

Media Release

29 January 2020

Your chance to enjoy the great outdoors on World Wetlands Day 2020

Do you have a passion for nature and want to make a real difference in your local community?

Members of the community are invited to join Gladstone Regional Council (GRC) and Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA) for a morning of wetland restoration and bird watching to celebrate World Wetlands Day 2020.

Initiated in 1997, World Wetlands Day is celebrated internationally each year to mark the anniversary of the signing of the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention) in Ramsar, Iran, on 2 February 1971.

The Gladstone Region will recognise World Wetlands Day on Monday 3 February, where residents will have their chance to make a difference at Canoe Point Botanic Reserve, Tannum Sands.

Running from 9am-11am, the event will begin with a welcome and induction from GRC and CVA staff before bird surveying and tree planting takes place.

Participants are asked to meet at the Canoe Point Botanic Reserve car park and wear enclosed shoes, a hat, sun-safe clothing and to bring a water bottle. Morning tea will be provided.

Gladstone Region Councillor Kahn Goodluck said the purpose of World Wetlands Day is to raise public awareness of wetland values and benefits and to promote the conservation of wetlands.

"This year's theme of 'Wetlands and Biodiversity' is fitting because it is something the Gladstone Region has in abundance," Councillor Goodluck said.

"The Canoe Point Botanic Reserve is enjoyed daily by many people, has a wide variety of birdlife and shows off the region's unique natural environment.

"The Reserve also plays host to important coastal wetlands including mangrove forests and saltmarsh communities, while providing a habitat and feeding ground for a range of species including migratory shorebirds.

"I encourage anyone with a passion for the environment and the community to participate in World Wetlands Day."

The Gladstone Region's World Wetlands Day is supported by Fitzroy Basin Association Inc. through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Linda Fahle at Conservation Volunteers Australia on 4972 4969 or <u>lfahle@cva.org.au</u>.

MEDIA INFORMATION: For further information contact Council's Communications and Marketing Section on 4977 6803 or media@gladstone.qld.gov.au