

From: "President Launceston Field Nats" <president@lfnc.org.au>
Sent: Fri, 17 Sep 2021 23:08:37 +1000
To: "Contact Us" <contactus@launceston.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Representation on the Launceston Draft LPS - Launceston Field Naturalists Club Inc

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Attention: Michael Stretton, CEO, City of Launceston

Launceston Field Naturalists Club Inc is the owner of the 63.0 ha conservation property on six titles in the Launceston municipality at 2 Myrtle Bank Road, Myrtle Bank, (PID 3248765, Title Refs. 207097/1, 204200/2, 50171/1, 235111/1, 50171/2 and 87114/2).

As the current President of the Club I am authorised to represent the Club on this matter.

In the currently exhibited Launceston Draft Local Provisions Schedule our property has been rezoned as Rural.

A majority of the property is covered by the 35.5 ha Skemps Myrtle Bank Reserve protected by conservation covenant and has therefore been identified by both the State and Commonwealth Governments for the protection and conservation of the biodiversity it contains.

As the majority of the property is private reserve and the non-reserved parts are not used for agriculture, the Tasmanian Planning Commission Guideline No 1 indicates that our property should be rezoned to Landscape Conservation.

That part of the property not covenanted is natural bushland, revegetated areas and open land which was cleared for farming early last century. The property was donated to the LFNC after the death of the owner John Skemp, for the use of the Field Naturalists, and for the purpose of appreciating our natural history. None of the area is used, or intended to be ever used, for farming or other rural activities. The area includes original farm buildings and the site of the original house, pigsty, etc - all cared for by our Club volunteers.

The land within and outside the covenants contains rare or threatened plants, wedge-tailed eagles are a common visitor and we have recorded Tasmanian devils and native quolls. It contains the rare *Charopidae* sp. "*Skemps*" (Skemps snail) listed in Schedule 5 of the *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995*.

Skemps Creek contains platypus and there are wet areas where the local Mt Arthur Burrowing Crayfish *Engaeus orramakunna* have a healthy habitat.

In its representation Conservation Landholders Tasmania has presented a detailed case for rezoning our property. We support their case and our Club agrees to our property being rezoned to **Landscape Conservation**.

Could you please acknowledge receipt of our representation?

Yours sincerely

Prue Wright

President, Launceston Field Naturalists Club

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