

Government appoints expert as Fitzroy River stakeholder convenor

Tuesday, 27 November 2018

- Bardy McFarlane to become the Government's direct link to stakeholders in the Fitzroy River catchment
- Ministerial Council to oversee the delivery of key election commitments

The McGowan Government has appointed an expert stakeholder convenor to help guide delivery of its election commitments to create the Fitzroy River National Park and develop a management plan for the Fitzroy River.

Bardy McFarlane, a former member of the National Native Title Tribunal and Manager of Land Access at BHP Billiton, will provide stakeholder groups with a direct link to a newly formed Ministerial Council comprised of the Ministers for Aboriginal Affairs, Environment, Regional Development, Agriculture and Food and Water.

With the assistance of Mr McFarlane, the Ministerial Council will work closely with the newly formed Martuwarra Fitzroy River Council, the Fitzroy Valley Stakeholder Group, local governments, the Kimberley Like Nowhere Else Alliance and other organisations with an interest in the Fitzroy River.

Comments attributed to Regional Development and Agriculture and Food Minister Alannah MacTiernan:

"The McGowan Government has pledged to work closely with stakeholders in meeting its commitments for the Fitzroy River. Appointing Bardy McFarlane to the role of stakeholder convenor is part of this, providing a focus for work ahead.

"Mr McFarlane's experience will help in translating the range of interests that the people of the Kimberley have into a plan for the future of the catchment that can benefit the community who lives and works there."

Comment attributed to Environment Minister Stephen Dawson:



Hon Alannah MacTiernan
MLC

Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; Minister Assisting the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade



Hon Stephen Dawson MLC

Minister for Environment; Disability Services



Hon Dave Kelly BA MLA

Minister for Water; Fisheries; Forestry; Innovation and ICT; Science



Hon Ben Wyatt LLB MSc
MLA

Treasurer; Minister for Finance; Energy; Aboriginal Affairs

"The McGowan Government is committed to protecting and growing the environmental and economic future of the Fitzroy River for the people of the Kimberley. I encourage all stakeholders to work closely with the State Government and Barty McFarlane as we progress a plan for the Fitzroy."

Comment attributed to Water Minister Dave Kelly:

"Having a clear and inclusive framework for consultation in the catchment is essential in delivering a water allocation plan that protects the health of the Fitzroy River and provides for sustainable economic development."

Comment attributed to Aboriginal Affairs Minister Ben Wyatt:

"The stakeholder convenor's role will assist the engagement of Fitzroy Valley traditional owners, which will be critical to the overall success of forging consensus among stakeholders for the protection and sustainable development of the region."

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Environment Minister's office - 6552 5800

Water Minister's office - 6552 6100

Aboriginal Affairs Minister's office - 6552 5900