

Senator John Madigan

Independent Senator for Victoria

--- Media Release ---

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Grazing decision a betrayal of country heritage 'High altitude lunacy,' says Madigan

Independent Senator for Victoria John Madigan has slammed a recent Victorian Government decision on alpine grazing, calling it "high altitude lunacy".

Senator Madigan said he had long-voiced his support for alpine grazing and called the decision to stop scientific trials "puzzling and absurd".

Senator Madigan said: "Why stop research? What are people frightened of? The ALP/Greens coalition in Victoria is only interested in research that supports a pre-determined outcome. Pandering to a city-centric Green groupthink betrays country people.

"It belittles the heritage and knowledge of families who have been farming and grazing in the high country for more than five generations.

"These families have shown they are true environmentalists. When there's a bushfire up in the High Country, it will be these locals who will be on the frontline, not the Green group-thinkers in Parliament House.

"City-centric politicians don't understand the issues and certainly won't be there to clean up the mess.

"I have always spoken out for the rights of local communities and country people. This decision is anti-scientific and it's anti-people. It's anti-community. It's high altitude lunacy. This is one more example of politicians making decisions from afar and ignoring decades of local knowledge and real-life experience. Country people feel betrayed on many fronts and it must stop."

Senator Madigan said he would be writing to Premier Daniel Andrews asking for the scientific trials to be continued.

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