

Elizabeth Fox

From: Woolfrey, Nicholas [Nicholas.Woolfrey@dec.wa.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 16 February 2010 9:36 AM
To: Van Leeuwen, Stephen; 'Elizabeth Fox'
Cc: 'Melanie Barter'; Jones, Anthea; Wilson, Phillipa; Valentine, Hayley
Subject: RE: Marillana PER - night parrots

Thanks Stephen

Melanie- In light of Stephen's comments, DEC considers this aspect of our previous advice regarding the night parrot closed and no further work is required.

Regards

Nicholas (Nic) Woolfrey
Principal Coordinator / Area Manager - North
Conservation Asset Protection and Industry Liaison
Environmental Management Branch
Nature Conservation Division
Department of Environment & Conservation
Phone 9334 0130 Fax 9334 0140

From: Van Leeuwen, Stephen
Sent: Monday, 15 February 2010 5:01 PM
To: 'Elizabeth Fox'
Cc: 'Melanie Barter'; Woolfrey, Nicholas; Jones, Anthea; Wilson, Phillipa; Valentine, Hayley
Subject: RE: Marillana PER - night parrots

Elizabeth

As discussed on the telephone last week I suspect it is highly unlikely that the Night Parrot will be present in the spinifex-hummock grasslands at the base of the Hamersley Range on the south side of the Fortescue Marsh within the footprint of the Marillana project area. From what we know of the Night Parrot in this locality, based on previous records, this parrot has been recorded in very close proximity to the Marsh and inhabits the samphire and lignum community and fringing hummock grassland of the Marsh proper. I suggest that the Marillana project area is too far removed from the Marsh to provide suitable habitat.

I suspect the likelihood of impact on this species from the Marillana project will be negligible unless off-site impact such as changes in hydrological regime at some stage in the future impact on areas closer to the Marsh. I temper this comment with reference to the uncertainty surrounding this parrot, its ecology and movement patterns. Perhaps in an extremely good season the parrot may use the mulga woodland and hummock grassland of the Marillana project area however at this stage there is no way to quantify this proposition and I suspect the risk would be minimal.

Regards

Stephen

Dr Stephen van Leeuwen
Biogeography Program Leader & Partnerships Manager
Woodvale Research Centre
Science Division
Department of Environment and Conservation
PO Box 51
WANNEROO WA 6946
AUSTRALIA
Phone: +61 8 9405 5169, Fax: +61 8 9306 1641
Mobile: 0438 757 556
Satphone: 0420 102 667
Email: stephen.vanleeuwen@dec.wa.gov.au