

From: [Adrian Jansen](#)
To: [Health and Community Services Committee](#)
Subject: Submission to the Nature Conservation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2013
Date: Wednesday, 11 September 2013 10:22:12 AM

To Whom it may concern,

I wish to record my objection to features of the proposed Nature Conservation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2013.

In particular I object to:

1. The proposal change to the Object of the Act from "the conservation of nature" to include "social, cultural and commercial use of protected areas".
2. The abolition of these classes of protected area: 1. national park (scientific), 2. national park (recovery), 3. conservation park, 4. resources reserve, 5. wilderness area, 6. World Heritage management area, and 7. international agreement area.
3. The proposal to redesignate some protected areas as "regional parks".
4. The abolition of the status of "forest reserve" as an intermediate status for State forest land that was intended to become national park, but contains a number of encumbrances that had to be negotiated before the land can become a protected area.
6. The abolition of the requirement to prepare management plans for all protected areas and the replacement of it with no more than a requirement to prepare "management statements". With the proposals to convert protected areas for commercial use, management plans are now more important than ever before! Particularly unacceptable is the fact that the proposed change would eliminate the need for public consultation over proposed conversion of parks for commercial use. The current slow rate of production of management plans should be dealt with by increasing staff, not by removing this safeguard for our protected areas.

The original intention of the Nature Conservation Act was, I thought, to protect areas of natural environment from human activities which could endanger specific items, like fauna, flora or areas of scenic or scientific significance. The proposed changes are an attempt to treat the environment as only a human resource, to be used and treated like any other human resource, without regard for the intrinsic value that is preserved within these natural conservation areas.

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