

Submission
No 133

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

Name: Name suppressed
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In general, I'd like to see more public lands available for use by the public.

I love the bush, i live in the bush but i am lock out of it for many activities.

I can't ride motor bikes in many of the areas that i used to ride - I can't ride a horse in many of the areas where I once could. In some areas there are even restrictions on where I can ride a push bike and even walk. It's getting quite ridiculous. (wallomi area in particular)

More importantly, over the years that these changes have been introduced, I haven't seen any substantial change in the environment where I frequent - with the possible exception of a reduction in erosion of fire trails - hardly a major issue.

Sure, there are people that like to bush walk in the peacefulness and isolation that some of our public land offers - as I do - however this shouldn't mean locking out all other users.

I would also like to propose an idea that is a bit different. Land holders should be given automatic feral animal control rights to adjoining public lands (out to maybe 5kms). In my case, and that of many other land holders adjoining state forest/ Nat parks or just crown land - These areas become a refuge for feral animals.

I currently have quite a few acres adjoining a national park north of Sydney. When I first moved to the property, there were many foxes, rabbits and a few wild dogs and cats - after 12 months I had managed to totally eliminate these feral animals from the area (via shooting). As a result, I saw a massive influx of all types of animals, including kangaroos, native birds, platypus, koala, echidna, goanna's, to name just a few. However as it turns out, my private property is now the sanctuary and the surrounding public lands are the realm of a large pack of wild dogs and a number of foxes.

They have tried baiting the dogs and all they achieved was the total eradication of the goanna population. These are smart animals that use my property as a native animal buffet and know all they have to do is stay on the other side of the fence to be safe.

If I (and other land holders like me) were allowed to control these animals beyond our boundaries, it would be a simple, cost effective and humane way of dealing with the problem. Feel free to put in controls, training or safeguards but it would work – unlike the current system which doesn't work. I encourage anyone that questions this, to simply spend 1 week living in an area like mine and I guarantee you will come to the same conclusion

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