



Department of Conservation and Land Management, W.A.

# *Forrestdale Lake Nature Reserve*



Summary of Public Submissions  
MAY 1987

Management Plan No. 3

FORRESTDALE LAKE NATURE RESERVE

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

MAY 1987

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## PREFACE

This document summarises and discusses submissions to the draft management plan for Forrestdale Lake Nature Reserve. The submissions have been considered and detailed in this document according to the part of the plan to which they refer. The associated discussion and proposed changes to the draft are similarly structured. For the sake of brevity, every detail has not been included.

For the above reasons this document should be read in conjunction with the amended plan.

## INTRODUCTION

The draft management plan for Forrestdale Lake Nature Reserve was released at a public meeting held at the Forrestdale Community Hall on 17 March 1986. The plan was available for comment for approximately two and a half months, with submissions closing on 30 May 1986.

Input from the public, conservation groups and government departments was encouraged both during compilation, and following release of the draft plan. During compilation input was encouraged using newsletters, field days, on-site meetings and articles in local newspapers. This ensured that people were informed about the current status of the project as well as ways in which they could contribute. Comments received were used in the formulation of the draft.

Plans were distributed to Commonwealth and State Government organisations, tertiary institutions, conservation groups, and individuals who have expressed an interest in management plans for conservation areas. Plans were also sent to groups and individuals who had expressed an interest in the management of Forrestdale Lake Nature Reserve. The plan was also made available through the City of Armadale Council Offices and Library, as well as metropolitan offices of the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM).

Thirty five submissions were received as follows:

Individuals	18
Conservation and interest groups	9
Government Organisations (State and local)	8
Total	35

## SUMMARY OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT

Most submissions were highly supportive of the draft plan, with aspects such as the level of detail, plan layout and principles guiding management, receiving favourable comment. The majority of people who submitted comments regarding the conservation values felt that the plan more than adequately recognised these values.

### SUMMARY

Several submissions were made regarding the Summary at the front of the draft plan. The two main concerns were: a perceived failure in the draft to recognise 'the vital role the Lake plays as part of a network of wetlands', and a query regarding the relationship between the management philosophy for Forrestdale Lake Nature Reserve and other wetlands on the Swan Coastal Plain.

The recently formed Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM), is responsible for management of the State's national parks, nature reserves and forests. This means that one department is now responsible for the management of most of the wetlands on the Swan Coastal Plain. Such co-ordinated management allows the development of a common philosophy for all wetlands. It also allows the development of guidelines for a wetland which are based on the wetland's individual values as well as a recognition of its role as part of a system.

Studies of the Swan Coastal Plain wetlands, funded by CALM, the Water Authority of Western Australia and the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) will continue to provide a greater understanding of these wetland systems. An example of one such study is the Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union (RAOU) Waterbird Usage Study, completed several months ago. Final compilation of the data from this study has necessitated minor editorial changes to the draft plan, mainly to clarify the status of particular waterbird species.

## PART A. THE RESERVE

### 1.0 LOCATION AND PHYSICAL FEATURES

#### 1.3 The Human Environment

##### 1.3.2 Zoning

Two submissions supported the System Six recommendations. These recommendations were addressed in the draft management plan (DMP).

### 2.0 HISTORY

#### 2.1 Aboriginal Occupation

The W.A. Museum Department of Aboriginal Sites considered that the issues in this section were well represented considering the limited information available.

Another submission made a number of suggestions regarding the management of the Reserve as an area of Aboriginal significance. One particularly useful comment related to the mythological significance of Forrestdale Lake. The plan has been amended to include these details. This submission also included suggestions that: further ethnographic research be undertaken; Forrestdale Lake be declared a protected area under the Aboriginal Heritage Act (1972-1980); and provisions be made for communicating Aboriginal traditions regarding the Lake (including erection of a plaque). The attention of the W.A. Museum has been drawn to these suggestions.

The same submission supported the preservation of the natural flora and fauna of the Lake. It was suggested that particular consideration be given to the Aboriginal tradition that *Typha* should not be disturbed. It is important to note, however, that *Typha* was not recorded in the area prior to 1968. Removal of this species encourages the regrowth of the reed *Baumea* which is more likely to have been present during the time of Aboriginal occupation.

It was also proposed that the Reserve be placed on the Register of the National Estate. Forrestdale Lake Nature Reserve was placed on the Register in 1978. The DMP has been amended to include this detail.

## 5.0 HYDROLOGY

### 5.1 Drainage

This section has been amended in response to a comment that the outlet drain would only operate during times of extreme high water level.

### 5.2 Groundwater

One submission drew attention to the unique hydrogeological location of Forrestdale Lake. Details regarding this aspect have been included in the final plan. The same submission also advocated hydrogeological investigations, in addition to Water Authority modelling studies. CALM would welcome such investigations.

### 5.4 Public Water Supply Scheme

One submission expressed concern regarding the effect of Water Authority pumping on the Jandakot aquifer. The provisional information given in the DMP was provided by the Water Authority. The real effects of pumping on water levels in the Lake will not be known until the completion of the review of the groundwater system by the Water Authority in early 1987.

## 6.0 SOILS AND VEGETATION

### 6.1 Soils

The only concern expressed regarding this section was the lack of information on soils. Detailed soil surveys were not considered necessary as sufficient information for management can be obtained from the level of detail presented in the plan.

## 7.0 FAUNA

### 7.1 Waterbirds

A number of editorial changes have been made to this section following the completion of the Waterbird Usage Study, and on the advice of ornithologist Peter Curry.



### 7.5 Mammals

Recent sightings of mammals and their tracks, on and adjacent to the Reserve, were reported. These details have been included in the final plan.

### 7.7 Midges

Two submissions requested that information on the role of midge larvae in the system be included. The relevant information has been added to the final plan. The completion of 'A study of larval chironomids in Forrestdale Lake and the effects of the pesticide Abate' carried out during the summer of 1985/86 by Davis et al. has also necessitated changes to the DMP.

## 10.0 PAST MANAGEMENT

### 10.3 Midges

This section of the DMP has been amended to include results of the larval chironomid study.

## PART B. PLAN FOR MANAGEMENT

Most submissions supported the objectives and management strategies detailed in this part of the DMP. Comments were mainly suggestions for addition to the proposed management strategies or minor amendments to a particular section. Two submissions emphasised the need for more specific objectives. This is not possible at present, however, given the lack of knowledge about processes within the wetland.

The main areas of concern were water levels, midge control and addition of the recreation reserve to the Nature Reserve, although all sections of the plan for management were addressed.

## 1.0 WATER QUALITY

Comments received generally supported the objectives and management strategies given in this section of the DMP. Topics addressed included: monitoring of drains; water quality standards; removal of sediments to maintain water quality; bridle-trail run-off; provision of deep

sewerage; expansion of the monitoring program and various nutrient input controls.

#### *Monitoring drains*

Several people suggested that the monitoring of drains was an integral part of the determination of a nutrient budget. This monitoring component of nutrient investigations is implicit in the strategies given in the draft management plan. The various components of the nutrient budget have been clearly detailed in the final plan to clarify this point.

One submission questioned how the public would be involved in determining the nutrient budget. This involvement will initially be based on keeping people informed of the progress of the project, and if necessary, followed by seeking the co-operation of locals and the local authority to help reduce inputs. The relevant strategy in the DMP has been amended.

#### *Water quality standards*

A number of submissions emphasised the need to either: set water quality standards in Western Australia; accept Victorian standards in the absence of Western Australian standards; or set standards for the Lake based on other criteria.

Water quality standards must be based on the management objectives for the Lake, that is, to protect and enhance the area as a waterbird habitat for the range of species presently utilising the area. Standards can only be formulated once a sound knowledge of the system has been obtained. The Lake currently supports a high bird population and diverse suite of aquatic invertebrates, which may well be a result of the comparatively high nutrient levels. A reduction in nutrient levels to suit standards set for other wetlands could significantly reduce the productivity of the system. The DMP has been amended to clarify this point.

#### *Sediment removal*

Concern was expressed regarding the lack of reference to sediment removal as one way of maintaining water quality.

A discussion of sediments must be based on an understanding of their role in an aquatic system. Sediments can absorb and store nutrients and it is believed that in an enriched wetland, even if the sources of nutrients are removed, the sediments can continue releasing nutrients into the water. Sediment removal may be the only way of removing this source of nutrient input, however, any manipulation of the wetland must be preceded by the development of an understanding of system processes. Strategies will be based on the results of the nutrient budget and the draft has been amended to clarify this point.

#### *Bridle-trail*

There was some concern that run-off from the bridle-trail could add nutrients to the Lake. The level of nutrients likely to be contributed from this source is considered insignificant. Excluding horses from the Reserve will ensure their activities are distanced from the Lake.

#### *Sewerage*

A number of submissions advocated the provision of deep sewerage to ensure that nutrients from septic tanks do not enter the Lake. This suggestion has been forwarded to the City of Armadale.

#### *Water quality program*

Expansion of the water quality program to investigate the role of sediments and *Typha* was recommended. Once the nutrient status of the Lake has been determined, these issues may be investigated. The DMP has been amended accordingly.

#### *Nutrient input controls*

The construction of sumps or compensating basins on drains entering the Lake was suggested as one way of preventing organic matter and some pollutants from entering the Lake. Other suggestions included artificial aeration of settlement ponds, and artificial recharge. Strategies such as these will be evaluated following determination of the nutrient budget.

## 2.0 WATER LEVELS

Water levels were a major area of concern in many of the submissions. The issues raised included: dredging; determination of maximum water depth; water level manipulation; maintenance of the existing system; and controls over surrounding land use.

### *Dredging*

Dredging was advocated in a number of submissions. Most preferred permanent water for aesthetic reasons while others suggested that dredging could: prevent *Typha* spread; deter those who drive their vehicles onto the lake bed; and reduce nutrient levels by the removal of the sediments.

**Permanent water:** A number of residents prefer permanent water for aesthetic reasons, however, several benefits accrue from the Lake drying out. First, the changing water level provides a range of habitats for waterbirds; and second, the dry lake bed provides residents with a respite from the midge nuisance.

***Typha* spread:** To create an environment unsuitable for *Typha* requires a water depth of at least 2 m. This depth could only be achieved by dredging at least 2 m deeper than the low point reached by the water table during summer. This would involve the removal of enormous quantities of sediments. In addition, depths of this magnitude often provide ideal conditions for organisms which exist in oxygen free environments. If the top and bottom layers of water are then mixed, through wind action or a change in surface water temperature, these organisms can be brought to the surface resulting in a foul smelling, unproductive system.

**Vehicle deterrent:** A moat was suggested as one way of keeping vehicles off the Lake bed. This problem will be solved once the perimeter fence has been erected.

**Water quality:** The role of sediments in water quality has been discussed in 1.0 Water Quality.

A submission was also received questioning whether dredging would reduce wader habitat, as stated in the DMP. Extensive dredging would reduce feeding habitat for waders, as many wading species prefer virtually flat lake beds that produce scattered pools as the wetland dries (R. Jaensch, pers. comm, 1986).

#### *Determination of maximum water depth*

Two submissions queried the minimum water depth given, in the DMP, for late spring. One considered that a depth of 1 m was unobtainable, while the other suggested that a lower depth in spring would be required in order to provide suitable conditions for the suite of waders using the Lake in mid-to-late summer.

A depth of 1 m was provided as a guideline and re-examination of the data has shown that 0.9 m would be more appropriate. The DMP has been amended.

#### *Water level manipulation*

Some confusion was apparent regarding water level manipulation. Manipulation of levels is not intended, and strategies aim only to ensure as far as is possible, that external factors do not prevent the Lake from receiving its annual supply of water. The DMP has been amended to clarify this point.

#### *Maintenance of the existing system*

One submission suggested that management should aim to achieve the conditions that existed when the area was first settled. We have a limited understanding of how the system currently functions, without attempting to estimate how it functioned many years ago.

#### *Surrounding land use*

The impacts that surrounding land uses can have on a wetland system, and on the supply of water to it, were emphasised in a number of submissions. Suggestions for ensuring that the Lake continues to receive water included: general control of drainage in the area to ensure that water is not diverted from the Lake; opposition to any extension of the golf course as this would require major drainage works, resulting in water being directed away from the Lake; monitoring of private bores, as private groundwater extraction accounts for most of

the water extracted; and control of surrounding land use and development. One submission opposed monitoring of private bores outside the Public Water Supply Area.

Certain controls are exercised through the Town Planning Scheme, which outlines permitted uses; and the Wildlife Conservation Regulations, which prohibit interference with the physical environment of the Nature Reserve. In the latter case this also covers interference with the water supply to a reserve. CALM supports monitoring of private bores, by the Water Authority, outside the Public Water Supply Area as private extraction affects groundwater levels.

Several submissions also suggested that CALM co-ordinate the management needed to achieve the desired water level. This co-ordinating role is the responsibility of the Water Authority whose objectives include:

- 'i) Management of water resources: To assess, plan, manage and co-ordinate the utilisation and conservation of the State's water resources for the optimum overall benefit of the community in both the short and long term.
- 'ii) Environmental conditions: To assess the environment and social impact of water resource management and development and seek an appropriate balance between economy, protection of the environment and the social aspirations of the community.'

(Water Authority of Western Australia Corporate Plan 1985-1990).

### 3.0 BULRUSHES (*TYPHA*)

Many submissions strongly supported the control measures advocated in the DMP, although some proposed more extensive removal.

Total removal would not be possible, given the extent of the bulrush growth, nor would it be desirable for the following reasons. First, *Typha* provides protection and habitat for a range of waterbirds. Second, it may play an important role as a nutrient absorber. If this is the case, its removal before the level of nutrient inputs has been reduced, could further increase nutrient levels leading to management problems such as algal blooms.

One submission advocated removal of all *Typha* adjacent to the townsite, on the grounds that: it currently blocks the view; birds are unlikely to nest in the vicinity of the townsite; it poses a fire risk; and it provides a habitat for snakes near an area where children play.

First, removal of all the *Typha* adjacent to the townsite would be an expensive exercise. Second, although *Typha* currently blocks the view, it also prevents people driving to or from, the Lake via private properties abutting the Reserve. Third, birds nest in the *Typha* near the townsite - Clamorous Reed-Warbler nests were found during firebreak construction. Fourth, recent firebreak construction in the *Typha* stands near the townsite has ensured that the fire hazard has been reduced. Fifth, removal of *Typha* from this area is unlikely to minimise the occurrence of snakes.

One submission expressed doubts regarding the likelihood of *Typha*, if unmanaged, spreading to cover the entire Lake bed. The example of Herdsman Lake which 'retains clear areas with the help of herbivores and trampers', was used. It should be noted, however, that at Herdsman the 'clear' area accounts for only a small part of the Reserve. Over the past couple of years, seedlings have become established across substantial areas of the Lake bed at Forrestdale. On two occasions, seedlings were removed from about 40 ha of the bed. To date control measures have been successful.

#### 4.0 MIDGES

Comments were received both supporting and opposing the strategies for midge control given in the plan. The main reasons for opposition to spraying were: the philosophical question of control of a native species; dislike for the use of chemicals; the existence of simple alternative methods for dealing with the midge problem; lack of definitive conditions; and the threat to waterbirds.

##### *The philosophical question of control*

Responsibility for control of the midge nuisance lies with the City of Armadale who spray in response to requests by rate-payers.

### *Use of chemicals*

Chemical control of midges is viewed only as a short-term option. Analyses of other techniques will be carried out as funds become available. This detail has been included in the final plan. Until alternative methods are adopted, procedures will be guided by the Environmental Protection Authority's (EPA) interim policy on the control of midge and mosquito larvae in wetlands. The DMP has been amended to include reference to this policy. The policy has been included as an appendix in the final plan.

The DMP has also been amended to include information obtained from the recently completed study of chironomid larvae in Forrestdale Lake and the effects of the pesticide, Abate (Davis et al. 1986). Results of the study, as outlined in Part A. Section 10.3 Midges, should also answer a query about the effectiveness of Abate.

### *Simple alternative methods for dealing with the midge problem*

A number of submissions suggested alternative measures, based on changes in lifestyle, to minimise the nuisance. These suggestions have been included in Appendix 6 of the final plan.

There was both support for and opposition to the notion of a vegetation buffer. Opposition was based on the belief that a buffer: would block the view; was considered 'unnatural'; and would be of questionable benefit. First, although panoramic views of the Lake would be lost, attractive glimpses of the water through natural bush, would be gained. Second, the existing terrestrial environment has been subjected to clearing (for roads and townsite development) and repeated burning and trampling, and as such is 'unnatural'. Natural regrowth will be encouraged through implementation of fire protection measures, and erection of a boundary fence to reduce the effects of trampling and private property encroachment. Third, a vegetation buffer is likely to lead to a reduction in the midge nuisance as has been the case at Thomsons Lake. Here, reduction in fire frequency has led to an increase in vegetation density and an associated decrease in numbers of midges reaching residential areas.



*Lack of definitive conditions and threat to waterbirds*

Concern was expressed regarding the conditions for spraying outlined in the plan, particularly the phrase '...it is unlikely that approval will be given...'. It was felt that such a phrase was not sufficiently definitive. It should be noted that these conditions were those conveyed to the local authority for the summer 1985/86. These provide only an indication of the type of constraints under which the authority will operate. Conditions will be reviewed each year.

## 5.0 FIRE PROTECTION

Areas of discussion in the submissions were: no planned fuel reduction; the location of fire units; firebreaks; and weed control.

First, the concept of 'no planned fuel reduction' was well supported.

Second, the location of fire units was questioned, as the CALM metropolitan units are currently based at Wanneroo. The problem of distance will continue to be overcome by the maintenance of a close working relationship with, and a strong reliance on, the local brigade. The amended draft will include a recognition of the importance of the local brigade in fire protection for Forrestdale.

Third, in response to comments and concerns regarding firebreaks, a map has been included in the plan showing approximate locations. The exact location of firebreaks protecting the eastern part of the Reserve will be determined following discussions with the Bush Fires Board and City of Armadale.

One submission recommended curved firebreaks in preference to parallel breaks, as survival of 'pockets' of vegetation after fire would be more likely. Radial breaks will not be parallel, however, they will be relatively straight to minimise the area disturbed. This detail has been clarified in the final plan.

Fourth, mention was made of the need for weed control on firebreaks. Such control is part of regular maintenance. This detail has been clearly stated in the final plan.

## 6.0 DIEBACK PROTECTION

There was general support for the objectives and strategies for dieback protection given in the DMP.

One submission suggested that it be a punishable offence for horse-riders or unauthorised vehicles to enter the Reserve. Once the area is gazetted as a Limited Access Area, as proposed in the DMP, entry other than on foot will be considered an offence unless that person has written authorisation from the Director of Nature Conservation.

## 7.0 EXOTIC SPECIES

The proposals in this section were generally well supported, although some concerns were expressed regarding: the need for feral cat and fox, and pampas grass control; problems of weed introduction by horses; and responsibilities for control of declared plants and animals.

The need to control foxes and feral cats was an area of general concern. As the problem is widespread in the Forrestdale area controls on the Nature Reserve alone are of little use. Controls on nearby Thomsons Lake Nature Reserve have proved ineffective and have only served to emphasise the importance of regional rather than localised control.

Exotic plant species were also discussed in a number of submissions. Pampas grass was an area of particular concern. Weed control is currently underway at Forrestdale, with the control of pampas grass being a high priority. Emergency removal of seed heads on pampas grass was suggested, however, this form of management is constrained by lack of resources. Seeking the help of volunteer groups is one way of overcoming this problem.

A third issue of concern was the introduction of weed species by horses. CALM recognises this problem and has advocated the construction of a fence to keep horses out of the Reserve.

Finally, as requested by the Agriculture Protection Board, the responsibilities of the controlling body to control declared plants and declared animals on the Reserve have been detailed in the final plan.

## 8.0 REHABILITATION

Most comments regarding the objectives and strategies for rehabilitation were favourable. Two suggestions warrant further comment. First, the collection and propagation of seeds/cuttings by a school nursery was suggested. This is an excellent idea. Second, it was suggested that active management be used to replace *Typha* with native species. As *Typha* removal in other areas has resulted in natural regeneration of native species, no active planting is considered necessary at Forrestdale.

## 9.0 RESEARCH

Continued research was well supported in the submissions, as it is by CALM. It was suggested in one submission that funds be made available to educational institutions for wildlife research. Such funding has been made available in the past and will continue so long as access to funding continues.

Concern was expressed in one submission about the ability of CALM to monitor visitor impact when resources were so limited. Resource expenditure will be minimal as monitoring will be done as an integral part of management rather than as a separate function.

Several submissions recommended additional waterbird projects. The large gaps in knowledge of waterbirds have long been recognised. Work in this area is continuing with a number of studies being carried out by the RAOU, with funding provided by CALM.

Daily checks in summer for birds affected by botulism was suggested. Volunteers will continue to be encouraged to keep CALM informed of this type of occurrence.

## 10.0 PUBLIC USE

This section attracted considerable comment. There was both support for, and opposition to, the maintenance of the 'Moore Street clearing'. The main reasons for opposing the proposal were: the terrestrial buffer zone is already inadequate and provides little protection to residents

from midgets, and public picnic and play areas are not compatible with conservation values. Support for retention of the 'clearing' came from local residents who propose linking the area with the Skeet Memorial Park.

'The Moore Street clearing' provides a focal point for both locals and visitors, being one of the few areas where parking and views of the Lake are available. Retention of this area may relieve visitor pressure on other parts of the Reserve. For these reasons the 'Moore Street clearing' will be retained, but its retention will be periodically reviewed. If the area is not adequately maintained or is considered to provide little visitor benefit, the area will be left to regenerate, or if necessary revegetated.

Some concern was expressed regarding continued maintenance of the area by the City of Armadale, in view of the lack of maintenance in the past. In the past the local authority was not responsible for maintenance of the area, but informally agreed to occasionally service the area. As part of the implementation of this plan a formal agreement will be drawn up between the City of Armadale and CALM, with the former authority being responsible for maintenance of the area. The land will remain under the control of CALM. The two authorities will liaise regarding management. These details have been clarified in the final plan.

In addition to the Moore Street issue, the following points were raised. First, one person commented that those areas suitable or unsuitable for public use should be specified, and others suggested the need for signs. Accordingly, this section has been amended to indicate that appropriate use of any part of the Reserve is acceptable, and that signs will be erected as part of management. These signs will indicate which activities are permitted and encouraged, as well illegal activities. Second, another submission asked if money would be available for the production of a poster for Forrestdale Lake. This is a good idea and one that a conservation or community group might like to pursue. Third, the proposal to produce a brochure gained much support. The brochure is intended as an alternative to an information board (requested by some). It will provide information on and guidelines for use of the Reserve.

## 11.0 CLASSIFICATION

There was very strong support for addition of the Recreation Reserve, east of and adjoining Forrestdale Lake, to the Nature Reserve. The exact area to be added was questioned. The exact area will be based on surveys of the flora and fauna by CALM and the Armadale-Kelmscott Branch of the W.A. Wildflower Society, and discussions between the City of Armadale, Department of Land Administration and CALM. Strong opposition was expressed regarding a proposal to extend the golf course into the Recreation Reserve. This concern has been forwarded to the City of Armadale.

Addition of the Class C Reserve to Forrestdale Lake Nature Reserve was also well supported.

Further suggestions for additions were made. Limited funds for land acquisition and other priorities within the State, reduce the likelihood of major additions of land to the Reserve within the term of the plan. In the event of any future extensions to the Reserve, classification and management of any additions should reflect the principles and philosophy of management and conservation of the existing Nature Reserve. The draft has been amended to include this strategy.

It was suggested that the Nature Reserve be vested for the purpose of 'protection of flora and fauna and education'. The educational role of Nature Reserves is recognised. Section 56(d) of the CALM Act (1984) states that a Nature Reserve management plan must 'promote the study of indigenous flora and fauna'.

## 12.0 BOUNDARY DELINEATION

There was strong support for the strategy advocating fencing, although there was some limited opposition.

One submission expressed concern that fencing was an infringement on public freedom, and it was felt that signs would be adequate to stop horse and vehicle entry.

The fence is not intended to stop entry on foot, and it will have the positive effect of reducing management problems such as horse trampling, vehicle entry, rubbish dumping and encroachment. Signs alone have proved to be inadequate. The fence will ensure that Reserve users know they are entering a 'special place'. It will also delineate the difference between Skeet Memorial Park and the 'Moore Street Clearing', and the conservation area. Gates will be provided in strategic places to encourage movement between the two areas.

As some confusion about the intent of fencing may have occurred, the draft has been amended to clarify this point.

A fence of pine poles was recommended by one submission, however, the costs would be far greater than for the structure proposed. In addition, the proposed structure will complement the semi-rural nature of the Forrestdale area.

Another submission objected to the construction of a boundary fence between Weld and Moore Streets as it would separate the 'Moore Street clearing' and Skeet Memorial Park. The City of Armadale also suggested that fencing the boundary along this section would not be necessary as the adjoining reserve will be maintained as a passive recreation area.

The 'Moore Street clearing' will be 'fenced out' of the Reserve so that it can be linked with Skeet Memorial Park.

### 13.0 GENERAL MANAGEMENT

One submission questioned how the public could become involved in ongoing management of the Reserve. Steps have been taken to establish a 'Friends of Forrestdale' group and volunteer support will be sought through this group and other interest groups.

A number of submissions supported the notion of an honorary warden. The term 'honorary warden' implies responsibilities similar to those of wildlife officer, primarily policing duties. Given the associated legal responsibilities, the establishment of 'contact persons', rather than appointing honorary wildlife officers or wardens, will be encouraged. The DMP has been amended accordingly.

## APPENDICES

A number of additions to the flora and fauna lists have been made.

## OTHER COMMENTS

Several general comments were made regarding the DMP.

- a) The inclusion of sketches of birds and plants in the management plan was recommended. The plan is not intended as a field guide and, generally, only resource information on aspects which directly affect or are affected by management have been included.
- b) The inclusions of a concept or land use plan for the development of the Reserve was suggested. The management plan is the land management plan for the Nature Reserve. Further details on management works are available from the Metropolitan Region Office of CALM.
- c) A general suggestion was made for allowance of tax and rate concessions for land owners who practice nature conservation on their land. This is an approach to conservation receiving increasing support in the general community and CALM actively encourages nature conservation on private land. This matter, however, is outside the scope of the plan.
- d) A number of submissions expressed concern that the Beechboro/Gosnells (Tonkin) Highway will be extended through the Recreation Reserve to the east of the Lake. The Main Roads Department have advised that the proposed extension runs to the east of the golf course leaving the Recreation Reserve untouched.
- e) The issue of staffing and funding for management works and research projects was raised. The strategies in the management plan will form part of the annual works program for the Metropolitan Region. Implementation of the plan, and the allocation of staff and funding, will be in accordance with this works program.