

From: [REDACTED]
To: [_ALL-EPA-Forestry-IFOARemake](#)
Subject: IFOA Submission
Date: Thursday, 3 April 2014 12:59:10 PM

Hello,

I wish to make a submission regarding the Integrated Forestry Operation Approvals (IFOA).

I am extremely alarmed by the changes proposed in the NSW Government discussion paper on the remake of the Coastal Integrated Forestry Operation Approvals.

First and foremost this flies in the face of all evidence telling us about the dangers of catastrophic climate change & the need to preserve carbon stores not log then or burn them.

This will significantly effect koala populations in these affected areas. Doesn't the NSW Government care about their own NSW fauna symbol & National icon??? You need to preserve koalas AND their habitat not destroy it.

Taken together, the proposed changes represent a substantial reduction in environmental protection and a serious threat to our native forests, wildlife and water courses.

The government's stated commitment to maintaining timber supply from our public native forests at current levels is incompatible with the long term protection of their environmental values. Current timber supply commitments are known to be unsustainable – failure to address this issue will result in severe impacts on biological diversity and forest health.

Removing the requirement to conduct pre-logging surveys for threatened species and habitat features will place those species at risk. Surveys for threatened plants and animals, and the identification of required exclusion areas, need to be undertaken independently of the Forestry Corporation.

The prohibition on logging on steeply sloping land (above 30 degrees) has been in place for decades. Removing this important environmental protection will increase soil erosion and water pollution, promote weed invasion and threaten landscape scale wildlife corridors.

I am appalled by the NSW Government's decision to seek advice on forestry regulation from the Tasmanian Forest Practices Authority. The logging industry in Tasmania has a deplorable track record on forest management and their practices should not be allowed in our state.

The proposal to remove conditions limiting logging intensity and extent opens the way for an intensification of logging and widespread clearfelling of our native forests. Clearfelling should not be allowed in our native forests.

The discussion paper does not adequately address important factors in maintaining forest health over time, including management of invasive weeds and forest dieback. Logging is promoting weeds and tree dieback and these must be controlled.

I am strongly opposed to the proposed changes, and call on the NSW Government to abandon this ill-considered plan to weaken protection for our native forests and wildlife.

All this discussion paper sets out to do is:

- . weakening protections for our most vulnerable native plants and animals
- . removing requirements for pre-logging threatened species surveys
- . removing restrictions on intensive logging operations and clearfelling

. increasing erosion and water pollution risks by allowing logging on very steep slopes.

Thanks & kind regards

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