

CONCLUSION

By Tony Fowler

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After working in the air at Perth Airport for 25 years, now I am working on the ground. As a member of the Nature Reserves Preservation Group I am helping in rehabilitation of creek lines entering the wetlands at Perth Airport. As a community member I am giving my personal impression of the seminar.

First of all, I am impressed by the breadth of expertise gathered together for this seminar. On the other hand, I am not impressed by the past and current exclusion of bodies like the Urban Bushland Council from the appeals process on decisions made by the federal Transport Minister. Also I am not impressed by the past lack of consultation with concerned community groups and the lack of consultation between agencies at federal and state level.

There are several positive outcomes of this seminar that I can list:

- Attendance by representatives from the Westralia Airports Corporation (WAC)
- Knowledge that the Environmental Strategy Section has been formed by the WAC
- WAC's proposal to establish an Environmental Consultative Committee
- WAC's acknowledgement of failings of past practices and intention of rectifying them
- Reinforcement of the importance of Munday Swamp
- Ability of different groups to network and exchange ideas in formulating strategies

This seminar was very informative and enabled us to fully understand the topic, all the issues relating to Perth Airport bushland.

What needs to be done? I can see a need for not considering the airport wetlands in isolation since they are so sensitive to 'outside' urban pressure. More effective co-operation among all stakeholders, including the local government, is needed.

Perhaps, we also need to examine ways of preventing the repetition of the episode with the Administrative Appeals Tribunal. Will we need to lobby for legislative changes?

Thank you for the worthwhile seminar.