



New submission for investigation "Central West Investigation"

veac

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## Submission for the investigation "Central West Investigation"

Submitted on **10-09-2018**

Information provided by the author:

Title: **Mr**

First Name: **Pez**

Last Name: **T**

Description:

I am making this submission to register my disappointment in the recent VEAC report recommendations, and to register that myself and the community of bush users of which I am a part of overwhelmingly reject the recommendations made in the VEAC report. Bush users such as four-wheel drivers, prospectors, hunters, fishers, dirt bike riders, horse trail riders and dog walkers are rightly worried about the future of our recreational activities in Victorian forests, and the negative impact that any restricted access to the Victorian bush will have. Bush users like myself are frequently out in the bush, and are almost always there alone. We rarely see others. Our impact on the environment is minimal, but overwhelmingly positive at the same time. Free access to the bush is a way of life, and an extremely important part of maintaining a physical and mental health balance for many Victorians. It is not unusual for bush users to remove rubbish or tackle weeds when we find them - in fact this is the usual occurrence. We want access for all and believe that if the bush is locked up and access restricted for fossickers, riders, hunters, four wheel drivers or the like, there will be no-one in the bush at all to keep it healthy. The inner-city dwellers are NOT the bush users and they clearly do not understand the reality of the ideology to which they subscribe. Based on the recommendations made, VEAC do not appear to represent the actual bush users, and do not appear to understand our current contribution to the bush AT ALL. Invasive pests and weeds would reign, as they currently do now in the locked up National Parks we have. Only those who spend time in the bush, caring for the bush understand this fact. The current state and condition of National Parks in Victoria is poor. The inability for the Public to access, maintain and protect the bush in National Parks has led to weeds and invasive species/pests being out of control. Parks Victoria and DELWP do not have the resources to manage the bush effectively. If you venture outside of the designated camp site areas into the "real bush", the ineffectiveness of National Parks is clear. Overwhelmingly, calls for additional parks are coming from inner-city dwellers who have not visited the bush, have no firsthand knowledge of the bush and only know what they read on social media. It is a worrying time for those like myself who care for the bush, live in the bush, work in the bush and relax/find the right life balance in the bush. NO

**MORE PARKS - UNLOCK THE EXISTING PARKS (OUR BUSH) AND  
ALLOW FREE ACCESS FOR ALL RECREATIONAL BUSH USERS!**

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