



**Respondent No:** 17  
**Login:** Twig  
**Email:** julianneho@hotmail.com

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**IP Address:** 127.0.0.1

- Q1. **First name** Julie
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- Q2. **Last name** Ho
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- Q3. **Phone** [REDACTED]
- Q4. **Mobile** [REDACTED]
- Q5. **Email** [REDACTED]
- Q6. **Postcode** [REDACTED]
- Q7. **Country** Australia
- Q8. **Stakeholder type** Individual
- Q9. **Stakeholder type - Other**  
not answered
- Q10. **Stakeholder type - Staff**  
not answered
- Q11. **Organisation name** Mrs
- Q12. **What is your preferred method of contact?** Email
- Q13. **Would you like to receive further information and updates on IFOA and forestry matters?** Yes
- Q14. **Can the EPA make your submission public?** Yes
- Q15. **Have you previously engaged with the EPA on forestry issues?** No
- Q16. **What parts of the draft Coastal IFOA are most important to you? Why?**  
Major issues that must be dealt with now: Climate change strategies Habitat loss and resulting extinction of native animal species Disruption of Ecosystem services we rely on including rain harvesting
- Q17. **What parts of the draft Coastal IFOA do you think have a positive outcome on the management of environmental values or the production of sustainable timber? Why?**  
not answered

**Q18. What parts of the draft Coastal IFOA do you think have a negative outcome on the management of environmental values or the production of sustainable timber? Why?**

I saw the statement by Susie Russell that the new Forestry Operations will remove the need to look for and protect threatened species. [www.portnews.com.au/story/5432904/serious-threat-to-coastal-forests-under-logging-review/](http://www.portnews.com.au/story/5432904/serious-threat-to-coastal-forests-under-logging-review/) This seemed extraordinary; but now your own document confirms it. <https://engage.environment.nsw.gov.au/forests/faqs#34060> Why abandon surveying specifically on the north coast, the very area so critical for the Threatened Species – Koalas? For north coast residents living with and trying to save Koalas, this is a betrayal. Surveys and sampling are vital to good science, and will inform the production of maps. I am concerned that the NSW Government is willing to ignore science, and dismiss scientific advice, e.g. it has decided to retain feral horses in National Parks despite evidence that their presence will damage native animals, plants and ecosystems.

**Q19. What are your views on the effectiveness of the combination of permanent environmental protections at the regional, landscape and operational scales (multi-scale protection)?**

The stated aim is to ensure “the maintenance of multi-aged forests across the landscape and the permanent retention of undisturbed habitat, providing areas of refuge, as well as connectivity and dispersal opportunities for native species.” Our remaining public forests can best do this when they are fully protected areas including more National Parks, giving us the ecosystem services we need to survive, and helping us to manage climate change. It requires carbon sequestration on a large scale, with timber production only from plantations, and the phasing-out of tree removal from native forests.

**Q20. In your opinion, would the draft Coastal IFOA be effective in managing environmental values and a sustainable timber industry? Why?**

It does not remove the pressures of RFAs of the past 20 years, which have failed to manage our forests sustainably, or to consider carbon sequestration and the role of forests in managing climate change. In that 20 years, native species declined in numbers and range, losing habitat to urbanisation/development, but also to the conversion of healthy forests to monocultures. Koalas are the flagship species demonstrating this trend with population numbers falling by up to 50% (but any decline is unacceptable). Clearfelling is already devastating our local catchments but visitors who only drive along forest roads may not see this because of buffers in place. I walk regularly within in State Forests and I witness the destruction: all trees flattened, the ground littered with offcuts yet subject to erosion due to loss of ground cover, the deathly silence because all the wildlife is now dead (wildlife cannot move on, because habitat space and resources are limited). The regrowth areas I see in our local State Forests are degraded and lack the tree species diversity of a healthy forest, and consequently the wildlife there is severely limited. Walking in State Forests is ground truthing and this is why surveys must continue as a way of researching and monitoring forests.

**Q21. General comments**

This should be an opportunity to cease logging native forests and complete the transition to plantation timber production. This would be a win-win outcome, as was the cessation of rainforest logging and establishment of National Parks (such as Werrikimbe),

**Q22. Attach your supporting documents (Document 1)** not answered

**Q23. Attach your supporting documents (Document 2)** not answered

**Q24. Attach your supporting documents (Document 3)** not answered