

**Submission  
No 342**

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

**Organisation:** Natural Areas Ltd

**Date received:** 30/08/2012

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The resources provided by protected areas are crucial for the health and wellbeing of citizens of NSW as well as for the wildlife that live in these areas.  
Lobbying by recreational groups for access to protected areas is costly and makes management of the areas more difficult.  
NSW has a commitment to establish and maintain a suitable network of protected areas.  
We urge the committee to support that commitment.

Natural Areas Ltd  
ACN 000 864 077

The Director  
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5  
Parliament House  
Macquarie St  
Sydney NSW 2000  
Fax: (02) 9230 2981

August 30, 2012

Dear Sir,

Our company manages an area of bushland under a conservation agreement signed by the Minister for the Environment of NSW

- We are most concerned about the terms of reference of General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5 into protected areas.
- We need to carefully manage and protect natural areas because they preserve biodiversity, provide connectivity for movement of wildlife during climate change, protect fresh water supplies, ensure carbon sequestration and produce oxygen. All of these resources are critical for the future population of this country.
- The management of national parks for conservation has not been adequately funded and there are increasing demands from vocal minorities to provide infrastructure for recreational activities such as hunting, mountain bike riding and horse riding.
- We urge your committee to recommend that NSW honours their commitment to the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Environment and commits resources to the establishment of a comprehensive, adequate and representative system of protected areas and to managing these areas appropriately to protect their natural values.

Yours Sincerely,

Secretary