BUSH TELEGRAPH

CREATION OF GREATER KINGSTON NATIONAL PARK

A new national park will be created in the jarrah forest and wandoo woodlands north-east of Manjimup. The proposed Greater Kingston National Park is one of 30 new national parks to be created under the State Government's Protecting Our Old Growth Forests policy.

The proposed park will cover nearly 21,000 hectares and link to the proposed 52,000-hectare Perup National Park. It will be an important addition to the conservation estate, for its forest values, and in helping to protect endangered native plants and animals that live there. Threatened mammals found at Kingston include the numbat (Myrmecobius fasciatus), chuditch (Dasyurus geoffroii) and western ringtail possum (Pseudocheirus occidentalis).

The new park will include several species of native plants which are either threatened or on the Department of Conservation and Land Management's priority list. These include two spider orchids, a starflower and a grevillea. The park will also effectively create a continuous conservation network extending over more than 72,000 hectares in the eastern jarrah forest and wandoo woodland.

A community-based advisory group is being formed to help with management planning and finalising boundaries of the new national park, which includes 1,220 hectares of Kingston Forest block; 4,630 hectares of Walcott; 760 hectares of Mersea; 200 hectares of Dudijup; 2,100 hectares of Warrup;

3,750 hectares of Corbal; 3,660 hectares of Dwalgan; 3,210 hectares of Winnejup; and 1,340 hectares of Balban. A further 990 hectares of Dwalgan and 2,540 hectares of Balban are within the proposed Perup National Park.

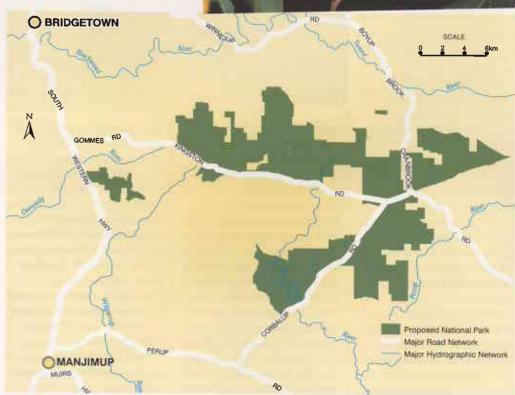
Greater Kingston is the fourth proposed new conservation area that the Government has released so far. The others are the 335,000-hectare Walpole Wilderness Area that will include four new and three existing national parks, the **Greater Preston National** Park (12,700 hectares) in the Preston River Valley near Noggerup and the Greater Beedelup National Park (18,460 hectares) north-west of Pemberton.

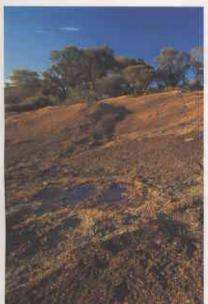
Right: Western ringtail possum.

Photo - Babs and Bert Wells

Below: Map showing the proposed Greater Kingston National Park.







The Goldfields Woodlands National Park protects the region's best examples of eucalypt woodlands (see page 28).

COVER

There's something going on in our schools. Students are voluntarily taking an active interest in conserving their local environments. They are visiting forests, beaches and wetlands to study native wildlife. And they are having fun! What is happening and why? See 'EcoEducation—winning over school communities' on page 10.

Cover illustration by Ellen Hickman

Winner of the Alex Harris Medal for excellence in science and environment reporting.

LANDSCOPE

VOLUME SEVENTEEN, NUMBER 3, AUTUMN 2002



Since the 1960s Barrow Island's animals have shared their island paradise with the oil industry. Read how the mammals are being monitored and protected. See page 18.



Georgiana Molloy made a major contribution to the early botanical knowledge of the south-west. Read about this remarkable woman on page 43.



Collecting seeds is one way in which we are helping to conserve biodiversity. Join the 'Hunters and Gatherers for Conservation' on page 49.



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