

## Sharp, Jim



Acting Director General, WA Department of Parks and Wildlife

Prior to current appointment, Jim was CALM's Director National Parks (12 years) and Scientific Advisor. Jim has a background in social research, park policy development, tourism and recreation access, Aboriginal policy, volunteers, external funding, leases, licenses, and visitation research. He is a Board member of the Friends of the Bibbulmun Track (long distance walk track) and the Munda Biddi Trail Foundation (long distance cycling trail). The Boards are models for development of unique cross regional partnerships focused on the natural environment.

Jim is a member of the World Commission on Protected Areas Working Group on Tourism in Protected Areas and has a strong interest in the establishment, promotion and sustainable use of protected areas.

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He was born and educated in WA and has worked in State recreation and conservation agencies since graduation from UWA in 1971.

He worked in social research at the Ministry of Sport and Recreation before joining the Department of Conservation and Land Management in 1985 as a scientific advisor to the Director of National Parks. From 1989 to 1994 he managed the development of park policy, Aboriginal policy, volunteers, external funding, leases and licences, and research in visitation.

He was appointed Director of National Parks in August 1996 after acting in the position for two years.

He is a member of the Friends of the Bibbulmun Track Board and spends much of his spare time walking the Bibbulmun Track, which stretches almost 1000 km from Perth to Albany.