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From: WA Parks Foundation <info@ourwaparks.org.au>
Sent: Thursday, 31 July 2025 4:32 PM
To: Library
Subject: July Newsletter - Murujuga receives UNESCO listing, Bunbury's new Turtle Centre and much more!

WA Parks Foundation | Connecting people to parks



July 2025



The Murujuga petroglyphs were etched with stone tools. Photo credit: Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation

Murujuga receives UNESCO World Heritage listing

Western Australia is home to Australia's newest UNESCO World Heritage site, with the Murujuga Cultural Landscape inscribed on the World Heritage List.

Located on the Dampier Archipelago and Burrup Peninsula in the Pilbara, Murujuga National Park is one of the world's most significant cultural landscapes. Its richly layered red rock escarpments include up to two million petroglyphs, dating back more than 50,000 years.

These ancient stone carvings document the connection between First Nations Peoples and Country through time - stories of land, sea, ceremony, family and spirit.

Murujuga is Australia's 21st UNESCO World Heritage site and the second recognised for its Aboriginal cultural values. At its heart is the Ngarda-Ngarli, the five language groups that are the custodians who continue to care for this land and sea country.

[Read more](#)

Our wonderful wildflowers prepare to delight and dazzle



Some wildflowers have started blooming at Mullewa, including the much-loved Donkey orchid. Photo credit: Shire of Perenjori

Western Australia's wildflower season varies year on year, and the best indication of whether it will be another extravaganza is how much it rains in autumn and winter.

With substantial winter falls across many areas of the State's Mid West, Wheatbelt, Perth Hills, South West and Great Southern, the prospect for an outstanding season is promising.

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Bunbury's new Turtle Centre



Feeding time for baby Loggerhead turtle. Photo credit: Dolphin Discovery Centre, Bunbury

With support from Lotterywest, the Dolphin Discovery Centre team at Bunbury can now care for up to 40 rescued turtles each season in a new facility equipped with intensive care pods and high-tech life support systems.

Built over six months, the centre, which is licensed by the Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, will play a vital role during winter, helping baby turtles recover and return to the ocean after storms have caused them to wash up along the coast.

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Cash rebates offered for planting native trees



Corymbia ficifolia, commonly known as red flowering gum is endemic to the south-west of Western Australia.

As part of a multimillion-dollar investment to improve Western Australia's urban canopy, the WA Government is offering residents cash rebates for planting trees in their backyards. This includes people impacted by polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB).

Over the next four years, under two separate urban greening initiatives, up to 10,000 residents a year can claim a cash rebate up to \$150 on the purchase of a native tree through the Treebate program, a \$6.9 million initiative that is open to all WA residents aged over 18 years.

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Discovering more of Walpole's biodiversity



The Deep River flows through forested areas including the Walpole-Nornalup National Park before discharging into the Nornalup Inlet.

The Walpole BioBlitz 2025 is a citizen science event aiming to record as many species as possible over one weekend in Spring. Registrations are now open for this event planned for 3-5 October.

The Walpole Wilderness Area is a vast natural landscape embracing the essence of the southern forests and coast of Western Australia.

Majestic jarrah, karri and tingle forests surround imposing granite peaks, peaceful rivers, heathlands, wetlands and tranquil inlets, and overlook picturesque sandy beaches, sheer coastal cliffs and the Southern Ocean.

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Improving river health



Preparation for planting as part of Helena River (Mandoon Bilya) restoration. Photo credit: Bibbul Ngarma Aboriginal Association

The Helena River (Mandoon) is the current focus of the BoorYul-Bah-Bilya program developed by the Aboriginal-led charity Bibbul Ngarma Aboriginal Association (BNAA) to create a new type of community plan for improving river health.

"Mandoon" comes from the Noongar language, meaning "place of many trees."

BNAA hopes the plan will provide a framework applicable to all rivers once complete.

Common threats to rivers include urban expansion, climate change, pollution, salinisation, acidification, vegetation decline, altered flow, erosion and sedimentation," the Association says.

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