



**Dale Last MP**  
**Member for Burdekin**

Shadow Minister for Police and Corrective Services, Shadow Minister for Fire and Emergency Services  
Shadow Minister for Rural and Regional Affairs

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## **Media Release – Size claims exaggerated**

The recent announcement of an expansion of the Wongaloo Conservation Park was more about inflating the government's ego than expanding the park according to Member for Burdekin, Dale Last MP.

Mr Last described the change as a "merely symbolic" and said it was time the Labor state government took real action to showcase what he described as one of Queensland's jewels.

"The so-called expansion of Wongaloo is nothing more than handing over a section of road that hasn't been used in nearly 50 years," Mr Last said. "It's land that the Wetlands and Grasslands Foundation has been looking after for decades now."

"It's a slap in the face for the volunteers who operate Wongaloo to say it is an important site when the same government has basically ignored them."

"For almost six years now the volunteers have been calling for a pedestrian crossing over the Northern Railway Line to provide safe access and to ensure that locals and tourists alike could see a globally recognised area. Instead of supporting them, the Labor government has ignored them."

Mr Last said the true story of Wongaloo needed to be shared but was concerned that its success is something the Labor government would prefer to keep hidden.

"Everyone knows that Labor pins the blame for just about every issue in regional Queensland on agriculture," he said. "Wongaloo illustrates perfectly that agriculture can not only co-exist with nature, but that the two can flourish together."

"Instead of acknowledging that fact, Labor would rather pretend that they have expanded the park. The announcement is bordering on deceit."

"The Labor state government has no right to claim credit for the success of Wongaloo. In fact, Wongaloo has succeeded despite a lack of support from people like Aaron Harper."

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