

Honorary Fauna Wardens' Regional Conference Dardanup, May 9, 1969

The second conference was held on Friday, May 9, 1969, in Fauna Districts No's 8 and 11. Approximately one third of the Honorary Wardens invited attended. The total number of people present was 62. The town of Dardanup was selected because of its central position within these Districts and the suitability of the facilities available.

The Minister for Fisheries and Fauna, Mr. G.C. MacKinnon, M.L.C., was also in attendance, together with the Member for Bunbury, Mr. M.C. Williams, M.L.A., the Members of the South-West Province, Mr. V.J. Ferry, M.L.C., and Mr. F. Willmott, M.L.C., and the Member for Lower West Province, Mr. M. McNeil, M.L.C. Four representatives of the Western Australian Wild Life Authority were also in attendance, as well as the Dardanup Shire President and Shire Clerk.

The value of this type of Conference was expressed in similar terms as was at the inaugural Conference at the town of Beverley earlier this year. It provided most fruitful and informative discussion sessions. Possibly the best gauge of the Conference's success was that 90% of those present participated in lively discussions during the break periods that followed the talks. These periods developed into most useful "two-way" communication sessions.

A number of interesting issues were aired. One of these was the concern expressed over aerial burning that is being carried out by the Forest Department, which normally consists of one single massive area on the one day. Many of those present considered that small animals had not sufficient time to escape the fire. The opening and closing date for the Duck Shooting Season received a fair share of comment. Pollution of farm dams by wild ducks, the erection of duck nesting boxes, the proposed introduction of duck shooters' licenses, and marron in farm dams were other topics under discussion by the Conference.