

## **Commercial Activities, Tourism & Infrastructure in National parks, Reserves & Other Protected Areas**

### **Principles**

1. Any use of a park or reserve for commercial purposes should not, as determined by park management, impact adversely on the environmental integrity and natural state of the area.
  2. Any park in which a commercial activity is proposed needs to have a pre-existing (hence agreed) management plan which will not be compromised by the activity
  3. Commercial activities and infrastructure developments are to be compatible with the identified values and amenities of the park, and any protected area under consideration, as documented in the park management plan. (This may also need to be supported by an activity management plan and commitments by the developer to a code of behaviour with sanctions for breaches)
  4. Depending on the type of park/reserve commercial activities should have a strong connection with nature, the natural environment and facilitate the connection of people with nature
  5. Facilities that do not need to be in a park should be outside it and planned and controlled in such a way that they do not degrade a park or reserve through any spill-over effect.
  6. Commercial uses of parks and reserves must not diminish or remove the access rights and facilities of other approved users, including the walking community and the general public.
  7. Commercial uses of parks and reserves must, in addition to being commercially viable, be able to demonstrate a public benefit.
  8. Commercial operators of activities or infrastructure must pay usage fees that are commensurate with the environmental impact they have and commercial benefit they receive.
  9. Any commercial activity or facility that is approved for establishment in any park or reserve is to be subject to a defined period licence or lease agreement, the continuance of which requires an assessment, no less than annually, to ensure agreed minimum standards are being met with respect to impact and public benefit.
  10. Commercial activities must not diminish or interfere with the wilderness experience of other approved users including the walking community and the general public.
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### **Other Proposal Assessment Considerations**

When applying the above principles and assessing whether to accept or reject a particular commercial proposal there is a need to:

- Distinguish between physical developments and commercial activities.
- Identify what specific impacts there will be and determine whether they are acceptable, unacceptable, manageable and repairable: in the latter case, how and by whom that will be achieved?