

Graeme Stoney

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MEDIA RELEASE

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MP RIDES WITH CATTLEMEN ACROSS THE HIGH COUNTRY

Upper House Member for Central Highlands Graeme Stoney has announced he is supporting the Mountain Cattlemen's protest by riding with the cattlemen across the Alpine National Park for the next week.

"I am riding and camping with the cattlemen and their families in the High Country to show my support. The removal of the Mountain Cattlemen from the High Country by the Bracks Government was a deep personal loss to me as I have been a Mountain Cattleman all my life and will continue as such long after I leave politics."

"This protest raises again the wider issue of National Park funding and management, the need for a more balanced use of our Parks and access to public land generally. For example since the cattle were removed from the Alpine National Park last year, already the Government through Parks Victoria, is talking about removing all man made watering points. This will gravely affect people horse riding through the High Country and again reduces access, as people will find it impossible in many areas to find water for their horses.

"The Mountain Cattlemen are drawing Australia's attention to their loss of their leases, culture and heritage through their democratic right to peacefully protest and I will stand with them all the way," Mr Stoney said.

N.B. In case you missed it, I enclose a statement and press release I have received from the Cattlemen and a press release from the lobby group Country Voice, which was sent to me today.

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