



Minister for Transport; Planning

Our ref: 72-22876
Your ref: Petition No. 131

Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC
Chair
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
env@parliament.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Swinbourn MLC

PETITION NO. 131 - WATER SKIING IN THE MULLOCULLOP NATURE RESERVE

Thank you for your correspondence dated 4 December 2019 regarding Petition No. 131 - Water Skiing in the Mullocullup Nature Reserve.

The Department for Transport's (DoT) role in this matter relates to the determination of whether Lake Mullocullup could accommodate water skiing from a purely waterway safety perspective. This includes potential conflict with other water users.

The formulation of a safe and sustainable localised aquatic use plan that balances the often-competing demands of the community is an important and challenging task and it is not uncommon to receive conflicting views on the use of a waterway.

It is acknowledged that Lake Mullocullup is a registered site under Section 5 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*. Accordingly, prior to formal gazettal of Lake Mullocullup, the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) confirmed that water ski activities do not constitute an offence under the Act.

It is also acknowledged that Lake Mullocullup forms part of Reserve 16367 which is set aside for 'Water, Camping and Conservation of Flora and Fauna' with a management order issued in favour of the City of Albany. Again DPLH has confirmed that the *Land Administration Act 1997* enables a management body to manage a reserve for the designated purpose and for purposes ancillary or beneficial to that purpose and that recreational activities such as water skiing are considered appropriate for this reserve.

DoT has worked closely with the City of Albany as the responsible authority for the reserve and is confident that the City has given due consideration to the concerns raised.

To manage on water activities within Lake Mullocullop, DoT has installed informative signage that clearly depicts the area gazetted for water skiing and those closed to motorised vessels. Along with information published on DoT's website, regular educational and enforcement patrols are conducted through DoT's Great Southern Regional office.

Thank you for raising this matter.

Yours sincerely



**HON RITA SAFFIOTI MLA
MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT**

15 JAN 2020