

Jan Sheppard

From: Indi Pol <indipol.australia@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 30 April 2021 3:09 PM
To: wtc@wtc.tas.gov.au
Subject: I2021159677 - Representation regarding Draft Local Provisions Schedule
Attachments: Sandberg_park_SwPtRd_with_native_hens_smallpic.jpg

Dear West Tamar Council,

I would like to lodge a representation regarding the council's draft Local Provisions Schedule.

It is relation to PID 7483965 (also known as CT34968/1). I often walk in the Swan Point area and have noticed of a morning, especially in Winter, the number of birds feeding on the grass area of this property. Unlike much of the other property in the area, it is relatively sunny even in the early morning. Quite likely too, it appears that the grass is relatively uncontaminated by insecticide sprays apart from along the roadside fence which quite likely has chemical sprays from council's roadside spraying and draining from backyards of various residences in the street. The owner of PID 7483965 seems to periodically drip undiluted herbicide along the front boundary fence though haven't seen such dispersal of herbicide interior to the property.

I've attached a photo taken this morning which shows the native hen that routinely eat on the property as there are no dogs roaming on it. The property also has historic value by virtue of being parkland maintained by former orchardist Carl Sandberg who lived up until 1980 at 2 Foreshore Rd Swan Point in historic house, "Killara". The trees which Carl Sandberg planted on the property (PID 7483965) are among the oldest in the area still standing. They provide excellent habitat for wildlife especially on cold nights in Winter.

One might argue that the pictured native hens could just go and eat on another front lawn. However there aren't really any other front lawns, particularly of that size. Boundary fences keep bandicoots out of properties and stop native hen as well. Dogs in yards deter them. The question I put to Council's planning department is "just where else in the area can these native hen be realistically expected to eat in Winter".

It would be good too if there could be some controls put on burning fallen trees, or branches from trees which have been growing in the area. The concern that I have is that the historical orchard use of the area will have contributed to higher levels of arsenic in the wood of trees which have grown around these former orchard areas. Lead arsenate was used as an insecticide by orchardists in Tasmania prior to the availability of DDT in the 1950s. When such wood from trees grown around ex-orchard areas is burnt, the arsenic will be released just as would happen when burning old-style treated pine. The wildlife are right in the midst of this smoke 24/7. And it seems unfair given they have no choice but to remain in their habitat while this is happening.

Winter-time is always tough for wildlife and sunny paddocks which aren't roamed by dogs, are not so common. Most property owners want some return from their property especially if they don't live on it and hence need to pay State land tax.

I think a Scenic Protection Code of Scenic Road Corridor should be put on PID 7483965 to protect the look and feel of Swan Point Rd. History is otherwise easily erased and many folk from the West Tamar would have fond memories of Summer trips to Swan Point and Paper Beach beach areas.

Best regards,
Peter
indipol.australia@gmail.com

