

China First has been approved but the fight to protect Bimblebox has only just begun



Bimblebox Updates

Dear Bimblebox Supporters,

Bimblebox at the IUCN World Parks Congress

We will be in Sydney next week to remind Minister Greg Hunt that, by approving a mine on Bimblebox Nature Refuge, Australia is not meeting its obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

As it will bring together around 3,000 people from more than 160 countries, we saw this [conference](#) as a one-off opportunity to create awareness within the international community and to tell the real story of what happens to 'protected areas' in Australia.

The *International Union for Conservation of Nature* (IUCN) World Parks Congress meets every ten years, and it so happens this year Sydney will be the host, from 12-19 November. Australia has been a signatory since 1992, but its legislation fails to protect biodiversity in IUCN category VI protected areas that make up the [National Reserve System](#).

Our first communication with the IUCN was in 2009, when we sent a [letter](#) to the Secretariat of the CBD urging them to contact the relevant ministers in regard to the conflict between protected areas and destructive mining activities in light of Australia's responsibilities as a signatory of the CBD.

Thanks to [Protect The Bush Alliance](#) (PTBA), funds were available for Paola to attend the Congress and share a booth with the PTBA. We are also grateful to Tangible Media's Greg and Emma Harm for their technical help. Writer Sharyn Munro, BirdLife Australia's Sheena Gillman, Mackay Conservation Group's Patricia Julien, and members of the Places You Love Alliance will also be there supporting the campaign against mining in protected areas. If you also are at the Congress, we are at booth 58, so come along and say hello! Paola's mobile is 04 5951840504 59518405.

[THE REAL STORY](#) - poster to be presented at the World Parks Congress

Paola at the AVID READER, WEST END, BRISBANE

On her way back from Sydney, Paola Cassoni will be 'stopping by' at the Avid Reader Bookshop, 193 Boundary St, West End, Brisbane, 6 - 8 pm to launch the book *Bimblebox: A Nature Refuge under Siege*, edited and published by Maureen Cooper, exploring the natural history and social history, containing stories, poems, short essays and lists of plants and animals. This siege is vividly described by journalist Kathlene Noonan in a recent [Courier Mail Opinion Piece](#).

We will also be celebrating the founding of [The Bimblebox Alliance Inc \(TBA\)](#).

Paola will also show two new 5-minute DVDs on Bimblebox, one by Tangible Media and one by Wendy Rogers. We very much hope you will join us at this special occasion. To reserve your place, visit http://avidreader.com.au/index.php?option=com_registrationpro&view=event&did=466&Itemid=136&shw_attendees=0.

Many thanks for your attention,
The Bimblebox Team

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