

Franklin comparison

Sir,- Interesting to note that in January 1983, 30 years ago, the blockade of the Franklin Dam started in earnest, and basically finished in March 1983 with the overthrow of the Fraser Government, and the new Prime Minister Bob Hawke starting the process of stopping the construction of the dams.

This story is being relayed in the local ABC radio book reading at 6.40 each morning. The story relates to one of the protesters returning to this magnificent wilder-

ness with his daughter, with flashbacks to the peaceful protests of 1982-1983, and the eventual demise of both the state and federal governments.

I do believe that the Mollacoata Bastion Point protests against the East Gippsland Shire's proposed 3B 'aquaculture industry ramp' at the end of a magnificent and world recognised Coastal Wilderness walk from Cape Conran to Mollacoata, will be just as effective.

The Cape Conran Coastal Park is a coastal reserve located between Marlo and Mollacoata in East Gippsland. The

11,700-hectare area was declared a coastal park under the National Parks Act in 1997.

As stated in the Department of Sustainability and Environment Cape Conran Nature Trail, "Cape Conran is rich in cultural heritage - both Aboriginal and European. Follow the boardwalk around East Cape to Cowrie Bay, where interpretive signs provide a rare glimpse of the significance of the coastal environment for Aboriginal people. Climb the steps from the beach to take the trail through coastal heathland back to Sailors Grave (East Cape Car Park) or continue on

to West Cape and Salmon Rocks Beach."

The plan is that this trail will finish at Bastion Point Mollacoata.

We hope not in blazing lights and a 20-metre wide concrete access road constructed along this pristine beach and rock pools, with the rock pools blasted away to form a deep channel out into the sea at the end of the point.

There are many people, including those reinvigorated from 30 years ago, who will protest as effectively against this monstrosity.

Yours etc.,

Bill Gamble,

Forge Creek.

6 Feb. SRM