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**From:** WA Parks Foundation <info@ourwaparks.org.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 4 May 2026 2:01 PM  
**To:** Library  
**Subject:** April Newsletter - WA World Ocean Day, Lightscape returns and more

WA Parks Foundation | Connecting people to parks



April 2026



Western Australia's breathtaking coastline spans 13,000 kilometres and is home to some of the world's most remarkable marine environments. Image Credit: Tourism Western Australia.

# WA World Ocean Day 2026

An evening of ocean stories, science and community on the WA coast.

Hosted by The Jock Clough Marine Foundation, WA World Ocean Day brings together scientists, ocean lovers, industry and the broader community to connect with and celebrate our marine environment. This year's free event will be held on Monday 8 June from 5pm to 9pm at Gage Roads Brew Co on Victoria Quay, Fremantle Port.

Western Australia, with 13,000 kilometres of coastline, is home to one of the most diverse and remarkable marine environments in the world, shaping our lifestyle, culture and our connection to place.

[Read more](#)

## Celebrating and supporting National Tree Day



National Tree Day is on 26 July, with a goal to plant one million native trees. Image credit: Tourism Western Australia.

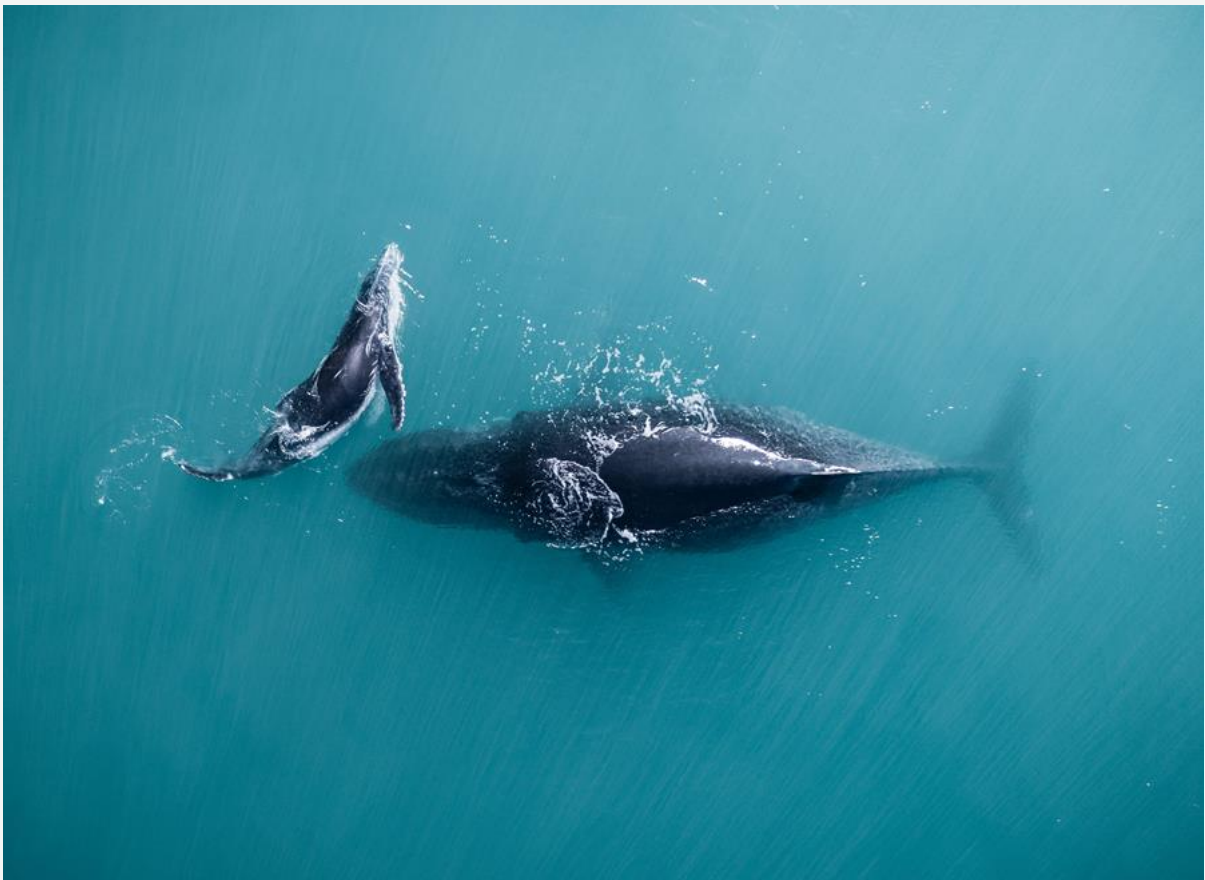
National Tree Day's 30th anniversary will be celebrated on 26 July. An initiative of Planet Ark, this is Australia's largest tree planting and nature care event. The aim this year, with the help of the community, is to plant one million native trees.

Planet Ark has recognised the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Urban Landcare Group (KBULG) as part of its National Tree Day anniversary stories. The group, which has hosted Tree Day plantings since 1996, has been regenerating the local environment for more than five decades.

Led by CEO Kim Eckert, KBULG places a big focus on environmental education and aims to inspire their local community to be environmentally aware and active.

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## App to protect migrating whales



Humpback whales, once an endangered species, have made an epic comeback, with tens of thousands making their yearly, four to six month journey to and from Antarctica and WA's Kimberley region. Image credit: Tourism Western Australia.

Western Australian boaties, commercial operators and shipping are encouraged to report migrating humpback whales and other marine animals through the State Government's revamped Marine Fauna Sightings app.

The data collected will provide fisheries researchers with a better understanding of the timing of humpback whale migration and how it may change each year. This supports implementation of strategies to minimise the

risk of entanglements in fishing gear during whale migration along the WA coast.

The easy-to-use app has been expanded to include reporting of other marine life including turtles, dolphins, dugongs and sea snakes.

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## Yinggarda Conservation Estate management plan consultation



The Kennedy Range National Park, located about 185 km east of Carnarvon, is renowned for its dramatic gorges, wildflowers and outback camping experiences. Image credit: Tourism Western Australia

Public comment is now open on the draft joint management plan for the Yinggarda Conservation Estate, a diverse and culturally significant landscape spanning more than 405,600 hectares in WA's Midwest-Gascoyne. Created in 2023 as part of the State Government's Plan for Our Parks initiative, the estate includes:

- The expanded Mundatharrda National Park (Kennedy Range National Park)
- The new Bimbee National Park (Pimbee National Park)

- Mooka Conservation Park (Kennedy Range Conservation Park)
- Two nature reserves within the town of Carnarvon
- Jiggabiddi Nature Reserve (Chinaman's Pool Nature Reserve)
- Beeirdeegoorah Nature Reserve (One Tree Point Nature Reserve)

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## Lightscape returning



Mycelium Network, an otherworldly installation inspired by the hidden networks beneath our feet, will be one of the highlights of this year's Lightscape event. Image credit: Lightscape.

Much loved Lightscape will return to Kings Park and Botanic Garden in 2026 with a bold new creative vision, unveiling a reimagined trail of light, sound and storytelling amid Western Australia's extraordinary flora.

Running from Friday, 5 June to Sunday, 26 July 2026, the 1.8-kilometre illuminated trail will once again transform the Western Australian Botanic Garden into a spectacular after-dark experience.

[Read more](#)

# Touring the Kimberley in the dry



It's this time of the year that the Kimberley comes alive with its rugged ranges, iconic parks and pristine coastlines. Image credit: Tourism Western Australia.

May to October is the Kimberley's dry season and the most popular time to visit. Covering nearly 423,000 square kilometres, this vast, ancient and culturally rich region in north west Australia has fewer people per square kilometre than almost anywhere else on earth.

With its vast and complex landscapes, spectacular national parks such as Purnululu, Mitchell River and Danggou Geikie, some of the world's earliest figurative rock art and a diversity of native fauna, the wilderness experiences on offer are exceptional.

[Read more](#)

# Under Gascoyne Skies Festival



Under the endless blanket of stars in the Gascoyne. Image credit: Tourism Western Australia.

This free, two-day event from 22 to 23 May 2026 is a celebration of the rugged beauty and lifestyle of the outback in the heart of Western Australia's Upper Gascoyne, Gascoyne Junction.

Set against the stunning backdrop of the Kennedy Range and the Gascoyne and Lyons Rivers, it includes a three-act music festival, walking tours, guided stargazing sessions, cooking demonstrations and a taste of local history.

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Uniting the community through a shared love for our WA Parks to protect and conserve them for our physical and mental health, and so they can be enjoyed into the future.

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## Get in touch with us [info@ourwaparks.org.au](mailto:info@ourwaparks.org.au)



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