

From: [Anna Bourke](#)
To: [Health and Community Services Committee](#)
Subject: National Parks are for conserving & protecting natural heritage values
Date: Tuesday, 27 August 2013 8:56:05 AM

To whom it may concern,

I am greatly saddened and angry at the proposed changes to the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* via the *Nature Conservation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill (No2) 2013*.

The primary purpose of national parks is to afford protection to and conserve our natural heritage, landscape and cultural heritage. A key aspect of their function is protecting Queensland's and Australia's amazing biodiversity values, the likes of which are not seen anywhere else in the world.

A secondary purpose is to allow people to commune with and interact with nature in passive ways. This is a well established management principle that has been guiding management of national parks around Australia and in Queensland. Even in the development days of the Bjelke-Petersen Government national parks served their primary purpose and were not exploited to service the State's debts.

The national park estate is about 4.8% of Queensland - well below international recognised desirable standards and certainly below the average in various other Australian States and Territories. I would want any changes to the Act to strengthen the conservation and protection of our natural and cultural heritage, and even increase the national park estate above the paltry 4.8% to better protect and conserve our unique biodiversity.

Queensland deserves better than this poor excuse of an amendment.

Yours sincerely,

Anna Bourke
Salisbury 4107