



NPWS reference: EF21/8319 NPWS contact: Josie O'Connell Telephone: 0488 331 434 Date: 15/06/2021

General Manager Byron Shire Council PO Box 219 MULLUMBIMBY NSW 2482

Dear General Manager,

The National Parks and Wildlife Services (NPWS) has identified a council public road within the Byron local government area that appears suitable for incorporating into Mount Jerusalem National Park (NP). The information sheet attached provides more information about the reservation of council roads under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*. It will give some guidance and background about the department's considerations and the statutory process.

The council road proposed for addition to Mount Jerusalem NP is shown by yellow on the diagram (Appendix 1).

If council agrees that the road is suitable, NPWS can publish a gazette notice to reserve the roads. Under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, the gazettal of a road as a national park has the effect of extinguishing the council road without needing to undertake a formal road closure under the *Roads Act 1993*.

In assessing suitability for gazetting the council road as an addition to Mount Jerusalem NP NPWS has confirmed that:

- Byron Shire Council is the controlling authority of the public roads subject to this proposal, dedicated as council road on 11 October 1910 (appendix 4). I have provided supporting road status documentation for your information.
- The road is generally unconstructed, containing continuous native vegetation comparable to the adjoining national park (appendix 5).
- An alternative access corridor is excluded from the national park and vested in the Minister, known as Koonyum Range Road. This trail is maintained by NPWS and provides access to other lands requiring access through Mount Jerusalem NP to the north (appendix 2).

We would appreciate it if you could review this proposal at the next Council meeting. If council agrees to the road being added to the park please respond with written concurrence.

I spoke with council staff Deanna Savage on 15/06/2021. Deanna explained that Council will be in caretaker mode until after August election and that this proposal will not be presented to a Council meeting until September at the earliest. If this matter is scheduled to a later meeting, please let me know and I will reschedule my follow up accordingly.





If you have any questions about the information provided or the process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Josie O'Connell

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Project Officer, Reserve Access Program

Reserve Establishment Team

National Parks & Wildlife Service

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

Appendix 1 - Proposal diagram















