

NPNCA retires with proud record of achievements

THE National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority is no more!

It has been disbanded and replaced with the Conservation Commission (see page 1).

The National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority (NPNCA) was responsible for developing policies to preserve the environment, provide visitor access and promote appreciation and awareness of flora, fauna and the natural environment.

Areas vested in the NPNCA included national parks, conservation parks, nature reserves and some miscellaneous conservation reserves.

At the NPNCA's final meeting on Friday October 13, Environment Minister Cheryl Edwardes thanked members for their dedication and the sound advice they provided to successive Environment Ministers

Mrs Edwardes said that from the time of its formation, following the Conservation and Land Management Act, passed in 1984, the NPNCA had always provided apolitical advice and enjoyed a sound relationship with all Environment Ministers

"The NPNCA's support, integrity and diligence had resulted in the views of the community being brought into CALM's management equation," Mrs Edwardes said.

"The efforts members put into management plans and policy advice is commendable and highly valued."

During the past year the NPNCA carried out a number of field inspections, visiting the Jilbadji, Dundas, South Encabba, Bodallin and Lake Campion Nature Reserves and the Walpole Nornalup National Park.



by Sue McKenna

The NPNCA was also in charge of approving CALM's plans to recover endangered fauna or vulnerable species of flora. Recovery plans are now in place for the western swamp tortoise, the chuditch and Lake Toolibin.

During its lifetime the NPNCA made policy and position statements on many issues. Between 1989 and 1994 policy statements were produced on the wilderness, Aboriginal involvement in national parks and nature conservation, mosquito control,

drainage and basic raw materials.

Between 1993 and 1996 the NPNCA issued position statements about mining in national parks and nature reserves, petroleum exploration and production in national parks and nature reserves, petroleum exploration and production in marine parks and marine nature reserves and guidelines for flora and fauna surveys.

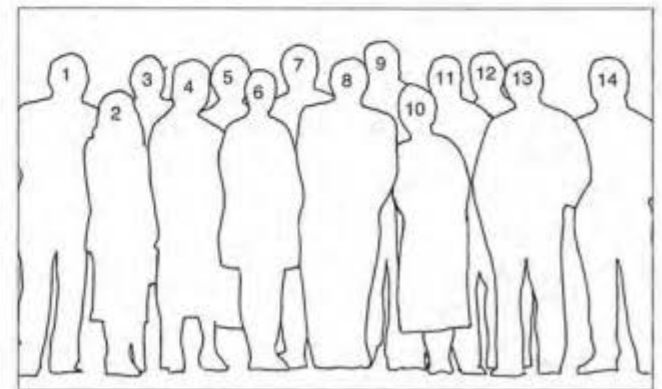
The NPNCA was also responsible for authorising CALM to investigate what an area needed in the way of conservation, visitor access, facilities, use by commercial operators.

"There's confidence that in all cases the NPNCA and the Minister for the Environment made the correct decisions about many issues," Mrs Edwardes said.

"All this reflects positively on the character, competencies and integrity of the members of the NPNCA," Mrs Edwardes said.

The new Conservation Commission's charter has been expanded to include forests, as well as conservation parks, national parks and nature reserves.

It will advise the State Government in a way that will reflect the changing needs of the community.



1 Kevin McMenemy 2 Grace Silvestro (CALM), 3 Aminya Ennis (CALM), 4 Marion Blackwell, 5 Cr Tess Stroud, 6 Dr Jenny Davis, 7 Jim Sharp (CALM), 8 Tom Day, 9 Terry Adams, 10 Hon Cheryl Edwardes, 11 Graeme Rundle, 12 Tammie Reid (CALM), 13 Alan Walker (CALM), 14 Gordon Wyre (CALM). Photo by Ernie McLintock

Conservation HQ

Nature's Craters

Norm Baker

Prolog: Norm Baker
& Last Natural Parks
Partnership meeting
islands

