

Save Redwood Park

I HAVE recently become aware of a proposal that the Toowoomba Regional Council is considering that concerns the expansion of mountain bike trails by adding one which would traverse Redwood Park.

Currently, a number of trails exist on the Toowoomba range, providing courses for the various ability levels and covering a total distance of 70 kilometres.

Redwood Park is an area that includes unique and sensitive ecological systems, containing an amazing diversity of flora and fauna.

The threat to many species, particularly the black breasted button quail, is of great concern. This already threatened species exists only in a very limited area of Australia and Redwood Park is one of its remaining habitats.

These timid birds are very sensitive to human interaction and, should a bike trail be established, the species will undoubtedly disappear.

Proliferation of invasive weeds and severe erosion, caused by both bikes and spectators, also take a devastating toll on the environment.

I implore the council to investigate the potential damage to this unique environment and to consider the alternative route that has been submitted.

Please put our future environmental heritage ahead of the tourist dollar.

I would also encourage Toowoomba residents to visit Redwood Park to appreciate its beauty, serenity and biodiversity.

HEATHER SMITH, Toowoomba