



## **DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT**

12<sup>th</sup> September 2006

**DSS14            YESSABAH NATURE RESERVE**  
**FILE: LA23077    APV**

### **SUMMARY:**

Reporting on the proposed transfer of part Reserve 12999 to Yessabah Nature Reserve.



A request has been received from the Parks & Wildlife Division of the Department of Environment & Conservation (DEC) for Council to agree to the transfer of part Reserve 12999 to DEC. Refer [Appendix J](#)

Reserve 12999 is approximately 3 kilometres along Dungay Creek Road and is adjacent to Yessabah Nature Reserve. Portion of the reserve was previously mined for limestone. Kempsey Council has control over the area by way of devolvement under the Local Government Act 1993. The area comprises approximately 7 ha and would be added to the adjoining Yessabah Nature Reserve.

Yessabah Nature Reserve is one of Australia's most significant karst sites. The existing nature reserve does not include all of the limestone and karst features, some of which are situated within the area proposed to be transferred. The preservation of these features is desirable and this can best be undertaken by DEC.

The Department of Lands has agreed to the transfer of part of the Reserve to DEC. DEC is now seeking Council's agreement for the part of the Reserve 12999 shown on the map to be reserved under the National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974 as an addition to Yessabah Nature Reserve.

If Council relinquish control over the reserve, the Department of Lands can arrange for transfer of the land to DEC.

### **REPORT IMPLICATIONS:**

- ***Environmental***

# H - 2

*Transfer of the reserve to DEC would ensure the important karst formations are appropriately managed ensuring conservation of these sites.*

- *Social*

*Nil*

- *Economic (Financial)*

*Nil.*

- *Policy or Statutory*

*Nil.*

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

**That Council relinquish control of that part of Reserve 12999 (Part Lot 7006 DP 1054915) as shown on the attached map.**

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**A P Vermeulen**  
**DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES**