

From: Diane Robbins

Sent: Monday, 18 June 2018 2:47 PM

To: projects.dhelkunyadja; lily.dambrosio_parliament.vic

Subject: Dja Dja Wurrung Land Management proposal - my personal submission

To Whom It May Concern, this is my personal submission (and plea) regarding the above proposal.

My name is Diane L Robbins and I am a member of PMAV West Gippsland branch. I have completed the Graduate Diploma of Cultural Heritage at Deakin University and understand many of the issues at hand.

I accompany my husband Simon on trips when he goes fossicking for gold. We so love spending time in the bush - it makes us feel grounded and settled and at peace with ourselves and the world - just for a short time anyway! It would be so disappointing if we were not able to enter some of the areas that we have to date been permitted to go. We have our Victorian Miner's right and always abide by the rules.

Many of the PMAV members that we are now friends with are retired men & women who also just love being with each other for a few days in the bush. They largely seem to be caring and sensitive people. They are particularly caring about our bush and treat it as if it were their own backyard.

I am particularly convinced that they, like myself, also respect the history of the landscape, both natural and man-made, indigenous and colonial. At our recent meeting, I was so pleased to see the show of hands of members who were prepared to undergo further education of indigenous cultural heritage site sensitivity in order to ensure that Koori history is protected for all of Australia's (and beyond) future generations.

I feel that by being in the bush, doing our hobbies of prospecting, bird watching, photography etc. we are at the same time a presence that can be utilised for the protection of sensitive sites. Should it be not possible for us to enter these areas, it is quite possible that other people, who are not so considerate and understanding, will take it upon themselves to destroy all those things that we hold dear and close to our hearts - the natural flora and fauna, the landscape and our combined histories.

Please consider my submission seriously.

Kind regards,

Diane Robbins, Dip Education (Monash) & Grad Dip Cultural Heritage (Deakin)

Note: Personal Contact details redacted for on-line publishing.