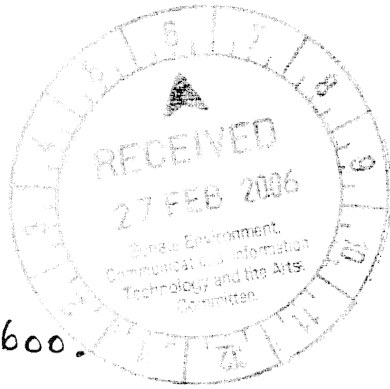


COMMITTEE SECRETARY,
SENATE ENVIRONMENT ETC.
DEPT OF THE SENATE,
PARLIAMENT HOUSE
CANBERRA ACT 2600.



EM TAYLOR

23.2.06.

DEAR SIR/MADAM,
RE. ENQUIRY INTO NATIONAL PARKS.

I HAVE LIVED, WORKED AND AM STILL INVOLVED WITH NORTHERN END OF K.N.P. SINCE 1936, HAVING WORKED WITH GRAZING, SNOWY MOUNTAINS SCHEME AND TOURISM, ALSO A MEMBER OF THE PLAN OF MANAGEMENT TEAM.

MY CONCERNS ARE AS FOLLOWS — CLOSURE OF AREAS TO CREATE NATIONAL PARKS WITHOUT PROPER MANAGEMENT HAS HAD A VISIBLE DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE LANDSCAPE PARTICULARLY NOTICEABLE OVER THE PAST 30 YEARS.

PRESENT SITUATION

1) NATIVE SPECIES, NEEDLE BUSH (HAKEA) OUT OF CONTROL ON CURRANZO PLAIN AND MANY OTHER AREAS, THREATENING OTHER DELICATE NATIVE FLORA, IN THESE FROST HOLLOWES. REGULAR COOL BURNS WOULD RE-CREATE A BALANCE - AS IT IS WE SEEM TO HAVE A NON-INTERVENTION POLICY,

2) WEEDS OUT OF CONTROL - MORE FUNDING NEEDED TO HALT THE DEVASTATING SPREAD OF BLACK BERRIES IN PARTICULAR. BLOWERING VALLEY, ONCE RICH DAIRY & GRAZING PASTURES NOW ALMOST COMPLETELY CARPETED WITH BLACK BERRIES; YARRANGOBILLY RIVER, ONCE A BEAUTIFUL FISHING STREAM NOW INACCESSIBLE BECAUSE OF BLACK BERRIES, GOOBRA GANDRA RIVER THE SAME, AND SPREADING THROUGH MANY SENSITIVE AREAS THREATENING ENDANGERED NATIVE FLORA, CREATING HABITAT FOR PIGS, CATS, FOXES RABBITS ETC.

3) CLOSURE OF THE BROKEN CART STOCK ROUTE, MAIN STOCK ROUTE FROM NORTH TO SOUTH SINCE 1840'S. MAIN ARTERY FOR TRADING AND SUPPLIES FOR GOLD MINING AND GRAZING - BROKEN CART DIGGINGS AND KIANDRA DIGGINGS. COUNTLESS TENS OF THOUSANDS OF SHEEP AND CATTLE HAVE USED THIS ROUTE. IT IS STILL BEING USED BY FOURTH GENERATION DROVERS TO MOVE THEIR CATTLE FROM WINTER PASTURE NEAR ADELONG TO SUMMER PASTURE AT YAROUK, NEAR ADAMINABY. THIS STOCK ROUTE IS NOT BEING CLOSED FOR ANY LEGITIMATE ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS.

4) BUILT HERITAGE - KIANDRA COURT HOUSE -
 FACADE REMOVED SOME YEARS AGO, LEFT TO CRUMBLE INTO SERIOUS DILAPIDATION DESPITE A "CONSERVATION PLAN". VISUALLY AN EYE SORE, BESIDE THE SNOWY MOUNTAINS HIGHWAY.
 MORE COULD BE SAID ABOUT KIANDRA TOWNSHIP

SAWYERS HUT — A REST HUT BUILT 1900 AS A STAGING POST FOR TRAVELERS GOING TO KIANDRA, ESPECIALLY IN WINTER - AND THE MAILMAN ON HORSEBACK AND SKIS. IT HAS BEEN ALLOWED, WITHOUT ANY INTERVENTION, TO FALL INTO SUCH A STATE OF DIS-REPAIR THAT A SAFETY FENCE HAS BEEN ERECTED AROUND IT, FOR PUBLIC SAFETY, WHAT A DISGRACE, TO SEE BY THE SNOW MOUNTAINS HIGHWAY.

COOLAMINE HOMESTEAD. — GOOD RESTORATION WORK DONE ON THE EXTERIOR, ACTUALLY REBUILT 1980'S. BUT PRE-WORLD WAR 2 NEWSPAPERS LINING THE INTERIOR WALLS BEING ALLOWED TO FALL AWAY. THESE NEWSPAPERS ARE AN IMPORTANT HISTORIC HERITAGE LEARNING AID FOR ALL VISITORS TO THE SITE. IN THIS CASE THE MONEY INVOLVED WOULD BE INSIGNIFICANT — IT'S THE WILL TO FINISH A JOB THAT IS LACKING. N.P.W.S. IN THIS INSTANT ARE NOT INTERESTED IN HERITAGE.

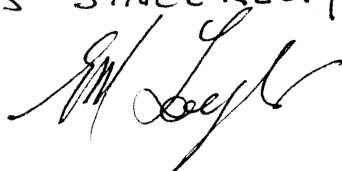
YARRANSOBILLY CAVES GUEST HOUSE. HUGE AMOUNTS OF MONEY SPENT. LOOKS FABULOUS - WHY IS IT NOT FULLY OPERATIONAL AS PER "CONSERVATION PLAN"?

IN CONCLUSION, THERE IS A DEFINATE ABSENCE OF A FEEL FOR HERITAGE VALUES, BOTH NATURAL & BUILT AMONG NPWS STAFF, FROM MANAGEMENT, DOWN THROUGH THE RANKS, PERHAPS A POLICY SHIFT COULD CHANGE THIS ATTITUDE

4.

IF I COULD BE OF FURTHER ASSISTANCE WITH LOCAL KNOWLEDGE
PLEASE DONT HESITATE TO CONTACT ME.

YOURS SINCERELY

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Ted Taylor', written in dark ink.

TED TAYLOR.