

**Submission
No 69**

**INQUIRY INTO MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Mr Simon Rees

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To whom it may concern

I am a recreational trail bike rider. I live in north western Sydney. I along with tens of thousands of other Sydney residents frequently visit our State Forests to legally ride a registered trail bike.

Within Sydney there are 0 places to ride. The closest places to ride are 1-2 hrs away. This however is not a problem for the large majority of riders who trailer their bikes to riding locations.

The problem is the lack of respect trail riders are given and to the number of riders in NSW. Forests are constantly closing and just recently a large number of gates have been installed in popular riding areas around Sydney.

Trail riding as a recreation is legal and is not going away, it is becoming more and more popular, however riders are being pushed into smaller and smaller riding areas. This has an adverse effect on the trails, which forests or NPWS then use as justification of shutting areas down. Forests NSW and NPWS are actually making the problem worse by locking people out.

The answer is not shutting areas down. It is opening areas up so individual forests are less frequented and the impact that bikes and 4wd's have on them is minimised.

Trail riding is not going away and it is about time we are recognised in NSW