

ALREADY ENTERED ON GIS

Name: Flora and Vegetation of Dardanup Forest Block

See: 'BUNBURY FILES'

Flora and Vegetation of Dardanup Forest Block

Keighery G.Jl., B.J. Keighery2 and Gibson, N.1

1: Department of Conservation and Land Management
P.O. Box 51, Wanneroo, 6065.

2: Department of Environmental Protection,
Westralia Square, Perth, 6000.

Abstract

Dardanup Forest Block is the only vegetated conservation area known to encompass the Darling and Whicher Scarp and associated foothills. Three principal plant communities are present in the area: Jarrah Woodland, Marri-Jarrah-Mountain Marri woodland and Banksia woodland. Three regional floristic community types are represented in the block, type 1a: *Eucalyptus haematoxylon*-*E. marginata* woodlands of the Whicher Foothills, type 21b: Southern Banksia woodlands and Jarrah forest of the Western Edge of the Darling Plateau. Types 1a and 21 b are at or near their northern limits in Dardanup Block. These are some of the largest known occurrences of these poorly reserved community types. The block contains a vascular flora of 481 taxa; 443 are natives and 38 weeds. Seven of these taxa are non-flowering plants, 177 are monocotyledons (162 natives and 15 weeds) and 297 are dicotyledons (274 natives and 23 weeds). One declared rare taxa, 3 priority taxa and 4 taxa deserving of listing (*Chamelaucium erythrochlora*, *Acacia semitrullata*, *Lambertia multiflora* var *darlingensis*, *Pultenea radiata*, *Logania* sp. nov., *Lomandra* sp. nov., *Nemcia cordata* and *Xanthorrhoea acanthostachya*) are found on the block. Two (*Logania* sp nov and *Lomandra* sp nov) of these taxa were discovered during the survey and are only known from this block.

INTRODUCTION

Dardanup Forest Block, part of State forest 27, is located on the conjunction of the Whicher and Darling Scarp, approximately 5 kilometres east of Dardanup along Ironstone Road (Map 1). The block was designated in the Forest's Department Working Plan No. 87 as the Dardanup Management Priority Area for the conservation of flora, fauna and landscape.

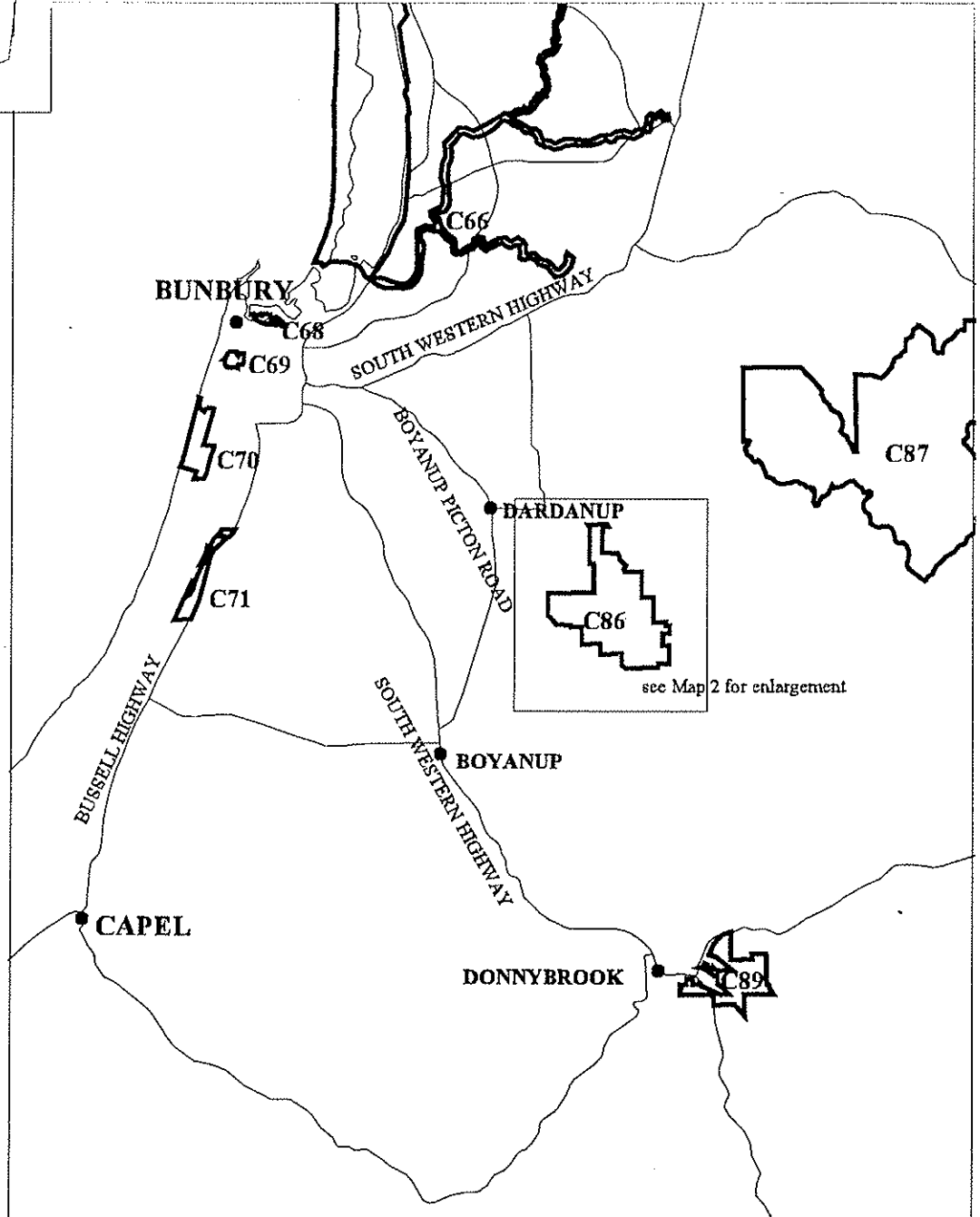
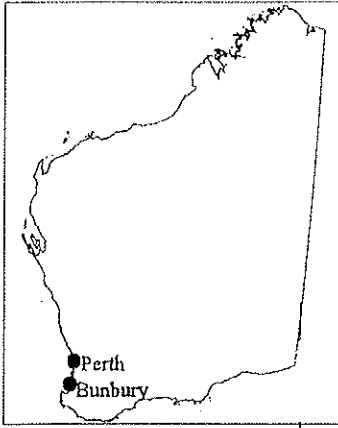
The System Six study (Dept. Conserv. Environ., 1983) endorsed this designation and suggested that Reserve 2029 be added to the MPA. This document suggesting that the MPA "conserves a range of vegetation associated with the northern extension of the Blackwood Plateau (Donnybrook Sunklands). Some of these vegetation associations are unique. Open - forest of Jarrah and Marri and woodland of Banksia and Paperbark are dominant, with some Yarri, Bullich and Swamp Banksia occurring in moister areas. The MPA also contains the only extensive stands of Mountain Gum in System Six."

There was little botanical data available on this area despite potential land use conflicts being present. This block was studied as part of the Swan Coastal Plain survey, since the lower section of the

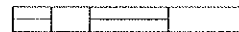


prepared by Natalie Therning
Department of
Environmental Protection

Map 1. Location of Dardanup Forest Block



3 0 3 6 Kilometers



- Coastline of Western Australia
- Roads - Main (WA)
- Localities - Major (WA)
- System 6