

**OUR RIVER NEEDS
MOORE FRIENDS**

Friends of the Moore River Estuary Inc.
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Hello again to all our Friends of Moore River Estuary as 2019 draws to a close and 2020 arrives.



Moore River estuary, the Guilderton townsite and local rural estates were spared from the recent fires thanks to the long hours and hard work of the fireys and locals. We thank you all. This is the map released of the areas affected so you can see how close it came to causing catastrophic damage to our homes, as well as the terrible toll taken on the bush and wildlife that wasn't spared. Roads were closed for days but all is back to 'normal' again now, with no visible damage to the estuary and no visible damage to the coastal bush for at least the 2 kms that I walked along the beach.

We can't say what effect this may have on Moore River Company's (MRC) plans to sell but we can only hope that any potential buyer can see more clearly the folly of building a suburb here.

2019 has seen the January approval of MRC's subdivision plan for another 4 years despite our vigorous protest to the WA Planning Commission. There are many onerous Conditions attached to the approval and to date we are not aware of any activity to act on the approval, or to progress the development, apart from trying to sell.

We made a detailed submission to the State Governments 'Plan for our Parks' in June, you can read it on our website. We have also spent a lot of energy following up this idea with Ministers and Government Departments.

We have made representation to the South Western Land and Sea Council with respect to the Yued claim for native title and how it might affect the most south westerly part of their claim as we hope to see the whole area between the city boundary at Two Rocks, the estuary, the ocean and Indian Ocean Drive protected in a Regional Park.

We have been in conversation with the Wilbinga Shacks Crew who work in the area and the Dept of Biodiversity, Conservation and attractions who are responsible for the management. The fire will have made all their work harder.

We are also waiting for the Strategic Plan for the Perth to Peel Region (SAPPR) – which is the latest version of the Perth to Peel Green Growth Plan, to be released as it may offer some forms of protection to the bush and estuary in terms of future planning.

What else??

Water quality monitoring has continued with Dept of Water and Environmental Regulations (DWER) and we are pleased to say that they are making a portal on their website which will enable visitors to see the results of our testing and allow photos and information about the estuary to be seen. Our wonderful friends at DWER will continue twice yearly monitoring with us, using Cooky's boat. If you'd like to join us one time, please let me know so I can contact you at the time. The estuary has been at record low levels after some of the sandbar breaks this winter and spring and we have seen some of the many seeps and soaks entering the estuary more clearly than ever.

Gingin Water Group continues their work over the whole catchment and work with DWER on water allocation issues and licensing. Community liaison will be called as the next plans are being made, we are represented on this wider issue too.

We stay in touch with the Conservation Council of WA, the Urban Bushland Council, the Lower Coastal Communities Association and other groups with similar goals to ours.

As summer and the long holidays arrive, we anticipate the usual busy times in town and hope to see you all up enjoying 'Moore River'.

Our very best wishes to all members and families for the festive season and the coming year.

Your FOMRE committee.

Linda Johnson 0414 631 273 for enquiries.



November 2019, the blue came up much further than usual with this break.