

Submission
No 328

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 28/08/2012

Partially Confidential

I am writing this submission because I have serious concerns about the nature of this inquiry and do not want to see further loss of our threatened flora and fauna due to short sighted views on how national parks should be managed.

Australia has one of the fastest extinction rates in the world, with over 100 species lost in 200 years. Currently there is more than 850 flora and fauna species threatened with extinction, in NSW alone (as stated on the Office of Environment and Heritage website)! This should be a wake up call to the NSW government, the need to protect habitats from further land clearing and degradation, to prevent further decline of our unique biodiversity.

I believe that national parks are by far the best way to protect our native plants and animals, especially given that a large proportion of NSW has been cleared of suitable habitat through mining, agriculture, rural and urban development and logging activities.

I agree that there needs to be better management of national parks, but I think this should be through increased resources and funding for management of parks, not through staff cutbacks and budget cuts as already planned by the liberal state government.

We are not owners of the land, but custodians, and as such we should be protecting our environment for the future generations, but also through our own enjoyment, which is already the case with National Parks.