

**Yvonne Cunningham**

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9<sup>th</sup> September 2013.

The Health and community Services Committee, [hcsc@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:hcsc@parliament.qld.gov.au)

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

Dear Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed amendments to the Nature Conservation Act (NC Act). From the outset let me say I strongly object to the proposed amendments to the NC Act.

Queensland's National Parks are revenue positive and are fundamental to a vibrant tourism industry. It is the intrinsic value and in many instances World Heritage status of these National Parks which attracts thousands of tourists to visit and experience the wild landscapes and unique plants and animals which are nurtured within the National Parks of Queensland. Past studies have shown Queensland National Parks are creating more than \$4.3billion dollars each year for tourism. All Queenslanders can be proud of their National Parks.

The amendments proposed in Bill (No.2) 2013 will undermine the integrity of Queensland's National Parks. Queensland's National Parks are enjoyed by thousands of locals and tourists every day and I believe the proposed changes to the act will pose a danger to the plants and animals within the parks and will subsequently downgrade the tourists experience.

I support the submission from Alliance to Save Hinchinbrook Inc. and urge the Committee not to weaken the protection currently offered to Queensland's unique plants and animals which live in National Parks and forest Reserves.

Yvonne Cunningham