

To Secretary.
Mr. Stuart Wright

Dear Sir,

Attached is letter forwarded to the Hon Member Sue Smith.
which now we submit for consideration by your committee within the forest
agreement deliberations.

Brian Gardiner for TTRLUF
17-01-2013

TASMANIAN
TRADITIONAL & RECREATIONAL LAND USERS FEDERATION (INC.)

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RE PUBLIC LAND ACCESS

The Hon S L Smith
M L C for Montgomery
Parliament House
Hobart

Dear Sue,

At our May meeting, concern was expressed as to the continued push for declaration
of new National Parks within the state

The Federation believe such declaration to be detrimental not only to our members
but to the state in general

Whilst we support protection of ecologically endangered habitat and species, the
concept that this state can survive, prosper and provide a future for our children, by

not developing our natural resources, we believe to be false

Discussion.

National Parks

The relentless push by the conservation movement to have vast areas of **public land** within the state reserved as National Parks continues to impact on ordinary Tasmanians seeking to access and use these areas for a varied range of recreational activities

Whilst we agree some areas within the state such as parts of the Tarkine are worthy of World Heritage status, we are concerned that those advocating the area be afforded National Park status, and espousing the benefits of such a declaration, fail to mention the impact on existing recreational access and usage

The management of our public land is entrusted to both Forestry (as Forest Reserves) and Parks and Wildlife (as National Parks, Regional Reserves, Conservation Areas, Historic Sites ect.)

Whilst forest reserves encourage many forms of recreational usage, National Park reserves exclude all recreational usage except bushwalking.

Today's, National Parks are no longer in wilderness areas, but are being brought out of the wilderness into areas used by ordinary, everyday Tasmanians

National Parks are **Public land**, as such, they belongs to you, me and the family next door. If you are that family next door, and you ride a horse, you will locked out. If you use a 4WD, trail bike or hunt, you will be locked out. If you take a dog, or fossic for gem stones, you are locked out. If you collect fire wood or craft wood, you are locked out. If you are a Miner, Forester, Farmer you are locked out. National parks in this state are only for bushwalkers

National parks legislation disenfranchises and disposes ordinary Tasmanians

Forrest reserves

For decades, forest reserves have been developed as multiple use to provide economic benefit to the state and the communities in which they are situated along with public access for a variety of recreational pursuits

We find it inconceivable that multiple use forested land is being negotiated for additional protection as World Heritage areas and future National Parks, by groups which have no legislative status and seem only to be seeking closure of such areas to all commercial development and recreational usage.

Whilst World Heritage status (in itself) needs not be detrimental (as such areas can encompass a wide range of uses as evidenced world wide) and the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage area, south of Strahan, has **Game reserves, Historic sites and areas of existing practices** and in doing so recognizes pr-existing and traditional usage which forms community identity

The redefining of multiple use forest reserves to classifications other than multiple use also disenfranchises and disposes ordinary Tasmanians

Private land sale, covernets and access

Over the past two decades large tracks of private land (until now available for recreational pursuits) have been purchased by private individuals and companies resulting

in restrictions and denial of access for recreational hunting, wood gathering and 4WD,

particularly in the midlands and central plateau areas.

The introduction of carbon credit system enhances the value of otherwise marginal land

and is likely to further increase large private land sales, encourage placement of land covernements, resulting in denial of access and cessation of traditional recreational pursuits

within these area

Existing land classification

In the early 1990s public land use commissioner Mr. Bruce Lever, recommended changes

to the public land classification system which resulted in the introduction of Regional Reserves, a classification we believe should encompass any forestry reserve or land currently having multiuse status

Conclusion

The Federation request. Existing public and forestry land be retained within a multiple use classification which will allow continued access for traditional recreational pursuits.

The federation conditionally supports World Heritage status of some public land areas provided existing access and sustainable usage are retained

The federation does not support the declaration of new National Parks under existing legislation

We seek your assistance in maintaining for ordinary Tasmanians (our members) their rights

of access and sustainable usage of public land for traditional and recreational pursuits.

Yours faithfully

Mr. Warren Connell

Secretary

Ph.0419588857

Date

