

LANDS AND FOREST

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT

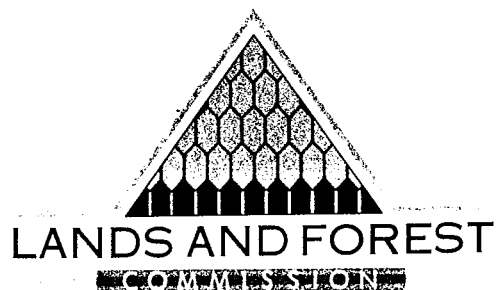
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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND LAND MANAGEMENT
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

1 July 1994 - 30 June 1995

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO BE ADDRESSED TO

The Secretary, Lands and Forest Commission, Department of Conservation and Land Management, PO Box 104, Como 6152, Western Australia.

Hackett Drive, Crawley, Western Australia 6009. Tel (09) 386 8811, Fax (09) 386 1578



HON MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

In accordance with Section 31(1) of the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984, I submit for your information and presentation to Parliament the Annual Report of the Lands and Forest Commission for the year ending 30 June 1995.

Leon Watt
CHAIRMAN

1 September 1995

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CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW

During the year under review two major management plans have been completed, each of which affects both the National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority and the Lands and Forests Commission.

The first, the Goldfields Regional Management Plan which will span a ten year period to 2004, was launched in Kalgoorlie in February 1995.

The second, the Dryandra Woodland Management Plan has been forwarded to the Hon. Minister and is awaiting release, and will bring some major changes to the management of the area.

Both were produced with a major contribution from Conservation & Land Management staff and from many public submissions.

The Commission has endeavoured to ensure that its statutory functions as set down in Section 19 of the Conservation & Land Management Act are carried out. To this end, it welcomes the announced intentions of the Minister to introduce legislative changes to give greater independence and accountability to the Commission.

During the year, much of the time and effort of the Commission has been spent in monitoring the legal disputes involving forest policy and management, and also Federal Government policies which could impact adversely on the Forest Management Plan.

The Commission is grateful to the officers of the Department of Conservation & Land Management for the provision of secretarial assistance, technical advice and various briefings throughout the year.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMISSION

The Lands and Forest Commission was established under Section 18 of the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984.

FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION

Functions of the Commission are determined by Section 19 of the Conservation and Land Management Act, 1984. The functions of the Commission are;

- a) to have vested in it State forest and timber reserves and relevant land referred to in Section 5(g);
- b) to develop policies or promote the objectives described in Section 56(1)(a),b and (e);
- c) to consider, in accordance with Section 17, any cancellation, change of purpose or boundary alteration in respect of land vested in it;
- d) to submit proposed management plans to the Minister as provided in Part V in respect of land vested in it;
- e) to monitor the carrying out of management plans by the Department in respect of land vested in the Commission;
- f) to inquire into and to advise on any matter on which the advice of the Commission is sought by the Minister;
- g) to provide advice, upon request, on matters relating to land vested in it to any body or person, if the provision of advice is in the public interest and it is practicable for the Commission to provide it; and
- h) with the approval of the Minister, to cause study or research to be undertaken for the purposes of paragraph (b).

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION

Membership of the Commission is determined by Section 20 of the Conservation and Land Management Act and comprises;

- a) two persons appointed by the Governor on the nomination of the Minister;
and
- b) the Executive Director of the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

The Governor approved the appointment of Mr Leon Watt (Chairman), Mr Pat McNamara (Deputy Chairman) and Dr S R Shea (ex-officio member) to the Lands and Forest Commission for a three year term commencing 22 November 1994.

Dr F H McKinnell and Mr D J Keene are deputies for the Executive Director.

MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION

During the report year the Commission met on seven occasions:

20 July,
19 October,
1 December,
13 February,
10 March,
10 April, and
8 May.

BUSINESS OF THE COMMISSION

Management Plans

The final Management Plan for Dryandra State forest was approved by the Commission and sent to the Hon. Minister for approval.

The final Goldfields Region Management Plan was launched by the Minister at a function in Kalgoorlie on 23rd February 1995.

Amendments to State forest and timber reserves

Under Section 19(1)(a) and (c) of the Conservation and Land Management Act, the Commission is the vesting body for State forest and timber reserves and considers any cancellation, addition or changes of purpose or boundary for its estate.

The area of State forest, as at 30 June 1995, was 1,724,882 hectares, a decrease of 24,001 hectares during the year. This was primarily due to implementation of proposed additions to the conservation estate.

The area of timber reserves, as at 30 June 1995 was 141,487 hectares, no change from the previous year.

As the vesting body for State forest and timber reserves, the Commission approved the following proposals put to it during the year.

- Excision of 7 ha of State Forest No. 22 near Jarrahdale for inclusion in the Serpentine National Park in exchange for 30 ha of reserve.
- Excision of 19.4 ha of State Forest No. 20 to Gwalia Consolidated Ltd. in exchange for Nelson Locations 289, 290 (24.8 ha).
- A further excision of 93 ha from State Forest 93 near Gngangara for the Ellenbrook project.

Mining tenements

The Commission noted a total of 67 mining tenement proposals processed by CALM's Environmental Protection Branch in accordance with approved guidelines (Appendix A). Recommendations were then made to the Minister for approval. Two ground-disturbing proposals were examined in more detail before approval:

- Notice Of Intent, Rumbell's open pit M25/125
- Santa Claus North Pit - Randall's Timber Reserve.

Temporary Control Areas

Several areas of forest were subject to protests during the year and following advice from CALM and the Police Department, the Commission recommended the use of Temporary Control Areas for the safety of the public, officers and timber workers in those areas:

1, Jane	6/2/95 - 11/4/95
2, Giblett	17/2/95 - 17/5/95
3, Sharpe, Deep	17/2/95 - 17/5/95
4, Crowea	13/4/95 - 11/7/95
7, Sharpe, Deep	17/5/95 - 14/8/95

TCAs 5 (Preston) and 6 (Giblett) were approved for recommendation, but were not gazetted because changed circumstances made them unnecessary.

Other Matters

The Commission endorsed several of existing CALM Policy Statements:

1,3,10,12,14,18,19,25,27,28,34,44,50

as well as the Chudich Recovery Plan.

A review of procedures cast doubt on whether all CALM policies had been approved by the LFC in the past, and it was therefore decided that to remove any doubt and to legitimise the policies, they would be reviewed and approved.

The Commission was briefed on

- Chipwood licence renewal
- Court cases in Kerr/Hester, Jane and Sharpe Blocks
- Forest Monitoring and Review Committee
- Trees on farms
- Community education.

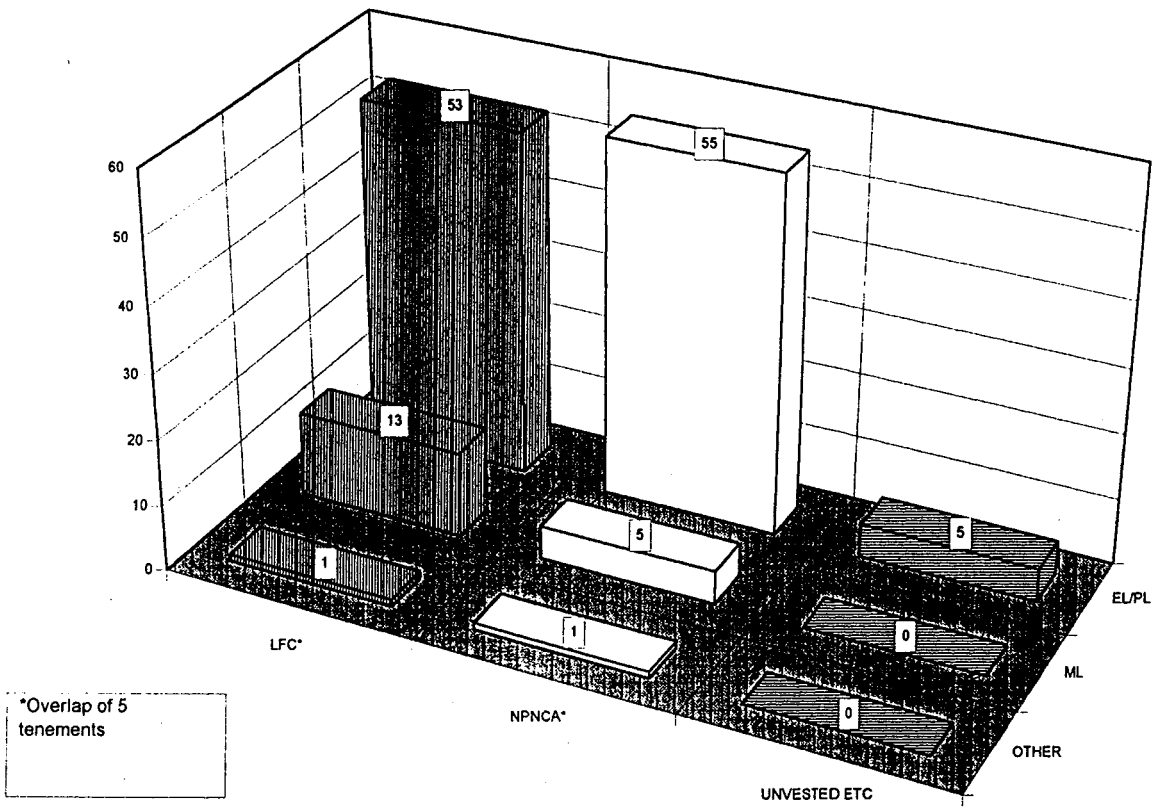
The Commission attended a two-day familiarisation tour including a flight over the northern jarrah forest and field visits to sites in the Southern Forest Region, including karri silviculture, recreation, sawmilling and plantations.

Finances

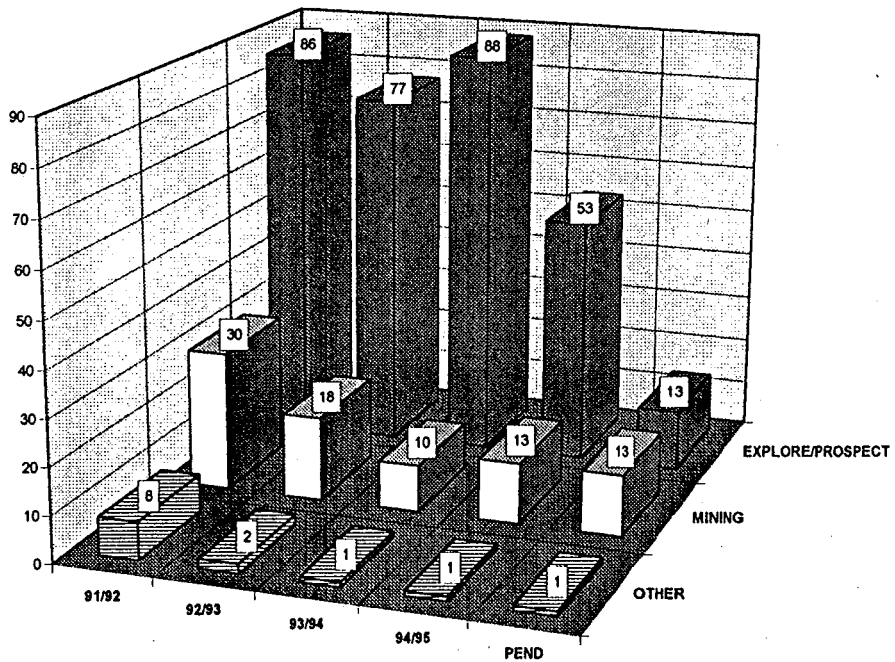
Costs incurred by or for the Commission are controlled and monitored by the Department of Conservation & Land Management. Direct expenditure for the financial year was \$4647.08, covering the Chairman's allowances, travel, accommodation and the familiarisation tour.

Appendix A

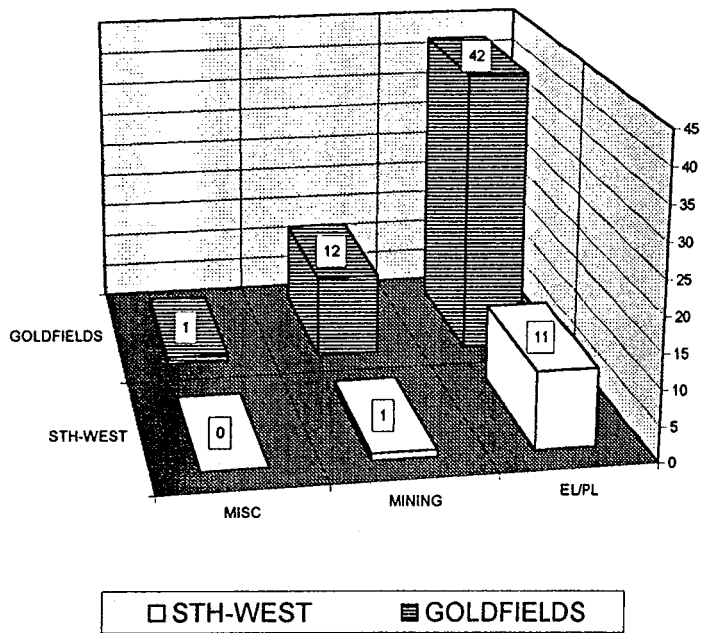
TENEMENTS PROCESSED BY CALM 1994-95



TENEMENTS PROCESSED AND PENDING FOR LAND VESTED LFC
26 MAY 1995



TENEMENTS PROCESSED FOR LAND VESTED IN THE LFC, SOUTHWEST/GOLDFIELDS 1994-95



TENEMENTS PROCESSED AND PENDING FOR LAND VESTED LFC 1994-95 (TOTALS) 26 MAY 1995

