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## NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985

### EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Explanatory Note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament)

The object of this Bill is to amend the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 so as—

- (a) to require the concurrence of the Director of National Parks and Wildlife to the carrying out of certain activities on lands within catchment areas; and
- (b) to require that certain approvals, concurrences and other matters under that Act may be given only after the fullest examination.

Clause 1 specifies the short title of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 is a formal provision that gives effect to the Schedule of amendments.

Schedule 1 (1) (a) applies section 185 (catchment areas) of the Principal Act to state recreation areas and Aboriginal areas.

Schedule 1 (1) (b) amends section 185 of the Principal Act so as to provide that commercial timber shall not be taken by The Metropolitan Water Sewerage and Drainage Board or the Hunter District Water Board, except with the concurrence of the Director of National Parks and Wildlife, from lands within a national park, historic site, state recreation area, nature reserve, state game reserve or Aboriginal area that are also within a catchment area.

Schedule 1 (2) inserts a new section 186 (requirement for examination) in the Principal Act. The proposed section provides that the Minister and the Director shall not grant certain approvals, concurrences, leases, licences, franchises, etc., except after the fullest examination.

The proposed amendments will ensure that the Principal Act complies with the Convention on Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific which is to be ratified by the Commonwealth. The Convention provides—

- (a) that no portions of any national parks shall be capable of alienation; and
  - (b) that the resources of national parks shall not be subject to exploitation for commercial profit,
- except after the fullest examination.



