



Submission No. 36
Centenary and District Environment Action
Incorporated
PO Box 515
Mount Ommaney Qld 4074

President: [REDACTED]
Vice-president: [REDACTED]
Website: www.cdea.org.au

25 November 2015

The Chair, Agriculture and Environment Committee
aec@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Ms Howard MP, Member for Ipswich, Chair

Submission on the proposed amendments to the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*

- *Centenary and District Environment Action Incorporated* welcomes the proposed amendments to the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* that are contained in the Bill.
- In particular, we support 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 also support 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) and request that this is included. This could have been done by reinstating national park (recovery), or by redesignating all those areas as conservation parks.
- We request 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 request that the term “ecotourism facility”, which was inserted into section 35(1)(a) of the Nature Conservation Act in 2013, be removed from the legislation. The inclusion of this term could allow the development of tourist resorts inside national parks and it overrides the cardinal principle. We support 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.

Yours sincerely

Shealagh Walker
President
Centenary and District Environment Action (CDEA)
www.cdea.org.au