

Submission
No 180

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

Name: Name suppressed
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Partially Confidential

Public Land Use in NSW .NSW Standing Committee NSW Govt.

It's essential that the NSW Govt. takes a realistic view of how we should manage public lands in NSW.

The expertise of scientists within the NPWS and universities should be sought when making decisions on inclusion/exclusion of nature reserves or national parks. This is vitally important when it involves threatened animal/plant habitats eg river red gum ecological community, wetlands/rainforest /native hardwood forests & other endangered ecosystems.

Mining of any type including coal seam gas should be excluded from nature reserves, national parks & prime agricultural land. Protection of underground aquifers by all forms of mining is essential .

Consideration of recreational activities should also be examined. There are many people who enjoy using their four wheel drive vehicles to explore state forests & other public lands. This should be allowed where it will not impact on threatened ecological communities .

Fossicking areas should be allocated ,not banned when this activity does not threaten the ecology of the area. Shooters should only be allowed to hunt feral animals in areas that are isolated & away from the general public and not in National Parks unless under the supervision of NPWS staff.

The views of local land holders should be taken into consideration when creating national parks/nature reserves.

Banning activities such as shooting, four wheel driving, fossicking etc on public lands (where allowed) will have a detrimental impact on small rural businesses and the economy of NSW.

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