

# Conondale Range Conservation Association Inc.

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... still watching over the Conondales and Mary Valley.

Formed in 1976 to press for a significant National Park in the Conondales, the Conondale Range Committee has worked with successive state governments on the Conondales Consultative Process, the Agricola Mine Rehabilitation Process, the South-east Queensland Forest Agreement and the recent establishment of the Conondale Range Great Walk.

In 2004, we published "Walking on the Wilder Side .. in the Conondales" and our work has been recognised with two Sunshine Coast Environment Council awards.

The Chair  
Agriculture and Environment Committee  
Parliament House  
Brisbane Qld 4000  
[aec@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:aec@parliament.qld.gov.au) .

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We welcome the proposed amendments to the Nature Conservation Act 1992.

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

We are pleased to see the reversal of a number of amendments made in 2012 and 2013 but are puzzled that the term "ecotourism facility" still remains in the legislation. It concerns us that this provision has the potential to permit the development of tourist ventures inside national parks setting up conflicting management needs. The long-established practice of encouraging such ventures on private land adjoining national parks remains, in our view, a much better model.

We would also request that other classes of protected area (Wilderness Area, World Heritage Management Area etc) be reinstated. They are part of a suite of types of protected area and are quite in keeping with global categories recognised internationally.

We were outraged at the drastic amendments made to the Nature Conservation Act and are relieved to see the steps this government is taking to reverse them.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Yours



Ian Mackay  
(President)