

Distinctive Areas and Landscapes Program – Bellarine Peninsula

Please find below additional comments to support my short-form submission.

- The existing town/development boundaries for all townships on the Bellarine Peninsula must be maintained and not extended.

All efforts should be applied to ensure that existing Nature Reserves be enhanced with the establishment of naturally vegetated buffers and the development of corridors and linkages to aid fauna movement across the peninsula.

Specifically, the redevelopment of the Swan Bay Reservoir site (Bellarine Basin) by Barwon Water must be guided by a management plan that supports the protection of native flora and fauna. Changes will need to be made at a pace that doesn't negatively impact on species such as the Wedge-tailed Eagle which has been found to breed at the site in 2020-21. This species reuses its nest for years.

- The Distinctive Areas and Landscapes Program – Bellarine Peninsula must ensure that all stormwater is managed to ensure that the ecologically diverse and significant wetlands of the peninsula are not changed by existing and future developments in terms of quantity and quality of the water required to maintain those habitats.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.