

From: Michael Garner
Sent: Mon, 16 Nov 2020 15:12:41 +1100
To: Huon Valley Council
Subject: Submission on PSA2/2017 and Sub36/2017 Channel Highway Cygnet

This proposed subdivision will have an impact on the local Black Swan, *Cygnus atratus* population for which the township was named after.

Historically Port Cygnet was renowned for its large and obvious Black Swan population .

Due to continuous development and disturbance over the past 100 years or so the numbers of local Black Swan is vastly reduced. There are regular sightings of very low numbers of swans in the vicinity of Port Cygnet now.

The lower half of this subdivision is used by our local swans to graze and rest .

If this is developed for housing, which usually means including fencing, power lines , pets etc the swans will be displaced from this area, which then puts pressure on the swans to find suitable habitat elsewhere.

Cygnet does not want to lose its icon bird. How embarrassing to explain to visitors/ tourist that there are none to be seen or a very low chance of a sighting because we have closed off their habitat.

A sensible solution is to have a much deeper and larger public open space forming a buffer between the housing development and the boundary of the Port Cygnet Conservation Area. This may assist in the local swans staying local and by giving them pasture areas to graze upon near the safety of the water body.

To this end there should be strict conditions placed on pet control especially cats being confined and dogs on leads at all times.

Michael Garner
Former Senior Ranger PWS

Sent from my iPad