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Please find attached some important points that might need to be included in your NRM action plan for your assistance for their systematic implementation. I have been working on, and investing time in research and action supporting the initiatives for many years. Please don't hesitate to request a briefing of the detail involved as some of the opportunities are complex and may require care to increase their chances of success.

Regards

Alan L Hill

October 25 2010


Member Helena River Catchment Group

Member Nature Reserves Preservation Group

Coordinator Friends of Quenda Creek

PhD Candidate Murdoch University

What are the 'priority issues' or most concerning aspects of bush/catchment management requiring attention, in your area:

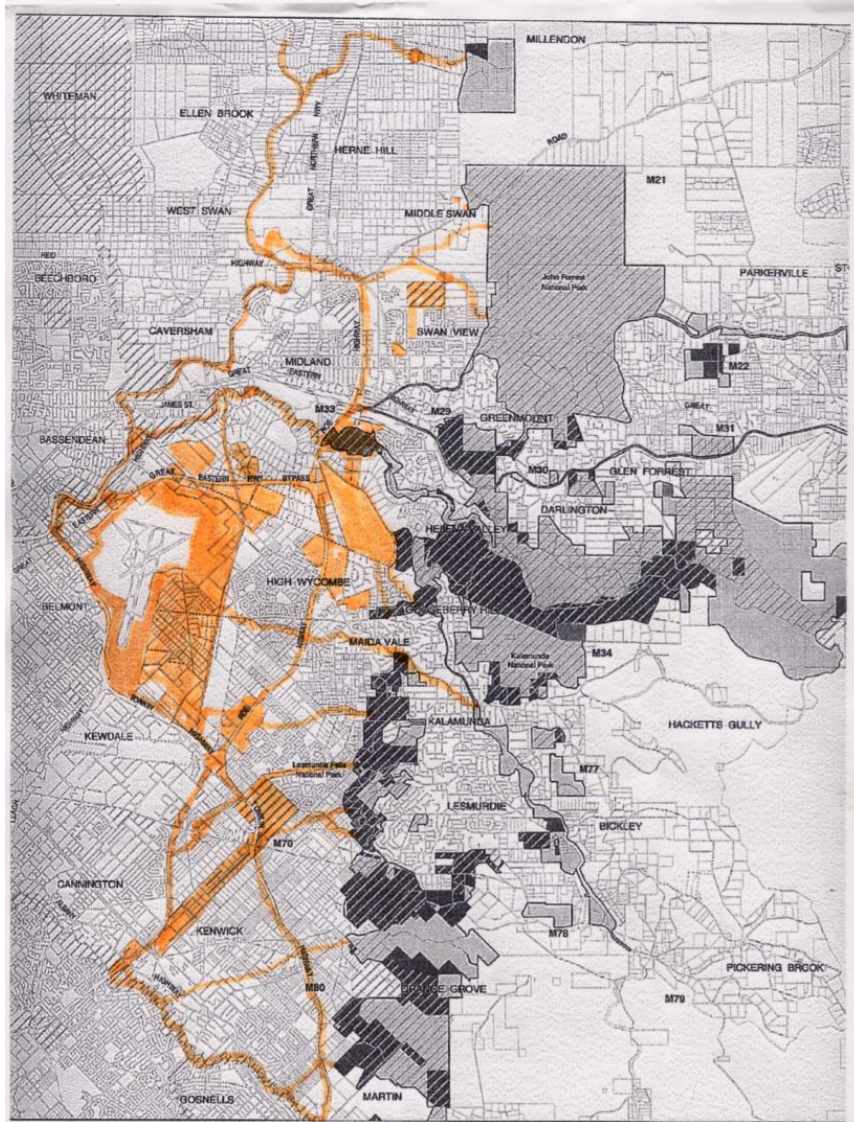
WATER	<p>Eg Water quality, sedimentation in waterways</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Sharing Water<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High biodiversity springs and wetland areas that are not in parks, at the top of the scarp are being cleared, drained and filled• Natural five day time of concentration of rainfall events with 75% recharge, is being changed with clearing and drainage of catchments to one hour response peaks, increasing flooding and erosion and decreasing duration of flow, water quality, stream habitat and recreational value <p><i>The eastern hills needs more sustainable water management particularly of its springs and upper slope wetlands</i></p> <p>Wetlands and Forests, this is the theme for World Wetlands Day 2011, especially chosen because 2011 is the UN International Year of Forests.</p> <p><i>The Nature for Water Initiative of the United Nations Water Convention shows a different internationally promoted trans boundary best practice standard for how catchments and forests might be better managed</i></p> 
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BIODIVERSITY

Eg Threatened species losing habitat, weed infestations
Vegetation Protection

3. A foothills regional park linking the Swan River Park to the Darling Range Park along waterways and including wetlands has been suggested (Hill, 2004).

A foothills park needs to be implemented



LAND MANAGEMENT

Eg fire risk management, broadacre farming, reserve management

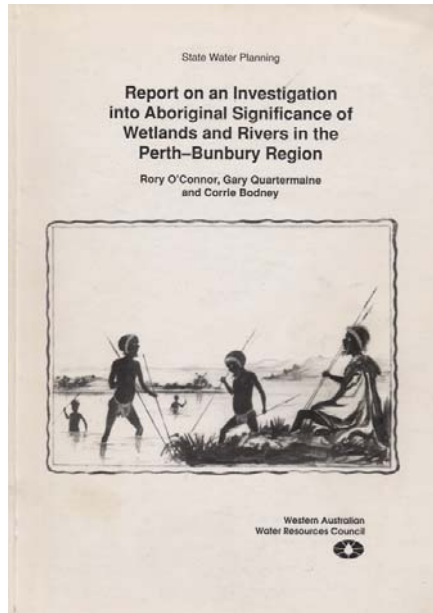
- 4. Sharing Power
 - The airport wetlands need to be better managed and protected, possibly in an expanded State foothills regional park, possibly as part of the Swan River regional park
 - To better protect eastern hills high biodiversity natural springs and upper slope swamp or escarpment wetlands, they might be considered for nomination to the EPA's currently unused South West Agricultural Zone Wetlands EPP protocol

A more inclusive and encompassing foothills regional park is required to be planned and implemented

COMMUNITY
CAPACITY AND
SUPPORT

Eg training, retention and attraction of volunteers

5. Protected Areas and Indigenous Rangers
 - When conserving biodiversity in Kalamunda we are continuing to look after Beeloo country, the country of the mungyte or nectar people
 - We can ensure special areas are simply and quietly protected
 - *Kalamunda might like to seek to employ suitably qualified multi skilled Whadjug Nyoongar Indigenous ranger (s) to become natural and cultural heritage specialists*
 - *These Shire rangers might be located on rotation at the new Kalamunda cultural centre and be asked to liaise, assemble, establish and keep protected area and cultural information and advocate the protection of heritage sites and facilitate celebration of Beeloo cultural heritage in the Shire*



INDIGENOUS
CULTURAL
HERITAGE

Eg using/understanding traditional knowledge, respect of sacred sites

6. Monuments at Risk on Kalamunda, Swan and Mundaring Wetlands

Munday Swamp and the land around airport wetlands and heritage listed Bellevue farm and wetlands have extraordinary heritage and archaeological value (Hallam, 1983; Schwede, 1983) but their values are being rapidly lost

The Eastern Hills Catchment project needs to advocate for the improved protection of Munday Swamp and other key monument wetlands in Bellevue

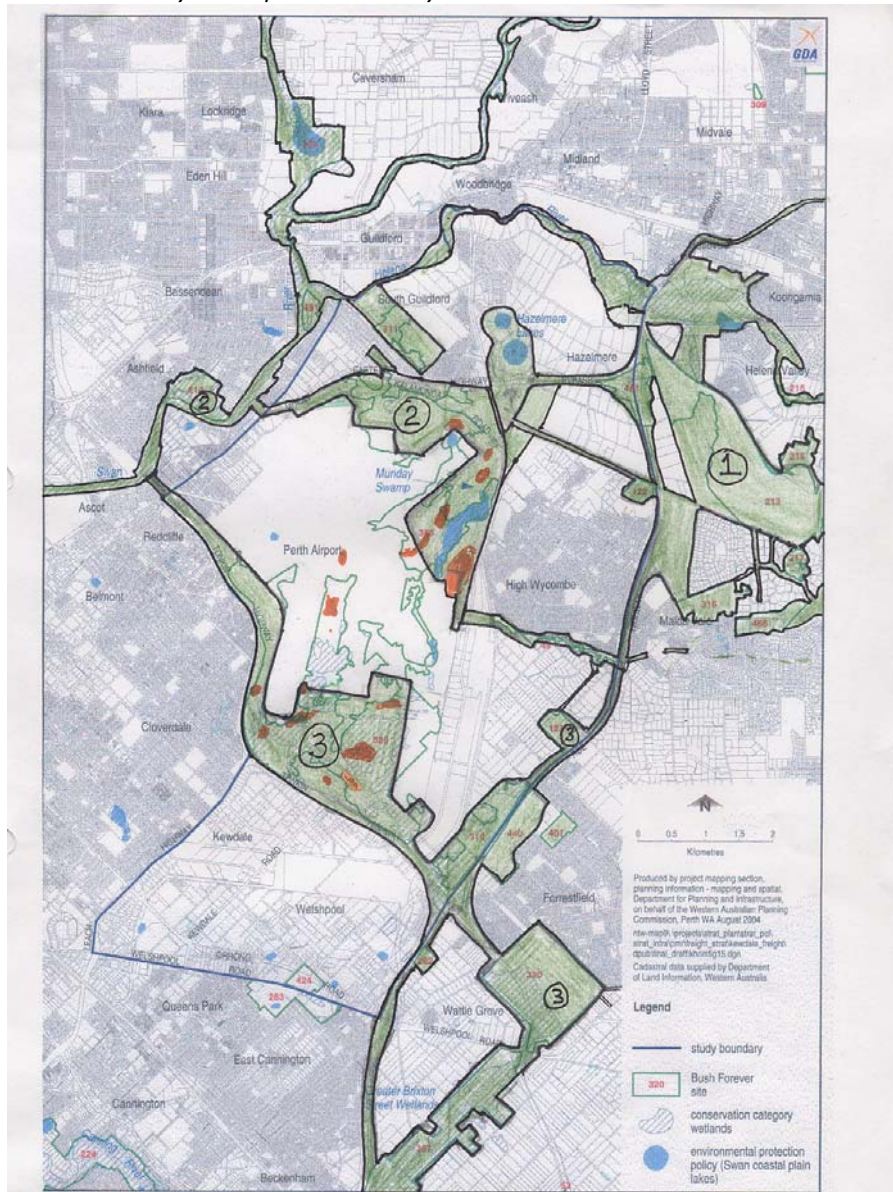


Figure 15 - Environmentally sensitive areas: Kewdale-Hazelmere region

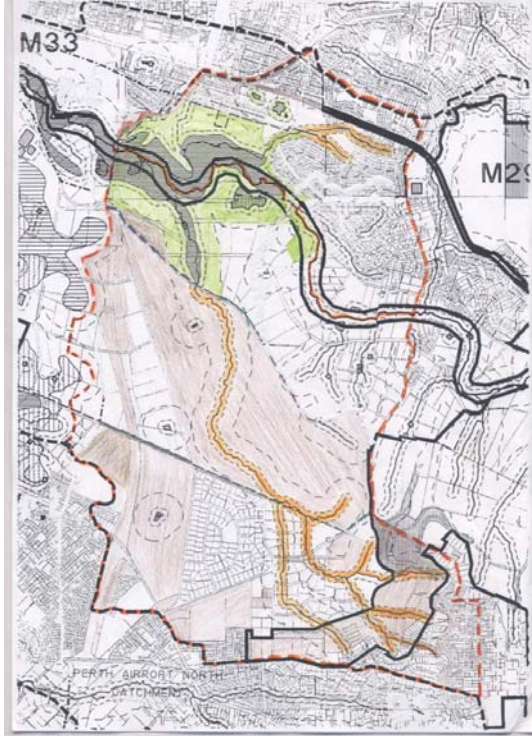
Areas to be managed as Foothills Regional Parks
Limited Areas ①, ②, ③
Hallam (1983) Archaeological sites. (Approx loc) on Airport Surrounds

OTHER

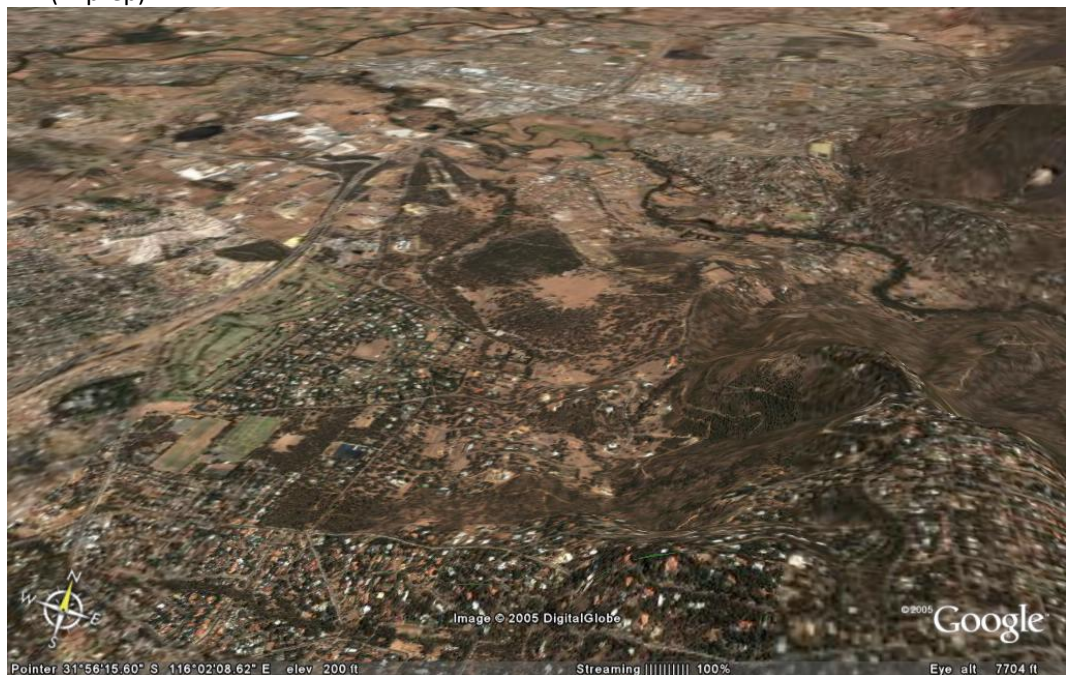
Unique issue in your area

Heritage and Catchments - Bellevue Wetlands, Bushmead, Kadina Brook and the Ridge Hill Catchment, have very high biodiversity (350sp plants, black cockatoo and superb fauna in a rare undisturbed context), and heritage values (Bellevue wetland is Perth's 2nd oldest archaeological site) with State and Federal protective heritage listings

Heritage areas in this catchment needs protecting, particularly the 210 Ha heritage land in 270Ha Bushmead after the recent sale. Require addition needs to occur as soon as possible of Bellevue Farm, Kadina Brook foreshore and the 210Ha Bushmead Commonwealth and National heritage listed land into the Swan River Park or the Darling Range regional Park



Hill (in prep)

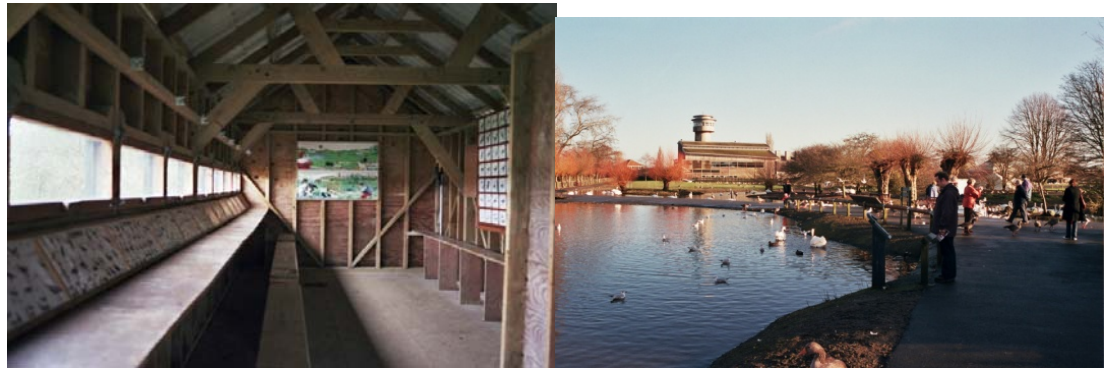


Recreation and Reconciliation

- *There is a need to implement a rejuvenated and signposted cultural trail network across Kalamunda, referring to old Nyoongar sites and trails; supporting the Shire biodiversity strategy, wildlife corridor strategy and district conservation park proposal. These links need to be secured for wildlife and the next generations of people to continue to walk*

This might include the railway reserves and waterways as linear reserves and wildlife corridors with links across Shire boundaries and make links to the Helena River and John Forest National Park in the Shires of Swan and Mundaring at Bellevue; along the waterways and through the turtle wetlands in the airport land, Kalamunda road swamp and soldier swamp at Guildford to the Swan River, and to Gosnells and Cannington along Brixton St wetland chains and Yule Brook and other waterways to the Canning River

We need to establish wetland centres with walktrail links to wetlands with bird hides in the eastern metropolitan region. Simple hide design is readily available from Britain's RSPB. Use of the well located bird hides after walking along linked trails might occur at the turtle swamp wetlands of Bellevue farm Wetland (and a Munjalline wetland heritage centre), Bellevue clay pits (also to be recognised as Yagan Lake after Midgegooroo history), Hazelmere Lakes, and with alternative design hides at Soldier Swamp, and Kalamunda Road Swamp.



An RSPB hide in Pulborough 2006 Photo Alan Hill, The WWT Slimbridge Wetland Centre 2006 Photo Alan Hill

Please return this questionnaire to Victoria.Lowe@perthregionnrm.com. For any further information, please do not hesitate to call Victoria on 9374 3325 (Business hours), or 0466 744 967.