

**Submission
No 54**

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

Name: Mr Scott and Rodney Steventon

Date received: 26/07/2012

Reporting to Community of Land Management Activities and Control of Vermin and Wildfire in National Parks and State Parks, Council owned or managed land

We call for the Public Reserves, Parks and Forests to report their activity in working with adjoining landholders in vermin control, wildfire control and management and boundary fence management including maintenance;

Vermin Control

The authorities do not participate in integrated vermin control with neighbours. When requested the NPWS confirmed they were even underfunded to supply for us to place fox and pig baits along our boundary. We have had for the first time sightings of wild dogs in our area. We have been custodians of our property for over 50 years. Feral Goats, Pigs and Foxes are the highest on record. Government must join with local baiting programs and not just bait on a token basis in a property to tick the box and just say they have done it. Baiting does not suggest sending more letters about baiting than the number of baits places in NPWS controlled areas.

Wildfire Control

Plans for all wildfires including forests, reserves and public areas must be required where they are custodians of land greater than 2Ha. Without TSR's being used and the buildup of fuel they are an increased fire source. Neighbours must have a copy of fire control plans of public areas.

Boundary Fencing

Government must change the act to be equally responsible for the retention, maintenance, supply and protection of adjoining fencing structures that are suitable to contain the stakeholders responsibilities. The NPWS on my last visit said it would only supply plain wire fencing so that native animals could pass through the fence. This irresponsibility can not be entertained. I am equally responsible to keep animals off public land as is the public responsible to keep them off my land. The government should provide labour to equally check and maintain adjoining lands fences.