



**Anglesea, Aireys Inlet Society for the
Protection of Flora and Fauna**

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**Standing Committee on the Environment
Inquiry into the Register of Environmental organisations**

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the Inquiry into the Register of Environmental Organisations.

ANGAIR (Anglesea, Aireys Inlet Society for the Protection of Flora and Fauna) believes that it satisfies the requirement to be included on the Register of Environmental Organisations and meets all the compliance requirements.

The Anglesea and Aireys Inlet district is home to 25% of Victoria's flora species (including over 100 different species of orchid) and also more than 100 bird and animal species, some of which are threatened. The aim of ANGAIR is to protect habitats, to conserve biodiversity and to maintain the natural beauty of Anglesea and Aireys Inlet and their local environs.

ANGAIR was established in 1969 and now has over 600 members, many of whom volunteer to assist and support ANGAIR's objectives and activities. ANGAIR has been on the Register of Environmental Organisations since 2002 and relies on (tax exempt) funds from donations, bequests, grants and sales of indigenous plants that it has propagated, to fund its environmental activities which are listed below. In undertaking these activities, ANGAIR works closely with State and Federal government organisations, other organisations including Surf Coast Shire, Coastcare Program, the Great Ocean Road Coastal Committee, and many other community and environmental groups.

Comments on Terms of Reference

ANGAIR believes the current reporting requirements are adequate (dot point 4 in TOR).

We would like to provide the following comments in relation to dot point 3 of the Terms of Reference (activities undertaken and the extent to which they involve on-ground works).

The objectives of ANGAIR are to:

- Protect and restore indigenous vegetation.
- Eradicate noxious and environmental weeds that are threatening indigenous plants and ecosystems.
- Promote awareness that indigenous flora and fauna are protected in their natural habitat.
- Encourage the planting of indigenous species in the area.
- Prevent or minimise environmental pollution.
- Educate the community about our special flora and fauna.
- Respect archaeological and aboriginal relics in the district.
- Encourage children's interest in the natural environment.
- Assist the acquisition of land for conservation purposes.
- Liaise and work cooperatively on conservation issues with private individuals, authorities and organisations.

Activities undertaken by volunteers include:

- * Propagating and planting indigenous plants in the surrounding areas to restore natural habitat.
- * Weekly working bees to eradicate noxious and environmental weeds.
- * Grants- applying, receiving, undertaking projects, monitoring and reporting on outcomes of grants to assist with the above.
- * Providing advice and educating the community about local flora and fauna, including an annual wildflower show. Other monthly activities include nature walks, microscope group and bird walks.
- * Encouraging children's interests in the natural environment by working at local schools to improve the landscape and educating children about local flora and fauna. This activity covers primary, secondary and tertiary students.
- * Liaising with local, state and federal agencies to conserve the local flora and its exceptional biodiversity.
- * Wildlife monitoring.

Some of the current and recent projects associated with ANGAIR include:

- Weed control in local nature reserves working closely with Parks Victoria, Surf Coast Shire and Great Ocean Road Coastal Committee. For example, boneseed and other environmental weed removal in Anglesea Heath and coastal reserves.
- Development and signage on the Anglesea Perimeter Walk, which is frequently used by locals and visitors, providing excellent access to the local scenery, flora and fauna.
- Providing educational and volunteering opportunities for Gordon Institute of Technology students studying for a Diploma in Conservation and Land Management.
- Assisting Parks Vic. to research the ecology of a local rare Grevillea species.
- Educational opportunities for primary and secondary students in the local area.

In summary all of our activities are focussed on environmental outcomes. Many of our activities combine education with on-ground environmental works such as weeding, propagation, planting and monitoring.

Further details on our activities and background information is available on our web site <http://www.angair.org.au> and on ANGAIR Facebook.

Yours Sincerely

David Williams
Hon. Secretary ANGAIR