



Ms Karen Tuckett  
Chairperson  
Southern Biosecurity Group  
PO Box 292  
RAVENSTHORPE WA 6346

Dear Ms Tuckett

## **PLAN FOR OUR PARKS**

We are writing to you in relation to Plan for Our Parks, which is a whole-of-Government initiative to create five million hectares of new national parks, marine parks and other conservation reserves over five years commencing February 2019.

On 26 March 2020, the Premier of Western Australia, Hon Mark McGowan MLA, announced a suite of administrative measures to assist the State to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Plan for Our Parks was one of a number of programs deferred in an effort to free up resources and allow the State Government to continue to focus efforts on responding to COVID-19.

A review of the Plan for Our Parks initiative has now been undertaken which coincided with the WA Government cautiously lifting some restrictions for COVID-19, including intrastate travel restrictions, following the continued low number of new cases. The WA Government has decided to continue to deliver the initiative consistent with these restrictions.

The initiative was announced by the Premier on 20 February 2019 to help protect our unique biodiversity, create on-country jobs for Aboriginal rangers and provide opportunities for the development of nature-based and cultural tourism. Since then, the State Government has consulted with traditional owners, key stakeholders and interest holders to help refine the 18 opportunity areas identified under the initiative. The focus of this consultation has been to establish the key values, issues and interests for the park proposals to inform decisions on the parks to be created. Based on submissions received, a flexible approach has been taken to refining reserve boundary and tenure arrangements. An updated map of the initial 18 opportunity areas is provided at Attachment 1.

The focus now is to recommence the negotiation of Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUA) with native title parties, where agreed by the native title party, to create the reserves. Some activities, such as consultation on a south coast marine park, will continue to be deferred until September 2020 given COVID-19 and the current industry settings.

As part of refining the initiative, the Government also saw the need for a further one million hectares for reservation to ensure the five-million-hectare target is met, should the State be unable to reach agreement for the larger reserve proposals under the initiative. A map of the additional areas is at Attachment 2.

The additional areas have been identified based on development of a comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system; known biodiversity, cultural, tourism and other values; native title, resource and other considerations; practical reserve design principles and cost. Consideration



was also given to Government priorities and public submissions to the initiative with a focus on including former pastoral lands acquired by the State for conservation over the past 20 years.

Should you wish to discuss the implementation of the Plan for Our Parks initiative, including the additional areas, please contact Mr Peter Sharp, Executive Director, Parks and Visitor Services at the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions on 9219 9937 or email [planfourparks@dbca.wa.gov.au](mailto:planfourparks@dbca.wa.gov.au).

Further information about Plan for Our Parks is available at: <https://www.dbca.wa.gov.au/parks-and-wildlife-service/plan-for-our-parks>.

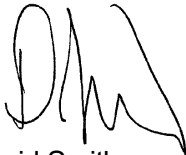
Yours sincerely



Mark Webb  
Director General  
Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions



Ralph Addis  
Director General  
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development



David Smith  
Director General  
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety



Gail McGowan  
Director General  
Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage

15 June 2020

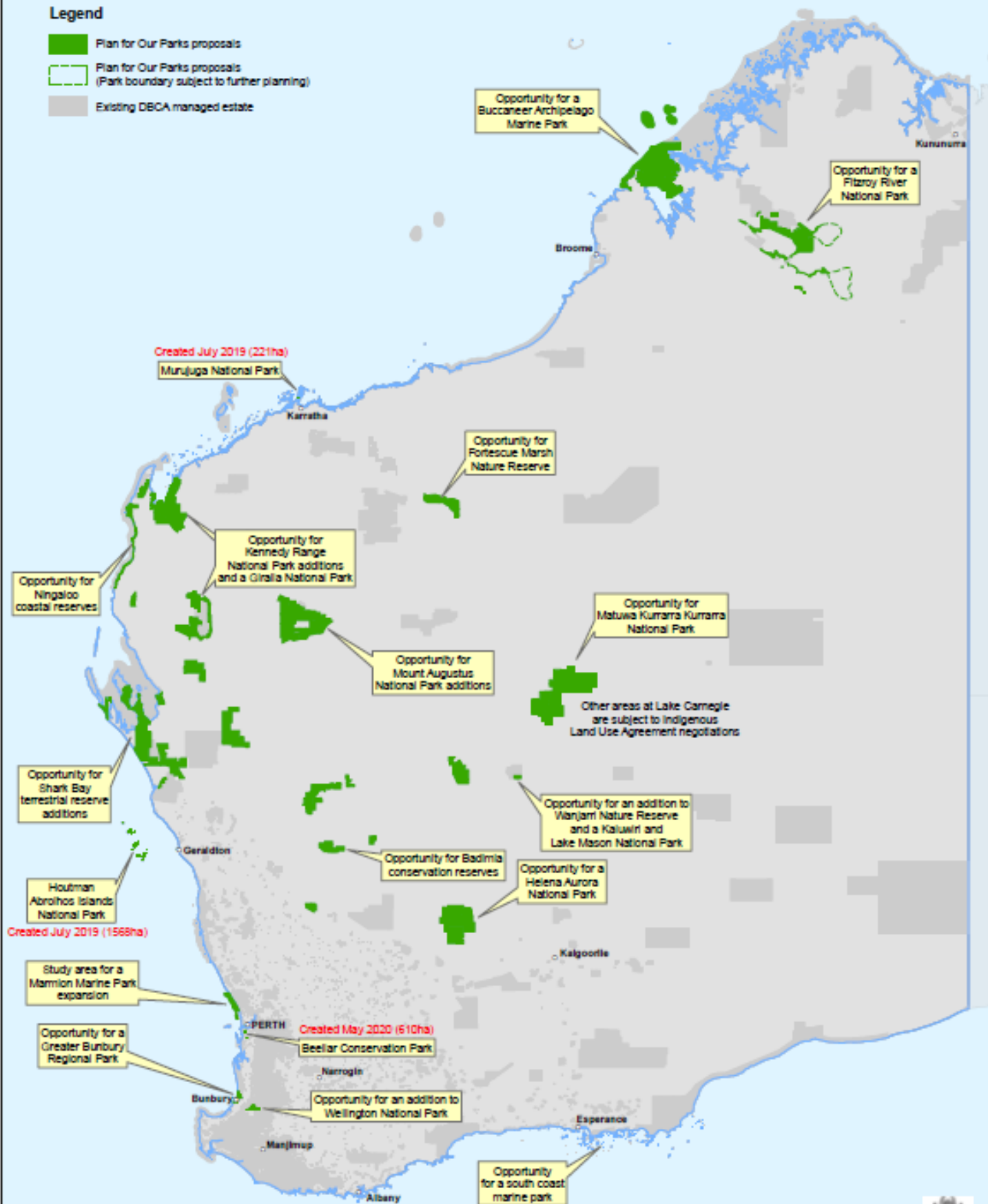
Att

# Plan for Our Parks

June 2020

## Legend

- Plan for Our Parks proposals
- Plan for Our Parks proposals (Park boundary subject to further planning)
- Existing DBCA managed estate






Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions



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# Plan for Our Parks South West enlargement June 2020

## Legend

-  Plan for Our Parks proposals
-  Existing DBCA managed estate
-  Regional parks

Study area for a  
Marmion Marine Park  
expansion

PERTH

Created May 2020 (610ha)  
Beellar Conservation Park

Beellar Conservation Park enlargement

Indian Ocean

Mandurah

Opportunity for a  
Greater Bunbury  
Regional Park

Bunbury

Opportunity for an addition to  
Wellington National Park

Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions





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# Plan for Our Parks Additional Areas

June 2020

## Legend

-  Plan for Our Parks Additional Areas
-  Existing DBCA managed estate

