



# SHIRE NEWS

**Shire of Derby/West Kimberley – 25.5.2017**

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## WET SEASON ROAD CONDITIONS

We currently have many roads closed as a result of wet season rains. They are closed for your safety and to protect the surface of the road. The use of closed roads results in additional time and expense to repair, further prolonging the closure. Maintenance grading is underway to open roads. Current road closures are available on our website.

## FLOOD DAMAGE CLAIM UPDATE

To date we have assessed 80% for initial inspection and cost, 60% inspected with Main Roads and scope of works being developed with an initial estimated reconstruction cost exceeding \$10 million.

Please be advised that the opening of roads will generally be a single lane for access. Claims are required to be endorsed through the Western Australia Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (WANDRRA) before works are tendered, which will impact the timing to complete the reconstruction of these roads.

Pictures below show some of the damage identified so far.



## WEST KIMBERLEY PARKS TO REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL JUNE

The Department of Parks and Wildlife wishes to advise that the parks in the West Kimberley remain closed due to the prolonged wet season and extensive damage to roads throughout the area.

Windjana Gorge and Tunnel Creek National parks and King Leopold Range Conservation Park (Bell Gorge and Lennard Gorge) are currently closed. The Shire of Derby/West Kimberley will have contractors working on Fairfield-Leopold Downs and Leopold Downs Roads from Monday 22 May to carry out repairs caused by flood damage and exacerbated by vehicles travelling on the closed roads. It is anticipated that the repairs will be completed and the roads open to general traffic on 1 June 2017.

Further updates are available on the Parks and Wildlife website [www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/parks/alerts-and-updates/parks-trails-and-road-closures](http://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/parks/alerts-and-updates/parks-trails-and-road-closures)

## JOINT KIMBERLEY, PILBARA AND NORTHERN TERRITORY LOCAL GOVERNMENT FORUM AT KUNUNURRA 15 AND 16 MAY 2017

Shire of Derby/West Kimberley Councillors attended the forum to discuss the local government role and opportunities in agricultural development, access to infrastructure, land tenure pathways, and advancing Aboriginal interests in the North.

Key note speakers included Melissa Price MP, Senator Patrick Dodson, Senator Linda Reynolds CSC and Hon Mark Lewis MLC, along with Local Government representatives from the Kimberley, Pilbara and Northern Territory, and various State Government organisations.

The Shire appreciated the opportunity to discuss engagement of Aboriginal Corporations and local businesses in government projects and development of the north and it was great to hear the perspectives from government, community, and industry together. We thank Senator Reynolds for her visit to Derby after the forum to look at the local infrastructure and local capability to support logistics and defence projects moving forward.

A report on deliberations and outcomes will be prepared and released in the coming weeks.