

Secretary  
Standing Committee on Environment and Heritage  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

13/08/99

Dear Sir/Madam

**RE: SUBMISSION TO STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE**

SUMMARY

- The Australian Society for Limnology (ASL) is a professional society whose focus is the study and management of the inland waters of Australia.
- Our members have considerable expertise relevant to 5 of your 6 terms of reference.
- We would be keen to appear before your enquiry into catchment management.

The Australian Society for Limnology (ASL) is a professional society comprising over 500 members, whose focus is the study and management of the inland waters of Australia. Our members include researchers, managers, engineers, teachers and tertiary level students. As such, we have extensive expertise in the scientific issues affecting Australia's inland waters and considerable management experience among our members. We have developed two policy documents which outline ASL's position on Wetlands and Dryland Rivers, which I enclose for your information.

Our members are vitally interested in the future of Australia's inland waters and see total catchment management as an essential tool in their conservation and rehabilitation. Our members would have particular expertise in addressing the terms of reference listed below.

- The development of catchment management in Australia.
- The value of a catchment approach to the management of the environment.
- Best practice methods of preventing, halting and reversing environmental degradation in catchments, and achieving environmental sustainability.
- Planning, resourcing, implementation, coordination and cooperation in catchment management.
- Mechanisms for monitoring, evaluating and reporting on catchment management programs.

I have been authorised by the President of ASL, Dr Pierre Horwitz, to inform you that we would welcome the opportunity for one or more of us to appear before your enquiry in the event of a hearing. If you would be interested in pursuing this, and for further information about ASL or our policy documents, please contact the Society's Secretary, Dr Richard Marchant (Museum of Victoria, 71 Victoria Crescent, Abbotsford, VIC 3067, Ph. 03 9284 0218, fax 03 9416 0475, email [rmarch@mov.vic.gov.au](mailto:rmarch@mov.vic.gov.au)).

Yours faithfully

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