

July 2023



## Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment



<https://www.narrabeenlagoon.org.au>

### The “Lizard Rock” proposal

As stated in our August 2022 and June 2023 newsletters, the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council have prepared a plan to convert a large area of bushland near Lizard Rock in the catchment of Narrabeen Lagoon to housing.

The proposal is for 450 dwellings in areas that currently have high conservation value and provide protection of waterways. The plans for evacuating people in case of fire are totally inadequate.



Map of the Lizard Rock proposed housing area.

## LIZARD ROCK PROPOSAL PETITION TABLED IN PARLIAMENT BY MICHAEL REGAN, MP, JUNE 29, 2023

120 people from the Northern Beaches attended Parliament on June 29, 2023 to hear Michael Regan, MP, giving a speech as he tabled the petition that contained 12,000 signatures objecting to the Lizard Rock proposal.



Michael Regan, MP, is pictured in Parliament House along with local residents and a Model Lizard that local children had helped to create. It is decorated with colourful scales. The Bush Guardians collected the 12,000 signatures.



View from Oxford Falls

## History of Land Grants

In June 1983, the Wran Labor Government enacted the Land Rights Act, which allowed Aboriginal Land Councils to claim unoccupied Crown Land not needed for essential public purposes such as housing, agriculture or commercial uses. In 1988, the act was amended to permit land councils to sell land they had claimed.

The Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (ML:ALC), which had already been granted approximately 200 ha in the vicinity, made claims in 1984 for a further 58 portions totalling about 250 ha in the Oxford Falls area. Since then many more claims have been made and granted over Crown Lands not deemed suitable for urban development.

By definition, the lands that Aboriginal Land Councils can claim are not suitable for housing or other commercial purposes and therefore it is inequitable for there to be an expectation, some years later, that Aboriginal Land Councils could “realise the economic potential” of those lands to fund social welfare.

Some of the land granted to MLALC, and adjoining Garigal National Park, had specific requirements that the Land Council enter into a conservation agreement with the National Parks and Wildlife Service to protect the bushland in perpetuity because of the high biodiversity value and the presence of Aboriginal heritage.



Narrabeen Lagoon

## FoNLC Annual General Meeting

August 28, 2023—via Zoom

**Speaker: Judith Bennett** A History related to Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment

Please register to attend by emailing:  
[email@narrabeenlagoon.org.au](mailto:email@narrabeenlagoon.org.au)

**Bushland or urban developments?  
Your support makes a difference!**

To: Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment  
P.O. Box 845, Narrabeen, NSW 2101

- YES! Consider me for membership. I enclose
- \$85 for 5-yr membership (unwaged \$40)
- \$20 for 1-yr membership (unwaged \$10)
- \$5 for student membership

Free for students of environmental science  
Name of College

.....

Please make a bank transfer to

BSB512170 Account number 3043591. Thank you

Members need to support our mission to protect bushland in Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment. Applications for membership need to be approved by the committee.

I support FoNLC mission .....

Please sign here

I wish to make a donation of

- \$250  \$100  \$50  \$20

Other amount \$..... To the campaign.

Thank you.

Name:

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Address:

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Phone:

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Email:

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It will be most helpful to have your email address as we usually use emails to communicate with members.



Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment is associated with National Parks Association.

Enquiries: Judith Bennett

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