

FAUNA COMMITTEE'S MURCHISON SURVEY

Mr. G.E. Brockway, Dr. D.L. Serventy and Mr. A.M. Douglas, members of the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee, accompanied by Mr. C.A. Gardner - Government Botanist, H.B. Shugg - Secretary, Technical Officer J. Traynor and Fauna Warden F.A.L. Connell, left Perth early on Friday August 6 and reached Geraldton that evening.

Next morning, accompanied by Inspector S.W. Bowler, the party left Geraldton and travelled via Northampton and Linton Station, to the Murchison River arriving at 3.30 p.m.

On Sunday the 8th members of the Committee were conducted to the north bank of the river by the Fauna Warden and spent some interesting and instructive few hours examining the botanical aspects of the area and the insectivorous infestation. In the afternoon a trip was made along the south bank of the river to Bulli Pool and Murchison House Station.

On Monday the 9th, separate parties inspected the areas further south and were impressed with the possibilities of large reserves both as sanctuaries for conservation and controlled enjoyment of the sporting possibilities.

The Committee returned through Northampton and Geraldton on August 10 to Dongarra where Mr. R. Perry joined the party in place of Mr. G.E. Brockway who had urgent work elsewhere. The party then proceeded via Three Springs to the War Service Land Settlement Branch's Project. Through the courtesy of the Branch and the Field Superintendent, Mr. Leslie, accommodation was made available.

The next morning, August 11, Mr. Gardner accompanied by Mr. Leslie made an inspection of the country around the project to ascertain what poison plants were in the area. He then conducted the party to soaks known as Three Springs, to Stockyard Gully and finally to Cockleshell Gully where a camp was made on the property of Mr. F. Gregson.

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On Friday August 13 the party returned to Perth via Dandaragan and Caro and Mimegarra Stations.