

The System 6 Study Team
Dept. of Environmental Protection
141 St Georges Terrace
Perth 6000.

Phone 220 5222
(work)

SYSTEM 6 UPDATE. - 1950

Dear Team

Firstly, I hope you will accept the attached submission being so late - I sincerely apologise for not meeting the deadline.

If the submission does not qualify the area concerned for inclusion in a System 6 area (1950), it is hoped that it will draw attention to the deterioration of this small section of the Swan River.

The centre of the concern is the increasing pressure and disturbance of waterbirds and other aquatic life by power boats and jet skis operating in a confined area.

Each year the volume of this disturbance increases. At the point now where we are witnessing power ^(speed) boats and jet skis driving through flocks of birds on the water as a common occurrence, particularly in summer. Included in these birds are Black Swans, this area being one of the very few parts of the River where they are starting to return.

The other part of the problem is erosion of the river bank from the wash created by frequent high speed craft. Banks are severely undercut, causing valuable rush sp. cover binding the banks to break off into the water, exposing more vegetation behind to suffer the same as the cycle continues.

This problem was recognised in the previous System 6 report in the 1950 (page 225, 226)

Specific recognition is needed for the area to allow removal of the high speed boat traffic or (second priority) a physical definition of the area such as a floating barrier

(say, rope with floats) to prevent boats / ruffie encroaching into the area.

The reality is that this part of the river is too narrow for high speed boat activities and should be restricted to passive activities.

If it is not considered appropriate to include this area of the adjacent river in the M50, another option is required to give it specific and formal protection. In this event, a copy of this will be forwarded to the Swan River Trust and to CALM.

Yours sincerely
Brad Kneebone.

cc. Swan River Trust
CALM.

**SYSTEM 6 BUSHLAND SUBMISSION FORM
FOR CONSIDERATION IN THE UPDATE PROGRAMME**

If you wish to submit more than one area for consideration in the System 6 update, please use a separate form for each area.

Please fill in each section giving as much information as possible.

LOCATION, OWNERSHIP AND ZONING OF THE AREA

1. Location *The area of Swan River and foreshore adjacent to the M50 System 6 Area extending into the River as shown coloured on the map attached.*

Please give as accurate and detailed a description as possible of the site location

Please include either a hand drawn or copied map showing the area of the area

a) Bordering Roads: *None*

b) Nearest Corner: *N/A*

c) Lot Number: *N/A* Street Number: *N/A*

d) Town/Suburb/Location: *MAYLANDS*

e) Local Council: *CITY OF STIRLING*

f) Site Name (if any): *BERRINGA PARK (M50 MANAGEMENT PLAN)*

g) Approximate size of the area (ha): *10*

h) Please locate the area on a map and give us map references if possible:

..... *As shown coloured on map*

i) Map: Streetsmart /UBD/Other:

j) Map no.:

k) Grid Ref:

l) Please give any other information that may help us to find the location:

.....

m) Are you aware of any development proposals that are likely to affect the area?

..... *No*

NOTE: Areas that have already been given development APPROVAL should not be nominated

Please fill out those questions that you can answer

2. Who owns the area? (If owned by the person/s making the nomination please indicate)

The State on behalf of the public/community

3. If you own the area, and may be interested in participating in conservation on private land initiatives please indicate (and leave your name and address at the end of this submission form)

4. What is the area zoned? (please indicate whether zoning is Town Planning Scheme or Metropolitan Region Scheme) *P.O.S.?*

CAN YOU TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT THE PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE AREA

5. Why do you consider this area important? (Refer to Guiding Issues paper)

Contains extensive waterbird habitat (feeding, breeding, refuge/roosting) and by abutting M50, should be integrated with it as it is complementary

6. What is/are the soil type/s and colours? *Any soil exposure is to M50.*

Type: Sand/Clay/Gravel/Loam/Silt *river mud/silt*

Colour: White/Grey/Brown/Orange/Yellow/Red/Black

7. Does the area have any special features such as unusual landforms / landscapes that still retain their natural vegetation? Yes/No

If yes, what are they? *Shoreline and island with natural vegetation.*

River area is shallow, appears to support extensive feeding area for waterbirds and aquatic biota.

8. Is the area a wetland or does it include a wetland? *Yes*

If yes, what kind of a wetlands is it?

a) lake

b) river

c) stream

d) swamp

e) estuary

f) seasonally wet

g) other

9. What percentage of the wetland is open water in summer? 98%
Area is all water except for small island.

CAN YOU TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT THE VEGETATION /FAUNA ON THE NOMINATED AREA.

10. What percentage of the area is indigenous vegetation? 2% (*island of rush sp.*)

11. If the area includes regions cleared of native bushland please indicate reasons for the inclusion.

12. Has any previous flora or fauna survey work been done on the area?

..... *Yes.*

If yes, please give details of the work *RAOU has bird surveys of this area of river*

13. How would you rate the condition of the native bushland? (see attached table)

- a) pristine
- b) excellent
- c) very good
- d) good
- e) degraded
- f) completely degraded
- g) don't know

rush sp.
overall
around perimeter of island and Riverbank where eroded by wave action excessive

14. Please indicate the disturbances affecting the area and where appropriate the percentage of the area disturbed.

- a) Partial clearing
- b) fragmentation
- c) Selective removal of species: timber cutting, wildflower picking, mowing dieback and other plant diseases
- d) Fire regime, including intensity, season and frequency
- e) 'Enrichment plantings' that is plantings of species not found in that community
- f) Weed invasion
- g) Animal impact: horses, foxes, rabbits, cats, dogs, camels, goats etc
- h) Soil movement, both removal and dumping *By erosion from excessive wave action primarily caused by power boat activities as the area is part of a gazetted water-ski zone.*
- i) Changes in water regimes; flooding, drainage and watering
- j) Salinity
- k) Fertiliser drift and along waterways nutrient influx
- l) Mining, including that for road works

- m) Grazing: stock, overgrazing by feral or native mammals
- n) Proliferation of tracks, fire breaks and walk trails
- o) Off-road vehicle use
- p) Use as service corridors by the SEC, Main Roads, Water Authority.

(Source: B Keighery. Bushland Plant Survey, September 1994)

15. Does the area contain any plant species of special interest that you know of? (eg. declared rare flora, priority taxa, outlier populations) *None known*

Do you know what they are?

16. Do you know of any native animals that use the area? *Waterbirds*

Can you list those you know of? (birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians etc)

Refer RAOU for waterbird counts and to K. Meneij's 'Management Plan for Maylands Freshwater (M50)' 1989 for City of Stirling

17. Is the area used by any native animals of special interest? (eg. endangered species, large/important populations) *Osprey, Pelican, Great Egret, Caspian Tern, Buff-Banded Rail, Crane sp., Little Grass Bird*

If yes, please name them and indicate source of information

CAN YOU TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT THE SURROUNDING AREA

18. Are there any bushland areas (including wetlands) near to this area?

Yes, M50 is adjacent

If yes, how close are they? *Adjacent*

Are they already conservation reserves? *Yes*

What is their approximate size? *~ 14ha*

19. Does the submitted area link other bushland areas? *Yes, M50*

Please attach any additional information about the area which may be of use when assessing it.

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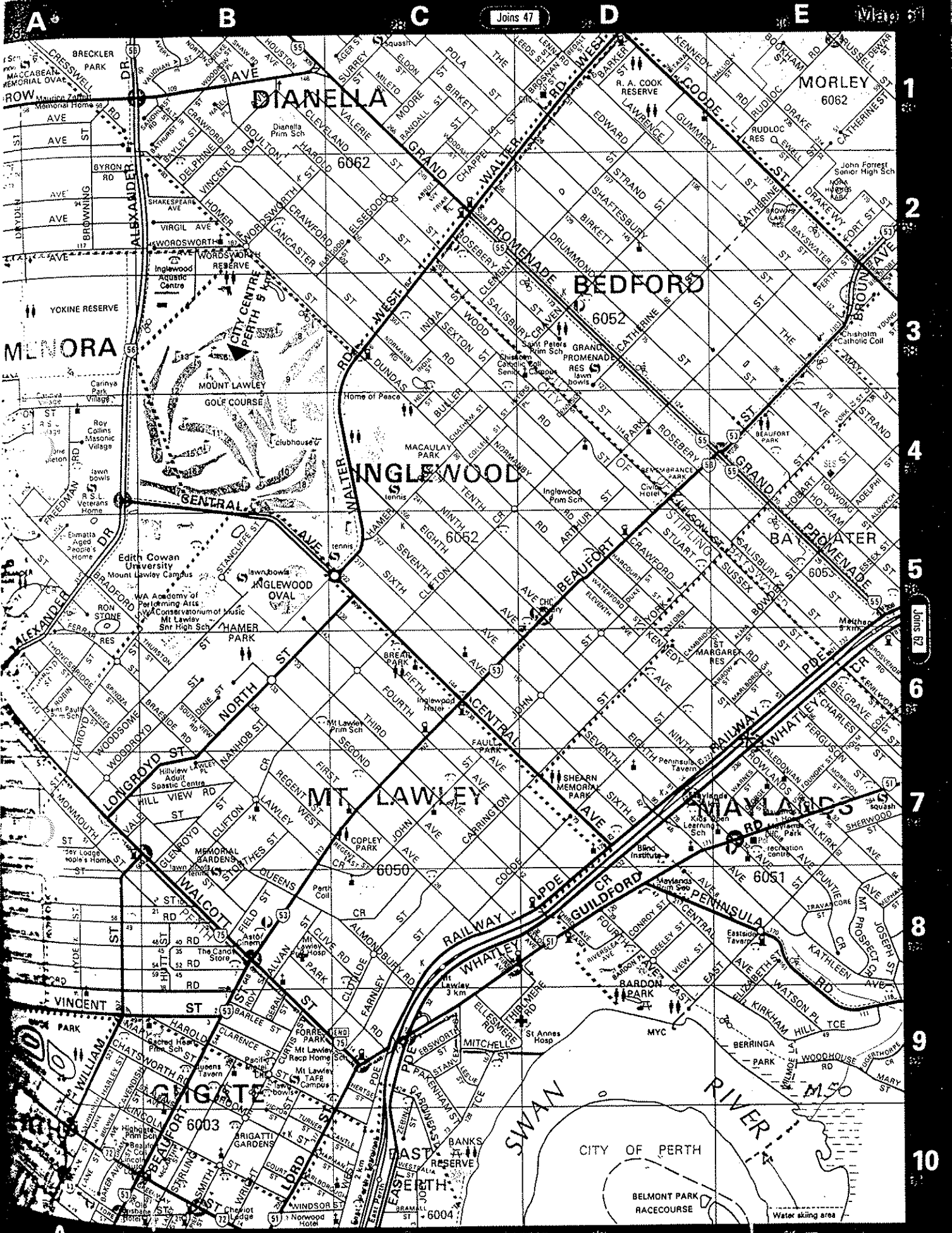
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Joins 47

Map 61

Joins 73

BE IN POSITIONS HOW

Map 61

NOTE: WATER SKI AREA (NORTHERN LIMIT) SHOULD

- POLICE STATION
- HOSPITAL
- POST OFFICE
- PUBLIC TELEPHONE
- TRAFFIC FLOW
- TRAFFIC LIGHTS

FOR COMPREHENSIVE LEGEND, SEE PAGE 3