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From: WA Parks Foundation <info@ourwaparks.org.au>
Sent: Monday, 1 December 2025 4:26 PM
To: Library
Subject: November Newsletter - Photo competition winners announced, WA scientists honoured and much more!

WA Parks Foundation | Connecting people to parks



November 2025



Memorable Moments in Nature Photo Competition 2025 winning photo is awarded to Richard Bolto for 'Sunrise on the King George River', in the Kimberley. Image credit: Richard Bolto

Photo competition winners announced

The 2025 Memorable Moments in Nature photo competition conducted by the WA Parks Foundation in association with Spring into Parks, with excellent prizes to be won, attracted over 980 entries.

As in previous years, the high quality of many entries received made judging a challenge.

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WA scientists honoured for dedication to conservation and stewardship



Professor Kingsley Dixon AO, WA Senior of the Year 2025

The WA Parks Foundation has pleasure in congratulating internationally renowned botanist Professor Kingsley Dixon AO, who has been named the 2026 Senior Australian of the Year for Western Australia.

Warmest congratulations are due also to distinguished biodiversity and environmental scientist Professor Stephen van Leeuwen for his recognition in the Premier's Science Awards 2025.

Professor Dixon, School of Biological Science, The University of Western Australia, specialises in the ecology, restoration and conservation biology of Australian native plants and ecosystems. With over 40 years' experience leading research teams in partnership with industry, he has transformed restoration and conservation outcomes across the country.

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Looking out for Hammerheads



The unusual shape of the head means that hammerheads can scan a wide area with their eyes, which are positioned at the end of each wing. Image credit: The University of Western Australia

Encouraging involvement in citizen science projects is one of the conservation aims of the WA Parks Foundation.

A new app developed at The University of Western Australia allows ocean lovers and conservationists to share hammerhead shark sightings with scientists to support vital marine research.

Dr Naima Andrea López, a Wen Research Fellow with UWA's Marine Futures Lab, said hammerhead sharks were one of the world's most endangered group of animals.

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Improving feral cat management



Feral cats, with their instinctive hunting behaviours, are having a devastating effect on Australia's wildlife.
Image credit: Ecological Society of Australia/J. Dunlop

Five community organisations will share \$500,000 to improve feral cat management in Western Australia thanks to the WA Government's Feral Cat Management Grant program.

Warren Catchments Council received the largest share of funding, more than \$180,000 to expand ethical feral cat management. The project aims to protect the Warren region's threatened fauna, including numbats, woylies, and western ringtail possums.

Australian Wildlife Conservancy was awarded nearly \$140,000 for a project to address crucial knowledge gaps in the genome sequencing of feral cat populations across priority areas of WA. The research will assess the feasibility of new genetic biocontrol technologies and will be delivered in collaboration with CSIRO and the WA feral cat management committee.

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Expanding Western Australia's conservation estate



Revolver Falls on the edge of Lake Argyle in the Kimberley is Western Australia's largest single drop waterfall.
Image credit: Pinterest

A landmark Indigenous Land Use Agreement has been signed with the Miriuwung Gajerrong Corporation, securing the protection of Country with outstanding biodiversity conservation and cultural values in the East Kimberley.

The agreement paves the way for 170,000 hectares of land to be added to Western Australia's conservation estate, with 85,000 hectares reserved immediately and an additional 85,000 hectares to follow.

These areas hold significant cultural importance for the Miriuwung Gajerrong and include the newly created Revolver Falls National Park, Packsaddle National Park, new reserves near Lake Argyle, proposed additions to the North Kimberley Marine Park, and the proposed Cape Domett National Park.

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Wondering at our dark skies

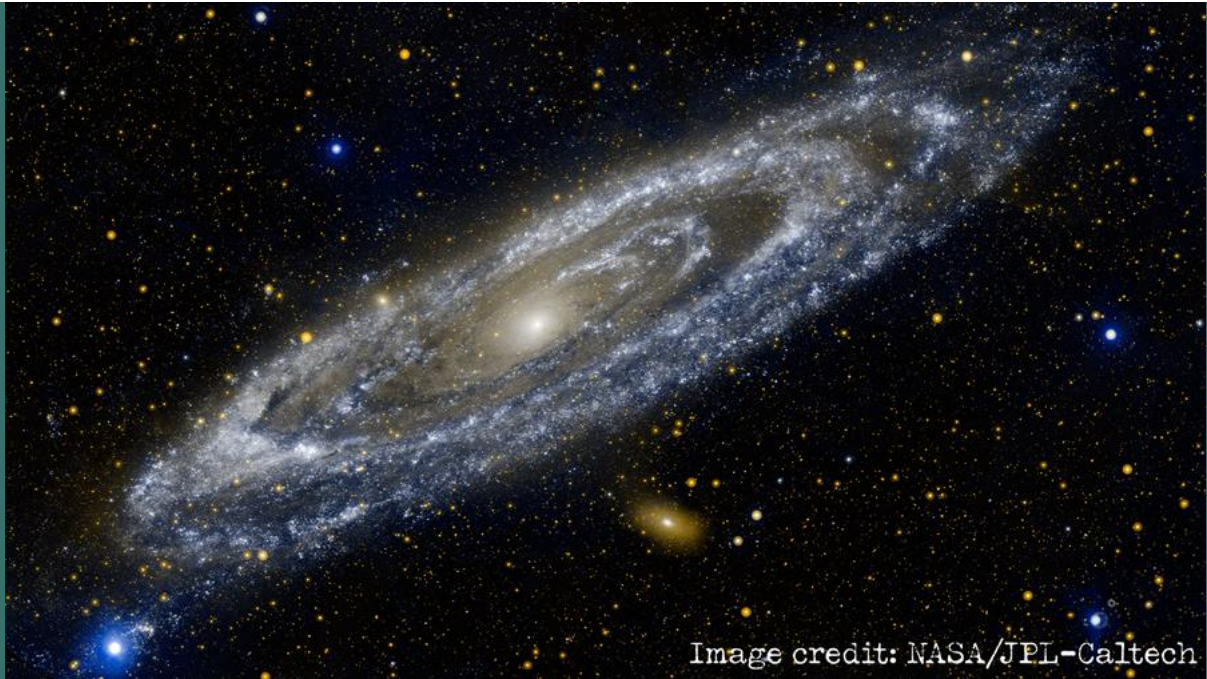


Image credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech

Look low on the northern horizon for the Andromeda Galaxy from 9 pm between 12 and 22 December. Image credit: NASA

Country WA has some of the best dark skies in the world and evenings with little to no moon in the night sky are ideal, when the darkness showcases the Milky Way in all its glory.

The darkness also provides opportunities to see faint objects such as the stunning Magellanic Clouds, nearby galaxies that can be seen with the naked eye, plus far-off galaxies and gaseous nebulae, clearly seen through telescopes.

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