

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Nature Conservation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015: submission  
**Date:** Monday, 30 November 2015 12:43:32 PM

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To The Chair, Agriculture and Environment Committee,

With regard to the proposed amendments to the Nature Conservation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015, I support the following changes:

- reinstatement of the conservation of nature as the sole object of the Nature Conservation Act (the Act)
- reinstatement of three abolished classes of protected area – national park (scientific), conservation park, and resources reserve
- removal of special management areas (scientific) and the inclusion of these areas in National Parks (scientific)
- amendments that improve public participation in the management of our protected areas, particularly in the gathering of data on species and ecosystem health and the mitigation of threats.
- removal of provisions regarding no requirement for consultation regarding amendments to management plans

Further amendments are still required, however, and the following should be considered:

- Encourage the inclusion of the principles of ecologically sustainable development, as enshrined in the Commonwealth Government's National Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Development (1992), in the Act
- Removal of special management areas (controlled action) from the Act. Manipulation of national park tenure areas confuses and detracts from the cardinal principle. Existing special management areas (controlled action) should be removed from national park tenure and instead become conservation parks or national park (recovery).
- Reinstatement of other classes of protected area, e.g. Wilderness Area, World Heritage Management Area, International Agreement Area, and Coordinated Conservation Area, and alignment to IUCN protected area management categories
- Removal of the term 'ecotourism facility' from section 35 of the Act
- Provide NO avenue for new tourist resorts (or extensions to any existing resorts) within national parks is allowed, these activities are much more appropriately located on adjoining or nearby private land
- Amend the Land Act to ensure existing grazing lease on protected areas are not rolling-term leases, but are time limited and renewed only following an assessment of impacts on protected areas.

Yours sincerely

Liz Gould