The draft Perth and Peel Green Growth Plan for 3.5 million (Green Growth Plan) commits to a number of important measures to maintain and improve the long term health of the Peel-Harvey estuary and Peel-Yalgorup wetlands, including:

- the introduction of mandatory soil testing and other measures to reduce nutrient inflow into the Peel-Harvey estuary; and
- the establishment of the Peel Regional Park, including a marine management area for the Peel-Harvey estuary and its major tributaries to improve protection of migratory birds, other shorebirds and their habitat.

Further detailed information on these measures can be found in the draft Strategic Conservation Plan for the Perth and Peel Regions and draft Action Plan H – Conservation Program.

Reducing nutrient inflow into the estuary

Reducing nutrient inflow into the estuary is critical to maintain and improve the long term health of the Peel-Harvey estuary. Currently, phosphorus flowing into the estuary is almost twice the maximum level recommended in the Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP). To reduce phosphorus inflow by nearly half over the long term, the draft Green Growth Plan commits to a number of actions, including:

- the introduction of targeted mandatory soil testing (including agronomic advice and reporting of fertiliser use) for properties over 40 hectares in the Peel-Harvey coastal plain catchment, which aims to reduce phosphorus inflows from agricultural fertiliser. A consultation regulatory impact statement on this proposal will be released shortly that covers both the Peel-Harvey and Swan-Canning catchments; and
- a long term drainage intervention program in the Peel-Harvey coastal catchment, similar to drainage intervention programs implemented to date in the Swan Canning catchment.
Improved protection for migratory birds, shorebirds and their habitat

The wetland, riparian and intertidal habitats along the fringe of the Peel-Harvey estuary and its major tributaries are critical habitat for a large and highly diverse range of migratory and local bird species. This habitat also provides critical connectivity with other natural areas and performs a water filtering function.

The establishment of the Peel Regional Park, including a marine management area and associated priority conservation projects will be implemented to improve the protection and management of the Peel-Harvey Estuary and broader Peel-Yalgorup wetland system. These actions provide significant benefits to the Peel-Yalgorup Ramsar Site, migratory birds and other shore birds and their habitat.

The Peel Regional Park will consist of a network of land based reserves under the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 as well as local government reserves and a marine management area over the Peel-Harvey estuary and its tributaries. The park will include approximately 7,800 hectares of land surrounding the Peel Inlet and Harvey Estuary, as well as a marine management area of approximately 14,100 hectares over the estuary and waterways themselves. A community advisory committee will assist in the management of the Peel Regional Park.