



Friends of Willunga Basin inc.

18 February 2025

Susan Close MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Climate, Environment and Water
biodiversityact@sa.gov.au

Dear Minister

RE: Friends of Willunga Basin Submission to the Draft Biodiversity Bill (SA)

Friends of Willunga Basin (FOWB), a long-standing community organisation concerned with planning and environmental matters is in strong support of the introduction of a Biodiversity Act for South Australia. Biodiversity loss, alongside Climate Breakdown are recognised by FOWB as an extreme and existential threat to this dry state's natural world, the ecosystems on which life depends and its people. We as a community must require our lawmakers to recognise the crucial importance of protecting, caring for and restoring where possible the biodiverse world on which we depend. A specific Act is required.

FOWB is aware of great shortcomings in the State's funding and resourcing of the Department of Environment and Water and other Government agencies involved in impacts on the natural world, leading to greater loss of our precious biodiversity – this needs to be reversed and an appropriate Act should assist in this. Cries from some parties for the 'cutting of green tape' should be better resisted if an appropriate act is in place.

FOWB does not have the expertise or resources to make a detailed submission on the proposed detail of biodiversity protection legislation in the draft Bill, but as members we endorse the submission made by the Community Alliance of South Australia and the concerns raised therein. A response via the survey will also be made on behalf of FOWB.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted contact information]