

Submission  
No 518

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

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date received:** 15/08/2012

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Partially Confidential

## Submission for the NSW Government Upper House Inquiry into the Management of Public Land in NSW.

My concerns relate to the need for a comprehensive, adequate and representative system of protected areas in NSW that are managed for:

- protection of biodiversity,
- catchment protection,
- protection of sites important for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage
- nature based passive recreation compatible with nature conservation.

I am very proud that NSW has wonderful national parks and nature reserves and that there has been a commitment by the government in the past to increasing and expanding these areas. I don't want this government commitment to be eroded. These protected areas are recognised by people all over the world as being significant for the protection of biodiversity, catchment protection and Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage. They are visited by many local people as well as domestic and overseas tourists.

In my own area the local communities have benefitted economically and socially from the national parks through visitors and through local employment. The presence and work of the National Parks and Wildlife Service is recognised and valued in the planning and protection, flora and fauna surveys, visitor information and education programs, weed and feral animal control and fire management.

Current budget cutbacks and pressures for more access for vehicle based recreation, hunting and horse riding are factors that limit and hamper proper management of these areas for future generations.

Both the NSW and Australian governments should continue to expand the areas of national parks and should continue to manage them with protection of biodiversity and nature conservation as the key goals.