



Climate action

At a glance

The McGowan Labor Government is committed to clean, green energy initiatives to ensure the State has a secure and reliable energy supply into the future.

By working with all sectors of the economy to achieve net zero by 2050, we will create low-carbon jobs and develop new industries.

We are investing in innovative energy solutions that can be rolled out immediately, and funding future low-carbon energy projects that will support local jobs.

The 2021-22 State Budget funds a suite of measures to shape climate-resilient communities and help Western Australia forge ahead towards a prosperous low-carbon future.

- \$750 million Climate Action Fund to deliver initiatives designed to address the threat of climate change and help industry flourish to create sustainable jobs
- \$61.5 million boost for WA's renewable hydrogen initiatives
- \$100 million for an Investment Attraction and New Industries Fund
- \$30.9 million towards the Plan for Our Parks, in addition to the existing \$54.9 million investment
- \$18.5 million, over five years, to fight erosion and protect WA's coastline
- \$14.2 million investment to deliver the Australian-first Distributed Energy Resources Roadmap – rooftop solar, household and community batteries, and electric vehicles in WA's main electricity grid
- \$954,000 for the Western Australian Advocacy for Consumers of Energy Program to support energy consumers and build capacity in the non-government sector

Delivering a prosperous low-carbon future

Building on the Western Australian Climate Policy, the Climate Action Fund invests in sustainable WA jobs and industry innovation while protecting and enhancing the state's unique environmental heritage values and assets.

The McGowan Government's \$750 million Climate Action Fund includes:

- \$350 million to significantly expand the State's softwood plantation estate
- \$206 million for renewable energy initiatives to fuel WA's future, including standalone power stations, clean energy in schools, wind turbine manufacturing, refurbishment of Denham Power Station and \$1 million for research into the viability of a local green steel industry
- \$118 million fund to invest in future climate-related initiatives to respond to climate change and create climate-resilient communities
- \$50 million to drive new renewable hydrogen initiatives
- \$11 million for Carbon Innovation Grants
- An additional \$18.5 million to fight coastal erosion - taking total funding to \$33.5 million over the next five years

Creating climate-resilient communities

Protecting and enhancing our natural assets, through initiatives such as Plan for Our Parks, will ensure our environmental heritage is protected.

The McGowan Government is investing in industries of the future, such as renewable hydrogen and carbon farming, to create sustainable WA jobs.

Developing new renewable energy technologies can reduce energy costs and help meet the target of net zero emissions by 2050.

Investing in climate action initiatives

- \$100 million for an Investment Attraction and New Industries Fund to support industry assistance, attraction and grants across a range of emerging sectors, including battery manufacturing and green steel
 - \$61.5 million to stimulate local demand for renewable hydrogen in transport and industrial settings
 - \$15 million to develop the Carbon Innovation Grants program
 - \$15.7 million to facilitate negotiations for additional reserve proposals
 - \$15.2 million for the joint management of the Badimia Conservation Reserves and the Thundelarra Conservation Park
 - \$15 million for the Agriculture Climate Resilience Fund
 - \$14 million to support a ban on e-waste in landfill by 2024
 - \$13 million Household Energy Efficiency Scheme
 - \$4.8 million for six Virtual Power Plants at Kalgoorlie and Geraldton public schools
 - \$4.2 million to support the development of the next Forest Management Plan
 - \$2 million additional expenditure from the Establishing and Maintaining Native Vegetation Offsets Account over 2021-22 and 2022-23
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Delivering on our commitments

The McGowan Labor Government has committed to significantly increase funding to community groups and initiatives that work to protect the environment and keep river systems healthy and help reduce plastic pollutants in our oceans.

- \$4 million, over four years, towards reducing plastic pollution and supersize the grant funding available to community volunteer groups to protect the health of the Swan and Canning rivers
 - \$1 million to convert four hectares of former landfill into an urban forest to provide dryland habitat and link to the existing Eric Singleton Bird Sanctuary
 - \$3 million, over four years, to support local government authorities to implement urban forest initiatives within the Swan Canning Riverpark to improve human health and biodiversity
 - \$500,000 to expand the successful Dolphin Watch program to increase more community engagement activities, training events and interpretive signage
 - \$500,000 Plastic Free Riverpark initiative to phase out single-use plastic use by businesses operating within and surrounding the Swan Canning Riverpark
 - \$13 million to install seven gross pollutant traps to reduce plastic pollution in our oceans
 - \$5 million to implement the Peel Harvey Estuary Protection Plan building on the \$25 million Healthy Estuaries WA program already underway
 - \$34.1 million contribution towards the Natural Resource Management Program
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Building on our strong record

The McGowan Labor Government has a strong track record of delivering on election commitments and other initiatives to reduce landfill and protect the WA environment. Projects in progress include:

Fast-tracking the WA Plan for Plastics

- Western Australia's Plan for Plastics has been fast-tracked by four years
- Single-use plastic bowls, cups, plates, cutlery, stirrers, straws, polystyrene food containers, thick plastic bags and helium balloon releases to be phased out by the end of 2021
- Single-use plastic coffee cups and lids now included in the plan and to be phased out by the end of 2022
- Builds on the lightweight plastic bag ban in 2018 and the Containers for Change container deposit scheme, which has been operating since October 2020.

Permanent protection of the Beeliar Wetlands

- Transformed it into an A-Class conservation reserve giving it the highest level of environmental protection
- Passed legislation to rezone approximately 34 hectares of the wetlands from a Primary Regional Roads reserve to a Parks and Recreation reserves, stopping any future destructive road development and strengthening its A-class status.

Aboriginal Ranger Program

- Under the program, existing and emerging Aboriginal organisations can employ and train rangers to carry out land and sea management and tourism activities across a range of tenures in remote and regional Western Australia.
- The Aboriginal Ranger Program is delivering economic and social benefits for regional and remote areas by providing job and training opportunities for Aboriginal people.
- It has enabled rangers to build connections between communities and has created strong networking opportunities.
- Latest statistics show the program has resulted in the employment of more than 435 Aboriginal rangers and support staff, almost half of whom are women, and 57 rangers have achieved a nationally recognised qualification.