

From: Leonie Mackay <Leonie.Mackay@tr.qld.gov.au>
Date: Fri, 2 Jul 2021 at 15:56
Subject: Re: presentation to Council by Dr Christine Hosking
To: hkrenske@gmail.com <hkrenske@gmail.com>

Dear Hugh

Thank you for your correspondence dated 08 June 2021 in relation to the *Toowoomba & Lockyer Valley Escarpment Mountain Bike Master Plan* and your request for consideration of a presentation by Dr Christine Hosking regarding the potential effects of mountain biking on fragile landscapes.

In 2020 an environmental consultancy firm, Redleaf Environmental were engaged by Council to undertake a comprehensive environmental assessment of Jubilee and Redwood Parks as part of works related to the progression of the Toowoomba & Lockyer Valley Escarpment Mountain Bike Master Plan. Stage 1 environmental assessment work is scheduled to be finalised by July 2021, comprising of desktop surveys and field work focusing on flora. Stage 1 works also included key stakeholder consultation with local environmental groups and key Council personnel to obtain local knowledge of the park's environmental values (flora and fauna) to support and inform Redleaf Environmental research. Thank you for your contribution of your knowledge and expertise to the workshop held in April 2021 to support the environmental assessment works currently underway.

Stage 2 of the environmental assessment of Jubilee and Redwood Park is expected to be completed between July 2021 and early 2022. Stage 2 will focus on fauna and will involve desktop and field survey work, cultural heritage assessment and key stakeholder consultation activities. Once Stage 2 environmental assessment works are completed community engagement will progress to inform key stakeholders of the outcomes of the environmental assessment project and how the findings impact on the Master Plan's proposed trail network. For example, survey outcomes of the flora and fauna studies could result in trail realignments or trail removals is needed to address any actual or perceived impact on important flora or fauna. The environmental assessment report including any impacts on the network of trails proposed (eg. If removal or realignments of trails are needed) will also be publicly available on Council's website in early 2022.

Opportunity remains for Dr Hosking to consult directly with Redleaf Environmental so that her knowledge and expertise can contribute to the environmental assessment work currently been undertaken for the Master Plan. In a recent discussion meeting with Redleaf Environmental they have advised that they have not received any submissions from Dr Hosking during the recent April 2021 key stakeholder consultation. I have requested staff to ensure that Redleaf contact Dr Hosking so that any considerations she wishes to contribute in relation to impacts of mountain biking can be included in the assessment works for Redwood Park.

If you consider that there may be additional benefit in a presentation by Dr Hosking to Councillors the appropriate time to consider this presentation will be at the completion of the current environmental assessment work by Redleaf in early 2022 after the environmental assessment reports are complete and are ready to be presented to Councillors.

Regards, Leonie Mackay
on behalf of

Micheal Condren

Manager Parks and Recreation Services

Parks and Recreation Services