

Media release

Rebecca Vassarotti MLA

Minister for the Environment Minister for Heritage Minister for Homelessness and Housing Services Minister for Sustainable Building and Construction

Member for Kurrajong

1 April 2021

Help shape the new Natural Resource Management Plan

The Canberra community is being encouraged to contribute to the ACT Government's Natural Resource Management (NRM) Plan that will guide how we protect our natural resources over the next 20 years.

Minister for the Environment Rebecca Vassarotti said that community involvement is really important because the plan will look to the future goals, actions and investments that need to be made in the next 20 years to protect the iconic resources in our region.

"We are lucky in the ACT, that our community have a love affair with their local environment, with so many community members who have a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to share in all areas of natural resource management," Minister Vassarotti said.

"We want to reflect current community knowledge and aspirations, alongside the latest scientific data and emerging challenges, to develop a balanced plan that carefully manages today's needs and the best outcomes for future generations.

"Our NRM Team is facilitating the development of the plan for all of us who use or value the natural resources of the ACT such as our land, water, soil, plants and animals. The NRM Team together with the community will identify investment priorities, establish partnerships, share knowledge and deliver programs to achieve the best outcomes for the region."

Key focus areas for the new NRM Plan will include:

- Ngunnawal natural resource management
- biodiversity conservation
- ecosystem function
- sustainable agriculture
- community connection to nature and wellbeing
- climate change and resilience

ACT Legislative Assembly London Circuit, GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601











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"Over the last decade some challenges, like climate change, have become more severe and are having a large impact on all elements of the natural resources of the ACT. Some of these long-term impacts on habitats, species, ecological communities and the natural resource base are unclear or unknown, which is why this plan will be so important," Minister Vassarotti said.

To have your say and help contribute to the Natural Resource Management Plan, you can visit one of these engagement sites:

- Belconnen Arts Centre: Monday 19 April 4.30pm-6.30pm
- **Downer Community Centre:** Tuesday 20 April 4.30pm-6.30pm
- Forde Community Centre: Wednesday 21 April 4.30pm-6.30pm
- Tuggeranong Community Centre: Thursday 22 April 4.30pm-6.30pm
- Weston Creek Community Centre: Tuesday 27 April 5.00pm 7.00pm
- Haigh Park Markets: Sunday 18 April 9.00am-12.00pm and Sunday 2 May 9.00am-12.00pm

You can also find out more information on the ACT Government's YourSay website.

Statement ends

Media contact/s:

Jen Faerber T (02) 6205 3897 M 0481 035 764 Jen.Faerber@act.gov.au







