



PERON NATURALISTE POST

Winter 2020

Coastal Adaptation news and events from the South West of Australia.

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2019-2020 Chairpersons Report

PNP Chairperson – Cr Mark Jones, City of Rockingham.

It has been great to work as Chair of the Peron Naturaliste Partnership (PNP). I would particularly like to thank Deputy Chair Cr. Caroline Knight for her dedication to the PNP on the Executive Committee along with PNP staff and staff from both City of Mandurah and Rockingham. I would like to take this opportunity to officially launch the **2020-2022 PNP Strategic Plan**. It has never been more important to work together towards better understanding and managing our coastline, estuaries for the benefit to our coastal communities. Since our last AGM, the PNP has achieved the following, just to name some major items:

- Won the 2019 WA Coastal Award of Excellence in Coastal Planning
- Launched our new PNP Strategic Plan 2020-2022
- Met with the Premier of WA, Mark McGowan
- Distributed our seasonal Newsletter
- Undertook Coastal Monitoring and Coast Snap Project with DOT and UWA
- Commenced planning and formed steering group for Leschenault to Capel Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaption Plan (CHRMAP)
- Presented to the State Health Enquiry – Department of Health
- contributed to WA Coastal Hazards Case Study – Department of Fire and Emergency Services
- Invited onto Australian Academy of Science Future Earth Reference Group for UN Coast and Oceans Transformation Strategy.

2019-2020 Chairpersons Report continued..

Over the past 12 months, the PNP has supported and contributed to several councils who are already or are about to be undertaking CHRMAP and or foreshore management plans including Busselton, Mandurah, Murray and Waroona. The City of Rockingham completed its CHRMAP in 2019. In 2020, the PNP taking a lead role on sub-regional steering committee for 2020-2021 Capel to Leschenault Coastal Hazard and Risk Management and Adaptation Plan Project.

Local Government officers have continued to do an excellent job undertaking monitoring of their beaches that includes measuring beach widths and photo monitoring every month. The past few months have seen some significant changes to much of our coastline as a result of the storms in May. This is particularly evident in the Shire's of Capel and Harvey beaches. We are also grateful to a volunteer who is completing the monitoring along the Shire of Waroona coastline. The monitoring program also includes oblique aerials that the PNP conducts in partnership with UWA. This year provided a unique opportunity to gauge the impacts of a 1 in 10 year event where we took photos before the (two) storm events in May and then another after. This data has provided some useful insights into coastal changes/damage as result of a significant event. These images along with other obliques can be viewed on the PNP/UWA website - WA Coastal Images. After unavoidable delays due to COVID-19 the CoastSnap project was launched. This citizen science initiative that the PNP is delivering with UWA is the first of its kind in WA and involves members of the community taking photos of beaches from a fixed smartphone camera stand that ensures photos have the same field of view. These photos are then uploaded, shared via social media and / or emailed to a database where, in addition to providing qualitative information of the along-coast morphology and beach state, beach width measurements and shoreline position can be extracted. Local Governments can use this data to investigate how much the beach may change during extreme conditions, or in response to the long-term effects of climate change. The sites include vulnerable coastal locations in each of the nine Partnership member Local government areas.

The CoastSnapWA Facebook page has been created so that we can keep the community informed and where you can view the uploaded photos.

I want to also acknowledge the social and financial challenges our organisations and communities have faced across the region and beyond in 2020. A big thank you to our PNP Board Members, member council staff and PNP staff for their efforts in the last financial year to make the PNP a success in such a challenging environment. Looking forward to progressing our objectives in our Strategic Plan 2020-2022.

LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS

New WA Coastal and Marine Community Network, Overview by Carmen Elrick-Barr

Initially the forming network evolved from discussions amongst community groups involved in CoastSWaP Forums in the south west. Discussions were then held at the last State NRM and coastal conference about coastal engagement and lack of coordination across the sector identified. People were asked if they had an interest in the development of a coastal network and what they thought the priorities might be. The outcome was a list of people that would like to be involved and 3 core ideas and themes have been identified for network coordination, capacity development, and advocacy and outreach.

- View the outcomes of this Conference discussion [here](http://www.landcarewa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2019-Conference-Coast-SwaP-WA-Coastal-and-Marine-Networking-Session.pdf);
<http://www.landcarewa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2019-Conference-Coast-SwaP-WA-Coastal-and-Marine-Networking-Session.pdf>
- Forum in February 2020 - more detail about what the network might look like setting of goals, vision, priorities for core areas and what success might look like. Read the summary of this meeting [here](http://www.landcarewa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/WA-CMCN_Feb2020_Meeting-Summary_160220.pdf); http://www.landcarewa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/WA-CMCN_Feb2020_Meeting-Summary_160220.pdf
- Online gathering in July hosted by Perth NRM. Key activities presented. Outcome was to broaden the network working group. Looking for volunteers to sit on main working group or key theme groups.
- View the recording of the Forum [here](https://youtu.be/hMnW0oc8Jqk); <https://youtu.be/hMnW0oc8Jqk>

WA Coastal grants announced - Minister for Transport announced the successful projects for the 2020/2021 Coastal Adaptation and Protection (CAP) Grants - [click here!](#)

WA Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage announce Coast West and CMPAP grants announced successful projects for the 2020/2021 - [click here!](#)

Wamberal (NSW) discussing seawall options and beneficiaries - [click here.](#)

The Insurance Council of Australia suggests that (1) future sea level rises should have no impact on current insurance premiums because of a policy's usual 12 month terms, and in any event, (2) actions of the sea are one of the most common policy exclusions: - [click here](#)

Sea Grant Law & Policy Journal Issue Centers on Monmouth Symposium - [click here](#)

EVENTS AND CONFERENCES (click for link)

POSTPONED: Our Coastal Futures Conference 2020

The Our Coastal Futures Conference (OCF) committee have made the difficult decision to postpone OCF2020 which was due to take place from 19 – 22 October 2020 at Southern Cross University, Gold Coast, due to the current situation concerning the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) and the unknown future impact this may have. The committee is working with the Southern Cross University to select a suitable date and will keep you posted.

All enquiries regarding the postponement should be directed to Kate and Jenny, our conference managers via email at ocf2020@yrd.com.au



Griffith Unis Coastal Hazards Short Courses have been postponed from May to October.

Organisers have changed of dates for this year's courses to October 2020:

Coastal Resilience Short Course Level I Foundations, Gold Coast 7-9 October 2020

Coastal Resilience Short Course Level II Advanced Applications Byron Bay 12-14 October 2020

Please contact me or Kate Schurmann at k.schurmann@griffith.edu.au for further information.

Australian Coastal Society - Coast to Coast Conference postponed to July 2021.

In response to the Federal Government's recommendations to the current COVID-19 situation, the Organising Committee have made the decision to cancel the 2020 Coast to Coast National Conference. Many of you will be disappointed, as are we. The conference organising committee had put together a wonderful conference program from your submitted abstracts and were finalising the itineraries for the field tours. We are hopeful the conference will be re-scheduled for 2021 and will provide you with updates as soon as they become available. We thank you for your understanding during this very difficult time, 2020 Conference Organising Committee.

National Coastal Hazards Forum- Fremantle 2020 has been postponed.

The Australian Coastal Councils Association has postponed the National Forum on Coastal Hazards as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The event was scheduled to be held at Fremantle from 20 to 22 May. A meeting of the Association's Committee of Management on 16 March 2020 decided to postpone the event until the risks associated with the coronavirus outbreak have abated. A new date for the Forum will be set once the current coronavirus restrictions have been eased.

RECENT ARTICLE

MEDIA RELEASE - COASTAL MANAGEMENT RESEARCH IN THE SOUTH-WEST

A community-sourced beach monitoring solution that invites local community members to help collect data about Western Australia's coastlines has been launched in the South-West by researchers at the University of Western Australia and the Peron Naturaliste Partnership. Photo monitoring points that allow beachgoers to capture and upload identically-framed pictures of the coastline have been installed at nine beaches between Rockingham and Busselton as part of the [CoastSnap WA](#) initiative. Dr Michael Cuttler, from UWA's Oceans Graduate School said the initiative – which was initially launched in NSW by The University of New South Wales and has since spread globally – would help combat the severe lack of data available to researchers. “With the large amount of beaches spread across WA's coast, it's incredibly difficult for coastal researchers to regularly monitor the coastline at sufficient time intervals and collect enough data to support science-based decisions on coastal management,” Dr Cuttler said. “The data gathered from community members through the initiative will supplement existing coastline information, boosting our capacity to make more informed scientific decisions.” Visitors to the nine beaches can assist researchers in collecting data by visiting the [CoastSnap WA web portal](#) or using their smartphone to scan a Quick Response (QR) code on the signage at participating beaches. The portal allows users to upload pictures of the beach taken with their device placed in a holder built in to the signage, which ensures all images are taken with identical framing. Peron Naturaliste Partnership (PNP) is introducing Coast Snap to Western Australia. Peron Naturaliste Partnership Chairperson and City of Rockingham Councillor Mark Jones said the initiative would raise community awareness about the impact of climate change and coastal erosion in WA. “Currently we are only involved with a regional program that collects data once a month, but this new program will provide the additional data we need to act upon coastal change issues and hotspots along our coast,” Mr Jones said. Beaches involved in the CoastSnap WA initiative include Mersey Point Jetty, Rockingham; Silver Sands, Mandurah; Heron Point, Birchmont; Preston Beach; Binningup Beach; Eaton Foreshore; Dolphin Discovery Centre, Bunbury; Dalyellup Beach; and Busselton Jetty. Additional information about the initiative is available on the [CoastSnap WA website and Facebook page](#).

Upcoming PNP Board Meeting

PNP Board Meeting - Date TBA for late October 2020



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