

## **NSW APIARISTS' ASSOCIATION INC.**

ABN: 89 417 216 326

Thursday, 17 March 2022

## To Whom It May Concern

New South Wales Apiarist Association (NSWAA) are writing this support letter regarding Bees on Public Lands.

NSWAA strongly supports the use of public lands for beekeeping for the following reasons:

Public Lands allows beekeepers to continue to harvest honey from their hives which is clean and unique to Australia. This honey is highly sort after around the world and contributes approximately \$90 million dollars to the Australian economy;

Apiarists utilise Public Lands to build strong and health hives which are then placed in over 130 different agriculture crops to provide a better pollination. This alone is worth approximately \$14 billion dollars to the Australian agriculture sector. Through better pollination less land is needed to produce good yields for farmers. This then leads to better food security for all Australians, remember without bees, our food security is at risk and that is why food security needs bee security;

Studies have shown that bees are no threat to Australian Flora and Fauna and may contribute to the pollination of some of our unique plants because there is a lack of natural pollinators. Without bees our ecosystems could be at risk and biodiversity needs bee security;

National Parks are not damaged in any way through beekeeping and beekeeping is one industry that has a very small carbon footprint; and

As private property is cleared for further agriculture use, National Parks will become a more valuable resource base for beekeeping. Secure long-term access is vital for a viable and sustainable beekeeping industry for Australia's food security future.

Kind regards

Stephen Fuller

**NSWAA Executive (Resources)**