



18 February 2025

Biodiversity Coordination Unit
Department for Environment and Water
GPO Box 1047
ADELAIDE SA 5001
E: biodiversityact@sa.gov.au

To whom it may concern

Coorong District Council – Submission regarding South Australia’s Draft Biodiversity Bill

At its Ordinary meeting held on Tuesday, 18 February 2025, Coorong District Council resolved to provide the following feedback in relation to South Australia’s draft Biodiversity Bill:

044/25 CR. JJ PIETZSCH – SOUTH AUSTRALIA’S DRAFT BIODIVERSITY BILL

Moved Cr. Arthur, Sec. Cr. Rowntree that Council opposes the following elements of the Biodiversity Act:

- Inclusion of Algae and Fungi in the definition of Plant” if further consideration is not given to broadening the savings provisions in the Act.
- The definition of “Native Plant” to include those not indigenous to South Australia but indigenous to Australia as a whole.
- The introduction of the protection of planted “Native Plants” once they reached a lifespan of 20 years.
- The removal of the “Unprotected Species List” currently found in the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972.

Coorong District Council’s members are concerned that the 20-year rule for protection of planted ‘native plants’ would have a detrimental effect on farms, taking away the owners’ ability to manage their land as time goes by, and would discourage planting of native trees due to concerns around not being able to remove them at a later stage as farm priorities change (i.e., new laneways, yard expansion etc.). It is also noted that under the new proposed definition this would include plants indigenous to anywhere in Australia.

Council is also concerned that the removal of the unprotected species list would mean that dealing with overabundant species such as Little Corellas would

██████████ ██████████ ██████████████████ ██████████████████ ██████████████████	██████████████████ ██████████████████ ██████████████████ ██████████████████	██████████████████ ██████████████████ ██████████████████	██████████████████ ██████████████████ ██████████████████
--	--	--	--

require a ministerial declaration that they can be controlled, adding another layer of red tape. The current system works well, allowing for the control of issue species. Council is also concerned that the new bill appears to take away the protections/ability to control snakes and magpies when feeling threatened by those animals.

We thank you for your consideration of the matters raised above and await with interest the outcome of the consultation.

[REDACTED]

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