

Planning study funded and commitment from Tourism Council of WA

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WA Parks Foundation

NEWS

Uniting the community to protect our natural areas



Purnululu World Heritage Area. Photo - Rod Harvigsten

Issue Two, February 2016

Welcome to the second issue of WA Parks Foundation News, where you can find updates on the progress of planning for the Foundation which aims to improve community appreciation and involvement in the conservation of the State's national parks and conservation reserves.

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Planning study underway

The next big step towards establishing a Parks Foundation in Western Australia is underway with the commencement of a sustainability scoping study, model development and developing a business plan.



Consultants Steve and Valerie Pretzel (pictured) from PX2 have been engaged over the next three months, under the direction of the Steering Committee, to develop an understanding of the preferred model for, and level of support for the establishment of a parks foundation.

PX2 has a long and successful track record of working with conservation and outdoor recreation groups, including major agencies such as Parks and Wildlife.

Steve Pretzel said he was thrilled to have been selected to undertake the feasibility and business case project.

"The WA Parks Foundation has the potential to stimulate important new projects and to support the people who are passionate about our natural environment," Steve said.

An important part of the current study is to speak with those community groups and other important stakeholders who share the same values and vision about how the Foundation or Friends Group would work together with the community and business sector.



Cape Le Grand National Park

Her Excellency, the Governor of Western Australia, said it was imperative to speak to interested parties and gather as much input as possible before moving forward.

“Caring for the State’s national parks and conservation reserves is vitally important and involves many people, so this planning stage is crucial; it’s important we get it right from the start,” Her Excellency said.

“I look forward to hearing what Steve and Valerie learn from their consultation and am so pleased we have this opportunity to progress the establishment of an organisation that will play an important part in ensuring the State’s natural areas can be enjoyed into the future.”

If you would like to provide input into this important study, please contact us via www.ourwaparks.com.au

Commitment from Tourism Council

One group that embodies the love and support for the State’s beautiful, natural places is the Tourism Council of Western Australia.

Council is a strong supporter of the establishment of a Parks Foundation and has committed to regularly donating to the organisation.



tourism council
the voice of tourism western australia

Tourism Council CEO Evan Hall said our national and marine parks are what makes Western Australia such a unique tourist destination.

"Tourism Council WA is proud to make a contribution towards nurturing our national parks and ensuring we can provide a sustainable way for everyone around the world to appreciate our distinctive environment," Evan said.

Plans are underway to hold a public event to announce the funding.

Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy

One of the most inspiring and successful models of a private body supporting national parks is lead by Greg Moore, President and CEO of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy. Greg credits his inspiration to being able to go outside and see people enjoying natural spaces..

The Conservancy was established in 1981 and in this time has raised more than US\$300 million (AUS\$419,220,812) in park support, including a US\$34.5 million (AUS\$48,236,767) campaign to restore Crissy Field.

The video is a beautiful example of a genuine love for nature and how this translates into a tangible desire to want to preserve them into the future. The Conservancy has been very successful due to the commitment of Greg Moore and the many others involved.



[You can view the video here](#)

Feature Park: John Forrest National Park

John Forrest National Park is one of Australia's oldest conservation areas and Western Australia's first national park proclaimed in November 1900. Within the park is Eagle View Walk Trail; a bushwalker's delight. It's more challenging than other trails in the park, but your efforts are well rewarded.

The trail name and emblem of the eagle was selected because when the trail was built there was a magnificent wedge-tailed eagle's nest, which stood nearly two metres high on limbs at the top of a wandoo tree. From a particular point along the trail you could look down into the nest.

[Download the Eagle View Walk Trail brochure here](#)



National Park Falls, John Forrest National Park. Photo - Parks and Wildlife



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