

**Submission  
No 367**

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

**Organisation:** Berrigan Sporties Angling Club

**Date received:** 30/08/2012

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Submission on behalf of the Berrigan Sporties Angling Club, NSW  
To the Inquiry into Management of Public Land in NSW

I write this submission to the Legislative Council of NSW, Upper House Inquiry in Public Lands Management, on behalf of the Berrigan Sporties Angling Club. At our recent meeting this matter was discussed a great length and we now have the following to offer to this long overdue and needed debate.

1. For a start lets look at the way the morally corrupt ALP Government in NSW made the decision, firstly Nathan Reece calls for the NRC report and then makes a rash politically motivated decision only hours before he is dumped as premier, hoping to buy green votes with his dodgy decision and save his own job, (this didn't work) they didn't even wait for the report he commissioned to be released, what a smack in the face for people in the bush. Both of his successors were no better. Frank Sator stood in a mill in Deniliquin and said quote "today you people are going to get a lesson in politics, the greens want a new national park and they want it in red gum, end of story", he too was buying green votes for the up coming election, pity he lost his job too, same with Kristina Keneally what a joke and shambles, anywhere else in the world people go to jail for fraud like that. At no point has consideration been given to local rural communities or the 'flow on' effect all this will have on rural businesses and families.

2. This "Lock it and Leave it" culture that national parks and wildlife have is no good, no good at all. The undergrowth, noxious weeds & fire fuel load in these once beautiful red gum forests is a national disgrace, when we have our next bushfire we are never going to stop it, I refer you to Victoria's worst bushfires in Australian history in February 2009. Yes I said when, not if, it's the general consensus of all volunteer fire fighters that they have no hope of getting anywhere near it. The gates are locked, the fire access tracks are overgrown and ungraded. I suppose we can rely on all the latte sipping greens in the inner Sydney suburbs to come out and risk their lives to help put these fires out. I think not, they all go into hiding, what about a thought for those poor soles that neighbour these national parks, they are now being invaded by foxes, wild dogs and pest species from these waste lands, killing their valuable stock and transporting noxious weeds. Shame Shame Shame

We believe that the National Parks should be changed to "Sustainable Use" reserves, where we can once again fish, camp, 4wd and walk the dog, and introduce licensed shooters to control the foxes, wild dogs and vermin at no cost (in fact a small profit) to government through licensing, something they could use badly. This would also stimulate local economies. I have already toured with several politicians through some of the forests before they were condemned to national parks and would be only too happy to do it again.

All in all our fishing club and all its members in no way support national parks, we would like to see all public lands in NSW made into "Sustainable Use" Reserves, no matter be it crown land, state forests, TSR's (Cattle Reserves) what ever. We are also very disappointed at the extremely hard and user unfriendly regulations and collection points for fire wood. Our elderly people are going without heating in our extreme winter conditions because they can't afford, or can't get to collection points for wood and cannot afford electric heating or gas because of the rising costs on those commodities, in part, due to the Carbon Tax, another hoax.

I eagerly await your reply.

On behalf of all members of the Berrigan Sporties Angling Club

Steven Malcolm  
President  
Berrigan Sporties Angling Club