



**D8 Wellsford Nature Reserve**

**Gary Love** to: veac@delwp.vic.gov.au

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From: Gary Love <  
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Old Stock Route Road by north break by barnadown rd section of the Welsford Forrest.

We would like to make a formal submission as to why we believe this section of the Welsford Forrest needs to be left as a state Forrest, not made a conservation park.

We have been residents of Bagshot since 1990. During this time we have raised our family, every weekend we would go bush riding in this part of the Forrest. This was a great experience for our young family growing up.

We are now older and walk this section daily, with our dog. It not only gives us pleasure but is part of our daily health plan as prescribed by our doctor. Our daughter also comes along with our grandson and their dog.

So as you can see, we have been enjoying this part of the bush for three generations. I feel that you are trying to keep the wrong park users out of the Forrest. We keep to the tracks, we do not leave rubbish, our animals are under control at all times and have never harmed wildlife, we have seen plenty, I take great pleasure being able to educate my grandson on how to safely observe our wild creatures without harming them or putting us in danger. Close the Forrest to us and our pets you will take away the enjoyment that we have had for the last 30 years.

I would rather you close the Forrest to recreational vehicles than pedestrians, dogs and horses. Domestic Animals (under control ) are not what is damaging our environment, it's recreational vehicles. Every day we see the damage they are doing. The amount of rubbish that is thrown from cars, beer bottles, cordial containers, coffee cups it's appalling. When a tree falls over the track they just drive around, thru the bush and make a new track. Recently, someone has started felling trees for firewood. I am devastated by the damage this is causing. Over the last 12 months we have seen several kangaroos, dead from shooters.

We have a wonderful asset in this beautiful part of the Welsford, it is being utilised daily by our family. By turning it into a conservation park you will be taking from us something that is part of our lifestyle. There is nowhere else we can go. This is our local Forrest. We respect it and would like you to consider our submission.

Yours sincerely  
Gary Love