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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND LAND MANAGEMENT
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT

1 July 1992 - 30 June 1993



HON MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

In accordance with Section 31 of the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984, I submit for your information and presentation to Parliament the report on the proceedings of the Forest Production Council for the year ending 30 June 1993.

Syd Shea
CHAIRMAN

17 November 1993

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Forest Production Council continues to provide advice to the Department of Conservation and Land Management on key forest and timber industry issues. I record my appreciation for such advice.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COUNCIL

The Forest Production Council was established under Section 24 of the Conservation and Land Management Act, 1984.

FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Functions of the Council are determined by Section 25 of the CALM Act, 1984. The functions are to advise the Minister;

- (a) generally on matters pertaining to production from State forest and timber reserves;
- (b) on the improvement of
 - i) such production in ways consistent with the maintenance of other forest values; and
 - ii) the use, processing and marketing of forest produce;
- c) on the need for, and form of, research to achieve or promote the objectives described in section 56(1)(a) and (b); and
- d) on the contents of proposed management plans so far as they relate to timber production from State forest and timber reserves.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL

The Conservation and Land Management Amendment Act No. 20 of 1991 revised Section 26(b) of the principal Act (1984) to provide for a 12 tripartite member Council by Ministerial appointment. Proposals to amend the membership of the Council have been put to the Minister for the Environment.

Membership of the present Council is determined by Section 26 of the CALM Act, 1984 and comprises of:

(a) two ex-officio members being;

- i) Dr S Shea, Executive Director (Chairman of the Council);
- ii) Mr D Keene, Director of Forests (Deputy Chairman of the Council; and
- b) 12 persons appointed by the Governor on the nomination of the Minister of whom:
 - i) one shall be a person who is a member of the Water Resources Council established by the Western Australian Water Resources Council Act 1982. This position is currently vacant and will be filled subject to the CALM amendment Act.;
 - ii) seven shall be representative of timber industries or industries which are significant users of timber or timber products (Messrs A Gosatti, R Bunning, G Shepherd, A Wheatley, M Bajada). Replacements will be subject to the CALM Amendment Act;
 - iii) one shall be representative of primary producers, not coming within sub-paragraph ii), associated forests (Mr R Pollard, apiarist);
 - one shall be representative of bodies of persons the objects of which, or the members of which by reason of their profession, are concerned in the management of forests (Mr D Spriggins);
 - v) one shall be representative of country interests and be a person with special skill or experience relevant to the functions of the Council. This position is currently vacant and will be filled subject to the CALM Amendment Act; and
 - vi) one person shall be having special experience in commercial forestry production (Mr P McNamara).

FUNDING OF COUNCIL

All Council financial expenditure and administrative support is met by the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

During the reporting year, Council met once. This meeting was a special joint meeting with the Lands and Forests Commission, held at the Department of Conservation and Land Management, Crawley on 17 November 1992 to discuss:.

MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR THE SOUTH-WEST FORESTS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The forest review process was initiated by the need to address outstanding Ministerial conditions associated with the approval of the 1987 Forest Region management plans, Timber Strategy and WACAP's ERMP and the need to develop a strategic approach to heritage management.

The draft forest strategy and associated documents was released in February 1992. This was followed by public review, EPA assessment (including an assessment by a Technical Advisory Panel), appeals under the Environmental Protection Act, and a further review by a special scientific and administrative committee. Two Ministers for the Environments set conditions in their capacity as Ministers responsible for the Environmental Protection Act.

In June 1993, in anticipation of the environmental protection process being protracted, timber supply contracts were renewed on an interim basis to allow the process to be completed.