

From: [Leanne Bowden](#)
To: [Health and Community Services Committee](#)
Subject: Submission objecting to changes to Nature Conservation Act 1992
Date: Friday, 13 September 2013 8:17:27 AM

The Chairman
Health and Community Services Committee,
Parliament House, BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Sir/Madam

Submission objecting to changes proposed to the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* set out in the *Nature Conservation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill (No2) 2013*

I write to strongly object to the amendments that are proposed to be made to the *Nature Conservation Act 1992 (NC Act)* set out in the *Nature Conservation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill (No2) 2013*.

These amendments will only weaken the purpose of the Act, resulting in long-term negative impacts for the ecological integrity of our National Parks.

Of particular importance is the **cardinal principle** of park management, namely that 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.*”

With only 4.8% of Queensland in National Parks, it is of the utmost importance to protect this land to the greatest possible extent. Any increase in the use of this biologically valuable land, and reduction of controls to ensure its protection will be detrimental to future biodiversity, as well as reducing the reason the land was protected in the first place.

The object of the NC Act should be retained as “**the conservation of nature**” only; All the classes of protected area status defined in the NC Act should be maintained The requirement to produce management statements should be strengthened and should allow for a public consultation process.

The whole Act should be strengthened – not weakened – to protect the minimal protected land that Queensland correctly has.

Please be the Government known to increase the amount of land within protected status, with strong legislative protection for future viability, rather than the destroyer of all the efforts that have been made in the past to reach this status.

Yours sincerely,



4030

Leanne J. Bowden