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BirdLife Shoalhaven is a branch of BirdLife Australia Limited ABN 75 149 124 774

To:

Mayor Amanda Findley, Councillors and General Manager  
Shoalhaven City Council  
[council@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au)

## SUBMISSION CONCERNING

### SUPPORT FOR NSW PLANNING MINISTER'S INITIATIVES TO RESOLVE GOLF COURSE DA 11/1728 LAKE WOLLUMBOOLA.

from  
BirdLife Shoalhaven [BLS]  
DECEMBER 13 2016

BirdLife Shoalhaven (BLS) advocates for the conservation of birds and their habitats and promotes the appreciation and understanding of birds across the Shoalhaven and beyond. BLS is a branch of BirdLife Australia Limited, an independent, not-for-profit organization, which was established in 1901 and currently has over 12,000 members and 70,000 supporters.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Dunn".

Rob Dunn  
President BirdLife Shoalhaven  
[president@birdlifeshoalhaven.org](mailto:president@birdlifeshoalhaven.org)  
0438 250600

*Chris Grounds*

Chris Grounds  
Conservation Officer BLS  
[solum306@gmail.com](mailto:solum306@gmail.com)  
0401137158

## **1.0 RECOMMENDATION**

**1.1 BLS members urge Councillors to accept and support the actions of the NSW Minister for Planning, Hon. Rob Stokes, to resolve the Golf Course DA11/1728 with regard to the potential call-in of the golf course application at Long Bow Point and the overwhelming evidence of the likely adverse impacts of the proposed golf course on lake ecology.**

## **2.0 SUPPORTING COMMENT**

2.1 BLS understand that the NSW Minister for Planning, the Hon Rob Stokes, sought and has been advised by the Planning Assessment Commission that the golf course DA 11/1728 at Long Bow Point Lake Wollumboola Culburra Beach is State Significant, leaving the way open for the Minister to call in the application and to decide it.

2.2 Birdlife Shoalhaven has previously conveyed its strong objections to Council regarding the proposed golf course development at Long Bow Point, recognising Lake Wollumboola's international significance for birds and its high sensitivity to pollution of surface and ground water from its catchment.

2.3 The NSW Office of Environment and Heritage 2013 Report advised that the Lake's ecosystem would suffer "catastrophic" consequences and would "never recover" from impacts of development, particularly from a golf course at Long Bow Point.

2.4 Previous Councils have sought to have Long Bow Point zoned to enable a golf course to be approved despite this evidence and unanimous long term expert advice. This risky strategy not only threatens this sensitive and unique environment but also the social and economic well-being of Culburra Beach and the wider Shoalhaven given the nature and Aboriginal cultural tourism potential associated with the Lake and its birdlife.

2.5 Such benefits far outweigh the claimed benefits of a golf course. In any case the Determination for the Halloran Planning Proposal currently under consideration for the Halloran Trust lands at Culburra Beach provides for investigation of alternative sites for a golf course outside the Lake catchment.

2.6 The NSW Department of Planning and Environment has advised Council that as an outcome of the Planning Proposal, Long Bow Point is to be zoned for environment protection. Shoalhaven City Council should accept and support this policy as beneficial to the Shoalhaven and the entire State and not stand in the way of the Minister's actions regarding Lake Wollumboola and the golf course DA.

2.7 Birdlife Shoalhaven will be advising Minister Stokes and the Hon Shelley Hancock, Member for South Coast and Speaker of the NSW Legislative Assembly of our support for the Government's position.

**Chris Grounds** <solum306@gmail.com> 11:03 AM (1 minute ago)

to Council, Amanda

DECEMBER 15 2016

To:  
Shoalhaven City Council  
Mayor A Findley  
Councillors and  
General Manager Mr R Pigg

Please find attached for your attention a submission concerning the Lake Wollumboola DA11/1728.



**Council Email** 11:03 AM (1 minute ago)

to me

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# Thank you for your email

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**Chris Grounds** <[solum306@gmail.com](mailto:solum306@gmail.com)> 11:30 AM (4 minutes ago)

to southcoast

DECEMBER 15 2016

To:  
Minister for Planning  
Hon. Rob Stokes  
and  
Member for South Coast  
Hon. Shelley Hancock

I am writing on behalf of BirdLife Shoalhaven to inform you of a submission our organization has made to Shoalhaven Council, the Mayor, all Councillors and the General Manager concerning the Golf Course DA11/1728 as it involves Lake Wollumboola.

That submission is attached.

We are aware that you both appreciate the significance of this matter and this DA. Our submission, as you will see, is seeking support from Shoalhaven Council for the Minister's actions.

Yours  
Christopher Grounds  
Conservation Officer  
BirdLife Shoalhaven  
[solum306@gmail.com](mailto:solum306@gmail.com)