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"Local Deliberation and the Favouring of Nature"

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Zwart, Ivan. "Local Deliberation and the Favouring of Nature." *Environmental Values* 16, no. 4 (2007): 485–511. doi:10.3197/096327107X243259 .

The central contention of theories of deliberative democracy is that deliberative arrangements should encourage (but by no means guarantee) the support of interests that are general to all. Democratic theorists have also suggested that the natural environment will be a likely beneficiary following public deliberation, given the inherent rationality in supporting interests that will lead to the long-term survival of the planet. This paper addresses the question of general environmental interests through two case studies in Australian local government and argues there are at least three factors that affect the ability of notionally deliberative arrangements to deliver outcomes that appear favourable to the natural environment.

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