

Taking E coli finds to task in Weyba dispute

FRIENDS of Lake Weyba expert planner Paul Summers called on Noosa on Weyba co-developer Godfrey Mantle to apologise to the dozen or more owners of Eumarilla Shores and Weyba Point for advertising "unfounded accusations".

Mr Summers said Mr Mantle is behind the Noosa News Page 4 advertisement that highlights E coli contamination of Lake Weyba and linking it to septic tanks.

In the ad, NOW development director Steve MacRae said adjoining properties with septic tanks fronting Lake Weyba can connect to our sewer line they wish".

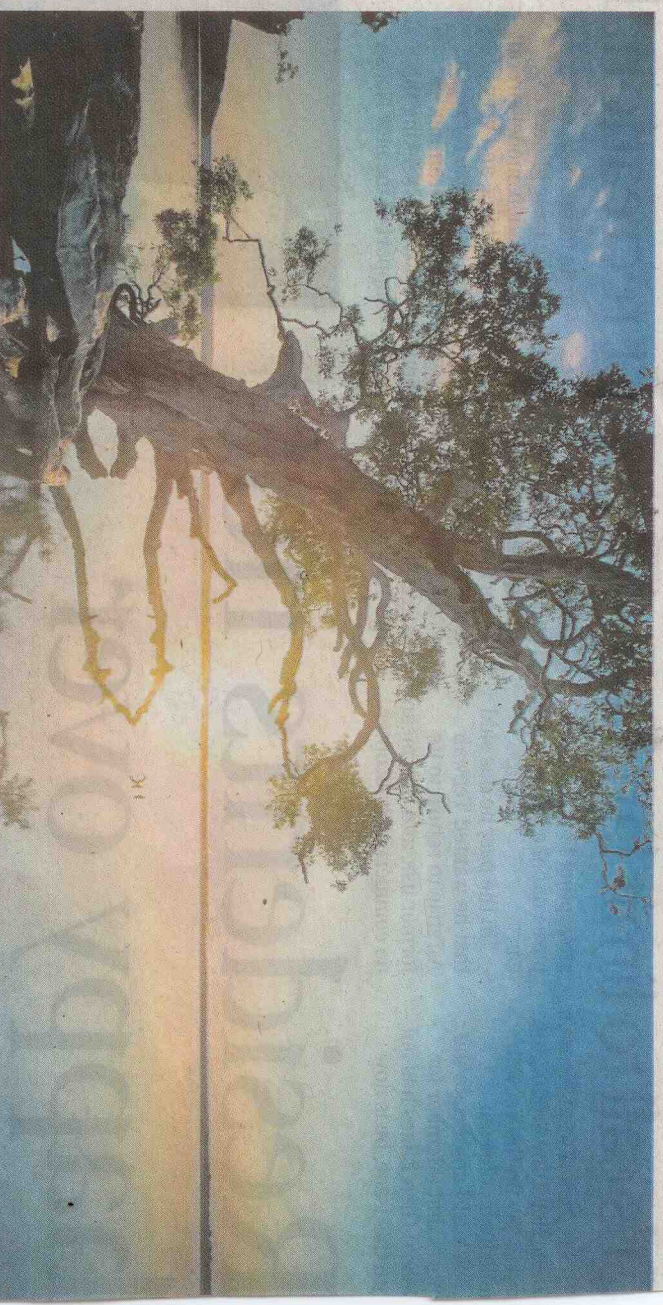
Mr Summers said the NOW application ecological assessment report dated October 2012 indicated on page 35 that: "the Eumarilla Shores development has at least five dwellings, associated septic systems, and communal barbecue facilities located within 50m of the Lake Weyba foreshore".

Mr Summers said: "There are no septic systems in the location indicated and no need for sewerage as these cottages are all serviced by a fully licensed sewage treatment plant."

"Superficial research by the consultant has produced the error, which has then been compounded as other consultants utilise the same reference as the truth," Mr Summers said. He said the latest available water sampling report shows that no samples were taken in front of Eumarilla Shores and Weyba Point.

"There are only three sampling points in the lake," Mr Summers said. "The highest E coli reading was at Monitoring Point H, immediately in front of the council-declared off lead dog park."

"The second highest E coli reading was at Monitoring Point H immediately before Mantle's house. "The last reading was at Monitoring Point G again in front of Mantle's site," Mr Summers said.



LAKE DISPUTE: This tree called the Guardian of the Lake may be soaking up E coli.

PHOTO: P OBEREM

Claims challenged

By PETER GARDINER

POOR research by a Noosa on Weyba consultant has led to the finger of blame for E coli bacteria levels in Lake Weyba being wrongly pointed at the Eumarilla Shores and Weyba Point visitor accommodation, according to a Friends of Lake Weyba planning expert.

Noosa planner Paul Summers, who has been working with FOLW to oppose the proposed residential and aged care estate, has questioned the source of reported E coli finds in Lake Weyba and believes co-developer Godfrey Mantle has a case to answer when it comes to possible E coli in the lake. In a Noosa on Weyba advertisement on Page 4 of last Friday's Noosa News, the proposed estate's development director Steve MacRae said specialist environmental engineers had detected E coli, that comes from human waste,

in the lake during a series of tests over the past 12 months. Mr MacRae says the summary chart "came as a real shock to us" and mentioned that sites tested included a 1km section of the western shore line including "in front of Eumarilla Shores and Weyba Point Cottages".

What the results were at these points, he did not say. Eumarilla Shores at the lake is operated by FOLW stalwarts Bill and Christine Tainsh, but Mr Summers

said "there are no septic systems close to the foreshore" here. "A fully-licensed sewerage treatment plant is provided for the foreshore cottages on Eumarilla Shores. I am also informed that Weyba Pt Lakehouses have a council-approved waste water treatment system. Perhaps Mr Mantle should look a little closer to home. His house has a septic system and is located on the foreshore." Noosa on Weyba is yet to respond.

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