



Media Statement

18 July 2008

Public preview of international wetlands plan

A major environmental plan to protect the internationally recognised Peel–Yalgorup wetland system is nearing completion.

The Peel–Harvey Catchment Council has been working over the past two years with the community, local council and other stakeholders on a plan to sustainably manage the wetlands.

The PHCC's Amanda Wilmott will update the public on progress of the plan and seek their feedback at the next Peel Waterways Centre public seminar on Wednesday July 30.

Ms Wilmott said recent sightings of migratory birds in China which had been tagged on the wetlands have highlighted the importance of protecting the system, which is also home to the world famous thrombolites.

“The plan we are developing will play a major role in protecting bird habitat throughout the Peel–Yalgorup system,” Ms Wilmott.

“It will also help the local community to identify, monitor and protect the wide range of migratory birds which visit the wetlands every year.

“The sighting near Beijing of birds tagged on the wetlands has reinforced the international significance of the wetlands.”

Ms Wilmott said input from the community had already played an important role in shaping the management plan.

“The plan is all about seeking a balance between protecting the natural properties of the wetlands while acknowledging their important role in supporting human communities,” Ms Wilmott said.

“We've been working with the community to develop this management plan and the seminar will be another opportunity for the community to have a say in the way the plan is put together.”

Peel Waterways Centre Manager Bob Pond of the Department of Water said the Peel–Yalgorup wetlands deliver both ecological and economic benefits to the region.

“Each year the wetlands become a holiday home for thousands of migratory birds, many of which fly down from the Arctic Circle,” Mr Pond said.



Department of Water
Government of Western Australia

“So this is not only an important ecological system but also a site which has huge potential for eco-tourism.

“It’s vital that we manage the wetlands sustainably and to do so we need to involve the community in the decisions which will affect their future.”

The seminar will commence at 5pm on 30 July at the Peel Waterways Centre, 21 Sholl St Mandurah.

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