

Lauderdale Quay Ralphs Bay

Summary of key Environmental Findings

2

Walker has engaged some of Australia's top scientists and technical experts to address the RPDC guidelines by which our project is evaluated.

What the scientists found...

Birds

- Wader and shorebird surveys identified a total of 47 species including 18 waders at 7 sites within the Derwent Estuary Pitt-Water area (DEPA);
- The studies revealed it is most unlikely that the development would result in the loss of any species;
- Minimal impact on migratory bird species;
- The dominant wader at Lauderdale is the Pied Oystercatcher. A total of 7 nesting sites were identified at Lauderdale or 6% of nest sites in the DEPA survey sites;
- There will be a loss of foraging and nesting sites for the Pied Oystercatcher – studies indicate they will be able to successfully forage in remaining habitats at Lauderdale and other areas within Derwent Estuary Pittwater (DEPA) wetlands close by (Orielson etc);
- Report found these foraging, roosting and nesting sites are at risk by projected climate change induced sea level rise.



Walker

Walker's Response

Walker is committed to mitigate any loss by:

- A \$500,000 Wader Habitat Creation project to construct alternative high tide roost and nesting sites, with a minimum 5-year maintenance commitment;
- \$750,000 to install additional culverts and sluice gates under South Arm Road between Ralphs Bay and East Marsh Lagoon to improve the tidal exchange;
- \$350,000 to generate and implement a Weed & Access Management Plan to enhance East Marsh Lagoon and Racecourse Flats;
- Establishment of foreshore parklands with profiles designed to provide habitat opportunities for waders and shorebirds;
- Creation of new oyster and mussel beds for foraging.

The full reports will be publicly available when we lodge the Draft Integrated Impact Statement later this month.

Keep up to date: www.ralphsbay.net.au