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August 3 2020

To: Gordon Clark [Strategic Planning Manager] & Kelie Clarke [Manager Environmental Services] Shoalhaven City Council

Dear Gordon & Kelie

At the BirdLife Shoalhaven [BLS] Committee Meeting of July 31 the various Shoalhaven Urban wetlands were discussed and a decision taken to inform you of our strong support for such positive habitat creation for birds in new residential developments.

The wetlands considered were the Bada Wetland at Burrill Lake, the Twin Waters Lake at Worrigee and the smaller Bayswood Pond system.

Our committee and many members and supporters are very familiar with the considerable diversity of birds attracted to these sites, including Threatened Species. BLS members actually record birds seen at various times on the national Birdata App. It is also our observation that all areas are very popular with residents, walkers and visitors and the birds contribute to the passive recreation at these sites.

In view of the substantial loss of habitat in residential developments the inclusion of such nature areas is even more appropriate and valuable though we would add that the creation of park and garden type microhabitats is also very valuable. BLS trusts that such areas will be an inclusion in all new development sites.

Chris Grounds

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Birdlife Shoalhaven acknowledges the Aboriginal people of the Shoalhaven, their care of country, birds and habitat and pays respects to all Elders.