Murujuga National Park

More information

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Emergencies - call Triple Zero ‘000’

Online resources:
parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au/park/murujuga
parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au/park/dampier-archipelago

Information current at September 2014

This document is available in alternative formats on request.
Park planning

A visual identity for the national park is being created including a signage strategy. Park boundary signs have been installed by the Murujuga ranger team at entrance points to the national park, with additional signage to be erected in line with the strategy. Wildlife is being monitored throughout the park by a range of methods under an ongoing program. Setting camera traps in various locations provides the opportunity to collect wildlife data, while creating opportunities to train Murujuga rangers in nature conservation techniques used by Parks and Wildlife. While setting cameras in 2014, tracks of the northern quoll species were found on the beaches. This was regarded as a significant find as this animal was thought to no longer exist on the Burrup Peninsula. Other wildlife species including the perentie (lunthawale), goanna (biriiddigarra), Pilbara olive python (bulguulkarnirra), Rothchild’s rock wallaby (gadjummarra), euro or hill kangaroo (bigurda) and numerous bird species (bugatugara) have also been found.

Parks and Wildlife have provided the Murujuga ranger team with 1080 poison bait training with the objective of safeguarding native animals from feral cats and foxes, which occur in the park. Signage and information are provided to advise of baiting activities. Within the national park threatened ecological communities are being monitored and managed to preserve their natural values. Murujuga National Park is a popular research destination for both local and international scientists.

MAC is developing the Murujuga Cultural Management Plan (MCMP) to sit alongside the park’s management plan. This aims to promote a thorough understanding of Murujuga country, knowledge and traditional values. It will provide culturally appropriate information about plants, animals, Aboriginal culture and protocols, and access to places. The MCMP is being created in close consultation with MAC elders and the local Aboriginal community.

Vehicle access within and adjacent to the park is being reviewed, to be followed by planning and establishment of appropriate areas for visitor recreation. Current vehicle access will be mapped, and assessed culturally. Community consultation will be undertaken to ensure community views regarding tracks and access within Murujuga are taken into account before decisions are made.

Things you need to know

Telephones

There are no public telephones in the park. Mobile phone reception is good over most areas of the park, especially in elevated areas.

Water

Fresh water is not available in the park. Please bring drinking water with you.

Tides

Be aware of tide times and levels when driving near the water, particularly in areas such as Cowrie Cove. Informal boat access is available at sites adjacent to the national park. Refer to the park map.

Crocodiles

Be aware that saltwater crocodiles are occasionally seen in the area so take care launching your boat. Supervise children.

Safe walking tips

There are currently no formal marked walk trails in Murujuga National Park. Take care when walking in the park. Do not climb on rock piles as rocks can be unstable and present a cultural safety hazard. Use tracks that appear to have been used before. When walking wear a hat, broad spectrum sunscreen and sturdy walking shoes. Carry plenty of drinking water and avoid dehydration. In summer, restrict walking to early morning or late afternoon.

Swimming

Stringing jellyfish are occasionally known to occur in surrounding waters, particularly in the summer months. While the risk of being stung is low, especially if stinger suits are worn, be aware of general first aid procedures.

Baiting for feral animals

1080 baits are laid within and surrounding the park to control feral pests such as foxes and cats. 1080 is poisonous to humans and will kill dogs and cats if consumed. Do not bring your pets into the park.

Toilets

There are public toilets located at Hearson Cove as well as adjacent to the Dampier public boat ramp at Windy Ridge Oval.

Recreational fishing

Fishing is permitted in the waters surrounding Murujuga National Park. For the most up-to-date information on fishing regulations check the Department of Fisheries website (www.fish.wa.gov.au) or contact your nearest Department of Fisheries office before going fishing.

Boat launching

There are informal boat ramps at Withnell Bay and Cowrie Cove. Withnell Bay is outside the national park. Access roads are rough and normally require high clearance or four-wheel drive vehicles. There are two boat ramps in Dampier: the public ramp near the Windy Ridge Oval and the private ramp at the Hampton Harbour Boat and Sailing Club.

Murujuga National Park access from boat

Visitors can access the national park by boat, allowing access to the various beaches around the Burrup Peninsula, which are inaccessible by 4WD. Please remember that climbing on rocks is not advised for cultural safety reasons. Pets and fires are not permitted in the national park.