

## The facts

- **We support 93% of the Draft Storm Water Management Plan, but strongly oppose a dam in Brownhill Creek.**
- There are viable alternatives to a dam in Brownhill Creek that will improve flood mitigation.
- The \$10million dam is only a small part of the \$133million project. It should not be promoted as the main part of the Stormwater Management Plan.
- Only 20% of the total catchment for stormwater is above the dam site.
- The dam will not give any protection for the proposed 90-minute 1 in 100 year rain event over the urban catchment, because flooding would have subsided before the peak flow arrives from the catchment above the dam.
- The dam will not provide protection for the proposed 1 in 100 year 6-hour rain event over the Keswick creek catchment.
- The dam only provides protection for the long-duration 1 in 100 year 36-hour rain event and there are alternatives to the dam that deal with this.
- The dam does not permanently store water and an outlet in its base will allow 20 cubic m/s flow through (approx. 2005 flood level or a 1 in 50 year rain event).
- GHD in their 2008 report into BHC dams stated that “a spillway with 3m of freeboard is assumed”. This would result in a spillway height of 12m and a total dam height of 15m.

- The Extreme-Hazard dam will be sited above a caravan park and residential area (**see *Dam Costs and Design submission papers on our website***).
- Such dam sites attract graffiti and anti-social behaviour.
- No environmental impact study, geo-technical survey (earthquake risk?) or exact dam design will be done before the dam is approved.
- The benefit to cost ratio for the overall project is 0.65, which means that it costs 50% more than the economic benefits it provides.
- The benefit to cost ratio for the dam would be even worse, if the destruction of thousands of hours of work done in rehabilitating the park by school and community groups and the costs to tourism, recreation and the environment, were taken into account.
- The dam “**is the least supported component of the Draft Plan overall**” (Public Consultation Report). Including our petition, **76% opposed the dam**.

## Damaging one of the world's oldest parks

- Governor Grey set aside Brownhill Creek for public purposes in 1841, predating the oldest National Parks in the world at Yellowstone USA (1872), Royal National Park NSW (1879) and Belair SA (1891).
- Brownhill Creek Recreation Park is now part of Yurrebilla, The Greater Mount Lofty Parklands.

## Environmental, Heritage and Recreational Impacts

- The Park Management Plan designates the area as a **Heritage site** and the International Union For The Conservation Of Nature classify the site as a **Natural Monument**.
- The proposed dam site is at “Seven Pines/Seven Sisters”, a popular creek-side picnic area under heritage Stone Pines: believed to have been planted for Federation in 1901. One of these is on a National Register of Big Trees.
- The dam and road relocation will destroy the heart of the Park, which contains a traditional Kurna camping site, a colonial heritage site, an important plant rehabilitation site and state-listed threatened native fish species; Mountain Galaxias (rare) and Climbing Galaxias (vulnerable).
- The Park contains one of the last original creek lines in the Adelaide Hills. “Maintain natural hydrology as far as possible” (Park Management Plan).
- The Kurna people call this area **Wirraparinga** (place of scrub and creek) and the walking trail constructed in their honour will be blocked.
- The Park provides a rural landscape less than 10km from the city centre, a special place to retreat to for peace and recreation.
- A dam will permanently ruin its visual and aesthetic beauty.  
**(Read Friends of Brownhill Creek submission paper on our website).**

## Dam construction: further impacts

- Construction over 1-2 years will either involve bringing in up to 100,000 tonnes of material in 20-30 tonne trucks, or quarrying the Park.
- A cofferdam, upstream from the main dam will be built, as well as construction yards.
- This will be a large (**5 storey**) highly engineered structure involving concrete, **not** a small earth dam blending into the environment.



Dam in Cobblers Creek Recreation Park

## Other options are available

- **Increased channel upgrades and high flow bypass culverts help in all rain events.**
- Channel clearing and maintenance in urban areas, incorporating new data from a creek survey by the NRM authority, will reduce flooding.
- Small detention basins/wetlands.
- Revegetation of cleared rural parts of the catchment can reduce run-off by up to 20%. Improve building regulations to flood-proof new buildings by raising floors above flood levels and by removing obstructions to flows.

- Plan for the future and start a linear park.
- An effective Flood-Safe programme.

## SAVE BROWNHILL CREEK

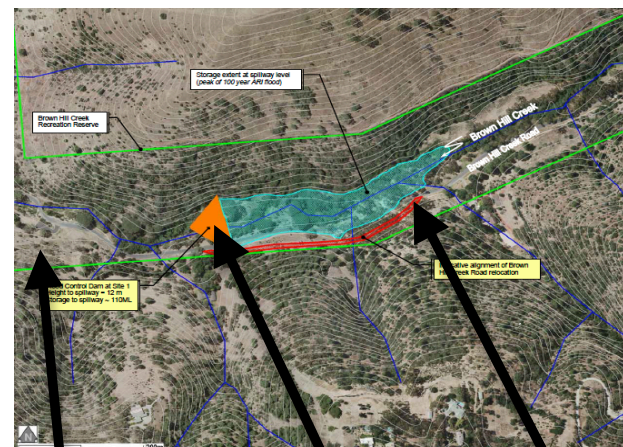
We stand alongside the Aboriginal people, the traditional custodians of Brownhill Creek: a unique and important part of South Australia's natural and cultural heritage, for present and future generations. Don't destroy Brownhill Creek forever with an unnecessary dam!



HOW TO HELP GO TO:

[www.brownhillcreek.org](http://www.brownhillcreek.org)

and the No Dam In Brownhill Creek facebook page.



caravan park

dam site

road relocation

at seven pines

**A concrete dam 15 metres high (12m spillway) and 100 metres wide in the heart of Brownhill Creek Recreation Park?**

