

National Parks (Alpine National Park) Bill

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Outline

The objective of the Bill is to provide for establishment of an Alpine National Park of 646 200 ha. The park includes the existing Bogong National Park, Cobberas–Tingaringy National Park, Wonnangatta–Moroka National Park and Wabonga Plateau State Park, together with other lands in the Alpine Area recommended for inclusion by the Land Conservation Council, but excluding the Snowy River National Park, originally recommended for inclusion in the Alpine park by the LCC. Because of the extensive additions made to that Park by the *National Parks (Amendment) Act* 1988, it is omitted from the Alpine National Park.

NOTES ON CLAUSES

Clause 1 summarises the purpose.

Clause 2 provides for commencement. Sub-sections (1) (2) (3) (4) and (5) relate to delays to allow completion of certain mineral exploration and extraction of forest produce provided for by the L.C.C. and approved by the Government. The remainder of the Act comes into operation on a day or days to be proclaimed.

Clause 3 provides that the *National Parks Act* 1975 is the Principal Act.

Clause 4 allows for continuation of extraction of forest produce in that part of the Alpine National Park (previously Bogong) which is subject to once-only logging under previous legislation. None of the additional parkland will be logged after it is part of the park.

Clause 5 inserts new sections 30A, 30B and 30C in the Principal Act. Proposed new section 30A protects the rights of the State Electricity Commission in the Kiewa hydro-electric scheme. Proposed new section 30B provides for access to private property. Proposed new section 30C provides for certain life occupancies previously granted under the Land Act.

Clause 6 is a technical amendment following the inclusion of Bogong National Park in the Alpine National Park.

Clause 7 provides for amendments to the Principal Act in order to allow for hunting of deer by stalking in sectors of the Alpine National Park in accordance with recommendations of the Land Conservation Council. Paragraph (d) makes it clear that hunters must comply with the conditions specified in the *Government Gazette*.

Clause 8 amends Schedule Two to the Principal Act by omitting parts 30 (Cobberas–Tingaringy), 32 (Bogong) and 33 (Wonnangatta–Moroka) and inserting part 37 (Alpine National Park), which is to replace them. Paragraph (d) inserts part 37, description of the Alpine National Park of 6172 square kilometres. The total area of the park is from time to time increased by the areas referred to in clause 9.

Clause 9 provides that certain land is not included in the park until certain dates or conditions are met.

<i>Specific Date for Proclamation (Map key)</i>	<i>LCC Reference</i>	<i>Area ha</i>	<i>Reason for Delay</i>
31 July 1989 (diagonal hatching)	A20 Dartmouth	980	Once-only logging area
1 July 1991 (open circle)	A14 Dargo River	1830	Once-only logging areas
	A20 Dartmouth	6500	
	A21 Buenba	<u>540</u>	
		8870	
1 July 1993 (cross hatching)	A13 Barry Mountains Barrys Selwyn	5470	Once-only logging areas
		<u>35</u>	
		5505	
1 July 1994 (open triangle)	A17 East Kiewa	1800	Hydrology experimental area may be available for once-only logging
1 July 1996 (herringbone)	A20 Dartmouth	1910	Once-only logging

Clause 10 omits part 29 (Wabonga Plateau) from Schedule Two B by reason of inclusion of the area in the Alpine National Park.

Clause 11 provides, as an additional object in section 4 of the Principal Act, for the responsible management of the land in parks.

Clause 12 (1) is the usual provision for road closures.

(2) is the usual provision for excision from reserved forest.

Clause 13 provides for rights under mining tenancies granted prior to the proposal to create the Alpine National Park.

Clause 14 continues the lease for the Antarctic Training Centre adjacent to the Rocky Valley Dam with the Minister as lessor rather than the State Electricity Commission of Victoria.

Clause 15 provides for the Wonnangatta Station (445 ha), which is being purchased under a terms contract of sale.