



6 July 2005

The Hon J Thwaites MP  
Deputy Premier  
Minister for Water and the Environment  
Level 3, 1 Treasury Place  
MELBOURNE 3000

**By Fax: 9651 1188  
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Dear Minister Thwaites

**GRAZING IN VICTORIA'S ALPINE NATIONAL PARKS**

As you may be aware, Lawyers for Forests, ("LFF") has taken an active interest in the above issue. LFF's interest extended to lodging a submission with the Alpine Grazing Taskforce.

LFF welcomes the Government's announcement that it will not renew grazing licences in the Alpine National Park, and the passing of the **National Parks (Alpine National Park Grazing) Act 2005** ("the Act").

LFF believes the decision not to renew the cattle grazing licences is consistent with the objectives of the **National Parks Act 1975** and the **Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988**, as well as competitive neutrality principles.

LFF also congratulates the Government for:

1. Placing the interests of the environment (and Victorians as a whole) ahead of the interests of a vocal minority with a direct financial interest in continuing to receive subsidised licences.
2. Passing the Act notwithstanding the inappropriate (and ineffective) action taken by the Commonwealth Government to heritage list the practice of grazing in the Alpine National Park.

Yours faithfully

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