

Section 57 Amendment (Minor)
Submission
Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment 1334/57
Bush Forever Omnibus 2 (Central)

mrs@planning.wa.gov.au

Secretary
Western Australian Planning Commission
Locked Bag 2506
Perth WA 6001

Submission by Urban Bushland Council WA Inc., PO Box 326 West Perth WA 6872.

Contact person: Mary Gray phone 9444 5647, email celiagrady@bigpond.com and ubc@bushlandperth.org.au

Date of submission: 31 May 2019

We would like to attend a hearing.

Please remove my personal name and signature. Retain name of Urban Bushland Council WA Inc.

Scope and content of the amendment

1. Removal of a total of 244.98 ha from Bush Forever is a very significant change even though 8.56 ha is to be added. Clearing of 237.94 ha from Perth Airport gives a context of very significant net loss. There should have been consideration of adding at least two times this loss – ie of ~500 ha. - to offset this loss at least to some degree. Notably also Perth Airport was one of the three most significant sites for fauna conservation in the region and both Perth Airport and Jandakot Airport have been extensively cleared despite presence of many MNES.

2. **Purpose:** The amendment should include a statement of purpose for Bush Forever Areas under the Act. While the boundaries, numbers and the label 'Bush Forever Areas' is shown on the MRS map, there is no definition and purpose of Bush Forever Areas. This has caused uncertainty and lack of protection.

It is therefore strongly recommended that the following definition of purpose be added to this MRS Amendment 1334/57 Bush Forever Omnibus 2 (Central) to apply to all Bush Forever Areas:

Bush Forever areas are for the purpose of conservation and passive recreation only, no other uses permitted.

This would clarify the land use and secure all the Bush Forever areas in their various zones for conservation in the Bush Forever conservation reserve system as planned. This is an essential planning matter in our Perth biodiversity hotspot. Otherwise it is not secure *forever*.

COMMENTS ON PROPOSALS

Proposal 1 in City of Stirling: supported.

Proposal 2 in Town of Bassendean: additions and adjustments supported. It is very important that all foreshore areas are included and managed for their conservation of the Swan River ecosystem.

Proposal 3 in City of Bayswater: supported especially larger addition along Swan River foreshore.

Proposal 4 in City of Belmont: 1) additions supported.

2) Another important addition is recommended for the area shown as P&R along the Swan River foreshore on the east side of Grandstand Road and especially surrounding the small inlet. There is some good remnant vegetation and it is being restored with replanting. It is very important that the foreshore areas such as this be retained, linked, restored and managed for conservation. Thus it is recommended that this P&R reserve already managed by City of Belmont be added to Bush Forever Area 313. See photo below of this area.

3) The narrow triangular section zoned P&R adjacent to Grandstand Road (despite being mown grassland) could also be added to Bush Forever Area 313 to help minimise edge effects now and in future. See photo below of this area.

Proposal 5 in City of Belmont: Loss of 237.94 ha that has occurred from Perth Airport is highly regrettable. The State should insist that the Commonwealth does not permit any more clearing of this very high conservation and Aboriginal heritage social and cultural value site. It comprises many Matters of National Environmental

Significance (MNES) under the EPBC Act.

This amendment **does** involve matters of Aboriginal Heritage as Perth Airport lands including Munday Swamp are *one of the last remaining places of extreme Aboriginal cultural and historical significance in the Perth metropolitan region*. Thus the amendment and current proposals for clearing by Perth airport Pty Ltd should be referred to SWALSC.

Proposal 6 in City of Nedlands: supported.

Proposal 7 in City of Perth: The two larger areas proposed to be removed from the point of the shoreline have presumably been lost due to recent erosion and should be retained to accommodate protection if they are restored. Prevention of further erosion must be a priority.
Thus the two larger areas for removals are not supported.

Proposal 8 in City of South Perth: supported.

Proposal 9 in City of South Perth: supported.

Proposal 10 in Town of Mosman Park: addition supported.

Proposal 11 in City of Melville: We strongly object to this proposal. The areas proposed for removal should all be retained in Bush Forever. They are essential for the connectivity and management of the Swan River foreshore ecosystem and especially its hydrogeology. Notably removal of foreshore patches from the surrounding Bush Forever is contrary to proposals in other Councils which are *adding* linkages in this amendment. The detailed submission and information sent to you by our member group SERAG is commended.

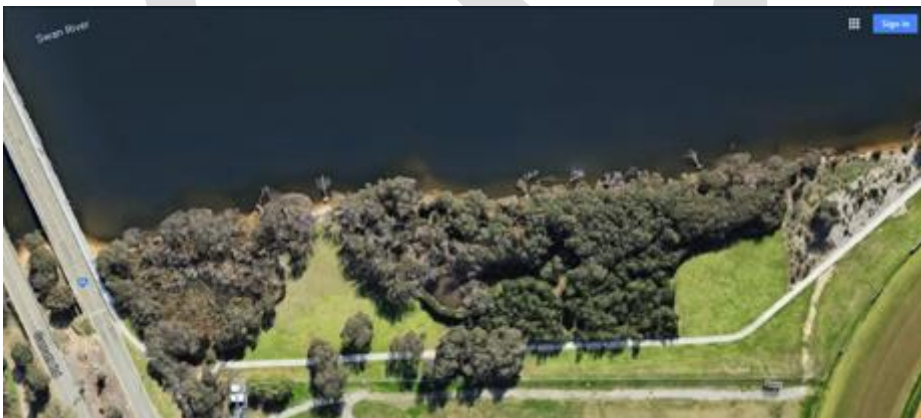
Proposal 12 in City of Melville: supported.

Proposal 13 in City of Melville and City of Canning: supported.

Signature:

Chairperson, Urban Bushland Council WA Inc.
31 May 2019

Photos of site additions recommended for Proposal 4:





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