

From the Lake Mokoan Future Land Use Steering Committee

Please find attached the draft Lake Mokoan Future Land Use Strategy. This strategy has been developed over the past 18 months by consultants Beca/Arup with direction for the Steering Committee, and following a community consultation program, which has included public meetings, workshops and stakeholders focus groups.

The Strategy provides an inspiring vision for the area that encompasses the rehabilitation of the wetland system, and guides complementary activities including agriculture, recreation and tourism.”

The Draft includes:

- How the Strategy was developed
- Activities and funding guidelines (estimates only) for these activities
- Recommendations from the consultants

The Lake Mokoan Future Land Use Steering Committee (LMFLUSC) endorses the Future Land Use Strategy (FLUS) for public release, but only with the inclusion of three (3) additional recommendations as stated below:

1. That the State Government agrees there will be no irreversible decommissioning or removal of dam structures or relevant infrastructure prior to the implementation of irrigation offset measures that deliver current reliability levels of supply.
2. That the State Government agrees to underwrite funding for the decommissioning and establishment phases of the strategy to the level of 13 million (2006 dollars). That all walking, cycle tracks and boardwalks included in the strategy, together with the preliminary establishment of the Discovery Centre, be brought forward to the establishment phase. This action would be to ensure the implementation of initial development which would assist in engendering community support and early visitation, thereby encouraging private investment in further phases of the project.
3. That a Board of Implementation be created that would include members of the community. This Board, modeled along the lines of a Government Business Enterprise (GBE), would report directly to the Minister, and that the GBE would be responsible for funds allocated which would be used for the sole purpose of implementation of the Winton Wetlands project.

I strongly urge the members of the community and groups to consider this document and recommendations, and to have their say by providing feedback to the Steering Committee. Community input is vital to the plan and the success of future outcomes. It is important to note this is **not** a recommendation to decommission Lake Mokoan.

Yours Sincerely,

Sally Simson

Chair, Lake Mokoan Future Land Use Steering Committee

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