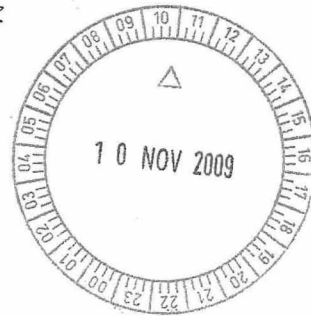


The Committee Clerk
Public Administration Committee
Legislative Council
Parliament House
Perth WA 6000

5-11-'09



Dear Sir/Madam,

with regard to recreation activities within
Public Drinking Water catchments.

As a freshwater angler I would like to
present the following points:

- Freshwater angling has a long history in WA's southwest. Trout were first introduced at Albany in 1874. After 1930 a hatchery at Pemberton spread trout from Perth to Albany.
- Over time as some rivers and streams were dammed for drinking water, anglers (warriners included) lost access to all or part of the relevant catchments. These included the upper Serpentine River, North and South Dandalup Rivers, Sanson Brook and Harvey River above Stirling Dam.
- Drinking water dams were 'soft limits', and as more water has been required, irrigation dams such as Stirling Dam and Sanson Dam were also lost to anglers.

PUBLIC

- I have travelled, and fished, in Europe, North America and Asia. Many of the waters I fished or visited were used for both drinking and recreation, with no apparent conflict.
- Many of the impoundments in the Eastern States are used for both drinking and recreation.
- As water becomes an even more valuable resource, impoundments and catchments should be available for public recreation, with suitable controls such as entry fees, licenses, rangers, etc.

Yours Faithfully,

John W. Conigley
John McConigley