

Library

From: WA Parks Foundation <info@ourwaparks.org.au>
Sent: Thursday, 30 May 2024 1:48 PM
To: Library
Subject: May Newsletter - Eavesdropping on nature, State Budget supports the environment and much more!

WA Parks Foundation | Connecting people to parks



May 2024



Beelu National Park. Image credit: Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Bronwyn Wells.

Eavesdropping on nature to monitor biodiversity

Eco-acoustics is becoming a powerful tool for documenting and understanding Australia's unique faunal diversity. Research interest in the field continues to develop rapidly, leading to new approaches and applications.

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions researchers are using this emerging field of science to monitor forest health, recently deploying some acoustic recording units to record the soundscape in the northern jarrah forest near Mundaring.

The International Society of Ecoacoustics says this interdisciplinary science recognises that sounds can be both the subject and tools of ecological research.

[Read more](#)

Fortescue Marsh – a nationally significant wetland



Vegetation in the Fortescue Marsh lake beds and saline floodplains has to cope with climatic extremes of hot, dry conditions, punctuated by periods of inundation. Image credit: Environmental Protection Authority.

Funding announced in the recently handed down State budget 2024-25 will support a range of initiatives within the WA Government's Plan for our Parks.

The plan is designed to create more opportunities for nature-based and cultural tourism, to provide enhanced biodiversity conservation and build on Aboriginal joint management of parks and reserves throughout Western Australia.

One of the initiatives supported is the soon-to-be created Fortescue Marsh Nature Reserve, a large, seasonal wetland located in the Fortescue River valley between the Chichester and Hamersley Ranges in the Pilbara.

[Read more](#)

Studying genetics for plant conservation



Myriocephalus guerinae, commonly known as a Native Daisy, in growth media in the Kings Park Labs. Image credit: Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, Dr David Merritt.

Kings Park scientists and horticulturists undertake world-leading research across aspects of plant conservation, including species recovery, restoration of degraded ecosystems, management of urban bushland ecosystems and the sustainable use of native flora.

The genetic component of this research allows informed decisions around the management, conservation and restoration of some of Western Australia's most threatened biodiversity.

Genetic information is integral to understanding the role of plant-animal interactions or environmental changes and even factors contributing to genetic decline. Genetic knowledge can also help maintain and restore functional plant communities that are resilient to current and future climates.

[Read more](#)

Smartreka for Kennedy Range



Kennedy Range National Park. Image credit: Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Bronwyn Wells.

The free, downloadable Smartreka map for the Kennedy Range National Park is now available on the WA Parks Foundation website. This brings to 20 the number of maps published in the Smartreka series.

Located in the Gascoyne region of Western Australia, the Kennedy Range National Park (known as 'Mundatharrda' to the Yinggarda Traditional Owners) is about 150 kilometres east of Carnarvon.

The spectacular weathered plateau covers about 1,416 square kilometres. Forming a huge mesa, the natural landscape features sandstone cliffs on the southern and eastern sides, interrupted by canyons rising to steep elevations of 100 metres.

More than 400 plant species have been recorded in the park, including 80 species of annual wildflowers such as the mulla mulla and everlasting daisies. After good rains, wildflowers flourish from July to September.

[Read more](#)

Participating in Government House Open Day



Wish Upon A Seed activity at the Government House Open Day.

The WA Parks Foundation took part in the recent Open Day at Government House in Perth, using this opportunity to raise awareness of the Foundation's work and partnerships in the Government, Community and Corporate sectors.

One of the most popular activities at our stand was the Wish Upon A Seed activity where visitors could decorate a biodegradable cup, plant a seed, make a wish and take their seed home to grow. Two hundred people including a number of children enjoyed this gentle, environmentally focused opportunity.

[Read more](#)

WA Nats turn 100



The 2024 Council gathered around their new banner marking 100 years of the Club. Image credit: WA Naturalists' Club.

The Western Australian Naturalists' Club, one of the oldest conservation groups in Australia, is celebrating its centenary this year.

This lively and well-respected organisation is designed to cater for environmentally conscious members of the community, providing for a wide

range of interests for amateur naturalists and professional environmental scientists.

WA Parks Foundation Chair, the Hon Kerry Sanderson AC CVO is Co-Patron with esteemed scientist Professor Lyn Beazley AO, Honorary Institute of Advanced Studies Distinguished Fellow (UWA) and a member of the WA Parks Foundation's Ambassador Advisory Committee.

[Read more](#)

Your support for the Foundation appreciated



Thank you to those who were able to support us this financial year.

The end of the financial year is fast approaching, and we take this opportunity to thank all who have donated to our End of Financial Year appeal. The Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation and the support of the community and corporate sectors is vitally important in enabling us to deliver our programs and projects.

These are designed to conserve, promote and add value to Western Australia's spectacular and biodiverse network of terrestrial and marine parks encompassing more than thirty-one million hectares, including three natural World Heritage areas.

If you would like to donate or sign up to be a member, you can [find out more here](#).

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Make a difference

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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The WA Parks Foundation is a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission. Any donations of \$2.00 or more are eligible for a tax deduction under the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.



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