

license, irrespective of whether the length is the overall measurement or is the waterline measurement.

When a boat is replaced by a boat of a less length the craypot license shall not authorise the use of a greater number of pots than 3 for each foot of the new boat. Likewise the number of pots licensed for any crayfishing boat shall not be increased without reference to, and the approval of, the Director.

PRESERVATION OF THE NOISY SCRUB-BIRD.

The Governor in Executive Council recently approved the cancellation of the proposed townsite of Casuarina at Two People Bay. The area concerned has now been made a reserve for conservation of fauna and vested in the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee. This undoubtedly will help to preserve Atrichornis clamosus, more commonly known as the Noisy Scrub-bird, as well as the Western Whipbird and the Bristle Bird, all rare birds found in the Two People Bay area.

Action such as this will bring the Government world-wide acclaim in conservation circles. In particular the executive officers of World Wildlife Fund, with which Prince Philip of Edinburgh and the Prince of the Netherlands are actively associated, will no doubt publicise the matter as a guide and stimulus to the emerging nations in Africa and Asia. There are matters of animal conservation in these regions which are arousing disquiet, now that European supervision has passed, and the Western Australian model could well be held up as an example to be followed.

The Noisy Scrub-bird was first discovered by John Gilbert at Drakesbrook, some 70 miles south of Perth, and at King George's Sound (Albany) in 1843. It was recorded again in 1889 by A.J. Campbell near Cape Leeuwin, and at Torbay, 15 miles west of Albany.

It was on December 23, 1961, some 70 years since the bird was last officially seen or heard, that Mr. H.O. Webster heard its call and re-discovered the bird. The call has been described as "once heard, never to be forgotten."