



CAPE PERON TOURIST PRECINCT

Background

The Cape Peron Tourist Precinct is located 3 kilometres west of the Rockingham Beach Commercial Precinct and includes Shoalwater Bay, Mangles Bay, Cape Peron, Rockingham Lakes Regional Park and the Naragebup Environment Centre. The Precinct is adjacent to the freshwater Lake Richmond which contains rare thrombolites. There is both community support for improved tourist and recreation facilities in the project area as well as community concern about the impact of development



Project Outline

A marina based tourism and residential development has been considered for the Cape Peron site for over ten years including a 1998 proposal. The current study was initiated in 2005 by the City of Rockingham in partnership with the South West Corridor Development Foundation, LandCorp, the Rockingham Development Office and the Department for Planning and Infrastructure.

A project report was completed in December 2006 which identified two viable options containing enhanced aquatic club facilities with 200 pens, a commercial marina with berths for over 250 boats, a marina village, a fisherman's' wharf, education training and research facilities and a tourist precinct. The project was expected to generate a present value economic impact of over \$500 million.

Current Status

The December 2006 Project Report is with State Government for consideration to proceed to the next stage of environmental studies and to consider other enhancements to the Cape Peron Tourist Precinct. There is expected to be a further three years of environmental assessment before the project can be considered for environmental approval. Studies into the hydrogeological connection to Lake Richmond, acid sulphate soils and seagrass remediation are the highest priorities.

Opportunities

The development of the project will provide a huge boost to tourism in the region and an enhancement of the existing environmental attractions. The relocation of the Garden Island Causeway and the consequent increase in waterway by expanding the trestle section of the causeway will have a significant impact on the flushing of Cockburn Sound.