



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

PLAN FOR OUR PARKS

SECURING 5 MILLION HECTARES OVER 5 YEARS

PLAN FOR OUR PARKS

The McGowan Government will leave a lasting legacy for future generations by significantly increasing Western Australia's conservation estate.

Plan for Our Parks will secure a further five million hectares of new national parks, marine parks and other conservation reserves over the next five years.

The five million hectare expansion will see the conservation estate¹ increased by over 20 per cent.

The plan will deliver new and expanded parks from the Kimberley in the north, across WA's Rangelands, through population centres in Perth and Bunbury, to our south-west forests and along our southern coastline.

The plan includes existing priorities and identifies new, visionary opportunities to work with Traditional Owners to create, jointly manage and expand our parks.

1. The conservation estate includes national parks, conservation parks, nature reserves, marine parks, marine nature reserves, marine management areas and *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* section 5(1) (g) and 5(1)(h) reserves with a purpose of conservation.



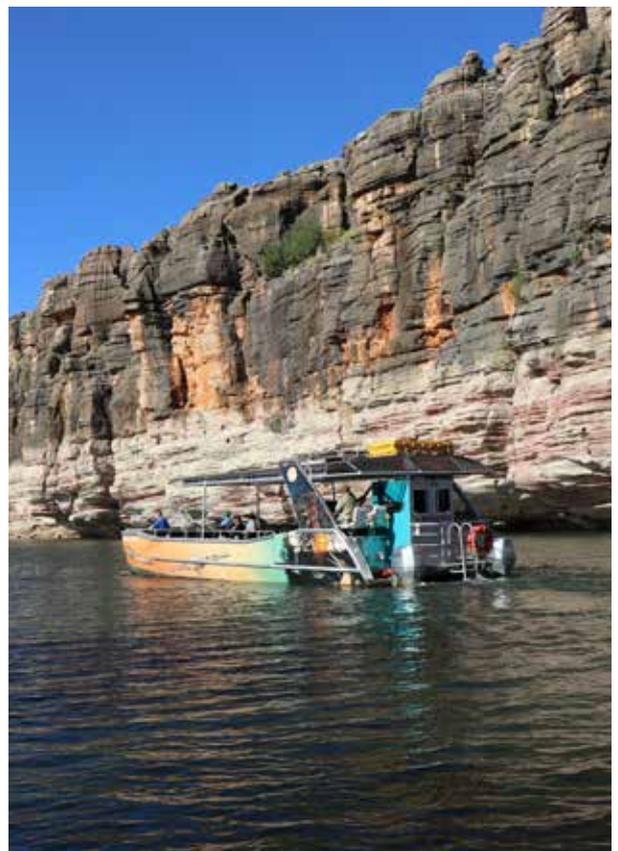
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Conservation and tourism benefits

A bold expansion of the conservation estate will help safeguard Western Australia's unique biodiversity. Scores of threatened flora and fauna will have their habitats secured for generations to come. Opportunities for a **Helena Aurora Range National Park**, **Houtman Abrolhos Islands National Park**, along with a national park over the **Fortescue Marsh**, the largest ephemeral wetland in the Pilbara, will conserve important aspects of the State's biodiversity.

Key priorities include a marine park system that protects a wide variety of important ecosystems and marine life along WA's extensive coastline. Marine parks will be created in the **Buccaneer Archipelago** in the Kimberley and the **Perth metropolitan area**. The Recherche Archipelago and Stokes Inlet, and their surrounding waters, have also been identified in previous marine planning processes. These areas are known for their high conservation value and will be considered for reservation as a marine park for multiple purposes, including conservation. The establishment of any marine park in this area requires consultation with commercial and recreational fishers to identify opportunities that enable continued recreational and commercial uses. These parks will complement the State's commitment to the joint vesting of marine parks with Traditional Owners.

Plan for Our Parks will also boost tourism in Western Australia, by providing opportunities for development of nature-based and cultural tourism and recreation attractions. This will further enhance Western Australia's reputation as a leading nature and cultural based tourist destination and create jobs.



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Working with Traditional Owners

This ambitious plan provides the basis for a new era in working with the State's Traditional Owners. It builds on successful joint management arrangements that are being implemented with Traditional Owners elsewhere in the State, including with the Yawuru, Miriuwung and Gajerrong, Bunuba, Dambimangari, Karajarri, Balangarra, Murujuga, Nyangumarta and Ngarla groups.

Opportunities exist for new national parks to be created in areas such as **Shark Bay, Kennedy Range, Mount Augustus** and along the **Fitzroy River**. This will enable Aboriginal people to establish and operate tourism ventures and other enterprises on their country.

This plan will also respond to the growing demand for on country jobs for Aboriginal rangers. It is designed to complement initiatives such as the \$20 million *Aboriginal Ranger Program*. The park expansion plan will create real jobs and conservation outcomes in regional and remote areas of WA. Traditional Owners will undertake active management of the conservation estate, right across WA.

Any opportunities for the creation of national parks, marine parks or other conservation reserves proposed under the Plan for Our Parks will only be progressed if they are supported by the relevant native title groups and relevant native title agreements are in place.





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Respecting the past, building a legacy

Plan for Our Parks builds on the Government's election commitments and strategic priorities and includes long-standing reserve proposals designed to contribute to a comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system for Western Australia. It also addresses the findings and recommendations of previous enquiries into the establishment and management of marine parks and reserves and former pastoral leases.

Many of the former pastoral properties were purchased for conservation over the past two decades but have remained unreserved. The McGowan Government will address the unfinished business of successive governments and reserve these areas and other areas for inclusion into the conservation estate.

Plan for Our Parks builds on decades of relationships with Aboriginal people and approaches to the Government from Traditional Owner groups with aspirations for the creation, joint vesting and joint management of new parks and reserves.

The Plan for Our Parks brings all of this work together at a statewide scale to increase conservation for future generations.





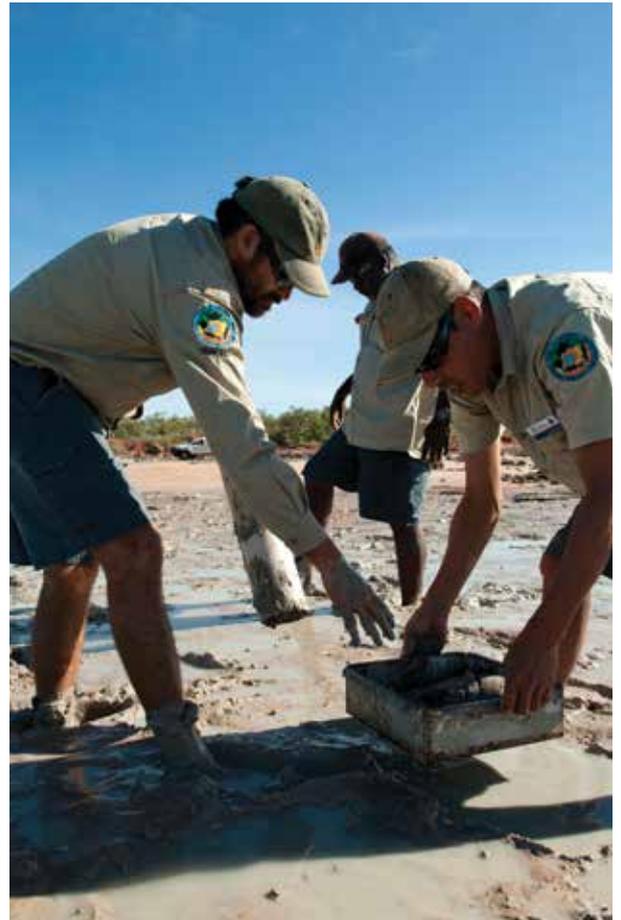
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A consultative approach

There is flexibility in the design of a detailed Plan for Our Parks. In delivering a shared vision to significantly expand the conservation estate, the McGowan Government will consult widely with Traditional Owners, industry, pastoralists, commercial and recreational fishers, conservation groups, local governments and other key stakeholders and interest holders. This will take place between February and August 2019.

Through the consultation process, the Government will look at specific proposals, boundaries and management approaches to develop a detailed Plan for Our Parks. The Government recognises the importance of the resource sector in this process and will have regard to relevant resource-related matters.

For more information on Plan for Our Parks and associated consultation, visit www.pws.dbca.wa.gov.au/planforourparks or email planforourparks@dbca.wa.gov.au.



PLAN FOR OUR PARKS

Opportunity for new parks

- Election commitment - already underway
- Strategic priority - previously announced
- Visionary opportunity
- All areas (and some park names) shown are indicative only

