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MONTHLY **STAFF BULLETIN**

6) Jun 1969

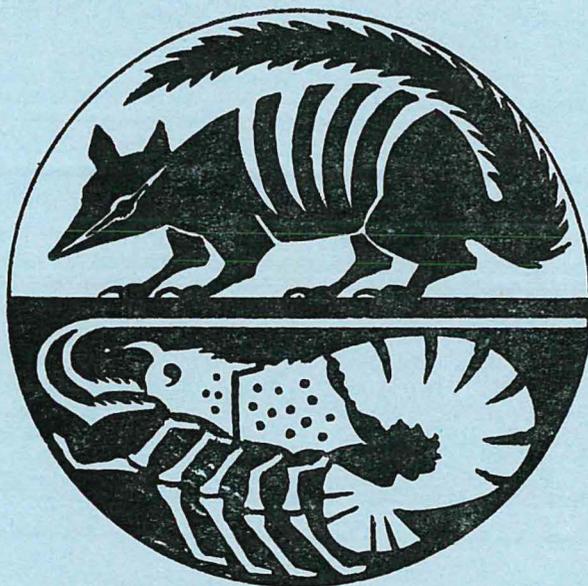
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

**STAFF**

**BULLETIN**

DEPARTMENT OF  
FISHERIES AND FAUNA  
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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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JUNE, 1969

VOL. XVIII, No. 6

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FAUNA  
108 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, Western Australia

# APPLICATION FOR GAZETTED VACANCY

DEPARTMENT OF  
FISHERIES AND FAUNA  
LIBRARY.  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The following circular dated June 10, 1969 was received from the Public Service Commissioner's office.

"There is an increasing number of applications for Gazetted Vacancies reaching this office after the specified closing date.

These applications have been excluded from consideration and the officers concerned have been advised accordingly. Following the rejection of applications, some officers have complained that their applications must have been held up within their Departments. In many cases, these complaints have been difficult to refute.

Country applicants have also complained, from time to time, of the difficulty in getting applications to this office within the specified period, mainly because of the necessity to send their applications through the Department in which they are employed. Departments with officers employed in Branch Offices, particularly in country areas, should ensure that officers are supplied with a copy of each Government Gazette as quickly as possible.

To avoid such complaints and allow country officers more time in which to post their applications, I have decided that as from the 23rd June, 1969, applications for Gazetted Vacancies are to be lodged direct with this office. It will be unnecessary to have applications countersigned by the Permanent Head or a responsible officer of a Department.

The application form (P.S.C. 15) has been redesigned and is now available from the Government Printer. The form provides for a dual acknowledgement - one to the applicant and the other to the Permanent Head of the Department in which the applicant is employed. Use of the existing form P.S.C. 15 should be discontinued.

With this change in procedure, officers should be informed that under no circumstances will late applications be accepted. The closing time for lodging applications in all cases is 5 p.m. on the date specified in the Government Gazette.

**LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**

An officer proceeding on annual or long service leave should arrange for a fellow officer to lodge applications on his behalf. Leave will not be accepted as an excuse for the late lodgement of an application."

\* \* \* \* \*

TUNA IN PERPETUAL MOTION

Tuna are heavier than salt water and must keep swimming to combat their negative buoyancy, according to studies of tuna in captivity. If they stop swimming they drift in a tail-first position toward the deep-ocean floor where they are unable to survive because of lack of oxygen.

(Extract from "Sea Frontiers", January-February, 1969)

\* \* \* \* \*

*Staff Notes*

A number of Head Office staff members had to contend with heavy attacks of "'flu" in the past month. However, despite absences from the office, business went on as usual.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Director, Mr. B.K. Bowen and the Chief Warden of Fauna, Mr. H.B. Shugg attended the Commonwealth Fauna-Conservation Conference at Canberra, on June 30 and July 1, 1969.

\* \* \* \* \*

Technical Officer Mr. D. Wright and the Inspector stationed at Lancelin, Mr. J. Kelly, will both proceed on three months' Long Service Leave as from August 4. It is understood that Mr. Kelly intends to visit New Guinea during his leave, and we wish him, as well as Mr. Wright a good vacation.

\* \* \* \* \*

Wise men say nothing in dangerous times.

- John Selden

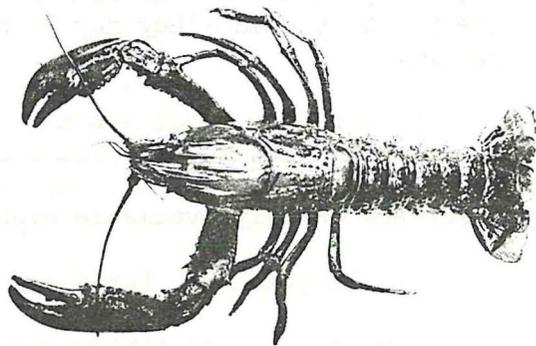
## MARRON RESEARCH

Dr. N.M. Morrissy, B.Sc. Hons., Research Officer, gave the following talk on A.B.C. Radio on June 10, 1969:

"In this brief talk I will tell you about the research being done on amateur and commercial exploitation of our native marron, or large freshwater crayfish, Cherax tenuimanus.

Marron are a very tasty animal. For both by country dwellers and tourists they are easy, and great fun, to catch on bush picnics during the summer months.

The presence of large marron in abundance in the many natural streams and large dams of the Southwest is a considerable sporting asset to the State and is available to everyone.



Many Western Australians would not be aware perhaps that in heavily populated countries overseas, and even interstate, considerable effort and money has to be spent to maintain similar amateur sport fisheries for the general public.

With the population of Western Australia now increasing dramatically the problem of overfishing of our marron populations has become a reality.

Research initiated by my Department in the past year or so has shown the real need for more control of marron fishing so that as many people as wish to can share in good marron fishing in years to come.

Apart from the sporting aspect of marron we are also lucky in that marron have what can only be described as an exciting and prominent future as a commercial fish product.

Overseas very large scale farming of freshwater crayfish has existed for many years, particularly in southern U.S.A. and continental Europe, where the very small native cray-

fishes are regarded as a great delicacy. These people and also the eastern states of Australia have become very interested in our large marron.

Does it need very much foresight to realize that in years to come we may be exporting marron to these countries where there is such a tremendous demand for crayfish? This of course will be possible only if marron remain exclusively in Western Australia.

My Department, with a view to the future commercial farming of marron, has been researching, for the past year or so, the potential of marron as an economic venture and also the means by which they may be best farmed to get a maximum return.

This research has shown that under certain conditions marron will grow to at least a saleable size of a  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb. in two years from spawning. They can also live and grow on cheap and readily available plant material.

So the potential for farming marron is there already.

Two lines of research have and are being pursued to discover the exact conditions of best farming marron.

Firstly, experiments in artificial ponds at Pemberton have shown to date means of reducing injury when the very aggressive marron are crowded.

However, the growth of marron on different foods and at various densities has been very poor until recently. The latest experimental conditions have given more promising results and some marron have grown  $\frac{1}{2}$ " in two months.

Measurements of the amount of food eaten by each marron has shown the need for using high water temperatures throughout the year.

From adult marron held in the ponds we have successfully bred young marron this year and these are being reared in artificial shelters imitating their natural habitat.

Besides three concrete outdoor ponds we now have two large earth ponds for holding very young and adult marron, respectively, for experiments. A laboratory in the new Trout Hatchery at Pemberton will have aquaria where experiments will be done on marron feeding at controlled high water tempera-

tures, and also on their tolerance of very high values of salt and temperature.

Secondly, research has been done on the success of marron sold to farmers, from Pemberton, in the Great Southern Wheat belt and sheep grazing areas. These marron go into the excavated earth type of dam which is very common in this very large region.

We have had considerable success in finding the characteristics of dams where marron establish themselves.

In the particular type of dam where they become established, marron without any care or farming, are very successful.

In some cases we found dams which were not being fished enough each year. Per acre of surface water up to 100 lbs. of large marron can accumulate in such dams with moderate fishing.

Techniques of improving these dams for marron farming are now known and methods of maintaining large catches can be recommended.

Although sale of marron is at present prohibited to protect the amateur sport fishery there is a considerable likelihood that with a moderate amount of work and the right methods farmers could exploit marron commercially in these farm dams.

A booklet containing information about marron in general, and in farm dams, will be available from the Department shortly, (A similar booklet is now available on trout).

There has been a considerable demand from people for information on marron farming as a commercial venture. The idea is not a new one. The advice necessary can only come from careful, detailed research which the Department is actively pursuing."

\* \* \* \* \*

I believe there is nothing among  
mankind swifter than a rumour.

- Plautus



**SUPERANNUATION AND FAMILY BENEFITS ACT**

The Secretary for the Superannuation Board has advised that amendments to the Superannuation and Family Benefits Act which came into force on May 16, 1969, have a number of new provisions. Some of these are:

1. An extension of the unit entitlement scale from 50 units to 70 units. For each \$260 of annual salary above \$10,660 one additional unit is available. Any officer who was contributing for the maximum of 50 units immediately prior to the commencement of the 1969 Amendment Act is allowed a period of 12 months in which he may increase units without medical certificate requirements.
2. Where the number of units held by a contributor on attainment of his elected retiring age exceeds twenty a number of "non-contributory" units is credited to him each of which provide an amount of \$65 per annum in addition to previous pension entitlement. As the term implies, the State provides the additional benefit without cost to the contributor.

SCALE

Number of units of pension contributed for by contributor and held by him on retirement.	Number of additional non-contributory units of pension to which contributor is entitled.	
21	1	
22	2	
23	3	
24	4	
25	5	
26	6	
27	7	
28	8	
29	9	
<u>exceeds</u>	<u>does not exceed</u>	
29	32	10
32	35	10½
35	38	11

Cont...

Number of units of pension contributed for by contributor and held by him on retirement	Number of additional non-contributory units of pension to which contributor is entitled
---	---

<u>exceeds</u>	<u>does not exceed</u>	
38	41	11½
41	44	12
44	47	12½
47	50	13
50	53	13½
53	56	14
56	59	14½
59	62	15
62	65	15½
65	68	16
68	70	16½

In respect of existing pensioners, an increase in the State's share of pension has been provided by increasing that share by a percentage increase in accordance with the Cost of Living Index between 1954 and 1968. A maximum increase is fixed in relation to the applicable percentage increase for a 20 unit pension. In addition to the cost of living increase, the pensioner who held more than 20 units at retirement also receives the "non-contributory" benefit detailed in the previous paragraph. A widow's pension is paid at the rate of 22/35ths of her husband's entitlement but for his death. Payment of the additional benefits commenced from December 21, 1968.

\* \* \* \* \*

### ANNUAL RECREATION LEAVE

A number of applications for Annual Recreation Leave have been submitted during the week preceeding the date of commencement. All officers should note that it is not possible for the Salaries Clerk to make pay arrangements to suit the officers if the form is submitted only two weeks before the date of commencement. So remember, if you are about to take your Annual Leave, submit your application form approximately one month prior to the date you commence.

## DISTRICT REPORTS

### SHARK BAY

Inspector R. Smith reported at the end of May that prawn catches by trawlers operating in the waters of Shark Bay were still high. At that time the total prawns processed equalled the total processed to the end of July last year. He said if the present catch rate is maintained it could be a record year.

The good weather conditions prevailing so far in the area have been a major contributing factor, combined with the larger and more efficient vessels operating.

One evening during May anglers on the Carnarvon jetty caught between 120-200 Mulloway, weighing between 16 to 30 lbs. each. Normally the catch rate is only between 3 to 5 fish per night. On investigating a report that anglers left their catch laying on the jetty, it was revealed that only one bag containing five Mulloway was left behind. Apparently this was the only instance that this occurred.

Mr. Smith also reported that the whiting and mullet catch by professional fisherman at Denham had increased. He said that last year the catch was good, but this year it was even better. Some fishermen report that the schools observed are the best in years

\* \* \* \* \*

### INSTRUCTION TO INSPECTORS

No person who holds a current Professional Fisherman's License shall be issued with an Amateur Fisherman's License.

Any restriction whatsoever imposed in relation to any waters apply equally to amateur and professional fishermen, unless otherwise stated.

\* \* \* \* \*

What is the meaning of these damned little dots?

- Lord Randolph Churchill

# PROCLAIMED FISHING ZONE PORTION OF THE SOUTHERN OCEAN

[Extract from Government Gazette (No. 48) of  
7th May, 1965.]

Fisheries Act, 1905-1964.

Schedule.

## PROCLAMATION

WESTERN AUSTRALIA, } By His Excellency Major-General Sir Douglas  
TO WIT, { Anthony Kendrew, Knight Commander of the  
DOUGLAS ANTHONY Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and  
KENDREW, Saint George, Companion of the Most Honour-  
Governor. able Order of the Bath, Commander of the  
[L.S.] Most Excellent Order of the British Empire,  
Companion of the Distinguished Service Order,  
Governor in and over the State of Western  
Australia and its Dependencies in the Com-  
monwealth of Australia.

F.D. 141/65, Ex. Co. No. 777.

WHEREAS it is enacted by subsection (2) of section 12A of the Fisheries Act, 1905-1964, that the Governor, on the recommendation of the Minister, may at any time and from time to time declare a specific portion of the State south of the thirty-second parallel being any part of the seashore up to high water mark, and any portion of Western Australian waters contiguous to that part of the seashore, to be a proclaimed fishing zone for the purposes of that Act during any specified time in any specified year or during a specified portion of every year; and whereas the Minister has recommended that the part of the seashore up to high water mark and the portion of Western Australian waters contiguous to that part of the seashore, as specified and described in the schedule hereunder, such seashore and contiguous waters being a specific portion of the State south of the thirty-second parallel, be declared a proclaimed fishing zone for the purposes of the Act referred to during the periods hereafter in this Proclamation mentioned: Now, therefore, I, the Governor, acting with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, do hereby declare that the parts of the seashore up to high water mark and the portions of Western Australian waters contiguous to those parts of the seashore, as specified and described in the schedule hereunder, shall be proclaimed fishing zones for the purposes of the Fisheries Act, 1905-1964, during the period ending on the 30th day of April, 1965, and during the period commencing on the 15th day of February and ending on the 30th day of April in each and every year thereafter.

- (a) All that portion of the Southern Ocean bounded by lines starting from a point on the high water mark of that ocean situate 190 degrees from the southern corner of Plantagenet Location 456 and extending 190 degrees 40 chains; thence 80 degrees to the high water mark of the Southern Ocean aforesaid and thence generally north-westerly along that mark to the starting point.
- (b) all that portion of the Southern Ocean bounded by lines starting from a point on the high water mark of that ocean lying south-east from a point on the south-eastern boundary of Torbay A.A. Lot 28 situate 43 chains north-easterly from the southern corner of that lot and extending south-east to a line parallel to and 40 chains south-easterly from the high water mark of the Southern Ocean aforesaid; thence generally south-westerly along that line to a point situate in prolongation easterly of the northern boundary of lot 41; thence westerly along that prolongation to the high water mark aforesaid and thence generally north-easterly along that mark to the starting point.
- (c) All that portion of the Southern Ocean bounded by lines starting from a point on the high water mark of that ocean situate at the easternmost extremity of Forsyth Bluff and extending south-east to a line parallel to and 40 chains easterly from the high water mark of the Southern Ocean aforesaid; thence generally southerly along that line to a point situate east of the southernmost extremity of Torbay Head; thence west to the high water mark aforesaid and thence generally north-easterly along that mark to the starting point.

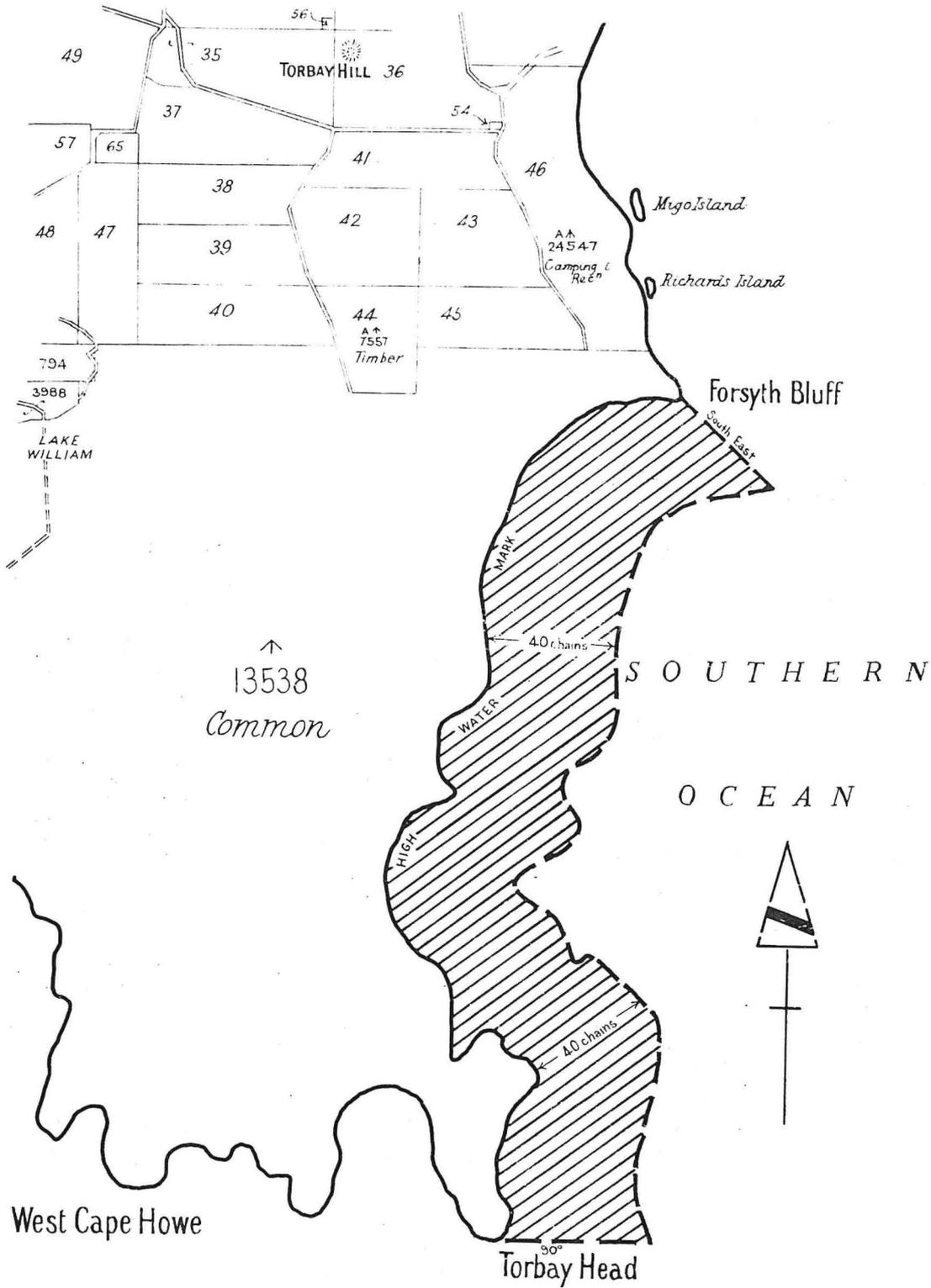
(Public Plan 457A/40.)

Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the said State, at Perth, this 21st day of April, 1965.

By His Excellency's Command,

ROSS HUTCHINSON,  
Minister for Fisheries and Fauna.

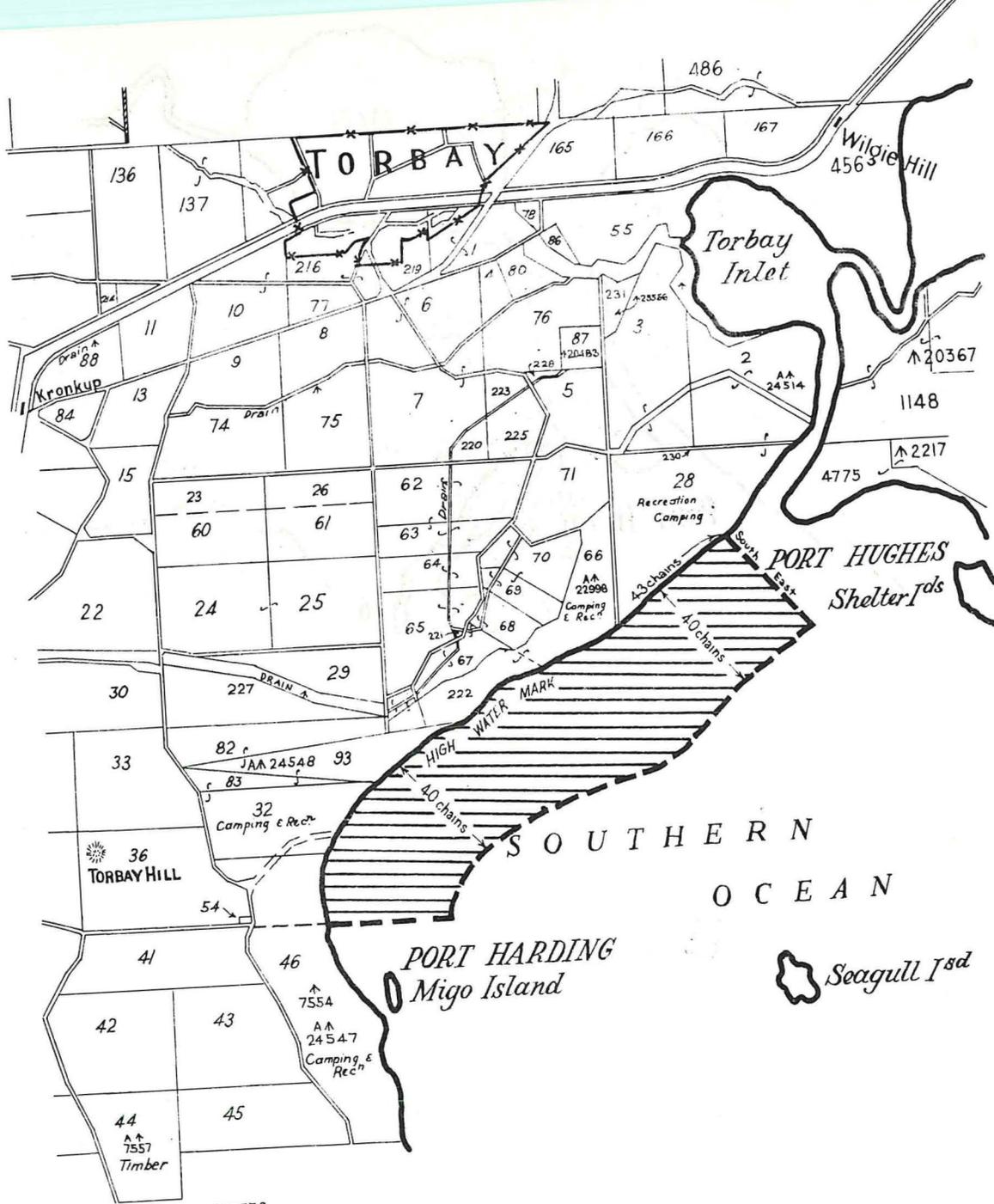
GOD SAVE THE QUEEN ! ! !



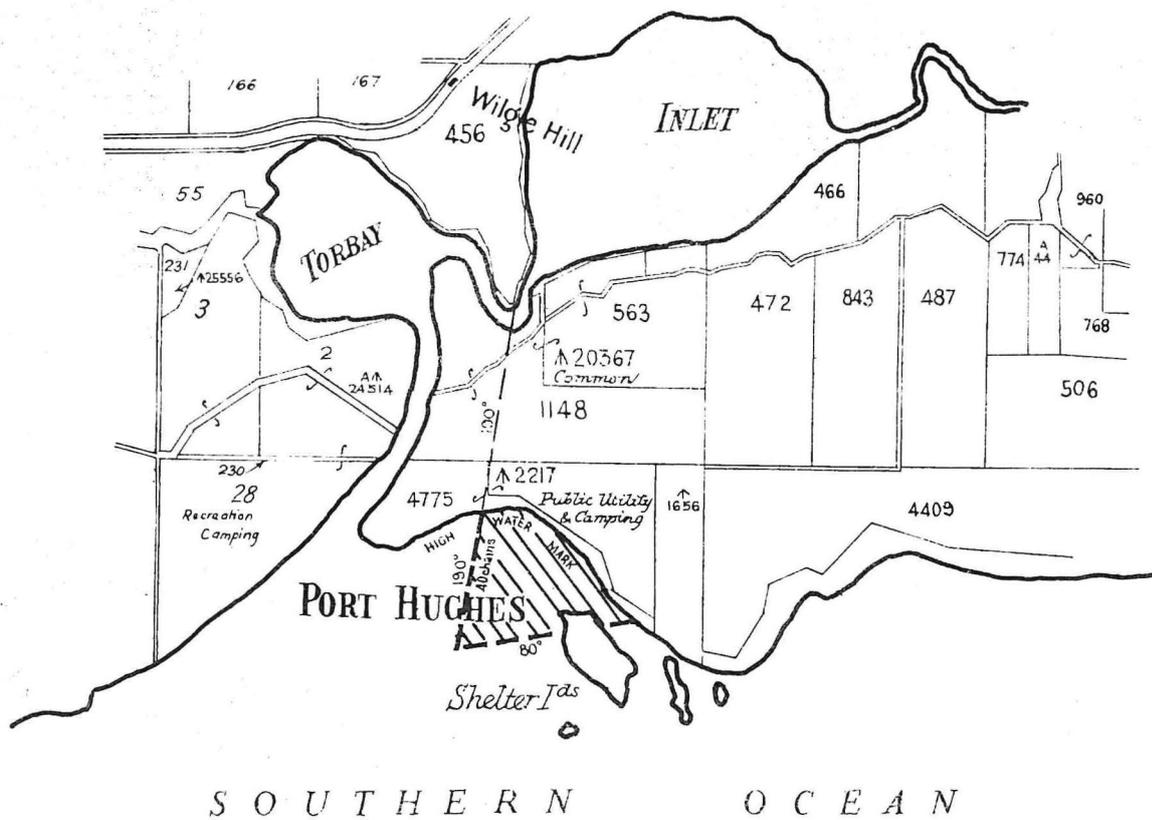
**PROCLAIMED FISHING ZONE  
PORTION OF THE SOUTHERN OCEAN**



PLAN 457<sup>A</sup>/<sub>40</sub>



↑13538  
Common



PROCLAIMED FISHING ZONE  
PORTION OF THE SOUTHERN OCEAN



SCALE



PLAN 457<sup>A</sup>/<sub>40</sub>

# BERNIER AND DORRE ISLANDS

For a number of years the controlling body of Class A reserve No. 24869, the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee until 1968, and since then the W.A. Wild Life Authority, has received requests to relinquish parts of Bernier Island to permit its development as a tourist resort. In July 1959, the Committee decided to arrange that a biological survey be made as there was no recent information available in relation to the status of the fauna and flora of this island.

In its report (published in Fauna Bulletin No. 2), the Committee made a number of recommendations.

Its examination of the biology of Bernier and Dorre Islands clearly showed that their fauna is quite outstanding, both in its biological interest and in its richness. As biological reserves, they are of paramount important to anyone who is conscious of the need for the permanent preservation of areas of natural land which clearly illustrate the state of Australia before the advent of the white man and his introductions.



The Western Hare-wallaby, *Lagorchestes hirsutus*, is the rarest wallaby of the Islands (adult female).

To the scientist and naturalist the faunas are unique. They are rich in species, as compared with other islands off the Western Australian coast, and they contain representatives of species which are now either rare or extinct on the mainland, or are only known from the two islands. In addition, Bernier and Dorre will provide generations of Western Australian biologists with the opportunity to study the interaction of closely related species in a restricted, but natural, environment. They will also act as standards of reference against which the changes, occurring on Dirk Hartogs and the adjacent peninsulas, as a result of human activity, can be measured.

The Committee was unanimous in recommending that Bernier and Dorre both remain natural reserves for the preservation of fauna and flora; that no part of them be utilized for any other purpose because of the danger of the unwitting introduction of alien species or fire; that no jetty or pier be built from them which, in allowing decked craft to moor alongside, might facilitate transference of alien species (such as rats) from vessels to the wharf; that parties of visitors to the Islands be strictly supervised to prevent accidents with fires; that dogs be prohibited; that firearms be prohibited, except by special permission of the Chief Warden of Fauna; that a major effort be made to acquaint the fishermen of the Bay with the great value of the reserves and the danger of lighting fires on them; and finally, that the goat population of Bernier Island be exterminated without delay.



*Alyogyne cuneiformis* at north end of Bernier Island showing destruction caused by browsing goats.

The Department, in its effort to carry out the recommendations which were adopted in toto, has implemented them where possible and conducted goat shoots on Bernier Island to keep the population minimal. The appointment of a permanent Warden at Carnarvon should assist further to have the Committee's recommendations more efficiently applied.

\* \* \* \* \*

## TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES

Officers who incur expenses, whilst travelling on Departmental business, in excess of the daily allowance that can be claimed, may make a special claim for recoup of this expenditure. However, the Public Service Commissioner has informed that consideration cannot be given to the special claim, unless receipts for the total expenditure incurred during the trip are supplied with the claim.

\* \* \* \* \*

## MONTHLY STAFF BULLETIN

You are probably aware that material published in this Bulletin is in no small way a result of contributions made by Departmental officers.

Even though this is so, there is still a considerable quantity of useful material not reaching this medium of communication. To overcome this shortcoming you are asked to submit news items to this office. The content does not have to be lengthy, as long as it contains the relevant points. This, however, is left to your discretion.

'News items' can be submitted as they happen or they can be submitted at least once a month.

\* \* \* \* \*

A woman's guess is much more  
accurate than a man's certainty.

- Rudyard Kipling



INCOME TAX DEDUCTIONS

- Life Assurance Premiums

The Income Tax Return forms "S", "A" and "B", showing particulars of income and deductions for the year 1st July, 1968 to 30th June, 1969 require taxpayers to show certain details of their life assurance policies in support of the claim for a deduction under Section 82H.

The Acting Commissioner for Taxation has agreed that where an employee is paying life assurance premiums by way of a deduction from wages or salaries through a Group Assurance Plan and the amount of such premium payment is included by the employer in Column 4 on the Group Certificate of earnings, the relevant section of the return may be completed as follows -

Life Assurance	Name of Company	Policy No.	Name of Assured	Amount \$	( Maximum Deduction \$1,200	
		( As per	( Self, Wife			(
		( Group	( Son, Daughter			(
		( Certificate	( as case may be.			(
Superannuation	Paid to					

It will be noted that the relationship of the life assured to the taxpayer is sufficient and that it is not necessary to show the actual name of the life assured.

If the taxpayer is also paying premiums on more than one life assurance or accident and sickness policy direct to one or more life assurance company, he must show the required details in respect of each such policy. A list may be attached where the available space is inadequate.

As the return form requires the claim for life assurance premium payments to be shown separately from superannuation contributions deductible under Section 82H, it would be of assistance to employees if the amounts for these two classes of deductions could be identified separately, wherever

possible, in Column 4 of the Group Certificate.

However, if you have both Superannuation and Voluntary Group Assurance Business and if details of the separate amounts are not available from your records, employees are advised to enter the name of the company alongside both items, insert a bracket covering the two entries, and enter the one amount as shown on their Group Certificate alongside the bracket.

Income Tax Return forms and Tax Instalment Deductions Declaration forms are available from the Staff Clerk.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### PATROL BOAT NEWS

The P.V. "Dampier", at present under the command of Mr. R. Faulkner is still operating in the Exmouth Gulf area. The crew of this vessel also provided information pertaining to the presence of fauna on Long Island, located north-east of Exmouth Gulf. In his report dated June 10, Mr. E. Forster recorded the presence of 60 to 80 Little Corellas on this island. The birds could be approached to within 20 yards and were mainly concentrated on the eastern end of the island.

The fitting of radar to the P.V. "Pelsart" was recently completed at Fremantle, and the vessel is now conducting patrols in the Abrolhos Islands area under the command of Mr. B. Smith.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### BRAINY SQUIDS

Squids, among the commonest creatures of the sea, have the nearest thing to a well-developed brain among back-boneless animals. The gigantic nerve fibres of some squids constitute the most massive inner signal system known in any animal. They also have highly complex eyes which are similar to, and in some ways superior to, human eyes.

\* \* \* \* \*

Sweet is revenge - especially to women.

- Byron

OFFENCES UNDER FISHERIES ACT

OFFENDER	D.O.O.	D.O.H.	COURT	OFFENCE	FINE
CASSIDY A.J.*	26.2.69	27.5.69	G/ton	Closed Waters	\$200
EDWARDS A.A.	28.2.69	20.6.69	G/ton	Unmarked craypots	\$25
	28.2.69	20.6.69	G/ton	Excess c/pots	\$25
ENGLETT H.C.	7.3.69	20.6.69	G/ton	Closed Waters	\$20
GREEN G.	4.12.68	26.6.69	Perth	U/S Crays	\$58
HUISMAN P.	2.2.69	8.5.69	Perth	U/S Crays	\$100 + \$24
JOHNSON W.J.	16.2.69	24.6.69	Albany	Closed Waters	\$40
LANTZKY W.R.	28.2.69	24.6.69	Albany	Closed Waters	\$30
MURPHY A.	22.2.69	10.6.69	Collie	U/S Marron	\$20 + \$480
ROLLANDS A.	20.1.69	20.6.69	G/ton	U/S Crays	\$100 + \$24
SHERWOOD M.	28.2.69	24.6.69	Albany	Closed Waters	\$20
SIMPSON M.J.	10.2.69	20.6.69	G/ton	U/S Crays	\$100 + \$2
VIRGA G.C.	23.2.69	16.5.69	G/ton	U/S Crays	\$100 + \$24
WEBER L.	7.3.69	20.6.69	G/ton	Closed Waters	\$50

\* = Commonwealth Fisheries Act  
 U/S = Under Size  
 C/pots = Craypots

OFFENCES UNDER FAUNA CONSERVATION ACT

GIONCOLA N.	20.11.68	18.6.69	Perth	Killing P/F	\$50
GIVLIANI D.	13.2.69	23.5.69	Perth	U/L Holding of P/F	Cautioned
THOMPSON B.	17.3.69	24.6.69	Albany	U/L Sale of Fauna	Cautioned

U/L = Unlicensed  
 P/F = Protected Fauna

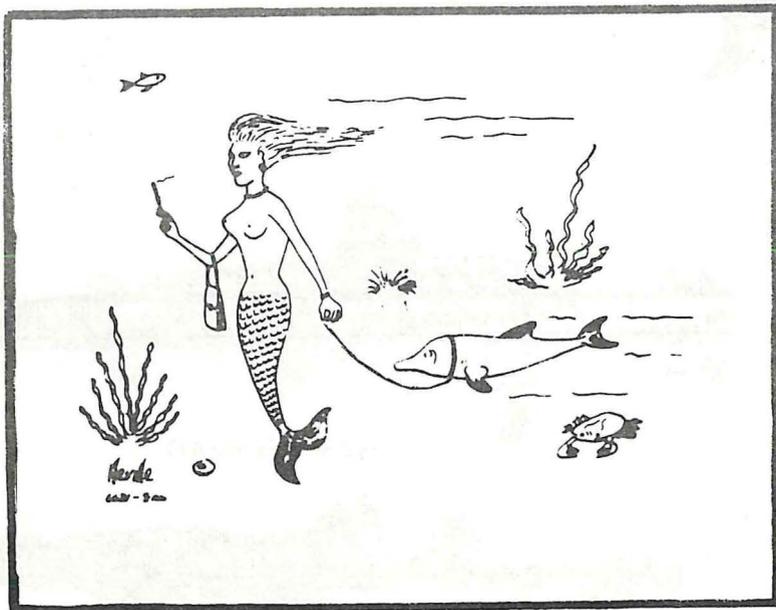
## Staff Notes

Fauna Warden, Mr. L. Moss, has taken up duty in his fauna district with his headquarters located at Carnarvon. One of the major aspects of his responsibility will be Dorre and Bernier Islands, some 30 miles off the Western Australian mainland. Together they comprise Class A Reserve 24869. The total area of these islands is approximately 26,000 acres, and the purpose of the reserve, which is vested in the Western Australian Wild Life Authority, is "Conservation of Fauna".

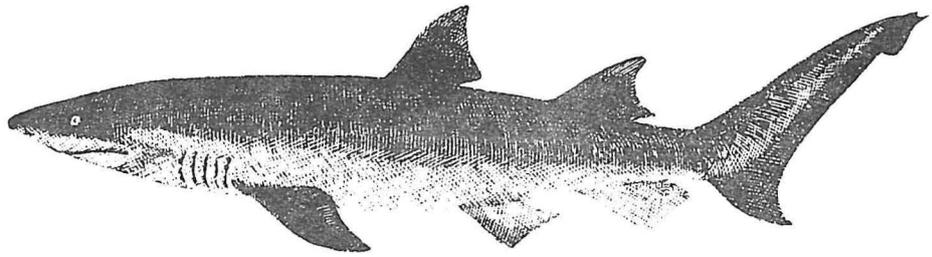
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Promotions - Congratulations are extended Mr. D.R. Munro on his appointment as Technical Officer, G-II-1/2, Fauna Research Branch, and to Mr. K.D. Morrison on his appointment as Warden, G-II-1/2. Mr. Morrison will be stationed at Pingelly and responsible for Fauna District No. 9.

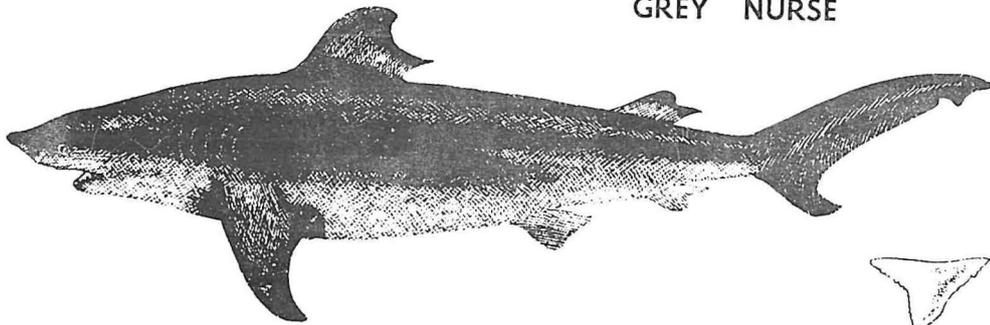
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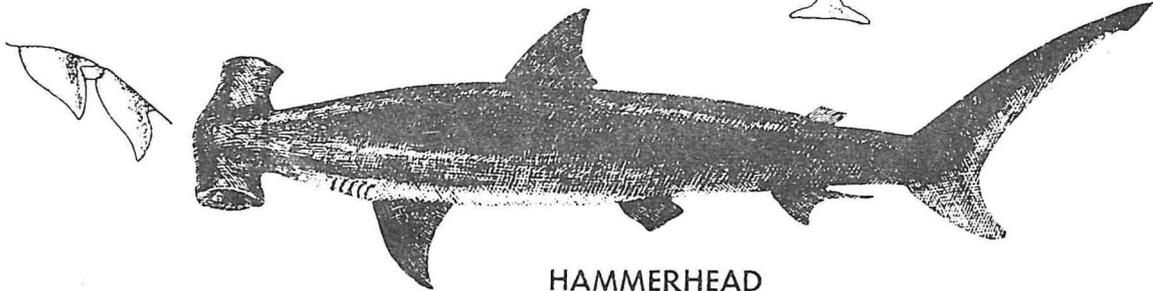
# SHARKS AND THEIR TEETH



GREY NURSE



WHALER



HAMMERHEAD



WOBEGONG



(EXTRACT: NATURE WALKABOUT  
MAY 1969)