1. The Nature Conservation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015 (the Bill) has been prepared for the protected area estate. These amendments:

* reinstate ‘the conservation of nature’ as the sole object of the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*;
* remove redundant provisions from the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* that allowed the chief executive to grant stock grazing permits for emergency drought relief on six prescribed national parks;
* reinstate the former national park (scientific), conservation park and resources reserve classes of protected area under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992;*
* exclude leases used for agriculture, grazing or pastoral purposes on protected areas from the rolling term lease provisions under the *Land Act 1994;* and
* remove an exemption that allows management plans under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*, *Marine Parks Act 2004* and *Recreation Areas Management Act 2006* to be amended without public consultation if the amendments relate to a change in State government policy.

1. The Bill also amends the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* to defer the expiry of the existing eligibility criteria for low risk mining activities by 12 months to allow consultation on the development of the new eligibility criteria with affected stakeholders.
2. An amendment to the *Aboriginal Land Act 1991* allows regional parks to be converted directly to national park (Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal land) following tenure resolution negotiations with Aboriginal Traditional Owners.
3. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Nature Conservation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015 into the Legislative Assembly.
4. *Attachments*

* [Nature Conservation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015](Attachments/Bill.PDF)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.PDF)