

CALM input at National Coast-to-Coast Conference

WESTERN Australia has a magnificent 14,000-kilometre coastline, much of which is managed by CALM in a network of major terrestrial and marine reserves.

This is certainly the case along the south coast where about 70 per cent of the coastline in CALM's South Coast Region from Denmark to Eucla is either national park or nature reserve.

By John Watson

Looking after this valuable conservation, landscape and recreational asset is a primary function, not only for CALM, but also for the various local government authorities that collectively manage much of the balance of the coast, frequently including very highly used recreation and camping areas.

So it was no surprise to see several CALM staff from around the State attending and contributing to the 1998 National Coast to Coast Conference, held in Perth.

About 300 delegates from throughout Australia and overseas also attended the conference, among them representatives from several of CALM's 'sister agencies' from other States.

The theme of the conference was 'Sharing Responsibility'.

CALM contributions included presentations on Island Management Conservation by Pilbara Region reserves management officer Fran Stanley; Meeting Community Expectations by Pemberton District ranger-in-charge Rod Annear; Marine Reserves by Marine Conservation Branch manager Chris Simpson; and Co-opera-

tive Coastal Care on the South Coast by South Coast Regional manager John Watson.

The latter paper was presented 'co-operatively' with Robin House, chair of the South Coast Management Group and Charles Hick, chair of the Jerramungup Coastal Committee, who also works closely with CALM on the STS *Leeuwin* South Coast Adventure Eco Voyages. The

South Coast Management Group is a committee of all South Coast local government agencies, CALM and other relevant government departments.

The conference was also attended by Regional Coastal Facilitators from around Australia including South Coast Facilitator Jamie Allnutt, who is based at CALM's Regional Office in Albany.