



Department of
Parks and Wildlife



POLICY STATEMENT No. 68

MANAGEMENT OF EVENTS AND ORGANISED GROUP ACTIVITIES ON CALM LAND

1. OBJECTIVE

To establish the principles to be used in managing applications for organised group activities and events on *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (CALM Act) land (CALM land).

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all CALM land and to commercial and non-commercial activities, events and functions involving organised groups.

3. CONTEXT

The Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW) frequently receives requests from private individuals, commercial bodies, clubs, schools, community groups, recreational and sporting associations and other organisations for groups to conduct leisure and educational activities, events or functions on CALM land.

The purpose of this policy is to guide the management of organised group activities on CALM land to ensure the protection of both the environment and Aboriginal cultural and heritage values for that land and to ensure that activities are conducted in a safe and equitable manner that is consistent with the values of the land and that minimises use of DPaW resources.

This policy supersedes the relevant sections of DPaW Policy Statement No. 18 *Recreation, Tourism and Visitor Services*.

Associated policies / strategies

DPaW Corporate Guideline No. 13 – *Guidelines for the management of events and organised group activities on CALM land*.

DPaW Policy Statement No. 18 – *Recreation, Tourism and Visitor Services* (Policy Statement No. 68 supersedes the relevant sections of Policy Statement No. 18).

DPaW Policy Statement No. 55 – *Commercial filming on CALM land*.

4. LEGISLATION

The objectives of management plans that are prepared for various categories of CALM land are prescribed in section 56 of the CALM Act. This provides broad guidance on whether certain activities are appropriate on those land categories. More specific guidance is provided in the CALM Regulations.

Specified organised group activities are not permitted, without lawful authority, on CALM land as prescribed in CALM Regulations 50 (cross country), 53 (car rallies), 58 (vessel races) and 105(1) and (2) – organised events and meetings. Regulations 16 (dogs), 17 (horses), 32 (sand boarding), 33 (abseiling outside designated areas), 49 (caves), 51 (vehicles), 51A (bicycles), 65 (aircraft), 74 (offensive noise) and 108 (commercial photography) may also apply to events.

5. POLICY

Organised group activities

- 5.1 DPaW will assess applications for all organised group activities in accordance with *Corporate Guideline No. 13 – Guidelines for management of events and organised group activities on CALM land*.
- 5.2 DPaW may refuse any application or determine the location, course, time and frequency of any proposed organised group activity at DPaW's discretion for reasons including, but not limited to: environmental sensitivity; unacceptable disturbance activities; high risk of spreading pests, diseases or weeds; impacts on Aboriginal culture and heritage; unacceptable risks to competitors and spectators; or undue disruption to other visitors or users.

Events

- 5.3 Events are generally not compatible with the purpose of: nature reserves; marine nature reserves; wilderness areas; or sanctuary zones within marine parks, and will not be permitted in such areas.
- 5.4 Where there is specific reference to the management of events in a management plan, that reference will take precedence over this policy statement and *Corporate Guideline No. 13 – Guidelines for management of events and organised group activities on CALM land*.
- 5.5 Events will not be permitted in caves or cave systems due to visitor risks and potential impacts on irreplaceable karst (cave) features, except within Cabaret Cave in Yanchep National Park when specifically authorised,.
- 5.6 Events proposed in areas of significant conservation or cultural value (for example areas of outstanding biodiversity such as Stirling Range, Mt Lesueur and Fitzgerald River national parks) will require consultation with the Conservation Commission of Western Australia.
- 5.7 DPaW may refuse to approve an event or limit the number or frequency of events or the particular types of events permitted in a reserve or within parts of a reserve in accordance with *Corporate Guideline No. 13 – Guidelines for management of events and organised group activities on CALM land*.
- 5.8 Where an event includes non-CALM land, DPaW will require the event holders to liaise with the land holder/s and local government/s to ensure event management plans consider all local risks and include adequate consultation with emergency service organisations.

6. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

- 6.1 Policy implementation will be guided primarily by *Corporate Guideline No. 13 – Guidelines for management of events and organised group activities on CALM land.*
- 6.2 Districts and regions will document the reasons for any limitations imposed on an activity or event.

8. CUSTODIAN

Director Parks and Visitor Services

9. KEY WORDS

Events; group activities; functions; commercial activities; organised activities; educational activities.

10. REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed no later than February 2019.

11. DIRECTOR GENERAL APPROVAL

Approved by



Jim Sharp

ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL

Effective date 28.1.14