



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- ◆ Ralphs Bay will be dammed on the western edge of the Walker development for an estimated 2 years during the excavation and construction period. As a result the whole of Ralphs Bay will be drained and dry for that period
- ◆ Huge numbers of heavy trucks will be needed to cart in the rock fill for the canal development, the opened canal and the sea walls in Frederick Henry Bay. This will clog our roads and damage road surfaces and foundations
- ◆ Sea walls will need to be built to keep the canal open. These will go out to the 3 metre contour line which is about 600 metres into Frederick Henry Bay, and will cause major changes to the foreshore

This is some of the information learnt from our expert speakers at our public information night

EXPO DAY

23 MAY 2004 11 AM TO 3 PM
LAUDERDALE HALL

Activities will include:

- ◆ Badge making for the kids
- ◆ Sailboarding demonstrations
- ◆ Bird-watching with Birds Tas
- ◆ Sausage sizzle
- ◆ Write to your local politicians campaign
- ◆ Membership application of Save Ralphs Bay Inc
- ◆ Talks and discussion forums on major issues

This Expo/drop in day is organised by Save Ralphs Bay Inc for the community to learn more about the proposed development

WRITE LETTERS

We urge you to write letters to the following politicians and your Local Government members expressing your concerns

The Hon Paul Lennon MHA
Premier
Parliament House
HOBART 7000

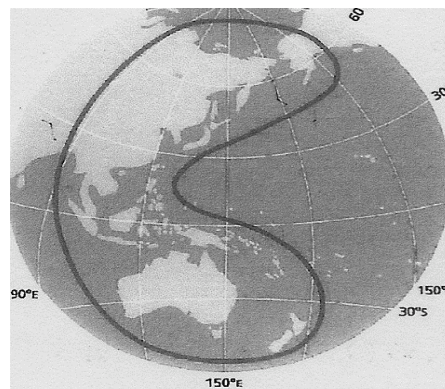
Jeremy Rockliffe MHA
Opp. Spokesperson for the Environment
Parliament House
HOBART 7000

The Hon Judy Jackson MHA
Minister for the Environment
Parliament House
HOBART 7000

The Hon Lin Thorp MLC
Parliament House
HOBART 7000

The Hon Lara Giddings MHA
Minister for Economic Development
Parliament House
HOBART 7000

The Hon Paula Wriedt
Minister for Education
Parliament House
HOBART 7000



THE EAST ASIAN-AUSTRALIAN FLYWAY
WHERE OUR MIGRATORY **SHOREBIRDS FLY**

HOW WILL THE PROPOSED RALPHS BAY WALKER DEVELOPMENT AFFECT OUR BIRDS?

There are two kinds of shorebirds, generally called waders, at Lauderdale - *migratory* and *resident*

HOW WILL THE WALKER PROPOSAL AFFECT OUR BIRDS?

- In summer at high tide, you will see the shorebirds roosting on the spits and around the edge of Ralphs Bay. They are waiting to follow the outgoing tide to feed on the crabs, pippies, sand worms and small invertebrates that become available as the mudflats become exposed
- Towards the end of summer, these birds feed profusely on our mudflats, following the tide as it goes out. They have to build up a lot of fat, which is used as fuel, for the long flights north. These birds have to fly 12 – 13,000 kilometres to their northern breeding grounds
- Ralphs Bay, and Lauderdale's foreshores and wetlands, are vital parts of a network of feeding and nesting sites for shorebirds on the South Arm peninsula. They are essential for their survival. What happens if we deplete and interfere with this network?
- What will happen to our migratory shore birds if the nutrient rich mudflats of Ralphs Bay are no longer available to them? Will they be able to gain enough weight to make the trip North for the winter?

OUR MIGRATORY SHOREBIRDS

- The most abundant shorebirds in summer are the eastern curlew, the curlew sandpiper and the red-necked stint. These birds breed in the Northern Hemisphere and fly to the Southern Hemisphere to avoid the harsh Arctic winters in the North.
- Shorebirds come in many different shapes and sizes. At Lauderdale the biggest and tallest is the eastern curlew. It has a long down-curved bill and weighs up to 1.3kg. In contrast the smallest shorebird is the red-necked stint weighing less than 30gm
- Double-banded plovers are an unusual shorebird as their migration is east to west. They breed in New Zealand's south island and some fly across eastern Australia. Many of these birds can be seen at Lauderdale from March to July

OUR RESIDENT SHOREBIRDS

- Pied oystercatchers are present all year round feeding on the mudflats of Ralphs Bay and nesting in the open areas at Lauderdale
- The number of pied oystercatchers in this area is increasing. Long term data from the 1960s clearly shows this increase
- Red-capped plovers are also present all year round. Their nests are scraped out of the sand and often lined with small shells
- Sooty oystercatchers arrive to feed in Ralphs Bay during the winter months, and nest along rocky coastlines

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT SHOREBIRDS

- Most migratory shorebirds are incubating their first clutch by mid-June. As soon as the eggs hatch at 3 weeks the mother bird may lay a second clutch depending on the species. Sometimes the mother bird fuels up to fly south first, leaving the father bird to protect the chicks
- The father bird leaves the chicks after a week or so to gain fat to migrate south and next the chicks have to gain enough weight and fat before they can start on their long journey south of 13,000km
- Eastern curlews can live for 19 years; red-necked stints and curlew sandpipers 18 years; and oystercatchers can live for more than 20 years
- The smaller migratory shorebirds have to land and refuel at short intervals along their migratory route
- In contrast the eastern curlews have been recorded as only stopping to refuel twice before reaching their breeding areas in southern Russia