

**From:** [Juthamas McGregor](#)  
**To:** [Health and Community Services Committee](#)  
**Subject:** submission to NC Act changes  
**Date:** Friday, 13 September 2013 1:11:48 PM

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The Chairperson

Health and Community Services Committee

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

I am opposed to the proposed changes for the following reasons:

1. The proposed amendment to the object of the Act (Section 4.) significantly changes the purpose of the Act. By introducing social, cultural and commercial use as objects of the Act, the conservation of nature is no longer the primary intent and will be open to wider legal interpretation, which may be detrimental to the conservation of nature. These additional uses can be catered for in the management of the particular protected area, without changing the object of the Act and thereby weakening its legal standing on the conservation of nature.
2. The loss of the Scientific and Recovery classes of National Park, undermines the specific intent of these classes. With the above mentioned proposed changes to the Object of the Act, it will open up these areas, which are at present strictly controlled for, in some cases species specific nature conservation purposes, to potentially be used for other purposes.

Furthermore, before any proposed new activities occur within a national park, which could have an adverse impact on the nature conservation objective, a management plan needs to be developed for the particular park, to ensure the key values of the park have been identified and recorded. The management plan can not be left to be developed in consideration of the proposed activity. Management plans now only have one public consultation step, and management statements have no prior public consultation before coming into force. It is important that a public consultation step be included in the management statement development to ensure the eventual management statement is of genuine value and not a high level ambiguous cover-all type statement.

Regards

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