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Hills Forest Manager Stev Slavin and Swan Region's Coordinator Community Communications Rae Burrows, discuss Bill Carter's comments on the forthcoming Perth Outdoors plan.

Photo by Verna Costello

FOR many years ecology has been the dominant force in conservation and the study of genetics was considered irrelevant.

This was partly because of the immediate needs of protecting species and habitats. But in the long term, genetic principles are very important to conservation.

The aim in wild species conservation is to preserve the gene pool required for survival and continuing adaptation to change.

Management of endangered species gene

## Perth outdoors excites expert

RENOWNED forest interpreter Bill Carter was in Western Australia recently to help develop the Perth Outdoors Strategic Plan.

Bill, a forester and biologist who established, and has operated the Brisbane Forest Park for five years, was invited by Director of Parks, Recreation and Planning Chris Haynes to give details of his experiences.

During his one week visit, Bill, accompanied by Rae Burrows, Alan Sands and Peter Sharp, saw the good, the bad and

by  
Peter Sharp

the ugly sides of the Swan Region.

But by the end of the familiarisation tour he was ecstatic, seeing opportunities for CALM to make use of Perth's natural resources to communicate the Department's conservation message to the community.

Bill's message to the corporate executive was that CALM, as natural resource managers, had to be sure that the public,

other government and non-government agencies, became more aware of the diverse values of the areas used and managed by each agency.

This means CALM improving its understanding of the values of the natural resources managed by the Department and finding out what is important to people.

He said CALM officers as land managers were leaders in the field but they could still make a more positive contribution to the interpretation of our environment and its use for recreation and education purposes.

A clearer understanding of what constitutes Perth Outdoors was gained by staff who participated in a one-day workshop, arranged by Policy and Extension Branch Manager Jim Sharp, to coincide with Bill's visit.

Through a planning

process involving staff from the Swan Region, each of its Districts, and the Parks, Recreation and Planning Division, workshop participants arrived at a range of suggestions of how managers, specialists and field staff could encourage people to get outdoors and enjoy nature.

Perth Outdoors Strategic Plan will incorporate much of the information generated from this workshop.

## Wildlife and sailing ships

CALM supervising wildlife officer Doug

discussed marine mammal management, and outlined CALM's role in standing

## New C

FIELD staff and members of the public are invited to submit designs for the new CALM Field Officer Association (CFOA) logo competition.

The logo will be used to identify the association and

