

**Submission
No 228**

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

Organisation: Bankstown Bushland Society

Name: Mr Colin Gibson

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To permit logging and grazing in national parks would be a betrayal of the public's trust in government to competently manage the state's natural heritage. Exploitative economic activities such as these are incompatible with national park and conservation values. The legitimate place for such activities is outside the boundaries of national parks and nature reserves. If these activities are permitted the parks might as well be abolished.

Conservation of wildlife and of natural landscapes, separated from the modifying impacts of economic exploitation, underpin the very concept of national parks, and are the principles upon which generations of community advocates, scientists, public servants and conservationists have worked hard to establish them. The case for national parks for the benefit of wildlife conservation, environmental health and aesthetic values has been long established on a world wide basis. It is disappointing to find the New South Wales state government opening this to question. The government should fully support its wildlife and national park managers by increasing rather than decreasing staff numbers.