

[Health and Community Services Committee](#)
[Parliament House](#)
[Brisbane, Qld, 4000.](#)

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Thursday, 12 September 2013

To the Committee Chair

Re: *Nature Conservation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2013*

I am sure that you will have received many submissions that will be both full and more erudite than mine. I would be supporting these full submissions if they also support the few brief points that I make.

I support the **cardinal principle** of park management, such management must “*provide, to the greatest possible extent, for the permanent preservation of the area's natural condition and the protection of the area's cultural resources and values.*”

Unfortunately the proposals then go on to effectively negate this principle for no advantage to the natural area. Queensland has so little of the land mass set aside as National Park and now the proposal is for even less or most likely none at all. With so little, there is then, so much other land available to the public for the use of grazing, 4-wheel driving and other destructive pursuits to National Parks. I cannot support this type of intrusion into what National Parks we have. The intention to ‘open up’ National Parks for public access should never be used as an excuse or justification for opening up those parks to inappropriate activities, for weakening management regimes, for reducing public scrutiny of management policy and practices, or for compromising that essential cardinal principle.

I would urge improvement of our parks by adequate resourcing of parks management and an encouragement of public appreciation of the conservation, scientific and aesthetic values of our National Parks through well thought out programs in both National and Conservation Parks.

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