

Inquiry into Auditor General Report No.202: Meeting Obligations to Protect Ramsar Wetlands (2016)

Mr Tim Frazer

CONTACT DETAILS

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Organisation Name:

Your position or role:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

The Mallacoota Lake System was recently opened by the East Gippsland Water Catchment Authority by force from Local Businesses/ East Gippsland Shire Council without following the Guidelines in place. The Wetlands of Howe Flat have been recognised for decades in documents/ studies in particular Neville Rosenthorn. This Wetlands provides the health and coastal dune structure separating the Ocean from the Lake.

Over the recent period of closure from the ocean the Mallacoota Lake System was able to provide the perfect environment from the breeding of species such as Pelicans that usually are found to migrate to breed. Thousands of Bream were able to breed as the System was full of health and life.

Not one piece of information relating to the health of the system, fish stocks, Wetlands health was used in the need to open the system due to higher levels but still not yet at the set level of successful longevity of staying open.

Businesses/ Council forced their hand bringing about a Lake System that has never been this low for years/ decades/ masses of siltation/ silting up of main boating channels and the draining of fish stocks.

Humans really have lost their interest in the long term health of Priceless Assets like the Mallacoota Lake System/ Wetland. The System wants to be healthy and to provide for us yet we want to destroy it's health, well being and productive nature.

Siltation from Unsustainable Logging by Victorian Government also provides the backdrop of more health decline of the Wetlands System also.

Wetlands are like what trees provide to a System .

The Protection if Wetlands is paramount in the protection of Human Life as it is meant to be travelling in the same direction, unfortunately humans have lost their way and are fixated on greed, short term profit and thinking the Environment can be controlled, this is Unsustainable. Why have Regulations, Regulators, Departments or even Government if greed guides their actions to destruction.

The Future looks grim for the next generations in Mallacoota if the continuation of destruction against these Environmental Assets. Currently Governments are only interested in counting what's Species/ Wetlands are dying or becoming extinct instead of providing the outcomes needed to safeguard them and make them grow.

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?:

Let's hope Change Happens in the best interests of the Environment and Human Health

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