Gerry Wood, the Independent Member for Nelson, says there is an urgent need for an upgrade of the Nathan River Road which runs from the Roper Highway to the Carpentaria Highway and is part of the Savannah Way.

Gerry says he travelled the road just over a week ago and found it was in a dreadful state and there already had been a number of serious accidents on it. (See photo).

Gerry says the road is badly corrugated and there are many places where the road surface has broken up completely and is now just bulldust.

He says it appears that a lot of heavy vehicles associated with a nearby mine have been using the road and the road had only been graded once this year.

He says if the Government is really genuine about promoting tourism and regional development than it can’t leave roads in this state as word soon gets around that it’s not the place to take your vehicle and caravan if you want to get home in one piece.

Tourist businesses like Roper Bar Store, Lorella Springs and Limmen Fishing Camp who rely on visitors using this road say numbers have been down and blame the shocking state of the road.

Gerry says that the Government also wants to increase numbers to its national parks but the chances of many visitors visiting Limmen National Park will definitely be limited while the road is in such a dangerous state.

He says the Government cannot leave the road in this state any longer and needs to spend some money on making it safe and perhaps they should be talking to the mining company that uses the road to also assist in the repairs.