



To:- Eastern Broadacre Consultation
Planning Services Branch
ACT Planning and Land Authority
GPO Box1908, Canberra, ACT 2601

Submission:- Planning the Eastern Broadacre Area. A discussion paper.

The National Parks Association of the ACT Inc.(NPAACT) wishes to thank ACT Planning and Land Authority for the opportunity to comment on this Discussion Paper.

General Comments.

- A foundation for planning in the Eastern Broadacre region should be that areas of endangered Temperate Native Grassland or Yellow Box Red Gum Grassy Woodland, or areas with a role in connectivity between conservation areas are not to be considered for development.
- Areas identified for conservation or as potential reserves in the Eastern Broadacre discussion paper should be reserved and/or managed for conservation immediately and not left to degrade through neglect.
- The riparian zones of the Molonglo River, Woolshed Creek and Jerrabomberra Creek should be restored to enhance biodiversity, provide habitat and improve wildlife corridors.
- The Temperate Native Grassland north of the airport should not be fragmented by roads.

Comments on investigation areas.

Area A.

NPAACT supports the proposition that the area remains zoned as broadacre use and the parcel of land to the west (fig. 8) proposed for nature reserve be gazetted as soon as possible. Area A is part of an important north south and east west habitat link and land management agreements should reflect this.

Area B.

This area contains remnant woodland trees with hollows, possible Superb Parrot habitat. The parrot is a Commonwealth EPBC Act listed species. These trees should be conserved and allowed to regenerate.

Area C.

The roadways –“Potential Kowen link”, “Potential Northern Kowen link” and “Potential Southern Kowen Connection” (fig 8) although described as “conceptual” (page 28, 6.1. line 2) are an expression of thinking around what will be needed to link the future Kowen development to Eastern Canberra. These roads if built would fragment an important ACT Temperate Native Grasslands(“TNG”) ecosystem with a potentially severe impact on threatened grassland reptile and insect species. Now is the time to start thinking of Kowen access options which avoid the grasslands.

The area of grassland to the west (fig. 8) proposed for nature reserve should be gazetted as soon as possible

Any development should include the restoration of the Woolshed Ck riparian zone.

Area D.

NPAACT supports the preparation of a master plan for Pialligo and the need to maintain the landscape values of the river corridor.

Area E.

This area abuts the Molonglo River corridor and the discussion paper includes a preliminary proposal for a road link between the south end of Fyshwick and the Airport including a new river crossing. The river corridor with a restored riparian zone of fringing trees and understory would improve the habitat link between Jerrabomberra wetlands and Area F. The fragment of TNG can only be protected by an adequate buffer.

Area F.

The river corridor and adjacent woodland in this area is part of an important north south habitat link between Majura Valley through the Newline Quarry woodland and river corridor to the Jerrabomberra Valley. The river corridor is also a east west habitat link between Jerrabomberra wetlands and Molonglo Gorge, it should be enhanced by a 100m buffer on both sides of the Molonglo River and a restored riparian zone.

Area G.

The NPAACT opposes any development in this area.

As indicated in Sections 4.8 and 5.2 of the paper, this area contains populations of the endangered Earless Dragon. There is little remaining unfragmented Temperate Native Grassland ecosystem in the ACT. Any development of roads or other infrastructure in area G would have a long term negative impact on the sustainability of the Earless Dragon in the Bonshaw precinct

Area H.

NPAACT supports the recommendation which would increase the area of land around Callum Brae N R managed for conservation. This includes blocks 18/102, and the eastern section of 14/102 Symonston. The eastern section of 15/102 Symonston and 2232 Jerrabomberra could also be included and managed for conservation.

Another parcel of land in Area H but not mentioned in this discussion paper is the former zoo site on Narrabundah Lane. This land has remnant lowland woodland trees and eucalypt regeneration and is part of the Callum Brae ecosystem. It could be restored and become part of the nature reserve.

Area I .

The NPAACT does not support any further development in this area. The parcel of land west of Mugga Lane has moderately modified Yellow Box Red Gum Grassy Woodland (Action Plan 27) and should be incorporated into the Mt. Mugga Mugga Nature Reserve. The quarry precinct east of Mugga Lane includes a safety zone around the quarry. This zone has Yellow Box Red Gum Grassy Woodland and is contiguous with Callum Brae Nature Reserve. It has ecological value as part of the conservation estate in Area H and should not be part of any future development when the quarry ceases to operate.

Area J.

The NPAACT does not support any further development in this area.

The land parcels west of Mugga Lane should become part of the Issacs Ridge or Wanniasa Hills Nature Reserves. The land around the Southcare base is part of an east west habitat link across the Jerrabomberra Valley.

Should you wish to discuss this further please contact Clive Hurlstone

(m 0407783422) or email cjhurls@bigpond.net.au or admin@npaact.org.au

Yours sincerely



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. H. L.', is centered within a light gray rectangular box. A vertical black line is positioned to the left of the signature, extending from the text 'Yours sincerely' down to a horizontal red line that spans the width of the box.

National Parks Association of the ACT inc.
28 November 2010