



No National Park

wendy

to:

veac@delwp.vic.gov.au

10/10/2018 12:56 PM

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From: wendy <

To: "veac@delwp.vic.gov.au" <veac@delwp.vic.gov.au>,

I am writing to the VEAC to say NO National Park in the Wombat State Forest.

I am an active user of the Wombat State Forest and ride my horse with my friend regularly in the Wombat State Forest. It is our de-stress time and we very much enjoy finding trails and exploring the vast bushland. We stay on trails and logging tracks and do not disturb the natural habitat. We ride through the bush between Lyonville, Trentham, East Trentham, Newbury and Blackwood. I am an active member of the Kyneton Trail Riders and Kyneton Adult Riders groups and know of many women and men who ride regularly throughout these areas.

It seems to me that turning the Wombat into a National Park will severely compromise our areas to ride, to the extent that it will no longer be available for us to use. The hundreds of tracks and special places we ride have not been put forward as areas that will be accessible to us. I also wonder how much consideration was given to the mental health benefits the area provides. How unfair for VEAC to propose such limitations of the hundreds of users that live around our beautiful area.

I have recently been informed that certain members of the Central West Community Reference Group have either a direct affiliation or connection with the Victorian National Parks Association, including [Ian Harris](#), [John Petheran](#), [Ann McGregor](#), [Michelle Wyatt](#), [Matt Ruchel](#), [Wendy Radford](#) and [Murray Ralph](#). Should it be true it is an absolute insult to the people of Hepburn and Macedon Ranges. It is a clear conflict of interest and the consultation process has been severely compromised. It appears there are a group of people here pushing their own agendas.

I would also like to know if my local member [Mary-Anne Thomas](#) supports this proposal prior to the state election. There has been no comment as far as I am aware and I see the cut-off time for these submissions has been extended to after the state election. I believe it's time for the public to be informed and informed with detailed information about the true meaning of this proposal and for the public users of the forest to have an honest and clean voice on the future of the area.

I am going to continue to actively fight this proposal.

Sincerely,

Wendy Steeper

from [Mail](#) for Windows 10