

Our Ref: BNE3719-3
BNE2005/5614
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Your Ref: 453-05

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 letter of 24 March 2005 forwarding a copy of a petition received by the House on 23 March 2005 regarding the suggestion to offer the Settlement Lands (Lot 2 Registered Plan 219164) to the Gold Coast City Council to hold in trust to manage and maintain for active and passive recreation purposes.

The oval is available to the people of Queensland for active and passive recreation purposes. Upon gazettal of the national park in 2005, these activities will be allowed to continue, provided the recreational activities are consistent with the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*. For example, dog walking would not be permitted.

Commercial activities, special events or large group activities will require permits to be issued to ensure that these events are consistent with the principles of the Act. These requirements and any limitations or restrictions imposed on the activity or event could also be expected under local government control i.e. waste disposal, noise and traffic control, and animal controls. Each application will be considered on a case by case basis and every effort made to accommodate the needs of the community in consideration of the new tenure.

The process of gazettal to national park tenure has already commenced and includes all of the lot parcels within the Settlement area. This process is planned to be completed by mid-2005. I am confident that continued management of the whole Settlement area by the Environmental Protection Agency will ensure the best possible protection of natural values and public use in perpetuity.

I hope this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

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