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Draft Boating Management Strategy
Swan River Trust
PO Box 6470
EAST PERTH WA 6892
(sent via e-mail only)

Draft Boating Management Strategy for the Swan and Canning Rivers

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above Strategy.

The Swan River Trust is to be commended for preparing the Strategy which has clearly identified a range of issues that need to be addressed. Based on the information provided in the Strategy, all of but one of the recommendations are supported.

The Bassendean Preservation Group has particular interest on the matter of boat wash and offers the following comments.

Recommendation 4.2

This recommendation is strongly supported and consideration needs to be given to the best way to implement it.

If sites can be identified where boat wash is adversely affecting boating facilities valued by boat users then these should be the first sites where low wash zones are established. This would mean that members of the boating community would have an interest in policing the low wash zones and could assist in the education of boat owners. Potential sites in the upper Swan River could be the Maylands boat yard, the ANA Rowing Club, or the Ascot Kayak Club, most of which also have foreshores that are deteriorating as a result of boat wash as described in Swan River Trust's Draft Foreshore Management Strategy.

The Bassendean Preservation Group suggests that at a low wash zone, a wave height monitor be installed which provides information for boats going through the low wash zone about their wash height. The information would need to be displayed well forward of the monitoring point as boat wash takes some time to reach the shore.

Recommendation 4.3

The recommendation should be amended as follows (Delete ~~striketrough~~ and add underlined words):

~~Continue~~ Increase community awareness and education projects about boat wash.

Existing levels of community awareness and education projects about boat wash are clearly inadequate or we would not have a problem!

Recommendation 4.5

The wave attenuation technology shown at the website <http://www.whisprwave.com/> appears to warrant investigation. Presumably investigation includes research and trials. If not it is suggested that the recommendation be re-worded to read “Investigate wash mitigation devices for sensitive areas and conduct trials of these devices”.

Recommendation 6.1

The recommendation to expand launching facilities on the river is not supported for the Swan River upstream of Garratt Road bridge. This recommendation appears to be contrary to the desire to encourage the development of coastal facilities, and would only serve to increase boat traffic on the Swan River. Congestion is rarely a problem on the existing boat ramp facilities upstream of Garratt Road bridge. Currently boat ramps are located approximately every 2km from Garratt Road bridge to Fish Market Reserve.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact the Chair of the Bassendean Preservation Group Ms Claire Hall who can be reached via e-mail at clairehall@westnet.com.au.

Kind Regards,



Steve McFarland
Secretary, BPG Inc

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