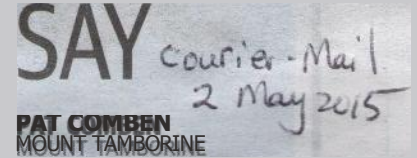


relatively few good water, farmland in Draper should protection. Waka country and important because sings where people itiation oung men tesources the area was ib Draper, a settler who was born in , England. din Moreton Bay rt Bunya, Upper 3. Draper is part of al Council. ee places bearing with another on third inland from near Mackay was ay station and it is e there also was cal farmer. 'nt has no he Cook Shire

HAVE YOUR SAY



HARD-WORKING and dedicated public servants have become a target for inaccurate cries bemoaning "bloody bureaucrats."

Consequently it is refreshing to read the positive 215-page reminiscence of a devoted Queensland public servant who spent most of his working lifetime pursuing the conservation cause that he loved so much.

Paul Sattler joined the state public service as an ecologist in 1972 and much of his newly produced book *Five Million Hectares: A Conservation Memoir—1972-2008* deals with his 35-plus years seeking to protect the natural environment

In a scientific and anecdotal presentation he outlines how behind the headlines and the public political brawls, a dedicated and knowledgeable public service still seeks to provide proper and unbiased advice to ministers and state.

Under a variety of national park ministers, Tony Elliott, Ivan Gibbs, Molly Robson and the present writer, the detailed work was done professionally and without fanfare.

The outcomes of Paul and his colleagues' work has been a substantial increase in our knowledge of Queensland's environment and from that a virtual doubling of its national parks over that period.

Paul's memoir is a readable work but most importantly it presents a human face to what was a difficult public policy area for Queensland over many decades.

Rarely do we get such a positive inside story from an insider over such a long period.

