

## Agriculture and Environment Committee

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**From:** katrina Faulkes-Leng <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, 27 November 2015 10:09 AM  
**To:** Agriculture and Environment Committee  
**Subject:** Submission to Amendment Bill Nature Conservation Act 1992

**Categories:** EA to Process

On behalf of Bat Conservation and Rescue Qld Inc., I would like to congratulate the Palaszczuk government on the introduction of the Bill to amend the Nature Conservation Act 1992 to reverse the damage done to our environment and species by the previous government.

We welcome the proposed amendments to the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* that are contained in the Bill.

We welcome, in particular, the reinstatement of the sole object of the act (the conservation of nature) and the reinstatement of three abolished classes of protected area – national park (scientific), conservation park, and resources reserve.

We welcome the removal of special management areas (scientific) from the management principles of national parks (as a consequence of reinstating national parks (scientific)).

We are concerned that this opportunity had not been taken to remove the other special management area provided for in the management principles of national parks in section 17 of the NC Act – special management area (controlled action). That would have gone a long way to reinstating the cardinal principle for the management of national parks, an election commitment of the present government. This could have been done by reinstating national park (recovery), or by redesignating all those areas as conservation parks. We submit that other classes of protected area that were abolished should also be reinstated – namely Wilderness Area, World Heritage Management Area, International Agreement Area, and Coordinated Conservation Area. Regardless of the extent to which these protected areas had been used in the past, they all have a part to play in maintaining a range of protected areas that are in step with the global categories established by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

We are concerned that the term “ecotourism facility”, which was inserted into section 35(1)(a) of the Nature Conservation Act in 2013, has not been removed from the legislation. This provision has the capacity to allow the development of tourist resorts inside national parks, and it overrides the cardinal principle. Such development would overturn more than a century of park management on Queensland mainland parks where tourist resorts have been encouraged on private land adjacent to national parks but not inside parks.

We also submit that there be a return to the status quo prior to the LNP government by removing the flying-fox exemptions in restrictions on granting damage mitigation permits in the Nature Conservation (Wildlife Management) Regulation 2006. In particular, remove the highlighted phrase in section 185, and preferably the removal of the entirety of 185 (2).

185 Restriction on grant of permit for damage or loss

(1) The chief executive may grant a damage mitigation permit, **other than a permit for taking a flying-fox**, for damage or loss caused, or likely to be caused, by a protected animal only if the chief executive is satisfied— ...

Kind regards

Katrina Faulkes-Leng



**Bat Conservation & Rescue Qld. Inc.**

Rescue..Education.Conservation.Habitat

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