

Mr Mark Brown
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24 February 2024

Proposal: Demolition of Bobsled, construction of mountain bike trail and associated works

Application Number: DA 24/1485

Planning Portal Number: PAN-406466

Dear Mark

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission regarding this State Development Application at Thredbo.

I oppose this proposal. I oppose further cutting and slicing of the mountain for mountain bike trails.

This is not the first time I have opposed a development proposal at Thredbo.

In this case my reasons are the following:

1. This proposal is considered in isolation from every other development proposal / application taking place in Thredbo. The cumulative impact of development fails to be truly considered and Thredbo is losing its natural assets, attractions and amenity.
2. As with other proposals there is little to no consideration of the impact of the operation of new infrastructure on the amenity of Thredbo including noise, dust, visual impact and opportunity to see native fauna. Mitigating impacts during demolition and construction is one thing, the ongoing impact of a new mountain bike trail is entirely different.
3. Mountain biking has transformed Thredbo for better (economic income) and worse (environmental impact and amenity). When will there be a halt to the number of trails on the mountain? The generation of dust is significant; I have seen it and had it on my clothing and breathed it in while walking on the mountain.
4. Trails criss-cross/break through/impact on walking trails both high up and low down in the valley. The ability to simply enjoy and appreciate nature, the peace and quiet, the birds, the flora, the clean fresh air, the views has declined significantly.
5. I would prefer to see the Bobsled area rehabilitated or possibly turned into a walking track. Walkers need to be given better and greater access to the mountain.

My last comment is an appeal for real reform to environmental protections in New South Wales. Unfortunately, the ability for members of the public to make a submission for any proposal in the State appears to be little more than a 'tick and flick' 'consultation' exercise.

Further, the entire planning and approval process is skewed in favour of continuous development, land clearing and tree removal and leads to death by a thousand cuts of our precious, unique, stressed environment and flora and fauna. The same could be said of our national *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* (I know reforms have been proposed and consulted on now).

Have you read *The Winter Road* by Kate Holden?
<https://www.blackincbooks.com.au/books/winter-road>

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Koeman', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Annalisa Koeman

