

CONSERVATION PARKS OF THE MURRAYLANDS (NORTH WEST ZONE) MANAGEMENT PLANS

Pooginook, Pandappa,
and White Dam

SOUTH AUSTRALIA



National Parks and Wildlife
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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**This plan of management has been prepared and
adopted in pursuance of section 38 of the
National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1972-81**

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

FOREWORD

This document is the Management Plan for Pooginook, Pandappa and White Dam Conservation Parks and has been adopted pursuant to the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972. The draft was released for public comment in October 1993. Three public submissions were received and were taken into consideration in the preparation of this Plan.

These Parks are located in the north east zone of the Murraylands Region of the South Australian Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

All three parks receive low visitor numbers resulting in management effort being directed to conserving the native flora and fauna.

This Plan outlines proposals to effectively balance the limited recreational use of the Parks while conserving the natural and cultural values of the Parks.

The Berri office of DENR maintains records and resource information on the Park that can be accessed by the general public.

David Wotton
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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MANAGEMENT CONTEXT

Conservation Parks in South Australia

The classification which a reserve receives on being dedicated under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1972* is a general statement of the purpose for which that area of land was acquired. Conservation parks are lands that should be protected or preserved to conserve wildlife, natural or historic features which they contain. Conservation is part of a regional pattern of land use.

Other land uses such as agriculture, forestry and mining are distinguished by community acceptance of environmental modification. The management of SANPWS reserves aims to minimise disturbance to natural and cultural resources while providing for public use and enjoyment, and is a significant component of regional land use.

Location and Regional Context

Pooginook Conservation Park is located 12km north east of Waikerie, on the northern side of the River Murray (Figure 1). The Park covers an area of 2852ha, and comprises Sections 7, 8 and 14, Hundred of Pooginook. The Park was dedicated in 1970.

The landscape is gently undulating, with a series of low parallel sandridges.

Pandappa Conservation Park is located 40 km south east of Peterborough, within the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Murraylands Region (Figure 1). The Park covers an area of 1057 ha, and comprises Sections 68, 69, and 189, Hundred of Wonna. The Park was dedicated in 1973.

The landscape is gently undulating to hilly, with flatter portions of the Park dominated by mallee open scrub, while the steeper sections support tall shrublands and tussock sedgelands.

White Dam Conservation Park is located on the Morgan - Burra road, eight kilometres north west of Morgan. The Park lies within the SANPWS Murraylands Region (Figure 1). White Dam Conservation Park covers an area of 911 ha, and comprises Sections 1987, 199, 201, 202, and 252, Hundreds of Lindley and Maude. The Park was dedicated in 1969, and originally formed part of a stock route.

The landscape is flat to gently undulating, with much of the Park comprising black oak (*Allocasuarina cristata*) low open woodland, with the understorey dominated by bluebush (*Mareana sedifolia*).

Objectives of Management

The *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1972* describes the general objectives of managing conservation parks in South Australia as:

- preservation and management of wildlife;
- preservation of historic sites, objects and structures of historic or scientific interest;
- preservation of features of geographical, natural or scenic interest;
- destruction of dangerous weeds and eradication or control of noxious weeds and exotic plants;
- control of vermin and exotic animals;

- control and eradication of disease of animals and vegetation;
- prevention and suppression of bush fires and other hazards;
- encouragement of public use and enjoyment of reserves, and education in, and a proper understanding and recognition of their purpose and significance; and
- generally the promotion of the public interest.

POOGINOOK CONSERVATION PARK

1 PARK DESCRIPTION

The Murraylands area has a climate with cool winters and warm to hot summers. Diurnal and seasonal temperature variations can be significant, and because the area is in the rain-shadow of the Mount Lofty Ranges, it is considered within the southern-most extension of the arid zone in South Australia. Annual rainfall is low and irregular averaging 250mm, with a slight winter and spring predominance. Evaporation is very high during summer months, and the average monthly evaporation exceeds the rainfall in every month of the year.

Laut et al. (1977) place the Park in the Upper Murraylands Environmental Region of the Murray Mallee Province. This Environmental Association, Parcoola, is characterised by gently undulating calcrete plains with frequent easterly trending dunes, and depressions. The southern portion of the park bound areas cleared for grazing and cropping. The northern part of the park adjoins the non cleared North-eastern pastoral zone.

The soils in the northern part of the Park are shallow, well-drained, gravelly red calcareous earths, while the southern portion of the park has deep and well-drained brownish sands (Laut et al. 1977).

The Park has significant value as a refuge area for fauna species, in particular for the hairy nosed wombat (*Lasiorhinus latifrons*) and mallee fowl (*Leiopoa ocellata*). The wombats in the Park were re-introduced to the area by the SANPWS in 1971 and have become well-established.

Dense mallee scrub is found in the north of the Park, with summer red mallee (*Eucalyptus socialis*), ridge-fruited mallee (*E. incrassata*), white mallee (*E. dumosa*), yorrell (*E. gracilis*), and scattered sugarwood (*Myoporum platycarpum*) and bitter quandong (*Santalum murrayanum*). The understorey consists largely of porcupine grass (*Triodia irritans*) and tar bush (*Eromophila glabra*). This mallee scrub provides an ample supply of leaf litter which the rare mallee fowl use to build egg incubation mounds.

The south of the Park is dominated by open mallee which was grazed and partly cleared prior to the Park's dedication. The tree species are the same as in the north of the Park, but with an understorey of acacias, desert grevillea (*Grevillea pterosperma*) and green tea-tree (*Leptospermum coriaceum*). In this more open southern area, wombats colonies are present.

Pest plants present in the Park include African boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*), Horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*) and other agriculture pest species.

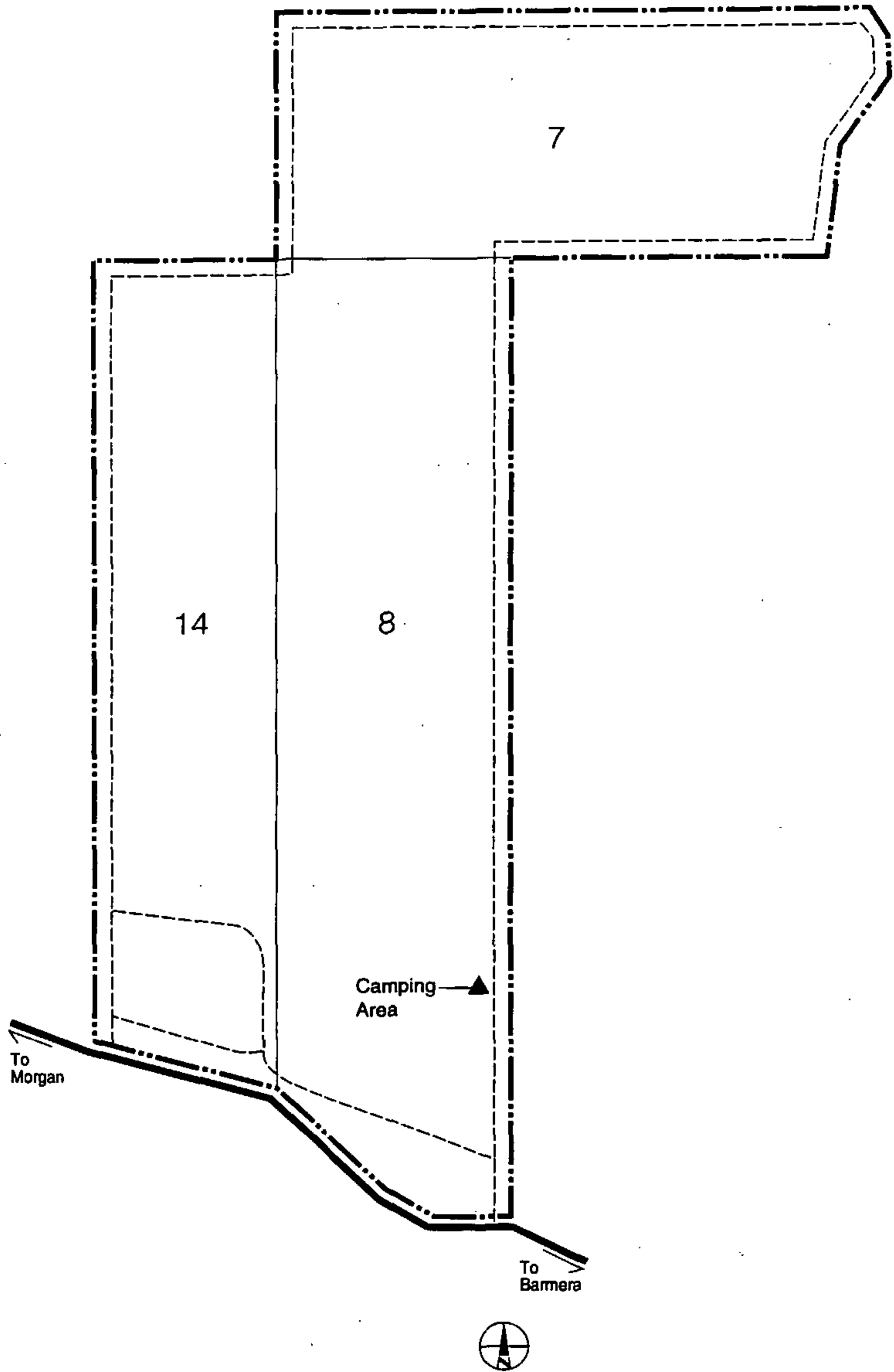
No detailed surveys of the fauna and flora of the Park have been conducted.

Pest animal species present on the Park include the fox (*Vulpes vulpes*), rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*), goat (*Capra hircus*), and cat (*Felis domesticus*). Rabbits are confined largely to the southern portion of the Park. The goat population in the Park is transient, moving out of the Park in search of water and food.

The Ngawait tribe occupied this area. No archaeological survey work has been done in the Park.

The number of people who visit the Park is moderate.

The Park boundary is fenced, with a track along the perimeter (Figure 2). Several other tracks traverse the Park.



- Park Boundary
- Major Sealed Road
- ... Visitor Access Track

Figure 2
Pooginook Conservation Park
Features and Concepts

2 MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

Policies for the management of the Park, summarised below, have been developed within the constraints of:

- the *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1972* and Regulations;
- State Government policy;
- Department of Environment and Natural Resources policies; and
- community attitudes and expectations at State, regional and local levels.

2.1 Natural Resources

The basis of flora and fauna management for the Park is to conserve the area for maximum diversity of naturally occurring species and communities.

Monitoring programs for the hairy nosed wombat and mallee fowl are in place, and will continue.

Fire management will be in accordance with the SANPWS Fire Management and Protection Manual (1988) and the Park Fire Protection Plan. See section 2.3.2 regarding solid fuel fires.

A pest plant management program for the Park has been developed. Pest plant infestations are recorded and monitored. Pest plants are concentrated along boundaries, tracks and other soil disturbed sites within the Park. The feasibility of actively revegetating degraded sites should be investigated.

Control programs for animal pests in the Park have been prepared. Rabbit warren destruction is a high priority, but will only be done where it is clear that there is no cohabitation by hairy nosed wombats.

Maintaining boundary fences in coordination with neighbouring property holders is a significant element in ensuring stock do not gain access to the Park, and in controlling vehicle access. There is some old fence wire within the Park which should be removed.

Dogs are not permitted on the Park.

Action	Priority
• implement pest animal and plant control programs	High
• protect habitat by controlling access and fire (see 3.3)	High
• encourage investigation of habitat requirements for the maintenance or improvement of native fauna populations	Mod.
• maintain appropriate tracks for management access	High
• maintain boundary fences in good repair	High
• remove old fence wire from the Park	Mod.

2.2 Cultural Resources

No sites of archaeological or historical significance have been identified in the Park. Where sites or objects of archaeological significance are identified, they will be managed with regard to the views of Aboriginal people who have an affiliation with the area.

Actions

- liaise with Aboriginal people regarding management of sites or objects of significance found in the Park

Priority

Mod.

2.3 Visitors

2.3.1 Access

Visitors are permitted to drive vehicles on the perimeter track and identified internal tracks.

Figure 2 indicates public vehicle tracks, and management access tracks.

Actions (see Figure 2)

- maintain tracks as required for visitor and management access

Priority

High

2.3.2 Camping and Recreation Activities

Recreation opportunities for public use and enjoyment of the Park will be provided which are consistent with the protection of natural features and processes, which enhance appreciation and understanding of natural features, and which complement recreation opportunities provided elsewhere in the region.

Few visitors camp in the Park. A suitable camping area has been designated in the south east corner of the Park, 1.7km north of the entrance gate (Figure 2). Nodal camping will be established in the camping area.

Actions (see Figure 2)

- prohibit camping on the Park, except in designated camping area'

Priority

High

2.3.3 Interpretation and Environmental Education

Interpretation and environmental education assist in protection of natural and cultural features and are major aspects of managing public use. There is a strong community expectation that information on Parks will be readily available. The Park has a role to play in the community as a resource for environmental study and education.

Interpretation and environmental education programs will seek to assist people in using and enjoying the Park, and in understanding and appreciating its features and the Service's approach to management.

Actions	Priority
• provide general information signs at appropriate locations	High
• incorporate the Park in the Regional interpretation plan	Mod.
• provide printed information about the Park	Low
• investigate, and if appropriate develop and provide, or self-guided educational activities	Low

2.4 Research, Inventory and Monitoring

The function of research is to assist in the understanding of resources, their use and effective management. DENR will encourage suitably accredited groups or person to apply for scientific permits to undertake non-manipulative studies of the Park's natural and cultural resources.

All research will be subject to DENR policy and procedure for the granting of scientific permits, the conduct of research and the forwarding of results to the DENR. Research applications will be granted only where the research has potential to facilitate management of the natural environment, and where the effect of the research on the natural and cultural features and visitor use of the Park does not conflict with the objectives of management.

Actions	Priority
• encourage research to facilitate better management by increasing the understanding of the requirements for maintenance of plant and animal populations	High
• support existing research programs	High

2.5 Staffing and Management Structure

The Park is a management unit in the Murraylands Region of the DENR. A Ranger, responsible for the management of this and other parks in a defined area, is supported by other Regional management, administrative and works staff.

DENR will ensure sufficient staff and resources are provided to implement this Plan, subject to Government policy, financial constraints, and Regional priorities. DENR will also liaise with user groups, interested bodies, and adjacent landholders on matters of mutual concern.

Actions	Priority
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • employ additional project staff to supplement existing staff in the implementation of this Plan, subject to Government policy, financial constraints, and Regional priorities 	Mod.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • liaise with the Waikerie District Council, Government instrumentalities, and adjacent landholders, regarding matters of mutual interest 	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • utilise volunteers and interest groups where appropriate 	Mod.

2.6 Additional Land

Land of conservation significance, or which would assist management of the Park will be investigated for possible acquisition and addition, should it be made available.

Action	Priority
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • investigate available adjoining land for addition to the Park 	Mod.

2.7 Alien Tenure

A bee keeping lease is held enabling the lessee to place bee boxes on the Park. In line with DENR Policy, when this lease expires it should not be renewed.

A Electricity Trust of South Australia easement runs across the southern high end of section 8.

Action	Priority
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitor the activities of the lessee as they relate to the lease 	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • terminate the lease when no longer required 	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • liaise with the Electricity Trust of South Australia to ensure that access to the electric power supply route is available. 	High

3 MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

The actions required to implement the management proposals outlined in Section 2 are summarised below. This ranking indicates the relative priority of projects and whether they are of a short term, moderate term or continuing nature.

PROJECT	PRIORITY	DURATION	PAGE
• implement pest animal and plant control programs	High	Ongoing	5
• protect habitat by controlling access and fire	High	Ongoing	5
• encourage research into habitat requirements of native fauna	Mod.	Ongoing	5
• maintain management access tracks	High	Ongoing	5
• maintain boundary fencing	High	Ongoing	5
• remove old fence wire	Mod.	Short	5
• liaise with Aboriginal people	Mod.	Ongoing	6
• maintain tracks for visitor access	High	Ongoing	6
• allow camping in designated areas	High	Ongoing	6
• provide information signs	High	Short	7
• incorporate the Park in the Regional interpretation plan	Mod.	Short	7
• provide printed information about the Park	Low	Short	7
• if appropriate develop self-guided educational activities	Low	Short	7
• encourage research into the requirements for maintenance of plants and animal populations	High	Ongoing	7
• support existing research programs	High	Ongoing	7
• employ additional project staff	Mod.	Short	8
• liaise with Councils, Government instrumentalities and adjacent landholders	High	Ongoing	8
• utilise volunteers and interested groups	Mod.	Ongoing	8
• investigate possible additions to the Park	Mod.	Short	8
• monitor activities of the lessee	High	Ongoing	8
• terminate the lease when no longer required	High	Short	8
• liaise with the Electricity Trust of South Australia	High	Ongoing	8

PANDAPPA CONSERVATION PARK

1 PARK DESCRIPTION

The Murraylands area has a climate with cool winters and warm to hot summers. Diurnal and seasonal temperature variations can be significant, and because the area is in the rain-shadow of the Brown Hill Range, it is considered within the southern-most extension of the arid zone in South Australia. Annual rainfall is low and irregular averaging 250mm, with a slight winter and spring predominance. Evaporation is very high during summer months, and the average monthly evaporation exceeds the rainfall in every month of the year.

Laut et al. (1977) place Pandappa Conservation Park in the Olary Spur Environmental Region of the Eastern Pastoral Province. The Park is contained within the Terowie Environmental Association which is characterised by deeply dissected northerly trending quartzite and siltstone ridges, narrow pediments and colluvial plains. Grasslands, tall shrublands and open scrub vegetation associations predominate. This Region has largely been cleared for grazing and cropping, and contains only scattered remnants of native vegetation. The Park is largely surrounded by cleared agricultural land, and as a consequence has significant value as a refuge and corridor area for fauna species.

The soils of the steepest and highest portions of the Park are shallow well drained, powdery brown calcareous loams with rocky outcrops. The less steep slopes tend to have hard, pedal, deep, well drained, gravelly red duplex soils. The plains area of the Park has shallow, well drained, gravelly, brown calcareous earth soils (Laut et al. 1977).

The flatter areas support a mallee open scrub of red mallee (*Eucalyptus socialis*) and yorrell (*E. gracilis*), with an understorey of bluebush (*Mareana sedifolia*) and ruby saltbush (*Enchylaena tomentosa*). With increasing slope, the soils become thinner, and the trees less frequent, with tall shrublands grading into tussock sedgelands. Vegetation in these less hospitable areas is dominated by false sandalwood (*Myoporum platycarpum*), native fuchsia (*Correa* sp.), punty bush (*Cassia eremophila*), native hopbush (*Dodonaea attenuata*), and irongrass (*Lomandra* sp.).

Pest plants present in the Park include African boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*), salvation Jane (*Echium plantagineum*), horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*), woolly burr-medic (*Medicago minima*), and trailing verbena (*Verbena supina*).

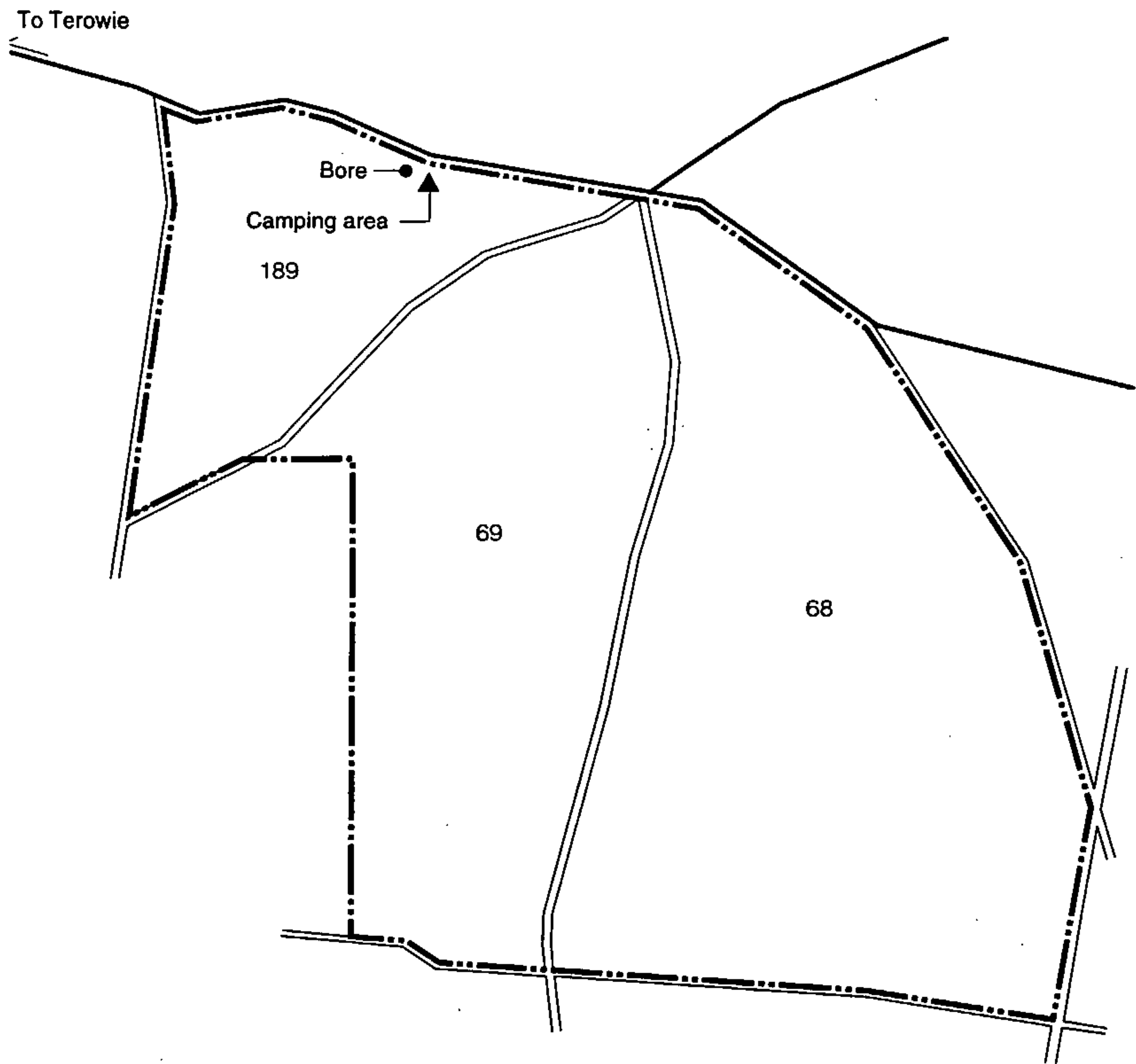
A survey of the fauna and flora of the Park was conducted in 1983. This survey recorded 117 vascular plant species, 31 bird species, nine reptile species, and eight mammal species.

Pest animal species present on the Park include the fox (*Vulpes vulpes*), rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*), cat (*Felis domesticus*), and goat (*Capra hircus*).

The Ngadjuri tribe occupied this region. No archaeological survey work has been done in the Park.

The Park is remote from population centres and is located on a relatively minor road. As a result the number of people who visit the Park is quite low. The Park does, however, have great scenic values; with excellent panoramic views from the six peaks in the range which forms the spine of the Park.

The Park boundary is fenced, however several sections of the fence are in poor repair. The only internal tracks within the Park are along the eastern, southern and western boundaries (Figure 3).



0 2 km

- Park Boundary
- Unsealed Road
- == Road Reserve

Figure 3
Pandappa Conservation Park
Features and Concepts

2 MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

Policies for the management of the Park, summarised below, have been developed within the constraints of:

- the *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1972* and Regulations;
- State Government policy;
- Department of Environment and Natural Resources policies; and
- community attitudes and expectations at State, regional and local levels.

2.1 Natural Resources

The basis of flora and fauna management for the Park is to conserve the area for maximum diversity of naturally occurring species and communities.

Fire management will be in accordance with the DENR Fire Management and Protection Manual (1988) and the Park Fire Protection Plan. See section 2.3.2 regarding solid fuel fires.

A pest plant management program for the Park has been developed. Pest plant infestations are recorded and monitored. Pest plants are concentrated along boundaries, water courses, and tracks within the Park.

Control programs for animal pests in the Park have been prepared.

Establishing and maintaining boundary fences, in co-ordination with neighbouring property holders is a significant element in ensuring stock do not gain access to the Park, and in controlling vehicle access.

Dogs are not permitted on the Park.

Action

- implement pest animal and plant control programs
- protect habitat by controlling access and fire (see 2.3)
- encourage investigation of habitat requirements for the maintenance or improvement of native fauna populations
- maintain boundary tracks for management access
- establish boundary fences and maintain them in good repair

Priority

High

High

Mod.

High

High

2.2 Cultural Resources

No sites of archaeological or historical significance have been identified in the Park. Where sites or objects of archaeological significance are identified, they will be managed with regard to the views of Aboriginal people who have an affiliation with the area.

Actions

- liaise with Aboriginal people regarding management of sites or objects of significance found in the Park

Priority

Mod.

2.3 Visitors

2.3.1 Access

Several road reserves traverse the Park however due to the terrain no physical track exists. The only tracks within the park are along the boundaries. The road reserves are not under the control of the DENR. It will be necessary to acquire these road reserves in order to implement management proposals (see 2.6).

The Park has no formal vehicle or walking tracks. Figure 3 indicates management access tracks.

Actions (see Figure 3)

- encourage bush walking in the Park
- investigate and if appropriate develop a walking track.

Priority

High

Low.

2.3.2 Camping and Recreation Activities

Recreation opportunities for public use and enjoyment of the Park will be provided which are consistent with the protection of natural features and processes, which enhance appreciation and understanding of natural features, and which complement recreation opportunities provided elsewhere in the region. Few visitors camp in the Park. A suitable camping area has been designated in the north west corner of the Park (Figure 3).

Actions (see Figure 3)

- prohibit camping on the Park, except in designated camping areas

Priority

High

2.3.3 Interpretation and Environmental Education

Interpretation and environmental education assist in protection of natural and cultural features and are major aspects of managing public use. There is a strong community expectation that information on Parks will be readily available. The Park has a role to play in the community as a resource for environmental study and education.

Interpretation and environmental education programs will seek to assist people in using and enjoying the Park, and in understanding and appreciating its features and the Service's approach to management.

Actions

- provide general information signs at appropriate locations
- incorporate the Park in the Regional interpretation plan
- provide printed information about the Park
- investigate, and if appropriate develop and provide, self-guided educational activities

Priority

High

Mod.

Low

Low

2.4 Research, Inventory and Monitoring

The function of research is to assist in the understanding of resources, their use and effective management. The DENR will encourage suitably accredited groups or person to apply for scientific permits to undertake non-manipulative studies of the Park's natural and cultural resources.

All research will be subject to DENR policy and procedure for the granting of scientific permits, the conduct of research and the forwarding of results to the DENR. Research applications will be granted only where the research has potential to facilitate management of the natural environment, and where the effect of the research on the natural and cultural features and visitor use of the Park does not conflict with the objectives of management.

Actions

- encourage research to facilitate better management by increasing the understanding of the requirements for maintenance of plant and animal populations
- support existing research programs

Priority

High

High

2.5 Staffing and Management Structure

The Park is a management unit in the Murraylands Region of the DENR. A Ranger, responsible for the management of this and other parks in a defined area, is supported by other Regional management, administrative and works staff.

DENR will ensure sufficient staff and resources are provided to implement this Plan, subject to Government policy, financial constraints, and Regional priorities. DENR will also liaise with user groups, interested bodies, and adjacent landholders on matters of mutual concern.

Actions

- employ additional project staff to supplement existing staff in the implementation of this Plan, subject to Government policy, financial constraints, and Regional priorities
- liaise with the Hallett District Council, Government instrumentalities, and adjacent landholders, regarding matters of mutual interest
- utilise volunteers and interest groups where appropriate

Priority

Mod.

High

Mod.

2.6 Additional Land

Land of conservation significance, or which would assist management of the Park will be investigated for possible acquisition and addition, should it be made available. It would be desirable to acquire the road reserves within the Park, and those on the western, southern and eastern boundaries of the Park (Figure 3). This would enable tracks not suitable for public vehicle use to be closed.

Action

- investigate acquiring internal, western, southern and eastern boundary road reserves and adding them to the Park
- investigate available adjoining land for addition to the Park

Priority

High

Mod.

2.7 Alien Tenure

A licence for water pumping purposes exists in the Park. This licence enables a neighbouring property holder to pump water from a bore in the Park onto adjacent pastoral land (Figure 3). Should this facility no longer be required by the license holder, the licence should be e pumping infrastructure removed from the Park.

Action

- monitor the activities of the license holder as they relate to the licence
- terminate the licence when no longer required and rehabilitate the site

Priority

High

High

3 MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

The actions required to implement the management proposals outlined in Section 4 are summarised below. This ranking indicates the relative priority of projects and whether they are of a short term, moderate term or continuing nature.

PROJECT	PRIORITY	DURATION	PAGE
• implement pest animal and plant control program	High	Ongoing	12
• protect habitat by controlling access and fire	High	Ongoing	12
• encourage research into habitat requirements of native fauna	Mod.	Ongoing	12
• maintain management access tracks	High	Ongoing	12
• maintain boundary fencing	High	Ongoing	12
• liaise with Aboriginal people	Mod.	Ongoing	12
• encourage bush walking	High	Ongoing	13
• if appropriate develop a walking track	Low.	Short	13
• allow camping in designated area	High	Ongoing	13
• provide information signs	High	Short	14
• incorporate the Park in the Regional interpretation plan	Mod.	Short	14
• provide printed information about the Park	Low	Short	14
• if appropriate develop self-guided educational activities	Low	Short	14
• encourage research into the requirements for maintenance of plants and animal populations	High	Ongoing	14
• support existing research programs	High	Ongoing	14
• employ additional project staff	Mod.	Short	15
• liaise with Councils, Government instrumentalities and adjacent landholders	High	Ongoing	15
• utilise volunteers and interested groups	Mod.	Ongoing	15
• close road reserves within the Park	High	Short	15
• investigate possible additions to the Park	Mod.	Short	15
• monitor activities of the lessee	High	Ongoing	15
• terminate the lease when no longer required	High	Short	15

WHITE DAM CONSERVATION PARK

1 PARK DESCRIPTION

The Murraylands area has a climate with cool winters and warm to hot summers. Diurnal and seasonal temperature variations can be significant, and because the area is in the rain-shadow of the Mount Lofty Ranges, it is considered within the southern-most extension of the arid zone in South Australia. Annual rainfall is low and irregular averaging 250mm, with a slight winter and spring predominance. Evaporation is very high during summer months, and the average monthly evaporation exceeds the rainfall in every month of the year.

Laut et al. (1977) place the Park in the Upper Murraylands Environmental Region of the Murray Mallee Province. The Park is contained within the Mt Mary Environmental Association, which is characterised by flat to gently undulating calcrete plains with stony rises and shallow depressions. The Regions vegetation has largely been altered by sheep grazing.

The soils of the Park are well drained, red calcareous earths and duplex soils (Laut et al. 1977).

The black oak (*Allocasuarina cristata*) low open woodland has an understorey dominated by bluebush (*Mareana sedifolia*). Other understorey species present include spear grass (*Stipa* sp.), emubush (*Eremophila* sp.), Electrion sp., false sandalwood (*Myoporum platycarpum*), quondong (*Santalum acuminatum*), and nitrebush (*Nitraria billardierei*). Pest plants present in the Park include Ward's weed (*Carrichtera annua*) and horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*).

No detailed surveys of the fauna and flora of the Park have been conducted.

Pest animal species likely to be present on the Park include the fox (*Vulpes vulpes*), rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*), and cat (*Felis domesticus*).

The Ngaiawang tribe occupied this area. No archaeological survey work has been done in the Park.

Although significant numbers of people use the Morgan - Burra Road, few stop at the Park, and the numbers of people who stop in the Park, or come specifically to visit it is quite low.

Large sections of the Park boundary are not fenced. The Park, is bisected into western and eastern portions by the Morgan - Burra Road (Figure 4). This Road also runs along approximately half of the Park's boundaries.

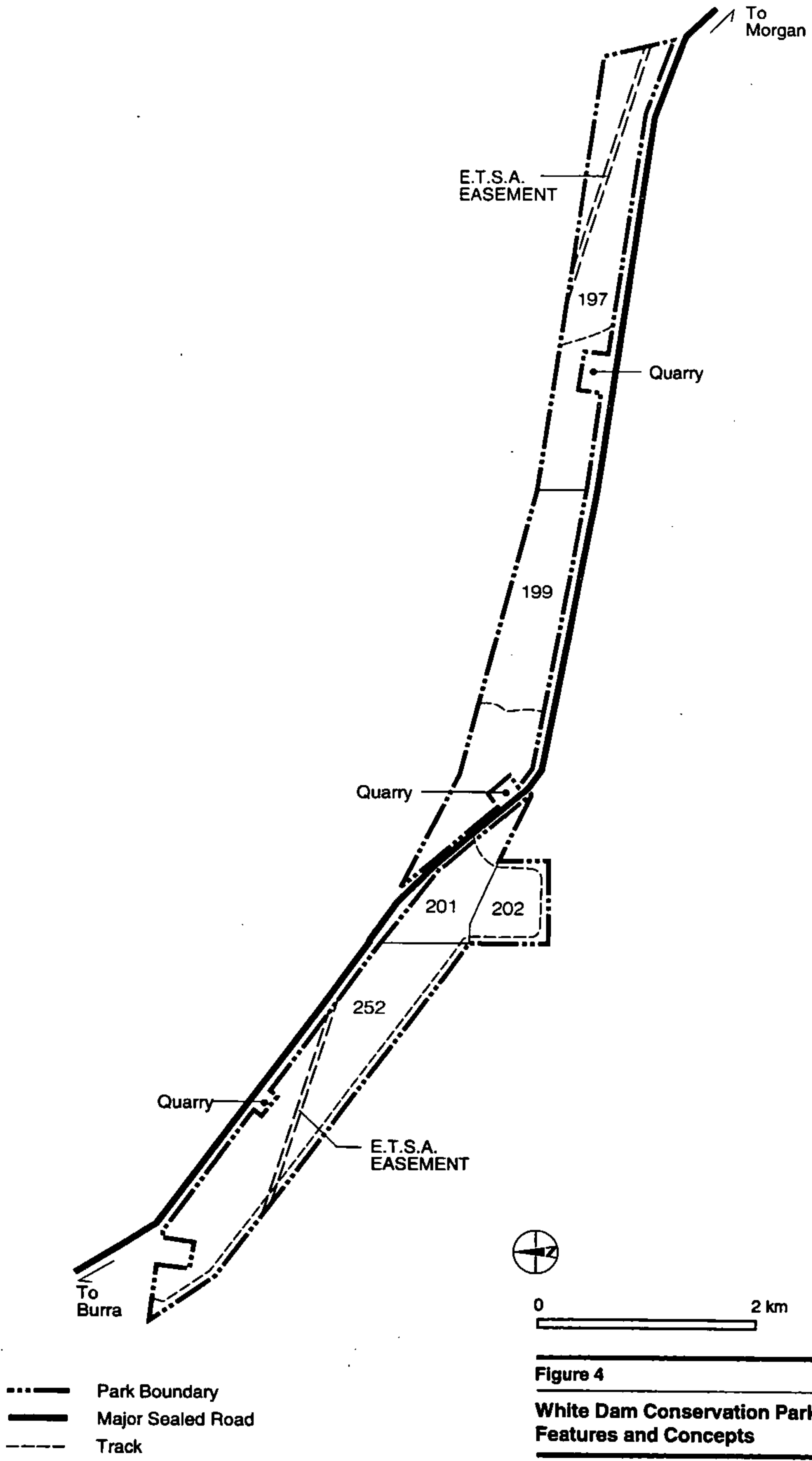


Figure 4
White Dam Conservation Park
Features and Concepts

2 MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

Policies for the management of the Park, summarised below, have been developed within the constraints of:

- the *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1972* and Regulations;
- State Government policy;
- Department of Environment and Natural Resources policies; and
- community attitudes and expectations at State, regional and local levels.

2.1 Natural Resources

2.1.1 Fauna and Flora

The basis of flora and fauna management for the Park is to conserve the area for maximum diversity of naturally occurring species and communities, to enhance the refuge and corridor value of the Park, and to control pest plant species which have invaded the Park.

The Park is not particularly susceptible to fire. Fire management will be in accordance with the SANPWS Fire Management and Protection Manual (1988) and the Park Fire Protection Plan. See section 2.3.2 regarding solid fuel fires.

A pest plant management program for the Park has been developed. Pest plant infestations are recorded and monitored. The problem species are Onion Weed and Words Weed.

Control program for animal pests particularly goats in the Park have been prepared.

The Park is only fenced along portions of its boundaries (Figure 4). Establishing and maintaining boundary fences, in co-ordination with neighbouring property holders is a significant element in ensuring stock do not gain access to the Park, and in controlling vehicle access.

Dogs are not permitted on the Park.

Action	Priority
• implement pest animal and plant control programs	High
• protect habitat by controlling access and fire (see 2.3)	High
• encourage investigation of habitat requirements for the maintenance or improvement of native fauna populations	High
• maintain appropriate tracks for management access	Mod.
• establish boundary fences and maintain them in good repair	High

2.2 Cultural Resources

No sites of archaeological or historical significance have been identified in the Park. Where sites or objects of archaeological significance are identified, they will be managed with regard to the views of Aboriginal people who have an affiliation with the area.

Actions

- liaise with Aboriginal people regarding management of sites or objects of significance found in the Park

Priority

Mod.

2.3 Visitors

2.3.1 Access

Several tracks traverse the Park. The majority of these tracks do not actually lead anywhere; terminating at adjacent property boundary fences. As the Park is, on average, less than 1000m wide, there is no real need for visitor vehicle access within the Park except to service one camping area. The track system in the Park will be rationalised, assisted by fencing both sides of the Morgan - Burra Road to prevent visitors from forging new tracks, or using existing dead-end tracks (Figure 4).

The Park has no formal walking tracks, however the tracks traversing the Park may be used by walkers.

Figure 4 indicates walking tracks, and management access tracks.

Actions (see Figure 4)

- maintain tracks as required for visitor and management access
- permit use of Park tracks for walking

Priority

High
Mod.

2.3.2 Camping and Recreation Activities

Recreation opportunities for public use and enjoyment of the Park will be provided which are consistent with the protection of natural features and processes, which enhance appreciation and understanding of natural features, and which complement recreation opportunities provided elsewhere in the region.

Few visitors camp in the Park. More appropriate and popular sites for camping are available in the region, and as camping is not considered compatible with conservation objectives, it will not generally be permitted in the Park. Prospective visitors or researchers who intend to visit the Park for extended periods (more than one day), and who therefore wish to camp in the Park, may apply to the Ranger in Charge for permission to camp in the Park.

Actions

- prohibit camping on the Park (except by written permission of the Ranger in Charge)

Priority

High

2.3.3 Interpretation and Environmental Education

Interpretation and environmental education assist in protection of natural and cultural features and are major aspects of managing public use. There is a strong community expectation that information on Parks will be readily available. The Park has a role to play in the community as a resource for environmental study and education.

Interpretation and environmental education programs will seek to assist people in using and enjoying the Park, and in understanding and appreciating its features and the Service's approach to management.

Actions

- provide general information signs at appropriate locations
- incorporate the Park in the Regional interpretation plan
- provide printed information about the Park
- investigate, and if appropriate develop and provide, self-guided educational activities

Priority

High

Mod.

Low

Low

2.4 Research, Inventory and Monitoring

The function of research is to assist in the understanding of resources, their use and effective management. DENR will encourage suitably accredited groups or person to apply for scientific permits to undertake non-manipulative studies of the Park's natural and cultural resources.

All research will be subject to DENR policy and procedure for the granting of scientific permits, the conduct of research and the forwarding of results to the DENR. Research applications will be granted only where the research has potential to facilitate management of the natural environment, and where the effect of the research on the natural and cultural features and visitor use of the Park does not conflict with the objectives of management.

Actions

- encourage research to facilitate better management by increasing the understanding of the requirements for maintenance of plant and animal populations
- support existing research programs

Priority

High

High

2.5 Staffing and Management Structure

The Park is a management unit in the Murraylands Region of the DENR. A Ranger, responsible for the management of this and other parks in a defined area, is supported by other Regional management, administrative and works staff.

DENR will ensure sufficient staff and resources are provided to implement this Plan, subject to Government policy, financial constraints, and Regional priorities. DENR will also liaise with user groups, interested bodies, and adjacent landholders on matters of mutual concern.

Actions

Priority

- employ additional project staff to supplement existing staff in the implementation of this Plan, subject to Government policy, financial constraints, and Regional priorities
- liaise with the Morgan District Council, Government instrumentalities, and adjacent landholders, regarding matters of mutual interest
- utilise volunteers and interest groups where appropriate

Mod.

High

Mod.

2.6 Additional Land

Land of conservation significance, or which would assist management of the Park will be investigated for possible acquisition and addition, should it be made available.

Action

Priority

- investigate available adjoining land for addition to the Park

High

2.7 Alien Tenure

A number of pipelines cross the park to enable neighbouring property owners to access water from the Morgan to Whyalla pipe line.

Action

Priority

- identify and licence all pipelines
- maintain access along pipelines

High

High

3 MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

The actions required to implement the management proposals outlined in Section 2 are summarised below. This ranking indicates the relative priority of projects and whether they are of a short term, moderate term or continuing nature.

PROJECT	PRIORITY	DURATION	PAGE
• implement pest animal and plant control programs	High	Ongoing	18
• protect habitat by controlling access and fire	High	Ongoing	18
• encourage research into habitat requirements of native fauna	Mod.	Ongoing	18
• maintain management access tracks	High	Ongoing	18
• maintain boundary fencing	High	Ongoing	18
• liaise with Aboriginal people	Mod.	Ongoing	19
• maintain tracks for visitor access	High	Ongoing	19
• permit use of Park tracks for walking	Mod.	Ongoing	19
• prohibit camping except by written permission from Ranger	High	Ongoing	20
• provide information signs	High	Short	20
• incorporate the Park in the Regional interpretation plan	Mod.	Short	20
• provide printed information about the Park	Low	Short	20
• if appropriate develop self-guided educational activities	Low	Short	20
• encourage research into the requirements for maintenance of plants and animal populations	High	Ongoing	20
• support existing research programs	High	Ongoing	20
• employ additional project staff	Mod.	Short	21
• liaise with Councils, Government instrumentalities and adjacent landholders	High	Ongoing	21
• utilise volunteers and interest groups	Mod.	Ongoing	21
• investigate possible additions to the Park	Mod.	Short	21
• identify and licence pipelines	High	Short	21
• maintain access along pipelines	High	Short	21

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