

Western Australian Equestrian Tracks and Trails Study

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The Western Australian
Horse Council (Inc)

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Department of
Sport and Recreation

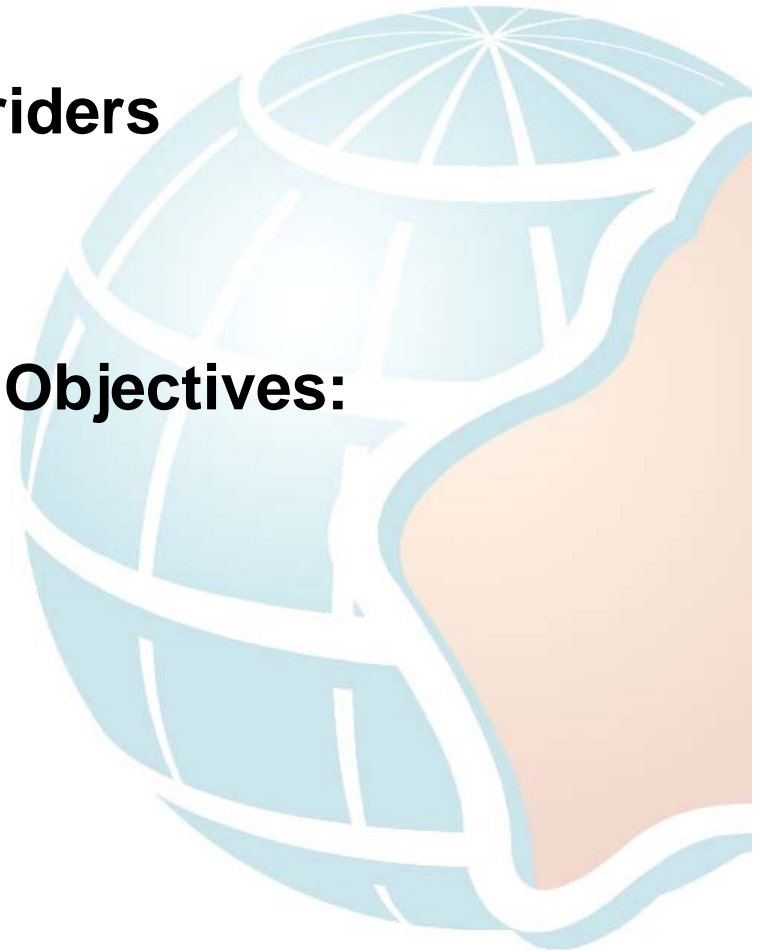


Main Aims/Objectives of the Study:

- **Current accessibility to horse riders**
- **Barriers to participation**

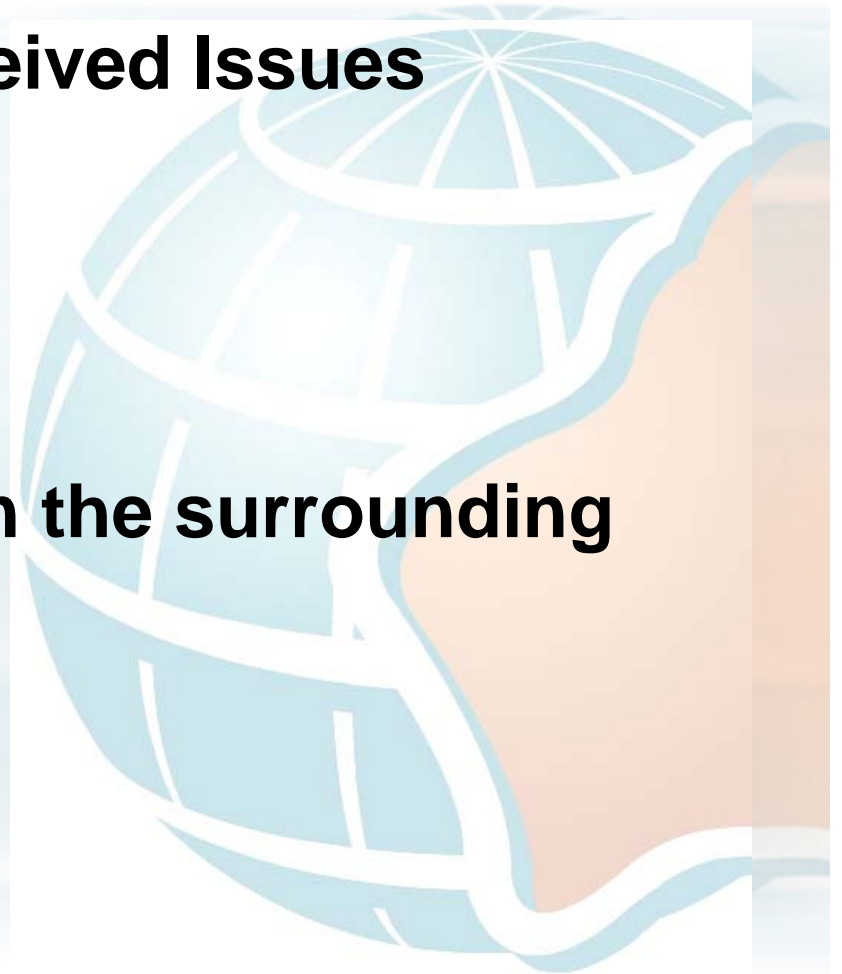
Methods to Achieve Objectives:

- **Identify information**
- **Identify perceived impacts**
- **Locations**
- **Horse rider survey**



Main Pre-Study Perceived Issues

- **User Conflict**
- **Impact of horse riders on the surrounding environment**



Findings

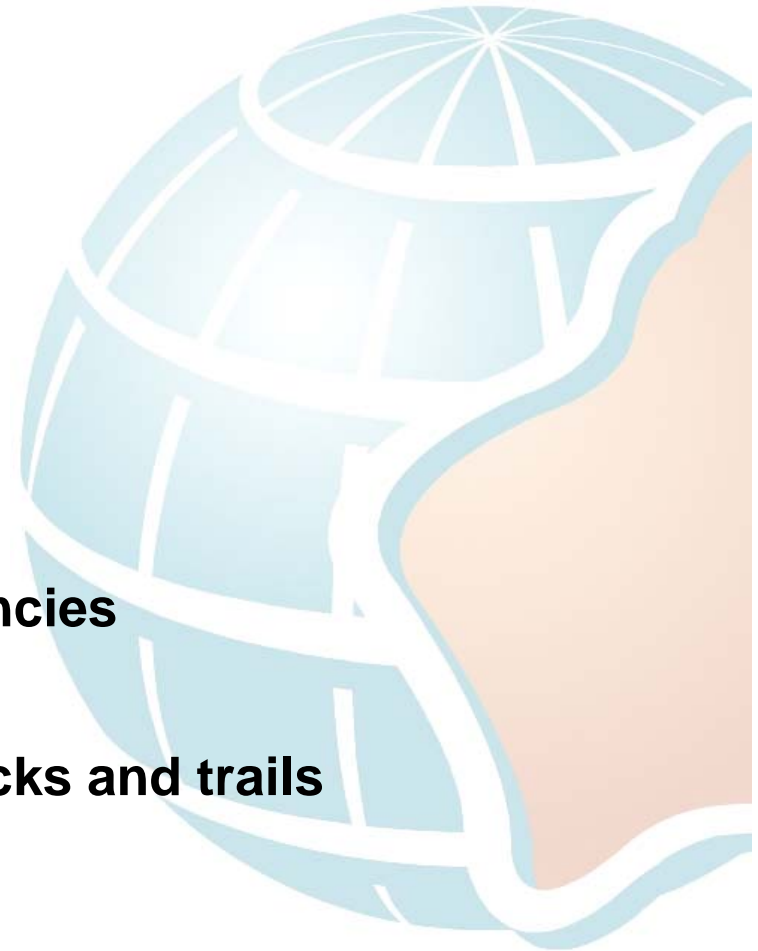
Main Barriers to Access

- **State Government**
 - Environmental
 - User conflict
 - Safety
 - Unsuitable terrain
 - Uncontrolled and unauthorised use of areas
- **Local Government**
 - Urbanisation
 - Conflicting requests
 - Lack of resources/increased maintenance costs
- **Survey**
 - A large range of barriers to access



Main Environmental Issues

- **State Government**
 - Flora and fauna
 - Soil
 - Weed
 - Nutrients
 - Disease
- **Local Government**
 - Similar to State Government Agencies
- **Survey**
 - Believed minimal if remain on tracks and trails



Main Risk Management Issues

- **State Government**
 - Management Plans - Strategies
- **Local Government**
 - Regulatory – permits
 - Social, Environmental and Economic Principles
- **Survey**
 - Track maintenance
 - Road safety
 - Illegal trail users - motorised



Current Tracks and Trails Available

68 official tracks and trails currently available

Future Tracks and Trails Need

State and Local Government Agencies acknowledge a need for more tracks and trails for horse riders

More interconnecting and circuit trails needed – horse riders

Recommendations

- **Increase maintenance of tracks and trails**
- **New subdivisions – accommodating horse riders**
- **Tracks and trails in Management Plans**
- **Liaison between authorities and horse riders**
- **Develop Policy and Industry Standards and Classifications**
- **Education – packages**
- **Publicise tracks and trails available to horse riders**
- **Encourage ownership by the horse riding community – friends of groups**



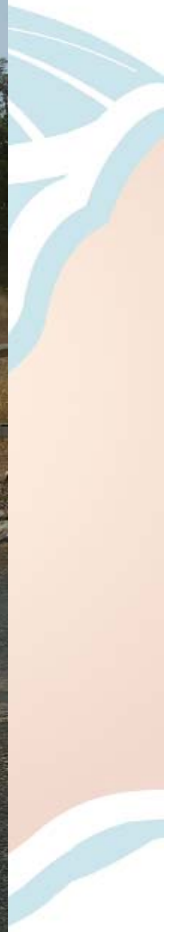
THERE IS PROGRESS

The following pictures were taken by Juliet Cusato on her mobile phone who was driving near Brigadoon in the City of Swan recently and noticed in her words an “awesome sight” where there were approximately 25 mounted police in uniform using the trails. The police had apparently wanted to use the trails for some time but as they were not maintained had refrained from doing so. However, recently with the publicity of this study and other lobbying by local Progress Associations and horse riders the City of Swan undertook to commence maintenance of the trails. This is the result.



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Trails - DSR





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Thank you to Lotterywest, Department of Sport and Recreation, WA Horse Council, Local and State Government Agencies and various other individuals and clubs who made this study possible. It would not have been possible without so much support and assistance.

The survey's sent back by horse riders were also a major assistance in completing this study.