

CALM NEWS

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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT

May 1993



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The well-travelled northern quoll takes a rest in the gloved hands of wildlife officer Kevin Morrison.
Photo by James Smith

The holiday of a lifetime

GOOD stories about our relocation of marsupials from islands to the mainland must be getting around among our native animals.

A northern quoll, struck by wanderlust, decided to take matters into her own paws, and stowed away on the nearest ship.

Spontaneous things don't always turn out

by Grahame Rowland

as planned, as the little furry from Koolan Island found out when she chose to hide in a container to be ready for her 'Great Escape'.

Very little is known about how seasickness affects northern quolls, but dehydration is definitely a killer.

Luckily she managed to survive her week-long confinement by licking condensation from the inside of the container.

But by now the novelty was wearing thin.

When the container was finally opened, neither the noisy bustle of the port nor the gruff demeanour of the wharfies was enough to deter our intrepid ex-

plorer, particularly when a bowl of water was on offer.

Wildlife officer Kevin Morrison said, although quolls were sometimes aggressive, in her weakened state she was easily captured. Pawnote: She asked me to pass on this note to her southern relatives, the chuditch family.

"Sorry I didn't get to see you THIS time ..."

Minister praises tree breeding

by Caris Bailey

SINCE taking office in February, Environment Minister Kevin Minson has already travelled extensively to familiarise himself with CALM's work.

His first major tour was to the Manjimup and Albany areas.

At the Manjimup nursery, the Minister saw two-year-old blue gums in bud, a breakthrough in the breeding program.

This had been stalled by the length of time it took trees grown here to flower - up to 12 years compared with five years in their native habitat.

Mr Minson said the work being carried out by research scientists Liz Barbour and Trevor Butcher made CALM's tree breeding program one of the most advanced in the world.

The chemically-induced early flowering is expected to increase productivity by at least 30 per cent within three years.

The Minister had a chance to see the results already being achieved when he visited one of the 100 farms in the Albany

region where blue gums are growing under CALM's sharefarming scheme.

The two-year-old saplings on Alex Campbell's

which CALM recommends be made a national park.

He said the Government would carefully consider the proposal, which would lead to tremendous tourism benefits for Albany.

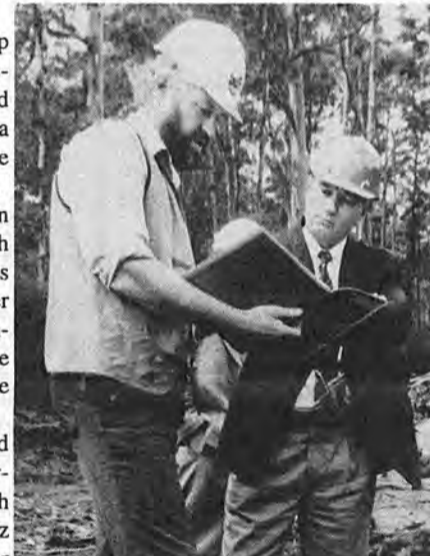
"CALM's view is that making the area a national park will also enhance the conservation of the noisy scrub-bird and other endangered species," Mr Minson said.

In Manjimup, the Minister told a gathering of forest industry representatives and CALM field staff that he would appoint a committee to advise him on the sustainable level of native forest harvest for the next 10 years.

"The committee will examine

CALM's proposed forest management strategy and give me sound scientific advice so I can set the annual timber harvest.

"At the same time, it will strike the required balance between timber production and protecting the conservation values of our south-west forests."



Forest ranger Ian Wilson explains coupe harvesting to Environment Minister Kevin Minson at Channybearup near Pemberton.
Photo by Seamus Mulholland

farm at Mt Barker are more than four metres tall.

"Blue gums bring another welcome source of income for farmers as well as addressing many land degradation problems," Mr Minson said.

Further south, the Minister inspected Two Peoples Bay Nature Reserve,

Cultural tourism boost

by Allen Grosse

CALM has appointed well-known Kimberley tour operator Sam Lovell as its first Aboriginal tourist development officer.

He will work on a contract basis to help CALM and Aboriginal community groups to develop enterprises and employment opportunities on CALM lands.

"Mr Lovell was the perfect choice to help Aboriginal communities and CALM develop the various cooperative business opportunities," Executive Director Syd Shea said.

"He has 12 years in the tourist industry and a deep affection for the Kimberley, its people and culture."

Mr Lovell will be based at Geikie Gorge this wet season helping CALM and the Daringunaya Aboriginal Corporation (DAC) establish a second boat cruise.

These half day cruises will highlight Aboriginal culture and will complement the existing cruise already run by CALM.

"Recent research by the Australian Tourism Commission has shown strong demand for Aboriginal cultural experiences and ecotourism," Dr Shea said.

"The tours begin on July 1 this year and provide an opportunity for the traditional owners of Geikie Gorge to describe their lifestyle, history and cultural affinity for the area."

The DAC has welcomed the initiative and it is hoped Mr Lovell will be able to help in other areas of the Kimberley in future.



In recent years Australia has faced up to making its economy more efficient. Most commentators agree that we are travelling in the right direction, although many say that the movement is far too slow. A sad consequence of greater efficiency is an underlying increase in unemployment. So a result is increasing wastage of our nation's talent and productive capacity.

Many western economies, such as those of Canada, the United Kingdom and other European countries, are in the same situation with unemployment in the area of 10% or more at the moment. The United States is at a couple of percent less, one reason being a less structured wage system and another being that service industries are more strongly developed and used. There is a lot more 'eating out' there than here, for example.

It seems clear to me that Australia will have to develop service industries at least as fast as other countries, and also capitalise on our natural advantages just as we did with wool, wheat and later coal, iron, nickel, etc. The bottom line is more exports, including more exports of services.

Tourism is way out in front in exports of services, and for that matter its now beating coal, gold, wool and meat, our staples of recent decades. Some things Japan, Canada, Fiji, Guatemala or the Falklands cannot mimic are our unique landscape, plants and animals - they're ours and ours to keep - a fantastic natural advantage. Sure, people will come to Australia and WA for the climate and the cities, but most are now attracted by our natural heritage.

Much of the natural heritage is part of our management domain, but we must also take a lead role in it is presentation, packaging and marketing. To do so puts CALM in an important export industry - helping people enjoy the land which is also part of the serious business of restoring our fortunes as a nation.

I am frankly delighted by the efforts that Syd Shea and Jim Sharp have made in presenting two excellent papers on nature-based tourism, or ecotourism, at conferences in the last six months.

I am also delighted by the efforts of so many staff all over the state who transform ideas into reality.

We still have much to achieve but we are well on the way.

Chris Haynes,
Director Parks, Planning and Tourism



Terry Jones and Stefan Gosatti display some of the sheoak products at the Furniture Fair '93. Photo by Grahame Rowland

Sheoak furniture to Italy

MANY years of work has put furniture made from West Australian sheoak into stores in Italy.

The first shipment of sheoak furniture left Australia last month from Inglewood Products Group of Malaga.

CALM marketing officer Terry Jones said the process started more than three years ago when the Department invited expressions of interest for sheoak logs.

Inglewood Products Group sales manager Stefan Gosatti said his company saw this as a great opportunity to create good-

looking quality products. "We believed there was a market not only locally but internationally," Stefan said.

CALM Executive Director Syd Shea said the company was to be congratulated for the large investment they had made in processing the sheoak.

"They've installed a new bandsaw to mill sheoak and have their own kiln drying equipment," he said.

Dr Shea said the \$60,000 shipment was an important milestone under the 1987 Timber Strategy. "The Timber Strategy

emphasised the need to add value to West Australian timbers, particularly through furniture manufacturing, to make the best possible use of this unique resource.

"The shipment to Italy is just the sort of result we hoped to achieve with the Timber Strategy."

Terry said CALM and the company were now looking to increase the range and value of sheoak products.

He added that other sawmillers and manufacturers may be able to tender for smaller quantities of sheoak later in the year.

New publications

THE following publications have been produced recently and should be available from Stores Branch, Front Counter Como, or when out of print, from the CALM Library.

Leaflets

- ◆ Kalbarri National Park - new format

- ◆ Help Grow an Earth Caretaker - reprint
- ◆ Go Bush in the Hills Forest, activities guide
- ◆ Enterprise Bargaining Leaflet No. 3
- ◆ Leeuwin - Naturaliste National Park
- ◆ Fitzgerald River National Park - new format

Booklets

- ◆ Historical Review of Sandalwood Research in WA - reprint
- ◆ Aboriginal Activities and Nature Conservation in the South West of Western Australia - reprint
- ◆ Silver Gull Action Plan

Volunteers help jarrah drought research

CALM Volunteers Chris Norwood, Jane Oliver, Helen Williams and Elizabeth Thorburn braved heat, dust and march flies over several days to help CALM understand how jarrah forests tolerate drought.

by Stuart Crombie

The work will help model forest responses to different strategies and, in the longer term, help to predict possible changes from the Greenhouse Effect.

On the first day Dwell- ingup research technicians Rick Giles and Kim Whitford showed the group how to use porometers and pressure chambers to measure water stress in trees.

After that, it was down to the hard work. The days began well before dawn with the group heading off into the northern jarrah forest in teams, each under the watchful eye of a senior technician.

At the various sites, shotguns were used to bring down jarrah leaves for water stress measurements at dawn and midday.

By late afternoon the once enthusiastic volun-

teers had learnt that research is usually done at inconvenient hours, in uncomfortable places and doesn't stop just because you've left your water bottle behind!

The final job for the teams was to measure the tree leaf area by stripping all the leaves from each sample tree - a task which made everyone appreciate just how many leaves there are on even a small sapling.

The total leaf area was then calculated by weighing the stripped leaves and comparing this with the area of a small weighed subsample.

Both Kim and Rick were impressed by the good humour and attitude of the volunteers.

They said that an important research project was finished safely and in a much shorter period than would otherwise have been possible, and that it gave the volunteers experience of applied research.



Technical officer Rick Giles helps volunteer Helen Williams measure transpiration of jarrah leaves with a porometer. Photo by Barb Giles

Wildlife Carers Meetings

by Terry Hales

THE group of Wildlife Carers, who are predominantly interested in birds, have set the dates of their meetings for the next six months. Interested Carers are invited to attend and share problems, learn something new, have a cup of tea and a chat.

This year, the meetings are being held at Carers' homes instead of the CALM Training Room at Como. The meetings are from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm at these Carers' residences on the following dates.

If you wish to attend, but do not know the address of a particular host, please contact the Carer on the telephone number provided.

22/05/93
Karen Pryce-Howells
Coolbellup 331 2039

26/06/93
June Butcher
Gooseberry Hill 293 1416

24/07/93
Helen Barnes
Riverton 457 1872

21/08/93
Veronica Garrett
Gooseberry Hill 293 2037

25/09/93
Pam Smith
Roleystone 397 5885

23/10/93
WA Bird Hospital
Mundaring 295 1588

27/11/93
Kathi Storig
Leeming 332 1667

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CALM Classified

THIS column is divided into sections dealing with 'for hire', 'for sale', 'surplus equipment', 'swap', or 'wanted'. If you have any equipment or requirement that you wish to advertise through this service, please send or fax type-written details to:

**The Editor,
CALM NEWS,
Corporate Relations Division**

Wanted

Office safe. Small to medium size. Contact Melissa Ford Katanning (098) 21 1296.

Chairs in good condition. Preferably ergonomic or similar. Contact Lynne Oakes, Dwellingtonup 538 1078.

Pair of worn out walking boots, any small size preferred. Phone Fiona Marr (09) 364 0716.

For Hire

Lewis saw with experienced operators. \$30.00/h plus wages and plant. Contact Peter Moore, Collie (097) 34 1988.

For Sale

Cafe Bar - Series 6A. Very good condition. New hot water element. Coin operated. Facilities for tea, coffee, chocolate, milk, sugar, soup. Make an offer!
Contact Lynne Oakes, Dwellingtonup 538 1078.



Australian Sandalwood Company foreman Marko Tomasich stacking sandalwood at the company's Spearwood factory. Photo by Grahame Rowland

Sandalwood users getting craftier

MORE of WA's famed sandalwood is to be made available for local craft purposes in line with the greater emphasis on value adding.

The aromatic timber has been harvested commercially for 147 years, with most of it exported to Asian markets where it fetches up to \$10,000 per tonne.

The greater availability is designed to increase sandalwood use in craft and cottage industries

by Ian Kealley

throughout WA and to encourage additional local processing.

CALM will collect selected material from existing operations and direct it to craft use. The material, for sale at export prices, will include small logs, dead wood, pieces with bark, chips and powder.

An increased amount of sandalwood will also be

available for craft uses through the Fremantle-based Australian Sandalwood Company.

It may also be purchased through CALM's Kalgoorlie office and from offices near where sandalwood is locally available (e.g. Shark Bay).

Depending on demand for craft sandalwood, small quantities will be made available and held at other CALM offices for sale and promotional purposes.

International perspective on managing crocodiles

by Russell Gueho

CALM's crocodile managers are now better aware of international trends after attending a recent conference in Darwin.

The conference attracted delegates from countries as far afield as Zimbabwe, India, Thailand, Japan and the United States of America.

The conference was the second regional meeting of the World Conservation Union (IUCN) Species Survival Commission's Crocodile Specialist Group.

CALM delegates were director of nature conservation Keiran McNamara, Kimberley regional manager Chris Done and district wildlife officers Peter

Trembath (Broome) and myself (Kununurra).

CALM is actively involved in the management of two crocodile species - the estuarine (or saltwater) and the freshwater - including monitoring the three crocodile farms in Western Australia.

The conference was a forum for people involved in crocodile management - be it farming, protection or research - to share ideas and make valuable contacts.

Discussions recognised that we cannot take from the environment without putting back an equivalent 'deposit' - the basis of

sustainable utilisation.

The message from the conference was that delegates wanted to conserve crocodiles, and indeed all forms of wildlife in their natural ecosystems.

One of the week's highlights was an excursion to Melacca Swamp, east of Darwin, organised by crocodile consultant Dr Graeme Webb.

Set aside as a crocodile management and conservation reserve, large numbers of estuarine crocodile eggs are harvested annually from the area in order to stock farms.

Since the harvest began several years ago the number of nests in the reserve has increased and the area is a good

example of sustainable use.

It was a sight to behold as some 40 to 50 delegates, some in Pierre Cardin slacks with Gucci and crocodile skin shoes and boots, arrived at the reserve ready to participate in the collection of crocodile eggs.

However, they were all enthusiastic and appeared to enjoy the activity - despite hectares of mud.

The Conservation Commission of the Northern Territory (CCNT) and its officers are to be congratulated for the manner in which the conference proceeded.

The next Crocodile Specialist Group conference will be held in Thailand in 1994.

Biosphere fauna study

by John Watson

KNOWLEDGE of vertebrate fauna in the area surrounding Fitzgerald River National Park is likely to increase as a result of a project which started recently.

Biologist Angela Sanders has been employed for an 18-month period to work on the Fitzgerald Biosphere Reserve Project in CALM's South Coast Region.

In 1978, at the time of the biosphere's declaration, the park was used to form the core zone of the biosphere. (The park has since been increased by more than a third.)

Angela is working outside this core area in the

buffer and transition zones. The former comprises unvested reserves and vacant Crown land adjacent to the park while the latter extends beyond this and includes land cleared for agriculture and towns, but with some substantial areas of remnant vegetation.

During the project the biological survey component will concentrate mainly on rare fauna and small mammals.

It will be conducted in priority areas in the buffer and transition zones, including threatened areas,

corridors, sites previously surveyed and large blocks of remnant vegetation either in reserves or on private land.

Previous surveys have tended to concentrate on the core zone and this work will add to that knowledge by providing a comparison with relatively undisturbed areas.

Angela will visit as many areas as possible in the first three months to choose sites for intensive surveys during spring 1993 and autumn 1994.

Gaining the cooperation of local landowners and community groups will be an integral part of the project, with Angela pro-

moting the biosphere reserve concept wherever possible.

This will involve attending Land Conservation District Committee field days, as well as giving talks and liaising with community groups.

The project will also provide valuable guidelines for cooperative management of the buffer and transition zones around Fitzgerald River National Park.

Funding for the project was obtained by the Region from the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service's States' Co-operative Assistance Program.

Swan leaps to help the unemployed

VISITORS to the Armadale area will soon be able to watch the preparation of traditional Aboriginal foods and medicines.

The development of this exciting new venture will be guided by a management plan which has been prepared by the Armadale Settlers' Common Advisory Committee in conjunction with the local Aboriginal community and city council.

The venture is part of a Landcare Environment Action Project (LEAP). As with other projects in the LEAP scheme, it aims to help young people develop personal and other skills by participation in projects of lasting community value which additionally have significant landcare, conservation or heritage value.

Swan Region Manager Alan Walker explained that CALM has agreed to be involved in the project in several ways.

"We have allowed the group, which consists of local unemployed 15 to 19-

by Rae Burrows

year-olds, full use of the Swan Region's greenhouses and associated support equipment at the Kelmscott regional headquarters," Alan said.

"These areas will be used for seed propagation work and we have also organised for the adjacent house to be used as a training centre and storage area."

The maintenance and transformation of this building into a suitable place for the group's needs have already been completed by the group.

"CALM will continue to be available to provide any other assistance and support it can during the term of the project," Alan said.

The Region's administrative officer John Butts said there was a lot to be done.

"The management plan details several stages - rubbish removal, soil stabilisation and weed con-

trol; plant identification and propagation; establishment of a reticulated garden; construction of pathways and retaining walls; and development of an Aboriginal food and medicine preparation area," he said.

"One of the first steps is to identify with Aboriginal elders the appropriate local species to plant in the gardens.

"Some of these, like bulrushes and native yams, provide tasty roots and tubers. Certain banksia flowers provide a refreshing nectar drink and some plants, such as mistletoe, have edible nuts or fruit.

The leaves of others can be used for tea, while the paperbark has medicinal uses for headaches, coughs and runny noses.

"The LEAP project is one of the many ways we can work side by side with Aboriginals to provide a useful facility for the public while learning some of the Aboriginal knowledge of the natural environment."



Records clerk Carolyn Milligan leads the lunchtime aerobics class at Como. Photo by Grahame Rowland

Fitness is healthy work

by Grahame Rowland

HEALTH and fitness is becoming more popular as it is realised that prevention is not only better than the cure, but also cheaper.

This trend is increasingly apparent in the workplace as employers realise there are savings to be made by having healthy, and hence happy, workers.

Also the responsibilities under occupational health laws mean it is to everyone's benefit that employees are fit enough

changes in the years to come.

In one instance, the early stages of a possibly fatal heart disease were identified.

This enabled the worker to take preventative measures to improve the condition.

The latest in the trend of workplace fitness is the first issue of the Swan Region's health and fitness newsletter *How is your health?*

Compiled by Linda

Gilbert from Como, it contains information on activities each of the Region's districts or work centres are undertaking.

In addition, it has a calendar of upcoming events such as Heart Week and the Bridges Fun Run.

Also included is a method of working out the best intensity of exercise to achieve the maximum safe benefit.

If you would like more information contact Linda on (09) 334 0398.

Seed collector training sessions a success

by Grahame Rowland

AFTER an approach from Alcoa, CALM recently held a series of training sessions for seed collectors working in the northern jarrah forests. The sessions with the contractors were to discuss the ethics of collecting and to review dieback hygiene procedures.

Alcoa's manager of horticultural services David Kabay said another benefit was to enable the seed collectors to get together with forest managers to exchange ideas and views.

"CALM has the responsibility to manage the resource and to make management decisions, therefore we felt it was important that CALM were comfortable with the seed collectors and their practices," he said.

"We intend making this

an annual event as the work is seasonal and with some turnover of collectors."

The first session was held at Jarrahdale after David Kabay approached CALM district forester Ralph Smith.

At this session Ralph was assisted by administrative officer (flora) Mike O'Donoghue and botanist (wildflower industry) Sarah McEvoy.

"The advantage of having Mike and Sarah along was to enable collectors to meet people with an expert knowledge of botany and to familiarise them with the administrative and legal requirements of collecting," Ralph said.

"There were many is-

ues that needed to be addressed.

"For example, we must maintain the values associated with water courses, ensure compliance with dieback hygiene requirements and check the adequacy of the recording system.

"Also as it is important to replenish the seed store in the soil, some seed must be left behind."

David said the recent trend had been toward selecting seed from locations which were as close as possible to areas due to be regenerated.

"One objective of our regeneration program is to return the areas, as near as possible, to their original condition," David said.

"We are therefore interested in using provenance-correct seed to perpetuate the genetic variations that

are due to site factors."

Ralph said the areas for seed collecting had been divided into seven provenances based on rainfall and their location relative to the minesite.

"In the past the seed was collected from wherever it was available. The move toward collecting by provenance means more areas need to be visited," Ralph said.

"Hygiene and ethical requirements are even more important now as people may be required go into more sensitive areas."

After the successful seminar at Jarrahdale, sessions were held at Dwellington with the assistance of forester Richard McAlinden and at Harvey with help from forester Brett Humble and forest ranger Chas Newman.



Operations officer Russell Bone helps radio communication officer Max Speer (hiding behind the tower) to assemble brackets for the solar panels which power the radio equipment.
Photo by Graeme Hutchinson

Cooperation sends out good signals

by Grahame Rowland

AN initiative by Moora District has been responsible for an important new radio communications tower just south of Mt Lesueur.

Moora operations officer Russell Bone said the new 54 metre tower came about because the Department wanted to establish a better radio communications system for its firefighting and other operations.

"Previously we only had a HF network which is unsuitable for reliable short range communications within the district," Russell said.

"With this system we will use a UHF link be-

tween the new tower and the other tower at Bald Hill near Dandaragan.

"This will give us VHF communications across nearly the whole district.

"In the recent fires at Beekeepers Nature Reserve the improved communications was a great help."

CALM's radio communication manager Graeme Hutchinson said the tower's construction showed the value of cooperation.

"Initially the district manager David Rose approached me to change

their system of radio control," Graeme said.

"We did some trials at a few sites and found a couple of possibilities.

"I knew the Police Department were also having problems so I went to them and they put in some money, as did the Fisheries Department and the Bush Fires Board."

The land for the site was provided free of charge by local farmer, Rodney Ward, who also helped in the construction phase.

The local community will also benefit with the inclusion of a UHF CB radio repeater for the Jurien Sea Rescue Group and volunteer fire brigades.

Migration of the whale sharks brings tourists

by Carolyn Thomson

THE annual migration of whale sharks to Ningaloo Reef is encouraging a similar migration of tourists to the Exmouth area.

This is the view of Environment Minister Kevin Minson after he visited the giant plankton feeders as part of Seaweek 1993.

"Seaweek is the perfect opportunity to focus attention on conservation of these amazing creatures and the need for careful management of this new tourist industry," he said.

"Ningaloo Reef is the best place in the world to see whale sharks and we must aim to keep it that way."

A code of conduct for charter boat operators has been prepared and a work-

shop was conducted at Exmouth to ensure people did not disturb the creatures.

In addition, brochures containing guidelines for private boat owners have been distributed in Ningaloo Marine Park.

The whale shark is the world's largest fish and can weigh up to 40 tonnes and reach 18 metres long.

They visit Ningaloo Reef in large numbers for a six week period following the mass spawning of more than 200 species of coral each year.

"Very little is known about whale shark populations, their behaviour patterns, or how much

human contact they will tolerate before being disturbed," Mr Minson said.

"As a result, commercial and private operators need to be very careful of the animals to ensure they will continue to visit WA."

The effects of divers and boats on whale sharks will be closely monitored to assess the potential for any adverse impact.

Commercial operators have to be licensed by CALM, and whale sharks are now fully protected under the Wildlife Conservation Act.

Boats must stay at least 30 metres from a whale shark and only one vessel may be near each animal.

"It's pleasing that tourist operators fully support the moves."

Mr Minson said over the past 10 years researchers had collected information on whale sharks at Ningaloo Reef.

"They have discovered that most whale shark visiting the area during March and April are immature males."

This year the Department hopes to collect more accurate data on whale sharks than in the past, by using information from pilots and boat operators.

As a result, CALM should eventually be able to analyse trends over a number of years.

This season, numbers have fluctuated between three to more than 20 whale sharks at Tantabiddy, which is where most commercial operators concentrate.

Predator expert visits

RESEARCHERS working to save our native fauna recently had the opportunity to compare notes with a predator control expert from Canada.

The zoology professor at University of British Columbia, Charles Krebs, is a scientific advisor to the Federal Government's program of Cooperative Research Centres (CRC).

The CRC program is part of a 1990 initiative to create up to 50 such centres nationwide with annual funding reaching \$100 million by 1994/95.

CALM's Wildlife Research Centre at Woodvale is part of the program in partnership with the CSIRO Division of Wildlife and Ecology, the Australian National University and the WA Agriculture Protection Board (APB).

During his 10 days in Western Australia, Professor Krebs inspected CALM's wildlife research programs in the south of the State, as well as the APB rabbit control program.

Addressing a well-attended seminar at Como, Professor Krebs was keen to share his comprehensive knowledge of a 20-year study which focused on the effect of predators on the snowshoe hare in the remote Yukon area of north-west Canada.

The talk provided local researchers with a chance to hear, first hand, the methods their Canadian counterparts used to determine the complex biological relationships between the predators and prey.

The Department's expert on fox biology and

control, principal research scientist Jack Kinneer, said Professor Krebs' visit was of immense value.

"Large scale studies are expensive and if we can get advice during the experimental design phase it can save a lot of time and money," Jack said.

"The sheer size of their study means there are many problems and parameters with which they have already had to deal.

"While obviously the climate is different, many of the general principles are of direct interest to us - there's no use going over old ground.

"But having said that, their study found that early predation of snowshoe hares was by supposedly herbivorous squirrels.

"It reminds us to take nothing for granted."



Jack Kinneer listens as Professor Krebs answers questions after the seminar at Como.
Photo by Grahame Rowland