

From: [Peter Dawson](#)
To: [Health and Community Services Committee](#)
Subject: Amendments to the Nature Conservation Act 1992
Date: Thursday, 12 September 2013 1:03:29 PM

I strongly object to the proposed changes to this act. As the name of the act implies, it is about nature conservation, not commercial use of national parks for private gain. The proposed amendment to the Object of the Act in Section 4 completely changes the original purpose of the act from a primary concern with the conservation of nature, to allowing social, cultural and commercial use of the protected areas.

After trawling through all of the proposed changes to the act, it is clear to me their purpose is mainly to allow commercial interests into previously excluded endangered areas, under the title of "Ecotourism". All this is happening after decades of reductions in the number and size of national parks, or reclassification of grazed and degraded land into national parks choked with the sort of flora and fauna that grazing and farming have introduced, and which has outcompeted and removed native species.

I watch with interest the outcome of these proposals. Should they be implemented I will also watch with interest the commercial beneficiaries of the changes, and their relationship to the government of the day.

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