

## 9.1 - Notice of Motion – State Government survey on native forests (SJ3414)

<b>Councillor</b>	Councillor Rich
<b>Disclosure of Officers Interest:</b>	No officer involved in the preparation of this report has an interest to declare in accordance with the provisions of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> .

### Notice of Motion

A Notice of Motion was received from Councillor Rich via email on Monday, 12 July 2021.

The Notice of Motion is “That Council:

1. REQUEST that the Shire President write to the Minister for Environment thanking for the opportunity to be involved in the preparation of the new Forest Management Plan and advocating the positive natural environmental value and greater long-term protection needed of the State's South-West native forests.
2. REQUEST that the Chief Executive Officer highlight the opportunity via the Shire's Social Media channels for the public to provide a response to the survey.”

### Officer Comment

On 28 June 2021, the Minister for Forestry wrote to the Shire President advising of the opportunity to participate in a survey regarding native forests (**attachment 1**). As an initial exercise in the preparation of a new Forest Management Plan, the Minister for Environment; Climate Action has commissioned the Western Australian Biodiversity Science Institute to seek the views of Western Australians on the value and use of our south-west native forests now and into the future. This consultation is an early opportunity for Western Australians to provide their views before the development of the next Forest Management Plan (FMP). A new FMP for the state's south-west native forests is required every 10 years.

This survey is preliminary step in consultation. Over the next 12 months, the State Government will coordinate a separate consultation to support the development for the next 2024-2033 FMP. The consultation for the next FMP will examine aspects of forest management through targeted consultation and engagement undertaken with traditional owners, industries, and the conservation sector.

This survey consists of five sections:

1. About you;
2. Value of Western Australian Forests;
3. Management of Western Australian Forests;
4. The future of Western Australian Forests; and
5. Additional details.

The online survey is available at <https://wabsi.mysocialpinpoint.com.au/wa-forests> and contained in **attachment 2**.

## Contact Us

### Enquiries

Call: (08) 9526 1111  
Fax: (08) 9525 5441  
Email: [info@sjshire.wa.gov.au](mailto:info@sjshire.wa.gov.au)

### In Person

Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale  
6 Paterson Street, Mundijong WA 6123  
Open Monday to Friday 8.30am-5pm (closed public holidays)



[www.sjshire.wa.gov.au](http://www.sjshire.wa.gov.au)



The survey provides an opportunity for residents and forest users to have their say on what they value most about WA's native forests, what aspects of the forest are most important to them, and which issues are most important to manage. The survey further asks about practices that the respondent believes may need to change in respect to forest management and perspectives on natural resource management.

The Shire's State of the Environment Report 2019 identifies the unique values and risks of the Shire's extensive forest areas.

The Shire is located in the Swan Coastal Plain and Jarrah Forest bioregions, and the Perth and Northern Jarrah Forest subregions. More than 42% of the Jarrahdale area features Tree canopy cover with dense remnant vegetation in State forest and parks. The State of the Environment Report 2019 notes the opportunities to leverage the Shire's natural heritage to develop potential low impact recreational uses which are expanded upon in the Economic Development Strategy 2018-2023 and Equine Strategy, Tourism Strategy 2018 – 2023.

The State Forest in the Shire is the location of numerous trails servicing walking, running, mountain biking, equine and off-road trails users. The Peel Regional Trails Strategy 2019 recognises the need to enhance the existing trails opportunities within the forest and that the most significant opportunities for trail development exist in the Jarrahdale State Forest, Serpentine National Park and Wungong Regional Park.

Achieving the Shire's aspirations for Jarrahdale to become a Trail Town will rely on a range of trail offerings being available. The majority of trails accessible from Jarrahdale are currently situated or proposed to be situated within State Forest. Many of these trails have a historical value additional to recreational value. Protecting the Shire's forests is a key part in the Shire's journey to Jarrahdale becoming a Trail Town.

#### **Attachments (available under separate cover)**

- **9.1 – attachment 1** – Opportunity to Participate in Survey regarding Native Forests (IN21/17002)
- **9.1 – attachment 2** – WA Native Forest Survey (E21/7844)

**Voting Requirements:** Simple Majority

#### **Councillor Recommendation**

#### **That Council:**

1. **REQUEST that the Shire President write to the Minister for Environment thanking for the opportunity to be involved in the preparation of the new Forest Management Plan and advocating the positive natural environmental value and greater long term protection needed of the State's South-West native forests.**
2. **REQUEST that the Chief Executive Officer highlight the opportunity via the Shire's Social Media channels for the public to provide a response to the survey.**