

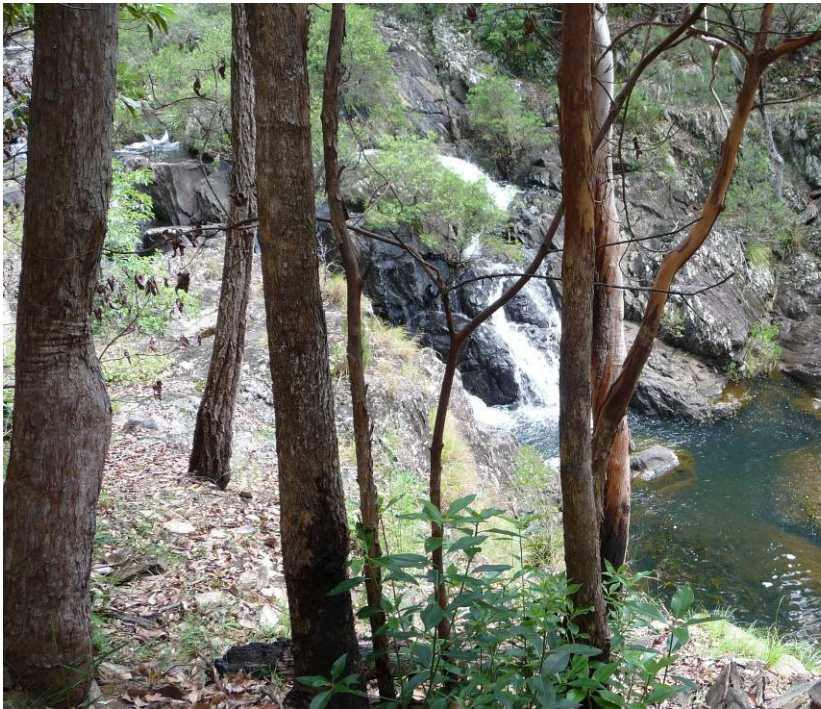


FRIDAY ENVIRONMENT FORUM

NPA Environment Centre

8 November 2013

Community needs to challenge changes



One of our special places in the Conondale National Park

The State government has ushered in a raft of changes to Queensland's environment laws that protect the conservation values of our special places.

A number of amendments are being passed under the *Nature Conservation and Other Legislation Bill (No 2) 2013*. Citing expected economic benefits from reducing environmental assessments and its supporting framework, the government puts out the line that this does not mean a reduction in environmental standards.

"Unfortunately, there is little evidence this will be the case," said Narelle McCarthy from the Sunshine Coast Environmental Council. "The consequences of ditching important checks and balances while also ignoring accelerating biodiversity decline will see this government preside over a disastrous environmental legacy."

Economic impacts from necessary environmental regulation are often overstated, while the environmental, cultural and social impacts grossly understated.

The broader community needs to challenge these far reaching laws set up to benefit vested and short-sighted interests.

SUNSHINE COAST
Environment Council



Narelle McCarthy from the Sunshine Coast Environment Council will provide an update on some of the changes to legislation relating to our National Parks and the push for commercial tourism in protected areas at Friday Environment Forum on **November 8**.

Everyone is welcome at the **Noosa Parks Association Environment Centre** Wallace Park Noosaville for the forum which starts at 10.30am. Come early for coffee and chat at 10am.

As usual the Bird Observers will meet at 8.30am in the car park for a stroll in Wallace Park to view the wildlife. Join in and enjoy the beauty of nature.