

Sunshine Coast Waterways Authority Bill 2026

Submission No: 091

Submission By: Gillian Pechey

From: [REDACTED]
To: [State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee](#)
Subject: Submission to the SCWA Bill
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Submission to the SCWA Bill 20th March 2026

Gillian Pechey
[REDACTED]

To whom it may concern,

I am a few minutes over the 12. noon deadline due to searching for a destination for my Submission. My apologies.

SCWA Bill submission

Gillian Pechey [REDACTED]

To whom it may concern,

I thank you for addressing the need for management of traffic and use of coastal waterways and for inviting feedback.

The ecological health of water is my key concern. My main concern is to know how this Act will blend with other legislation. These Acts are very relevant to management of water health: -

Environmental protection Act 1994 and *Water Act 2000*. These Acts must be relevant to the SCWA legislation.

The Bill you are reviewing must take account of:-

Environmental Protection (Water and Wetland Biodiversity) Policy 2019

The purpose of this policy is to achieve the object of the *Environmental Protection Act* in relation to waters and wetlands by:

- identifying environmental values for waters and wetlands
- identifying management goals for waters
- stating water quality guidelines and water quality objectives to enhance or protect the environmental values
- providing a framework for making consistent, equitable and informed decisions about waters
- monitoring and reporting on the condition of waters.

There needs to be open disclosure of how various Acts are placed in order of priority.

Over the history of Sunshine Coast we have seen many examples where the environment has been ignored by development. Planning regulations have been thrown out because they are contrary to a new proposal. Given the condition of our waterway health and the certainty of population growth, I urge you to protect or restore the ecological condition of coastal waterways.

We must anticipate that there will be conflict between projects involving landscape modification and existing ecology. Planning must have a role in managing development decisions.

Scientists predict rising sea levels and likely impacts in low lying coastal regions, but onwards we go putting suburbs where we know in a few decades there will be flooding and then the need for expensive measures to protect the houses.

The make-up of the Board of the SCWA must include people with scientific and environmental qualifications, and people who work in catchment management of all related rivers.

All work of the Authority must be preceded by risk assessment and consideration of *cumulative* assessment.

There must be processes for monitoring and reviewing the Authority's work.

Yours sincerely

Gillian Pechey



11.50am 20th March 2026