

WA FOOD POLICY FORUM

BOORLOO / PERTH

30 November 2026, 8:30 - 17:30 AWST

SUSTAIN the Australian food network

Event Program

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY & INTRODUCTION 1



Food is far more than a commodity: it is fundamental to human health, cultural identity, community wellbeing and the health of Country. Yet Australia's food and agricultural systems remain largely organised around commodity production, export markets and short-term commercial priorities, while growing numbers of households face food insecurity and farmers struggle to access the infrastructure needed to supply healthy, locally produced food.

The WA Food Policy Forum offers an opportunity to reimagine this system.

By bringing together First Nations leaders, farmers, communities, researchers, industry and government, we can begin to build a shared vision for a food system that respects First Nations sovereignty, restores landscapes, supports viable farming livelihoods and ensures everyone has access to healthy, nutritious and culturally appropriate food. This Forum is a vital opportunity to develop such a shared vision for the future of food and agriculture in Western Australia, as the Federal government finalises the national food security strategy, Feeding Australia, in the first half of 2027.

Nick Rose, Executive Director, Sustain: The Australian Food Network

“What gives me the greatest hope is the opportunity to bring Noongar people together on Country, both as Noongar people ourselves and as part of a broader collective conversation about the future of food and agriculture in Western Australia. We need to acknowledge and openly discuss the intergenerational trauma of dispossession from Country, particularly as we explore regenerative agriculture and landscape restoration, recognising that genuine First Nations participation requires trust, understanding and respect. By creating safe spaces for honest and sometimes difficult conversations, we can begin to heal, build stronger relationships and work together towards a more just food system in Western Australia.”

Heidi Mippy, CEO, Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar Aboriginal Corporation



TIMETABLE

TIME	ACTIVITY
8:30 am	*Arrivals, coffee & tea, networking*
9:00 am	Introduction to today's forum, Sustain: The Australian Food Network team Icebreaker
9:10 am	**Welcome to Country** Oral McGuire (Noongar Land Enterprise Group)
9:25 am	**Setting the scene: what's the problem, what's working and what's needed?** Nick Rose (Sustain: The Australian Food Network)
9:35 - 10:05 am	**First Nations Food Sovereignty** Oral McGuire & Alan Beattie (Noongar Land Enterprise Group), Heidi Mippy (Wagly Kaip Southern Noongar Aboriginal Corporation)
10:05 - 10:35 am	**Natural Intelligence Agriculture - Healing the Wheatbelt** Dianne Haggerty (Natural Intelligence Farming; West Australian of the Year 2025) - *Introduced by Tibby Tuckett (Regen WA / Perth NRM) – Tibby to facilitate Q&A 10 mins*
10:35 am	*Morning tea break*
10:50 - 10:55am	Icebreaker
10:55 - 11:25am	**Future-proofing agriculture in WA - the climate change challenge** Verity Morgan-Schmidt (Farmers for Climate Action) *Introduced by Dave Broadhurst (Regen WA / Perth NRM) – Dave to facilitate Q&A 10 mins*
11:25-11:55 am	**Panel discussion: Community-led solutions to food security** Kate O'Hara (Foodbank WA), Kathryn Taylor (EON Aboriginal Foundation), Amy Warne (North Freo Social Farms) *Facilitated by Janine Freeman (Fair Food WA)*

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TIMETABLE

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TIME	ACTIVITY
11:55 - 12:00 pm	**Sustainable Seafood and Food Security:** Manue Daniels (Western Australia Fishing Industry Council)
12:00 - 12:10 pm	Icebreaker
12:10 - 12:40 pm	**Panel discussion: Building healthy food environments** Sharonna Mossenson (Cancer Council WA), Michelle Broom & Gina Ambrosina (Edith Cowan University - Australian Food Atlas) *Introduced by Nick Rose (Sustain: The Australian Food Network)*
12:40 pm	*Lunch & networking*
1:20 - 3:05 pm	**Workshop & interactive voting exercise** *Facilitated by Joni Sercombe & Nick Rose*
3:05 - 3:20 pm	*Afternoon tea break*
3:20 - 3:50 pm	Wrap-up and feedback
3:50 - 4:00 pm	**Address from the WA Minister for Agriculture, Hon Jackie Jarvis MLA**
4:00 - 5:30 pm	*Nibbles & drinks, networking*

PROGRAM

KEYNOTE 1: FIRST NATIONS FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

Noongar perspectives on caring for Country, land-based enterprise and the right to culturally appropriate food. What would it take to put First Nations knowledge, land ownership and enterprise at the centre of WA's food future?

Oral McGuire, Mangarda Nyungar community leader and landholder, Noongar Land Enterprise Group — Brings deep knowledge of traditional land and fire management, and a long track record of bridging Aboriginal and mainstream perspectives across government, business and community.
Alan Beattie, CEO, Noongar Land Enterprise Group — As the group's inaugural CEO, he is building culturally appropriate, commercially sustainable land-based enterprises to grow a First Nations economy on Noongar Boodja.
Heidi Mippy, Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar Aboriginal Corporation — A First Nations education and community development leader who founded the Djidi Djidi Academy, combining the school curriculum with cultural learning for Aboriginal girls.



KEYNOTE 2: NATURAL INTELLIGENCE AGRICULTURE: HEALING THE WHEATBELT

How restoring living soils can regenerate landscapes and grow more nutritious food. Dianne shares how working with soil microbiomes is bringing degraded Wheatbelt land back to life.

Dianne Haggerty, Co-founder, Natural Intelligence Farming; 2025 West Australian of the Year — With Ian Haggerty, she pioneered a farming practice built on diverse microbiomes restoring degraded Wheatbelt land while growing health-promoting food.

Introduced and Q&A facilitated by **Tibby Tuckett,** RegenWA lead, Perth NRM

PROGRAM



KEYNOTE 3: FUTURE-PROOFING AGRICULTURE IN WA — THE CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGE

What a changing climate means for WA farmers, and the solutions farmers are already leading on the ground.

Verity Morgan-Schmidt, Acting CEO, Farmers for Climate Action — The organisation's inaugural CEO, now back in the role after leading AgZero, a WA farmer-led organisation helping rural communities advance climate solutions.

Introduced and Q&A facilitated by **Dave Broadhurst,** Sustainable Agriculture Team, Perth NRM

PANEL: COMMUNITY-LED SOLUTIONS TO FOOD SECURITY

What place-based food security looks like in action, from food relief to community gardens. What's working in WA communities, and what can governments do to support it?

Kate O'Hara, CEO, Foodbank WA — Leads the State's leading food relief charity, bringing decades of experience in community development, philanthropy and partnerships.
Kathryn Taylor, CEO, EON Aboriginal Foundation — Leads an Aboriginal-led organisation working with remote communities across WA and the NT to improve nutrition and prevent diet-related disease, with 20+ years' experience turning policy into practical change.
Amy Warne, Farm and Volunteer Manager, North Fremantle Social Farm — Grows seasonal produce using regenerative, biointensive methods with a team of volunteers, drawing on her work with Hilton Harvest Community Garden and in waste education.

Facilitated by **Janine Freeman,** Independent Chair, Fair Food WA

PROGRAM 6

PANEL: BUILDING HEALTHY FOOD ENVIRONMENTS

How the places we live, shop and eat shape our health, and the policy changes that could make the healthy choice the easy one in WA.

Sharonna Mossenson, Senior Coordinator of Cancer Council WA — An Accredited Practising Dietitian with almost 20 years in public health nutrition, leading work on fast food planning, unhealthy food marketing and supermarket promotions.
Michelle Broom, Project Manager, Australian Food Atlas, Edith Cowan University — Manages the Australian Food Atlas, an online platform that maps, measures and monitors food environments across Australia.
Assoc. Prof. Gina Ambrosini, Deputy Head, Food Environments Team, Edith Cowan University — Researches how food policy plays out in practice, after a decade in government leading statewide preventive health policy and programs in WA.

Introduced by **Dr Nick Rose,** Sustain



FACILITATED WORKSHOP: SHAPING THE POLICY ASKS

In this workshop, we'll share the challenges and barriers we face as food system actors, then shape the solutions together. Using Polis, we'll map where views cluster, where they divide and where there's common ground across the room. These results will inform a clear set of priority policy asks for the WA and Federal governments.

Facilitated by **Joni Sercombe,** Director, Good Together, and **Dr Nick Rose,** Sustain

SATELLITE EVENTS 7

We're thrilled to partnering with local champions and grassroots community organisations to offer this program of hands-on workshops to build skills and capacity for community members.

	AM	PM
Tuesday 24th November		**Urban Edible Gardening and Fruit Trees with Craig Castree** 5:30pm - 7pm, Perth City Farm, Tickets $15
Wednesday 25th November	**RegenEdible Gardening with Craig and Kerry Castree** 9:30am - 11am, 11 Acres Farm, Tickets $15 **Growing from Food Waste with Robyn Brown** 10am - 11am, Small Torque Coffee House, Tickets $10	**Fruit Trees and Soil with Curtin Radio, Jandakot** Understanding pruning, grafting and soil management **Seed Swap, Share and Sip** 6pm - 8pm, The Restore Space, Tickets $15
Thursday 26th November	**Growing in Containers with Robyn Brown** 10am - 11am, Serpentine Jarrahdale Landcare Centre, Tickets $10	**Edible Gardening the Regenerative Way** 5:30pm - 7:30pm, Urban Revolution, Tickets $25
Friday 27th November	**Garden-to-Table Experience** 12:30pm - 2:30pm, Little Farm, Free RSVP	**Garden-to-Table Experience** 4:30pm - 6:30pm, Little Farm, Free RSVP **Soil Health in Home Gardens with Craig Castree** 6pm - 7:30pm, Landcare SJ Office, Tickets $10
Saturday 28th November	**RegenEdible Gardening with Craig & Kerry Castree** 9:30am - 11:30am, SJ Farmers Market Tickets, $15 **Growers and Gatherer's Market with SJFFA Farmer's Market** 11am- 3pm, SJ Community Resource Centre, Free	
Sunday 29th November	**Introduction to Regenerative Edible Gardening with Craig Castree** 9am - 12pm, The Natural Circle, Tickets $20	**Growing & Grafting Fruit Trees the RegenEdible Way with Craig Castree** 1pm - 4pm, The Natural Circle, Tickets $20
Tuesday 1st December		**The Future of Food Security in Serpentine Jarrahdale Panel** 6pm - 9pm, Serpentine Jarrahdale Community Recreation Centre, Free RSVP

WORKING GROUP 8

What is it? The Forum was shaped by a Working Group of people from across WA's food system: farmers and growers, food relief, public health, community organisations and land care.

Why was it needed? Food systems are complex and interconnected, which means no single sector can fix how WA grows, shares, and eats its food. Cross-sector working groups are widely used in food policy to bring diverse expertise and lived experience into dialogue. The Forum's program reflects the realities facing farmers, communities and policymakers across WA, rather than the priorities of a single sector.

Thank you for your time, ideas and generosity in bringing this day together:

Joni Sercombe — Good Together / Commonland
Alyssa Miller-McWha — Serpentine Jarrahdale Food & Farm Alliance
Aharon Neill-Stevens — Kinship Farm
Gary and Julie Richards — Down2Earth Gardening
Verity Morgan-Schmidt — Farmers for Climate Action
Dianne Haggerty — Natural Intelligence Farming
Janine Freeman — Fair Food WA (WACOSS)
Sharonna Mossenson — Cancer Council WA



FORUM SPONSORS

The WA Food Policy Forum is made possible by the generous support of our partners.

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Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale

PEEL Development Commission

WAFIC Western Australian Fishing Industry Council Inc.

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Perth City Farm

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Celebrating 10 Years The Regen Narration