

Proposed Local Actions

The Local Biodiversity Strategy proposes a number of actions including:

Biodiversity targets set and supported by a combination of the community, Council and the State Government.

Special Control Areas for special vegetation area protection to be investigated.

The Conservation Zone initiative reviewed and expanded.

A Stewardship Program linked to grants, developed.

Partnerships to deliver stewardship programs developed.

Strata Cluster and other rural subdivisions with conservation as a focus trialed.

Ongoing Biodiversity Protection and Management Priorities for local government reserves developed and implemented.

Ongoing GIS/Biodiversity data base information developed

Where To From Here

The SJ Shire Council has acted on the comments made in submissions and has considered these in drafting the final Biodiversity Strategy. The Stage 1 Biodiversity Strategy will be followed by the preparation of a draft local planning policy along with a draft strategy for providing incentives for conservation on private property. It is hoped the major components of the strategy will be completed within the next two years.

Submissions on the Discussion Paper

This Local Biodiversity Strategy can provide better local protection and management of plants and animals and the habitat on which they are dependant. Submissions received on the discussion paper provided guidance for Council in developing the Final Local Biodiversity Strategy.



Partners in this project include the South West Biodiversity Project, SJ Landcare, Peel Harvey Catchment Council and South West Catchment Council.

Local Biodiversity Strategy



Community Brochure



Red-tailed Black Cockatoo



Stage 1: Local Biodiversity Strategy Discussion Paper

Introduction

Biodiversity is the variability of local plants and animals and their habitat. Biodiversity within the S J Shire is being reduced as the population (of the Shire) increases. Areas left with native plants, animals and their habitat, are important to many of us in the Shire as well as to local, State and Commonwealth Governments.

The Shire has finalized a Local Biodiversity Strategy to provide mechanisms for greater local protection of natural areas and a higher standard of local management of plants and animals (biodiversity). The paper focuses on local natural areas outside those areas already protected by the State and Commonwealth Governments.

Natural areas include bushland and wetlands, most of which are protected from clearing under both State and local government legislation. There are substantial fines now in place for illegal clearing. Draft targets for the protection of specific vegetated areas and specific biodiversity features within the Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire have been proposed in this discussion paper for your consideration.

Our Vision

“ Our community values our rural character, diverse lifestyle, natural beauty and heritage and manages responsibly today for a better tomorrow. ”

Vision of the Strategy

Protect and manage a connected network of over 4,000 hectares of local natural areas throughout the Shire so that they are found to be healthy and resilient in 2050.

Goals of the Strategy

- Prevent the further loss of local natural areas in the Shire;
- Protect and manage a portion of each basic type of vegetation and ecosystem typical to the Shire;
- Protect specific biodiversity features including rare species, wetland vegetation and ecological linkages throughout the Shire and;
- Manage and restore local natural areas and revegetate new areas to increase native fauna habitat.

The Shire, Developers and Private Property Owners

Commitments

The Shire, developers and private property land holders all have a part to play in committing to Biodiver-

The Shire has committed to collating biodiversity information to better protect and manage their local government reserves. Those reserves with the highest biodiversity value will be given the highest priority for protection and management.

Information gathered and collated goes beyond the protection and management of local government reserves. The Local Biodiversity Strategy will identify priority areas for protection and management as well as provide guidance to developers on what protection and management should be addressed in a development proposal.

Private property owners will be able to have more direct access to the biodiversity information relating to their properties. This will be to their advantage in being able to better manage their natural areas as well to secure funds or financial relief for better protection and management. The Paper suggests various types of incentives that natural area owners could receive.

Proposed Specific Plant, Animal and Habitat Targets

All Declared Rare Flora, Specially Protected Fauna and Threatened Ecological Communities

Protected Regional Ecological Linkages identified and protected to create habitat stepping stones

Locally characteristic or iconic plants and animals such as the Black Cockatoo are protected.

Important vegetation complexes (native remnant groups of plants) protected.