

**Submission
No 376**

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

Organisation: Free Our Bush Petition Signatories

Name: Mr Craig Diversi

Date received: 31/08/2012

The Director
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5
Parliament House
Macquarie St
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to you today to voice my concerns about the undesirable trend of closing trails and limiting access into various Australian National Parks for 4wd vehicles.

It has been well documented lately that the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), in conjunction with other relevant local bodies, are closing tracks completely and limiting access in other areas where families have gone for generations to enjoy our great country. Families of campers, anglers, bike riders and bush walkers alike are being locked out of the spectacular destinations that are only accessible with a 4wd vehicle.

Besides the family and recreational reasons for keeping tracks open it is a seldom publicised fact that Fire Trails across the state are maintained by the 4wder on a constant basis. From the removal of trees that have fallen due to storm damage, the maintenance of bush camp sites, track repair and rubbish removal “days”, the 4wd community is generally positive in its approach to the care of our bush.

The motto “Always leave a campsite cleaner than you found it” is applied by the vast majority of the 4wd community. We take pride in the areas we can get to, but they are diminishing in quantity at an alarming rate, and I just hope that you are able to help keep these areas open for future use.

As a 4wd owner who loves nothing more than exploring new destinations all over the state with my family and friends and it is very disturbing that my grandchildren may never have the same opportunities.

Please help stem the flow of Parks closures and re-open places that have been closed. Let us, the Australian people, enjoy our Aussie Bush for generations to come.

Attached is a list of 2121 signatories to the online petition outlined above with a further 373 yet to provide a confirmed email address. This since the petition opened on the 23/7/12, just 5 weeks ago on the freeourbush.com.au website.

Sincerely,

Craig Diversi
On Behalf of all 'Free Our Bush' Signatories