

Objection to West Culburra Concept Proposal (SSD 3846)

Dear Commission Members

As an environmentalist, a resident of the Shoalhaven and dedicated birdwatcher as well as a visitor to Culburra and Lake Wollumboola, I find it difficult to understand how this proposal was permitted to reach this stage.

This area is a coastal village with a character and atmosphere that can only be maintained with low density coastal style and also given, there are no facilities to support the extra numbers that would come with the 650 mainly medium density dwellings proposed, it seems ridiculous to even consider such a development.

Lake Wollumboola together with the Shoalhaven – Crookhaven Estuary are far too important for this proposal to be permitted. The area is recognised as nationally and internationally significant wetland habitat for migratory birds under Australian and NSW Government legislation and these wonderful natural areas must be protected for our future generations.

The expert advice given over the years as well as NSW Government Policy stating that the Lake Wollumboola catchment is unsuitable for urban development and should be zoned 'Environment Protection' must be adhered to.

Also importantly the Crookhaven catchment must only be considered for limited development.

It is not possible for the Crookhaven River wetlands, fish nursery and oyster leases to escape significant deterioration with polluted runoff that will result in environmental and economic loss if this proposal is approved.

Plus the clearing of 75 ha of coastal forest and development in wetlands will result in the loss of habitat for Threatened species and environmental degradation.

Loss of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage as well as the incremental damage over the years to the environment will reduce potential for nature and tourism opportunities and those issues must be included in assessment of this Concept.

The many reasons against this Concept Proposal show clearly why it should be refused.

Thank you

Norman Webb

