Proposal: Mt Field National Park Campground and Huts

Proponent / s
Mrs Rachel Power
Mr Greg Power
Power Family Trust

Location
Mount Field National Park

Description of proposal
Proponents and current ‘Waterfalls Café and Gallery’ leaseholders, Rachel and Greg Power, seek to improve the visitor experience to Mt Field National Park by changing the management of the facilities and services. The project proposal has four components which include; the development of a central electronic booking system for all Mt Field accommodation options; the management and maintenance of the national park campground; the management of the Lake Dobson huts, and; the contract to provide cleaning services for the day use facilities and visitor centre.

Central Electronic Booking System
The project seeks to improve the ability to book and compare accommodation options and increase visitor numbers to the Mt Field area by establishing a central electronic booking system for the camp ground, government huts and future cabins on and off-site. The Café, due to its longer operating hours, would see a manned check in/out service for all accommodation options and an after-hours service and added security to the campground and huts.

Mt Field National Park Camp Ground
The proponents seek to provide the management and maintenance of the Mt Field camp ground, and over time increase the accommodation offerings and amenities at the camp ground. The proposal includes an additional 10 powered camp sites, up to five glamping style tents on wooden platforms, and a number of self-contained cabins.

Lake Dobson Government Huts
The proponents seek to manage the Lake Dobson Government Huts, which includes the cleaning, management of keys, and maintenance. The five huts sleep six people in each building (bunk style), with a wood fire heater and a sink with running cold water. The huts are historically significant and are predominantly used by local Tasmanians.

Cleaning Operations
The proponents seek a contract to clean the day use facilities of the Mt Field National Park Camp Ground day use facilities and visitor centre, currently cleaned by PWS. The proponent reasons that their staff are onsite for longer periods of the day and weekends enabling regular checks of the condition and ability to respond accordingly.

Estimated jobs created
The Power Family Trust currently employ up to 20 staff and these staff, and more as required, would be used to service the needs of patrons in the campground. It is estimated that 5 full time positions would be created.

Social, cultural and environmental impact
The proposal is consistent with statutory management plan and will have a low environmental impact as it uses an existing facility. Rachel and Greg both have a passion for supporting the local community and are keen enthusiasts of environmental education and holding community events at Mt Field. They have investigated the use of hospitality traineeships and wish to extend this program into the future so they can continue to provide opportunities to the youth of the Derwent Valley.