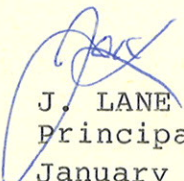


SWAN RIVER PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Points to be made by CALM should include:

1. CALM's top priority, so far as the Swan River is concerned, is to see the proposed Aquatic Reserves at Alfred Cove, Como (Kwinana Fwy) and Pelican Point declared. See System 6 Redbook for details. Moves were made within CALM in late 1986. Refer to Manager of Metro Region for circulating papers which include comments from Research.
2. The most important management issue to be addressed is present unrestricted recreational access to proposed Aquatic Reserves. Some controls on use will be needed if these areas are to continue to support estuary's migratory wader populations (3,000 - 4,000 birds with peaks to 12,000). Uncontrolled dogs are the most serious problem at present.
3. Migratory wader populations need a roosting site of say 150 metres of river foreshore (ideally a small area at Pelican Point) kept free of dogs, joggers, walkers, prawners, sailboards etc. at all times (i.e. totally undisturbed).
4. Value of Swan River to waterbirds is adequately described in paper presented by R.P. Jaensch of Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union at Swan River Symposium in 1986.
5. Canning River wetlands (Riverton Bridge to Nicholson Road) have considerable value for conservation (vegetation and waterbird populations) and their management should also be determined by an adequately funded State Government instrumentality with statutory responsibility for conservation, not by local shires.
6. Policy of retention of native fringing vegetation (rushbeds, paperbarks etc.) along banks of Swan and Canning should be enforced.
7. The fact that the Swan River supports 1,000's of waterbirds of more than 70 species (but won't continue to for many more years without increased protective action - principally from recreation pressures), and that Perth is one of very few capital cities in the world to have such an asset, deserves far greater recognition than currently afforded it. Guided bird walks (no facilities required - simply a knowledgeable guide) would prove popular, especially with tourists.

  
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