Beeliar Regional Park draft Management Plan Release

OUR Regional Parks Unit took time to celebrate this month with the finale of three big projects.

The draft management plan for Beeliar Regional Park was released, a new sign system for regional parks was launched and an Aboriginal Heritage Walk Trail at the Spectacles Wetland was opened.

Regional Park Manager Tim Bowra said the draft management plan was an exercise between the Regional Parks Unit, a team of

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Traditional Custodian Joe Walley shares a joke with Environment and Heritage Minister Judy Edwards and Stuart Harrison, Beeliar Regional Park Operations Officer.

By Mitzi Vance

environmental consultants and three local government authorities—the City of Melville, the City of Cockburn and the Town of Kwinana.

The plan outlines future management practices and ensures recreational and tourism needs don't have an adverse effect on ecosystems. One of the priorities is community involvement.

Community access

"It's vital—we need to make sure that the community has access to recreational facilities but at the same time understands the need for conservation."

Tim said the plan was a milestone because Beeliar Regional Park contained 18 internationally significant lakes and wetlands.

"It is on the Interim List of the Register of the National Estate and one of its lakes, Thomsons Lake, is listed as a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention," Tim said.

The new five kilometre Aboriginal heritage trail has been partly funded by Alcoa of Australia and starts at the Spectacles lakes on Anketell Road, Kwinana, taking hikers on a tour of the park's Aboriginal sites. Senior Traditional Custodian Joe Walley provided ideas for stories on the distinctively designed signs.

Tim thanked his staff for their hard work and dedication, particularly the efforts of Brendan Dooley.































