Australia will receive an increase in funding of \$58,000 this year from the State Government.

This increase is from \$45,000 last year to \$103,000 this year.

The funds include \$28,000 to match the Federal Government's contribution to the National Tree Programme which is administered by Greening Australia in WA.

Also in the increase is \$10,000 for the John Tonkin Tree Awards, which were introduced earlier this year.

The award encourages the commun-

ity to become involved in practical projects for the protection, regeneration and the re-establishment of vegetation.

The remaining \$20,000 will allow Greening Australia to develop its programme of assistance to volunteers and land owners.

Greening Australia and CALM have been working at the Milyu Nature Reserve in South Perth, at Thomson's Lake at Cockburn, and in the Collier catchment area.

The organisation has also employed three people to give advice to people wishing to plant trees.

Agroforestry the way, says Peter

AGROFORESTRY is the way to go if CALM wants farmers to plant trees and provide input into the State's future timber resource.

This was the main conclusion arrived at by Peter Richmond, CALM adviser on inland forestry and private plantations, after a recent study tour of New Zealand's north island.

While attending the NZ Farm and Forestry Association's annual conference on Farm Forestry and the Landscape, Peter and other participants toured private farms, nurseries and NZ forestry projects to observe the uses of trees in small plots.

Other recommendations from Peter's report of the two-week tour include:

- the most suitable species for agroforestry will be pine, radiata or pinaster, according to climate and soil;
- cleanwood timber production should be the objective;
- agroforestry research and extension

should be interdepartmental.

Agroforestry research must be conducted to find the most suitable form of windbreak and shelterbelt, that is, the species, spacing, number of rows and the need for electric or conventional fencing.

Research would also find a suitable hardwood timber species that could be recommended for growing on farms, Peter observed.

Research must also be done to find the most efficient silvicultural system required to produce the maximum quantity of clean timber; to obtain factual data on the quality of pine timber grown under agroforestry conditions; and to provide facilities for wheat-belt farmers being encouraged to plant trees for seed production for sale in Australia and overseas.

CALM News is the Department of Conservation and Land Management's monthly staff newspaper.

We hope you will become involved in its publication by sending articles (up to 400 words), letters, photographs (with captions), minutes from meetings and items of interest to:

Colleen Henry-Hall,
Department Conservation and Land Management Como WA 6152 — phone 367 6333 — ext 325.

EDITOR: Richard Grant 386 8811.

LINK-UP

Friday, September 20, 1985 is a day that the resident rangers at Hamersley Range National Park will remember for a long time.

On that day they were linked to the outside world by telephone.

Gone are the times when they had to drive 60km to Wittenoom to make a phone call or to use the RAD phone facility provided by the Flying Doctor radio network (an invaluable service, but it lacked the privacy and convenience of a normal telephone).

The facility to make a phone call and speak about personal or confidential topics when one wants to is a new-found luxury.

But the greatest advantage that comes from the connection is the ability to muster help in an emergency.

For example it is now possible to summon volunteers of the cliff rescue team (who live in Wittenoom) at any time day or night.

If you have yearned for a chat with Keith and Wendy Cunningham or with Tony and Irene Smith you can now go ahead by dialing (091) 898 157.

GENETICS IN WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

GENETIC diversity is considered a vital factor in the long-term survival of a species.

Knowing the levels of genetic diversity both within and between populations of a species and the factors that may affect those levels can be used to better understand how to conserve rare and endangered plants and animals.

Although these principles have long been recognised by population biologists, it is only recently that they have been seen as having a part in major conservation efforts.

Moves in this direction by CALM are evident in the recent employment of David Coates, Research Officer in Flora Conservation.

David, who has a doctorate in botany, specialising in population genetics, will focus on the use of genetic principles in conjunction with ecological information in conserving WA's rare and endangered flora.

With the demands made on our land resources today, not all populations of a rare species may be able to be saved, but if genetic

information is available, decisions could be made about which population should be conserved to maximise the chances of survival for the species.

As part of his appointment, he is setting up a laboratory at the Wildlife Research Centre, Woodvale, that will enable him to investigate genetic diversity using a technique known as electrophoresis.

"We'll be using techniques with the aim to provide some sort of base for the working decisions of management in flora conservation," David said.

He said he hopes to have the laboratory up and running by the end of the year.

Electrophoresis is based on the ability to equate variation in enzymes with variation in their genes.

Using the method, surveys of enzyme variations are carried out, which enables the genetic diversity in a population to be determined.

"In conservation and management, it's a new approach and there are a lot

of questions not asked yet and a lot not answered yet," David said.

He received a research fellowship from the Australian National University after completing his doctorate at UWA.

While at ANU, he worked on a number of projects, including genetic variation in grasshopper populations and using chromosomal data to determine the geographic origins of taro, a Southeast Asian crop plant.

He will complete a research proposal in the next few months that will outline in more detail the research he will do at CALM.

His ongoing project is choosing priority species to look at and gathering information on them to use as a basis for managerial decision on other rare and endangered species.

The lab at Woodvale will be available to other CALM researchers and should have useful application in forestry research, David said.



SOUTH COAST Regional Seminar delegates participate in a dieback sampling demonstration at Two Peoples Bay Nature Reserve.

Successful Seminar

TWENTY people participated in the annual regional seminar held at Albany recently.

Visitors Wayne Schmidt (Landscape and Recreation), Keith Low (Environmental Protection), John Gillard (Forest Ranger, Bunbury), and Roger Underwood (General Manager) joined the group and assisted with the presentation of field excursions and a syndicate landscape planning exercise at West Cape Howe National Park.

The seminar included some social events and a dinner at which Roger Underwood presented the inaugural South Coast Region Meritorious Award to ranger Ron Shimmom of the Porongurup National Park.

Ron is to be transferred to the more level terrain of Yanchep National Park following a major hip replacement operation that has curtailed his normal Ranger duties for the time being.

Regional Manager John Watson, said he was ex-

tremely pleased with the way the seminar had gone and with the team spirit that appeared to run high with the regional staff.

He said that the South Coast Region was somewhat unique in being a long line of relatively isolated

one or two-man outposts of CALM stretching from William Bay National Park in the west to Cape Arid National Park in the east.

As a result it was extremely difficult to get all regional staff together due to the logistics and costs.

John said the seminar had been assessed by all participants on a brief survey form and that the ideas given would be used in planning for next year's annual seminar which will probably be held in Esperance.

CALM POLICY ISSUES

THE following list covers issues for which the Policy Directorate is developing policy. The Directors listed against each item are responsible for developing a draft policy.

This list is not intended to be complete in itself nor are the items listed in any order of priority.

POLICY ISSUES

Policies for conservation and land management:

- Mining (includes gravel, sand and stone), (Director

- responsible) C Haynes;

- Priorities for Management Plans, J Havel;

- Compilation of Wildlife and reserve management policies, B Wilson;

- Operations in disease risk areas, P Hewett;

- Allocation of sawlogs and log residues from State forests, R Underwood;

- Zoning of land and access, C Haynes;

- Dieback, J Havel;

- Review/adaption of forest management policies in GWP, P Hewett;

- Dedication of new Nature Reserves and review of current reserve classification, B Wilson;

- Fire, J Havel, B Wilson, C Haynes and P Hewett;

- System for nomenclature and classification of land uses, C Haynes, B Wilson and J Havel;

- Kangaroo management, B Wilson;

- Apiary sites, P Hewett;

- Leasing land for pine production, P Hewett;

- Review/adaption of management policies of NPA, C Haynes;

- Rehabilitation of disturbed land, J Havel;

- Wetland conservation and management, B Wilson;

- Future wood production, P Hewett;

- Parks and Reserves system (Subset: Marine Parks & Marine Reserves), B Wilson and C Haynes;

- Feral animal control, B Wilson;

- Preservation of the Built Environment, C Haynes and P Hewett;

- Management of endangered special, B Wilson;

- Review and update list of declared flora; declarations of rare flora, B Wilson;

- Noxious weed control, B Wilson;

- Taking of flora and fauna by Aborigines, B Wilson;

- Recreation in Nature Reserves, C Haynes and B Wilson;

- Fencing of rare flora on private property, B Wilson;

- Criteria for issue of Wildlife Collecting Permits, B Wilson;

- Standards for Wildlife Parks, B Wilson.

- Internal arrangements/administration procedures:

- Publications, R Underwood;

- Naming of forests, parks and nature reserves, P Hewett;

- National Park Rangers career structure and status, C Haynes and R Underwood;

- The function and organisation of Wildlife Officers, B Wilson;

- Research priorities — needs and facts, J Havel;

- Budget and financial management, R Underwood;

- Liaison with Tertiary Institutions and non-Departmental research agencies, J Havel;

- The appointment, role and responsibilities of Honorary Wildlife Officers and National Park Rangers, B Wilson and C Haynes;

- Training, R Underwood;

- Industrial arrangements, R Underwood;

- Public participation, J Havel and R Underwood;

- Relationship with environmental and forestry consultants, J Havel and B Wilson;

- Housing, R Underwood;

- Land acquisition, R Underwood;

- Staff development and recruitment, R Underwood;

- Use and management of volunteer organisations, R Underwood;

- Environmental education and promotion, R Underwood.

- Legislation:

- Review of Wildlife Conservation Act and Regulations, B Wilson;

- Review of CALM Act and other impending legislation, S Shea and Directors.

COLLIE ACHIEVES SAFETY MILESTONE

THE Collie District was the first to achieve 400,000 accident-free hours... that was in 1974.

With a few "ups and downs" since then, the District, with 91,000 accident-free hours at present, is "well on the way toward its earlier achievements," according to the Minister assisting the Minister for Conservation and Land Management, Dave Evans.

The District's 56 men and women recently received the Executive Director's Safety Award for one year without a lost-time injury accident.

"In a district where the labour turnover is relatively high because of competition on the labour market from local mining companies, this is a particularly good achievement," Mr Evans said.

A high labour turnover means continuous induction and training of new employees.

"It means that men inexperienced in forestry work are exposed to natural hazards that they may not have encountered previously," he said.

Also present were Parliamentarians Mr T Jones, Mr A Lewis and Mr W Stretch, the Director of the Industrial Foundation for Accident Prevention, Mr Dennis Glennon, and CALM's Divisional Manager Operations, Steve Quain.

Mr Evans said the industrial accidents were a very serious problem in this State, with 31,377 accidents recorded during 1982-83.

"I believe the implementation of these measures will mean a reduction in the number of accidental injuries in our community, and will assist in securing safe and hygienic work environments," Mr Evans said.

"Let us not forget the basics in your safety programme.

"All modern management methods in the world will not protect our heads in the bush if we don't wear a helmet, our eyes in the workshop if we don't wear safety spectacles nor will they prevent us from tripping in an untidy workplace."

According to Steve Quain, "Safetywise, Collie is the top district among the three forest regions." Collie's all-accident free-

quency rate is 31, which compares "more than favourably" with the departmental average of 89, Steve said.



DAVE EVANS presents the Executive Director's Individual Safety Award to Collie employee Des Forrest. Photograph: Collie Mail.

First aid certificates

BOTH the Minister for Conservation and Land Management, Ron Davies and CALM Executive Director Syd Shea were on hand November 7 to congratulate eight CALM officers from Mundaring on earning First Aid Certificates.

Kevin Holmwood, Terry Hales, Cecil Barrow, John Wheeler, Mark

Stankiewicz, Alan O'Farrell, Philip Bastian and Rex Walker were commended by Mr Davies for volunteering for the first aid course and accepting the responsibility that goes with such a commitment.

"Part of the Department's safety policy is to provide an efficient first aid service," the Minister said.

"The training provided has equipped you with the skills that will enable you to provide a valuable community service," he continued.

The importance of the first aid service is "not only to ensure that CALM officers injured on the job

are well-cared for until transferred to hospital, but to provide suitable first aid to the hundreds of thousands of people who visit our national parks and nature reserves each year."

Syd Shea introduced the Minister and spoke of the time he spent at Mundaring as a cadet and how the experience was one of the most educational he has had since.

Mr Davies said: "We hope you never need to use the experience you've got, but it's a comfort to you and to us to know that the ability is there on the spot."

SWING TRIAL

IT would have been hard to convince passing tourists that CALM Officer Alex Moylett was really hard at work as he swung on a rope from a karri tree branch at Glenoran Pool near Manjimup.

The pool, near One Tree Bridge, is a popular forest recreation site and Alex was removing the old and broken swinging ropes from the limb to replace them with a new one.

The operation took about an hour and, unfortunately, it was one of the few times when there were no tourists at the site to appreciate the versatile officer's daring.

The work was the first stage in improving the safety of the swimming area and also part of the ongoing work in upgrading the Department's recreation areas in the Manjimup district.

— RAE BURROWS.



BRIAN DOWLING (left) demonstrates the technique to sharpen a chainsaw.

Finer points of falling

FALLING trees so they land where you want them is not impossible, but it takes a bit of practice, as CALM tree fallers from the Northern Forests Region learned recently.

The fallers were taught three different cutting methods by Brian Dowling, training officer of the Mt Gambier Logging Industry Training Team in South Australia.

Brian was brought to WA by Stihl Chainsaws and, during a two-week stay, instructed groups from Bunnings, CALM, and Pine Hauliers, and Government employees on tree falling.

"The use of directional falling is a specialised technique which stops butt damage and also has a high degree of safety," Brian said.

In fact, safety was the emphasis of the day's programme as the fallers

learned to sharpen chainsaws and cut trees that are leaning forward, trees two and a half times the length of the cutter bar and two times the length of the cutter bar.

"This was just an introduction to make them aware of what is available," Brian said.

CALM fallers have been sent to the Mt Gambier Training Team in the past, but Brian's presence here enabled a large number of people to take advantage of his skill in the field.

He has been a training officer for 10 years and has 11 years experience as a professional hardwood faller and 14 years as a professional pine faller.



BRIAN DOWLING shows Lou Marcheasno how to cut the scarf in order to fell the tree in the desired direction.

Allen Mangini retires

WITH Allen Mangini's retirement as the Wildlife Research Centre's Ranger, CALM will lose a man with a singular sense of humour who also has a deep sense of caring for the centre's reserve and the people he worked with.

Allen retired November 13 after 12 years at Woodvale.

"Retirement came sooner than I expected, but at the same time, I'm looking forward to it," Allen said.

He and his wife Shirley will live on their Margaret River property where they have built a house.

Allen is well-known and loved for his humorous practical jokes.

Mary Colreavy, Projects Officer at Como, had previously done kangaroo research at the centre.

When she transferred, Allen presented her with a special going-away gift — kangaroo droppings care-

By COLLEEN HENRY-HALL

fully mounted and varnished on a plaque.

And once Allen was in charge of looking after the incubating eggs of a Western (Short-necked) Tortoise, a rare species.

The eggs resembled sugar-coated almonds and when the researcher in charge of the project returned from a trip away, four more eggs had miraculously appeared.

With great excitement and equally great care, he picked up one of the extra eggs, holding it delicately between thumb and forefinger.

He x-rayed it and, when he discovered a solid mass in the middle of his "egg" he knew something was going on.

Allen had supplemented the nest with sugar-coated almonds.

His jokes are all in fun,

but he's not just a practical joker.

The years he spent at Woodvale were characterised by hard work and long hours.

"He must have had a lucky band on him. You couldn't see him for the dust he left behind, he was always dashing off to do something else," one of his co-workers said.

Being Ranger on the reserve meant being on call virtually 24-hours a day, and Allen was always there when he was needed.

He also has a green thumb. Allen did all the landscaping at the Research Centre from scratch.

And instead of planting just any trees, he planted the species that would attract different native birds.

When a fire break had to be cleared, Allen was out there gathering up the plants and trees that would have been ripped up, to put them into pots and rubbish bins until they could be transplanted.

"The job has been a combination of practically all the hobbies I've had," Allen said.

His responsibilities at the centre included security, fire fighting, the upkeep of fire equipment, the maintenance of buildings, the control of vermin and looking after the wildlife on the reserve.



Allen Mangini

DIEBACK MAPPING UPDATE

AERIAL mapping of dieback-infected areas in WA will be faster and more economical with the use of a 230mm survey camera and a special 300mm lens recently bought by CALM.

Dieback photography has been done by CALM in the past, but because of limitations of its 70mm camera system the Department has bought the new lens and contracted the operation to the State Lands and Surveys Department.

The photography will be done from January to July with a Wild RC10A survey camera, which the Lands and Surveys Department currently uses, equipped with a 300mm focal length lens.

The camera and the lens, which costs about \$90,000, enable the photography to be carried out over a much larger area than 70mm system, cutting the days of flying necessary to cover an area.

With the old system, 6000ha could be photographed a day in the right conditions.

The 230mm system can photograph 20,000ha a day.

A trial of the new system, run for CALM by Kevron Aerial Surveys, showed a number of im-

provements over the old system.

"The 230mm gave a better overall picture of dieback infection and it made the initial interpretation and field navigation faster and easier," said Peter Moore, assistant district forester heading the aerial photography section.

The old system used a Pre World War II Vinten camera.

Its parts were becoming difficult and expensive to obtain.

The 70mm system also had problems with film processing.

The 230mm system was cheaper to operate.

To photograph 50,000ha, the 70mm system would cost \$244,000, while the same area will cost CALM \$52,500 with the 230mm system.

Briefly

LOIS Cade, clerical officer, is walking on the wild side.

After more than seven years of working in forestry, she has transferred to the Wildlife Research Centre at Woodvale.

The move is for a trial period of six months, but she said she's finding the new area interesting and challenging work.

THE Wildlife Research Centre has a lot of new faces these days.

Eight new CALM officers have been employed recently.

They are: Allen Burbidge, research officer in biological surveys; David Coates, research officer in rare flora; Gordon Friend, research officer in fire ecology; David Pearson; research officer in Aboriginal liaison; Ellen Danks, technical officer; Dan Grace, technical officer; David Mitchell, technical officer and Andrew Brown, technical officer.

MEMORABILIA GOES TO BATTYE LIBRARY

HUNDREDS of forestry photographs from early this century have been donated to the Battye Library by CALM.

Wooden boxes of lantern slides, the forerunner of modern slides and moving pictures, had been gathering dust until it was

decided to give the collection to the library.

The glass slides will be cleaned and then filmed on video so they are more accessible.

At present, the library does not have a lantern slide projector and a video is easier to use, according to Robin South, senior librarian in the pictorial collection of the State Library.

"It's fabulous to get these slides because many of the lantern slides may be able to complete the Government photograph collection, which has a few photographs missing," she said.

After the slides are copied on video, they will be wrapped in preservative-treated paper and stored.

The donation includes assorted photo albums from the same period.

The Battye Library collects any form of "Westraliana" except for museum objects.

This includes government publications, books, pamphlets, newspapers, oral history films, private archives and manuscripts, maps and pictures.

The collections are not available for direct loan, but most books can be borrowed through a local public library.

STATE-WIDE YOUTH TRAINEESHIPS

The Department of Conservation and Land Management has over 150 one-year traineeships in clerical or field work areas available to young people.

These traineeships are part of the State and Commonwealth governments' new youth training initiatives.

Field Work: This is in a range of outdoor skills (e.g. building maintenance, use of hand and power tools, nursery, forestry etc.).

Office Work: Training in a small office situation (e.g. keyboard, accounts, personnel etc.). Positions will be available throughout the State.

Training Details: Training includes 9 months on the job and 3 months at Technical College studying relevant, practical subjects.

Trainees may be required to live away from home for short periods to attend Technical College.

Applicants must be: — 16-19 years old — Australian citizens or permanent residents.

Applicants should hold a year 10 Achievement Certificate with Intermediate level English and Ordinary Maths. In some cases lower levels of academic qualifications will be considered.

Application forms and information sheets are available at your local CES. General enquiries to Trevor Hislop on (09) 367 6333.

Pilots inducted

PILOTS flying fire surveillance for CALM this summer were inducted into the Department on October 10 and 11.

The 12 experienced pilots and four new pilots were given an introduction to the Department, met other CALM pilots and went through a safety induction over the two days.

They will fly out of Mundaring, Dwellingup, Collie, Nannup, Manjimup and Walpole.