

NEW NATIVE HABITAT TO REPLACE PINE TREES



A woodland habitat with a maintained edge for mower grass



Typical creekline habitat with reeds and a shrub layer which provides natural habitat for native fauna



River Riparian Zone

Dear Resident

I am writing to provide you an update on the Aleppo pine trees which inhabit the Lower Field River at Hallett Cove.

Council decided at its meeting on 27 October to remove the non-native trees in stages over six years and revegetate the site around Cormorant Drive Reserve.

The pines are providing food and shelter for some varieties of birds, including the Yellow Tailed Black Cockatoo. However, the trees are preventing local native plants from regenerating and excluding many other native birds and other fauna from the area.

Given the sensitive and complex nature of the site, Council engaged experts to provide a comprehensive assessment and plan. An independent review of that advice was also sought from respected biologist Professor Chris Daniels from the University of South Australia.

Removal and revegetation plan

The 34 trees will be removed in stages with those in poorest health to be removed first. A report by an independent arborist concluded that many of the pine trees have poorly formed and defective branch joins, many of the trees are in decline and there is a history of branch failure.

A revegetation plan will work in conjunction with the removal and is designed to create three new native habitats. We're planning for work to start on the plan this month. As part of the work, Council will review the program in three years

Local fauna

The revegetation will provide habitat for native birds and other fauna, and will also provide food sources to replace what is being removed.

Tree pruning

The Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) has inspected the Aleppo Pines, and while they are not a fire risk, they have recommended the bottom three metres of branches be removed as a precaution.

Next steps – on-site community briefing

The community is invited to attend an on-site briefing with our Biodiversity Coordinator Jock Conlon to hear more about the project.

- **Date and time** – Thursday, 19 November, between 4pm-5pm
- **Location** – Meet at the Cormorant Drive bridge, Lower Field River
- **Bookings** – Due to COVID, participants are requested to book to attend the briefing at marion.sa.gov.au/aleppo-pine-briefing

More information

See the reverse of this flyer for where you can obtain further information

Yours sincerely

Fiona Harvey
Manager Operations

Haven for native fauna and flora

The revegetation around Cormorant Drive Reserve will create three native habitat zones that will be a home for local birds:

- A **creek line habitat** dominated by Common Reed and Narrow-leaf Bulrush, with a shrub layer that will attract birds such as the Little Grass Bird and the Australian Reed Warbler.
- An edge of river riparian zone of Red Gum over shrubs along with a stand of **Swamp Paperbark**, which would be suitable for the Nankeen Night Heron in the future.
- A **woodland habitat** on the uphill slope from the river composed of about 30 per cent Eucalyptus trees over shrubs.



Brown Tree Frog



More information:

Please contact Biodiversity Coordinator
Jock Conlon on 8375 6600 or
Jock.Conlon@marion.sa.gov.au



Call Customer Service on
8375 6600



**Read the Council report and
the independent expert advice**

www.marion.sa.gov.au/aleppo-pines



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