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8th June 2010

The Hon. David O'Byrne MHA  
The Minister for Parks and Wildlife Services,  
Parliament House,  
Hobart TASMANIA 7000.

Dear Minister,

**Re: CRADLE VALLEY**

On behalf of the Friends of Cradle Valley (FoCV), I am writing to welcome you to your new appointment as Tasmanian Minister for Parks and Wildlife Services.

The Friends of Cradle Valley is a not-for-profit, independent, community advocacy group that supports the Parks and Wildlife Services in maintaining high-quality wilderness heritage values in the Cradle Mountain-Lake St.Clair National Park and its surrounds, and in delivering appropriate visitor facilities and services, especially to the Cradle Valley area which we help to promote through our networks and activities as Tasmania's premier tourist destination. For your information, our website is [www.friendsofcradlevalley.com](http://www.friendsofcradlevalley.com).

As your sister, the former Hon. Minister, has no doubt informed you, there have been community concerns expressed not infrequently during the past few years about inadequate levels of State Government funding for the maintenance and development of visitor facilities in all of Tasmania's National Parks and Reserves, and our beautiful Cradle Valley has not really been insulated from these funding inadequacies, despite it being so important to the State's tourism-based economy.

Naturally, the Friends of Cradle Valley share these concerns about levels of funding for the Parks and Wildlife Services, which are reflected here in our valley in a lack of progress being made on precinct planning and on a painfully slow re-development of office and accommodation facilities for resident Rangers upon whom Parks visitors depend so much. Moreover, there has been no Cradle Valley Stakeholder meetings for 12 months.

We trust that you will endeavour to provide, as the Minister, a much better conduit to guaranteed State Government funding for Tasmania's Parks and Wildlife Services, and for Cradle Valley, than has been provided in recent years.

Yours sincerely,

John R. Wilson  
Hon. Secretary FoCV

