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Dear Greg,

I'm writing to you, with the hope that you can help us save our cattlemans hut, and cattle run from being locked up in the new proposal.

The 'Bonedale Plain' is situated between Mersey Valley and Forth Valley, west of Lake Rowallan

The Miles and Walters family have grazed cattle in this country for the last 60 yrs, we have cattle there at the moment

The Snares hut, which was built by my father Dick Miles, his brother Ray Miles & Alf Walters. Uncle Ray Miles, built and lived there after returning from the war where he was captured and put on the Burma railway, after coming home he lived away from people (due to the torture) we maintain this hut and spend lots of time there, with other family members doing the same.

We feel we are the traditional owners of this hut and land and we know if Parks & Wildlife get their hands on it, we will be locked out. We also know from watching other shot up reserves there will be a major fire.

Cattle grazing through the bush help reduce fire hazard. The cattlemen have little burns in the spring when the ground & logs are still wet from winter, then the lizards, frogs, animals & birds can move ahead of it, the Paw don't burn, and then they get a huge hot fire in mid summer when the ground will burn, and creatures can't escape.

Another example of there shutting up land, is the Walls of Jerusalem, which my partner Bob Dixon's family grazed cattle there also building a stockmans hut, which you now cannot go in.

They grazed cattle across the mountain, saving it from the 1964 fires. The P/W saw how beautiful this country was & took it over, Graeme Johnstone rang Bob recently and said don't go up there it is a mess.

Please help us keep our remaining bit of grazing land & our hut.

Thank you.

Julie Kee (nee Miles)