

WORLD CONSERVATION UNION MEETS IN ALBANY

Late in November, about a hundred of the world's leaders in managing protected areas will conduct a week-long meeting in Albany, Western Australia. This follows a commitment made at the 1992 World Congress on National Parks and Protected Areas, held in Caracas Venezuela, to conduct a review of progress five years before the next World Congress, which is expected to be held in Africa in 2002.

Founded in 1948, the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), the World Conservation Union, brings together States, government agencies such as the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM), and a diverse range of non-governmental organisations in a unique world partnership: more than 800 members from some 125



Barren's regelia (Regelia velutina) is endemic to the quartzite ranges of the Fitzgerald River National Park.

Photo - Greg Harold

The World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) is one of six Commissions of the IUCN. It is the World's leading global network of protected area experts, with more than 1000 members in 160 countries, working in a voluntary capacity. The WCPA promotes the establishment and effective management

of a world-wide, representative network of terrestrial and marine protected areas. This is essential to ensure that protected areas can effectively meet the challenges of the 21st century. The WCPA is

countries. IUCN encourages societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature, and to ensure that any use of natural resources is fair and ecologically sustainable.

organising the Albany meeting on behalf of the IUCN.

Albany was chosen as the venue for this meeting, largely due to knowledge of CALM's protected area work, including wildlife recovery programs such as the noisy scrub-bird project at Two Peoples Bay, and work in the Fitzgerald Biosphere Reserve, which has international recognition through the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere (MAB) program (see the article by Angela Sanders on page 28 of this issue). It is fitting, therefore, that the annual meeting of biosphere reserve managers from around Australia (which is normally held in Canberra) will this year be held in tandem with the IUCN meeting in Albany. There will be a joint full-day field trip by both groups of participants to the Fitzgerald Biosphere Reserve.

MORE HANGINGS AT FREMANTLE

A regular illustrator for *LANDSCOPE*, Ian Dickinson, is holding an exhibition of 40 paintings at the Moores Building, opposite *WA Naturally* in Henry Street, Fremantle, between November 8 and 16.

The collection of paintings is titled 'Images of the Coral Coast', and draws its inspiration from the natural history of Ningaloo Marine Park and Cape Range National Park.

Ian's detailed compositions are painted in a realistic style, so that they accurately describe the variety of marine and terrestrial life at the North West Cape. One can actually see the hairs on a kangaroo nose, the individual blades of *Triodidium* or spinifex grass and the tiny polyps that

make up the rich diversity of coral colonies. Ian uses gouache and acrylic paint, and pastels. Gouache is a water-based paint that lends itself to the depiction of intense and vibrant colours, characteristic of the natural ecosystems within Ningaloo Marine Park and Cape Range National Park.

Ian lived in Cape Range National Park for six years and witnessed the environment in all its moods and seasons. Wildlife would seek the comfort of his verandah on hot days and the rumble of surf was a constant background sound emanating from the Ningaloo Reef, only a kilometre away. Ian worked in a hot and dusty workshop,

which he shared with hand-reared joeys and a variety of lizards and spiders. He recently moved to Perth, but feels privileged to have experienced such closeness with nature and this is reflected in his solo exhibition.



Moon Wrasse by Ian Dickinson

LANDSCOPE

VOLUME THIRTEEN NUMBER 1, SPRING 1997



The threat from below . . . How can we defeat our greatest environmental enemy? Read about salinity and what we can do about it on p. 10.



Dryandra, one of the last refuges of the native wildlife. Now you can experience this woodland wonderland for yourself. Find out how on p. 36.



Europeans brought alien plants and animals to WA's rangelands, which have since become degraded. What can be done? See p. 42.



One of the best aids to plant conservation is completely invisible. See our plant DNA story on p. 18.



How old is the Stirling Range? Read about this stunning area in our story on p. 48.

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COVER

The Fitzgerald River National Park boasts a startling array of habitats, mammals, birds and other species. Its wildflowers in spring are often spectacular. Our story on p. 28 is a fascinating tale of variety, beauty, and threat in this aged land.

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