

*16/12/04*  
LAID UPON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE  
THE CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENT



Our Ref: BNE11116-7  
BNE2004/13989  
E/04/03561  
Your Ref: 344/04; 350/04; 355/04; 381/04; 382/04

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
Queensland Parliamentary Service  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letters forwarding a copy of the petitions received by the House regarding horse riding in the Mapleton Forest Reserve.

I recently announced new tenures to protect forests and allow riding in identified former forestry lands, including the following areas within an hour's drive of the Mapleton Forest Reserve:

- Parklands, Tuchekoi, Beerburum, Crohamhurst and Mooloolah Forest Reserves, of 1 351 hectares, will become Conservation Parks, which can allow horse-riding in perpetuity.
- Imbil, Walli, Parklands, West Cooroy and Woondum State Forests, with quite large areas remaining unaffected and open to riding, subject to rider and other stakeholder consultation when logging in these areas ceases over the next 20 years.
- Rider-identified trail areas of Mapleton, Bellthorpe, Conondale, Tewantin, Woondum, Kenilworth and Wrattens Forest Reserves, of 5 007 hectares, are National Park (Recovery) areas open to riding for up to nine years while alternative trails are identified.

Please refer to the attachments for full details of riding areas in the Mapleton area.

Our State has some of the most bio-diverse forests in Australia yet the nation's lowest level of forest protection. Our booming economy and population growth is placing ever greater pressures on our natural assets – pressures for development, recreation and protection.

The Government is determined to address these pressures in a balanced way. It recently announced a number of initiatives, including the SEQ Regional Plan, with objectives to better sustain economic growth, our Queensland lifestyle and our world-class environment.

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Ongoing implementation of the 1999 SEQ Forests Agreement (SEQFA) is wholly consistent with these objectives. After significant consultation with all stakeholders, it is providing:

- transition for the timber industry with 'one last cut' over the next 20 years from old-growth forest areas while alternative supplies from plantations are developed;
- provision of opportunities for recreational activities, including horse-riding; and
- greater protection of forest species and the forest-based tourism industry.

Recreational opportunity has been provided for a wide range of uses, including horse-riding, walking, hiking, cycling, trail-biking, four-wheel driving, orienteering and abseiling.

The Beattie Government recognises the recreational, cultural and economic value of horse riding and has provided more than \$8 544 719 to support recreational horse riding across the State, including \$5 939 388 for purpose built facilities for a range of riding disciplines.

The Beattie Government's support is also more than financial. It has consulted on and incorporated rider input into the recent SEQFA announcement, including retention of riding areas in 62 State forests, creation of a special land tenure in 16 *National Park (Recovery)* areas and conversion of 17 State forests to conservation park tenure which allow riding in perpetuity. These elements were a result of positive negotiation and consultation with riders.

It is recognised new national parks are not available to horse riders. However, national parks represent approximately only 4% of Queensland. New SEQFA national parks are the third most bio-diverse forests in Australia and deserve the highest possible protection. National park status provides this protection. For decades, neither horses nor other non-native animals have been specifically allowed in national parks, a position maintained by Governments of all political persuasions.

Our forebears established this policy and good reasons remain for it to continue. Many species are in decline – in fact, so many SEQ forest species are in decline they are a third of the State's listed rare, vulnerable or endangered species. While threats faced by these animals are imperfectly understood, this is insufficient reason to delay or weaken protection.

Rather, it is imperative we strengthen protection and restore natural conditions to the extent practicable. Consequently, the Beattie Government has stepped up park ranger numbers by 142 or 30% to better manage park, fire and pest risks. We will also spend around \$10 million on fire and pest management in 2004-05, including an extra \$6 million over three years to fulfil the *2004 Enhanced Pest and Fire Management* election commitment.

The challenge is to balance the importance of riding with ecological protection. Consequently, the Beattie Government has announced a new partnership with rider representatives to identify alternative riding trails as soon as possible, preferably within 12 months. It also has allocated \$650 000 to establish alternative off-reserve trail rides.

I hope this information is helpful to you.

Yours sincerely

**Desley Boyle MP**  
**Minister for Environment**  
**Minister for Local Government and Planning**  
**Minister for Women**

Att

**Attachment 1**

**State Forest and Timber Reserve areas in SEQ Bioregion where horse riding is currently allowed.**

| <b>Estate Name</b>             | <b>Estate Type</b> | <b>Gazetted Area (ha)</b> | <b>Estate Name</b>           | <b>Estate Type</b> | <b>Gazetted Area (ha)</b> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Amamoor State Forest           | SF                 | 7010                      | Kabunga State Forest         | SF                 | 331                       |
| Bauple State Forest            | SF                 | 9500                      | King State Forest            | SF                 | 74                        |
| Beerburrum East State Forest   | SF                 | 12862                     | Lilydale State Forest        | SF                 | 32                        |
| Beerburrum West State Forest   | SF                 | 9126                      | Lockyer State Forest         | SF                 | 202                       |
| Beerwah State Forest           | SF                 | 5547                      | Luttons State Forest         | SF                 | 313                       |
| Bellthorpe State Forest        | SF                 | 492                       | Lynchs Hill State Forest     | SF                 | 117                       |
| Brooyar State Forest 1         | SF                 | 3330                      | Marys Creek State Forest     | SF                 | 5193                      |
| Brooyar State Forest 2         | SF                 | 242                       | Mount Mee State Forest       | SF                 | 912                       |
| Canungra State Forest          | SF                 | 0.22                      | Mount Stanley State Forest 1 | SF                 | 4350                      |
| Cinnabar State Forest          | SF                 | 388                       | Neerdie State Forest 1       | SF                 | 239                       |
| Conondale State Forest         | SF                 | 30                        | Oakview State Forest         | SF                 | 1156                      |
| Crohamhurst State Forest       | SF                 | 64                        | Palen State Forest 1         | SF                 | 460                       |
| Curra State Forest             | SF                 | 4827                      | Palen State Forest 2         | SF                 | 97                        |
| D'Aguilar State Forest         | SF                 | 1530                      | Parklands State Forest       | SF                 | 54                        |
| Deer Reserve State Forest      | SF                 | 2894                      | Peachester State Forest      | SF                 | 734                       |
| Delaneys Creek State Forest    | SF                 | 287                       | Pechey State Forest          | SF                 | 1206                      |
| Deongwar State Forest          | SF                 | 4730                      | Ringtail State Forest        | SF                 | 1730                      |
| Diaper State Forest            | SF                 | 2193                      | Schact Creek State Forest    | SF                 | 2.75                      |
| Elgin Vale State Forest        | SF                 | 11707                     | Squirrel Creek State Forest  | SF                 | 6689                      |
| Esk State Forest               | SF                 | 944                       | Sunday Creek State Forest    | SF                 | 305                       |
| Eumundi State Forest 2         | SF                 | 4                         | Toolara State Forest         | SF                 | 41590                     |
| Fishermans Pocket State Forest | SF                 | 560                       | Traveston State Forest       | SF                 | 85                        |
| Gallangowan State Forest       | SF                 | 4980                      | Upper Kandanga State Forest  | SF                 | 90                        |
| Gambubal State Forest          | SF                 | 538                       | Walli State Forest           | SF                 | 405                       |
| Geham State Forest             | SF                 | 364                       | Wappa State Forest           | SF                 | 50                        |
| Glastonbury State Forest       | SF                 | 2090                      | West Cooroy State Forest     | SF                 | 1150                      |
| Gympie State Forest            | SF                 | 12                        | Wickham Timber Reserve       | TR                 | 198                       |
| Imbil State Forest 1           | SF                 | 16665                     | Woondum State Forest         | SF                 | 452                       |
| Imbil State Forest 2           | SF                 | 3824                      | Wrattens State Forest        | SF                 | 1051                      |
| Jimmys Scrub State Forest      | SF                 | 890                       | Yabba State Forest           | SF                 | 15996                     |
| Jimna State Forest             | SF                 | 10356                     | Yurul State Forest           | SF                 | 1759                      |
|                                |                    |                           |                              | EPA                |                           |
|                                |                    |                           | Glen Rock Regional Park      | Freehold           | 6300                      |
| <b>Total hectares</b>          |                    |                           |                              |                    | <b>221782</b>             |

## ATTACHMENT 2

### SEQFA future protected area tenures for all planning areas

| Planning Group                      | Forest Reserve                       | Future protected area tenure                             |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| BANIA                               | Bania Forest Reserve $\Psi$          | National park/national park (recovery)                   |
| BANIA                               | Mount Perry Forest Reserve           | Resources reserve  |
| BANIA                               | Nour Nour Forest Reserve $\Psi$      | National park/national park (recovery)                   |
| BANIA                               | Wonbah Forest Reserve                | National park/resources reserve                          |
| BEERBURRUM                          | Beerburrum Forest Reserve 1*         | National park/conservation park                          |
| BEERBURRUM                          | Beerburrum Forest Reserve 2          | National park  |
| BEERBURRUM                          | Beerwah Forest Reserve               | National park/forest reserve                             |
| BEERBURRUM                          | Crohamburst Forest Reserve*          | Conservation park  |
| BEERBURRUM                          | Maleny Forest Reserve 1              | National park  |
| BELLTHORPE                          | Bellthorpe Forest Reserve 1          | National park  |
| BELLTHORPE                          | Bellthorpe Forest Reserve 2 $\Psi$ * | National park/national park (recovery)/conservation park |
| BELLTHORPE<br>BLACKWATER<br>FORESTS | Blackdown Tableland Forest Reserve   | National park  |
| BOYNE VALLEY                        | Bulburin Forest Reserve              | National park  |
| BOYNE VALLEY                        | Calliope Forest Reserve*             | Conservation park  |
| BOYNE VALLEY                        | Dan Dan Forest Reserve               | National park  |
| BOYNE VALLEY                        | Dawes Forest Reserve 1 $\Psi$        | National park (recovery)                                 |
| BOYNE VALLEY                        | Dawes Forest Reserve 2               | National park/resources reserve                          |
| BOYNE VALLEY                        | Degalgil Forest Reserve              | National park  |
| BOYNE VALLEY                        | Kroombit Tops Forest Reserve         | National park  |
| BOYNE VALLEY                        | Maxwelton Forest Reserve             | National park  |
| BOYNE VALLEY                        | Polmaily Forest Reserve 1            | National park  |
| BOYNE VALLEY                        | Polmaily Forest Reserve 2            | National park  |
| BOYNE VALLEY                        | Wietalaba Forest Reserve $\Psi$      | National park (recovery)                                 |
| BUNYA                               | Cooyar Forest Reserve                | National park  |
| BUNYA                               | Neumgna Forest Reserve $\Psi$        | National park/national park (recovery)                   |
| BURNETT                             | Bingera Forest Reserve               | National park  |
| BURNETT                             | Cordalba Forest Reserve              | National park  |
| BURNETT                             | Littabella Forest Reserve*           | National park/conservation park                          |
| BURNETT                             | Warro Forest Reserve                 | National park  |
| DAGUILAR RANGE                      | Bunyaville Forest Reserve*           | Conservation park  |
| DAGUILAR RANGE                      | Clear Mountain Forest Reserve 1*     | Conservation park  |
| DAGUILAR RANGE                      | Clear Mountain Forest Reserve 2*     | Conservation park  |
| DAGUILAR RANGE                      | Daguiilar Forest Reserve $\Psi$ *    | National park/national park (recovery)/conservation park |
| DAGUILAR RANGE                      | Deer Reserve Forest Reserve          | National park  |
| DAGUILAR RANGE                      | Enoggera Forest Reserve $\Psi$ *     | National park/national park (recovery)/conservation park |
| DAGUILAR RANGE                      | Moggill Forest Reserve $\Psi$        | National park (recovery)                                 |
| DAGUILAR RANGE                      | Mount Glorious Forest Reserve $\Psi$ | National park/national park                              |

|                    |                                   |  |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
|                    |                                   | (recovery)/conservation park                             |
| DAGUILAR RANGE     | Mount Mee Forest Reserve          | National park/national park (recovery)                   |
| DAGUILAR RANGE     | Samford Forest Reserve*           | Conservation park  |
| DAGUILAR RANGE     | Samsonvale Forest Reserve         | National park  |
| DAISY HILL/WICKHAM | Canungra Forest Reserve           | Conservation park  |
| DAISY HILL/WICKHAM | Daisy Hill Forest Reserve*        | Conservation park  |
| DAISY HILL/WICKHAM | Tamborine Forest Reserve $\Psi$   | National park/national park (recovery)                   |
| DAISY HILL/WICKHAM | Wickham Forest Reserve $\Psi$     | National park/national park (recovery)                   |
| DULARCHA           | Dularcha National Park*           | National park/conservation park                          |
| DULARCHA           | Mooloolah Forest Reserve $\Psi$   | National park/national park (recovery)                   |
| EURIMBULA          | Eurimbula Forest Reserve 1        | National park  |
| EURIMBULA          | Eurimbula Forest Reserve 2        | National park  |
| EURIMBULA          | Eurimbula Forest Reserve 3        | National park  |
| GYMPIE             | Amamoor Forest Reserve            | National park  |
| GYMPIE             | Glastonbury Forest Reserve        | National park/forest reserve                             |
| GYMPIE             | Goomborian Forest Reserve $\Psi$  | National park/national park (recovery)                   |
| GYMPIE             | Gympie Forest Reserve             | National park  |
| GYMPIE             | King Forest Reserve*              | Conservation park  |
| GYMPIE             | Toolara Forest Reserve            | National park  |
| GYMPIE             | Womalah Forest Reserve            | National park/resources reserve                          |
| GYMPIE             | Woondum Forest Reserve 2          | National park  |
| HELIDON HILLS      | Esk Forest Reserve                | National park  |
| HELIDON HILLS      | Gatton Forest Reserve             | National park  |
| HELIDON HILLS      | Geham Forest Reserve              | National park  |
| HELIDON HILLS      | Hampton Forest Reserve            | National park  |
| HELIDON HILLS      | Lockyer Forest Reserve $\Psi$     | National park/national park (recovery)/resources reserve |
| HELIDON HILLS      | Perseverance Creek Forest Reserve | National park  |
| HELIDON HILLS      | Ravensbourne Forest Reserve       | National park  |
| HELIDON HILLS      | White Mountain Forest Reserve     | National park/national park (recovery)                   |
| KENILWORTH         | Conondale Forest Reserve 1 $\Psi$ | National park/national park (recovery)                   |
| KENILWORTH         | Conondale Forest Reserve 2 $\Psi$ | National park/national park (recovery)                   |
| KENILWORTH         | Elgin Forest Reserve              | National park  |
| KENILWORTH         | Imbil Forest Reserve 1            | National park  |
| KENILWORTH         | Imbil Forest Reserve 2            | National park  |
| KENILWORTH         | Jimna Forest Reserve              | National park  |
| KENILWORTH         | Kenilworth Forest Reserve $\Psi$  | National park/national park (recovery)                   |
| KENILWORTH         | Yabba Forest Reserve 1            | National park  |
| KENILWORTH         | Yabba Forest Reserve 2            | National park  |
| MAIN RANGE         | Alford Forest Reserve             | National park  |
| MAIN RANGE         | Burnett Creek Forest Reserve      | National park  |
| MAIN RANGE         | Emu Vale Forest Reserve           | National park  |
| MAIN RANGE         | Gambubal Forest Reserve           | National park  |

|                 |   |  |
|-----------------|---|--|
| MAIN RANGE      | Gilbert Forest Reserve                    | National park  |
| MAIN RANGE      | Goomburra Forest Reserve                  | National park  |
| MAIN RANGE      | Mount Mathieson Forest Reserve            | National park  |
| MAIN RANGE      | Palen Forest Reserve 1                    | National park  |
| MAIN RANGE      | Palen Forest Reserve 2                    | National park  |
| MAIN RANGE      | Palen Forest Reserve 3                    | National park  |
| MAIN RANGE      | Spicers Gap Forest Reserve                | National park  |
| MAIN RANGE      | Teviot Forest Reserve                     | National park  |
| MAPLETON        | Maleny Forest Reserve 2                   | National park  |
| MAPLETON        | Maleny Forest Reserve 3                   | National park  |
| MAPLETON        | Mapleton Forest Reserve <sup>Ψ</sup>      | National park/national park (recovery)                   |
| MAPLETON        | Maroochy Forest Reserve 1                 | National park  |
| MAPLETON        | Maroochy Forest Reserve 2                 | National park  |
| MAPLETON        | Maroochy Forest Reserve 3                 | National park  |
| MAPLETON        | Parklands Forest Reserve*                 | Conservation park/resources reserve                      |
| MAPLETON        | Walli Forest Reserve                      | National park  |
| MARODIAN        | Boompa Forest Reserve 3                   | National park  |
| MARODIAN        | Gigoomgan Forest Reserve                  | National park  |
| MARODIAN        | Glenbar Forest Reserve                    | National park  |
| MARODIAN        | Grongah Forest Reserve                    | National park  |
| MARODIAN        | Kilkivan Forest Reserve                   | National park  |
| MARODIAN        | Marodian Forest Reserve                   | National park  |
| MARODIAN        | Miva Forest Reserve                       | National park  |
| MARODIAN        | Teebar Forest Reserve 1                   | National park  |
| MARODIAN        | Teebar Forest Reserve 2                   | National park  |
| MT WALSH        | Boompa Forest Reserve 1                   | National park  |
| MT WALSH        | Boompa Forest Reserve 2                   | National park  |
| MT WALSH        | Woowoonga Forest Reserve                  | National park  |
| MURGON/TARONG   | Ban Ban Forest Reserve                    | National park  |
| MURGON/TARONG   | Benarkin Forest Reserve                   | National park  |
| MURGON/TARONG   | Beninbi Forest Reserve                    | National park  |
| MURGON/TARONG   | Cherbourg Forest Reserve*                 | National park/conservation park                          |
| MURGON/TARONG   | Mount Binga Forest Reserve                | National park  |
| MURGON/TARONG   | Nangur Forest Reserve                     | National park  |
| MURGON/TARONG   | Pidna Forest Reserve                      | National park  |
| MURGON/TARONG   | Woroon Forest Reserve                     | National park  |
| MURGON/TARONG   | Yarraman Forest Reserve                   | National park  |
| NOOSA           | Noosa Forest Reserve                      | National park  |
| NOOSA           | Tewantin Forest Reserve 1                 | National park/national park (recovery)                   |
| NOOSA           | Tewantin Forest Reserve 3                 | National park  |
| NOOSA           | Tuchekoi Forest Reserve*                  | National park/conservation park/resources reserve        |
| NOOSA           | Woondum Forest Reserve 1 <sup>Ψ</sup>     | National park/national park (recovery)/resources reserve |
| NOOSA           | Woondum Forest Reserve 3*                 | Conservation park  |
| NUMINBAH/NERANG | Austinville Forest Reserve 1              | National park  |
| NUMINBAH/NERANG | Austinville Forest Reserve 2 <sup>Ψ</sup> | National park (recovery)                                 |
| NUMINBAH/NERANG | Austinville Forest Reserve 3              | National park  |
| NUMINBAH/NERANG | Clagiraba Forest Reserve                  | National park  |

|                 |                                |  |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|--|
| NUMINBAH/NERANG | Nerang Forest Reserve*         | National park/conservation park        |
| NUMINBAH/NERANG | Numinbah Forest Reserve $\Psi$ | National park/national park (recovery) |
| NUMINBAH/NERANG | Springbrook Forest Reserve     | National park                          |
| WONGI           | Wongi Forest Reserve           | National park/forest reserve           |
| WONGI           | Woocoo Forest Reserve          | National park                          |
| WRATTENS        | Kandanga Forest Reserve        | National park                          |
| WRATTENS        | Oakview Forest Reserve         | Resources reserve                      |
| WRATTENS        | Wrattens Forest Reserve        | National park/resources reserve        |

\* Horse riding continues on conservation park.

$\Psi$  Horse riding continues for 9 years on national park (recovery).