



Warringah Urban Fringe Association Incorporated
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13 March 2012
Mr Rik Hart,
General Manager,
Warringah Council,
725 Pittwater Rd,
Dee Why, 2099

Dear Mr Hart,

Subject: Warringah's Wonderful Wildlife

Warringah Council currently has on its website a draft Biodiversity Conservation Study for public comment. This document seeks to apply a conservation layer over land which includes private properties.

I became aware of this draft Biodiversity Conservation Study on 6 March 2012. I did not receive anything in the mail about this document or its public exhibition. Submissions close on 19 March 2012. I sent some questions to Council by email on 6 March, and a reminder email on 12 March, but still have not had a response to my questions from Council.

I have received correspondence from a lot of our members who were alarmed to find out about the Biodiversity Conservation Study through WUFA. The general concerns are:

1. Warringah Council has not sent letters to the landowners that are having a conservation layer applied to their properties through the Biodiversity Conservation Study. This is inconsistent with good community consultation practice. This also seems inconsistent with the fact that it is council policy to send out letters to neighbours when a DA is submitted.
2. Warringah Council has put under the title of "Warringah's wonderful wildlife", a biodiversity conservation study that seeks to apply a conservation layer to land which includes privately owned land. The title appears deceptive as a typical person reading "Warringah's wonderful wildlife" would not think this contained a report which could apply a conservation layer over their property.

We feel the only way this study can have any validity is to have a proper community consultation process. This needs to include the following:

1. Extend the public consultation period for another 3 months.

2. Hold another two public meetings about the study.
3. Write a letter to every landowner that is having a conservation layer applied to their property advising of the study and the new meeting details. You would need to ensure that the letter is received by residents at least one month prior to the first new meeting being held.

I look forward to your response to this request.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Holman', written in a cursive style.

John Holman
BE (Hons), MBA
President
Warringah Urban Fringe Association Inc. (WUFA)

CC All Warringah Councillors