

Dear The Secretary,

My name is Shane Murrhiy and am a practicing Town Planner in Logan City Council, 20 minutes south of Brisbane. I also have a major in Tourism and Recreation studies.

In response to your call for submissions relating to the funding and resources available to meet the objectives of Australia's national parks, other conservation reserves and marine protected areas, these are my points for further discussion:

I believe a significant proportion of the resources required for the protection of our resources needs to come through User Pays Systems (UPS). Although there are already established UPS throughout Australia, I believe that these should be expanded to become a National Policy. This will not only provide significant revenue for restoration and protection projects, but also provide the National Parks, Reserves and Marine Areas with a uniform level of expectation for users.

In association with a National UPS for entry and use of these areas, a National Policy could be established which is to be adhered to by all users. This Policy is to be legally-based so as all activities within protected areas are regulated and users can be prosecuted for unduly impacts on protected areas. By making a National Policy for these areas, users know of their duties for entry to all Australian National Parks, Conservation Reserves and Marine Protected Areas.

Please contact me if you have any questions. Many thanks for the opportunity to comments.

Regards

Shane Murrhiy
Planning Officer
Development Assessment Branch
Logan City Council