



## South East Region Conservation Alliance Inc.

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14 June 2013

The Hon Dr Mike Kelly AM, MP  
Minister for Defence Materiel  
Parliament House CANBERRA ACT.

Dear Dr Kelly,

The South East Region Conservation Alliance's Committee of NSW joins with the National Parks Association's far south coast branch in calling on you to speak out in favour of stronger national environment laws. We believe that the National Parks and their wildlife are for all Australians, forever, not for mining, grazing, shooting or logging. Will trust that you will do all you can to help protect our state's amazing national parks.

The O'Farrell government has already allowed amateur shooters into our parks and industry is pushing the state government to open our parks to logging and grazing. We need national checks and balances on state decisions about the places and wildlife we love. We believe that it is prudent to keep all our places of beauty in as natural a state as possible for their own sake, and to enable them to develop their natural resilience under the difficulties of climate change. This would ensure healthy regeneration into perpetuity and not subject them to the risks, for which we would be accountable to future generations if proven to be disadvantageous and/or destructive.

Under the 'precautionary principle', it may be assumed that the burden of proof that these behaviours in our National Parks are not harmful, falls on those responsible for forest management. In light of acting cautiously versus recklessly, fields which typically fall within the precautionary principle, include the possibility of global warming or abrupt climate change and the extinction of species.

Please use your powers under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act to make National Parks a matter of national environmental significance and ensure that decision powers under this law can never be handed over to state governments.

Yours faithfully,

Co-Convenors: Lisa Stone, Bronte Somerset

Deputy Convenor: Harriett Swift

(Acting) Secretary: Sean Burke

Treasurer: Valerie Faber

Ordinary Committee Members: Prue Acton, Scott Daines, Keith Hughes, Heather Kenway

Co-opted Committee Members: John Perkins, Noel Plumb, Tony Whan

Committee

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