

Upper Dawson Branch
Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland
PO Box 262
Taroom QLD 4420

13 September 2013

The Chairman
Health and Community Services
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

The above branch wishes to make the following submission on the Changes To Nature Conservation Act:-

Because we are a small branch run by volunteers and fully occupied with gas field development in its many phases, plus SunWater and Powerlink proposals for the Upper Dawson, our time is severely limited.

We support the submission furnished by our Head Office, but have some points we would like to emphasise.

Our branch is of the opinion that National Parks (scientific and recovery) should be preserved.

1. We are involved in endeavouring to preserve the Bridled Nailtail Wallaby on Tounton Nation Park and know that a lot of scientific work will have to be done to work out methods for:
 - a. controlling the buffel grass
 - b. increasing the wallabies preferred habitat
 - c. protecting against a wipe-out with a wildfire

This also applies to Epping Forest National Park and the Hairy Nose Wombat.

2. A number of northern National Parks have substantial areas of introduced buffel grass. The resulting fires from these un-grazed pastures have severely damaged large areas of the natural vegetation. These damaged areas will take years of careful management to allow them to recover.
3. We regard it as essential that the two types of National Parks (scientific, recovery) have a Management Plan in place. Where grazing is used to manage these types of National Parks, everyone concerned MUST be fully aware of their rights and obligations.
4. "A new broom always sweeps clean". Those of us who have been land managers for years and have endeavoured to keep our land productive and our environment from being decimated by development are amazed at how our governments tend to go too far at both ends of the spectrum, rather than meet in the middle. We would advise the proposers of this Bill to carefully consider its long term implications.
5. DO NOT THROW THE BABY OUT WITH THE BATH WATER.

Adam C Clark
(Project Officer)