



Respondent No: 571

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Responded At: Jul 13, 2018 15:21:48 pm

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- Q1. **First name** Anthony
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- Q2. **Last name** Johnson
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- Q3. **Phone** not answered
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- Q5. **Email** [REDACTED]
- Q6. **Postcode** [REDACTED]
- Q7. **Country** not answered
- Q8. **Stakeholder type** Individual
- Q9. **Stakeholder type - Other**
not answered
- Q10. **Stakeholder type - Staff**
not answered
- Q11. **Organisation name** not answered
- 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?**
See submission (Document 1)
- 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?

not answered

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)?

not answered

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

not answered

Q21. General comments

not answered

Q22. Attach your supporting documents (Document 1)

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Q23. Attach your supporting documents (Document 2)

not answered

Q24. Attach your supporting documents (Document 3)

not answered

SUBMISSION July 2018

Tomorrow's Forests Today Consultation

Submission from: Anthony Johnson [REDACTED]

Recommendations

1. I am strongly opposed to the NSW Government's proposed changes to the Integrated Forestry Operations Approval.
2. I support a complete and speedy transition from the harvesting of native forests to a sustainable plantation forest industry to supply NSW's timber needs.
3. I support the creation of the proposed Great Koala National Park in the Coffs Harbour region to give koalas the best chance for a secure future in NSW and provide long term employment opportunities.

The proposed Integrated Forest Operations Approval

The proposed new IFOA abandons any semblance of ecologically sustainable forest management. It proposes the clear felling of 140,000 hectares of coastal forests between Grafton and Taree; 'remapping and rezoning' old-growth forest for logging; reducing headwater stream buffers; permitting the logging of giant trees and approximately doubling the intensity of logging in the 'selective harvesting zone'.

The new IFOA ignores reality. Widespread declines in wildlife has prompted the Australian Senate to call an inquiry into our threatened species crisis. Over logging has reduced sawlog resources throughout coastal NSW, a fact recognised by the industry itself. The number of jobs and mills has collapsed and logging now accounts for only about 0.03% of primary industries employment. This will get worse as climate change and forest dieback make future timber resources increasingly uncertain - an issue highlighted in the Natural Resources Commission report but ignored in the IFOA.

The new IFOA will heighten the impacts of logging on threatened species, and exacerbate key threatening processes such as the loss of hollow-bearing trees and bell-miner associated dieback. The intensive harvesting zone will destroy almost half of the mapped high-quality koala habitat in state forests.

By abandoning ecologically sustainable forest management, the Government has destroyed the social license of the logging industry.

Transition to a Sustainable Plantation Forestry Industry

NSW currently sources 86% of its timber from plantations. The NSW and Federal Governments should plan a strategic transition from the harvesting of native forests to 100% plantation timber

for all timber needs. New plantations should be established on previously cleared land and there should be a fair transition package for any affected timber workers.

The Government should also initiate a major restoration program to restore the health of the 100,000 hectares of degraded and sick native forests, caused by years of over logging and weed infestation.

Plan to establish the Great Koala National Park

NSW's public native forests have been over logged under the first RFAs for the past 20 years, resulting in degradation of our public forests and decreases in threatened species, such as koalas which have declined by 30 to 50% over that period.

The establishment of a large and well managed protected areas is the single most effective way to protect biodiversity. The Great Koala National Park would encompass 315 000 ha of public land in Coffs Harbour hinterland and include two nationally recognised koala meta-populations.

The establishment of this important national park would bring increased tourism to the region and compliment existing natural attractions. This will provide direct, long term employment in the tourism industry which will more than offset and job losses in native forestry.

Summary

Destroying what is left of the ecological values of our State forests and logging protected areas to meet wood supply is not the action of a responsible Government.

It is quite clear that the best use of forests is to protect the wildlife that the tourism industry depends upon; protect the water supplies that our communities rely on and store the carbon that is driving climate breakdown.

I implore the Government to abandon this destructive IFOA, transition out of native forest logging on public lands and implement positive alternatives such as the proposed Great Koala National Park. Polling in a number of centres on the north coast shows that over 90% of those polled agree with these propositions.