

# High country inspection is of great value



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"As a result of these inspections, stock rates per acre may be varied and stock may be completely excluded from some areas to allow grass and herbage revegetate areas which may have suffered from stock concentration," he said.

The inspection began at Merrig and the party travelled by four wheel vehicle onto the Great Dividing Range, crossing from the Delatite River valley into the headwaters of the Howqua Valley and the Jamieson River valley to Mt. Clear.

They followed the range from Mt. Clear to King Billy and Hells Window, returning via Mt. Lovick, Bindaree Hut, Howqua Gap, Mt. Stirling, Mt. Winstanley and the Razorback Spur.

Dual purpose fire protection dams and cattle watering points have been constructed in some gully heads where constant use of these areas by cattle had produced boggy conditions which could have caused further erosion.

The dams constructed by the Commission cured the boggy conditions and provided excellent cattle watering points and handy supplies for fighting any forest fires that develop in the area.

The inspection party included members of the Mountain District Cattlemens Association, the Forests Commission, the Soil Conservation Authority, the Lands Department, Department of Agriculture, Mansfield Shire, Mansfield Conservation Group and the media.

● In the Le Dawn Forester, Russ Ritchie, looks at regeneration of Alpine Ash amidst wild flowers on the Great Divide near Mt. Timbertop.