## **Patrick Copas**

From:

**Sent:** Thursday, 25 February 2021 2:35 PM **To:** DPE PS Industry Assessments Mailbox

**Cc:** Patrick Copas

**Subject:** West Culburra Concept Proposal SSD 3846

I object to the above development proposal at West Culburra for the following reasons:

## 1. Habitat degradation for declining species.

The removal of 47 hectares of lowland coastal forest will lead to further declines of already threatened species, including powerful owls, glossy black cockatoos, and other fauna. Nearby Lake Wollumboola has already had massive declines in migratory shorebirds over the last twenty years. Whilst this development proposal does not impinge directly on the lake catchment, the 47 hectares of forest forms an important part of a habitat corridor which extends north to the Crookhaven River Wetlands. Removal of this forest further reduces the prospect that migratory shorebirds will successfully breed and fledge. So the forest destruction will adversely affect both endangered forest birds and endangered shorebirds.

## 2. Coastal Wetland degradation.

This proposal further encircles Curley's Bay which is already surrounded by suburban development on 50% of it's shoreline. It will further degrade the mangroves in the Coastal Wetlands along the Crookhaven River. This has implications for the breeding of numerous aquatic species which rely on mangrove ecosystems for growth. It will thus also indirectly adversely affect the local fishing and oyster industries.

## 3. Wider environmental degradation caused by larger human population.

The proposed 244 'low density' lots are capable of providing 293 dwellings. This will lead to a potential trebling of the population of Culburra, which is already a sprawling suburb. This will inevitably have a damaging impact on the wider environment for threatened species, as well as for current human residents of Culburra and Orient Point.

I trust that the assessing committee will reject this greedy, environmentally destructive proposal.

