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MONTHLY STAFF BULLETIN

18(10) Oct 1969

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

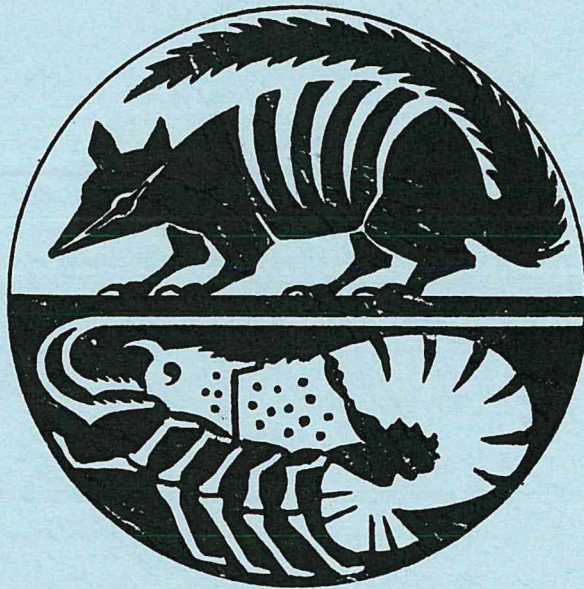
STAFF

BULLETIN

DEPARTMENT OF
FISHERIES AND FAUNA
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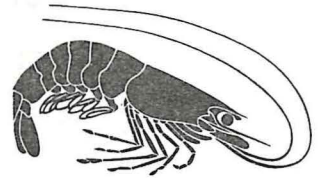
OCTOBER, 1969

VOL. XVIII, No. 10

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

PRAWNING POLICY AS FROM JANUARY 1970

The Minister for Fisheries and Fauna has handed down the following prawn policy in relation to Shark Bay and Exmouth Gulf. This will operate as from January 1, 1970:



POLICY

- (A) The line marking the northern extremity of the Exmouth Gulf prawning area is changed from its present position to that shown in the map contained in Diag. 1.
- (B) A guaranteed minimum through-put is an essential pre-requisite for the major processing establishments of Nor' West Whaling Company at Carnarvon and M.G. Kailis Gulf Fisheries Pty. Ltd. at Exmouth.
- (C) The principle of single concessions is to be adopted.
- (D) A number of the additional licenses to be issued for Exmouth Gulf will be granted with the proviso that the additional licensed vessels supply M.G. Kailis Gulf Fisheries Pty. Ltd. only.

The effect of this policy and the method of implementation is set out below:

(1) SHARK BAY

- (a) The number of vessels authorised to fish for prawns will not be increased above the present level of 30.
- (b) The division of the authorizations between shore-based factory and the "independent" vessels will remain at 18 and 12 respectively.
- (c) Vessels with present authorization for Shark Bay will retain them for the years 1970 and 1971. These concessions are granted to a combination of the owner and the boat; any variation of this arrangement requires the approval of the Department of Fisheries and Fauna.

(2) EXMOUTH GULF

- (a) The line delimiting the Exmouth Gulf area has been altered to that shown in the map. See Diag. 1.
- (b) The number of vessels authorised to fish for prawns in Exmouth Gulf will be increased from the present 17 to 20.
- (c) The division of the authorizations for the 20 vessels will be:
 - (i) Eleven vessels supplying to M.G. Kailis Gulf Fisheries Pty. Ltd.
 - (ii) Four vessels supplying to Ross Fisheries (Australia) Pty. Ltd.
 - (iii) Five vessels to be "independent" vessels.
- (d) Vessels with present authorization for Exmouth Gulf will retain them for the years 1970 and 1971. This concession is granted to a combination of the owner and the boat; any variation of this arrangement requires the approval of the Department of Fisheries and Fauna.

(3) APPLICATIONS FOR PRAWNING CONCESSION

There will be one vacancy in Exmouth Gulf and possibly one vacancy in Shark Bay for the 1970 prawning season. Persons wishing to apply for either of these concessions should do so in writing to the Director, Department of Fisheries and Fauna, 108 Adelaide Tce., Perth, by November 15, 1969.

Applications should include details of the history of the applicant's fishing activities and experience.

(4) AUTHORIZATIONS 1972-1974

- (a) All fishermen desiring to nominate for authorization to fish for prawns in either Shark Bay or Exmouth Gulf during the years 1972, 1973 and 1974 are required to lodge an application, together with a history of their fishing activities to the Director, Department of Fisheries and Fauna, 108 Adelaide Terrace, Perth by not later than September 30, 1970.

DEPARTMENT OF
FISHERIES AND MARINE
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SHARK BAY
FISHERIES RESTRICTIONS

FISHERIES ACT
REGULATIONS

[Extract from Government Gazette (No. 65) of
17th August, 1962.]

Fisheries Act, 1905-1961.

PROCLAMATION

WESTERN AUSTRALIA, }
TO WIT, } By His Excellency Lieutenant-General Sir Charles
CHARLES HENRY } Henry Gairdner, Knight Commander of the Most
GAIRDNER, } Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint
Governor, } George, Knight Commander of the Royal Vic-
[L.S.] } torian Order, Knight Commander of the Most
} Excellent Order of the British Empire, Com-
} panion of the Most Honourable Order of the
} Bath, Governor in and over the State of
} Western Australia and its Dependencies in the
} Commonwealth of Australia.

F.D. 181/62, Ex. Co. No. 1599.

IN pursuance of the provisions of section 9 of the Fisheries Act, 1905-1961, I, the Governor of the State of Western Australia, by and with the advice and consent of Executive Council, do hereby prohibit all persons from taking any species of prawns whatsoever by means of fishing nets known as or called "Trawl Nets" in all those portions of Western Australian waters described in the schedule hereto from the 1st day of January, to the 30th day of December in every year.

Schedule.

Those waters of Shark Bay—

- (a) bounded on the north by a line extending east from Cape Bellefin to the western shore of Peron Peninsula, on the north-east by that shore, on the east and south by the shores of Henri-Freycinet Estuary and on the west by the eastern shore of Edel Land.
- (b) bounded on the north by a line extending east from Cape Peron North to the shore of the mainland, on the east and south by that shore and on the west by the eastern shore of Peron Peninsula.

Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the said State, at Perth, this 10th day of August, 1962.

By His Excellency's Command,

ROSS HUTCHINSON,
Minister for Fisheries.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN ! ! !

[Extract from Government Gazette (No. 55) of
26th July, 1963.]

FISHERIES ACT, 1905-1962.

Fisheries Department,
Perth, 23rd July, 1963.

F.D. 167/53.

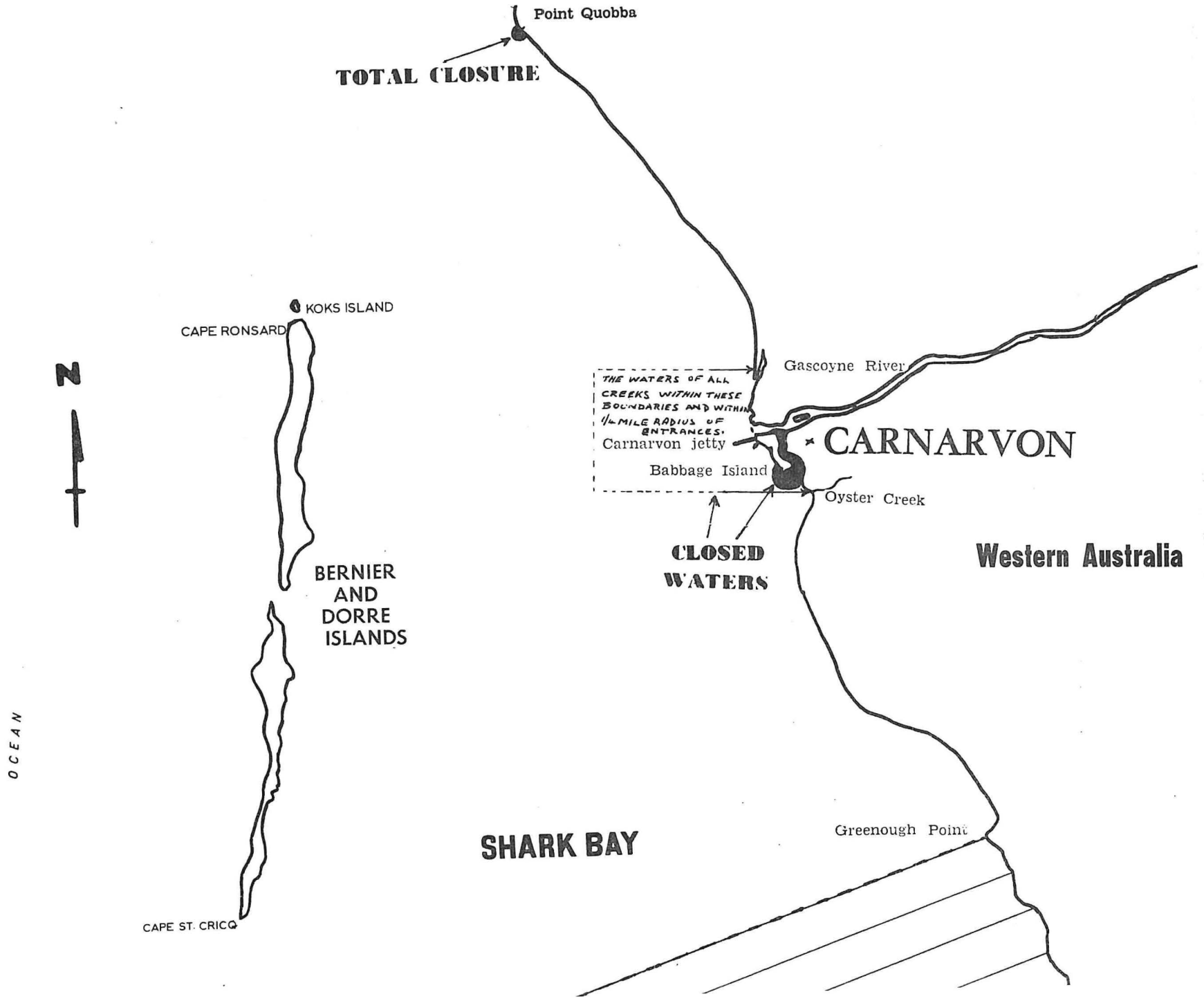
IT is hereby notified for general information that the Minister for Fisheries, acting pursuant to the provisions of section 17 of the Fisheries Act, 1905-1962, has imposed in respect of fishing licenses, in addition to the conditions so imposed and notified in the *Government Gazette* published on the 8th June, 1962, the following conditions:—

- (8) No licensed fishing boat shall be used, and no person shall permit or suffer such boat to be used for the purpose of taking prawns in any of the waters of the Indian Ocean and Shark Bay lying between the parallels of 24 deg. 30 min. and 27 deg. 0 min. of south latitude and east of 112 deg. 50 min. of east longitude.
- (9) No fishing boat licensed on or after the 1st day of March, 1963, shall be used and no person shall permit or suffer such boat to be used for the purpose of taking crayfish in any portion of the waters of the Indian Ocean lying between the 24th and 34th parallels of south latitude.
- (10) Licensed fishing boats engaged in the taking of crayfish shall not carry or use at any one time, and no person shall permit or suffer such boat to carry or use at any one time, more than three crayfish pots for each foot of the registered licensed length of the boat, provided that no boat which exceeds 66 feet in length, when so engaged, shall carry or use at any one time more than two hundred such pots.

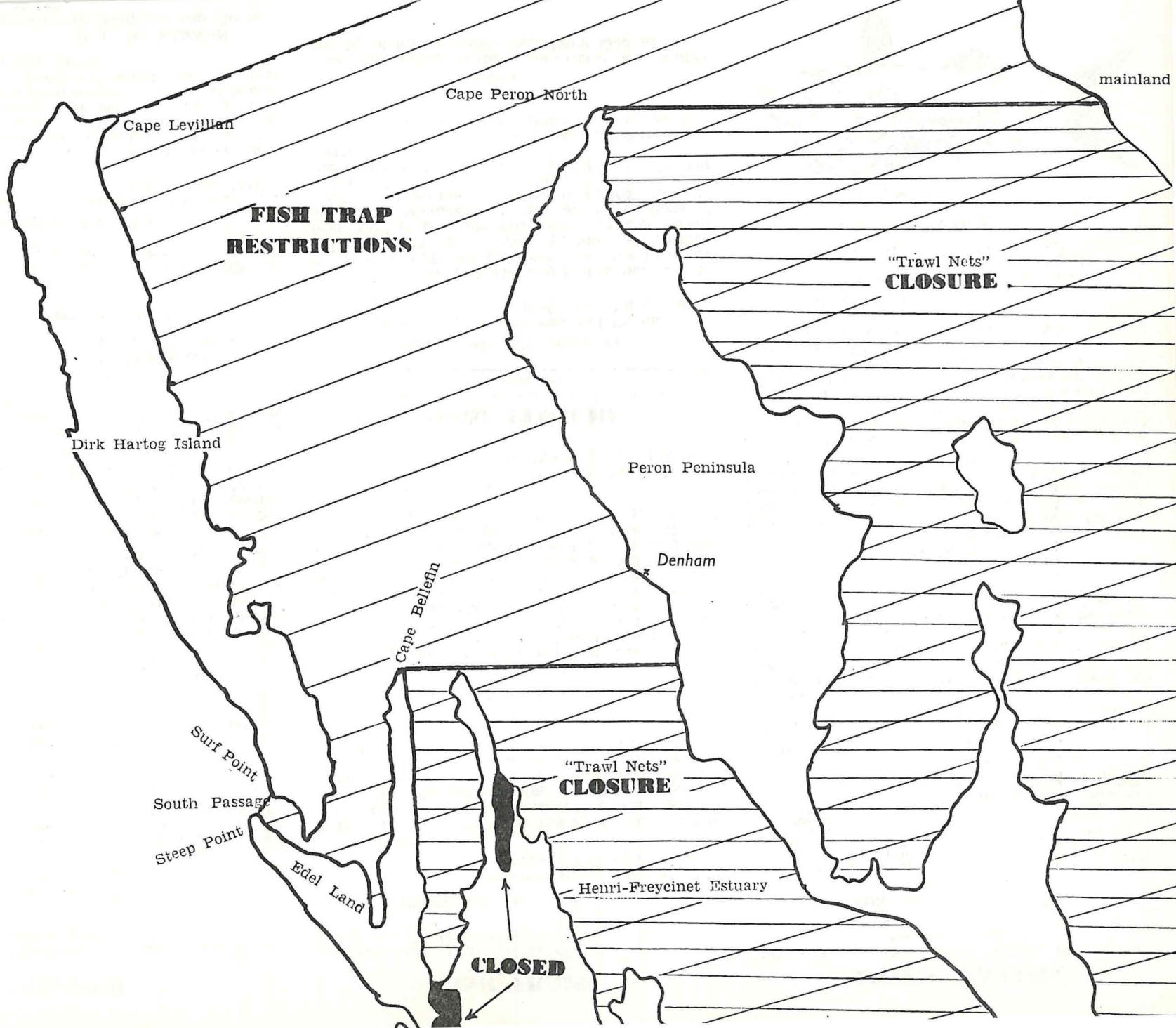
A. J. FRASER,
Director.

Fishing in Shark Bay.

12E. No person shall use for the purpose of taking fish any net comprised wholly or in part of mesh of less than one and seven-eighths inches in the Western Australian waters of Shark Bay.



INDIAN



CRAYFISH

[Extract from Government Gazette (No. 60) of
9th August, 1963.]

Fisheries Act, 1905-1962.

PROCLAMATION

WESTERN AUSTRALIA, } By His Excellency The Honourable Sir John
TO WIT, } Patrick Dwyer, Knight Commander of the Most
JOHN PATRICK DWYER, } Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint
Lieutenant-Governor and } George, Lieutenant-Governor and Administrator
Administrator. } in and over the State of Western Australia
[L.S.] } and its Dependencies in the Commonwealth of
Australia.

F.D. 184/51, Ex. Co. No. 1550.

IN pursuance of the provisions of section 9 of the Fisheries Act, 1905-1962, I, the Lieutenant-Governor and Administrator of the State of Western Australia, by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, do hereby prohibit all persons from taking by any means of capture whatsoever, the fish known as or called "crayfish" in all Western Australian waters lying between the 24th and 34th parallels of South Latitude for the period from and including the 15th day of August to and including the 14th day of November in each and every year, the first of which periods shall commence on the 15th day of August, 1963.

The Proclamation dated 26th November, 1958, and published in the *Government Gazette* (No. 101) of 5th December, 1958, and the Proclamation dated 28th January, 1960, and published in the *Government Gazette* (No. 10) of 5th February, 1960, are hereby revoked.

Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the said State, at Perth, this 15th day of July, 1963.

By His Excellency's Command,
ROSS HUTCHINSON,
Minister for Fisheries.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN ! ! !

[Extract from Government Gazette (No. 103) of
2nd December, 1966.]

FISHERIES ACT, 1905-1966.

Department of Fisheries and Fauna,
Perth, 21st November, 1966.

F.D. 460/66.

THE Minister for Fisheries and Fauna, pursuant to the powers conferred by section 9 of the Fisheries Act, 1905-1966, doth hereby prohibit all persons from taking any crayfish whatsoever in any Western Australian waters by means of fishing nets which are comprised wholly or partly of natural or synthetic fibres.

G. C. MacKINNON,
Minister for Fisheries and Fauna.

FISH TRAPS

[Extract from Government Gazette (No. 17) of
11th February, 1966.]

FISHERIES ACT, 1905-1965.

Department of Fisheries,
Perth, 3rd February, 1966.

F.D. 28/61.

THE Minister for Fisheries and Fauna, pursuant to the powers conferred by section 10 of the Fisheries Act, 1905-1965, doth hereby prohibit all persons from taking any fish whatsoever by means of fish traps in any of the Western Australian waters specified in the schedule hereto from 17th February, 1966.

Schedule.

All that portion of the Indian Ocean known as Shark Bay, bounded on the north by a line extending east-north-easterly from Cape Levillian on the northern end of Dirk Hartog Island to Greenough Point on the mainland, on the east and south by the shores of the mainland and on the west by the outer entrance to South Passage, being a line extending north-easterly from Steep Point on the mainland to Surf Point on Dirk Hartog Island, and by the southern and eastern shores of Dirk Hartog Island. (Public Plans 74/300, 75/300, 57/300 and 120/300.)

G. C. MacKINNON,
Minister for Fisheries and Fauna.

TOTAL CLOSURE

(Extract from Government Gazette (No.54)
of 14th June, 1968)

FISHERIES ACT, 1905-1967.

Department of Fisheries and Fauna,
Perth, 5th June, 1968.

F.D. 77/68.

THE Minister for Fisheries and Fauna, pursuant to the powers conferred by section 9 of the Fisheries Act, 1905-1967, does hereby prohibit all persons from taking any fish whatsoever by any means of capture whatsoever in any of the portions of Western Australian waters described in the schedule hereto, from the date of publication of this notice in the *Government Gazette* until further notice.

G. C. MacKINNON,
Minister for Fisheries and Fauna.

Schedule.

All that portion of the Indian Ocean within one-quarter of a mile radius from Point Quobba.

CLOSED WATERS

[Extract from Government Gazette (No. 32) of
2nd April, 1965.]

Fisheries Act, 1905-1964.

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. 53/45, Ex. Co. No. 540.

IN pursuance of the provisions of section 10 of the Fisheries Act, 1905-1964, I, the Governor of the State of Western Australia, by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, do hereby prohibit all persons from taking any fish whatsoever by means of fishing nets in any of the portions of Western Australian waters specified in the schedule hereto for a period of five years from the date of publication of this Proclamation in the *Government Gazette*.

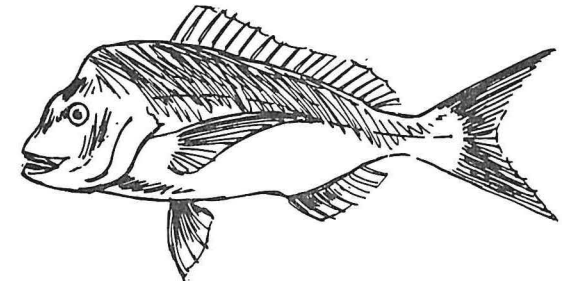
Schedule.

All that portion of the Gascoyne River (near Carnarvon) lying south of a line drawn due east from the north-east extremity of Babbage Island and all that portion of Western Australian waters within a radius of one half of a mile of the south entrance to the Gascoyne River.

The waters of all creeks within a distance of five miles due north of the Carnarvon jetty and the waters of all creeks south of the Carnarvon jetty to the southerly bank of Oyster Creek and all those portions of Western Australian waters within a radius of one quarter of a mile of the entrances of the aforesaid creeks.

Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the said State, at Perth, this 9th day of March, 1965.

By His Excellency's Command,
ROSS HUTCHINSON,
Minister for Fisheries and Fauna.
GOD SAVE THE QUEEN ! ! !

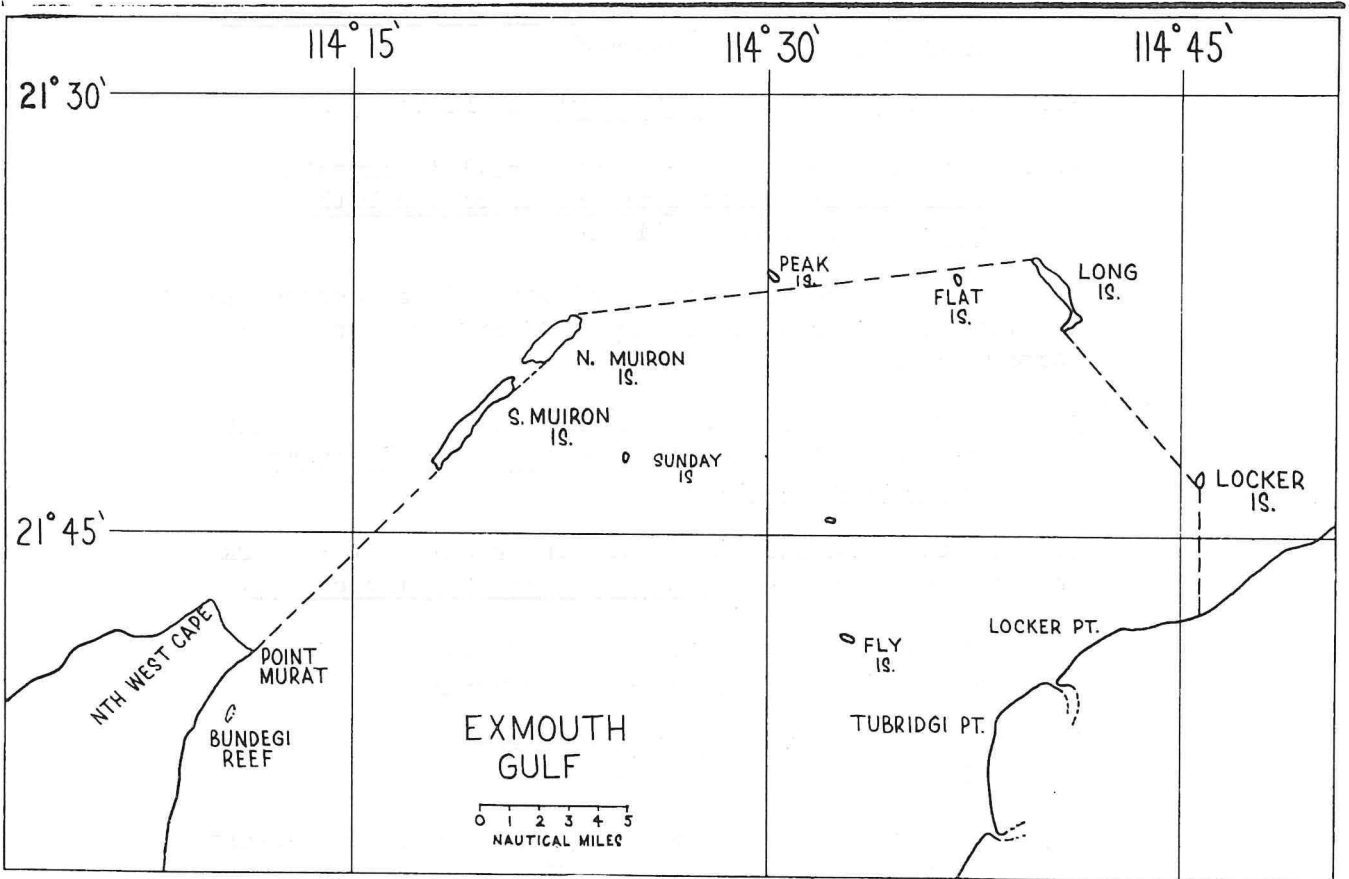


- (b) Preference for the allocation of authorizations for the years 1972, 1973 and 1974 will be given to those vessels which are well equipped as prawn trawlers and which do not hold rock lobster concessions.

(5) GENERAL CONDITIONS

The conditions which will apply to trawling in 1970 and 1971 will remain the same as those which applied in 1969 and will be as follows:

Diagram No. 1



1. Boats authorized to trawl for prawns in Shark Bay-Carnarvon area also having crayfishing rights.
 - 1.1. January 1 to April 30 may operate in Shark Bay-Carnarvon area and in other waters lying north of the 20th parallel of south latitude.
 - 1.2. May 1 to July 31 must trawl in the Shark Bay-Carnarvon area.
 - 1.3. August 1 to December 31 may operate in the Shark Bay-Carnarvon area and in waters lying north of the 20th parallel of south latitude.
2. Boats authorized to trawl for prawns in Exmouth Gulf and also having crayfishing rights.
 - 2.1. January 1 to April 30 may operate in Exmouth Gulf and in other waters lying north of the 20th parallel of south latitude.
 - 2.2. May 1 to July 31 must trawl in Exmouth Gulf.
 - 2.3. August 1 to December 31 may trawl in Exmouth Gulf and in waters lying north of the 20th parallel of south latitude.
3. Boats having crayfishing rights and not authorized to prawn in the restricted areas of either Shark Bay-Carnarvon or Exmouth Gulf.
 - 3.1. May trawl for prawns in any locality during this year with the exception of Shark Bay-Carnarvon and Exmouth Gulf.
4. Boats authorized to trawl for prawns in the Shark Bay-Carnarvon area and not having crayfishing rights.
 - 4.1. January 1 to April 30 may trawl in any waters with the exception of Exmouth Gulf.
 - 4.2. May 1 to July 31 must trawl for prawns in the Shark Bay-Carnarvon area.
 - 4.3. August 1 to December 31 may operate in any waters with the exception of Exmouth Gulf.
5. Boats authorized to trawl for prawns in Exmouth Gulf and not having crayfishing rights.

- 5.1. January 1 to April 30 may trawl in any waters other than the waters of the Shark Bay-Carnarvon area.
- 5.2. May 1 to July 31 must trawl for prawns in Exmouth Gulf.
- 5.3. August 1 to December 31 may trawl in any waters with the exception of the Shark Bay-Carnarvon area.

In addition, fishermen are also advised that a further announcement may be made during 1970 in respect of Nickol Bay. If the prawn abundance is sufficiently high to attract a large number of boats, conditions may be imposed on boats operating in this Bay to the effect that night fishing is not permitted and that prawns caught must be landed for processing. However, such restrictions would be for a limited period of time only.

* * * * *

SCALLOP DREDGES IN SHARK BAY

The Minister for Fisheries and Fauna has decided to prohibit the use of dredges in the waters of the Indian Ocean and Shark Bay lying between the parallels of $24^{\circ}30'$ and $27^{\circ}0'$ of south latitude and east of $112^{\circ}50'$ of east longitude.

A notice to this effect was published in the Government Gazette on October 10, 1969.

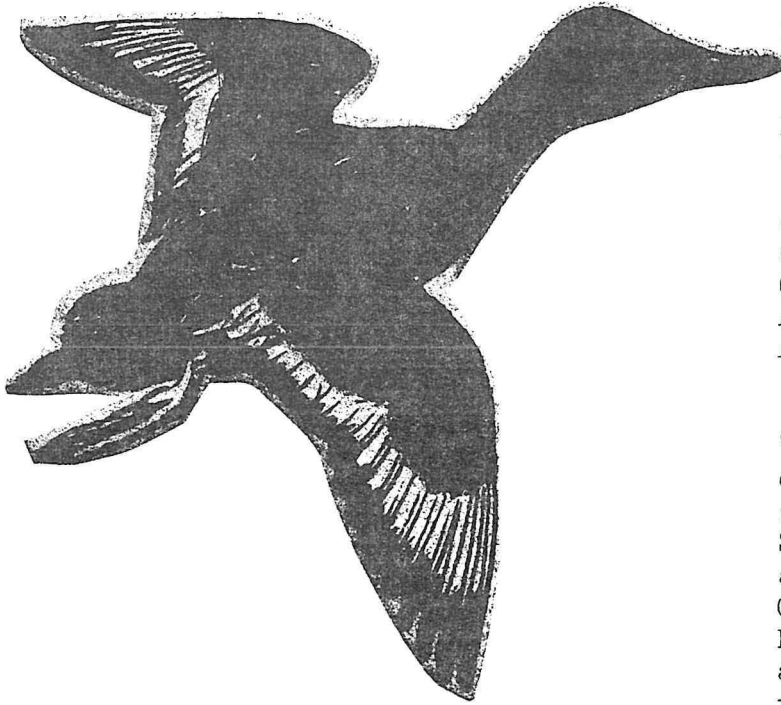
The prohibition of the use of dredges for taking scallops in the Shark Bay area will minimise the disturbance of bottom sediment on the prawning grounds which also contain stocks of scallops.

* * * * *

MURCHISON RIVER CLOSED TO SET NETS

The Minister for Fisheries and Fauna, pursuant to the powers conferred by section 9 of the Fisheries Act, 1905-1969, has issued a notice prohibiting all persons from taking any fish whatsoever by means of set nets in the whole of the waters of the Murchison River. Notice to this effect was published in the Government Gazette dated September 5, 1969.

NO DUCK SHOOTING SEASON IN
SOUTH WEST AND EUCLA LAND
DIVISIONS THIS SUMMER



Western Australia's drought has caused a complete ban on wild duck shooting for the 1969-70 season.

Fisheries and Fauna Minister MacKinnon took immediate action today after receiving a report from the Game Management Committee of the West Australian Wild Life Authority.

Mr. MacKinnon said "The drought has caused a critical situation in the State's Wetlands and after receiving the Committee's report I had no hesitation in agreeing to their recommendation that the wild duck season remain closed as I

believe the wild duck population could be dangerously reduced if any hunting is allowed this summer."

The Minister said that the Committee had carried out aerial and ground surveys during August and September including a ground survey in the major waterfowl areas in the South West.

Areas visited were Mandurah Estuary, Benger Swamp, Vasse and Wonnerup Estuary, Norring Lakes, Flagstaff Lake, Coyrecup Lake, Queerearrup Lake, Wagin Lake, Lake Gundaring, Dumbleyung Lake, Toolibin Lake, Lake Taarblin, White Lake, Little White Lake, Yearlering Lake, and Chammel Lakes System.

Few breeding birds were observed and all adult birds

were still bunched indicating that the drought has seriously affected the normal breeding behaviour.

Aerial surveys were also made of the places mentioned plus areas north and north-east of Perth and it was found that favoured duck shooting areas such as Oak Park, Lake Ninan, Lake Hindes, Moora Lakes were dry or nearly so, and others, including Lake Pinjareega, Lake Logue, Arrowsmith Lake, and the Snag Island Salt Lakes are expected to dry out early in the summer months.

Mr. MacKinnon said the Committee described the situation as critical and little or no breeding had been observed in either aerial or ground surveys and it is expected that the major populations of waterfowl will seek refuge in the areas from Lake Muir to Katanning.

This would make them particularly vulnerable the Minister said and for that reason he had agreed to ensuring their complete protection.

Mr. MacKinnon said it was a remarkable indication of the natural instincts of wild duck that even those at the South Perth Zoo, where ample water was available, had shown little or no breeding activity.

The Minister added that if any special reason arose such as big congregations on farm dams, applications for their dispersal could be made to the Department.

He added that he made the announcement as early as possible in an effort to assist businesses and hunters generally and while he realised the decision would come as a disappointment to many hunters he was confident that their general concern for the continuation of the species would result in all thinking people lending support to the decision.

* * * * *

"He must have had a magnificent build before his stomach went in for a career of its own.

- Halsey

W.A. WILD LIFE AUTHORITY REFUSES REQUEST
FOR RELEASE OF PORTION OF SANCTUARY

In April 1969 the Under Secretary for Lands advised that a person, representing a syndicate, made application for release of 1,000 acres of Reserve 23825. This reserve is located east of Esperance at Wylie Bay and is vested in the Authority for the "conservation of fauna". After the original application was refused, a further application was made for a lesser area of the reserve - some 465 acres and access road rights through the reserve.

The W.A. Wild Life Authority, after considering all the evidence before it and the Reserves Committee recommendations, decided to accept that Committee's recommendations.

These were:

- (1) The Reserves Committee was of the opinion that access roads from the north would accentuate the sand blow on the reserve.
- (2) That the best access route to the camping reserve at Wylie Bay was from the west.
- (3) The application should, therefore, be refused.

The Authority considered that this reserve has values to conservation in that it:

- (a) has a northern section of wetlands and game reserve;
- (b) is the only coastal strip for some distance under the control of the Authority;
- (c) has a transition from coastline beaches to wetlands;
and
- (d) can be used as a control area to show natural changes - shifting sand dunes, re-vegetation, floral and faunal successions.

* * * * *

CROCODILE SURVEY

Dr. H.R. Bustard, of the Research School of Biological Sciences, Australian National University, Canberra, undertook a survey of the saltwater crocodile (Crocodylus porosus) in the northern waters of Western Australia. The survey was of an exploratory nature to provide a situation report on this commercially exploited species.

During the period of the survey from September 22 to October 6, Dr. Bustard, together with an assistant and Mr. G. Hanley, the Department's Warden stationed at Wyndham, visited Cambridge Gulf, Admiralty Gulf, Vansittart Bay and Napier Broome Bay. Use was made of a charter boat to visit these areas as well as other estuary areas en route. Some time was also spent surveying suitable crocodile habitat by four wheel drive vehicle.

The World Wildlife Fund readily agreed to meet 50% of the cost of this initial survey by matching the Department's contribution of \$2,000. This survey will probably be followed up by another visit to the areas at a different time of the year to eliminate any seasonal factors that may affect it.

In an article entitled "The future of Australasian crocodiles" published in Wildlife, Dr. Bustard listed a number of important aims with regard to the conservation of the saltwater crocodile. These were:-

1. Prevent its extinction as a member of the Australian fauna.
2. Restore its status to a level where it can be seen readily in the far north of Australia.
3. Permit scientifically managed exploitation of the resource - when it is adequately restored, and at a level where a profitable industry can be sustained.
4. Set aside areas as "sanctuaries" in which continued total protection is assured.

Since the above aims in themselves will lead to controversy, it is important that scientific data is available on which to base specific recommendations. Hence the importance of such a survey and of such an ecological investigation into

such a heavily exploited species, commercially, as the saltwater crocodile is very apparent.

The Queensland Minister for Primary Industries, Mr. J.A. Row, M.L.A., who is responsible for fauna conservation in that State, recently advised the Western Australian Minister, Mr. G.C. MacKinnon, M.L.C., that Queensland will co-operate with Western Australia in the efforts to conserve our crocodiles. At present their Fauna Conservation Act covers birds and mammals only. Mr. Row has indicated that he is prepared to seek an amendment to the Act to provide supervision over the control of the taking of crocodiles.

PRESTON BEACH CLOSURE RENEWED

Since January 1, 1959, an area at Preston Beach, south of Mandurah, has been closed to net fishing to protect the interests of tourists and holiday-makers. The Waroona Shire Council requested that the closure be renewed, as it expired on August 31, 1969. The Preston Beach area is a very popular fishing beach for anglers and in March of this year the inaugural Western Australian beach anglers championships were held in that area.

The Minister for Fisheries and Fauna, pursuant to the powers conferred by section 10 of the Fisheries Act 1905-1969, issued a Notice published in the Government Gazette on August 29, 1969, which prohibits all persons from taking any fish whatsoever by means of a fishing net in the waters specified in the schedule below, as from September 1, 1969.

SCHEDULE

All that portion of the Indian Ocean bounded on the west by a line 20 chains from its high water mark, on the north by an east west line through a post on the foreshore 40 chains northerly from the northwest corner of lot 1 of Wellington Location 1321 as shown on Lands Titles Office Deposited Diagram 20707, on the east by the said high water mark and on the south by an east west line through a post on the foreshore 40 chains southerly from the southwest corner of lot 1 aforesaid.

GREY KANGAROOS

An amendment to previous proclamations for the taking of Grey Kangaroos was published in the Government Gazette of August 29, 1969. Within the Grey Kangaroo Reserve (bounded by 31° South Latitude from the coast to 118° East Longitude, and from that point to 34° South Latitude and from that point eastwards along that latitude to the coast) the only shires in which an "open season" on Grey Kangaroo now operates are:-

- (a) the shires of Albany, Augusta-Margaret River, Cranbrook and Plantagenet, and
- (b) that part of the Shire of Denmark north of the South Coast Highway.

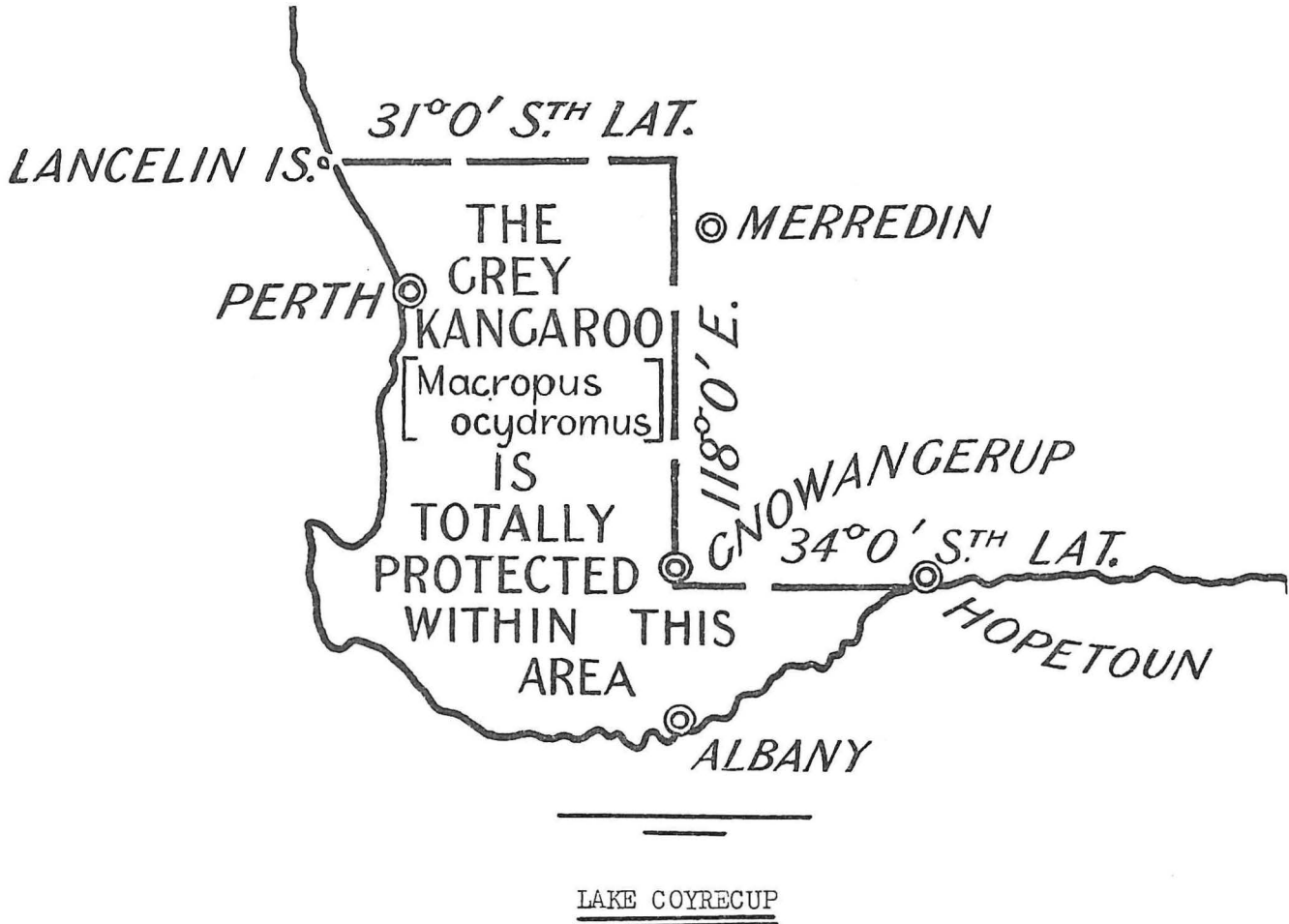
While the proclamation allows Grey Kangaroos to be taken on private land with the owner's consent or on vacant Crown land in the above shires, it does not allow them to be taken on National Parks or any sanctuary within the meaning of the Fauna Conservation Act 1950-1967.

Even within the Open Season areas the following conditions apply:-

1. A person shall not sell or take for the purpose of sale any Grey Kangaroo in the above areas unless he is the holder of the requisite license issued under regulation numbers 4, 5 or 6 of the Fauna Conservation Act regulations.
2. A person so licensed shall not sell any carcass or any part of any carcass of a Grey Kangaroo to any person who is not the holder of an appropriate license issued pursuant to the provisions of the Fauna Conservation Act and regulations.
3. Except on his own land, or on other alienated or leasehold land with the consent of the owner or occupier, a person shall not use any dog in the taking or suffer or permit any dog under his control to take or assist in the taking of Grey Kangaroos.

Any property holder whose property is within the boundaries of the four shires named, or in that part of the shire of Denmark which is open may destroy kangaroos on his property without a license provided he does not intend to sell the skin or any part of the carcass.

A property holder whose property is not within the boundaries of the shires mentioned in paragraph 1 may, if kangaroos cause damage to his property, ring, write or call on the nearest District Warden or on this office and discuss the need for a permit to destroy.



The Under Secretary for Lands has advised that Executive Council has approved of Lake Coyrecup, Reserve 28552, being classified Class "A" for the purpose of "Flora, Fauna and Recreation". It is also vested in the Western Australian Wild Life Authority for control and management. Notice to this effect was published in the Government Gazette on August 8, 1969.

Lake Coyrecup comprises an area of about 1165 acres and is located in the Katanning Shire, some 19 miles east of Katanning. Its classification is a wetland area open to shooting.

NOTED CONSERVATIONIST TO VISIT W.A.

Professor Ian McTaggart Cowan, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies at the University of British Columbia, Canada, is to visit Australia for a period of six months, commencing in December 1969. It has been suggested that Professor Cowan might undertake a review of the various research and management programmes on waterbirds in the various Australian states during his visit, and that he prepare a report that could be submitted to the Australian Committee on Waterbirds.

The various State Fauna Authorities at the 1968 Australian Fauna Authorities Conference stated their willingness to assist Professor Cowan during his visit. Our Department has offered every assistance to Professor Cowan in his survey as it is of the opinion that Western Australia would profit considerably from his expertise.

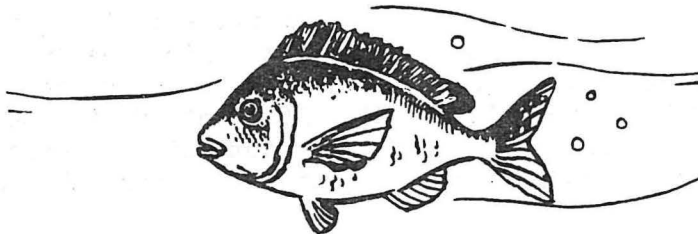
* * * * *

BROLGA

Mr. G. Hanley, the Department's Warden stationed at Wyndham, recorded sighting approximately 300 Brolga in one group. The birds were feeding in harvested cotton fields near Kununurra. Observation indicated that they were feeding on either insects or seeds. Mr. Hanley made the sighting during the later half of July, 1969.

The Brolga (Grus rubicunda), also known as the Native Companion, is a bird of the Kimberley Division but has now penetrated into the North-West. Only recently Mr. L.R. Moss of Carnarvon, sighted two near the Minilya River.

* * * * *



SAND DUNE HABITATSWANBOURNE - MARMION

During 1969 the W.A. Wild Life Authority considered the possibility of preserving the natural flora and fauna of the coastal dune formations between Swanbourne and Marmion. A special sub-committee was set up to investigate the possibility of having vacant Crown land set aside for the conservation of flora and fauna.

In its investigation the sub-committee interviewed representatives of the two local authorities - the Shire of Perth and the Perth City Council.

The Perth City Council indicated that the general planning of the beach front provides for the area between the Boulevard and Oceanic Drive to be developed with bathing facilities for public recreation. This area will be levelled, with lawns and shade trees provided. The area south, to the boundary of the city, will provide some recreational facilities, but the details of any possible development have not yet been finally decided. Northwards from the Boulevard provides for no development of the area. This section is to be left in its natural state.

The City Council is of the opinion that in a built up area, large numbers of the public will use these undeveloped areas and, therefore, such locations could hardly be considered suitable for reserves for the protection of the fauna. When the public use the sand dunes, the vegetation is destroyed and creates areas which are then subject to erosion by wind. Eventually complete dunes can become denuded of vegetation. These bare dunes can then create problems of shifting sand, the result being encroachment of sand onto roads and private property. The council said it fully appreciates the Authority's concern, but unless the public are virtually excluded from a sand dune area, great difficulty will be found in retaining the sand dunes in their natural form.

The Council does not wish to interfere with vegetation covering the dunes or with the habitat of interesting birds which may inhabit the dunes, unless this becomes necessary as a result of the Council's normal fulfilment of its functions as a local authority. In some cases community interests may override fauna conservation interests. However, the Council

did give its assurance that the interests of wild life and, of course, stability of the dunes will be taken into consideration when any future proposals for these areas are being planned.

The Perth Shire Clerk informed the Authority that it was not the Shire Council's policy to level any of the coastal country and considered that a maximum cover of native vegetation was necessary to maintain stable dunes. The only works envisaged were road-level car parking areas. Reserve No. 2445 to the east of Trigg's Island was regarded as a valuable asset to the District and the Shire Council was determined to keep the area in its native state. However, a long range plan envisaged a motel in one corner.

* * * * *

OPEN SEASON FOR WILD DUCKS

NORTHERN AND INLAND AREAS

The Game Management Committee, which is a Standing Committee of the Western Australian Wild Life Authority, considered at its September 1969 meeting whether the present open duck shooting season in the Kimberley, North-West and Eastern Land Divisions should be altered. It was at this meeting that the Game Management Committee recommended that there be no open season for wild ducks during the 1969-70 summer in the South West and Eucla Land Divisions.

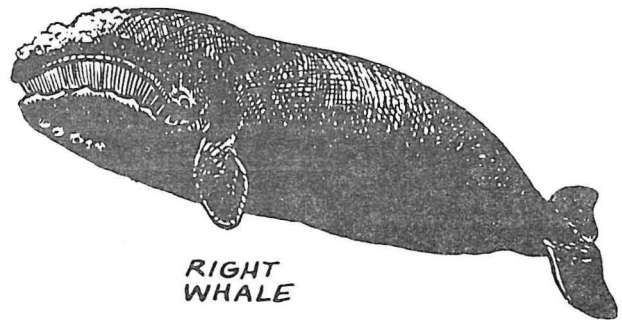
However, the Committee considered that climatic conditions for the State, apart from those experienced in the South-West and Eucla Land Divisions, were no different from those experienced in other years. Therefore, the Committee considered that the present open duck shooting season, which ends December 31, 1970, for the Kimberley, North-West and Eastern Land Divisions, remain unaltered.

* * * * *



Right Whales

Two whales sighted off Middleton Beach on August 29, 1969, were identified as the very rare species of Southern Right Whale. The mammals sighted were apparently a cow of more than 40 feet in length and her calf of about 16 feet in length. This species of whale is very rare and is protected under international agreement.



In the early days of whaling this species was heavily hunted as it proved to be easy prey for the open whale-boats. Whalers regarded them as slow swimmers. Right Whales not only yielded a high percentage of whale-oil and whale-bone but they were buoyant and could be more easily towed into port than other whales. Because of these factors, they were regarded as the "right" whale to catch - hence their name.

By the end of the 19th century the Right Whale was so scarce that it was feared it would soon become extinct. Since 1937, by international agreement, the Right Whale has been protected from hunting and it is contemplated that its numbers will slowly increase.

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MINIMUM MESH SIZE FOR SCALLOP NETS

The Minister for Fisheries and Fauna has decided to prohibit the taking of scallops by any trawl net having meshes throughout of less than four inches.

A notice to this effect was published in the Government Gazette on October 10, 1969.

This action has been taken on information available to ensure that no additional fishing pressure is placed on the prawn fishery, particularly in Shark Bay, and that only scallops of an acceptable commercial size of $3\frac{1}{2}$ " minimum shell height will be taken.

'SPAWNING TIME'

It's cold work down at the 'trout ponds', for spawning time is here
 As the 'rainbows' always lay their eggs at the coldest time of the
 year
 From the holding pond to the spawning race, the female trout leap out
 Swimming around in circles and wildly thrashing about.

We hope again for our usual take, a half a million to hatch
 To stock the waters of the 'West' for anglers keen to catch.
 We send our fish all over the 'State' to many a dam and lake
 So we take the eggs and hatch them out, all for the fisherman's sake.

The spawners are cold and icy, and slippery to hold
 But the men who work at the trout ponds, become immune to the cold.
 To their job they are dedicated, and they strive to do their best
 So visit the 'Pemberton Trout Ponds', the only one in the West.

We take the eggs to our hatchery and place them in hatching trays
 The young fish show signs of hatching at the end of twenty eight days.
 At sixty days old they are classed as 'fry' and ready to place in a
 stream
 To quickly grow to catchable size, of which all fishermen dream.

The days are cold but the work goes on, as thousands of eggs we take
 We have to be very careful and try not to make a mistake.
 When we are handling the spawners, from roughness we have to refrain
 Though our hands are swollen and freezing, and we are wet to the skin
 with rain.

The hatch goes on from 'May to September' so there's plenty cold work
 to do
 And we work right through the 'Winter' to satisfy 'anglers' like you.
 So next time you are fishing for 'rainbows' and flicking a fly in the
 spray,
 Spare a thought for the men at the 'Trout Ponds', and the work they
 are doing to-day.

'QUOKKA'
 PEMBERTON

Salaries

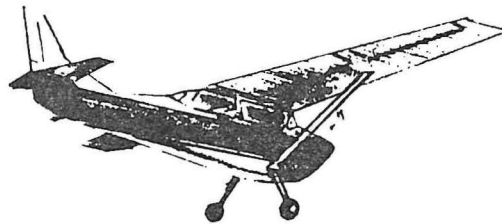
NEW SALARY SCALES FOR THE GENERAL DIVISION

GROUP II—(Males)
Amended Offer—8th September, 1969

| Class | Existing Salary | Proposed Salary | Increase |
|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| 1 | 3362 3502 | 3695 3845 | 333 343 |
| 2 | 3647 3787 | 4000 4155 | 353 368 |
| 3 | 3942 4092 | 4320 4485 | 378 393 |
| 4 | 4252 4412 | 4655 4830 | 403 418 |
| 5 | 4572 4732 | 5005 5180 | 435 448 |
| 6 | 4897 5057 | 5360 5535 | 463 478 |
| 7 | 5227 5397 5572 | 5720 5905 6095 | 493 508 523 |
| 8 | 5752 5937 | 6290 6490 | 538 553 |
| 9 | 6122 6312 | 6690 6900 | 568 588 |
| 10 | 6502 6692 | 7110 7320 | 608 628 |
| 11 | 6887 7077 | 7535 7745 | 648 668 |
| 12 | 7397 | 8105 | 708 |
| 13 | 7727 | 8475 | 748 |

GROUP VII—CLASSES 1-3 (MALES)
Amended Offer—8th September, 1969

| Age or Year of Service | Existing Salary | Proposed Salary | Increase |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| 15 years | 1067 | 1127 | 60 |
| 16 years | 1241 | 1311 | 70 |
| 17 years | 1524 | 1630 | 106 |
| 18 years | 1802 | 1920 | 118 |
| 19 years | 2124 | 2254 | 130 |
| 20 years | 2357 | 2515 | 158 |
| 21 or 1st year .. | 2522 | 2750 | 228 |
| 22 or 2nd year .. | 2622 | 2865 | 243 |
| 23 or 3rd year .. | 2732 | 2995 | 263 |
| 24 or 4th year .. | 2852 | 3130 | 278 |
| G-VII-2—Min. .. | 2852 | 3130 | 278 |
| Int. | 2932 | 3220 | 288 |
| Max. | 3012 | 3310 | 298 |
| G-VII-3—Min. .. | 3012 | 3310 | 298 |
| Int. | 3102 | 3415 | 313 |
| Max. | 3222 | 3550 | 328 |



PLEASE NOTE

(Extract from Government Gazette (No. 92)
of 12th September, 1969)

FISHERIES ACT, 1905-1969.

Department of Fisheries and Fauna,
Perth, 3rd September, 1969.

F.D. 258/51.

THE Minister for Fisheries and Fauna, pursuant to the powers conferred by section 10 of the Fisheries Act, 1905-1969, does hereby prohibit all persons from taking any fish whatsoever by means of fish traps, other than crayfish pots, in all those Western Australian waters specified in the Schedule hereto from 1st October, 1969.

G. C. MacKINNON,
Minister for Fisheries and Fauna.

Schedule.

The Abrolhos Islands area comprising the whole of the Western Australian waters bounded by lines starting from the intersection of 27 degrees 30 minutes South Latitude and 113 degrees 37 minutes East Longitude and extending south-easterly to the intersection of 29 degrees 30 minutes South Latitude and 114 degrees 30 minutes East Longitude; thence west to 113 degrees East Longitude; thence north to 27 degrees 30 minutes South Latitude aforesaid; and thence east to the starting point.

(Extract from Government Gazette (No. 92)
of 12th September, 1969)

FISHERIES ACT, 1905-1969.

Department of Fisheries and Fauna,
Perth, 11th September, 1969.

F.D. 11/29.

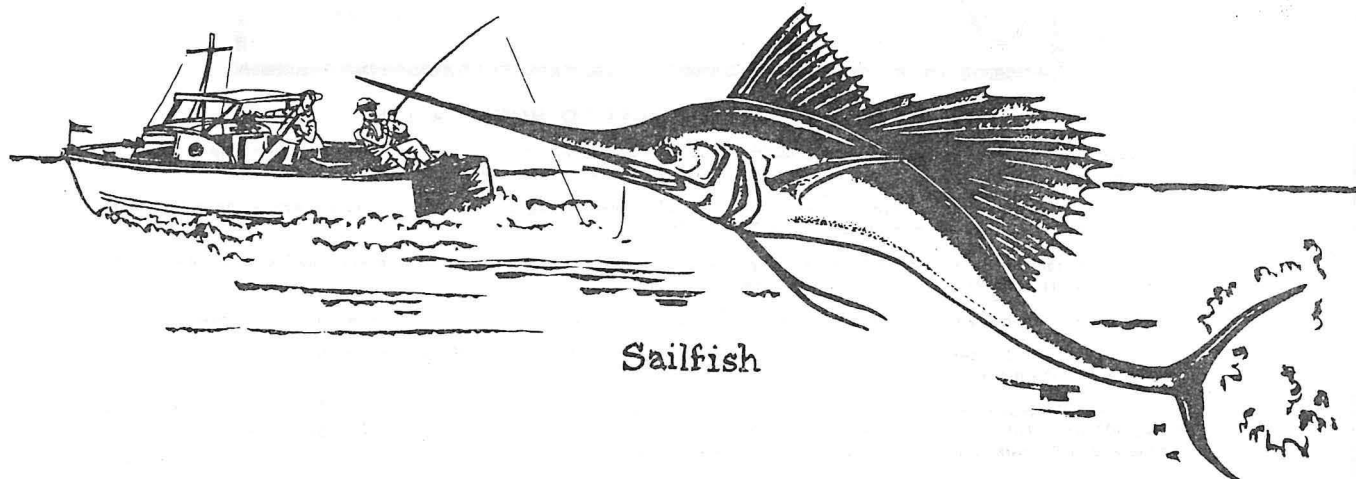
THE Minister for Fisheries and Fauna, in pursuance of the powers conferred by section 9 of the Fisheries Act, 1905-1969, does hereby prohibit the taking of marron by means of fishing nets or by means of fish traps in all that portion of Western Australian waters specified in the schedule hereto.

G. C. MacKINNON,
Minister for Fisheries and Fauna.

Schedule.

All freshwater rivers, streams and brooks in the South-West Land Division including the waters of Harvey, Stirling, Wellington, Samson and Canning Dams.

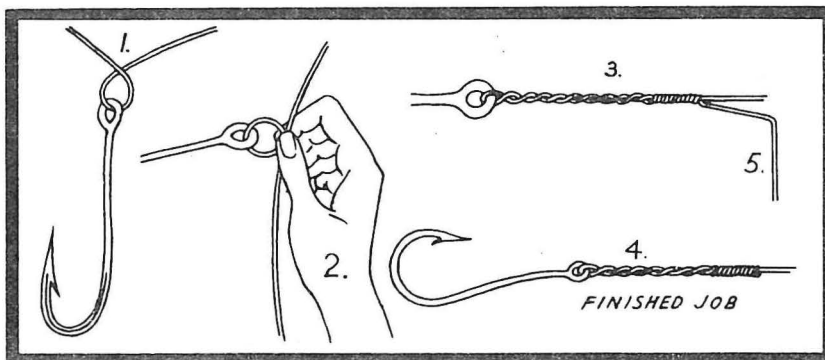
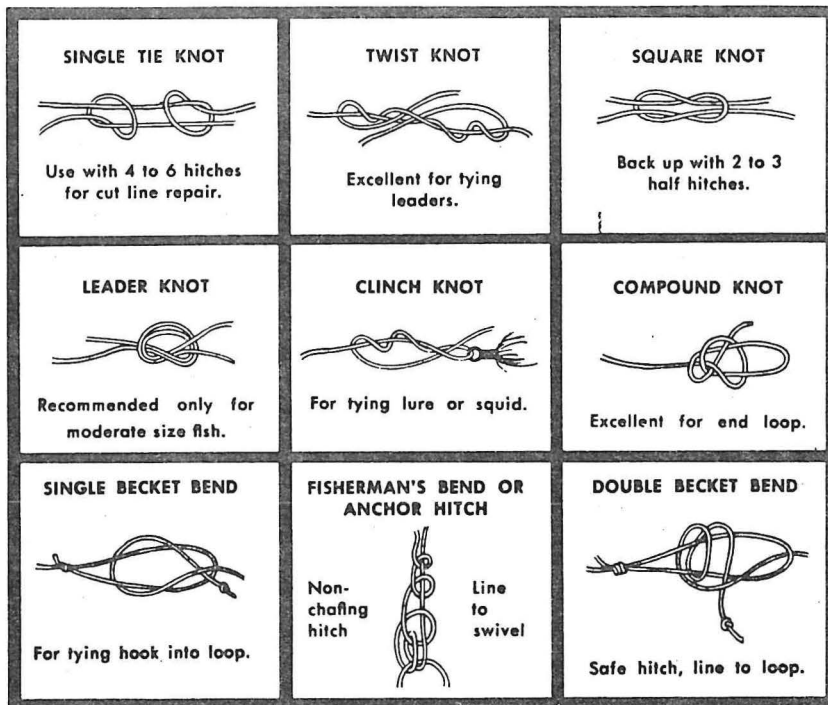
The proclamation dated November 11, 1959, and published in the *Government Gazette* (No. 89) of November 27, 1959, is hereby revoked.



HELPFUL TIPS FOR THE FISHERMAN

USEFUL KNOTS AND HITCHES

In fishing one never knows when a record fish will bite. When it does, one should have line that will hold and land him. That leads us to the subject of "Knots." The test a fisherman should apply to a knot is, "Does it cut the line, and, is line strength reduced by it?" The answer should, of course, be "NO."



HOW TO TIE LEADER WIRE TO HOOK OR LURE

More large fish are lost because of improperly made up wire leaders than for any other reason. Making up a leader is an art learned by patient practice. Use #9 or #10 leader wire to practice with and follow this procedure:

1. Leader length should be from 6' to 15'. Push 3" to 4" of the working end of the wire thru the eye of the hook, swivel or lure to be tied. Hold between thumb and index finger of left hand.
2. With right thumb and index finger, sharply bend the wire across the eye, so that wire end and standing part of wire point in opposite directions, and touch at point of crossing.
3. Begin twisting the wire to the right until 10 to 12 hard even twists have been made. Both wires must be twisted equally.
4. Make 10 to 12 round turns with short end of wire around the standing part (long wire) being careful to lay each turn tightly against the preceding one.
5. Bend the remainder of short end, in its middle, at an angle of 90°. Grip the bent end firmly with right thumb, close to the 90° bend. Lift the remainder of the short end of the wire in a 180° arc toward the standing part of the wire, breaking off the end of the wire close to the last round turn, leaving no sharp end.