

Blue Mountains Gazette - Letters To The Editor

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Attack on Wilderness

The Blue Mountains Conservation Society has been actively campaigning against commercial development in National Parks so we are pleased that the issue is gaining attention in the lead up to the State election. Last year, legislation passed the NSW Parliament making it easier for commercial resorts, function centres, shops and other developments to be located inside National Parks. This alarming piece of legislation was rushed through parliament, and has the potential to severely compromise the fundamental aim of national parks, namely to conserve the natural world.

The legislation was opposed by the Greens and supported by the Coalition. Since then, Janet Mays has committed to moving a Private Member's Bill to exclude the Blue Mountains National Park from development and Michael Richardson has written to the Gazette highlighting the fact that the Coalition attempted to amend the legislation by excluding world heritage listed parks from commercial developments. This was a positive step which the Society welcomed. Can we therefore assume that the Coalition will change the legislation in line with their amendment if elected in March?

Peter Green

Blue Mountains Conservation Society