

**Submission
No 292**

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

Name: Mr Jim Smart

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1. The management of National Parks is generally well done, professional and is based on good scientific principles. The main limitation is insufficient funds allocated. If more government money were allocated to National Park management most complaints about National Parks would disappear.
2. The purpose of setting aside land as a National Park is to preserve special places with great aesthetic and/or scientific value for the benefit of future generations. This principle has been developed and practiced over the past 100 years or so. It presented lucidly on the NSW Department of Environment's website.
3. The prime purpose of National Parks is conservation. Any activity that destroys the conservation value of the land must be avoided.
4. Recreational Shooting is totally inappropriate for National Parks. Shooters have abundant places to engage in their blood sports in private land (with permission) and state forests. Feral animals must be controlled or, when possible, eliminated in National Parks by the well developed techniques of mustering, trapping, baiting and aerial shooting by professionals. Amateurs have no place in professional park management.
5. 4WD recreational vehicles, motorbikes and quad bikes have no place in National Parks due to the erosion damage they cause. The National Park closest to my home has gullies over a metre deep caused by bike riders.
6. State Forests are essentially wood farms. Wood collecting should be done there rather than removing habitat in National Parks.
7. Trail bike and quad bike riding can be done in State Forests without conflicting with their reason for existence.