



*WA Water Authority's Syd Hankinson, standing second from left, with CALM staff who helped to clear Ten Mile Brook to allow for construction of the dam. Syd is flanked by forest ranger Steve Pickering, left, and forest workers Terry Coffey and Peter Simmonds. In front are forest workers Ed Hally, Mike Innis and Ken Howes, and overseer Bluey Bell. Photo courtesy Augusta-Margaret River Mail.*

## Recreation site completed

**THE recent opening of the Ten Mile Brook Dam also heralded the completion of a new recreation site and extensive walk and cycle trails linking the area with the Margaret River townsite.**

Water quality from the old supply dam always has been a problem with discolouration rather than clear water the typical product. Water restrictions last summer became an added burden.

Planning for an upgraded and increased water supply to the town of Margaret River began in 1988 when a pump-back scheme from the proposed

by Wendy Rose

Ten Mile Brook Dam was recommended.

Following a public review, the project was finally approved by the State Government in 1991 and work began in December, 1992.

CALM Margaret River staff carried out the arduous task of clearing the 28 hectares of forest within the Ten Mile Brook reservoir area. All saleable timber was sent to various mills.

The main contract for the dam, spillway, outlet works and road works was

undertaken by the Water Authority of Western Australia (WAWA) with one of CALM's employees, forest worker Mike Innis, seconded to help.

Funding from WAWA enabled local CALM staff to design and construct a new recreation site below the dam area.

The 27-year-old bluegum plot, known as Rusden Picnic Site, was thinned during initial clearing of the dam site.

Now, gas barbecues and picnic tables are located among its trees, with winding walkways linking the areas.

The design of the ablu-

tion block, with a wooden building resembling an early group settlement cottage, reflects the history of early settlement.

The picnic site and surrounding area was a group settlement farm in the 1930s. Now, some of its history is displayed on panels at the information shelter.

The official opening by Warren MLA Paul Omoder was conducted in perfect picnic weather.

More than 300 people attended the unveiling of the commemorative plaque and stayed to enjoy morning tea among the bluegums.

