

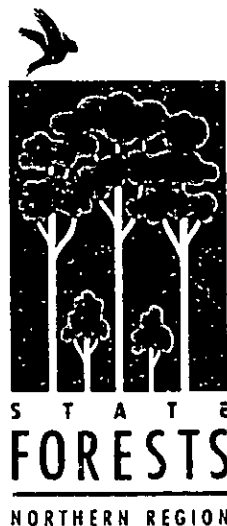
**CASINO MANAGEMENT AREA AND
MURWILLUMBAH MANAGEMENT AREA EIS
SUPPORTING DOCUMENT No. 3**

**COMMUNITY CONSULTATION REPORT
CASINO, MURWILLUMBAH AND GRAFTON
MANAGEMENT AREAS
NORTHERN REGION
STATE FORESTS OF NEW SOUTH WALES**

by

*Centre for Coastal Management
University of New England, Northern Rivers*

1993



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*Centre for Coastal management
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for
State Forests of New South Wales

February 1993

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DISCLAIMER

The findings of this report are based on the author's analysis and interpretation of the survey results. Views and interpretations presented in the report are those of the author and not necessarily those of the State Forests of New South Wales. The recommendations of the report are the opinion of the author.

Community Consultation Report

Part 1: Attitudinal Survey

February 1993

Preface

This report is the first of a set of three reports undertaken by the Centre for Coastal Management at UNE - Northern Rivers for Margules Groome Poyry, consultants to the NSW Forestry Commission. The report describes the results of a survey of North Coast residents in the Grafton and Casino - Murwillumbah Forestry Districts.

The approach to this study described in this report should be considered in conjunction with the other two reports in the series as, together, they form part of a 'package' of assessments of public inputs to the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements by the consultants.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

In early 1992, the Centre for Coastal Management (CCM) was invited to join Margules Groome Poyry (MGP) study team to assist with public consultation aspects of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies of forestry operations in the Grafton and Casino - Murwillumbah Forestry Districts. At that time the CCM recognised that, despite more than 20 years of controversy over forest operations on the North Coast, little was known about the attitudes of the wider community towards forest management. As a consequence, CCM proposed a three part approach to consultation:

- (a) formation of Community Advisory Panels (CAPs) to facilitate input to EIA by key 'stakeholders';
- (b) direct consultation with other identified 'stakeholders' not involved with the CAP process; and
- (c) a survey of community attitudes towards forest management.

These three approaches were supported by MGP and the Forestry Commission (FC) and supplemented by both additional 'stakeholder' consultation by other members of the study team and by public advertisements calling for public submission to the EIA studies.

In this context, component (c) of the consultative approach was seen to be an important source of guidance in interpreting information derived from other sources. As a recent study by Murphy (1991) of public involvement in local planning on the North Coast has shown, the more directed forms of seeking public comment/involvement in development planning (e.g. by advertisement, selective consultation, etc.) often fail to elicit a complete understanding of community attitudes. This is because of the propensity for these directed forms of public consultation to be dominated by specific interest groups and because of the difficulties associated with ascertaining the "balance" of community opinion.

This study therefore was designed to overtly provide a broader perspective on community concerns than the other components of the overall approach to community consultation. Obviously, however, even this type of approach has limitations. For example, surveys can be expensive to undertake, thus potentially limiting the statistical precision of results obtained. In addition, survey results may be biased as a result of factors beyond the control of the survey administrator (e.g. by media coverage of a issue under study).

A further, more specific, limitation which affected this study was the lack of comparative data. The only comprehensive survey of public attitudes towards forest management in NSW was conducted in 1991 (Mannix, 1992). That survey employed a qualitative design framework and was based on samples drawn from the Sydney metropolitan region. The results of that work are, therefore, of only marginal

To overcome these limitations, a continuous process of survey design was employed and relied on discussion with and feedback from groups most likely to be involved with later consideration of survey results (FC, CAPs, MGP). This survey methodology is outlined in Section 2. Section 3 sets out an overview of survey results, which then are discussed in Section 4.

2.0 SURVEY METHODOLOGY

2.1 Survey Aims and Design Process

The primary purpose of this survey was to seek to ascertain public awareness of, and concern about, forest management issues in the three Forestry Districts in order to provide a broader perspective (than other sources of information) on public opinion(s). This necessarily broad aim was complemented by a number of secondary aims:

- * to obtain information on public awareness of the EISs;
- * to obtain additional information on public use (including potential use) of State Forests;
- * to provide an opportunity for CAPs to 'test' specific issues of concern; and
- * to provide a basis for comparison of inputs from the general public with those of other 'stakeholders' and specific submissions.

Implicit in the above aims is that the results of this study should be meaningful (i.e. provide a reliable measure of public opinion) and consistent with the needs of those involved with the EIA process. The study clearly was not intended to provide simply general information which then may not be of relevance to the EIA process, although it was recognised that a more general understanding of community views is desirable in view of the dearth of such information at present.

To facilitate definition of study aims, the CAPs for the Grafton and Casino - Murwillumbah EISs were briefed on study design options in April, 1992. Following discussion of survey purpose and scope, members were invited to provide additional comments directly to the Study Team. Three members of the Grafton CAP and two members of the Casino - Murwillumbah CAP forwarded written comments. Together with input received at the meetings, these comments resulted in several significant changes to questionnaire design.

Following the discussions with the CAPs, a pilot survey of some 26 residents of the three Forestry Districts was conducted, using an iterative design method. The pilot survey programme resulted in a major change to selection of the sampling frame (see below) and minor amendments to question wording.

2.2 Sampling Frame and Instrument

Initially, it was proposed to conduct two parallel surveys of residents of the two EIS study districts - Grafton and Casino - Murwillumbah. As a result of the pilot survey programme, however, this approach was abandoned. It was noted during the pilot surveys that the Forestry District boundaries are an 'artificial divide' in the context of public use of, and attitudes towards, forest management. Residents of each District are knowledgeable about adjoining Districts (as may be expected in view of the contiguity of the Districts and their economic and social inter-relationships) and that residents commonly visit or use State Forests outside their residence District.

As a consequence, it was decided that, given the aims of the survey, a single survey of residents of all three Districts would provide adequate detail. Some CAP members had also expressed concern that the sample should extend beyond the boundaries of the Forestry Districts. While this was seen as desirable in view of, for example, the high level of visitation to the North Coast by residents of Southeast Queensland, such extension was not practical within the resources available for the study.

Following review and discussion of options for survey conduct, it was agreed that the most suitable survey instrument was a random telephone survey. A telephone interview has a number of distinct advantages over other forms of sample instruments for structured interviews (Yegidis and Weinbach, 1991) including:

- (a) high response rate (typically greater than 60%);
- (b) efficient use of interview time (for surveys up to around 10 minutes duration); and
- (c) interaction (enabling incorporation of unprompted comment and feedback).

The technique, however, does have several potential disadvantages, including:

- (a) population limitations (i.e. excludes households without a phone connection); and
- (b) scope restrictions (phone surveys are limited by ability of respondent to provide instant feedback, etc. and thus require strict design controls).

These points were raised by members of the Casino - Murwillumbah CAP and addressed in the pilot survey programme in which five face-to-face interviews were conducted. No major differences between the types of response(s) provided from either interview situation were observed, although this part of the pilot programme reinforced the need to clarify question content.

To overcome these and related (see Stinson and Beed, 1987) limitations, two design features were used:

- (a) employment of trained interviewers - this enabled a consistent approach to interviews; and
- (b) survey pattern variation - to ensure that the range of members of households with telephones had an even probability of contact, interviews were conducted according to a stratified temporal schedule (see below).

2.3 Sample Size and Study Conduct

In any survey, two criteria are of universal concern (Dixon and Leech, 1977; Blalock, 1981):

- (a) the degree to which the sample can be considered representative of the study populations; and
- (b) the likely efficacy of the sample instrument relative to resource constraints and the variability of the population.

In view of these considerations, and the lack of detailed information on population variability, it was decided to seek a level of statistical precision of 95%, but to accept standard error limits of $\pm 6\%$. This resulted in a target sample of 268 people.

This sample then was stratified, initially on the basis of local government area population (as outlined in Table 1.1). While this provided an equitable basis for sample apportionment, local government area boundaries do not correspond exactly with Forestry District boundaries, and no distinction was made between urban and rural populations.

Table 1.1
Division of Survey Strata (x LGA)

LGA	Population *	% of Region **	Sample size (n)
Ballina (C)	28 670	13	35
Byron (M)	21 070	10	27
Casino (C)	10 730	5	14
Copmanhurst (G)	4 570	2	6
Grafton (G)	16 170	7.5	20
Kyogle (C)	9 930	4.5	13
Lismore (C)	39 690	18	48
Maclean (G)	13 230	6	16
Nymboida (G)	3 680	1.5	4
Richmond River (C)	8 110	4	11
Tweed (M)	54 510	25	67
Ulmarra (G)	5 260	2.5	7
TOTALS	215 620	99**	268

* Source: Department of Planning (1991)

** Totals are rounded

N.B. (C) = Casino District, (M) = Murwillumbah District, (G) = Grafton District

Summary of Sample by District

District	Population (%)	n (Sum)
Casino	97130 (45)	121
Grafton	75780 (35)	94
Murwillumbah	42910 (20)	53

Following the spatial stratification and division of 'survey districts' between interviewers, a temporal stratification method was used. Basically, this required each interviewer to select no more than 30% of the LGA sample quota between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm on weekdays and 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm on weekends.

Respondents were selected in randomly defined 'blocks' from the 1992 Telecom White Pages Directories for the (066) and (075) subscriber districts (these accord with LGA and Forestry District boundaries). Interviews were conducted during the period 8th May to 20th May, 1992.

Periodic checks on interviewer performance were made to ensure the accuracy of interview records and clarify any concerns raised by respondents.

3.0 RESULTS

3.1 Telephone Survey Results

The data from the telephone survey were tabulated using Microsoft Excel running on a Macintosh computer. It is possible to provide a complete breakdown by Local Government Area/Forestry District, but this has not been done at this stage. Following is a summary of the descriptive statistics for the telephone survey results. The Interview Question Schedule is in Appendix B and a Summary Table of Survey Results is in Appendix C.

A record of the number of people unwilling as well as willing to answer the survey was kept for comparison of response rates. Geographic variation was evident in the response rates, with the Casino district being lowest (34% willing) and Grafton district highest (67% willing). Figure 3.1 shows the overall response rate for the survey.

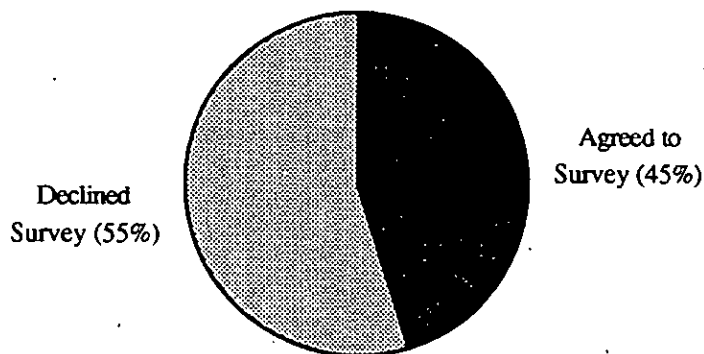


Figure 3.1
Response rate for telephone survey

Respondents were asked if they had ever visited a State Forest and, if so, which ones. A total of 61% of respondents said that they had been to a forest, but there was confusion over the distinction between National Parks, State Forests and local government reserves. Figure 3.2 shows the proportion of respondents who believed they had visited a State Forest.

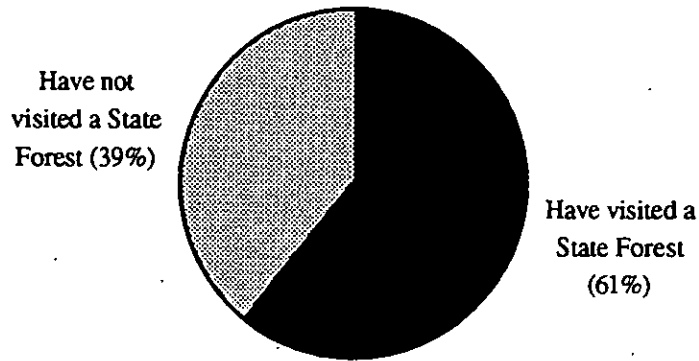


Figure 3.2
Visitation to State Forests

Visitation to each of the forests, broken down into Forestry District and graded according to the percentage of respondents who had visited the area is shown in Table 3.1. It should be noted that a number of areas were identified that were outside of these Districts.

Table 3.1
Forest visitation by respondents

Percentage of Respondents	Grafton District	Casino District	Murwillumbah District
> 10 %			Mount Warning Murwillumbah Whian Whian
5 - 9 %	Washpool		
2 - 4 %	Bom Bom Nymboida		Mullumbimby area Nightcap
< 2 %	Gibraltar Buckarumbi Candole Clouds Creek Iluka Kangaroo River Ramornie Wedding Bells Wild Cattle Creek	Banyabba Bungawalbyn Gibberagee Jerusalem Creek Pikapene Richmond Range Rummery Park Tabbimoble Victoria Park Yabbra	Blackbutt Border Ranges Mebbin Mooball Mount Nardi Natural Arch Woolumbin

Respondents who had visited a State Forest were asked how frequently they visited forests and what activities they undertook while visiting. A small number of people actually worked or lived in the forests and were excluded from these frequencies. A maximum frequency of twice a month and minimum of once in ten years was recorded. A number of respondents indicated that they had visited a State Forest when they first moved to the region but had not returned since. The average visitation was around 2.8 visits per year.

The most popular activities are shown in Figure 3.3. Bushwalking was by far the most popular, although picnics, touring and camping also featured highly. Other activities included swimming, nature appreciation and collecting activities.

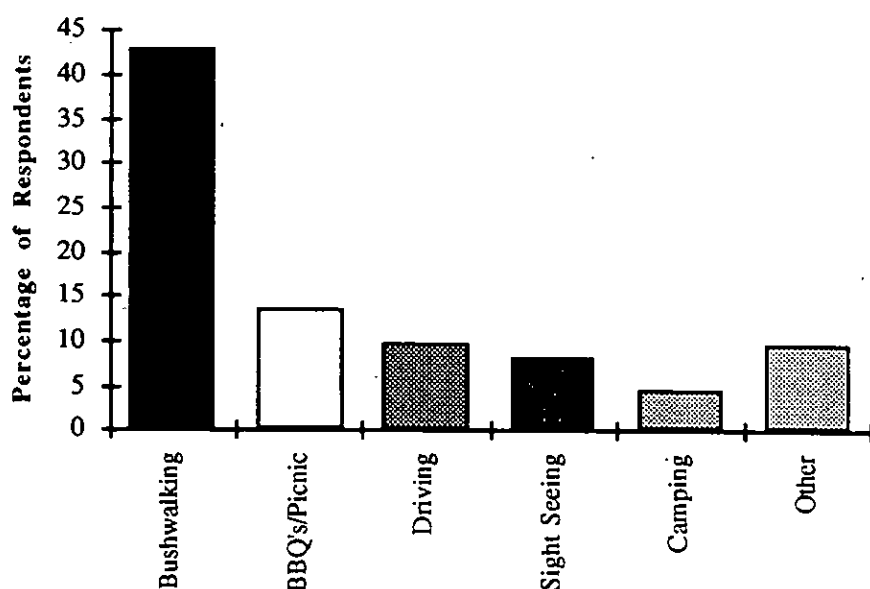


Figure 3.3
Activities currently undertaken in State Forests

Most respondents (81%) could not specify additional activities which they would like to undertake but didn't engage in at present. The three main additional activities desired were camping (4.8%), walking (4.8%) and guided tours (1.8%). It was generally felt that these activities (except guided tours) were readily available to them but time, transport, etc. were the limiting factors.

Respondents who had not visited a State Forest identified a number of reasons for not doing so, the major constraints were time and transport. A high percentage (24%) of non-visiting respondents gave no reason or were not interested in visiting State Forests (16%). Figure 3.4 shows the rating of the most important reasons for not visiting forests.

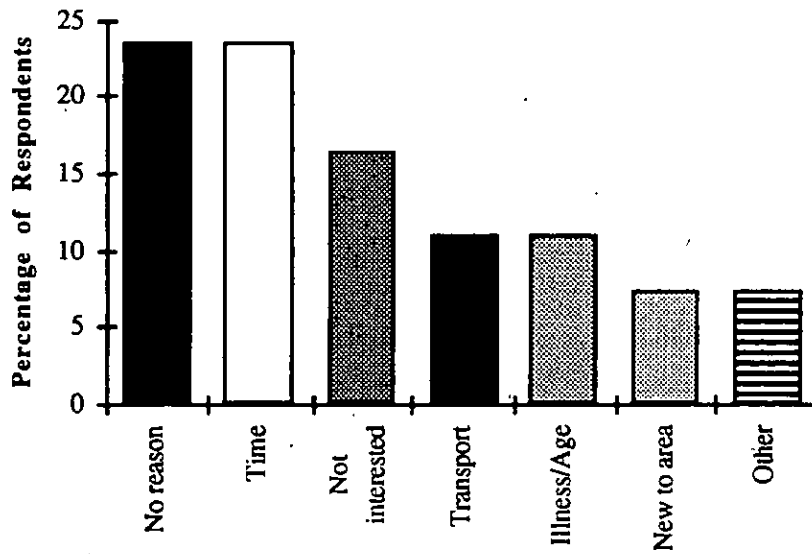


Figure 3.4

Reasons for not visiting State Forests

All respondents were asked why State Forests are important. Preservation of flora and fauna was ranked the highest followed by timber production and recreational potential. Figure 3.5 displays the main importance values of State Forests.

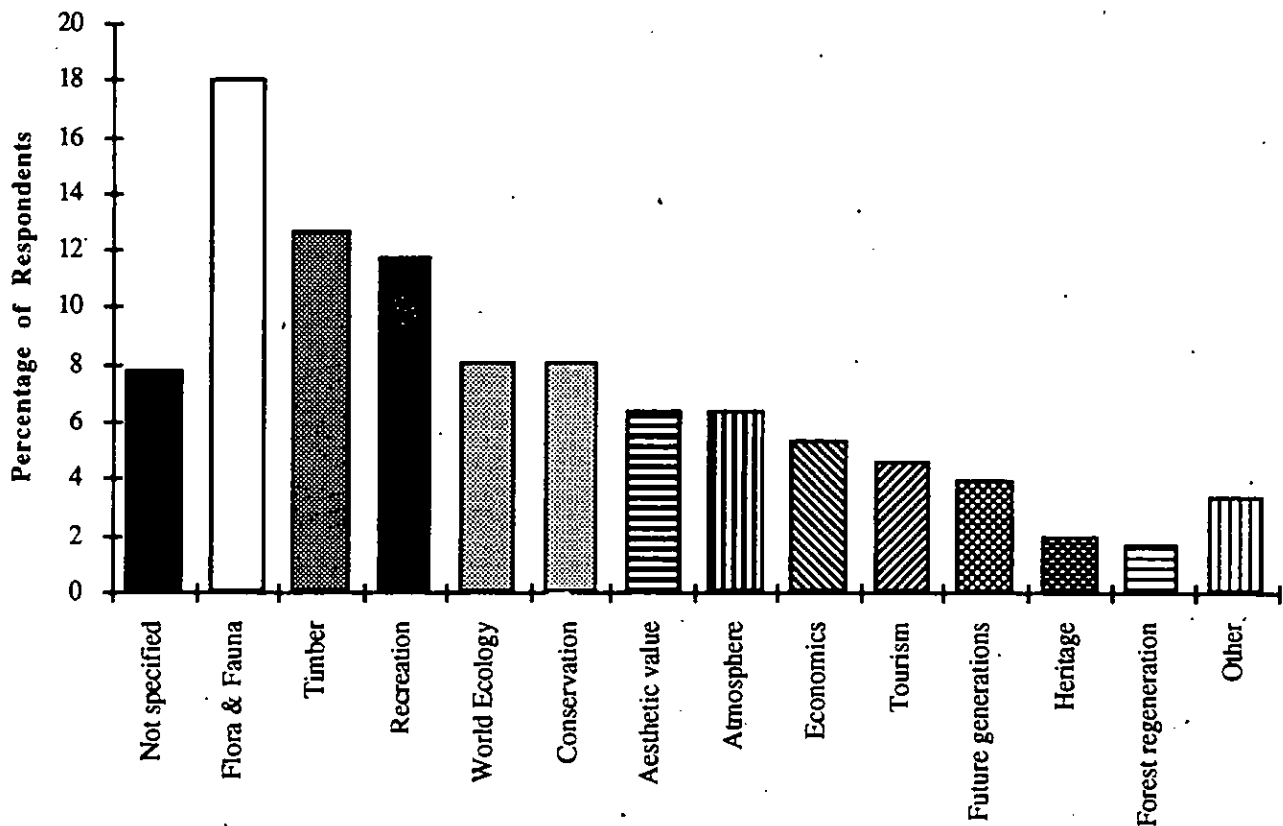


Figure 3.5

Importance values of State Forests

The survey revealed that a large proportion of the respondents were not aware of the EIS being prepared for the Grafton, Casino and Murwillumbah forests (Figure 3.6). Of the 35% who were aware of the EIS, most stated that newspapers and television were the major information sources (Figure 3.7).

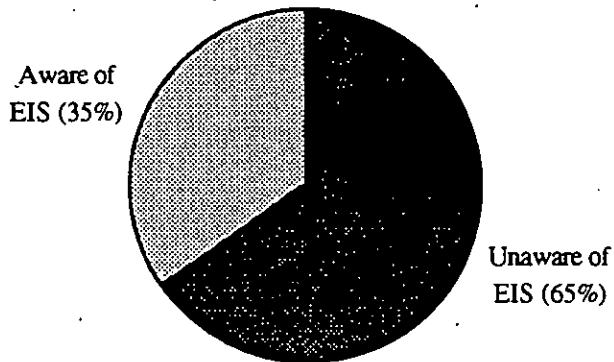


Figure 3.6

Proportion of respondents aware of EIS preparation

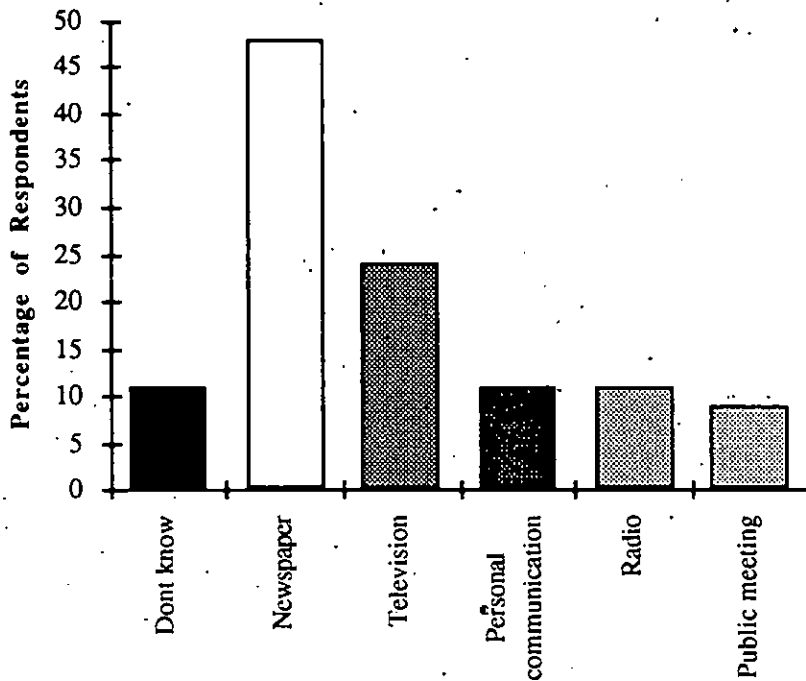


Figure 3.7

Information sources about EIS preparation

Issues identified by respondents as being important for the EIS are shown in Figure 3.8. Some categories (e.g. logging) were seen as important but were often not clarified. A quarter of the respondents could not identify any issues which should be covered in the EIS.

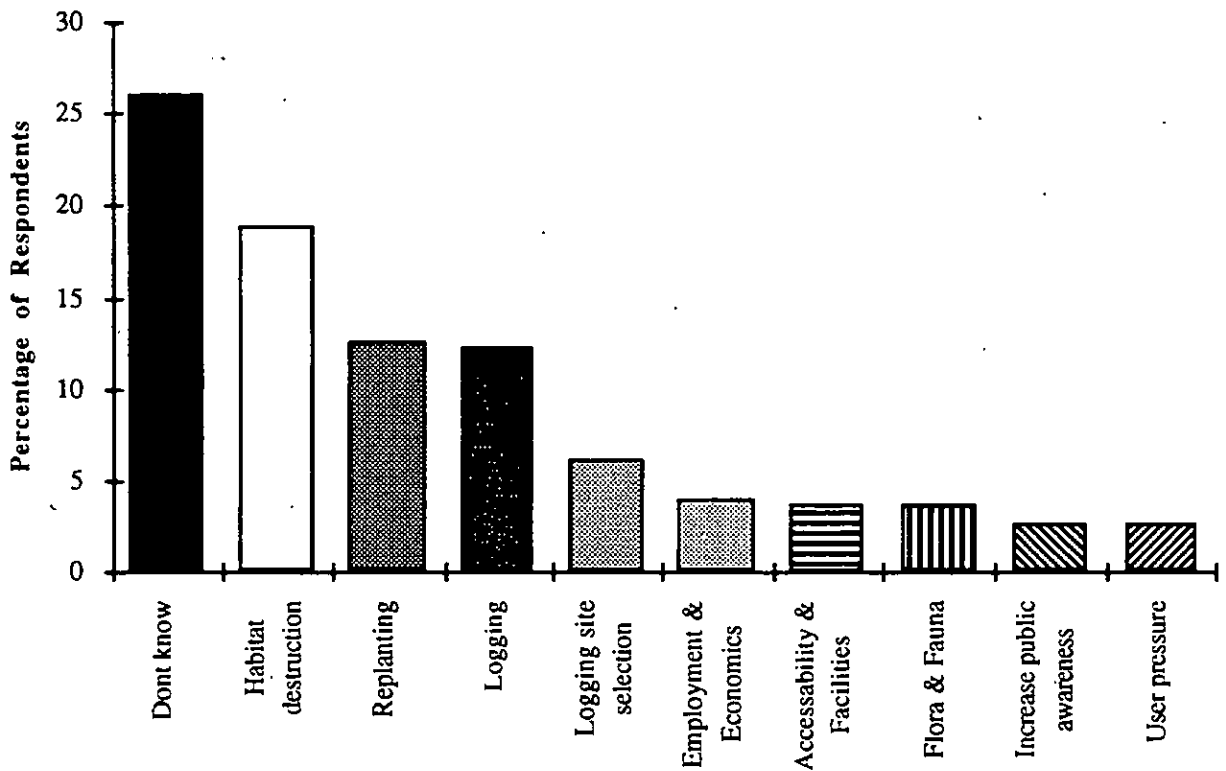


Figure 3.8
Important issues in the preparation of the EIS

Question 5 of the survey asked respondents to rank their level of information on forest management (Figure 3.9), their perception of the management of State Forests in the North Coast area (Figure 3.10) and the performance of the FC (Figure 3.11). Rankings are from 1 (low) to 10 (high).

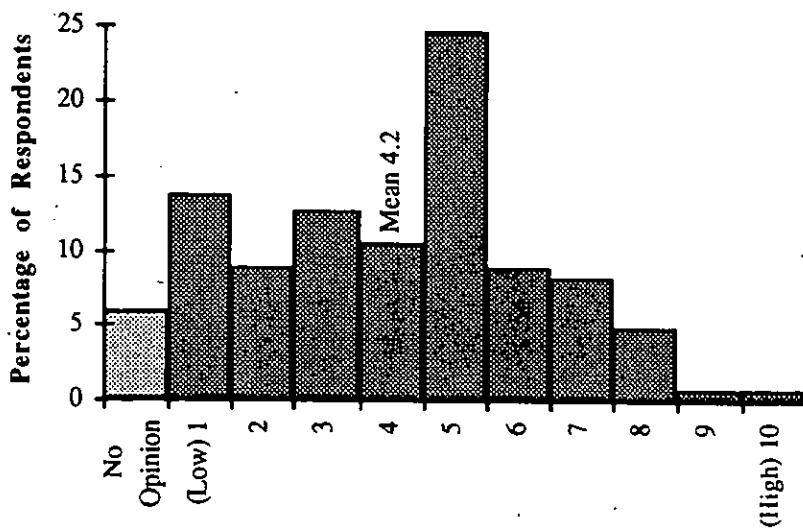


Figure 3.9
Respondent level of information on forest management

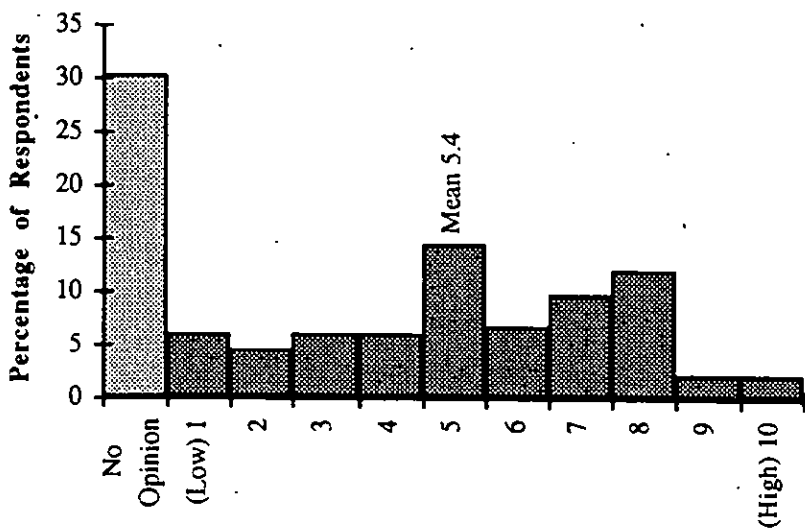


Figure 3.10
Respondent ranking of North Coast State Forest management



Figure 3.11
Respondent ranking of the Forestry Commission

Just over half of the respondents had no suggestions for improving the management of State Forests. The main suggestions for forest management are shown in Figure 3.12.

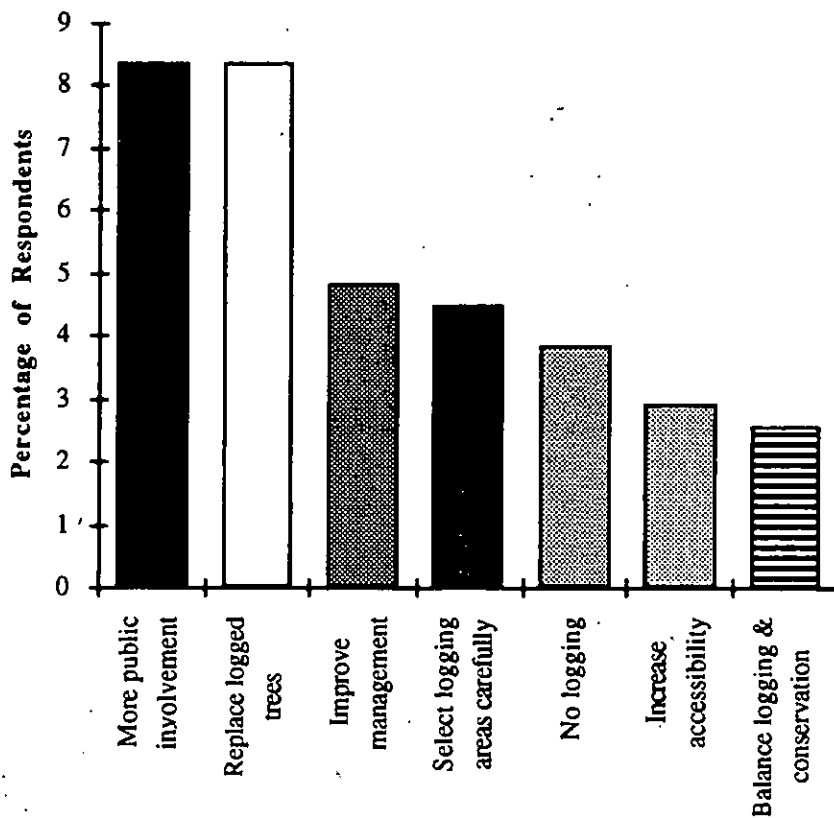


Figure 3.12
Suggestions for the improvement of forest management

3.2 Survey Sample Description

Table 3.2
Age structure of survey sample

Age (years)	N°	%
Not specified	4	1.5
18 - 29	53	19.8
30 - 39	68	25.4
40 - 49	44	16.4
50 - 59	34	12.7
Over 60	65	24.3
Average : 40 years		

Table 3.3
Sex of respondent

Sex	N°	%
Male	117	43.7
Female	151	56.3

Table 3.4
Respondent's length of residency

Residency Length (years)	N°	%
Not specified	1	0.4
1 or less	12	4.5
1 to 2	9	3.4
3 to 5	37	13.8
6 to 10	42	15.7
11 to 20	44	16.4
21 to 30	40	14.9
31 to 40	31	11.6
41 to 50	23	8.6
51 to 60	12	4.5
More than 60	17	6.3
Average : 23 years		

At the completion of the survey each respondent was offered additional information about the EIS and the survey results, 113 (42%) requested a copy of the EIS while 119 (44%) requested a copy of the telephone survey results.

4.0 DISCUSSION

The geographical variation in survey response rate may reflect the 'saturation' of the Casino area (particularly the Lismore area) with environmentally orientated surveys. This clearly shows the importance of stating the concise aims of the survey at first contact and the need to keep such surveys as short and focussed as is practical.

Over 60% of respondents believed that they had visited a State Forest at some time although it is important to note the high level of confusion between State Forests, National Parks and other types of reserves (Table 3.1). This hints towards the generally poor 'product identification' of State Forests as well as the lack of information about the role of the FC in managing them.

Most respondents who visited forests undertook fairly traditional activities such as bushwalking, picnicking and sightseeing. The main reason that more people did not indulge in these activities was due to lack of time and motivation (Figure 3.4). Some respondents indicated that they were not sure of what facilities were available to them at State Forests, highlighting the general lack of public awareness of the potential of these forests as a community attraction.

The reasons for which State Forests were believed to be important (Figure 3.5) gives a good indication of the community's perception of forest values and hence provides a basis for assessing the management expectations of the community. The importance of State Forests can be grouped into three major categories. The first two categories usually receive the most public attention (environment and timber production) while the third (recreation) is shown to have an almost equal ranking with timber but receives much less attention. Numerous respondents discussed the importance of forests in a broader sense, citing reasons such as 'world ecology' and 'atmospheric cleansing' when discussing the forest's importance showing that people are thinking 'green' but may not be relating their concerns to local issues.

The majority of respondents were unaware of the preparation of the forestry operations EISs. There have been several media advertisements and reports about the preparation of the EISs, but to date there has not been any significant discussion of the EIS in the media. A high proportion of respondents learned about the EIS from newspapers compared with television (Figure 3.7) which indicates the lower profile the EIS process has been given to date (c.f. reporting of specific issues such as the Chaelundi confrontation).

The issues identified as important by the respondents focussed on environmental concerns, but also, to a lesser extent, employment, economic factors and accessibility for the public. The issues named here will provide a valuable basis for comparison with issue priorities identified in public submissions and by CAPs.

Despite careful questioning by the interviewers, the ratings presented for question 5 (Figures 3.9, 3.10 & 3.11) were difficult for people to comprehend over the telephone. This is reflected by the high proportion of respondents who had no opinion (or were unwilling to comment) on these questions. This finding reinforces the trend (of low knowledge levels) reported in Figure 3.9, and suggests that the ratings given on these questions need to be interpreted cautiously.

Despite these limitations the findings regarding public perception of forest management (Figure 3.10) and the ranking of the FC itself (Figure 3.11) do agree reasonably with the findings of Mannix (1992) who found that the majority of respondents believed that the NSW forests were being well managed.

The high percentage of respondents who did not have any suggestions for improving forest management again shows the lack of motivation displayed by the community toward forest management and, more importantly, the lack of available information on which to act.

The respondents who did offer suggestions focussed on providing more public involvement and improving management generally through the use of more 'experts' and people with 'hands-on' experience in the decision-making process. Most respondents were reluctant to offer a straight forward answer to management problems, realising that there is a delicate balance between wood production and habitat conservation. As Mannix (1992) also found, a high percentage of respondents were happy to leave forest management to the 'experts' when faced with difficult management problems.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The survey showed that the public in general is under informed and confused over forestry issues. This generally has lead to a feeling of apathy (shown by the large proportions of Don't know/Don't care responses) when dealing with forestry issues and developing new management strategies. Community motivation to visit State Forests is low, possibly due to lack of information on facilities and activities available to them.

The survey showed that the public is aware of the need to conserve forests for environmental and social reasons, but most people realise that the timber these forests provide is a valuable resource and that to try and balance these issues is a delicate process. The general attitude is that the FC is handling this responsibility appropriately.

It is evident that more specific studies need to be made of forest use patterns. This sort of data is hard to collect through telephone surveys and may necessitate the use of written surveys for more detailed data. The key survey questions should be replicated at regular intervals to build up an understanding of trends within the community and to monitor changes in public attitudes with changing management practices.

A broader study should be undertaken to determine how North Coast forests are viewed by external residents and how community opinions on the North Coast 'sit' with public attitudes throughout NSW. This will determine if there a difference which needs to be addressed in preparing management strategies for North Coast State Forests.

Obtaining public opinion data by telephone is a quick and cost effective method of surveying although a number of limitations were apparent from this survey:

- a) people find it hard to respond instantaneously to a question during a phone interview but may think of important issues after the interview has ended; and
- b) the sample from this survey shows a high degree of variability which makes interpretation difficult. The results tend to be indicative of the main trends within the community but are not necessarily conclusive due to the statistical variation.

It is recommended that for more detailed information, written surveys are used in conjunction with telephone surveys to give the community a longer response time and to improve the reliability of recorded information.

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Appendix A: Study Team and Acknowledgements

This study was undertaken by the following staff of the Centre for Coastal Management:

Study Director:	Ian Dutton
Specialist Advisor:	Stephanie Knox
Data Analyst:	Michael Howland
Interviewers:	Sharon Barratt, Denise Kerr, Carla Suters

The team gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the principal consultants, Margules Groome Poyry, regional staff of the Forestry Commission and members of the Community Advisory Panels.

Appendix B: Grafton and Casino - Murwillumbah Forests EIS Public Attitudes Survey - Interview Question Schedule

Interviewer:

Date: / 5/92

Observations

a. Telephone Address

b. Sex of Respondent

Code

M

F

INTRODUCTION.....

1. Would you be willing to answer a few questions on State Forests of the North Coast ? Y (proceed) N (to 8)
2. a. Have you ever visited any State Forests in the (ORDER) Casino, Murwillumbah or Grafton areas Y (to 2b-e) N (to 2f)
- b. If so, which forests do you visit _____(Name ?)
- c. How often do you visit ? _____(Freq/yr)
- d. What types of activities do you undertake in S.Fs ? _____
- e. Are there any activities which you would like to undertake but do not engage in at present ? _____
- f. Are there any specific reasons why you do not visit State Forests? _____
3. In what ways do you believe that State Forests are important in this region ? (ORDER OF REPLY) _____
4. a. Are you aware that an EIS (FULL) is currently being prepared for the C/M/G forests ? Y (to 4b+c) N (to 4c)
- b. How did you hear about the EIS? _____(Source)
- c. What do you believe are the main issues which an EIS of Forestry Operations in the C/M/G areas (ORDER) should cover ? _____
5. I'm now going to ask you three questions which I would like you to answer by giving a rating on a scale of 1(low) to 10 (high). How would you rate....
 - a. Your level of information about forest management _____
 - b. The management of State Forests in the C/M/G (ORDER) areas ? _____
 - c. The performance of the Forestry Commission in forest managt. _____
6. Do you have any suggestions about how Forest management could be improved ? _____
7. Finally, could you please tell me:
 - a. How long you have lived on the North Coast ? (YEARS)_____
 - b. Your age ? (RANGE)_____
8. Thank you (for your assistance) - would you like any more information about the EIS studies, or a copy of the summary results of this survey ? EIS Y (ADD) N
SURVEY Y (ADD) N

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Select from pre-assigned starting points in phone directory and follow agreed stratified sampling procedure.
2. Mark all numbers tried in sequence, leaving unanswered numbers free for later tries. At the end of each survey day, note your finish point in the phone directory.
3. When introduced, ask to speak to an adult member (>18 YRS) of household if you believe that a child/teenager answers.
4. INTRODUCTION.... Begin by noting observation details, then.....
*Good afternoon/evening - my name is , from the University of New England in Lismore.
 We are currently undertaking a survey of forestry use and issues on the North Coast. ... (To Q. 1)*
5. Follow questionnaire instructions and sequence and use a separate form for each interview. Record LGA of respondent only unless further information requested.
6. Try to avoid prompting, unless further clarification is required (e.g. in relation to distinguishing National Park use from State Forest use).
7. Write all replies as accurately as possible, and be careful about synopsis of longer replies - if necessary, write reply out in full and summarise later.
8. Be especially careful when asking Q.5 - clearly explain the rating scale and repeat or restate parameters (e.g. 1= poorly managed; 10=very well managed for Q5.b) if necessary before each sub-question.
9. Recommend a 5-10 minute break after each five complete (full) surveys.
10. Record no. of people unwilling to participate.
11. All codes and internal sequence instructions pre-defined in interviewer briefing.

Appendix C: Summary Tables of Survey Results

Q2b. Which Forests?	Nº	%	Q2a. Have you visited a State Forest?	Nº	%	
Not specified/Don't know	28	13.5	yes	163	60.8	
All areas	7	3.4	no	105	39.2	
Bald Rock	1	0.5	total	268	100	
Banyabba	2	1.0				
Blackbutt	2	1.0	Sex of Respondent	Nº	%	
Bom Bom	7	3.4	Male	117	43.7	
Bonalbo	1	0.5	Female	151	56.3	
Border Ranges	3	1.4	total	268	100	
Buckarumbi	2	1.0				
Bungawalbyn	1	0.5	Q4a. Aware of EIS?	Nº	%	
Candole	1	0.5	yes	93	34.7	
Casino	8	3.9	no	175	65.3	
Clouds Creek	1	0.5	total	268	100	
Dorrigo	1	0.5				
Gibberagee	3	1.4	Q2c. How often do you visit State Forests?			
Gibraltar	3	1.4	Min	0.1		
Grafton	8	3.9	Max	24		
Iluka	1	0.5	Average	2.7		
Jerusalem Creek	1	0.5	Not specified	5		
Kangaroo River	1	0.5	total entries	163		
Kyogle	2	1.0				
Mebbin	1	0.5	Q7b. Age Structure of Respondents	Nº	%	
Mooball	1	0.5	Not telling	4	1.5	
Mt. Nardi	2	1.0	<18	0	0.0	
Mt. Warning	30	14.5	18-29	53	19.8	
Mullumbimby area	5	2.4	30-39	68	25.4	
Murwillumbah	18	8.7	40-49	44	16.4	
Myrtle Creek	1	0.5	50-59	34	12.7	
Natural Arch	3	1.4	60+	65	24.3	
Nightcap	5	2.4				
Nymboida	5	2.4	Q7a. Residency Length of Respondent	Nº	%	
Pikapene	1	0.5	Not specified	1	0.4	
Ramornie	1	0.5	1 or less	12	4.5	
Richmond Range	3	1.4	2 or less	9	3.4	
Rummery Park	1	0.5	5 or less	37	13.8	
Tabbimoble	1	0.5	10 or less	42	15.7	
Victoria Park	1	0.5	20 or less	44	16.4	
Washpool	10	4.8	30 or less	40	14.9	
Wedding Bells	2	1.0	40 or less	31	11.6	
Whian Whian	23	11.1	50 or less	23	8.6	
Wiangaree	5	2.4	60 or less	12	4.5	
Wild Cattle Creek	1	0.5	> 60	17	6.3	
Woodenbong	1	0.5				
Woolumbin	1	0.5	Question 5 ratings	5a	5b	5c
Yabba	1	0.5	0	16	81	83
			1	37	16	12
			2	24	12	15
			3	34	16	17
			4	28	16	10
			5	66	39	31
			6	24	18	20
			7	22	26	32
			8	13	32	27
			9	2	6	6
			10	2	6	15
			Average	4.2	5.4	5.7

[illegible]

Q4b. Information Source	Nº	%	Q6. Forest Management Suggestions	Nº	%	
Dont know	11	9.6	Don't know/No suggestion	158	50.6	
Media	10	8.8	'Big Cedar' tourist park	1	0.3	
Newspaper	38	33.3	Back burning	1	0.3	
Personal communication	11	9.6	Balance logging/greens	8	2.6	
Public meeting	9	7.9	Better fire control	2	0.6	
Radio	11	9.6	Better road placement	3	1.0	
Television	24	21.1	Clear lantana/no pesticides/feral animals/plant	2	0.6	
			Decrease accessways	1	0.3	
Q4c. Main EIS Issues	Nº	%	Decrease logging	1	0.3	
Dont know	97	26.1	Dont log old growth areas	3	1.0	
Access	9	2.4	Employ more rangers	1	0.3	
Balance logging/conservation	1	0.3	Employ more women	1	0.3	
Better maps	3	0.8	Erosion control	1	0.3	
Bushfires	2	0.5	Forestry more multiple use orientated	1	0.3	
Dont log virgin forest/old gwth ar	6	1.6	Get hippies out of forest	1	0.3	
Employment/Economics	14	3.8	Have separate timber plantations	10	3.2	
Eradicate feral animals	2	0.5	Increase accessibility,more signs/facilities, dis	8	2.6	
Erosion	3	0.8	Increase Government Involvement/Improve M	14	4.5	
Flora and Fauna/Impacts/Habitat	48	12.9	Increase logging	3	1.0	
Future growth	2	0.5	Increase use of plantation timber	2	0.6	
Greenies/Loggers co-operation	1	0.3	Invest. medicinal importance	1	0.3	
Increase public awareness	10	2.7	Less wood collecting rules	1	0.3	
Increase timber production	1	0.3	Log dying trees	3	1.0	
Logging	32	8.6	More contact with public	1	0.3	
Logging Effects	6	1.6	More expertise	1	0.3	
Logging feasibility/trees/income	8	2.2	More Nat. parks	1	0.3	
Plantation forests on private land	3	0.8	More positive media on forestry	3	1.0	
Pollution/Litter	4	1.1	More power to FC	3	1.0	
Preservation/habitat protection	22	5.9	More public input	7	2.2	
Preserving untouched forests	5	1.3	No clear felling	3	1.0	
Provide more BBQ areas and bins	2	0.5	No logging	12	3.8	
Rare and endangered species ID	14	3.8	No pine trees/more hardwood	3	1.0	
Recreation	5	1.3	Open forest days	1	0.3	
Replanting/Reforestation	44	11.8	Open grazing rights	1	0.3	
Royalties from forestry	1	0.3	Permaculture of native species	2	0.6	
Select logging areas carefully	12	3.2	Provide more info to public	18	5.8	
Timber use	3	0.8	Remove greenie influence	4	1.3	
Tourism	1	0.3	Remove rubbish	1	0.3	
User numbers	2	0.5	Replace logged trees	14	4.5	
User pressure/effects	8	2.2	Select logging areas carefully	8	2.6	
Wetlands	1	0.3	Unemployed to help replanting and other tasks	1	0.3	
			Unite greenies	1	0.3	
			Interview Response Rates	Yes	No	%
			Pilot study	14	16	46.7
			Casino	83	164	33.6
			Grafton	42	21	66.7
			Murwillumbah	129	123	51.2
			Overall	268	324	45.3

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Community Consultation Report

Part 2: Direct Consultation

February 1993

Preface

This report is the second of a set of three reports on community involvement in the Environmental Impact Studies being undertaken in the Casino - Murwillumbah and Grafton Forestry Districts. The other two components are a report on an Attitudinal Survey (Part 1) and on the Community Advisory Panels set up to facilitate community input to the EISs (Part 3).

Because of confidentiality requirements, this report only incorporates an overview of information provided by respondents. Summary records of individual interviews were prepared, but these are not reproduced here.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Context and Focus

This study is a part of the community consultation process for the Environmental Impact Studies (EISs) being prepared for the Grafton and Casino - Murwillumbah Forestry Districts. Community input for this part of the process was gathered from direct consultation comprising personal and telephone interviews. The aim of the study was to interview all people/organisations who had made submissions towards EIS content and issues, and all people who applied unsuccessfully for membership to the Community Advisory Panels (CAPs) following New South Wales (NSW) Forestry Commission (FC) newspaper advertisements in late 1991 and early 1992. Representatives of Tourism Associations or Information Centres and Chambers of Commerce or Business Enterprise Centres were also interviewed in an effort to define certain issues as requested by the economic sub-consultant for the EIS, Ms Dianna Gibbs. Representatives from Total Catchment Management (TCM) Committees were also interviewed. Each respondent in these primary groups was asked if they could identify any other people in the district whom they thought should be interviewed, and this secondary group was subsequently interviewed. Table 1 sets out a summary of interviews by District.

Table 1.1
Respondents by District

District	Grafton	Casino	Murwillumbah	TOTAL
Number Interviewed	19	24	26	69

While this approach is admittedly selective, it enabled additional detail to be obtained from key stakeholder groups, in a manner which allowed later comparison with other sources of data (see, for example, Community Attitudinal Report - CCM, 1992). By approaching these groups specifically it was considered possible to more clearly define the expectations of key interest groups with respect to the EIS, thus contributing to a better definition of EIS scope.

1.2 Questions

The approach adapted for each interviewed was based on general guidelines for qualitative social research, as outlined by Yegidis and Weinbach (1991). Particular care was taken to avoid interviewer-derived bias and to facilitate cross-comparison of information between respondents.

Each person interviewed was asked to identify the five major or most important issues, as they saw them, that should be addressed by the EIS in their District. The order of priority for the issues named by each respondent was taken as the order in which each issue was mentioned during the interview unless the respondent later indicated priority. Each interviewee was encouraged to add to their list of issues or make any relevant comments concerning the EIS after answering the first question.

Representatives from the tourism industry or business promotion organisations were asked the following additional questions (at the request of D. Gibbs):

- * What do you see as the future of the local economy without the timber industry or if the industry was severely curtailed?
- * What are the alternatives to the timber industry in the district?
- * What conflicts, if any, exist between the timber and tourism industries?

1.3 Interpretation

Because the first question asked was particularly broad, a large range of issues were identified. Some people interviewed could not nominate five issues and several identified between one and four. The issues named and some of the additional comments made by each respondent are shown in the Appendix. The remainder of this paper is a summary of these issues and responses in each District. Each Forestry District has been addressed separately because the dominant or most mentioned issues necessarily show some variation between Districts. It should be noted that the responses attributed to individuals in this paper are not direct quotes but the author's interpretation of responses.

2.0 SUMMARY OF ISSUES

2.1 Grafton District

Resource Security

Resource security was the issue identified by most of those interviewed with 40% including the issue in their list. 20% of those interviewed named resource security as their most important issue. Mr. A. Kelly (Grafton City Chamber of Commerce, *pers. comm.*) noted that prevention of logging in old growth forest should not stem from the discovery of a few 'endangered' animals that are probably found in existing protected areas. Mr. S. Notaras (J Notaras & Sons Sawmillers and Timber Merchants, South Grafton, *pers comm.*) observed that it would be impossible for the industry as it exists today to remain viable if logging access to old growth forest was not allowed.

Socio-economics

Socio-economic issues were rated as important by around 25% of people interviewed. There was a general consensus, even among the respondents who felt that the industry could not be maintained at its current level of resource use, that any cutbacks would result in serious economic and social impacts to the district. Mr. B. Day (Clarence River Tourist Information Centre, Grafton, *pers. comm.*) predicted that short term effects would be devastating but that alternative industries would emerge in the longer term because of the broad industrial base of the Clarence Valley. The industry has already suffered several setbacks in the district with the closure of several smaller operations (Mr. A. Kelly, Grafton City Chamber of Commerce, *pers. comm.*) and job losses over the past 18 months of around 530, including those in associated industries (Mr. W. Taylor, Grafton Business Enterprise Centre, *pers. comm.*).

Short term social effects are seen as very serious because of the number of long term low and semi-skilled positions which would be lost should some of the larger mills close down (Mr. S. Notaras, J. Notaras & Sons Sawmillers and Timber Merchants, *pers. comm.*). Social impacts would not be confined to the timber industry because of multiplier effects which generate employment in associated industries (Mr. S. Notaras, J. Notaras & Sons Sawmillers and Timber Merchants, *pers. comm.*).

Public Involvement and Education

There was a concern expressed by some of those interviewed that public perceptions of the industry are balanced in favour of the 'green movement'. It was suggested (Mr. H. Winkel, Dorrigo Forest Protection Society, *pers. comm.*) that a broad community education program be initiated to present a more balanced view of sustainable logging as a viable and essential industry for the Grafton district.

Complementary to broader public education regarding the timber industry, the need for greater public involvement in decision making within the industry is seen to be essential. Mr P. Cumming (Grafton, pers.comm) made the point that public involvement in forestry operations should be ongoing rather than limited to initial input to the EIS, but Mr M. Frohlich (Brushgrove, pers. comm.) noted that the necessary bureaucracy did not exist within the FC for this to occur. Spokespersons for the Clarence Valley Conservation Coalition (Grafton, pers. comm.) felt that the CAPs should remain together on completion of the EIS to allow for public accountability in forestry operations.

Soil Erosion/Water Quality

Soil erosion was identified as a major issue by 25% of those interviewed. Mr. G. Crighton (Grafton Agricultural Research and Advisory Station, Junction Hill, pers. comm.) noted that siltation and water pollution as a result of soil erosion induced by logging operations were of major concern. Mr. S. Kelly (Total Catchment Management (TCM) Coordinator, Grafton, pers. comm.) stated that erosion control plans according to site specific variables should be made before any logging operations take place in an area. Mr. Kelly also noted that cooperation between responsible government departments and the Forestry Commission was required for this to be achieved.

Water quality was named as an issue by 20% of respondents. The greatest water quality problems arising from logging operations were identified as turbidity, suspended solids and nutrients (Mr. S. Kelly, TCM Coordinator, Grafton, pers. comm.).

Wildlife /Habitat Conservation

Protection of flora and fauna and/or the retention of protected habitat areas for wildlife were named as important issues by almost 50% of interviewees. The basis for including these concerns as issues was, however, divided with some respondents expressing opinions that wildlife is already well catered for in existing reserves. Those arguing for increased conservation noted a lack of detailed information regarding wildlife, especially rare and endangered species. Members of the Clarence Valley Conservation Coalition (Grafton, pers. comm.) and Mr. S. Kelly (TCM Coordinator, Grafton, pers. comm.) expressed the need for more detailed fauna lists which included ranges and densities of animals.

Plantations

The issue of plantation forestry was brought up by 25% of interviewees. Mrs K. Goodrich (MacLean, pers. comm.) noted that increased effort towards establishment of forest plantations would ease unemployment in the area as well as serving to reclaim marginal lands. Mr. A. Kelly (Grafton City

Mr. S. Notaras (J. Notaras & Sons Sawmillers and Timber Merchants, South Grafton, *pers. comm.*) pointed out that the industry currently relies on regrowth for sawlogs because logging of hardwood plantations is not viable. Mr. S. Kelly (TCM Coordinator, Grafton, *pers. comm.*) noted the need for more research into plantation forestry because, at present, it is preferable to log native forests as they are more resilient.

2.2 Murwillumbah District

Socio-economics

Over 30% of those interviewed raised socioeconomic issues among the five most important for the Murwillumbah district with 15% identifying these as the most important. Mr. P. Jones (Murwillumbah Chamber of Commerce, *pers. comm.*) noted that although the level of employment within the industry is not high, the industry is still very important to the local economy. Ms K. Fryer (Murwillumbah Tourist and Information Centre, *pers. comm.*) observed that forestry supports several small industries within the region and so the jobs of some workers not directly involved also rely on the local timber industry to some extent. Mr. J. B. Todd (United Business Forum, Tweed Heads, *pers. comm.*) saw the establishment of viable alternatives to the timber industry in the wake of possible closures as essential for the regional economy and social structure.

Several respondents commented that there were too many 'big operators' in the timber industry at present which resulted in the smaller, more viable operators being closed out. A suggestion was made that changes to the quota system with a move towards open market pricing for the uncut resource would allow smaller, more efficient workers to compete against the currently favoured larger mills.

Tourism

The issue of tourism in State Forests was brought up by 30% of interviewees with half of these people identifying the issue as the second most important on their list. Mr. J. B. Todd (United Business Forum, Tweed Heads, *pers. comm.*) and Mr P. Jones (Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce, *pers. comm.*) observed that tourism and forestry should compliment each other because of the access provided to State Forests by Forestry Commission roads, as long as forests were selectively logged with adequate controls. Other respondents disagreed with this view, seeing emotional conflicts because of community perceptions of logging. Ms. K. Fryer (Murwillumbah Tourist and Information Centre, *pers. comm.*) suggested that the industries should work together so that logging operations and tourists be separated according to tourist demand and harvesting cycles.

Mr. J. E. Jamison (Forestry Workers Union, Mullumbimby, *pers. comm.*) suggested that access should be limited to some State Forests because of growing recreational pressure on certain areas. Mr. Jamison noted that improved facilities in State Forests with low visitation rates could reduce this problem. Mr. P. Quinn (Ampol/Produce Merchant, Mullumbimby, *pers. comm.*) also noted that tourism facilities in State Forests need to be improved.

Mrs. C. Hansen (Tyalgum, *pers. comm.*) expressed the view that tourism should be promoted in SFs because returns from this industry would add to the return made from forestry at present.

Wildlife/Habitat Conservation

Almost 50% of those interviewed identified issues relating to flora and fauna and their habitats or to the maintenance of biodiversity. Associated with these responses, 16% of respondents simply named conservation as their most important issue.

Mr. P. Hopkins (Calder Environment Centre, Murwillumbah, *pers. comm.*) expressed concern at the reduction of age and floral diversity in SFs as a result of continued logging. Mrs. C. Hansen (Tyalgum, *pers. comm.*) saw the need to determine the current status of fauna in SFs following decreases in the diversity of forests which have not been logged.

Logging Operations

Approximately 25 % of interviewees expressed some concern over current logging practices in the SFs of the area. One respondent suggested that some contractors involved within the industry are irresponsible, giving other operators who work within specified guidelines a bad reputation. Mrs. C. Hansen (Tyalgum, *pers. comm.*) suggested that contractors should undergo education programs in more sustainable, less damaging logging techniques. A respondent commented that excessive damage caused in initial operations often rendered salvage logging uneconomical, which disadvantaged smaller operators. Mr. B. Chick (Murwillumbah, *pers. comm.*) noted that the character of a forest should not be forsaken for the sake of a few trees of commercial value, and Ms. A. Golding (Murwillumbah, *pers. comm.*) identified the need for newer, less damaging technology to be used in logging operations. Ms. V. Hodgson (Goonengerry, *pers. comm.*) expressed the opinion that the damage caused to forests through logging often offsets the potential for other uses.

Plantations /Reforestation

The need for more plantations and efforts into increased reforestation was mentioned by almost 50% of people interviewed in the Murwillumbah area. Mr. P. Hopkins (Calder Environment Centre, Murwillumbah, *pers. comm.*) and Mr. A. Riordan (Wilsons Creek Action Group, Mullumbimby, *pers. comm.*) stressed that marginal lands within the district would be ideal for the establishment of plantations, or that some reforestation be undertaken to add to the forest resource. Mr. B. Chick (Murwillumbah, *pers. comm.*) saw the need for a full time project officer to assist land owners in selecting suitable species and provide other advice as needed for plantation and reforestation projects. Mr. H. Ross (Ross Industrial Complex, Mullumbimby, *pers. comm.*) suggested that the Forestry Commission should be devoting more of its resources towards planting trees rather than harvesting them.

Community Education

Although this issue was rated lower in importance, approximately 25% of those interviewed expressed the need for some form of community education towards improving public perceptions of the forestry industry. Mr. R. Brims (Transport and Earth Moving Co. Director, Murwillumbah, *pers. comm.*) saw a need to promote timber as a renewable resource, thereby improving public relations with members of an industry which is perceived to be sustainable in the long term.

2.3 Casino District

Sustainability

Sustainable logging or maintenance of a sustainable timber industry was the main issue identified by those interviewed in the Casino district, with over 45% including the issue on their list and over 16% placing sustainability as the most important. Ms. D. Tipping (Goodwood Project, Lismore, *pers. comm.*) noted that the industry requires a revision of management as it has not been sustainable to date. Mrs. H. Swainston (Landowner, Possum Creek, *pers. comm.*) commented that if quotas were to be met from old growth forests now, the current shortfall in the resource would merely be pushed further into the future.

Mr. E. Dover (Casino, *pers. comm.*) expressed the opinion that selective logging undertaken by the Forestry Commission is currently viable with the exception of waste utilisation. Several other interviewees expressed similar views with a general consensus being that, in order for the industry to achieve sustainable yields, the entire resource must be utilised. Some suggestions in achieving this included a greater diversity in product range and small scale pulp mills or chipping plants.

Plantations/Agroforestry/Reforestation

Over 35% of respondents included some mechanism of extending the forest resource through new plantings as a major issue for the district. Mr. C. McQueen (Private Forester, Lismore, *pers. comm.*) and Mr. N. Secombe (Landowner, Backmede, *pers. comm.*) saw the need for tax incentives and advisory services to promote forestry. Mr. Secombe also stated that agroforestry currently has no long term viability for landholders because of maintenance and establishment costs. It was noted by Mrs. H. Swainston (Landowner, Possum Creek, *pers. comm.*) that, under current regulations, a landholder who planted trees at their own expense for later harvest may not be permitted to harvest. Mr. D. W. Lovell (TCM Chairman, Stony Chute, *pers. comm.*) suggested that an increase in timber royalties could provide funding for research into private forestry and plantations, and establishment of demonstration plots as an incentive for tree planting on farms. Mr. C. McQueen (Private Forester, Lismore, *pers. comm.*) noted that research into the identification of suitable high value hardwood species for plantations and agroforestry is essential.

Mr. J. Muldoon (Lismore Enterprise and Development Agency, *pers. comm.*) suggested that the reason for a current shortfall in the forest resource is because adequate planning for reforestation and plantations has not been done in the past. Mr. Muldoon also observed that the potential for agroforestry and plantations in the Northern Rivers Region is huge because of edaphic and climatic conditions.

Socio-economics

Socio-economic issues rated highly for the Casino district with approximately 35% of those interviewed identifying these among the five most important. More than 12% of respondents rated socio-economic issues as the most important within the district.

The impacts associated with a curtailment of or cutbacks in the timber industry within the Casino district were estimated to be quite severe. Mr. S. Wallstead (Tourism Consultant, Byron Bay, *pers. comm.*) judged that such impacts would be serious because of a shortage of available land to establish replacement industries. Mr. R. V. Schipp (Town Clerk, Casino Municipal Council, *pers. comm.*) noted that the timber industry in the area had received a big setback with the loss of a major mill to fire. Mr. Schipp predicted that there would be further serious effects on the local and regional economies should further cutbacks or shutdowns become necessary. This was supported by Mr. A. Gough (Casino Regional Business Advice Centre, *pers. comm.*) who estimated as many as 200 jobs would be lost with a curtailment of the timber industry in the area. Mr. Gough noted that replacement industries would probably emerge in the longer term.

One Kyogle respondent noted that it was essential for the timber industry to continue and diversify within the district as no alternatives existed at present. Mr. G. Richards (Richards Milling Co., Wyan, *pers. comm.*) also noted a need for the industry to diversify and added that improved regional infrastructure should accompany such a diversification to allow better access to export markets.

Public Education/Input

Public perception of the timber industry and the provision for public input to forestry policy were rated as important issues with around 35% of those interviewed identifying these. Mrs. L. Hurford, Hurford's Building Supplies Pty Ltd, Lismore, *pers. comm.*) indicated a need for a 'common ground' approach to management of the industry with an advisory role potential for the established CAP. Mr. D. W. Lovell (TCM, Chairman, Stony Chute, *pers. comm.*) stressed the need for an effective community participation mechanism in the EIS process, seeing the current system of obtaining input as inadequate.

Flora and Fauna/Old Growth Forest

The conservation and protection of native wildlife was identified as an important issue by almost 30% of interviewees in the Casino area. Allied with this response, 20% of the people interviewed distinguished the conservation of old growth forest as an important issue. There were several arguments and statements made, however, which contradicted the argument of preserving rare and endangered species and mature forests.

A landowner from Wardell declared that wildlife readily adapts to disturbance and, once displaced, will return to an area following logging. He also noted that 'endangered species' are perceived as such because they are rarely seen rather than low in number. Mr. D. W. Lovell (TCM Chairman, Stony Chute, *pers. comm.*) felt that the EIS should not concern itself with endangered species because of the present ill-defined state of relevant legislation. Mr. W. G. Hamilton (Fire Chief, Legume, *pers. comm.*) observed that the fire management practices of the Forestry Commission are beneficial to wildlife because the resultant lower fuel loads prevent more intense and damaging wildfires.

Concerning old growth forest, Mr. R. H. Standfield (Kyogle, *pers. comm.*) made the point that if the timber industry was denied access to this resource to fulfill quotas, then existing compartments would be logged 'too hard' to meet the shortfall. Mr. G. Richards (Richard's Milling Co., Wyan, *pers. comm.*) observed that public perception of old growth forest as an irreplaceable resource needs to be changed.

Tourism

The issue of tourism in State Forests was identified as important by around 20% of respondents. Mr. J. Muldoon (Lismore Enterprise and Development Agency, *pers. comm.*) noted that conflict existed between the tourism and timber industries in the case of logging old growth forest because one used the resource the other depended upon. Mr. S. Wallstead (Tourism Consultant, Byron Bay, *pers. comm.*) declared that the heritage and tourism values of old growth forest should be considered before they are logged.

Ms. K. Cook (Country Crafts Tourism and Information Centre, Casino, *pers. comm.*) observed that the preservation of undisturbed forest for wildlife habitat was very important for the continued success of the tourism industry in the region. Mr. S. Wallstead (Tourism Consultant, Byron Bay, *pers. comm.*) saw the need for the tourism and timber industries to work together so that the maximum benefit could be obtained from the forest resource. Mr. Wallstead saw tourism as a means by which the economic output from State Forests could be significantly

3.0 CONCLUSION

Table 2 below is a summary of issues raised during this study in each district.

The summary shows that there are important issues common to the Grafton and Casino - Murwillumbah Forestry Districts and that there are also some interesting differences in the issues regarded as the most important between the three districts.

No further interpretation of the results of this consultation will be made here. The summary has highlighted the issues which were most often mentioned by respondents in each district. Many other issues besides these were identified during the course of the study. These are detailed in the records of interview (prepared as an Appendix to this report) for reference by the EIS study team.

Table 2.1
Issues by District

Grafton	Murwillumbah	Casino
Resource Security	Socio-economics	Sustainability
Socio-economics	Tourism	Tourism
Public Involvement & Education	Wildlife/Habitat	Socio-economics
Water Quality	Conservation	Public Education/Input
Soil Erosion	Logging Operations	Flora & Fauna/Old Growth Forest
Wildlife/Habitat	Plantations/Reforestation	Plantations/Agroforestry/ Reforestation
Conservation	Community Education	
Plantations		

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STUDY TEAM AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This study was undertaken primarily by Project Officer Ross Laker, under the supervision of Study Director Ian Dutton.

The Study Team gratefully acknowledges the co-operation and assistance of all respondents, the District Forestry office staff, sub-consultant D. Gibbs and principal consultant, Ray Margules.

Community Consultation Report

Part 3: Community Advisory Panels

February 1993

Preface

This report is the final in a set of three reports undertaken by the Centre for Coastal Management at UNE - Northern Rivers for Margules Groome Poyry, consultants to the New South Wales Forestry Commission. The report describes the establishment and progress of Community Advisory Panels which were established to assist with the Environmental Impact Assessment process.

The information presented in this report should be considered in conjunction with the other two reports in the series as, together, they form a 'package' of public inputs to the preparation of EIS by the consultants.

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1.0 Introduction

In early 1992, the Centre for Coastal Management (CCM) was invited to assist the Margules Groome Poyry (MGP) study team with public consultation aspects of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies of forestry operations in the Grafton, Casino and Murwillumbah Forestry Districts. In responding to the request, the CCM proposed a tri-partite approach involving:

- (a) establishment of a mechanism for direct and ongoing community input to the EIA. Initially it was proposed that the mechanism be via a series of 'focus workshops' involving regional residents. Following advice from the Forestry Commission (FC) however, this mechanism was modified to involve establishment of community advisory panels (CAPs);
- (b) direct consultation with 'stakeholders' not involved with (a). This is described in a separate report by the CCM (1992a); and
- (c) a survey of community attitudes towards forest management - this is described in CCM (1992b).

These three approaches were supported by MGP and the FC and became the principle basis for public interaction with the EIA during the course of preparation. Prior to inception of the EIA, the FC separately invited public submissions to the EIS for each District. Following release of the draft EIS for each District, further public comment and input also shall be invited.

This report describes the design and results of Part 3 of the public consultation process. The report is divided into four principal sections. Section 2.0 describes the basis for establishment of the CAPs and methods used to define the role and operations of the panels. Section 3.0 traces the progress and contribution of the panels. Section 4.0 details problems encountered during the CAP process, and Section 5.0 outlines conclusions and recommendations which have been devised as a result of the CAP process.

As may be appreciated when dealing with large groups and complex issues over a lengthy period, the CAP process generated an enormous volume of material (correspondence, minutes, seconds, papers, etc.). This report thus incorporates only summary information necessary for an independent reader to comprehend the process. Some additional key material is incorporated as Appendices, however, the majority of information generated during the process is not reproduced here.

2.0 Methodology

2.1 General

Public involvement is considered to be an increasingly vital prerequisite to effective environmental management (Sarkissian and Perglut, 1986). Only through understanding public concerns and expectations can managers of public resources such as State Forests develop relevant and meaningful plans and management strategies.

The extensive EIA process currently being undertaken throughout New South Wales by the NSW FC provides an ideal opportunity to increase public involvement in forest planning and management. Unlike other public land arrangement agencies such as the New South Wales National Parks Wildlife Service, the FC has no traditional provision for formal public involvement in regional/district management. During the past 20 years in particular, however, public concern about forestry operations has increased significantly and has culminated in conflicts such as the recent Chaelundi confrontation (Hurditch, 1992).

Numerous authors (e.g. Sarkissian and Perglut, 1986; Midgley, 1986) suggest that such conflict can be resolved only if all parties have an opportunity to express and discuss their concerns with other parties before a particular course of action is pursued. The present EIA process is thus a timely opportunity to provide for such input, as the future of forest operations in the Grafton, Casino and Murwillumbah Districts is to be examined in the EIA (refer to study brief).

While recognising the value and relevance of public consultation and involvement in environmental planning and management, much uncertainty exists on what are appropriate techniques for securing public involvement (Gold, 1980). There is a wide range of potentially suitable techniques, each with different levels of empowerment and resource requirements. There are also numerous documented studies of the effectiveness and efficiency of various techniques (e.g. Murphy, 1991) under different conditions.

Ultimately, the choice of technique(s) in any particular area must take into account:

- (a) the available resources;
- (b) the nature of the planning activity (e.g. ongoing or project-specific);
- (c) the institutional context of public involvement (e.g. organisational level); and
- (d) public characteristics and motivations (e.g. single interest or multiple interest).

In view of these considerations, the CCM recommended an interactive and ongoing consultation process based on a series of public workshops be employed in the present study. This proposal, however, was modified at the suggestion of the FC to establish a more coherent input and expanded 'vehicle' - community advisory panels (CAPs). The FC has established a similar input system for other, concurrent EIA studies and was keen to ensure a uniform approach to public consultation statewide. While the desire for uniformity is understandable and commendable, it should be appreciated that forestry operations on the North Coast have a long history of controversy and conflict (Gibbs 1992). As a consequence community attitudes towards forestry tend to be polarised and, in many cases, entrenched thus making any attempt at conflict moderation difficult. It was for this reason that CCM proposed that this conflict potential be addressed explicitly by the use of a focus workshop technique rather than a standardised advisory panel approach which typically requires a much longer lead and operational time and significant resources to yield meaningful results.

2.2 CAP Establishment

2.2.1 Advertising Process

Nominations for members were invited for both the Grafton and Casino - Murwillumbah CAPs by newspaper advertisements (Appendix B). An advertisement was placed in the Daily Examiner (Grafton) on 8, 9 and 11 February 1992 with applications closing on 21 February 1992. Advertisements for the Casino - Murwillumbah CAP members were placed in the Daily News (Murwillumbah) and the Northern Star (Lismore) on 7, 9 and 10 March 1992, with applications closing on 23 March 1992.

In addition, a letter was sent to those who had made an earlier submission to the FC about the EIS, inviting them to respond to these advertisements.

Seventeen applications were received from the Grafton advertisement, two of which were referred to join the Casino - Murwillumbah panel for geographic reasons. In total, 15 panel members were selected from this process.

The response from the Casino - Murwillumbah District included in total some 67 phone calls and 42 written applications for the 20 positions available. Of the individuals and interest groups who did submit a written application, not one interest group was excluded from the CAP.

2.2.2 Selection Criteria

The criteria for selection of CAP members was based on the following:

- (a) representation of formal and informal stakeholder groups (e.g. business/industry, conservation/environment, recreation, landholders, research, etc.). No representation from state government bodies was sought;
- (b) geographic coverage, membership was drawn from throughout the Management Area;
- (c) where feasible, efforts were made to ensure implementation of EEO principles in the selection of CAP members; and
- (d) every effort was made to ensure that panels were balanced in terms of representation and geographic coverage.

In the case of the Casino - Murwillumbah panel, a specific geographic balance criterion was used, i.e. given the relative size of the State Forests in the Casino District compared with the Murwillumbah District, a majority of members would be drawn from the Casino Forestry District. Consequently, selection resulted in 14 members being from the Casino area and six members from the Murwillumbah area. A list of panel members selected by this process are included in Appendix C.

At the inaugural meeting of the Grafton CAP, panel members decided to invite representatives from four additional interest groups: the Aboriginal community, the Clarence River Fishermen's Co-operative, the Clarence River Tourist Association and Logging contractors. At the request of the panel, the Convener invited representation from these groups and nominations were subsequently received from the Aboriginal Land Council, the Clarence River Tourist Association and Logging contractors.

At the second meeting, a request to join the panel was received from Mr Terry Tibbett, who is a perpetual Crown lessee and has grazing interests in State Forests. This request was accepted by the panel. At the third meeting the Clarence Environment Centre requested membership but the panel decided to reject this request.

The Grafton CAP thus was expanded to 18 members.

No further additions were made to the Casino - Murwillumbah Panel and thus membership comprised 20 members.

2.3 CAP Procedures

2.3.1 Functions

An indication of the initial tasks to be undertaken by the CAP members are listed below. These tasks then were revised and updated by CAP members, consultants and the FC.

1. Provide assistance in design of community attitudinal survey (first meeting) and interpretation of results.
2. Provide a vehicle for dissemination of information on EIA to wider community and identify appropriate contact persons for consultation during preparation of EIS background studies (e.g socio-economic studies).
3. Provide comment and advice on matters arising from EIA studies, particularly on matters where interpretation of results/findings requires clarification prior to preparation and release of draft EIS.
4. Enable local knowledge to be taken into account in preparation and interpretation of EIA background studies.
5. Facilitate preview of findings during EIA process and review prior to public release of draft - with the aim of improving the efficiency and utility of the eventual EIS.
6. Identify ongoing opportunities and requirements for public involvement in forest planning and management (i.e. beyond the immediate time-frame of the EIS).

2.3.2 Roles and Operations

The first meeting of each panel largely was devoted to agreeing their roles and operations. Part of the purpose of this exercise was to attempt to clarify the differing roles of those involved in the CAP. The procedures adopted as a result of these discussions are included in Appendix D.

The role of panel members was to give advice, comment on and raise matters of relevance to the EIS. The Convener (who was not a panel member) was to facilitate the flow of information between the community, the CAP, the consultants preparing the EIS, the FC and others involved. MGP were responsible for providing information on the EIS content and methods of data collection as requested by the CAP and to seek the advice of the CAP on matters relating to the EIS. The FC agreed that it should provide information as requested and to keep the CAP informed of developments relating to the EIS.

It generally was agreed that meetings should be informal and strict meeting procedures not be followed. A record would be kept of information discussed and decisions made by the CAP and a media release may be made, the contents being agreed at the meeting. Meetings would be held every two months (approximately) during the EIS preparation or to coincide with major study events. An agenda would be prepared for each meeting by the Convener and members could request that items be included on the agenda.

A considerable amount of information including background material, EIS draft report, FC reports and information requested by panel members, was distributed to CAP members. A list of these documents is included in Appendix E.

2.4 Evaluation

The evaluation of the CAP process was planned from the outset with the use of a baseline survey which was completed at the first meeting and an exit survey which was completed at the final CAP meeting. Copies of the survey forms are included in Appendix F.

In both cases survey forms were distributed at panel meetings and members encouraged to complete and return the forms as soon as possible. A reply paid postal address was provided. Due to the fact that the December meetings were held so late in the year, the need for forms to be completed quickly, and preferably at the conclusion of the meeting, was stressed. Nevertheless only a small proportion of forms were returned, which is evident from Table 2.1. Members were asked to use a similar code name on both forms in order to be able to compare responses to questions and ensure anonymity.

Table 2.1
Completed Evaluation Survey Forms
Grafton and Casino - Murwillumbah CAPs

Number completed and returned:	Baseline Survey	Exit Survey
Grafton CAP	13	4
Casino - Murwillumbah CAP	12	4

3.0 CAP Contributions

3.1 Issues Identified

As part of each second CAP meeting, panel members identified issues which the EIS should address. Issue identification took place in a brainstorming session, with panels deciding not to prioritise issues listed. Tables 3.1 and 3.2 list the issues identified in this process.

Table 3.1
Issues Identified by Grafton CAP Members

multi-species forests & multi-aged forests	community consultation
environmental imbalance bellbird/lantana	genetic isolation
Crown land lease	grazing rights
hollow trees	wilderness
protected plant legislation	logging
old growth forests	sustainable timber yields
access roads	stream ecosystems
legal burning off	water quality
forest dependent wildlife	cutting of poles
salvage rights - plants	National Parks
salvage rights - timber	20m filter strips
woodchipping/pulp mill	user pays
plantations	royalties
flora reserves	ecological sustainability
TSI	habitat fragmentation
socio-economic effects	roads impact
endangered fauna	balanced open management
archaeology	resource security
tourism	fire management
nutrient cycles	soil conservation/salinisation
education/scientific discovery	noxious weeds and animals
Forestry Commission	greenhouse

Table 3.2
Issues Identified by Casino - Murwillumbah CAP Members

old growth forests	resource security
multiple use	burning
wildlife management	value of resources
biodiversity	sustainable yield management
effect of public subsidies	grazing
value added	non timber value of forests
rainforest	water quality
understorey management	conservation value
employment and community effect	alternative employment strategy
plantations	EIS on private forests
woodchipping	cultural-European pre/post influence
wilderness	continuing public input after EIS
scientific and educational values	management of chosen regimes
social values	alternative management options
forest vegetation typing	true value of forests
endangered species	environmental monitoring
restructuring packages	biological/ecological values
erosion	resource allocation process
royalties	effects of roading
code of forest practice on private forests	parameters of brief
forest age structure by type classification	

3.2 Summary of Meetings

3.2.1 Grafton CAP

Four meetings and a fieldtrip were held during the course of the EIS. A record of each meeting is included in Appendix G.

The first meeting involved the introduction of panel members and their expectations of the CAP/EIA process. CCM introduced the background to CAP formulation and outlined proposed attitudinal study inviting CAP input; MGP outlined the EIS study team and approach to be used by MGP. The FC explained the EIS context and FC expectations of CAP. Members also contributed suggestions on the design of the attitudinal survey.

From these, a number of issues were raised by CAP members including representation from additional interest groups, data being presented in 'plain English style' and access to raw data subject to clearance from FC/MGP.

The second meeting involved progress reports from MGP and CCM, discussion of the fieldtrip which the panel had undertaken to Dalmorton State Forest, a review of a position paper on the Apiary industry, prepared by the industry representative on the panel. Members also participated in an issues identification session which aimed to identify the issues to be addressed in the EIS.

The major items of business on the agenda of the third meeting were discussion of draft reports, namely:

- * the Socio- economic progress draft report
- * Community Consultation draft reports on Part 1 - Attitudinal Survey and Part 2 - Direct Consultation
- * Recreation, Wilderness and Scenic Values draft report.
- * Hydrology
- * Archaeology

A statement about grazing activities in the Grafton Forestry District also was presented to the panel by one of its members.

The fourth meeting involved a variation to the previously followed format and timing of meetings due to the nature and amount of material on the agenda. In this case the meeting was six hours long (with a half hour break midway through). The agenda included discussion of draft reports on:

- * Soils
- * European History
- * Flora and Fauna
- * Forest Management

A considerable portion of the meeting was spent discussing options for forest management in small groups and plenary sessions. Members also were given the opportunity to review the CAP process and an exit evaluation survey form was distributed. There was general agreement that the CAP had been a positive and useful contribution to the EIS and panel members expressed interest in continuing to meet, in order to provide feedback and advice to the FC.

3.2.2 Casino - Murwillumbah CAP

Four meetings were held during the course of the EIS. A record of each meeting is included in Appendix F.

The first meeting involved the introduction of panel members and their expectations of the CAP/EIA process. CCM introduced the background to CAP formulation and outlined proposed attitudinal study inviting CAP input. MGP outlined the EIS study team and approach to be used by MGP. The FC explained the EIS context and FC expectations of CAP. Members also contributed suggestions on the design of the attitudinal survey.

The second meeting involved progress reports from MGP and CCM, a review of a position paper on the Apiary industry, prepared by the industry representative on the panel. Members also participated in an issues identification session which aimed to identify the issues to be addressed in the EIS. There were several requests for information and other concerns from various panel members e.g. old growth status of areas of forests, management of orchids in State Forests and socio-economic issues.

The major items of business on the agenda of the third meeting were discussion of draft reports, namely:

- * the Socio-economic progress draft report
- * Community Consultation draft reports on Part 1 - Attitudinal Survey and Part 2 - Direct Consultation
- * Recreation, Wilderness and Scenic Values draft report
- * Hydrology
- * Archaeology

The fourth meeting involved a variation to the previously followed format and timing of meetings due to the nature and amount of material on the agenda. In this case the meeting was six hours long (with a half hour break midway through). The agenda included discussion of draft reports on:

- * Soils
- * European History
- * Flora and Fauna
- * Forest Management

A considerable portion of the meeting was spent discussing options for forest management in small groups and plenary sessions. Members also were given the opportunity to review the CAP process and an exit evaluation survey form was distributed. There was general agreement that the CAP had been a positive and useful contribution to the EIS and panel members expressed interest in continuing to meet, in order to provide feedback and advice to the FC.

3.2.3 Attendance

The attendance at each meeting is given in Table 3.3. A complete record of attendance at meetings is included in Appendix C.

Table 3.3
Attendance at CAP Meetings

	1st	Attendance (% Total)		
		2nd	3rd	4th
Grafton	93%	88%	94%	64%
Casino - Murwillumbah	90%	90%	89%	85%

3.2.4 Members Submissions/Reports

Throughout the course of the CAP meetings, members provided reports and submissions which were circulated to other members, consultants, MGP and FC. These reports provided valuable input for the EIS. Table 3.4. lists these reports.

Table 3.4:
Reports from CAP Members

Name /Organisation	Report Subject
P. Stace (G)	Apiary Industry
R. Zuill (G)	Grazing Industry
T. Tibbett (G)	Crown Leases in State Forests
D. Pugh (G)	Socio-economic issues
G. Manning (C/M)	Apiary Industry
A. Ricketts (C/M)	Socio- economic issues
A. Ricketts (C/M)	Non timber values of forests
J. Roberts (C/M)	Values of forests and sites
A. Jay (C/M)	Socio-economic issues
Note: (G) - Grafton CAP; (C/M) - Casino - Murwillumbah CAP	

3.2.5 Proformas

Draft consultants' reports were circulated to all members as they became available. To facilitate comments being made on these a proforma sheet was provided (Appendix E.) The number of completed proformas received from panel members for each report is tabulated in Table 3.5.

Table 3.5
Completed Proformas Received

Draft Report	Number of Proformas Received	
	Grafton	Casino - Murwillumbah
Community Consultation Part A	9	2
Community Consultation Part B	7	2
Recreation, Scenic and Wilderness	8	2
Socio-economic	7	5
Hydrology	6	5
Archaeology	0	3
Soils	1	1
European History	1	1
Flora and Fauna	1	0

4.0 Problems Encountered

4.1 CAP Context

It should be noted that the CAP context paralleled the EIS, but arguably should have begun much earlier in the process and should be continued if the panel is to be most effective. The view was expressed by many that the CAP process was begun too late in forest management on the North Coast, both in historic terms (i.e. a similar vehicle for dialogue should have been developed a decade ago) and in strategic terms (i.e. the CAP should have assisted in developing the terms of reference for the EIS). The EIS is but a small part of the overall management process - this has led to frustrations and if the advisory panel is not continued may exacerbate public concerns.

4.2 Logistics

There were problems associated with the sheer size of panels (18 Grafton, 20 Casino - Murwillumbah) e.g. finding meeting times and places that suited a majority, the scheduling of meetings bearing in mind the time frame of different studies and overall deadlines for completion of the EIS. There was an enormous amount of information disseminated from the various sources - various consultants, FC, members. A major concern for panel members was the sheer amount of paper generated as well as the type of paper used (not recycled). Whilst every effort was made to co-ordinate the CAP schedule with key study events, delays in report preparation due to fieldwork problems and changes in FC requirements at various stages of the process meant that the desired level of synchrony was not maintained.

In addition to this, providing adequate time for each member to read and assimilate reports prior to the meetings was a difficult factor due to the need to synchronise FC/MGP/CCM/other consultants and CAP members working on different time frames.

4.3 Time

All CAP members felt that there was insufficient time to deal with issues raised during the EIS at a level expected by members. In particular, between April and December, members felt that the sheer volume of material to be reviewed was such that additional meetings were needed. A proposal to extend the meeting schedule, however, was rejected by the FC due to contract budget limitations. In addition the nominal time of three hours per meeting meant that discussion of many issues was often arbitrarily limited. This time limit was set at the outset by panels to expediate meetings, however, it was found by the final meeting to be inadequate and was thus waived.

4.4 Expectations

From the initial Baseline Survey conducted at the beginning of the CAP process, many had positive comments on the expectations of the CAP. Some comments included: seeing the CAP meetings as providing information to the public; enabling constructive communication between various and opposing groups; assurance that timber resources will be available to the community and industry; assisting FC to be ecologically sustainable.

It was apparent that many CAP members had high expectations of what may be achieved, particularly in relation to access to information and the ability of the CAP to vary the scope of studies contributing to the EIS. In fact, the FC went to considerable lengths to facilitate access to information which was not normally in the public domain. Furthermore central reference libraries in Lismore and Grafton were established and reports accessed as requested. However, it is difficult to service information needs of members given the range of interests and knowledge involved.

Most panel members felt that the CAP would be ineffective in both achieving consensus and resolving conflict. In fact group dynamics resulted in some groups being able to obtain greater prominence for their views by 'working together behind the scenes'. This meant that groups with common philosophical interests or better organised network systems were able to take more advantage of the CAP process than strictly individual members. Whilst every effort was made to run the two panels separately, inevitably there was overlap of information given and information sharing informally. As a consequence some groups were able to obtain information which would not otherwise be available to the panels.

4.5 Resignations

Grafton CAP

During the CAP process the Forest Protection Society's nominee was changed after three meetings and four members resigned from the Grafton Panel. The resignations were received from three representatives from various groups and one community member as follows:

National Parks Association of NSW Inc, Clarence Valley Branch
 Clarence Valley Conservation Coalition
 North East Forest Alliance
 Peter Wright

The reasons given for the resignations included: there was no evidence of original public submissions being examined by consultants; meetings were called before any substantive reports/material were available; meetings disintegrated into emotional debate rather than constructive discussion mainly due to the panel not having a clearer or more positive method of operation; reports were received at short notice or late; FC not allowing further meetings; imbalance of interests on the panel; minutes of meeting not representative; narrow role of the CAP; CAP recommendations not being followed by consultants.

These panel members also indicated that they would rejoin the CAP if these problems were rectified. It was considered vital that there be a genuine balance of interests, that the CAP be allowed to provide advice on issues it considers to be important, full information is available to CAP members in a timely fashion, a sufficient number of meetings to allow CAP to consider and discuss all issues it considers important and that the CAP has a genuine advisory role and its recommendations are fully investigated and properly considered.

Casino - Murwillumbah CAP

Tracee Hutchison resigned at the third meeting for personal reasons. In addition five other representatives withdrew. These include:

Caldera Environment Centre
 North East Forest Alliance
 Tweed Valley Conservation Trust
 Big Scrub Environment Centre
 Aboriginal Land Council
 Hugh Nicholson.

The reasons for their resignations were: the belief that the FC has deliberately denied access to information; there had been inadequate response to requests by panel members to modify the scope of subconsultants' briefs; the lack of adequate old growth assessment and protection; the lack of consultation with the Aboriginal Lands Council; draft reports were considered inadequate; and more meetings were required to discuss changes to reports that have been requested or discuss matters arising from submissions after the draft returns from public display.

While these resignations were disappointing, they need to be considered within the wider context of the EIA process. The CAPs were one opportunity for community involvement in the EIS and these groups/persons still have the chance to review the EIS and are, undoubtedly, more knowledgeable as a result of their CAP experience. In addition, the reasons given for the resignations are important points to consider when evaluating whether to repeat a similar exercise or setting up ongoing panels.

5.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

Panel members (both panels) stated at the December meeting that they thought that the CAP process had generally been worthwhile. In fact, their desire to meet again when the EIS is on public exhibition and their stated interest in providing ongoing advice to the FC on forest management is a positive outcome of the process. There also were some specific comments made on the effectiveness of the CAP and its operations, particularly relating to the flow and availability of information being vital to the whole process.

From the consultants' point of view, the CAP provided useful input into some aspects of their work, for instance, in the design of CCM surveys and the scope of the socio-economic impact analysis. At the same time though, there were expectations from the CAP about the consultants and the FC responding to their requests for information and input into studies. These expectations could not always be met because of time and other constraints relating to the scope of studies.

One of the main objectives of the CAP was that it would lead to a better EIS. Given that the members of the CAPs were able to interact face-to-face, exchange views and listen to different attitudes (often for the first time) and that valuable feedback was provided to subconsultants, then it is likely that this objective has been achieved.

Overall, it is possible that workshops would probably have been more effective given the time and logistical constraints associated with the CAP process. However, this CAP process is an important stepping stone for the FC in the path to meaningful public involvement. The desire of the CAPs to continue to be involved with the FC in forest management shows that the effort and contribution made by a number of parties to the process - members, subconsultants, consultants and others - has been worthwhile.

Recommendations

1. Future EIA studies of this type should continue with a public participation component. However, the participation mechanisms must match the timing, budget and logistical constraints of the EIS and must begin early in the EIS process (ideally to include advice on the Terms of Reference of studies).
2. There is an on-going role for a CAP in the management of forestry operations on the Far North Coast. Since there is considerable overlap of community interest and management needs, consideration should be given to having a combined Far North Coast CAP. Continuing separately would be a lot of work and potentially inefficient.

3. As a first step towards forming a new CAP, advertisements should be placed in the local media calling for registration of interest in membership of such a body. The group should comprise no more than 20 people/groups, drawn from a wide range of interest groups. It is important that such a group be in place for final review of the Grafton and Casino - Murwillumbah EISs and, therefore, action is required immediately. The FC should assume the secretariat function and the panel elect its own convener/chairperson.

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Appendix A: Study Team and Acknowledgements

This study was undertaken by the following staff of the Centre for Coastal Management:

Study Director	Ian Dutton
CAP Convener	Stephanie Knox
Project Officer	Linda Hammond
Specialist Advisors	Derrin Davis
	Glenn Morrison

The team gratefully acknowledges the input and assistance of CAP members (listed in Appendix D), Ray Margules (MGP) and District Officers of the NSW Forestry Commission.

Appendix B: CAP Advertisements

Advertisements similar to the following, were placed in the following newspapers on the dates specified:

The Daily Examiner (Grafton) - 8th, 19th and 11th February 1992

The Daily News (Murwillumbah) - 7th, 9th and 10th March 1992 and

The Northern Star (Lismore) - 7th, 9th and 10th March 1992.

Appendix C: CAP Roles and Operations

Roles of Participants

Panel members:	to advise, comment on and raise matters of relevance to the EIS of Forestry operations in the relevant Forestry district.
Convener:	to facilitate the flow of information between the community, the CAP, the consultants preparing the EIS, the FC and others involved.
Margules Groome Poyry:	to provide information as requested on the EIS content and methods of data collection and, to seek the advice of the CAP on matters relating to the EIS.
Forestry Commission:	To provide information as requested and to keep the CAP informed of developments relating to the EIS.

Operation of Meetings

- a) **Duration**
Office meetings should be concluded within three hours.
- b) **Frequency**
Meetings will be held every two months during the EIS preparation or to coincide with major study events.
- c) **Venue**
The panel may vary the venue for meetings.
- d) **Agenda**
CAP members may request items be included on the agenda by contacting the convener. Agenda and any background material should be mailed to members prior to meetings.
- e) **Meeting procedures**
Meetings will be run on an informal basis with the aim of reaching consensus on matters requiring a decision. Where a vote is necessary, the views of the majority will prevail, however, a record will be kept of dissenting opinions.
- f) **Records of meetings**
A record will be kept of information discussed and decisions made by the CAP - Convener to provide.
- g) **Attendance at meetings**
Members representing organisations may appoint an alternative delegate should they be unable to attend a meeting.
- h) **Observers**
Members of the public may attend meetings as observers only.
- i) **External Contributors**
The panel may invite specialist contributions from external organisations/individuals.
- j) **Media**
A media release may be prepared on behalf of the CAP only by the Convener. Material to be included in the release should be identified during the meeting.

k) Disclosure

The panel, on the advice of the consultants, may agree that items are confidential and should not be discussed with non-members of the panel.

l) Meeting Quorum

A quorum shall be comprised of half the total membership of the panel plus one.

Appendix D: CAP Membership

Membership for the Grafton and Casino - Murwillumbah CAPs is listed below.

Grafton Community Advisory Panel

Member	Affiliation	Participation			
		19/3/92	21/5/92	12/8/92	15/12/92
Mr Geoff Ballard	Forest Protection Society Ltd	x		x	
Mr Tony Pidcock	Forest Protection Society Ltd				
Mr Rex Child	Timber Industry	x	x	x	x
Ms Carol Cochrane	Forest Protection Society Ltd	x	x	x	x
Mr Dallas Donnelly	Far North Coast Aboriginal Land C'cil				
Mr John Gay	Community Member	x	x	x	
Ms Judith Gibson	Landowner	x	x	x	x
Ms Marie Howlett	Local Government	x	x	x	a
Mr John Moye	Orchid Society	a	x	x	x
Mr Dennis Murray	NPA Clarence Valley Branch	x	x	x	
Mr Lambrinos Notaras	Sawmiller	x	x	x	x
Mr Dailan Pugh	N.E.F.A.	x	x	x	
Mr Peter Stace	Apiary Industry	x	x	x	x
Mr Terry Tibbett	Perpetual Crown lessee / Grazing interests		x	x	
Mr John Toms	Logging Contractor		x	x	x
Mr Bruce Tucker	Clarence Valley Conservation Coalition	x	x	x	
Mr Les Weiley	Tourist Association		x	x	
Mr Peter Wright	Landowner	x	x	x	
Mr Robert Zuill	Grazier and Sawmiller	x	x	x	x

x indicates present at CAP meeting

o indicates alternate nominee

a indicates apology tendered

Resignations

Mr Geoff Ballard, representing the Forest Protection Society, was replaced by Mr Tony Pidcock.

Mr Dennis Murray, representing the National Parks Association of NSW, Clarence Valley Branch, 9 November 1992.

Mr Dailan Pugh, representing the North East Forest Alliance, 9 November, 1992.

Mr Peter Wright, 9 November, 1992.

Mr Bruce Tucker, representing the Clarence Valley Conservation Coalition, 9 November, 1992.

Casino - Murwillumbah Community Advisory Panel

Member	Affiliation	Participation			
		9/4/92	14/5/92	13/8/92	16/12/92
Ms Sue Bennett	Cassino Timbers		x	x	x
Mr Leo Budgen	Australian Workers Union	o	x	x	x
Mr Earle Bulmer	Casino Municipal Council	x	x	x	
Mr John Crowther	Community Member	x	a	a	x
Mr Alan Greensill	Logging Contractor	o	x	x	x
Mr Warren Harvey	Duncan's, Bonalbo	x	x	x	a
Mr Paul Hopkins	Caldera Environment Centre	x	x	x	
Mr Robert Hurford	Hurfords Building Supplies	x	x	x	x
Ms Tracee Hutchison	Community representative	x	a		
Mr Henry James	Tweed Valley Conservation Trust	x	x	x	
Mr Alex Jay	Community member	x	x	x	x
Mr Geoff Manning	Apiarists' Association	o	x	x	x
Mr Hugh Nicholson	Terania Rainforest Nursery	x	x	x	
Mr Martin O'Brien	Sawmiller	x	x	x	x
Ms Rhondda O'Neill	Forest Protection Society Ltd	x	x	x	x
Mr John Pollard	Community member	x	x		x
Mr Aiden Ricketts	Big Scrub Environment Centre	x	x	x	
Mr John Roberts	Regional Aboriginal Lands Council		x	x	
Mr Andrew Steed	North East Forest Alliance	o	x	x	
Ms Barbara Stewart	Community member	x	x	x	x

- x indicates present at CAP meeting
 o indicates alternate nominee attended
 a indicates apology tendered

Members Resigned

Ms Tracee Hutchison, 13 August 1992.
 Mr Hugh Nicholson, 3 December, 1992.
 Mr Paul Hopkins, representing the Caldera Environment Centre, 1 December, 1992.
 Mr Henry James, representing the Tweed Valley Conservation Trust, 1 December, 1992.
 Mr Aiden Ricketts, representing the Big Scrub Environment Centre, 1 December, 1992.
 Mr John Roberts, representing the Regional Aboriginal Lands Council, 9 December, 1992.
 Mr Andrew Steed, representing the North East Forest Alliance, 1 December, 1992.

Appendix E: List of material circulated to CAPs

Casino - Murwillumbah CAP

Introductory Folder

1. State Forests of the Far North Coast
2. Casino State Forests
3. Tenterfield State Forests
4. CAP Casino - Murwillumbah Forest Areas EIS. Extract from Manual for Environmental Impact Assessment
5. Maps - Proposed Wilderness Areas near New England
Proposed Wilderness Areas near Washpool
Aboriginal Place
6. Consultant's Brief for Grafton and/or Casino Management Area EIS
7. Managing the State Forests Casino Management Area Basis of Management (4.11.91 version)
8. Consultants contact addresses / Timetable / Register of Submissions - Casino / Register of Responses - Murwillumbah

9 April 1992

1. Draft Agenda
2. Roles and Operation C-M Draft for Discussion
3. Evaluation Baseline Survey
4. Public Attitudes Study- Draft Proposal
5. Summary list of members

4 May 1992

1. Study Methods and Public Responses - Margules Groome Poyry
2. The Apairy Industry in the Casino - Murwillumbah Forestry District. Peter Stace. Livestock Officer NSW Agriculture. Wollongbar
3. Correspondence - H. Nicholson/ A. Ricketts/ A. Jay/ B. Stewart.

17 June 1992

1. I. Dutton letter advising leave second semester.

27 July 1992

1. CCM - DRAFT Community Consultation Report
2. a. Attitudinal Survey
b. Direct Consultation
3. CCM - DRAFT Recreation, Wilderness and Scenic Values Report
4. MGP - DRAFT Hydrology Report
5. MGP - DRAFT Progress Socio-economic Report
6. Reviews of Promises and Realities by: Sally Driml, Dailan Pugh and David Buckland
7. Correspondence - H. Nicholson/ R. O'Neill/ E. Bulmer, J. Crowther, L. Bugden
8. Proforma Sheets (blank)

25 September 1992

1. Record of third meeting 13 August 1992
2. Note advising of date of next meeting Tues 10 November 1992
3. Completed Proformas so far received

21 October 1992

1. Letter re: change of date of CAP meeting from 10 Nov to either 1 or 8 of December
2. Completed proformas - AS and anonymous

26 October 1992

1. MGP - Sustained Yield Discussion Paper

27 November 1992

1. Advise date of next meeting Wed 16 December 1992
2. Correspondence from D. Gibbs
3. Proformas received
4. Proformas (blank)
5. FC - DRAFT Soils Report
6. FC - DRAFT European Heritage Report

3 December 1992

1. Letter advising resignation of five members from the panel
2. Copy of resignation letter

4 December 1992

1. Agenda for meeting 16th December 1992

8 December 1992

1. FC - DRAFT Flora and Fauna Report

Meeting December 16

1. Agenda
2. Exit Survey
3. Forestry Commission of N.S.W., Casino District, Future Proposals: General Basis for Future Management

Grafton CAP

2 April 1992

Introductory Folder

1. Record of first meeting on 19 March 1992
2. Copy of media release 1, 20 March 1992
3. Background notes on old growth Forests and Wilderness nomination
4. Dalmorton State Forest: History of Settlement and Forest Operations
5. Harvesting Plan: Grafton Management Area CPT 450
6. Aboreal Mammal Survey- Dalmorton State Forest- Grafton District
7. Standard Erosion Mitigation Conditions for Logging in New South Wales, July 1990
8. Species listed on revised (Interim) Schedule 12, known or likely to occur in the Grafton Management Area
9. Code of Logging Practices- State Forests: Coffs Harbour Region, 1988 Edition
10. Roles and Operation - Grafton Forests EIS CAP
11. Evaluation Baseline Survey 19/3 92
12. Consultants Brief for Grafton and/or Casino Management Area EIS

13 April 1992

1. Notes for Field Trip to Dalmorton State Forest
2. Attached map

May 1992

1. Agenda for Thursday 21 May Meeting
2. Record of 1st Meeting (19 March 1992)
3. Public Consultation Report to CAPS (May 1992)
4. The Ontogeny of hollows in Blackbutt (*Eucalyptus pilularis*) and its relevance to the management of forests for possums,gliders and timber.
5. Diet, ranging behaviour and social organization of the yellow-bellied glider (*Petaurus australis*) in Victoria.
6. The Apiary Industry in the Grafton Forestry District. Peter Stace. Livestock Officer NSW Agriculture. Wollongbar.

Meeting 21 May 1992

1. Promises & Realities Report by Diana Gibbs handed out to Panel members.

17 June 1992

1. Letter and Schedule advising dates of future meetings
2. Letter D. Gibbs re: Grafton data from CAP and interview program.
3. Record of 2nd Meeting (21 May 1992).
4. CAP Issues List.
5. Dept of Planning - Statement in regard to Parts 4 & 5 Of the EPA Act 1979 in relation to endangered species legislation and forestry.
6. I.Dutton letter advising leave second semester.
7. Report Review Proforma.

27 July 1992

1. Agenda
2. Correspondence - R. Zuill
3. CCM - DRAFT Community Consultation Report - a. Attitudinal Survey
4. CCM - DRAFT Community Consultation Report - b. Direct Consultation
5. CCM - DRAFT Recreation, Wilderness and Scenic Values Report.
6. MGP - DRAFT Hydrology Report
7. Reviews of Promises and Realities Report by S. Driml, D. Pugh, D. P. Buckland.
8. Proformas

July 1992

1. MGP - DRAFT Socio-economic Progress report
2. Update on schedule sent by Ray Margules

25 September 1992

1. Note to all CAP members advising date of next meeting Wed 11 November
2. Record of the third meeting 12 August 1992
3. Completed proformas for information to CAP members.

21 October 1992

1. Letter re: change of date of CAP meeting from 11 Nov to either 2 or 9 of December
2. Completed proformas - DM and PW

26 October 1992

1. MGP - Sustained Yield Discussion Paper

10 November 1992

1. Letter advising resignation of four panel members
2. Copy of letter of resignation

25 November 1992

1. Letter of date of next meeting - 15 December
2. 4 blank proformas
3. MH proformas
4. D. Gibbs Correspondence

27 November 1992

1. FC - DRAFT Soils Report
2. FC - DRAFT European Heritage Report

4 December 1992

1. Agenda Next Meeting Tuesday 15 December 1992
2. Proformas - CVCC, J.Moye.

8 December 1992

1. FC - DRAFT Flora and Fauna Report

December 15 Meeting

1. Agenda
2. Exit Survey
3. Documents tabled at meeting.
 - a. Blainey, G. (extract) Triumph of the Nomads.
 - b. Bolton, G. (extract) Spoils and Spoilers: The Australian Experience.
 - c. Flannery, T. 1992, Who killed Kiriilpi? *Australian Natural History*. Vol 23: (3) pp 234-241
 - d. Flood, J. (extract) Archaeology of the Dreamtime: The story of prehistoric Australia and her people
 - e. Forestry Commission of NSW, Grafton. Grafton Management Area EIS : Development of Preferred Options and Feasible Alternatives.
 - f. Rogers, M.F. & Sinden J.A. , The Safe Minimum Standard for Environmental Choices: Old Growth Forests in NSW (paper submitted for publication in the Journal of Environmental Management.
 - g. Rogers M.F. The Allocation of Old Growth Forest between Preservation and Logging in NSW (Draft Paper)

Appendix F: Evaluation Proformas

Code No: _____

Grafton Forests EIS - Community Advisory Panel

"Exit" Evaluation Survey - November, 1992

Instructions:

1. Please record your code number or letter/combination in the top right corner of this form.
2. Please hand form in to Convener at the end of the November meeting

Questions:

1. Overall, how effective do you believe the CAP has been in helping to produce a 'better EIS' ?

- 2a. What specifically do you believe the CAP has achieved to date?

- 2b. What specifically do you believe the CAP has failed to achieved to date?

3. Do you believe this CAP is(place a circle on line)

a.

| _____ | _____ |
 Poorly Balanced Well Balanced

Comment: _____

b.

| _____ | _____ |
 Unrepresentative Fully representative

Comment: _____

c.

| _____ | _____ |
 Unlikely to be Technically competent
 Technically competent

Comment: _____

d.

| _____ | _____ |
 Likely to be ineffective Likely to be effective
 in achieving consensus in achieving consensus

Comment: _____

e.

| _____ | _____ |
 Likely to be ineffective in Likely to be effective
 resolving conflict in resolving conflict

Comment: _____

4. What do you believe will be the major strengths of the CAP?

5. What do you believe will be the major weaknesses of the CAP?

6. List (in order of importance) up to 5 issues which you believe are the most important items for the EIS to address

7. Would you (at this stage) be willing to continue to be a member of a CAP to the Forestry Commission once the EIS is completed?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Undecided

Comment: _____

8. Are there any other comments or concerns which you would like to raise about the CAP or EIS at this stage?

8a. Would you be willing to continue to be a member of a CAP to the Forestry Commission once the CAP process concludes (and assuming a CAP will be continued)?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Undecided

Comment: _____

8b. What changes (if any) would you recommend be made to the present CAP membership or procedures if a CAP is continued.

8c. Would you be in favour of amalgamating the Casino-Murwillumbah and Grafton CAPs to form a single 'Northern Forests' CAP?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Possibly

Comment: _____

9. Are there any other comments or suggestions which you would like to make about the CAP or the EIS?

Thank You For Your Assistance

Casino - Murwillumbah Forests EIS - Community Advisory Panel

Evaluation Baseline Survey - 9/4/92

Instructions:

1. *Please write a code number or letter/combination in the top right corner of this form and keep a record - replies will be confidentially assessed.*
 2. *Please hand form in, or mail back to CAP convenor within one week of meeting.*
-

Questions:

1. Do you have any previous experience with Community Advisory Panels (or similar advisory bodies)?

☐ No

☐ Yes - (briefly describe) _____

2. What specifically are you hoping this CAP will achieve?

3. Do you believe the CAP proved to be(place a circle on line)

a.

| _____ | _____ |
Poorly Balanced Well Balanced

Comment: _____

b. Do you believe that the CAP proved to be.....

| _____ | _____ |
Unrepresentative Fully representative

Comment: _____

c. Do you believe that the CAP proved to be.....

| _____ | _____ |
Technically incompetent Technically competent

Comment: _____

d. Do you believe that the CAP proved to be.....

| _____ | _____ |
Unable to reach consensus Able to reach consensus

Comment: _____

e. Do you believe that the CAP proved to be.....

| _____ | _____ |
Ineffective in Effective
resolving conflict in resolving conflict

Comment: _____

4. What do you believe were the major strengths of the CAP?

5. What do you believe were the major weaknesses of the CAP?

6. On a scale of 1 - 5 (with 5 being high or good) how would you rate the performance of the following insofar as they have affected the working of the CAP? Please add any comment.

a. Panel Convenor _____ (rating)

Comment: _____

b. Principal Consultants (MGP) _____ (rating)

Comment: _____

c. Sub consultants _____ (rating)

Comment: _____

d. Forestry Commission _____ (rating)

Comment: _____

e. Other panel members _____ (rating)

Comment: _____

Comment: _____

7. Do you believe that the Draft EIS will adequately address community concerns/needs when released?

| _____ | _____ |
Definitely not Possibly Definitely yes

Comment: _____

REPORT REVIEW PRO-FORMA*

Your Code No: _____

Report Title: _____

Author: _____

Overall Assessment: _____

Deficiencies/ Inadequacies _____

Strengths/ Highlights _____

* Please attach additional pages if you have more detailed comments. Note that if there are any errors of fact, or omissions then it would be helpful to the report author if you could attach or cite reference material which supports your comment.

Appendix G: Meeting Records

Community Advisory Panel Grafton Forests EIS Record of First Meeting held on 19 March, 1992

Present

Panel members: G. Ballard, R. Child, C. Cochrane, J. Gay, J. Gibson, M. Howlett, D. Murray, B. Notaras, D. Pugh, P. Stace, B. Tucker, P. Wright, R. Zuill

Consultants: R. Margules, R. de Fegely, B. Richard Poyry (MGP), S. Knox - Convener (CCM), I. Dutton (CCM), G. Watts, R. Williams (FC)

Observers: Nil

Apologies: J. Moye

Meeting commenced: 7.30pm
Meeting concluded: 10.40pm.

Items for Information

- * Panel members briefly outlined their reasons for nomination and expectations of the CAP/EIS.
- * ID/SK introduced background to CAP formulation and role of UNE - Northern Rivers. 17 applications for membership were received. Of these, two were from non-local residents who were advised to apply for the Casino - Murwillumbah CAP and one was from a person who could not be contacted for confirmation of interest.
- * RM outlined the EIS study team and approach to be used by MGP (see handouts).
- * RW explained EIS context and FC expectations of CAP (see handouts).
- * ID outlined proposed attitudinal study and invited CAP input (see handouts).
- * RW/RM indicated that additional input will be sought from government departments, external to CAP process.

Items Unresolved

Nil

Items Agreed /For Action

- * Representation to be invited by the Convener from the following additional interest groups:
 - a. Aboriginal Community;
 - b. Fishing Co-operative; and
 - c. Logging contractors

(Action 1)

In addition, MH is to clarify representation of tourism interests and PS to clarify apiary industry input. (Action 2)
- * Data presented to the CAP will be presented in 'plain English style' with assistance on interpretation to be provided as appropriate by FC/MGP staff.

- * Access to raw (and uninterpreted/field) data may be possible subject to clearance with FC/MGP staff. CAP members will identify specific requirements as they arise, with all information requests to be cleared through Study Director (RM).
 - * Scope of EIS is primarily the Grafton Forest District, however, it may be extended as necessary to take into account extra-regional considerations (e.g. socio-economic).
 - * CAP role and operations statement was revised (see attached). This will form the basis of future CAP operations.
 - * Meeting papers are to be mailed out (with Agenda) before future meetings.
 - * PS to prepare a situation report on the Apiary Industry. (Action 3).
- members are invited to contribute similar reports on topics related to the EIS.
 - * RM to provide a copy of study timetable before next meeting. (Action 4)
 - * CAP members to mail back 'Evaluation Baseline Survey' and submit comments on community attitudinal survey to ID by end of March. (Action 5)
 - * RM to provide a situation report on study scope/emphasis for next meeting. (Action 6)
 - * SK/MGP to approach FC to ascertain possibility of reimbursement of meeting costs (travel) incurred by CAP members: (Action 7)
 - * Next meeting to be held on Monday 13th April - field trip to Dalmorton Forests. CAP members to meet at FC office at 7.30am. FC, DP and GB to provide 4WD transport. DP to liaise with RW about selection of inspection sites. (Action 8)
- Subsequent meetings to be held on a weekday at a suitable office venue in Grafton within two months of field visit. Further meetings to be held at approximately two monthly intervals.
- * Convener to prepare and circulate Media release. (Action 9)
Release may include names of Panel members.

End Record

**Community Advisory Panel
Grafton Forests EIS
Record of Second Meeting held on 21 May, 1992**

Present

Panel members: R. Child, C. Cochrane, J. Gay, J. Gibson, M. Howlett, L. Weily, D. Murray, B. Notaras, D. Pugh, P. Stace, B. Tucker, P. Wright, R. Zuill.

Consultants: R. Margules (MGP), S. Knox Convener (CCM), I. Dutton (CCM), G. Watts (RDF), B. Williams (DF- Grafton), Greg King (DF Glen Innes), Peter Smith (Manager EIA - Sydney).

Observers: T. Tibbett

Meeting commenced: 7.08pm

Meeting concluded: 10.16pm

Items for Information

- * Members in attendance for the first time (JM, LW) introduced themselves to the panel.
- * Observer introduced as a late applicant to panel (see separate letter) and was invited under Agenda Item 8 to speak to panel. After discussion 'in camera' a majority of panel members agreed to invite Mr Tibbett to join the panel.
- * SK indicated that the FC have agreed to meet members travel costs associated with attendance at CAP meetings. GW outlined rates and claim procedures and circulated claim forms for completion by members. GW noted that claims can only be paid if members vehicles are covered by third party and comprehensive insurance.
- * The field trip to Dalmorton forest held on 13 April was considered to be a most useful meeting and an earlier suggestion that an additional visit to a SF closer to Grafton be held was reiterated (see Action List). Members thanked FC staff for their assistance in organising the excursion.
- * RM indicated that background studies were progressing well apart from some minor delays due to inclement weather. RM also circulated a complete set of public submissions - these have also been provided to EIS study team members.
- * After review of the study timetable and in view of the extensive material to be assessed by the panel the panel requested that consideration be given to incorporating additional CAP meetings (i.e. >3 scheduled) as appropriate. SK/GW indicated that this could be possible.
- * ID circulated a report on community consultation aspects - direct consultation and attitudinal survey. Draft reports of both are to be presented at the next CAP meeting.
- * The written report from the Department of Planning was circulated. SK explained that a new impact assessment unit is currently being established in the Department of Planning which would be centrally responsible for EIA reviews and hence it was not appropriate for regional Department of Planning to address the CAP. Any comments on the paper are to be discussed at next meeting. (see Action List)
- * PS discussed his report on the Apairy Industry and responded to members questions about bee range, site allocation, cost recovery and grower returns. He also circulated presented sample packs to members. SK thanked PS and the industry for their input and suggested that the report was a useful 'model' for members wishing to present sectoral information.

- * After discussion of need and methodology, GW/SK conducted a 10 minute 'brainstorming' session in which members identified issues which the EIS should address (See Attachment 1). Members decided not to prioritise the final list:
- * Following notification of concern about the adequacy of forest research during the field excursion, members were invited to clarify research needs. Areas of deficiency identified included:
 - pre and post logging studies
 - frequency and abundance of fires
 - frequency and effects of burning
 - honey production
 - filter strip width

It was noted by observers and members that much data on these topics already exists and that it may be timely to review and synthesise these.

- * Promises and Realities report was circulated to members for information. CC explained that report is entirely independent of EIS and was commissioned by FPA. DP asked SK to record his (and NEFA) concerns about the report, namely:
 - that " D. Gibbs should not undertake economic analysis for EIS as the Promises & Realities report is clearly biased and inaccurate".

After discussion members requested independent review of report (See Action list), with discussion on report to be held at next meeting.

- * RW indicated that a library of materials suitable for reference by CAP has been established and will be available for access at Grafton Office of Forestry Commission. Library includes map of field study sites.

Items Unresolved

Nil

Items Agreed /For Action

1. Members to submit travel claim for meetings #1 to #3 to FC
2. Members to decide on need for additional meetings, including site visit(s) near Grafton.
3. Comments (if any) on Department of Planning paper to be sent to Convener for circulation before next meeting.
4. T. Tibbett invited to join panel. SK/FC to provide TT with background material and to circulate a copy of his letter of application.
5. SK to circulate Promises and Realities reports for review before next meeting and circulate reviews (plus any members comments) with business paper.
6. D. Gibbs to be invited to next meeting to address CAP on socio-economics methodology. A. Smith to be invited to following meeting to address flora and fauna studies.
7. CCM to circulate reports on scenic wilderness and recreation and public consultation aspects of EIS before next meeting and discuss findings at next meeting.
8. Next meeting to be held in Grafton on Wednesday July 1st.

End Record

**Community Advisory Panel
Grafton Forests EIS
Record of Third Meeting held on 12 August, 1992**

Present

Panel members: G. Ballard, R. Child, C. Cochrane, J. Gay, J. Gibson, M. Howlett, S. Knox (Convener), J. Moye, D. Murray, B. Notaras, D. Pugh, P. Stace, B. Tucker, L. Weiley, P. Wright, R. Zuill.

Consultants: R. Margules, D. Gibbs, R. Hall, S. Knox Convener (CCM), L. Hammond (CCM), G. Watts (RDF), J. Parry (RDF), B. Williams (DF- Grafton).

Meeting commenced: 7.04pm

Meeting concluded: 10.35pm

Items for Information

- * SK reported that an independent review of the Promises & Realities report had been obtained and this had been circulated to members, along with reviews by, and obtained by members.
- * MGP Progress on Baseline Studies:
 - Draft reports have been received and circulated for Socio-economics; Hydrology; Recreation, Scenic and Wilderness; and 2 parts of Public Consultation - Attitudinal Survey and Direct Consultation. The main part of the Direct Consultation is the CAP which is continuing.
 - Soils: initial draft delayed due to clients requirement for other urgent work. Draft report now due mid August
 - Forest Management : initial draft due 31st August
 - Archaeology(NSWFC):R. Hall to address CAP at this meeting
 - Flora/Fauna(NSWFC): some delays due to integration of Murwillumbah data.
- * Client Meeting last week:
 - Instructed to structure CAP to obtain consultative advice and to avoid getting involved in environmental dispute resolution
 - To contain all costs to contract budget - this has followed the review of proposed CAP meetings
 - Socio-economic brief extended to cover Planning Balance Sheet Analysis (PBSA).
- * SK reminded members to submit comments on reports (ie proforma previously distributed) as soon as possible - further copies available if needed.
- * Letter from the Clarence Environment Centre Grafton requesting to join panel: Majority vote of the panel rejected this request.
- * Panel decided not to make a media release.
- * It was agreed that the next meeting will last for four hours commencing at 6pm.

- * Date of next meeting to be advised, pending availability of reports.

Items Agreed/For Action

- * Panel members requested that their concern at the reduction of the number of meetings to be held, be noted (FC)
- * Panel members requested that the next meeting not be held in the school holidays and that they have two weeks to read the reports on the Agenda (FC/MGP/CCM)

End Record

Community Advisory Panel

Grafton Forests EIS

Record of Meeting held on 15 December, 1992

Present

Panel members: R. Child, C. Cochrane, J. Gibson, J. Moye, L. Notaras, P. Stace, T. Tibbett, J. Toms, R. Zuill

Consultants/ Observers:

S. Andrews, G. Gration (Austeco), J. Parry, G. Mead, B. Williams (FC), R. Margules, R. de Fegely (MGP), G. Morrison, S. Knox - Convener (CCM).

Absent: D. Donnelly, J. Gay, T. Pidcock, L. Weiley.

Apologies: M. Howlett

Meeting opened: 4.05pm

Meeting concluded: 10.10pm

Documents tabled

Five (5) documents were tabled by the Forestry Commission for distribution:

- * Bolton, G., "The Australian Experience - Spoils and Spoilers"
- * Blainey, G., "Triumph of the Nomads"
- * Flannery, T., "Who Killed Kirlilpi?"
- * Flood, J., "Archaeology of the Dreamtime"
- * Williams, B., "Grafton Management Area EIS - Development of Preferred Options and Feasible Alternatives".

1. Minutes of previous meetings

Minutes of the meeting held on 12 August, 1992 were accepted by the meeting as true and correct.

2. Progress Report from MGP

- * target date for submission of draft EIS to Forestry Commission is 18 January, 1993.
- * baseline reports are being finalised. Outstanding reports are Hydrology and European History - both expected to be completed this week.
- * MGP has written to those members of the CAP who have resigned, expressing a desire for them to reconsider their resignations. Given the short time span prior to the meeting, no response has been received or expected by this stage.

3. Soils Report

- * proforma comment sheets have been forwarded to members with some replies received.
- * John Moye has provided extensive comments which have been forwarded to the soils subconsultant for review.
- * many members found it difficult to comment owing to the technical nature of the report.

4. European History

- * second part of report containing site surveys and photography yet to be completed - due this week.

5. Flora and Fauna Report

- * results and methodology of the flora and fauna study were presented by S. Andrews, (Austeco).
- * concern was expressed over the timing of receipt of reports by CAP members. CAP previously had requested two weeks prior receipt of reports for review at meetings. Most members had received Flora and Fauna document one to two working days prior to meeting, some still not in receipt of report.
- * considerable discussion of the impact of varying fire frequencies on flora and fauna. Study results indicate greater fire frequency leads to decreased diversity and abundance.
- * concern was expressed regarding the short time frame over which fauna and flora surveys were carried out, given seasonal effects.
- * concern expressed over use of latin names instead of common names. Use of language needs to be simpler for general community.
- * Austeco presented features of their preferred option for forest management (Alternative 4). Copies of Alternative 4 were distributed to members.

6. Forest Management Report

- * general overview of EIS process and project given by MGP.
- * figures presented on percentage of areas (by forest type) held in reserve.
- * concern expressed that many reserves within state forest were of steep rugged terrain decreasing the spectrum of habitat represented.
- * concern expressed over rights of leaseholders with perpetual crown lease to continue to graze versus infringement by Forestry Commission management practice. Situation appears unclear.

7. Forest Management Options

- * three options for forest management (refer document by B. Williams tabled at meeting) were presented by the Forestry Commission.
- * further consideration was given to Alternative 4 presented by Austeco.
- * an overview of broad scenarios for forest management was presented by MGP to initiate small group discussion/generation of management options. These are summarised as follows:

The preferred option recommended by Austeco is best expressed as: - same as F.C.N.S.W. Option 2 plus some additional requirements --

F.C.N.S.W. Option 2 is: - The original proposal, plus

- increase the minimum retention of habitat trees to 3/ha in dry hardwood forest and 6/ha in moist hardwood forests - evenly spaced

- extend width of fauna protection corridors along some special water courses from 40 to 100 m either side.
- create some (nominated) additional flora reserves.

Additional requirements:

- preserve 25% Candole SF
- retain a minimum 50% crown cover in remaining high quality old growth spotted gum forests (Dalmorton)
- review fuel management strategy to decrease fire frequency - aim for a multi variable mosaic of size and frequency of burnt area.
- phase out grazing on areas not held under perpetual lease.

8. Discussion of F.M.O.

- * members discussed forest management options in two small groups.
- * results of discussion were presented back to the main group.

Group 1

- * examined alternative 4.
- * group supported protection of endangered species.
- * supported withdrawal of apiary from significant area from Candole SF or similar area provided there was research on implications of this action.
- * supported recommendation for habitat trees as per option 2.
- * supported fire frequency decrease and recommended exclusions but would encourage further research.
- * concern that options did not consider tourism and recreation.
- * suggestion for an inventory of forest values - identify list of assets for each forest to assist in management.
- * Forestry Commission expressed disappointment that only alternative 4 had been discussed by Group 1.

Group 2

- o Alternative 4
 - * supported 50% canopy retention in old growth areas.
 - * suggested maximum fire frequency of ten years.
 - * disagreed with phasing out of grazing.
 - * majority would not support alternative 4.

- Alternative 3
 - * concerned over loss of 330 ha of hardwood forest.
 - * concerned over loss of loggable timber due to increase in filter strips.
- Alternative 2
 - * this option was generally supported.

General Discussion of Forest Management Options

- * multi species forests not addressed.
- * further considerations on options and any further comments to be submitted with exit questionnaire, to CCM by end of week.

9. Discussion of CAP Process

Exit Survey distributed and members asked to complete this urgently and return to CCM before end of week. Specific comments included:

- * discussion of possibly ongoing rope for CAP in forest management.
- * a global perspective in local forestry decisions was emphasised.
- * it was thought the CAP was a forward step in forest management.
- * a lack of information availability was thought to inhibit the process.

10. Media release

- * the group decided that an appropriate media release would be made by CCM on behalf of the CAP.

11. Next steps

- * public exhibition phase will be from 6 April, 1993.
- * the CAP decided to meet again informally during the public exhibition phase.
- * CAP members will be notified by mail by FC when the final EIS is available. At this point members may pick up a free copy of EIS from FC offices. A date for informal meeting will be arranged for a couple of weeks after final EIS is available.

End Record

**Community Advisory Panel
Casino - Murwillumbah Forests EIS
Record of First Meeting held on 9 April, 1992**

Present

Panel members: Earle Bulmer, John Crowther, Paul Hopkins, Robert Hurford, Tracee Hutchison, Warren Harvey, Henry James, Alex Jay, Hugh Nicholson, Martin O'Brien, Rhondda O'Neill, John Pollard, Aiden Ricketts, Barbara Stewart.

Alternates: Ken McNamara (Leo Bugden), Richard Staples (Andrew Steed), Peter Stace (Geoff Manning), Reg Price (Alan Greensill).

Consultants: Greg Watts, Ian Robertson, Gary Douglas, Ray Margules (MGP), Ian Dutton (CCM), Stephanie Knox - Convener (CCM).

Observers: Lexie Hurford

Meeting commenced: 7.10pm

Meeting concluded: 10.15pm

Items for Information

- * Panel members briefly outlined their reasons for nomination and expectations of the CAP/EIS.
- * ID/SK introduced background to CAP formulation and role of CCM. Some 67 phone calls expressing interest in the CAP were made resulting in 42 written applications for the 20 positions available.
- * ID circulated a letter which had been prepared in relation to a request for information on the basis for panel selection - the letter outlined selection criteria.
- * SK explained that the CAP were free to determine their own role in relation to the EIS and to decide upon the most appropriate basis for implementing that role. The main objective for the first meeting was therefore to reach agreement on CAP operations.
- * RM outlined the EIS study team and timetable and provided members with handouts on EIA procedures.
- * GW explained EIS context and Forestry Commission expectations of CAP/EIS. IR/GD provided handouts on State Forests in each District.
- * ID outlined proposed attitudinal study and invited CAP input (see handouts) as well as details of other consultative activities. He also circulated a letter from Diana Gibbs inviting input to the socio-economic component of the EIS.
- * RW/GM indicated that additional input will be sought separately from the study team (e.g.. contact with relevant authorities and government departments).

Items Unresolved

Nil

Items Agreed /For Action

1. TH asked members to advise her if they felt 'uncomfortable' about her representation on the the panel. No response was received to this question during the meeting, but members are invited to take up this point with TH directly . She explained that she is on the panel in a private and not professional capacity, to learn more about the EIS and issues. She will therefore not be presenting media reports on the basis of information gained at CAP meetings, although obviously she hopes to use knowledge gained in later EIS follow-up reports. She may also interview the CAP Convener as the EIS progresses.
2. CAP Role and Operations statement was accepted as per the revised attachment, but may be subject to later amendment.
3. RM requested to provide (if possible for next meeting):
 - a. Position statement (summary) on nature of work being undertaken by study team members, including and outline of methodology, timing and details of field study locations;
 - b. Summary of issues raised in public response to FC invitation for EIS submissions; and
 - c. Updated study timetable.
4. GW/FC staff requested to provide (if possible for next meeting):
 - a. Details of Department of Planning Directors requirements for EIS, subject to availability of Murwillumbah details (may not be ready yet); and
 - b. information on trends in the area of State Forests in each District, on trends in volume of timber produced in SFs, on age structure of SFs, and on employment levels in forestry industry and their relationships to forest production.
5. ID requested to consider in attitudinal survey:
 - a. Potential for reduction in bias against non-telephone household;
 - b. provision for scaled assessment of opinion; and
 - c. assessment of how well informed the community is.
6. Members are invited to submit reports/position papers on any issues of relevance to EIS which is within their geographic, personal or professional spheres of knowledge.
7.
 - a. Agenda to be mailed out, together with any background reports at least one week prior to meetings.
 - b. Agenda items to be supplied to Convener at least two weeks before next meeting.
8. Convener to establish a central library of relevant material. Material identified to date as being useful includes Forestry Act and District Plans of Management.
9. Convener to prepare and circulate a media report of the first meeting. Release may include names of members and is to focus on alerting public of status/direction of CAP/EIS process and on the forthcoming community attitudinal survey.
10. Next meeting to be held at same venue, commencing at 7.00pm on May 14th.

End Record

**Community Advisory Panel
Casino - Murwillumbah Forests EIS
Record of Second Meeting held on 14 May, 1992**

Present

Panel members: Sue Bennett, Leo Bugden, Earle Bulmer, Alan Greensill, Warren Harvey, Paul Hopkins, Robert Hurford, Warren Harvey, Henry James, Alex Jay, Geoff Manning, Hugh Nicholson, Martin O'Brien, Rhondda O'Neill, John Pollard, Aiden Ricketts, John Roberts, Andrew Steed, Barbara Stewart

Apologies: John Crowther, Tracee Hutchison

Consultants: Greg Watts, Ian Robertson, Ron Fussell; Ray Margules (MGP), Ian Dutton (CCM) Linda Hammond (CCM), Stephanie Knox - Convener (CCM).

Observers: Des Bennett, Frank Ellis, Lexie Hurford, John Kanowski, David Taylor

Meeting commenced: 7.08pm

Meeting concluded: 10.05pm.

Items for Information

- * Members who were unable to attend first meeting (SB, LB, AG, GM, JR, AS) introduced themselves to the panel.
- * Convener invited observers to introduce themselves and affiliation (if any).
- * In response to a query regarding policy on attendance at meetings (Item 2g of Adapted Roles and Operations Statement), ID was invited to explain policy on alternative delegates. He explained that as members were selected on the basis of representation of an interest area, only those members who formally represent an interest organisation are intended to be able to be represented by alternates. CAP members to whom this policy applies are denoted by asterisks in the attached list (Attachment 1). He also observed however, that it is up to the CAP to determine acceptability of an alternate nominated by a person to whom this policy does not apply.
- * The record of meeting No 1 was accepted, with one amendment. SK explained that a request to write to FC regarding travel cost reimbursement had not been incorporated in action list, although this had been done, and that a positive response has been received from FC. GW explained that FC would meet members travel costs at stipulated public service mileage rates (See Action list).
- * Actions arising from meeting #1 were reviewed as follows:

Action 1	No response received to date, therefore action complete
Action 2	Ongoing
Action 3	complete (see below)
Action 4	a. DoP requirements for Murwillumbah not yet ready b. Information circulated GW explained that flora consultant is collecting data on age structure as part of field studies
Action 5	Separate report (see below)
Actions 6 - 10	Complete/Ongoing

- * RM reported that EIS studies are progressing well apart from some minor delays with field work due to inclement weather. RM provided a copy of all public submissions to CAP members - he wrote to all authors and received permission to circulate from all except two (these were withheld). Submissions have also been circulated to EIS study team.
- * AR, AJ, JR, and HW expressed concern about socio-economic component methodology - brief does not seem to require wider assessment of costs (e.g. costs to local government of road maintenance) and benefits of forest operations. See Action list.
- * PH queried the extent of consideration to be given to coastal forests.
- * ID circulated update report outlining progress on community consultation - both direct consultation and attitudinal survey reports should be complete by next CAP meeting.
- * GM spoke to the Apiary report circulated to members and answered queries on industry management, pollution, feral bees and research.
- * After discussion, GW/SK conducted a 10 minutes 'brainstorming' session in which members identified issues which the EIS should address (See Attachment 2). Members decided not to rationalise/prioritise the list at this stage.
- * Members requests for information (Agenda Item 7) were clarified and discussed - during discussion it was observed that many of the matters raised can best be addressed by socio-economic consultant D. Gibbs (See also Action list). In response to BS item (2) RM indicated he sees little value in supplying these data due to mixed allocation of study funds between FC and MGP. After debate about relevance of data request, Convener requested FC to supply information requested by AR on OGF. GW indicated that this request could be met, although comprehensive data are not available.
- * Report 'Promises and Realities' circulated to members for information. SB indicated that any comments on report should be directed to Forest Products Association.

Items Unresolved

Nil

Items Agreed /For Action

1. CAP sub-committee to be formed to clarify and explain concerns about use of BCA techniques in the EIS. These are then to be forwarded to socio-economics sub consultant for comment.
2. GW to prepare (for next meeting) a travel allowance claim form for members use. Retrospective claims (i.e. Meetings #1 and #2) are acceptable.
3. All CAP members to complete baseline survey and return to ID by 21 May unless otherwise notified.
4. IR (FC Murwillumbah), RF (FC Casino) and SK (CCM) to compile and hold materials of common interest as a library for use by members (e.g. maps of flora/fauna survey locations). This would avoid unnecessary copying and allow members access to materials of special interest.
5. GW to supply information on 'old growth' status of areas to be included in present 'order of working' (i.e. areas subject to forest operations whilst EIS is being completed).
6. GW to supply SK with copies of temporary licences for forest operations (i.e. areas included in 'order of working' which have been approved to date).
7. HW expressed concern over management of orchids in State Forests. RM indicated that this issue is to be addressed in EIS and will pass concerns on to relevant consultant.

8. SK to invite D. Gibbs and A. Smith to next meeting to respond to members queries and report on progress.
9. Copies of draft CCM reports on Public Consultation, Recreation, Scenic & Wilderness Assessments to be mailed out prior to next meeting.
10. SK to prepare and circulate media release - possible topics include socio-economic concerns and issues list.
11. Next meeting to be held at UNE-NR on Thursday July 2nd.

End Record

**Community Advisory Panel
Casino - Murwillumbah Forests EIS
Record of Third Meeting held on 13 August, 1992**

Present

Panel members: S. Bennett, E. Bulmer, L. Bugden, A. Greensill, W. Harvey, P. Hopkins, R. Hurford, H. James, A. Jay, G. Manning, H. Nicholson, M. O'Brien, R. O'Neill, A. Ricketts, J. Roberts, A. Steed, B. Stewart.

Consultants: R. Margules, D. Gibbs, R. Hall, L. Hammond (CCM), S. Knox - Convener (CCM), G. Watts (RDF), G. Mead, G. Douglas

Apologies: I. Dutton, J. Crowther, R. Fussell, I. Robertson.

Absent: J. Pollard

Meeting commenced: 7.05pm

Meeting concluded: 10.35pm.

Items for Information

- * T. Hutchison submitted her resignation which was accepted by SK with regret.
- * SK reported that an independent review of the Promises & Realities report had been obtained and this had been circulated to members, along with reviews by, and obtained by members.
- * MGP Progress on Baseline Studies:
 - Draft reports have been received and circulated for Socio-economics; Hydrology; Recreation, Scenic and Wilderness; and 2 parts of Public Consultation - Attitudinal Survey and Direct Consultation. The main part of the Direct Consultation is the CAP which is continuing.
 - Soils: initial draft delayed due to clients requirement for other urgent work. Draft report now due mid August.
 - Forest Management : initial draft due 31st August
 - Archaeology (NSWFC): R. Hall to address CAP at this meeting.
 - Flora/Fauna(NSWFC): some delays due to integration of Murwillumbah data.
- * Client Meeting last week:
 - Instructed to structure CAP to obtain consultative advice and to avoid getting involved in environmental dispute resolution.
 - To contain all costs to contract budget - this has followed the review of proposed CAP meetings.
 - Socio-economic brief extended to cover Planning Balance Sheet Analysis (PBSA).
- * SK reminded members to submit comments on reports (ie proforma previously distributed) as soon as possible - further copies available if needed.
- * Conservation representatives to meet with RM and DG at Workers Club 10am 14 August 1992.
- * Panel decided not to make a media release.

- * It was agreed that the next meeting will last for 4 hours commencing at 6pm.
- * Date of next meeting to be advised, pending availability of reports.

Items Agreed/For Action

Nil

End Record

Community Advisory Panel
Casino-Murwillumbah Forests EIS
Record of Meeting held on 16 December, 1992

Present

Panel members: S. Bennett, L. Bugden, J. Crowther, A. Greensill, R. Hurford, A. Jay, G. Manning, M. O'Brien, R. O'Neill, J. Pollard, B. Stewart.

Consultants/
 Observers: G. Gration (Austeco), R. de Fegely, R. Margules (MGP), G. Mead, R. Fussell (FC), S. Knox - Convener (CCM), G. Morrison (CCM), J. McGregor

Absent: E. Bulmer

Apologies: W. Harvey

Documents tabled: Fussell, R., Future Proposals - General Basis for Future Management and Scenarios for Management.

Meeting opened: 4.05 pm

Meeting concluded: 9.35 pm

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 August, 1992 were accepted by the meeting as true and correct.

2. Progress Report by MGP

- * MGP apologised for the timing of the meeting.
- * draft EIS to be ready by 27 March, 1993.
- * baseline studies nearing completion.
- * concern expressed by MGP regarding recent resignations by some CAP members. Members who have resigned have been contacted by mail to request a reconsideration of their resignations (excluding NEFA).

3. Soils Report

- * concern expressed regarding nutrient status, nutrient cycling and soil compaction. These were raised in earlier community submission but not included in the report. MGP responded that these issues were discussed at the brief stage, however work on this in similar environments recently had been completed and therefore these issues will be covered by expert opinion.
- * it was felt that the report was difficult to assess owing to its technical nature.
- * request for common names in addition to latin names in some reports.
- * the idea of a plain English summary version of reports for future CAPs was floated.
- * concern was expressed that CAP members had no expertise to review technical reports nor was it their function to act as 'peer review' group.

4. European History

- * generally considered to be a very readable report.
- * recent social history of forest use was under-emphasised.

5. Flora and Fauna

- * some concerns over methods of data analysis relating to fire frequency
 - separation of most recent fire from data
 - period over which average frequencies were obtained?
 - extent/intensity/timing of fires?
 - were fire data obtained from Forestry Commission records (yes - some)
- * Flora survey did not include classification of structure. Extent of old growth forest was not mapped.
- * A request was made for analysis of structural information that has been collected but not analysed.
- * was felt important to compare studies of comparable environments outside State Forest (eg Washpool) with State Forest areas to gauge differences in flora/fauna resulting from varying management and fire regime.
- * recommendations regarding types of habitat trees/hollows which should be retained were insufficient.
- * request for consideration of dynamics of retained habitat trees and prescription of younger tree retention to compensate for die off. Austeco assure this will be part of recommendations.
- * concern that Austeco models cannot account for size/spatial effects relating to fire. This will be acknowledge in the EIS by Austeco.
- * it was understood by the CAP that the initial floristic survey would be broad with an opportunity to come back later for further work. This is not the case - study is now complete.

6. Forest Management Report

- * overview of the EIS process and the project given by MGP.

7. Forest Management Options

- * an overview of broad scenarios for forest management was presented by MGP to initiate small group discussion/generation of management options. These are summarised as follows:

The preferred option recommended by Austeco is best expressed as: - same as F.C.N.S.W. Option 2 plus some additional requirements --

F.C.N.S.W. Option 2 is: - The original proposal, plus

- increase the minimum retention of habitat trees to 3/ha in dry hardwood forest and 6/ha in moist hardwood forests - evenly spaced
- extend width of fauna protection corridors along some special water courses from 40 to 100m either side.

- create some (nominated) additional flora reserves.

Additional requirements - - no specific areas yet identified as analysis of data is still in progress -- however possible constraints for Mt Marsh, Billilimbra and Washpool SFs, similar to those for Candole SF (Grafton) can be expected.

- preserve parts of the State Forests
- retain a minimum 50% crown cover in remaining high quality old growth forests
- review fuel management strategy to decrease fire frequency - aim for a multi variable mosaic of size and frequency of burnt area.
- phase out grazing on areas not held under perpetual lease.

8. Discussion of F.M.O.

Prior to the CAP breaking into two groups for discussion of options, the following matters arose:

- * general concern over further loss of available timber by logging industry.
- * reserving of forest areas should be compared with standards set in other nations.
- * discussion regarding the effect of softwood supply on the hardwood market.

Group 1

- * no agreement was reached - individual viewpoints were expressed and noted.
- * population increase generally would increase demand for hardwood.
- * need for an integrated approach to assessing currently conserved areas (including National Parks)
- * further timber concessions would be unacceptable
- * conservation reserves should be expanded to represent different structures and species
- * endangered species should be protected
- * areas of old growth should be maximised
- * ensure retention of jobs in the logging industry
- * request for a re-evaluation of National Parks for possible conversion to State Forest
- * grazing to remain as current status
- * no further State Forest areas to be reserved until an inventory of National Parks contents is completed
- * 100 metre fauna strip along watercourses is excessive
- * suggestion for a further option of maintenance of 50/50 split (on an area basis) of forests between National Parks and State Forests.

Group 2

- * No 4 option was unanimously excluded.
- * generally no consensus was reached and individual viewpoints were expressed as follows:
 - establishment of 100 m fauna strip only in areas of need.
 - suggestion of a conservation levy to subsidise/compensate for job losses in logging industry.
 - a considered Option 5 could not be formed.

9. Discussion of CAP Process

Exit Survey was distributed and members asked to complete this urgently and return to CCM before end of week. There was general agreement that the process had been worthwhile. Specific comments included:

- * meetings not frequent enough.
- * membership not appropriate to peer review.
- * one strength of the group could have been in a mediation role which has not been utilised.
- * should have focussed on points of agreement before points of disagreement.
- * CAP prefer input prior to writing of briefs to consultants.
- * meeting format - preference for a chairperson rather than a facilitator and more control/formality in the meetings to avoid unruly disruptions.
- * suggestion for alteration of legislation to allow earlier public input into EIS process.

10. Media release

- * the group decided that an appropriate media release would be made by CCM on behalf of the CAP.

11. Other business

- * CAP requested copies of final EIS at public exhibition phase. Forestry Commission to advise.
- * CAP expressed a desire to continue meetings and FC agreed to look into this.
- * further submissions in writing can be made up to 9 January, 1993.
- * request for clarification of travel reimbursement arrangements.

End Record