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From: WA Parks Foundation <info@ourwaparks.org.au>
Sent: Thursday, 31 October 2024 10:20 AM
To: Library
Subject: October Newsletter - Photo and video comp, conserving our sawfish and much more!

WA Parks Foundation | Connecting people to parks



October 2024



First Prize in the WA Parks Foundation's 2023 photo competition went to David Manning for his entry "First light over Dale's Gorge, Karijini" – Karijini National Park. Image credit: David Manning/WA Parks Foundation.

Entries invited for our photo and video comps

Capture your Wild Wonder is the theme of the WA Parks Foundation's 2024 photo and Instagram video competitions, with excellent prize packages to be won.

Spring is the perfect time to immerse yourself in nature. These competitions celebrating WA's biodiversity of flora and fauna and the beauty of our national

and marine parks are part of the WA Parks Foundation's Spring into Parks initiative, supported by Lotterywest.

Entries are open and the competitions close at 11.59pm AWST 10 November 2024.

[Read more](#)

Conserving our sawfish - genetic research bridges knowledge gap



Dr Jack Ingelbrecht and team with a green sawfish. Image credit: Dr David Morgan and Dr Jack Ingelbrecht/ Murdoch University.

Researchers from Murdoch University's Harry Butler Institute have employed the latest genetic techniques to uncover critical breeding and reproductive knowledge about one of the world's most threatened marine animals – the sawfish.

Research fellows Dr Jack Ingelbrecht and Associate Professor David Morgan led a team from the Centre for Sustainable Aquatic Ecosystems as they

reconstructed a series of family trees for green sawfish in WA's Ashburton River.

The green sawfish, known to grow longer than six metres, is critically endangered.

[Read more](#)

Supporting native seed production



The Northern Native Seed Industry Development Initiative supports innovation in native seed technologies, storage, treatment and testing operations and the preservation of Traditional Ecological Knowledge. Images credit: Goldfields Esperance Development Commission.

Six Aboriginal enterprises will share in \$2.1 million in State Government funding to support the production of native seeds for land restoration and rehabilitation across regional Western Australia.

The grants will assist Aboriginal enterprises to establish native Seed Production Area trial sites for land restoration and rehabilitation across the Pilbara, Goldfields and Kimberley regions.

Seed Production Areas are an innovative approach to meeting the increasing demand for native seed supply for land restoration, carbon farming and other biodiversity initiatives. Mining companies, for example, require vast quantities of native seed to meet their post-closure revegetation obligations, and demand is outstripping supply.

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Meet the Coral Coast turtles



Coming ashore at sunset. Image credit: Exmouth Adventure Co.

Australia's Coral Coast is home to some of the world's most important turtle breeding grounds and from late-October through to early April the region transforms into a hub of turtle activity as mating, nesting and hatching seasons occur.

Ningaloo is recognised as one of the world's most important nesting grounds for both green and loggerhead turtles. Key locations include Point Quobba (Carnarvon), Maud's Landing (Coral Bay) and the Jurabi Coastal Reserves (Exmouth).

Exmouth's Jurabi Turtle Centre is one of the best places for a turtle experience, with dedicated night-time turtle eco-education tours run by Park Rangers between December and March.

[Read more](#)

Art in Nature experience awaits Northcliffe visitors



"Sundew" by artist Natalie Williamson on the Understory Art and Nature Trail (Southern Forest Arts), Northcliffe. Image credit: Southern Forests Arts/Australia's South West.

Northcliffe, in WA's lower South West, is surrounded by karri, marri and jarrah forests and is close to three of the region's national parks; Warren, D'Entrecasteaux and Shannon.

It's a great destination to get out into nature and discover the diverse flora and wildlife within the forests, heathlands and coast.

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Encouraging community stewardship for conservation



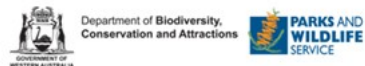
Bibra Lake Wetlands. Image credit: The Wetlands Centre Cockburn.

The Cockburn Wetlands Education Centre in Bibra Lake is among 54 community-based groups to share in the 2024 round of funding under a State initiative to support projects which protect and restore the local environment.

A Community Stewardship Grant of \$266,300 will be put towards its Thriving Wetlands, Thriving Community project to restore part of the Bibra Lake Reserve's wetland and dryland areas. The aim is to create a habitat to encourage turtles to breed and establish, and to raise awareness about the importance of maintaining viable wetland environments for the future.

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