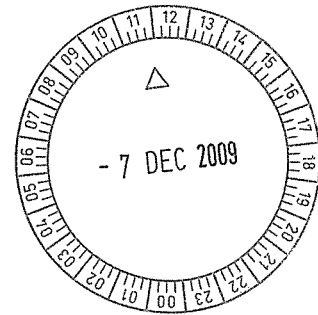


PUBLIC



The Committee Clerk,
Public Administration Committee
Legislative Council
Parliament House,
Perth.

30 November 2009

Recreation Activities within Public Drinking Water Source Areas

Dear Sir/Madam,

From almost the time that I could walk I have been partaking in the sport of freshwater fishing in the south west. It is due to this interest that I would like to respond to the recent proposed changes to recreational access of our catchment dams.

As an environmental biologist, I believe that if properly managed there is no reason why a variety of recreational activities should be allowed within these public drinking water sources. I am particularly interested in these areas being opened up to allow freshwater fishing. No other state in Australia has fishing restrictions placed on freshwater drinking catchments that W.A currently employs and there have been no repercussions due to the inclusion of fishing within these areas.

I do believe that certain measures should be put in place to ensure the protection of the water quality. Firstly just like the national parks in W.A a small fee should be charged per vehicle that enters the area. The money earned from these fees could then be put towards upgrading facilities and into research into the surrounding environment.

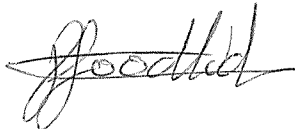
The only type of fishing that should be allowed will be with the use of artificial imitations. Baits should be not allowed and also powered boats should not be permitted into the catchment. Unpowered vessels such as kayaks and canoes will cause no damage to the water quality or surrounds and will add to the recreational value of the area.

In order to control the activities of the people once within the dam confines several rules should also be put in place. No camping should be permitted and designated areas which are easily monitored should be created. In order to keep costs down the footprints approach should be used where recreational users take and leave with everything they took into the area and leave nothing behind but their footprints ensuring minimal impact on the surrounding environment and water supply.

Lastly as people begin to use the new recreational areas created by the opening of these water supply dams money will begin to flow into towns and business close to the area. This may be through the purchase of food, accommodation or fuel that people need when travelling to an area. I know when I head out to a fishing location I usually spend about \$200 in the area that I travel to.

Benefits abound when considering the opening of these dams and it would be a great boon to Western Australia and its appeal if this step forward is taken.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Goodlich", written in a cursive style.

Robert Goodlich

