



MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR





Our precious parks are more popular than ever with Western Australians travelling throughout our State, experiencing the diversity and richness of our environment. The Plan for our Parks, initiated by the State Government, will see the conservation estate increased by a further 5 million hectares by 2025.

To date, this has resulted in the creation of Houtman Abrolhos Islands National Park; an expanded Murujuga National Park; Beeliar Conservation Park; Nyinggulu (Ningaloo) coastal reserves; Badimia conservation reserves; reinstating the Lake Jasper area into D'Entrecasteaux National Park; and stage one of the proposed Helena and Aurora Ranges National Park by upgrading part of the existing Mount Manning Range Nature Reserve to class A national park.

Supporting conservation, increasing appreciation of our parks and helping people to connect with nature are major aims of the WA Parks Foundation. Our campaigns focusing on the physical and mental health benefits of spending time outdoors have been particularly relevant during the year with Covid-19 restricting travel overseas for most Western Australians for almost three-quarters of the year.

During the year, the Foundation revisited and updated its Strategic Directions focusing on 2022 to 2025. One of the key strengths identified was the success in building community links - developing supportive partnerships with the government and corporate sectors, and with engaged individuals and groups.

In planning our strategic approach for the next three to five years, we see collaborative opportunities in delivering projects and programs to further support achievement of our aims.

We also need to tackle some challenges. While the Foundation has been successful in attracting funding required to deliver its programs and projects, achieving long-term sustainability remains essential. Despite the challenging environment, the Foundation's projects have continued to progress. Five new Smartreka maps sponsored by BHP have been released and our Nature Connection Education series sponsored by the Australian Gas Infrastructure Group was implemented at four primary schools in the Perth and Peel regions.

I would like to extend appreciation to Rio Tinto for their support as a Gold Partner, and we are very grateful, also, for Platinum Partner Coogee Chemical's increased philanthropic commitment towards the work of the Foundation.

It was wonderful to see the continued success of Spring into Parks and I was delighted to attend the launch event at the Valley of the Giants, Tree Top Walk, coinciding with the 25th anniversary celebration of this stunning attraction.

Encouraging the community to experience, connect with, and learn about the beauty and diversity of our natural environment, the Spring into Parks program featured 240 events and activities spread over 120 parks and attractions. Promoting the health benefits of spending time in nature continues to be an integral part of our activities, with the launch of the Foundation's 30-day challenge in June to consciously connect with nature.



Our focus on John Forrest National Park as Perth's premier national park continues. Following the development of a Business Case and commitment from State Government for park improvements, we were pleased to see the release of schematic designs for the revitalised Park Hub with improved parking and access. It will be an amazing transformation of our State's first national park.

The support received from our Founding
Partners Chevron Australia, Woodside Energy,
Fortescue Metals Group and Wesfarmers has
been of enormous help in taking our projects
forward and is greatly appreciated. I would
like to thank, also, BHP and Australian Gas
Infrastructure Group for their welcome support
and Lotterywest for past support and a current
grant towards the activation of the Spring into
Parks from September 2021.

I thank our Board Directors and staff for their contribution over the year. Their input has been of great value in progressing our projects and programs and developing our strategic direction for the next few years.

My appreciation also to our volunteer Committee members, Founding Ambassadors, Park Ambassadors and our members, donors, supporters and volunteers who have all contributed to the Foundation this year.

A special thank you to the Hon. Kim Beazley AC, Governor of Western Australia, who, in his role as Patron of the Foundation, continued to be very supportive.

Understanding and conserving our natural environment is vitally important and we are committed to continue playing an active role to make a positive difference in that regard. The Foundation will continue to promote stewardship and philanthropy and seek new funding sources to do more to protect our parks and reserves and connect people to them, recognising the importance of Western Australia's conservation estate to health and wellbeing.

We need your continued support, both financial and through your community reach and influence, as we work to promote stewardship of our parks now and for future generations.

Keep safe and well. With best wishes

Hon. Kerry Sanderson AC CVO Chair. WA Parks Foundation

Kerry & Sanckoon

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Cover image:

Wildflowers, Coalseam Conservation Park Courtesy of Tourism Western Australia





We want everyone to feel connected to nature and Western Australia's parks and reserves

VISION

Our parks are increasingly loved and visited and the plants, animals, landscapes and cultural values they embody are protected and a source of pride for all Western Australians thus contributing to people's health, wellbeing and to ecotourism.

MISSION

To connect people to our parks and nature and through collaboration, deliver projects that celebrate, protect, increase understanding and enrich our parks to increase people's sense of connection.

GOALS

- Walls Help, protect and enrich WA's parks and their conservation values.
- Develop people's love of, pride in and connection to parks.
- Build and support a network of partners, drive community and corporate engagement with parks and promote philanthropy.





STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS 2022 - 2025

While a relatively young organisation, founded in 2016, the WA Parks Foundation has continued to progress towards its goals of connecting more people to parks, building pride in our State's natural assets, supporting conservation and encouraging collaborations.

Programs implemented continue to highlight the importance of our natural assets, including the landscapes, seascapes, flora and fauna, and their conservation to develop a sense of stewardship.

Our strong focus on the physical and mental benefits of spending more time in nature and building links with community, business and government agencies will remain particularly relevant as the pandemic continues to impact health and so many other aspects of life.

Supporting our activities is a strong governance framework, our membership base is growing, and we have the support of 51 influential Ambassadors.

In planning our strategic approach for the next three to five years, we see opportunities. We also need to tackle some challenges. The Foundation has been successful in attracting funding (largely private sector) required to deliver its programs and projects but achieving long-term sustainability remains essential.



Attract support and work with community and corporate organisations and government to

(flora and fauna).

improve conservation outcomes

Identified

areas are:

priority focus

2

Implement creative and innovative campaigns to improve connection to and support for our parks.

(3)

Collaborate to increase cultural awareness and awareness of the importance of the health of our natural environment.

4

Build a sustainable organisation.





Coral Bay sunset by Dene Bingham Photographer



GOALS

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

CONSERVE

Help protect and enrich our parks and their conservation and cultural values.

- Work with government, community and corporate organisations to improve conservation outcomes (flora and fauna).
- © Collaborate with aligned organisations to support and grow cultural awareness.

CONNECT

Develop people's love of, pride in and connection to parks.

- Increase profile and reach for the Foundation and its objectives through a strategically defined brand that resonates and connects with our audience.
- Build opportunities for lifelong learning and connection to our natural areas.
- Increase community understanding, appreciation and awareness of our natural environment including through interpretation and increasing awareness of cultural heritage.

COLLABORATE

Build and support a network of partners and drive community and corporate engagement with parks.

- Review and expand relationships with current stakeholders, explore and develop new partnerships.
- Increase corporate and community engagement through the growth and development of signature programs (Spring into Parks, Smartreka).
- Implement creative and innovative campaigns to attract support from corporate and community organisations.
- Build a portfolio of fundable projects with short, medium and long-term horizons.

CAPABILITY

Build organisational capacity and sustainability.

- Build a sustainable organisation.
- increase organisational capability and continue to explore and use innovative technologies.
- Build fit-for-purpose organisational capacity through engaging appropriate internal and external resources.



HIGHLIGHTS



Spring into Parks

Spring into Parks now in its third year, ran from 1 September to 31 October 2021. A Foundation initiative, the campaign provided a platform to promote and sponsor a diverse range of park-related activities, engaging broadly with the community and organisations across sectors. Key messaging focused on education, environment, wellness, youth and culture.

Made possible through a Lotterywest grant and the involvement of many community-based organisations as well as DBCA, the highly successful campaign featured 240 activities across 120 parks and attractions. The Spring into Parks calendar of events was supported by a comprehensive social media, radio and streaming campaign, which grew the Foundation's online community and level of engagement.

The campaign combined on-line information resources with community-based, nature-related activities and targeted engagement with youth, families and professionals.

Partnerships with a range of organisations, among them DBCA's Parks and Wildlife Service, Educated by Nature, Millennium Kids, Birdlife WA, Astrotourism WA, WA Gould League and the WA Naturalists' Club, helped to increase the campaign's reach and build community engagement.

Educational blogs and videos featured topics and activities such as traditional bush tucker and bush medicine, guides to sensory meditation, building a mini hut, discovering hiking, learning about iconic WA flora, how to 'green desk' and building a backyard cubby! Spring into Parks reached children through the Teacher magazine and Wall Planner with 22,000 copies distributed to schools for the start of Term 1.

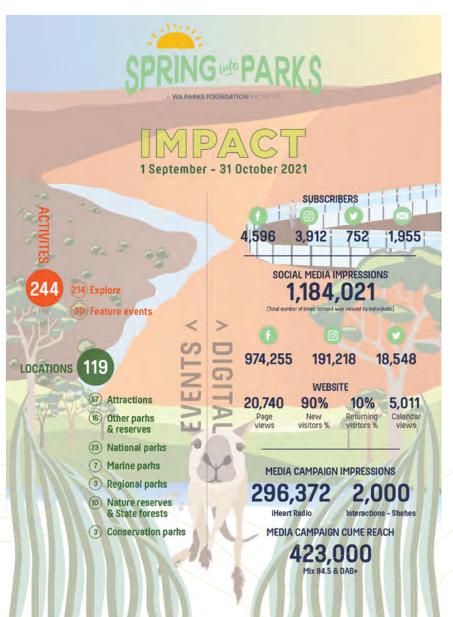
The wide-ranging participation in the campaign contributed to substantial growth in social media followers, with 1.18 million impressions across social media channels and 25,000 page views on the Foundation's website, as well as a strong increase in subscriptions to the newsletter.

Spending time in nature is vital for the health of the community and is an effective and evidence-based public health intervention tool. While it is not possible to directly measure, anecdotal information indicates that usage of hiking trails in parks reached record levels.









Consciously connecting with nature

Built on the theme "a little bit of nature every day makes you feel healthier and happier", the Consciously Connect with Nature campaign was launched in June as part of Spring into Parks. This included an imaginative and engaging guide on ways to prioritise wellbeing while exploring our stunning parks and reserves.

Among the many suggestions were the rewards of feeling the sand between your toes, finding animal tracks, savouring a sunset and listening to the sounds of nature. Encouraging people to be conservation champions, whether in a local, regional or national park or just around the home was another element.

This was a popular addition to Spring into Parks and during the online campaign promotion, there were more than 12,000 page views on our website by some 6,653 users, of whom 88 per cent were new.





Capturing a biodiversity snapshot

The inaugural Walpole Wilderness BioBlitz (WWBB) supported by the WA Parks Foundation, the Walpole-Nornalup National Park Association (WNNPA) and Lotterywest was a highly rewarding event, attracting over 150 citizen scientists and other conservationists.

Coordinated by volunteers from the WNNPA in October 2021, the BioBlitz comprised a series of surveys within the heart of the Walpole Wilderness Area. Some of the key aims were to create an inventory of species in the survey area; identify and map the area's natural assets, including species abundance and distribution, geological and hydrological features and vegetation communities; and identify new species.

Valuable information from the BioBlitz on threatened, rare, common and new species will

contribute to a greater understanding of the area and help to inform the future protection, conservation and management of this unique and important environment.

Information gathered will be shared with land managers to inform conservation practice and policy and improve planning and management outcomes in the future.

Children connecting with nature

Launched in September 2021, the Nature Connection Education pilot program sponsored by the Australian Gas and Infrastructure Group involved four primary schools in the Perth and Peel regions.

This immersive eight-week program, designed and delivered by Educated by Nature, engaged primary school students and their teachers in outdoor learning experiences within their local communities.

Connection to nature is well recognised as being important for the physical and mental health of people of all ages and is also vital in developing communities that live with active principles of sustainability.

Among elements of environmental stewardship are understanding and feeling part of nature, noticing changes in ecosystems, developing curious minds and feeling empowered to assist in protection and regeneration of natural assets.

Sponsoring public sector schools which have limited resources created an opportunity for primary school children to experience these programs which otherwise would not be within their reach.

Six short videos captured the very positive outcomes from this program, and these can be viewed on the Foundation's website.











NATURE CONNECTION SERIES



Upgrading a natural jewel

The WA Parks Foundation and the DBCA have a shared vision to make John Forrest National Park near Perth a gateway national park, through the revitalisation of facilities to improve the visitor experience.

John Forrest, WA's first national park, just a 35-minute drive from the CBD, has exceptional environmental features as well as significant Aboriginal and European historical and heritage values.

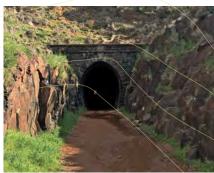
In 2021, the WA State Government committed \$8.4 million to upgrade facilities and an additional \$2.5 million was committed as part of the WA Recovery Plan initiative, to upgrade and develop new trails.

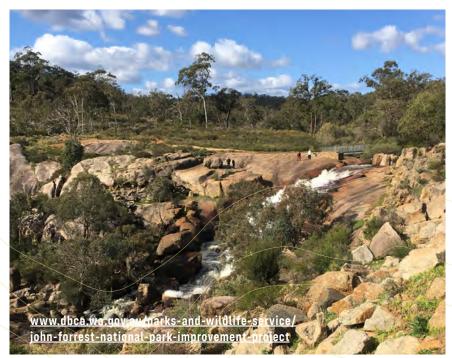
While the park in its entirety is the main attraction, an architecturally designed Park Hub with a café and interpretation space, further improvements to existing picnic areas and gardens, with increased parking and access are part of the plan. The WA Parks Foundation was pleased to contribute to development of the business case for this upgrading.

John Forrest National Park is one of the most visited in the Perth metropolitan area. Its many natural attractions include two scenic waterfalls that flow in winter and spring, and a jarrah forest that is still largely in its natural state.

Its proximity to the city, natural landscape and range of recreational opportunities drew at least 140,000 through the main entry gate in 2021-2022, up from 137,000 visitors in 2020-21 (statistics captured at the entry station).

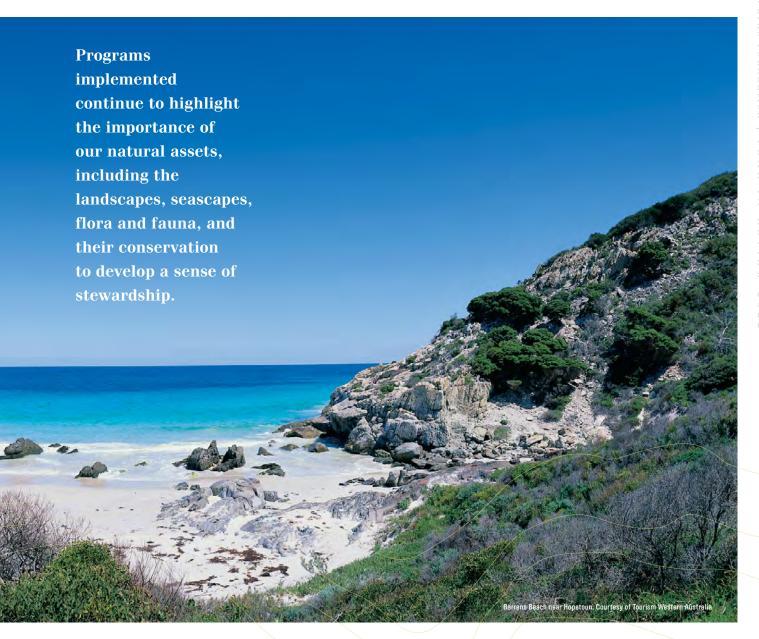






BARRENS BEACH, HOPETOUN







Connecting with community

The Foundation is continuing to reach out to the community by working with partner organisations to cross-promote projects, events and key messaging.

Over the past 12 months, subscriptions to the Foundation's monthly on-line newsletter have increased by 41%.

Increased campaign and project activity has seen the Foundation's social media followers

grow 19% on Facebook (4,929 followers), 14% on Instagram (4,065 followers), 23% on Twitter (871 followers) and, 265% on LinkedIn (390 followers).

The core theme across all campaigns is to promote the importance of understanding, appreciating and conserving Western Australia's parks and reserves, and the benefits of connecting with nature for mental and physical health and wellbeing.

Conserving our parks

The Foundation once again had the pleasure of partnering with Deloitte Australia on the company's annual Impact Day. Each November, Deloitte staff from around the country down their usual work tools to make a special contribution in their communities.

Deloitte volunteers assisted with projects at Yanchep National Park and provided support at Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre.



Coalseam Conservation Park. Courtesy of Tourism Western Australia



Denmark WA Courtesy of Brent Clinch

MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE

Management has concentrated on progressing key projects and business development. With the emergence and spread of the global pandemic, our priorities have also included mitigating risk to employees and stakeholders while maintaining business continuity and managing the impacts on the Foundation's financial position. A strong emphasis on upholding corporate governance continues.

The business outlook and market conditions created by the global pandemic as well as other economic factors have influenced the Foundation's financial position. The Board, supported by its Fundraising Committee, is addressing this in a focused and targeted manner, continuing to value and strengthen relationships with our existing partners for mutual benefit and seeking additional opportunities for support further afield.

Lotterywest supported Spring into Parks, Coogee Chemicals increased its support and Rio Tinto provided a substantial donation to support the work of the Foundation.

All mandatory reporting requirements for the year were completed in a timely fashion and the reporting requirements of our Partners were met.

Patron

The Hon. Kim Beazley AC, Governor of Western Australia

BOARD OF DIRECTORS •••••• The membership of the Board of Directors for the year ending June 30, 2022. · Chair: The Hon Kerry Sanderson AC CVO (Former Governor of Western Australia, former Chancellor Edith Cowan University, Chair St John of God Healthcare) Hon Treasurer: Ms Eva Skira AM (Chair Macmahon Holdings Limited, Chair of the Catholic Education Commission and former Chair of Trustees of St John of God Healthcare Group) Mr Shaun Hardcastle (Partner, Hamilton Locke) **Mr Richard Simpson** (Director Euroz-Hartley, Former Chair Botanic Gardens and Park Authority) Dr Richard Walley OAM (Director of Aboriginal Productions and Promotions) Ms Ainslie de Vos (Former Manager External Affairs, Fremantle Ports) Ms Dale Tilbrook (Maalinup Aboriginal Gallery) Other attendees: · Ex-officio attendee: Mr Peter Sharp Executive Director, Parks and Visitor Services, Parks and Wildlife Service, DBCA · Secretary: Ms Melanie Wilshin General Manager, WA Parks Foundation



OUR SUPPORTERS

The Foundation greatly appreciates the support of the Western Australian community and we are proud to acknowledge the generous contributions of our partners, donors and volunteers and the assistance of our Patron, the Hon. Kim Beazley AC, Governor of Western Australia.

We are grateful for the generous support received from our corporate partners, donors, members, ambassadors and our dedicated volunteers. With special thanks to our Founding Partners, Platinum Partner, Gold Partners and Donors.

Founding Partners

- Wesfarmers

 (inaugural Founding Partner)
- Chevron Australia
- Fortescue Metals Group
- Woodside Energy

Platinum Partner

Coogee Chemicals







Gold Partners

- Australian Gas Infrastructure Group
 BHP
- Rio Tinto

Donors

Our appreciation and thanks also go to the other individuals and organisations who made contributions during 2021/22:

Numbat Platinum Circle

- Wright-Burt Foundation
- Eva Skira AM & John Gorter

Kangaroo Paw Silver Circle

- Janet Holmes à Court AC
- Hon Kerry Sanderson AC CVO

Park Steward

- John van Bockxmeer
- Abby Richardson
- Jason Sanderson
- Ainslie de Vos

OUR MEMBERS

The Foundation is a membership-based organisation and at 30 June 2022, there were 84 members, comprising student, individual and family memberships. All Foundation members are entitled to receive a 50% discount on the annual All Parks Pass from Parks and Wildlife as well as a range of exclusive discount offers.

OUR AMBASSADORS

The Foundation has 51 Ambassadors all with a common love of our parks and support for the Foundation's objectives. They include people with extensive and varied experience of Western Australia's national parks as well as those with relevant experience in other areas. Our Ambassadors, with their wide-ranging expertise and networks, have much to contribute in raising awareness of the importance of our parks and of the Foundation's work.

Founding Ambassadors

We thank the Founding Ambassadors for their contributions and time volunteered.

- Pat Barblett AM
- Hon Fred Chaney AO
- · Janet Holmes à Court AC





Our Volunteers

Our thanks to our many volunteers, who have contributed their time and expertise over the past year.

WA Parks Foundation Board

Hon. Kerry Sanderson AC CVO, Eva Skira AM, Shaun Hardcastle, Richard Simpson, Dale Tilbrook, Ainslie de Vos, Dr Richard Walley OAM.

WA Parks Foundation Committees

Professor Lyn Beazley AO, Emeritus Professor Ross Dowling AM, Councillor Kim Eckert OAM, David Flanagan AM, Regina Flugge, Kate Gibson, Shaun Hardcastle, John Langoulant AO, Leigh-Anne Meyerowitz, Ryan Mossny, Hon. Kerry Sanderson AC CVO, Jim Sharp, Tracy Shea, Richard Simpson, Eva Skira AM, Diane Smith-Gander AO, Tanya Trevisan, Ainslie de Vos and Ian Williams AO.

Pro Bono Support

Of major assistance, this year has been the contribution of our Supporting Partners, Deloitte, PwC and Hamilton Locke. Deloitte has provided pro bono accounting services, PwC contributes pro bono audit services and Hamilton Locke provides pro bono legal services. The professionalism of these services is greatly valued by the Foundation and provides confidence that high levels of corporate governance are being maintained.

Financial Services

 Deloitte: Thomas Hodgkins and Ewa Michalska

Audit Services

• PwC: Justin Carroll, Jenny Li, Shannyn Pomersbach

Legal Services

· Hamilton Locke: Shaun Hardcastle, Patrick Pethick



OUR PARTNERS

25

The WA Parks Foundation greatly appreciates the support of the Western Australian community and we are proud to acknowledge the generous contributions of our partners.

Founding Partners









Platinum Partner



Gold Partners





RioTinto

Silver Partner



Supporting Partners







localista

Government Partners









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GET INVOLVED

Western Australia's parks are known and loved for their spectacular scenery, diverse plant and animal life and the unique experiences they offer. Together, we can make a real difference to help everyone enjoy our parks now and make sure future generations can do the same.

Become a friend of the Foundation

Individual, family and student memberships are available. All members receive a 50% discount on the Parks and Wildlife Annual Park Passes, which offer both convenience and value for money when exploring our stunning parks and reserves, as well as a range of exclusive discounts with retail and tour operators.

Ways to partner

There are many opportunities to partner with the Foundation with a wide range of corporate and community projects requiring financial, in-kind and corporate volunteering support.

Donate today

Donations directly contribute to programs that promote the many benefits of spending time in nature and raise vital funds for park improvement projects that would not otherwise be possible.

Leave a bequest

By making a gift to the Foundation, you can help make a real difference to conserving our parks and creating a legacy.

Volunteer your time

With more than 31 million hectares of national parks and reserves across Western Australia, and more to be announced, every little bit of help makes a difference. If you love parks and you want to help conserve or improve park experiences, please let us know!

www.ourwaparks.org.au/get-involved



OUR VALUES

WE ARE...

COLLABORATIVE - We understand that we can achieve more by collaborating with others.

We collaborate and work together with traditional owners, land managers, cultural leaders, scientists, recreation professionals and our community. We are inclusive and make collaboration part of how we do husiness.

WE ARE HERE TO...

CONSERVE - Our park experiences have shaped us and hold deep meaning and value.

Our wish is to gift this value to our children and future generations.

We are stewards of our parks and help conserve and protect our
natural environment.

WE VALUE THE...

OUTDOORS - We value the natural treasures on our doorstep. We love getting outdoors and encouraging others to experience and enjoy our amazing land and marine parks.

Everything we do is to encourage the experience and appreciation of nature and the outdoors.

WE SEEK...

UNDERSTANDING - Through increasing understanding we help people to gain greater appreciation of our parks and build the emotional value and sense of stewardship to conserve them.

We are here to further explore and discover what our parks can teach us and through this, better understand and celebrate their true meaning and intrinsic value. Our role is to help increase understanding of the vital role nature holds for our lives and our connection to it, and our interconnection with it.

WE FACILITATE...

WELLBEING - Positively connecting with our parks nurtures our physical, mental, spiritual, social and economic wellbeing. We understand that the health of our parks directly impacts our health and the health of our society.

We are mindful that all of our choices will positively support the wellbeing of our parks and us. In our parks we find joy.

