

From: [Richard Mottershead](#)
To: [Health and Community Services Committee](#)
Subject: Submission re Nature Conservation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill (No2) 2013
Date: Sunday, 25 August 2013 9:30:02 PM

I believe that the amendments proposed to the act are a weakening of the protection of the lands managed by our National Parks service. These changes set conservation in Queensland back decades.

To me the primary purpose of national parks is to afford protection to and conserve our natural heritage, landscape and cultural heritage. A secondary purpose is to allow people to commune with and interact with nature in passive ways.

I totally disagree with the use of our national parks for grazing, trail & quad bike riding and four wheel driving.

Grazing is destructive to our native vegetation, introduces weeds, causes erosion, displaces native animal grazers and endangers the survival of vulnerable species by habitat destruction.

Trail & quad bike riding and four wheel driving are not passive pursuits - they cause erosion, introduce weed seeds, put the native vegetation at risk from pathogens as well as create noise and dust which greatly reduces the enjoyment of those persons using the parks passively. Bike riders and four wheel drivers are not in our parks to observe the wildlife and flora, if they were they would be quietly walking. Yes, they need somewhere for these noisy destructive pursuits, but not in our national parks. A far better place for them is on private land or commercial forests where they can be charged an appropriate fee to repair the damage they do.

Do not allow our national parks to be used for revenue gaining, they should be free to all of us as a basic right. We pay our taxes and expect access to these natural areas.

Private facilities should not be allowed in our national parks. These private ventures should be built close to, but outside our parks.

Richard Mottershead

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Kiels Mountain

Old. 4559

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