Report to launch

A MAJOR new report on the environmental changes that have taken place in the Blackwood River and Hardy Inlet over the past 40 years will be launched in Augusta next week.

‘Revisiting the Blackwood River and Hardy Inlet: 40 years of change’ looks at the physical, biological and climatic changes that influence the volume and quality of water flowing into the system.

The 85-page report was prepared by University of Western Australia researcher Dr Anne Brearley in collaboration with researchers, consultants and members of the Augusta community, and was funded by the Ernest Hodgkin Trust for Estuarine Education and Research.

The report is a continuation of work initiated by Ernest Hodgkin and other researchers in 1974-5 in the first multi-disciplinary estuarine study in Western Australia.

“This report takes research first published in 1978, brings it up to date, and extends that earlier work to address the wider impacts evident on the Blackwood today,” Dr Brearley said.

“It provides a timely update to a body of knowledge that is vital for the future management of the whole system.

The report will be launched at 10am 22 November 2013 at the Augusta Hotel.