

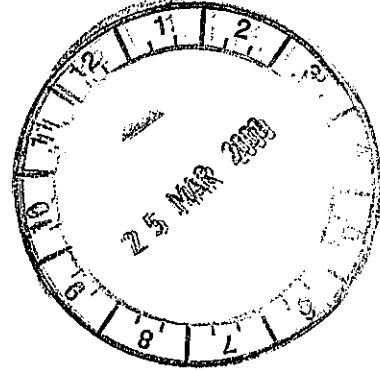


**PUBLIC**

## Minister for Environment; Youth

Our ref: 40-02198

Hon Sheila Mills MLC  
Chair  
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs  
Parliament House  
PERTH WA 6000



*Sheila*  
Dear Ms Mills

### **PETITION NO 14 – YALGORUP NATIONAL PARK**

I refer to your letter of 16 February 2009 seeking comment on the above petition tabled by the Hon Sally Talbot MLC in the Legislative Council on 25 November 2008.

I am advised that the area of land referred to in the terms of the petition is currently the subject of a strategic environmental planning exercise being undertaken by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). The EPA is aware of the conservation and recreational values of the area and probable development pressures.

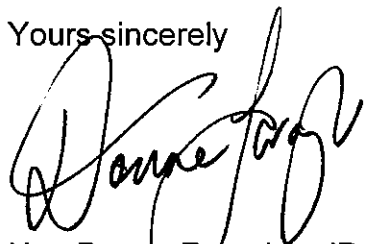
On 11 and 12 March 2009 I understand that the EPA visited the area to discuss the issues with various stakeholders including the Friends of Ramsar and Action Group for Yalgorup Lakes Environment (FRAGYLE).

I am also advised that the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) has prepared an ecological character description for the Peel-Yalgorup Ramsar wetland which establishes limits of acceptable change for all of the biological components of the site, and importantly the processes that maintain them.

DEC has informed me that it has recently commenced a review of the management plan for Yalgorup National Park. The review will include an assessment of the current park boundary and consider recommendations for possible additions to the park where appropriate. I anticipate that the outcome of the EPA strategic environmental planning exercise and the guidance provided by the ecological character description will contribute significantly toward determining recommendations for any additions to the park.

Thank you for contacting me in regard to the petition.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Donna Faragher', written in a cursive style.

Hon Donna Faragher JP MLC  
**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT; YOUTH**

**23 MAR 2009**