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Your Ref: 6175

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Queensland Parliamentary Service
Parliament House
Cnr Alice and George Streets
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 10 October 2003 forwarding a copy of a petition tabled in the Parliament on 8 October 2003 concerning access to Mapleton Forest Reserve.

I note the petitioners support a balance between conservation, recreational use and community safety. The State Government is committed to achieving an appropriate balance and I am aware of the diversity of the issues relating to recreational use on State Forests and Forest Reserves in south-east Queensland.

When making final decisions for these lands, the State Government will give consideration to providing an appropriate balance between the need for effective conservation of south-east Queensland's outstanding natural values and recreation community aspirations for continued access to natural areas.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention and I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

DEAN WELLS
Minister for Environment