



## PRESS RELEASE

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**TO: Media Contacts**

### Partnership to restore the Collie River

The Shire of Collie has partnered with South32 Worsley Alumina to enhance and restore the water quality of the Collie River.

Worsley Alumina will contribute \$90,000 over three years to assist with weed eradication and the planting of more than 60,000 native seedlings, targeting areas of the river suffering from environmental damage.

The long-term project recognises the importance of water resources to the community and aims to restore the Collie River to a pristine condition. The program will look to attract locals and tourists to walk trails, cycle paths and to enjoy activities on the river including swimming, fishing and canoeing.

The Rotary Club of Collie is also joining the efforts to rehabilitate the river, with its newly formed Friends of Collie River. This community group is working with the Shire to organise planting events over the coming months. All community members are welcome to participate.

Shire President Sarah Stanley welcomed the partnerships in assisting in the restoration of the river.

“The Collie River is such an important asset to the lifestyle, culture and identity of our community,” Cr Stanley said.

“It meanders through the centre of our town and links together so many of our beautiful natural assets.

“There has been some success in recent years in managing the rampant nardoo, and the next steps include managing the watsonia on the banks and replanting it with native species.

“By working together with industry and community, we can achieve our vision of the restoration of the Collie River to an asset we can all be proud of.

Worsley Alumina Vice President Operations, Dino Otranto, said the restoration project would significantly improve the popular community attraction, creating a lasting benefit for Collie.

“As a global resources company, we know how important it is to rehabilitate our natural environment, ensuring we leave things the way we found them for future generations,” Mr Otranto said.

“We’re proud to support such an important initiative, which will bring the community together as they enjoy the river and its surrounds.”

If you’d like to help with efforts to restore the river, contact the Shire of Collie on 9734 9000 or look for the Friends of the Collie River Facebook page.

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