



Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc

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Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow

29 March 2026

Attention: Attention to City Planning

lincolnsrockplan@bmcc.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Alternative scenarios for management of Lincolns Rock precinct, Wentworth Falls

The Blue Mountains Conservation Society is a long-established, community-based volunteer organisation with over 900 members. Our mission is to help protect, conserve and advocate for the natural environment of the Greater Blue Mountains.

Of the four scenarios on which Blue Mountains City Council has requested comment, Scenario 1 is the most acceptable to the Blue Mountains Conservation Society. Scenario 4 is the least acceptable.

The Society welcomes the prominence given to the environmental integrity of the subject site in the document produced in March 2026 about the future of Lincolns Rock.

The reduction in the visitation levels of recent years which is expected if Scenario 1 is implemented is the only practicable way to reverse the environmental degradation of the precinct which is accurately described in Council's document. The trends in visitation levels to the Southern Scenic Escarpment are difficult to predict but the adoption of Scenario 1 for Lincolns Rock is supported in the context that various other sites on the Southern Scenic Escarpment will remain available for visits by coaches, mini buses and private motor vehicles and the current process of finalising plans of management for sites on the Southern Scenic Escarpment will continue.

The Society notes that Scenario 1 mentions the possibility that further temporary or permanent closures of Lincolns Rock could be necessary in certain circumstances. An effect of the current total closure is that it allows a period of recovery by the ecosystem from the already considerable damage that has occurred. Our support for Scenario 1 is given in the hope that the rate of recovery is carefully monitored by Council and the Lincolns Rock sites are not reopened to any visitors until Council can be confident the recovery has progressed sufficiently. Fires and other climate related events must be particularly considered when deciding the timetable for having the site open to walkers only or having periods of total closure.

Concerns over the total resources available to Council for managing visitor behaviour add to our support for reducing visitation numbers at highly sensitive sites such as in the Lincolns Rock precinct. Environmentally threatening behaviour is prevalent in many parts of the Southern Scenic Escarpment including unauthorised overnight camping, bush toileting, vandalism, rubbish dumping, feeding wildlife and harassment of wildlife.

We are unaware if Council has allocated additional human resources for the commencement of night visitation to Leura Cascades which has been flagged for later this year. It is most important that the choice of management strategies for sensitive areas be achievable within the human and other resources that Council will realistically be able to provide. This is one of the many reasons why Scenario 1 is distinctly preferable to the other three scenarios.

Thank you for taking the time to read our submission.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'A. Cam', is positioned above a thin horizontal line.

Annette Cam
President
Blue Mountains Conservation Society
president@bluemountains.org.au