

Washpool

NEW SOUTH WALES

MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES

23-33 BRIDGE STREET
SYDNEY 2000

MEDIA RELEASE BY THE NSW MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, THE HON.
IAN CAUSLEY, M.P.

AUGUST 25, 1989

CAUSLEY CLARIFIES NORTHERN WASHPOOL ISSUE

The Minister for Natural Resources, Ian Causley, today criticised the Wilderness society for its blockade of the Northern Washpool area.

"The current controversy in this area is another example of the environmental movements' inability to take yes for an answer," Mr Causley said today in response to the blockade.

Mr Causley said it was clear that the people involved in the blockade did not understand the facts.

"In 1982 over 30 000 hectares of State Forest were revoked to form the Washpool National Park and Wilderness area. LESS than 7000 hectares - the North Washpool area - was specifically identified to be managed for continued timber production.

"The environmental groups have already had a major victory in adding the 30 000 hectares to National Parks," Mr Causley said.

"And, in addition to this 30 000 hectares, there is already very large tracts of land dedicated to parks or wilderness in this region. The Gibraltar Range National Park lies to the south and this Government also revoked State forest to form the Mann Wilderness area, which gives a total of over 60 000 hectares of continuous preserved forest land," Mr Causley said.

"The adjoining North Washpool area was necessary - and I might add, it was a Labor Government that made this decision - to sustain the timber industry on the North Coast.

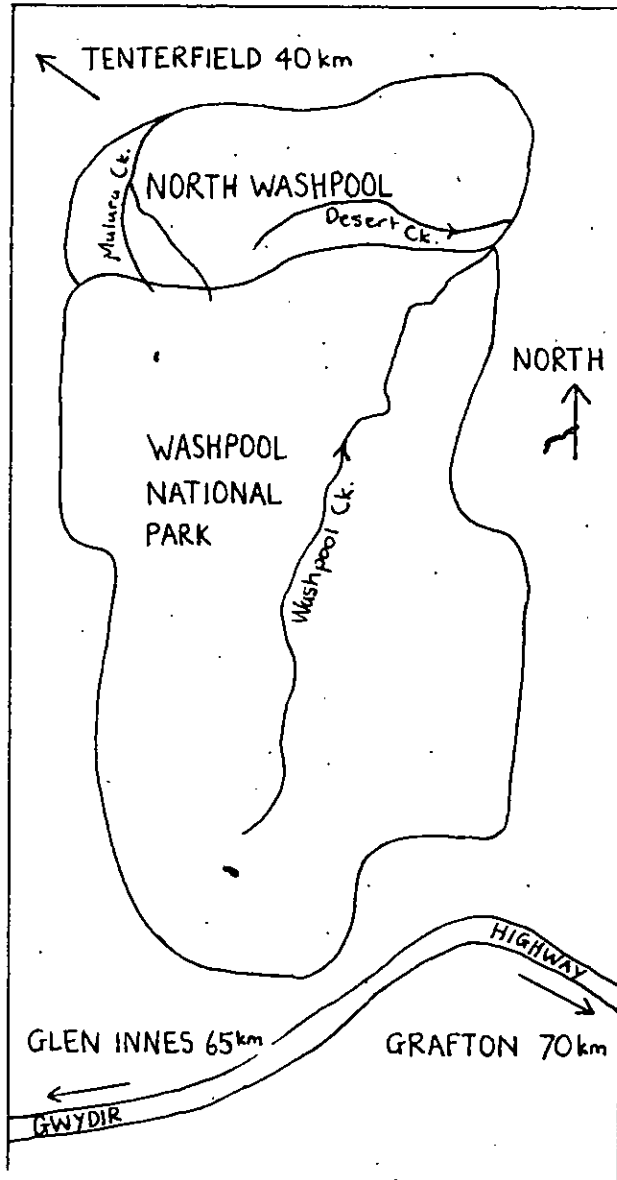
"Let me just remind those concerned that there was a careful process that led to these decisions.

"The decisions were made after exhibition of the Environmental Impact Statement by the Forestry Commission; after an independent analysis of timber supply options by a consultant engaged by the Government; after release of an assessment report by the then Department of Environment and Planning and; after consideration by a Cabinet Sub-committee chaired by the then Premier.

NORTH WASHPOOL

WHERE IS IT?

North Washpool is 6738 ha of land lying on the northern border of Washpool National Park with the Gibraltar Ranges running continuously through the whole wilderness area.



EFFECT

If the Director of the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the N.S.W. Government accept the proposal to protect North Washpool as wilderness, it will more strongly than anything yet done, prove the Government's already stated conviction to commitment to wilderness preservation and the social importance of such acts.

The means of protection we are proposing involves continued management of North Washpool as wilderness through a Wilderness Protection Agreement negotiated with the Forestry Commission.

If protected, North Washpool will continue to provide recreation opportunities for now and in the future.

WHAT CAN I DO?

- 1.) Write to the Premier, Mr. Nick Greiner, c/- Parliament House, Macquarie St., Sydney, urging him to protect the North Washpool Wilderness and fulfill his government's commitment to wilderness protection in N.S.W.
- 2.) Write to your local member of the N.S.W. Parliament.
- 3.) Join the Wilderness Society or make a donation.
- 4.) Be aware of the situation and tell your friends about it.



For more information contact
The Wilderness Society
Shop 2
93 Faulkner St
Armidale
ph (067) 711155
Sydney ph (02) 2677929

File: Rainforest WASHPOOL



THERE'S MORE THAN
YOU FIRST THOUGHT

WILDERNESS AREAS - WHAT ARE THEY?

In 1987 the N.S.W. Government passed the Wilderness Act. This allows the Director of the National Parks and Wildlife Service to recognise an area of the natural environment which is of outstanding importance as unspoiled nature and declare it to be a wilderness area to be specially preserved in its wild state.

A wilderness area is much more than a national park. While national parks are also important, a wilderness area is designated to be preserved in its natural state, as near as this can be done. It does not mean closing it off from the rest of the world. To preserve its wilderness qualities, some restrictions are placed upon its use by people. These restrictions do not stop, and in fact enhance the quality of bush walking, sight seeing and other activities compatible with the wild state of the area.

The Wilderness Society actively supports the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the State Government in helping the Wilderness Act to operate and protect areas of special interest for the future.

WASHPOOL WILDERNESS

In 1986 Washpool National Park was declared a wilderness area. Washpool is the largest area of wild rainforest in N.S.W. The rainforests of the Washpool region are of such importance that those within the national park have been placed upon the World Heritage List.

The Washpool wilderness area is an important asset for the people of N.S.W. and Australia, but an important area of land was left out in 1986. This area is North Washpool.

WHAT IS IT?

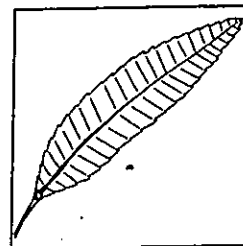
North Washpool's diverse natural ecosystems are continuous with those of Washpool National Park which has already been recognised as having highly valuable rainforests and coachwood stands.

Within North Washpool are Desert and Malara Creeks catching water from both sides of the Gibraltar Range. In places, the slopes of these two creeks are the steepest in the Washpool area, running into narrow gullies and waterfalls. In other places, the creeks are slow clear streams with river gravel bottoms and large still pools.

The area contains large open forests, low wild scrub, towering rainforest, panoramas of blue-green ridges and gullies, still water courses fringed with ferns and palms, and giant sentinel eucalypts.

With such a rich diversity of vegetative habitat, the area contains a wide variety of animal life. The Superb Lyrebird is found in North Washpool as are the Long-nosed Potoroo, the Brush-tailed Wallaby, the Spotted Tailed Quoll and the Parma Wallaby. North Washpool is so untouched that the existence or size of some animal populations is unknown. This adds to the magic and vitality of the area. Preservation of the area will permit careful, non-intrusive study of the wildlife and habitats.

With increasing loss of forest habitat due to agricultural and forestry practices, the larger the area of wilderness preserved, the greater the chance of survival for plant and animal populations.



WHY ISN'T NORTH WASHPOOL RECOGNISED AS WILDERNESS?

Since 1982, North Washpool has been part of the Billimimbra and Washpool State Forests. When the National Park was established, North Washpool was excluded as a concession to forestry interests by the State Government. An arbitrary line was drawn across the map of the Washpool wilderness. To the north of this line is North Washpool which has flora and fauna communities identical to those south of the line.

WHY NOW?

In December 1988 North Washpool was nominated as a Wilderness area under the Wilderness Act, 1987, which requires assessment by the Director of the National Parks and Wildlife Service within two years. Within days of the nomination being submitted the Forestry Commission made clear its intentions to proceed with road building and logging operations.

The largest remaining tract of rainforest in N.S.W. the Willowie Scrub, extends from Washpool National Park into the North Washpool area. Logging would therefore reduce the size of this, the world's largest coachwood forest.

If logged, the wilderness value of North Washpool will be lost forever, and logging would reach the boundary of Washpool National Park, taking from it a major protection against fire and noxious weeds.

If it is kept as a wilderness area, it will provide substantial protection for the Washpool area already recognised as wilderness and show respect for the wilderness qualities of North Washpool which also need formal recognition.

26 APR 1989

16.2.89
Rajeev Khedar
E/5, Guru Prasad
90 Feet Cross Rd.
Arunodaya Nagar
Mulund (E)
Bombay 400 081
INDIA

To:
Mr. John seed
Rainforest Information Centre
Box 368 Lismore
NSW 2480
Australia

Respected Sir,

Thank you for your letter of 14.1.89 in which you have expressed interest in the Traditional medicine programme of the Academy of Development Science.

The Indian system of medicine (Ayurveda) has a glorious tradition and it caters to the health care needs of the majority of rural population even today. The urban folks have become slaves of the Western system of medicine - Allopathy - to such an extent that traditional medicine has been completely ignored. The proliferating pharmaceutical companies and the total reliance on allopathy even by the policy makers has further jeopardised traditional medicine.

Being an oral tradition, Ayurveda needs periodic strengthening but the advent of allopathy has disturbed the entire system. Nowadays, even the tribal people spend huge sums (by their standards) to get an "injection" instead of going to a folk healer. They think that an "injection" will cure all. Such is the misconception and it only encourages the millions of quacks operating in rural areas.

Traditional medicine has tremendous potential to meet the primary health care needs of the majority of population, yet it has been ignored in the National Health Policy. The Primary Health Care Centres in rural areas practicing allopathy are poorly managed and too few in numbers.

So access to health care is difficult for most people in rural areas. The resource base of traditional medicine is locally available flora and fauna and a sustainable utilization of these natural resources is necessary to ensure the availability of medicinal plants.

The Academy is engaged in revitalising traditional medicine in India. It is trying to remove the weaknesses by working with tribal doctors and village level health workers. They are trained in various aspects of traditional medicine by experts at the Academy. At the same time, we are attempting to document the traditional knowledge of the tribal healers. We have also formed a network of voluntary organisations in different parts of India and are also interacting with Universities/Research Institutes of Ayurveda and government agencies.

Traditional medicine also suffers due to unavailability of medicine plants to the rural people, and in this context our attempts to establish a Genebank of medicinal plants for conservation and educational purposes assumes significance.

The various components of this centre are:

1. A Genebank [garden] of medicinal plants for conservation and education purposes
2. A small seed bank and a nursery to distribute seed/plantlets to local people
3. A tissue culture lab for rapid multiplication of plants needed in large quantities and propagation of difficult to propagate and endangered medicinal plants.
4. A training and education centre for folk practitioners, village level health workers, students and interested laymen.
5. A documentation and communication centre.

The present situation is such that we have 27 acres of land and my wish is to write a proposal for the project and submit it to various funding agencies. We cannot begin any work till we receive financial support from sponsors and in this matter I would appreciate if you put us in touch with funding agencies interested in conservation of plants and traditional medicine. I request you to give us the advantage of your wide experience in this field.

The revegetation projects in the Narjat Tribal Block are aimed at improving tree cover as well as providing sustenance to the tribal people. Fruit collected by tribal people are processed at the Academy and sold in cities. This unit works on a co-operative basis. This encourages the people to grow and protect fruit trees. Also, seed and saplings of other indigenous trees are distributed from our nursery to the local people. However, we do not have a revegetation project in any fixed area.

The most important thing is that we have the active support of the local tribals and they would have participated in any project given by us. Anyway, if you are still interested in our projects, please let me know.

Thanking you
Yours truly
Rajeev Khedar

26 APR 1989

The Alternatives
R.I.C.
PO Box 368,
Lismore, NSW2480.
12.4.89

Dear Editor,

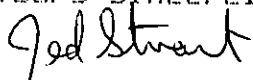
Some time ago we received the following correspondence from Rajeev Khedar, about the Traditional Medicine Programme of the Academy of Development Science. We have undertaken to generate support for this urgently needed programme. I am sure you will appreciate that once these species are gone, we will lose an irreplaceable asset. Would your newsletter/magazine be interested in printing this letter or part thereof?

We will be continuing an interest in Rajeev's projects, as well as doing research on other traditional medicine programmes around the world. Support for these projects is one way that we can compensate indigenous peoples, for the damage we have done to them, whilst exploiting their wisdom about traditional medicines, and at the same time expand a source of supply of traditional medicines for all people who are becoming averse to the synthetic substitutes.

Also, support for these projects, as well ^{as} enabling people to buy natural medicines from the original source, is one way that we in the west, can provide some compensation for the economic loss we are requesting them to incur in not logging their rainforests.

Please let us know if you would like to receive any further information and articles we get together on this. Also, any donations to Rajeev's project can be sent to us to be forwarded on from here.

Yours sincerely,



Jed Stuart, for The Alternatives Group, RIC.

PTO.

A detailed black and white illustration of a rainforest scene. On the left, a large palm tree trunk and fronds are visible. On the right, there are various tropical plants and flowers, including a large, light-colored flower with a dark center. The background is filled with dense foliage and trees.

Rainforest Information Centre

P.O. BOX 368 LISMORE N.S.W. 2480 AUSTRALIA

05 MAY 1989

Letter to...

Dear friends,

Greetings! Something very positive is happening in Canberra. We seem to be close to making a breakthrough with banning the importation and use of rainforest timbers. There is now draft legislation being designed that could be implemented in the next three weeks.

Senator Richardson will, of course, be under great pressure from the timber lobby. The diplomatic pressure from the tropical timber exporting countries will, likewise, be formidable. We ask you as a matter of urgency to please write to:

Senator Grahame Richardson
Minister for the Arts, Sport, Environment, Tourism and Territories
Parliament House
Canberra, ACT 2600

and give him all the support he needs to make this a reality.

We also ask you to write to:

Senator Gareth Evans
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade
Parliament House
Canberra, ACT 2600

demanding from him that he takes positive action to ban all tropical rainforest timber imports.

As a guide, your letter can simply include your concerns about the poor economic benefits and non-sustainability that short-term management of tropical rainforests causes. We now realize how valuable the rainforest ecosystem is to the maintenance of the global climate. Preservation of the forests is of the utmost importance. In order to counter the pressures being mounted by the timber lobbies, letters of equal pressure must be received Richardson and Gareth Evans, so please take the time to send off your letter as quickly as possible.

For mother earth,

Laurena d'Esperance
Mara J.

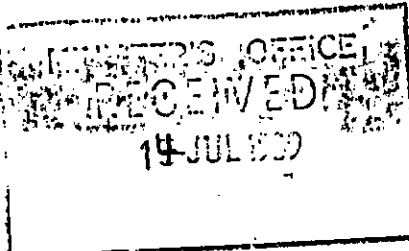


NEW SOUTH WALES

17 AUG 1989

23-33 BRIDGE STREET
SYDNEY 2000

MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES



The Hon. Tim Moore, M.P.,
Minister for The Environment,
SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2000

13 JUL 1989

Dear Mr. Moore,

My attention has recently been drawn to your press release of 5th June, entitled "World Environment Day Part II - Saving Rainforest Timbers".

Whilst I well appreciate and sympathise with your efforts for N.S.W. to take a high profile and sympathetic stance on environmental matters, I am most concerned that your press release appears to have been based on a considerable amount of ill advice and misinformation.

It is very popular in certain quarters that espouse environmental views to blame many of the world's ills on forest harvesting operations. You know, and I know, that as far as N.S.W. is concerned, there is rarely any justification for these accusations: the forests regenerate and continue to grow, with a great network of environmental safeguards that, in both design and practice, ensure that conservation in its widest sense occurs. I am advised that in North Queensland, where the Commonwealth Government has abused its foreign affairs powers to nominate a large area of rainforest for world heritage listing, a network of no lesser standard applies.

In both of these States, where some, albeit very limited, production of rainforest timbers continues to occur, the forest services concerned are committed to the management of those forests placed under their control on a sustained yield, multiple use basis. Under these circumstances, I find it extremely difficult to envisage any rational justification for a ban on the produce from these forests.

In many tropical areas outside Australia similar environmental safeguards are much less well developed or even lacking. However, it is my understanding that, in those countries where there is some commitment to maintaining and managing a rainforest estate for its timber values, such safeguards and controls are indeed being introduced and implemented.

Where such commitments do not exist, the rainforest problem is still not one of logging, even if carried out in the most destructive and uncontrolled ways. Rainforests almost universally can tolerate these occasional massive disturbances and still recover their structure and composition in due course. The real problem is that timber harvesting is merely a prelude to the clearing of the rainforest and its conversion to some other landuse, typically agricultural or pastoral.

A ban on the use of rainforest timbers, even if applied by all rainforest-importing countries, would have virtually no effect on this programme of clearing and conversion. The only difference would be that instead of some of the timber being used, as at present, and helping to relieve the pressure on other wood-producing sources, it would now be mostly burnt with the other clearing debris and thus add further to the level of carbon dioxide and other so called "greenhouse gases" in the atmosphere.

Such a ban would have even greater negative environmental effects. Those countries, such as Malaysia and the Philippines, where sincere efforts are being made to reserve and manage areas of rainforest, would find that the economic rationale for such management has evaporated. The result, I would suggest, will not be to set these areas aside as national parks, but rather to see the abandonment of controls over their use, adding them to the bank of land headed for early conversion away from forest. The effect of the ban would be just the reverse of what, I am sure, is intended by your well meaning, if misguided, advisers.

There are other effects of such a ban, including some that I am sure are not appreciated by your advisers. For example, following the decision by the previous government to transfer substantial areas of forest, including rainforest, from State Forest to National Park, a number of industries previously relying on the rainforest resource had to close. Others have, to date, been able to adapt to alternative resources. In the case of Big River Timbers, in Grafton, this has to a large extent been possible by the import of rainforest veneer material, which is processed into ply in association with local, non-rainforest timbers. A ban on rainforest timbers would lead promptly to the closure of this locally important, labour intensive industry. This industry happens to be in my electorate, but I can assure you that my concern would be no less wherever it were located.

I realise that your decision, and the consequent press release, involve only your portfolio, which is, I imagine, not a large user of rainforest timbers at any time, while perhaps its most important use, in historic restoration projects, is carefully excluded from the ban. Nonetheless, the risk remains that such token efforts can have a bandwagon effect, particularly when involving a subject that has attracted as much publicity, largely ill-informed, as has rainforest.

Besides its basic premise - that by not using rainforest timbers we can somehow "protect" the rainforests - the press release of 5th June contains a number of very arguable statements:

* Rainforest timbers are described as "softish, light-tan or reddish wood, used for internal finishing around windows and doors. It is easy to work, with no heavy grain visible." This presumably refers to some of the red meranti timbers in one only of the numerous applications of these timbers. The merantis are among the most readily regenerated of the tropical rainforest timbers, and of all the rainforest imports, are probably those most likely to originate from stands under controlled forest management. However, they only represent one group of rainforest imports; others range from near white to almost black, from among the lightest to some of the heaviest of all timbers, and they cover a range of figure and often limited specialty uses.

* "Australian grown plantation timbers can replace rainforest timbers". For some end uses this is true; for many it bears no relationship to reality, now or in the foreseeable future. If the statement excluded "plantation" it would be closer to the truth, though even prior to the effective closure of the N.S.W. rainforest timber industry and to the recent withdrawal by Canberra of most of the North Queensland resource, the Australian forest industries were unable to meet the demands for these types of timbers.

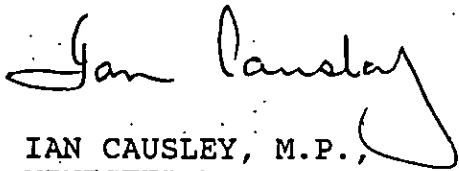
* Why the emphasis on "plantation"? Does this presage a further campaign by your advisers to stop all logging in native forests, and to restrict our timber production to plantation-grown trees only? Whilst such a policy has been advocated by the Australian Conservation Foundation, it is not one consistent with the policies of our Government, nor one that I trust any responsible Australian government would ever accept.

- * The statement about the destruction of rainforest by logging has already been discussed, while the area quoted (11 million hectares) seems to be well above that arrived at by the most authoritative studies of this certainly important subject. I enclose a book review, prepared some years ago by Prof. L. Roche, of Bangor, Wales. Prof. Roche has substantial tropical experience and discusses, in some detail, these estimates of rainforest destruction and suggests a figure closer to half the above estimate. I understand that there has been no significant change in the picture since Roche's review.
- * Similarly, the estimate of species extinction (48 species per day) is one that should not be accepted blindly, and I enclose from the New Scientist a further article, by Julian L. Simon, who examines some of the bases for estimates of this nature.

Please do not think that I underestimate the importance of maintaining an extensive cover of rainforest globally. I fully appreciate the need to maintain such a cover. However, I do disagree with the approach taken by your advisers and, indeed, believe it to be counterproductive with respect to the very end that it was presumably designed to meet.

I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter to our various Cabinet colleagues, for their information, should they be tempted in following what, in my opinion, is a dangerous and unproductive path.

Yours sincerely,



IAN CAUSLEY, M.P.,
MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES,

FOREST SUMMIT

RAINFOREST

- stop logging.
- review the conservation status of all forms of rainforest including small isolated remnants and littoral rainforests.
- mobilise funding and political will to fully protect all inadequately conserved rainforests. Assessment of regeneration on abandoned agricultural land.
- * all significant areas of rainforest on Crown Land to be transferred to NPWS along with funding.
- no conversion/sale of leasehold lands with significant rainforest.
- * reject the myth of rainforests being 'saved' or that there has been some politically binding deal done.
- initiation of research into the ecological status and classification of "moist hardwood"/secondary rainforests.
- investigate the implications of climate change on distribution of rainforests with a view to maintain species diversity
- redefine Forcomm's terms/definitions of forest types to reflect ecological reality not simply commercial timbers
- * include rainforest species in plantations with a wide species diversity.
- substitute herbicides with personal labour in bush regeneration via youth work force, social wage/redesigned dole, community service workers, jail inmates with mild offence backgrounds.
- make a stocktake of rainforests in each Shire on the North coast.

SHIRES

- Call on the government to
 - halt the conversion (freehold/privatisation) of timber leasehold lands
 - * reinstate the former conservation policies of the Dept of Lands, allowing reservation from sale
 - * remove restrictions of NPWS assessment of Crown Land conversion applications
- call on Causley to "not just protect lands", extend the powers of Soil Con Service and Catchment Area Protection Board CAPB to apply over all perpetual leasehold land whether or not subject to conservation application so broad acre clearing can be prohibited in ALL timbered lands, whether leasehold or free hold.
- call on Govt to fund NPWS sufficiently to enable them to carry out the role of conserving the natural environment.

- conversion of leasehold to freehold to be subject to detailed natural resource assessment and consideration by NPWS with unlimited time and full public participation. (reservation from sale provisions to apply)

- sale and lease of Crown Land to be subject to above

- * proper management of Crown Land and leasehold land be implemented to control clearing, logging, land degradation. (problems with PPBDS ring barking permits)

- provisions of Soil Con Act and CAPB be extended and strongly implemented on all freehold land, not just "protected land". Use legal teeth

- encouragement of ecologically sound native plantations of local species on freehold lands especially by Govt assistance, tax incentives etc..

- * prohibition of agricultural developments and resultant forest clearing in areas of marginal or poor agricultural viability. Ag dept and Soil Con to be able to prohibit use beyond capability: requires legislation

- * Soil Con should be called for their opinion on topsoil condition etc. before any type of land is leased out again to graziers etc. Their opinion should be enforced to a point where Soil Con can place a severely degraded area (including creek banks or whole valleys) under a special protection order which prohibits any type of land use for a certain period of time. Then another study should be undertaken of the condition of the land before it is leased again

- * stiffer fines and keeping record of those leaseholds who despite warnings and advice did not obey environmental protection requirements. Repeated offenders should not be given any more leasehold or freehold land. Stress the term "caretakers"

- * catchment area provisions to bind the Crown

- Crown Lands office should be given adequate provisions to protect adjoining lands not within the permissive occupancy, eg. fencing to protect wetlands.

- * where leases are approved (by public participation) leasing is not for more than 50 years

- * service corridors (eg. Elcom) to include controls on the clearing of natural vegetation. Include roadside spraying, eg. Victorian model, flora and fauna guarantee

- * that CAPB include conservation representatives

MANAGEMENT PLANS AND PARTICIPATION

- public education - utilise public participation and input; people must be fully educated so they have the power to vote and shape decisions and outcomes

- encourage Institute of Foresters of Aust. Inc. to have public participation in forestry management

- * identify current infrastructure for public input. Question if they are of use. Make changes. Adopt EP&A Act provisions which apply to LEP's and DA's

- * identify issues - proposals for management
 - draft management plan

RESOLUTIONS

1. incorporate public participation into the various stages of the preparation of forest management plans

2. that the conservation movement undertake an education campaign to promote the importance of public participation. Make it a task of the Education Dept, HSC curriculum,

- * 3. that petition lists carry more weight again. More obligation by the constitution on all levels of Govt for politicians to discuss a matter when a certain no. of signatures have been made eg. 20,000 should require a public meeting with local and state politicians attending

- * 4. management plans to be regularly reviewed involving public participation

- * 5. all relevant information in forest management to be readily available to assist informed public participation

- * 6. propose a federal referendum to give citizens of local communities the constitutional mechanisms to petition their local or regional govt for binding referendums on issues involving human habitat and the quality of life

PLANTATIONS

- * no clearing of native vegetation for plantations

- more resources into existing plantations

- * call for the govt to recognise mixed eucalypt plantations as an appropriate alternative to logging native forests

- * move from monoculture to mixed plantations

- * recognise the non-timber values of plantations, eg wildlife

- * long term aim that all forest products be derived from plantations

- federal funding for plantations; 1 billion trees plan needs clarification

- do plantations include regeneration
- * the option of share farming be examined/developed as a means of expanding the plantation estate
- * study the feasibility of mixed rainforest plantations for timber, develop a strategy to make it feasible
- tax incentives be granted to encourage landowners to plant native trees and recognise the community and ecological benefit of replanting cleared land
- * economic reassessment of the timber industry with relevance to plantations. Raising of timber royalties to a realistic level
- use of local seed bank, local species
- an assessment of the available land for plantations especially with regards to linking natural areas, eg wildlife corridors
- an assessment of land for sale, lease and plantation sharefarming
- * any plantation on Crown Land be totally controlled by State Govt (Forcomm?) as representatives of the people; not dictated by companies and corporations
- public input into management of plantations
- * assess the appropriateness and weed potential of non-native plantations eg pine, paulownias
- * an assessment of alternative raw materials for paper production
- alternative plantations, fibre products. Include total recycling strategy to lessen the total demand

OLD GROWTH FORESTS AND WOODLANDS

- that all old growth forests and woodlands be retained for habitat
- govt to recognise that all remaining natural vegetation, tree covered land and old growth forest/woodlands are an essential habitat and precious resource for maintenance of Australia flora and fauna. The protection of it's ecological integrity must be the priority of the states conservation strategy. No clearing and controls on private land clearing
- moratorium on logging, burning, grazing and other threats to old growth forests while assessment on extent, distribution, wildlife studies
- moratorium on leasehold conversions of Crown Lands with old growth forests
- define old growth forests
 - ecologically mature
 - unlogged or light selective logging

- * legal protection for old growth forests on private lands
- * retention or promotion of adequate numbers of OGF trees throughout forest areas
- encouragement to private landholders to retain OGF; include education and financial incentives
- * ensure money allocated to OGF inventory, under the directorship of the Dept of Primary Industries, is NOT purely a resource inventory. Ensure it is directed to an appropriate body
- * that the AHC's, Australian Heritage Commission, definition of OGF be adopted in the interim
- public education
- * direct action to defend
- dynamic nature of the age class structure and change over time to be recognised
- * eradication of feral animals on OGF
- impact of global warming in distribution of forest be recognised

NATIONAL FORESTS

PARKS

MANAGEMENT

- lobby/demand treasury to adequately fund NPWS so that they can acquire areas, rehabilitate areas, plan for and manage, study/research natural areas. Also fund off-park conservation activities
- amend NPWS Act to require display and public participation of National Parks' Plans of Management
- moratorium on all works in all NP's areas until and unless publically agreed Plan of Management
- * appoint and properly consult non-party political District Advisory Committees
- * require local govt tourism authorities and private tourism operators to contribute to maintenance/upkeep of national areas; NP's, NR's, SRA's
- * identify and rename NP's and NR's by local Aboriginal names connecting natural areas with earlier natural use; include interpretive signs with Aboriginal info
- * request NPWS to clearly define between NP's, NR's and SRA's objectives and compatible uses
- call for protective rezonings for areas adjoining NP's for adequate preservation of habitat within the park; zonings permitting some recreational use but prohibiting logging

- protection of habitat to be of priority consideration in all aspects of park management with particular reference to the significant threats posed by vehicular access and necessity of restricting active recreation to areas outside park boundaries

* educate NPWS on wilderness and its management

* end commercialisation of public facilities in NP's

* wider legislative powers for protection of endangered species/habitat

- address situation of ad hoc chemical use in NP's

- compilation of detailed environmental study (EIS?) be carried out before any development is carried out

* ensure political independence of NPWS

* management costs be publically available

* fire management - review including public participation

* a legislation requiring areas of steady population growth and increased number of visitors, to increase the number and size of NP's. eg Coffs Harbour, one NP so far and a proposal for making Bonville into a coastal park at Port Macquarie

NATIONAL ESTATE

* synchronisation of Wilderness (State) and National Estate (Fed) nominations

- preparation of North East nominations for NE and identification of new areas

- lobby for greater legislative power under Federal National Estate Properties Act and stronger implementation of current powers

- to increase AHC resources to enable adequate assessment and processing of nominations

- all levels of govt to provide funds for education of the public and politicians re. National Estate

* encourage philosophy that NE areas have national, state and local significance

- moratorium on all detrimental activities in areas proposed or listed

- exclude from sale/conversion of Crown Land of NE quality

- prioritization and preparation of strategy for timing of nominations

* seek NE grants where necessary

WILDERNESS

- preparation of further nominations under the Wilderness Act
- protection of all W'ness areas in NSW along with responsible management
- * the implementation of the W'ness Act in NSW
- govt to provide money for education of public and politicians re W'ness Act, by NPWS, Dept Education and community groups
- * W'ness Act amendment to increase interim protection during assessment of nominations
- immediate moratorium on development, change of tenure and other detrimental activities
- complete inventory of W'ness quality areas in NE
- to exclude from sale/conversion Crown Lands with W'ness quality
- to lobby for adequate resources to NPWS for W'ness nominations assessment and management
- prioritisation and preparation of strategy for timing of nominations
- * legislative power to protect wild and scenic rivers in and outside NP's and W'ness areas

INDUSTRY ECONOMICS

- money needed to support local decentralised production
- * increase mill recovery rates; capital return not sufficient
- use of composite timbers; needs money spent
- * high value finished products; promote small regrowth timbers
- * timber and paper recycling; deposit on paper?
- * reaffirm that industries centralisation is responsible for decline; publicize available material and facts
- * include all costs in decisions; environmental, social, economic
- * non-timber sources for pulp and paper production
- mobilise youth and community service workers and unemployed workforce for forest activities by redesigning social wage/dole
- * dialogue with forestry unions
- * no export of woodchips but if they are exported increase value
- * royalties to reflect real costs
- * recognise exporting of dollars, including equipment, social and capital

- * Federals to exercise corporations/export powers to enforce all of the above

- * redirection of subsidies to ecologically and economically sustainable industries

- * ratios between royalties to favour high value uses

WETLANDS : INCLUDING MANGROVES AND COASTAL FORESTS

- identify wetland and mangroves on NE beyond the extent of SEPP 14 maps based on catchment units not photo limits

- promote values on mangroves and wetlands via public education

- ban on chemical control of mosquitoes and midges. Chief medical officer role??

- effect of climate change on wetlands and mangroves

- * address the problem of agricultural, urban and industrial runoff entering wetlands and estuaries

- * no exploration, mining or other activities inside an identified area

- prohibit destruction of any mangrove area

- policy on restoration of wetlands already destroyed by flood mitigation

- * a law to reafforest flood prone river flats, rivers and creekbanks

- * encourage some low key ecologically sensitive visitor facilities in some mangrove/paperbark forests such as walking platforms and birdwatching spots, explanatory signs

- * identified habitat eg for migratory birds, ought to be specially protected excluding it forever from any rezoning proposals

- * identification and special protection for estuarine fish breeding areas and relationship with mangrove swampland forests

- no removal of SEPP or LEP wetlands without environmental study and public participation/consideration

- * expansion of SEPP 14 to include freshwater wetlands and flood plains

- any flood mitigation works by local council on any type of land should only be allowed to proceed after consultation of community groups and an EIS

- * assessment of effects of works for irrigation water removal from river/ wetland systems on those systems
- * restriction/prohibition of development; residential or educational in midge areas
- prohibit chemical spraying to control water weeds. Research into effective controls
- * any modification of these areas to require an EIS
- * rehabilitation not to include use of chemicals
- swamp forests and melaleuca forests require urgent identification/research and evaluation
- management areas around SEPP 14 areas and other coastal vegetation

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE

1. media releases
2. NEFA Summit mailout - by end of August
 - minutes
 - draft objectives
 - draft policies
 - area coordinators and all contact info
 - extra papers, research list, NVA training course info
3. Feedback on drafts - by end of September
 - (by individuals and/or groups)
 - objectives
 - policies
 - research proposals
4. NEFA members networking
 - C/- Big Scrub Environment Centre
 - telephone conference
 - letters use local groups name
 - areas coordinate meetings
5. local groups/coordinated groups
 - work on specific campaign priorities
 - coordinate NEFA meetings (budget-next meeting)
6. Policy work -> state policy on forestry (individuals or groups)
7. NVA training course - dates from NEFA
8. legal angles - individuals or groups) not "NEFA" - use local
9. lobbying Depts and MP's etc - " ")
8. & 9 not "NEFA" - use local groups name in media correspondence

These are issues that appeared more than once throughout. The points above beginning with an * are issues that are NOT covered below. There may be more things, but these are the ones I saw, OK? The ones below with () below are the areas that were not included but ones I thought you'd want included. I hope you know what I mean.

RESEARCH ON CLIMATE CHANGE / GLOBAL WARMING

- rainforest, OGF, wetlands (w'ness)

PUBLIC EDUCATION

- by education dept and public groups
- on - OGF, w'lands (w'ness and RF)
 - promoting the importance of public participation
 - values of national estate areas (and NP's)

CROWN LANDS CONVERSION/SALE

- RF, OGF, w'ness
- (w'lands and coastal forests, halt the SEPP 14 departures)
- re. tenures, halt the conversion from leasehold to freehold

DEFINITIONS

- OGF, (RF, w'lands, w'ness)
- change Forcomm's definitions re RF

MORATORIUMS ON

- logging burning, grazing, change of tenure and other threats to OGF, w'ness, (w'lands, RF)
- all works in NP's until public agree on Plan of Management
- all detrimental activity in proposed or listed Nat. Est. areas

REVIEW CURRENT STATUS OF / STOCKTAKE

- RF, w'ness(further nominations), w'lands, coastal forests and swamp forests, OGF, plantations
- abandoned agricultural lands
- lands available for plantations with respect to wildlife corridors
- status and classification of "moist hardwood"
- Nat. Est. nominations in NE

MANAGEMENT AREAS AROUND (buffer zones)

- tenures, NP's, w'lands
- (w'ness, RF, OGF, Nat, Est.)

REHABILITATION / REGENERATION OF

- plantations
- w'lands destroyed by flood mitigation works
- redesign dole for workforce
- (w'ness, RF, OGF)

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES DONE BEFORE DEVELOPMENT OF ANY KIND IN

- tenures, NP's
- removal of SEPP 14 areas
- flood mitigation works
- conversion of leasehold to freehold
- (Nat. Est areas, w'ness, RF, OGF, w'lands)

FEDERAL GOVT TO EXERCISE AND EXTEND POWERS RE.

- tenures, specially Soil Con and CAPB
- Nat Est Properties Act

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN

- conversion of leasehold to freehold tenures and Crown Land
- management of plantations
- NP's plans of management
- SEPP 14 removals
- flood mitigations works
- forestry management by Foresters of Aust Inc.
- (management of OGF, w'ness, Nat Est, w'lands)

FINANCIAL INCENTIVES / GRANTS FROM GOVT FOR

- plantations to plant native trees, local species, local seed bank
- fund NPWS to research w'ness nominations, acquire land, rehabil. areas, manage, plan educate, off park conservation activities
- retaining OGF, RF, (w'lands, w'ness)
- NHC to research w'ness nominations
- research use of composite timbers and alternatives to pest and weed control
- education and public participation
- to Crown Land Dept to protect adjoining lands not within the permissive occupancy
- local decentralised production
- more resources / funds into existing plantations

ESSENTIAL HABITAT AREAS

- RF, OGF, NP's, (w'ness, w'lands, Nat. Est)

NO CHEMICAL USE IN

- NP's, w'lands
- substitute chemical use with community labour
- (ANYWHERE!)

PRIORITISATION AND PREPARATION OF STRATEGY FOR TIMING NOMINATIONS

- Nat. Est and w'ness noms
- (SEPP 14, NP's NR's, SRA's. I'm not sure whether this is relevant or not)

PROHIBIT DESTRUCTION OF

- RF, w'ness, w'lands, OGF
- (legally protect Nat Est, NP's, NR's, SRA's forever)

FOREST SUMMIT

MINUTES of a meeting held on Saturday, 5th August, 1989 at 12.35p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS:

APOLOGIES: Peter Morgan (President N.P.A.), Nan Nicholson, Jeff Angel (TEC)
Maydh Washington (N.C.C.), Jim Tedder (NCEC) and Tamworth N.P.A.

DESCRIPTION OF AGENDA: Margret. Additions.

DAILAN: North Coast Summary. Studied 20 management plans. Rainforest;
Port Macquarie, Coffs Harbour and other areas.
Rainforest Logging: Port Macquarie, Coffs Harbour - North Washpool, secondary
rainforest, moist hardwood, management areas.
Old growth for; 9-10 had significant areas of old growth forest
(economically accessible. 95000ha (June 1989) 10-15% inaccessible.
Private lands not ~~accessible~~ assessed.
Wildlife: no specific surveys. No attention. Cattle grazing.
Lack of feral animal control.
Fire: Control burns frequently - 2 years - 5 years. in high risk areas.
Plantations: State forest conversion.
Clearing up to 500ha/year (Walcha-Nundle) for pine
planting.
Sustained yield: 2 areas cut out.
6 areas - overcutting.
Estimates doubtful.
Crown lands: Heavy logging before conversion to freehold.
State forest area: 41000 ha/annum increase.
Finances: of 11 M.A's - 1 profit 3 - \$41-\$301,000 loss
10 loss
Management Plans: Updates overdue.
Department of OGF: Un logged forest
Greg: Main thrust of N.E.F.A. (OGF)
Need alot more other forest (including regrowth).
75 years - OGF diminishment.
NEFA? Should be N.C.F.A.?

MAYDH: Definition of terms.

AREA REPORTS:BLACKBUTT:

Page 1. (Barb): Totally inaccessible forest. Pressure on S/F
problems of road access.. Logging trucks. Now doing E.I.S.
Disregarding scientific values. Uneconomical waiting on reply
from more investigating of N.R. proposal. Written to Richardson.
National Estate Interim list. Griener visits next week. E.I.S. being
commissioned. Terms of reference of E.I.S. due

D. Carr: Dave C: Causely relation to 1982 Rainforest Deal. Forest Commission claiming area part of tradeoffs. Trying to get documentation.

I. McKenzie: ~~Size of P.1?~~
~~N.R. proposal area approximately 900 + ha.~~

Washpool Dave: Location. Large area of rainforest set wilderness. About 80% in washpool. N.P. Tradeoff - Desert/Malara and Redbank catchments. Road being constructed.
Desert Creek - large areas warm temperate rainforest. Willowie Scrub - all largest rainforest block left in N.S.W. Road will dissect top end of Willowie Scrub, wilderness values. National Park similar The Wilderness Society. Wilderness application to N.P.W.S. Road upgrading. Maximum impact. Erosion. Lantana. Feral animals.
Action: Undertaken legal action. Wanting to delay road 6 months. We need education National Estate nomination currently being reviewed. Preparing information kits to be sent out.

Dailan: 3600^{m³}rainforest logging in next 10-15 years.

FOCAL PEAK: West of Mt. Warning. (location). Upper headwaters Clarence River Valley, large extent of rainforest, 2nd rainforest Diverse fauna for size very important.

- 2000 ha of old growth forest (euculptus/brushbox). Over 1000ha of old ^{growth}rainforest and 500 ha rainforest.
- Court action (2000 ha) - Forest Commission now doing E.I.S.
- Last major area unlogged in area.
- Dunns white gum very prone to dieback (Xmas beetle). Restricted distribution endangered 60,000 m3 to be removed in next 20 years.
- National Parks proposal (1986) - haven't got anywhere.
- Nature Reserve proposal - Lack of Sydney help.
- Mistake State Forest victory in court case important precedent.

Greg Bell miners?

Terry Parkhouse: Mistake State Forest.
- Court action. Stopped logging of steep slopes.
- Location.
- Recently Forest Commission announced E.I.S. for logging.
Forest Commission considered logging as normal practice.
- Expertise in legal action.

Dailan: 2 other aspects - logging adjacent brushbox - not mentioned final
- removal of old trees summarization

John: S.E.M. guidelines inadequate over 25°.
No formal instructions to prevent erosion in such slopes.

Ben Halls gap Raised \$3-4,000 for court case. ^{3f. court case}
- Forest commission now doing E.I.S. result of mistake/outcome
Management - what next after E.I.S.
- Location 30kms south of Nundle. 3000 ha virgin.
Limit of walcha management area. Supply walcha mill.
- Remnant of O.G.F. Isolated. Not economic to log it.

~~Barrie:~~
- area. just under 3000 ha. E.I.S. for whole area.
- in 2 management areas.
- problems of access.
- Forest Commission hasn't done any wildlife surveys. U.N.E.
to do surveys. Recher to do some in future.

BARRINGTON (Rod Knight)

Added to rainforest campaign late in piece. Then asked for 80,000ha and got 10,000 into the National Park since 84. 20,000 ha has been logged. National Parks & Wildlife Service has a management plan proposal which includes road and tourist facilities. These developments would destroy wilderness value. Draft Plan of Management on display till September (16th). Road would permit ^{access} ~~access~~ by F/C to old growth forests or the escarpment. Road doubtful on economic grounds. Need N.P.W.S. assistance.

- Road not yet surveyed.

^{Secondary}
- Whispering Gully - (2½000 ha Rainforest, 2nd rainforest under threat. Legal Action?

Barrie: Mt. Royal - Area 6. Has been very heavily cut in surrounds. Includes significant area logged/unlogged rainforest.
State forest almost completed new road. Follows National Park boundary.
Downslope of it. 66% over 30°.
Unlogged Davis Creek near road.
- Road will cost more than timber value.
- No E.I.S. Environmental review inadequate. Ministers ignorant.
- Environmental Defenders Office too tied up with south coast.
- Difficult to organise wildlife survey.
- wanting information from other groups for future court action.
- need pool of expertise/time for surveys.
- very significant area. Threatened by logging, fire, road.

Beth: Related N.P.W.S. Politicking?
No.

CLARENCE PULP MILL

Martin: aspects on Coffs paper circular.
- Lobbying political parties.
- Sawlog decline admitted by State Forest. Pulp mills increase turnover.
Pre-feasibility not released. Daishowa want to release to State Govt.
Richardson says information will be made public.

- Proposal made public 3018188.
- Locations unknown Daishowa indicated 3 areas.
- Wal. Centre - \$1.5 billion - Australia's biggest investment -
- C.V.C.C. formed to look specifically at industry.
- Mill would 1.6 - 1.8 million per year more than ½ from private lands.
- 450000 sawlog/year. 4 x amount for mill.
- Fishing industry concerned about siltation, effluent, (disposal), ocean outfall at Minnie water.
- Apiarists - concerned about mature forest destruction. \$7million/year value.
- Sawmillers - how that industry could not survive.
- General community concern.
- Bottom supportive of bleached process (value added etc).
- Jobs created - Causely and Gentles statements, Daishowa.
- Emissions, effluent, solid waste.
- Economics - Wesley - \$100 million subsidies.
- Resource - Taree to QLD to Tablelands.

Problems:

Bruce

- Enormous scale of operation - timber volume, M20 contamination.

Dailan:

- doubts as to whether process will go ahead. want to woodchip forests.

Martin:

- want it to happen by 1993.

Rodney:

- Newcastle Woodchip - been operating since 1981 (350000 T/year)
- used sawmill/logging residue.
- Federal/State government - conditions changed - clearfelling, sawcuts - Only found out 1984.
- Export value increase 100m T/year. Size/intensity increased. Category B sawlogs now used.
- Sawmillers exports (Allan Taylor) Port Macquarie - Newcastle. For south to Milton. 37-30% efficiency.
- Timber removal - Newcastle region, Milton.

Greg C.

- Fruit Australia - 1986 kungala, Lanitza, Glenreagh bought by Juhnson.
- rezoned as clustre farms. Fruit lots managed by Fruit Australia.
- sold tax writeoff plan. Local investors not sought.
- Ulmarra Shire Council - min. 40 ha. reduction to 10 ha. - hortic areas.
- Erosion. (sandy country)
- Fertilizers, minerals, trace elements injected. (study)
- No E.I.S., floral fauna survey, land capability etc. Horticultural changing the character by clearfelling, chemicals.
- Council approved plans. Concerns ignored.
- land degradation on grand scale. No council/government control.
- Soil conservation Office - taken little steps. Irreversible damage.
- Siltation of Orara River.
- Water pollution.
- Hillside erosion at Orara downs.
- Floods accelerated damage to river banks.

- Oyke construction into Orana River.
- Freehold land tenure.
- Biggest clearfelling operation in N.S.W.
- I.C.O. expired - protected until revoked.
- Inquiry (COI)
- Commissioner recommended protection.
- landowners will not negotiate with N.P.W.S.
- need to pressure Hay.
- Durras white gum there (southern limit)

Kendall M.A. (Isabell) Lorne

- Flora Reserve - 60 ha. Proposed to be 500 ha (Mille wildlife study)
- outstanding remaining unlogged mature blackbutt stance.
- steep slopes logging, rainforest logging. Conversion of forest to plantation.
- Coachwood rainforest in Werrikimbe area. (West & North of N.P.)

FOREST ISSUES

WILDERNESS

- (5% W.A. in N.S.W. Majority of unpreserved in North N.S.W.
- viewing wild - anthropocentric - man/land relationships. man orientated.
- biocentric - values operate as freely as possible
- Wildlife Society definition.
- cannot define size. 20-25000 ha - genetic viability
- want areas of outside National Parks
- NSW Wild Act (1987) criteria - plant and animal communities in unmodified state.
- maintenance feas.
- appropriate recreation
- wilderness has many values - genetic storehouse
 - medicine/food products.
 - nature conservation.
- NSW - wilderness working report - (5% in wild condition. $\frac{1}{2}$ in National Parks, 5.6% State Forest, crown lands (4.2%) Crown leasehold (47.4%).
- Only comprehensive study - eastern escarpment.
- washpool, mann Guy Fawkes, werrikimbe, Barrington areas.
- logging grazing, roading, dams, mining are threats
- 8 wilderness nomination to NPWS director. Coolang rejected.
- OGF included.
- Draft Resolution - NEFA accept criteria of wilderness and support nominations.

OLD GROWTH FOREST (as a habitat)

1. faunal values
 - most research on 'hollows' how many per hectare to be left.
 - minimum 130 years to 500 year (for Brushbox forests) for these to develop 399 vertebrates completely dependant on hollows - possums, gliders, bats, cockatoos, parrots, treecreepers, owls.
 - large logs on ground also important - for habitat.
 - More fruit producing rainforest plants in understorey of
 - More stable nest platforms.
 - Higher nectar and seed production
 - older trees flower later than younger trees
 - 3.5 times fruit set.
 - Stream flow - regrowth higher transpiration/lower streamflow.

- documentation of
- definition of Old Growth Forests?
- greenhouse implications?

Monitoring

Draft Resolution - Monitoring on Old Growth Forests - logging, roading, burning.

RAINFORESTS

- 56% Forestry Commission controlled
- 33% N.P.W.S
- 50% canopy retention
- Port Macquarie Region - still logging 8000 ha - flora reserves.

'Specialty Purpose' logging - in there?

- fire magnitude of FC?
- secondary v/f - wet scler. (FC Policy) - to 'convert' to Eucalypt Forests (b. burning repeatedly)
- 1982 Rainforest decision Timber Industry still - buffer areas (all them magnitude zones) - Rainforest Policy 1979
- small remnants
- wildlife corridors

Draft Res. - No rainforest logging in NSW

- Littoral rainforest (SEPP 26 - protection - only Policies - not a long-term secure one)

PLANTATIONS

- planning to recreate habitat
- using species from locally
- Report by John Cameron, ACF - Hardwood Plantations Report June 1989 - 4 Recommendations
- Paper - plantations for paper recycling etc
- 15,000 ha planted to Pines in NSW

Isabel

- Neglect of Plantations - unemployed could be utilized

Martin

- Eucalypt Plantations - produce more pulplogs rather than sawlogs
- Non-Timber Values should be considered - a mix of species

INDUSTRY ECONOMICS

Rod

- 3 Factors most destructive developments in FC
- introduction woodchipping
- overcutting
- better technology
- if high volume - unit profitability can be down but will profit, up - (at. B sawlogs into woodchip production.

Dailan

- FC Rational - have to chip, pulp logs because running out of sawlogs.
- if wanting to stop old growth logging
- alternative to large sawn timber needed
- use small timber for pulp.

J. Corkill

- the Forestry Industry becoming less and less a family industry
- it's becoming more and more centralised
- often resource decisions are made off-shore e.g; Harris-Daishowa
- Forestry Commission becoming 'corporatised'
- it should be made known that conservationists are not causing the loss of jobs - the industry is on the decline because of over harvesting.
- it will be increasingly important to canvass Union support

General discussion

- in 1972 hardwood chips were \$60 a tonne (landed in Japan) they are now \$45 - \$54 . In pure economic terms we are underselling this resource.
- suggested campaign 'support your local sawmiller' - to prevent the off shore sell off of our forests
- the money stays in Australia as opposed to money going O/S.

Martin F.

- we should promote energy efficiencies (re-using and recycling paper waste instead of always creating a new product using resource wastefully or inefficiently)
- the forestry Commissions operations are always secretive - their financing, roadworks, forward planning etc; They need to become accountable.

~~THE MANAGEMENT PLAN~~

THE MANAGEMENT PLAN (FC's PLANNING PROCESS)

Dailan

- Public comments should be invited. However, it is thought that the FC are reluctant to highlight controversial areas that are to be targetted - they often try and degrade areas first rather than protect conservation values.

J. Corkill

- Explained the planning process - he said 'there are 3 levels'
 1. District Management Plans - policies for fire, wildlife, quotas etc;
 2. Harvesting Plans prepared for each compartment
 - they're supposed to say :
 - when to start
 - who is to log etc;
 - the volume to be removed
 - filter strips etc;
 - maps of the area and its works
 3. Annual Review and Forecasts

These are supposed to be 'public documents' but at present are not. It is very difficult to get to see them. The plans should outline proposed works for the next 2 years.

The TEC Forestry policy is addressing these concerns. The public must be able to participate in this planning process. The FC should exhibit plans and facilitate public comment - not public participation only if you can find the documents

The Institute of Forestry should be lobbied to facilitate this process.

Fiona P.

- The Otway Forests Trial mentioned. 200 responses to 1000 questionnaires - the final plan coming out this year. It will be interesting to see if effective public participation was effective in the formulation of the final plan.
- The Victorian Forestry Industry Strategy (1987) was cited as a good 'model'. It has a policy preventing a woodchip driven industry in Victoria (it maintains one only as a subsidiary).

NATIONAL ESTATE AREAS

- the Feds still don't recognise these areas totally
- it should be that areas nominated should include a moratorium on logging. More areas should be nominated so they can be included on the interim list
- the AHC is trying to clear the backlog of nominations now
Gary Werren, AHC, G.P.O. Box 1567, Canberra
- National Estate Grant guidelines - maybe monies for studies etc;

Draft Resolution - That all activities within nominated areas be stopped until these areas can be properly assessed. It is important that their conservation value not be degraded before its assessment.

NPWS MANAGEMENT

- funding being cut all the time. Personnel also being reduced.
- Advisory Committees sacked - some replaced with sandminers, real estate people, councillors etc; These new Advisory Committees pro people not wildlife (also the danger of sandmining, logging etc; being allowed in National Parks in the future)
- it was noted that Treasury is the most significant power broker in Government. It was considered appropriate and necessary for NEFA groups to lobby Treasury to provide extra funding for Natural Resource Management.
- it was also noted that the NPWS has had a \$6 mil budget blowout. Jobs may be cut or frozen and administration etc; reduced.
- There was discussion about the new strategy being pursued by NPWS i.e. provision for recreational use facilities, multiple use reserves etc; at the general expense of conservation management'
- It was resolved that there should be a move to bio-reserves etc;
- NPWS still have Plans of Management 'in camera'. Some activities recreational facilities, chemical use etc;tc; not evaluated but need to be. EIS's in some cases should be done.
- There is a very real need for the public to be involved in this planning process.
- A query on Nature Reserves - is protection the top priority? Increasingly recreational facilities are being provided in these areas and there is a lot of pressure from visitation and not much management for the long term enhancement of conservation values.

J. Corkill

Draft Resolution - No undertaking of any new developments in N.P.'s or N.R.'s (roads, picnic facilities, walking trails etc;) before the management planning process has been completed and fully assessed (this should include a public exhibition and comment/submission phase).

TENURE

1. Private Forests (freehold)

- currently there are no controls on logging. Should the Forestry Commission or Soil Con. etc;? assume some control?
- Tree Preservation Orders should be introduced in all Councils
- Chemical Usage on 'woody weeds' needs attention (Graslans)
- Causleys agenda - that leasehold land be converted to freehold title (up to 20 applications a week received in the Armidale Office)

CAPB

- Catchment Area Protection Board (Soil Conservation Service)
They can refuse logging permission, they can take people to court if they are ignored,- However, they do not enforce these things at

present and they need to be pressured into taking some action and fulfilling their obligations.

Fruit ~~tree~~ Australia - this should be used as a test case for this area
Important to take them on (through the CAPB)

Draft Resolution - To lobby for Tree Preservation Orders - taking into account wildlife and tree habitat values on Private Lands.

2. Crown Land

New Crown Lands Act passed. Overall there is a need to ensure tree covers are maintained. Also proper management of natural areas require open plans and public involvement in decision making process.

The new Act reduces the types of leases to 4 or 6 varieties (a good thing but Causley given great powers. The conservation policy has been ~~suspended~~ suspended (or not applied anymore).

The Property Services Corporation Bill also introduced into parliament. This provides for an agency to become property managers and a disposal agent. This is in line with the Greiner Governments Public Land sell off approach. (the disposal of Crown Lands but also the conversion of leased lands)

Draft Resolution, - Before any land disposed of it must have an ecological / environmental assessment and be publically accountable.

OTHER THREATS

Mining, Grazing, Fire Management, Roads, Dams, Bees?, Chemical Usage, Recreation, Climate Change etc;

We need to gather info on the above
Dam proposals discussed - Guy Fawkes, Mann, Macleay (Styx River), Federal, Rocky Creek height increase.

PRIORITIES

We (NEFA) need to develop a pro-active stance rather than crisis management. Obviously issues such as North Washpool need urgent attention but wherever possible we need to establish an effective networking communication system and promote alternatives to the current management regime.

We should have input into instruments such as the TEC Forest Policy and co-ordinate an effective lobbying organisation to force change in the current FC operations.

Ultimately the FC needs to become far more accountable to the public with its planning and management process. NEFA can provide a 'vehicle' to lobby for this process.

People then broke up into groups to discuss particular FOREST ISSUES.
Draft Policies, Objectives and Initiatives were discussed and recorded for presentation to the whole group/meeting on Sunday morning.

NORTH EAST FOREST ALLIANCE FOREST SUMMIT.

Sunday 6/8/89

J. Corkill: Introductions

CAMPAIGN ORGANISATION

Dailan: Aim to have a number of regions run by coordinators. Networking within each region. Groups should deal with specific local issues with broad issues tying in.

John: Have autotomous decentralised groups with internal communication. Should have input in Sydney through being the P.L.O. N.C.E.C. suggested N.E.F.A. become a sub-committee. Alliance would plug in with other c issues.

Dailan: Concerned about every press statement needing approval thru N.C.E.C. (also communication between groups).

Margaret: Internal communication priority. Groups would be speaking on behalf of others.

Martin: Need to set specific objectives/priorities. Can't duplicate work of other groups. Need to liase closely with N.C.E.C. and exchange info.

Celia: Main value in meeting Govt officials. One more voice in political arena.

Dailan: Structure needed. Large amounts needed to be researched. Need to cover whole of North Coast. Coordinators of utmost importance.

Celia: Direct resources?

Dailan: Will be a support system - finance, research, background info etc;

John: Spokespeople? for press releases etc; Should member groups speak on behalf of NEFA?
Do we need a Constitution? a Statement of Objectives? a FOCUS? etc.

Ian: We need a workable structure.

Margaret: SEFA example. Some resentment as far as money allocations etc; The most vauable input is as a powerful lobby group.

John: Do we need a 'formal organisation' or should it just be a network alliance with member groups working on policy development

Marg: A Policy Making Group

Martin: We need Structure and Goals.

Barrie: Concern about being merely a lobby group. Need a working relationship with existing groups

Dailan: Vital to establish a networking group to identify areas that need researching, to exchange information, to co-ordinate research efforts (to avoid unnecessary duplication) and to develop policies. To co-ordinate campaigns on broad issues.

Ian: NEFA shouldn't become an organisation within itself.

John: Policy should be effected throughout NSW. It would balance the SEFA arguments and bring issues into a statewide stance. Objectives and Initiatives should be established.

It was agreed that NEFA should be an alliance with member groups to network, formulate objectives, initiatives etc;

Bruce: What about the financial aspect?
NEFA will need money coming in for campaigns, mailing expenses etc

Margaret: Stressed how important this was and to determine how it is to be co-ordinated.

Greg: Suggested that there was a need to separate running costs from campaigns.

John: Suggested that there could be requests for money from groups such as the NCEC, NRCAE Environment Club etc; It was also suggested that a special fundraiser could be organised etc; That individual groups wise and fund their own campaigns and that NEFA money be used only for networking purposes or common actions (such as court cases, documentation etc;)

Martin: Suggested that funding could be a major discussion topic for the next meeting, however, some people thought it best to resolve it sooner. A group of area representatives / co-ord. were later formed to discuss this issue in a phone link up.

Dailan: Suggested that NEFA should be networking between and within each forestry region. He suggested that it would be a good idea for people to nominate themselves as representatives or co-ordinators for their own region. A list was passed round for people to volunteer their services.

Martin: Suggested that there was a need for centralisation of this co-ordination - BSEC? Dailan suggested that the initial thrust, had come from BSEC and that internal communications would continue on from their in the short term but that in the longer term that this may not necessarily be the case. Initially there would be a mail out of minutes, draft resolutions objectives and initiatives. This would be compiled by BSEC volunteers.

Margaret: Again stressed the need to address the point of whether NEFA is to be an alliance or a crisis action group. She pointed out the Wilderness Societies position regards press releases etc; for campaigns or particular actions. That perhaps it would not be appropriate for the WS to a part of NEFA press releases if it did not actually share the views expressed or if it was not a wilderness issue etc; It was agreed that individual groups should use their own name in any press statement and perhaps could mention that that they were a part of NEFA and that NEFA was working on a policy position for this.....etc; etc;

REPORTS ON FOREST ISSUES

These were presented and additions made where necessary. It was agreed that all ideas would be left in for now and that they would be compiled and sent out for discussion and eventual adoption as policies, objectives and campaign initiatives. See these reports for more depth and substance.

CAMPAIGN ACTIONS AND TIMETABLE

Research

- Dailan has a list of Research topics for interested people. This list was passed round and names and contacts added. A question was raised about funding for researchers? It was resolved that NEFA would probably not be in a position to apply for specific funding if it was not a 'true identity' as such but that opportunities may arise for individual groups etc;
- It was also resolved that comprehensive faunal surveys were required for NSW to establish conservation strategies etc;

Legal Action

- Talk about a combined action re: Old Growth Forests. The possibility of setting up a legal fund for court cases etc? It was also pointed out that a summary of the judgements on significant Forestry Cases was urgently needed (so that it could be distributed and groups do not have to duplicate efforts over and over again researching relevant points of law/precedence etc;)
- J. Corkill to ask EDO in Sydney to do this.
- Legal aid for individuals ? (reference to a new bill in parliament)

Media/PR

- possibility of getting a media release out this afternoon
- Individuals to speak as a part of NEFA not for NEFA.
- Perhaps speak on behalf of NEFA today (as a one off thing until the next meeting)
- Martin, John, Dailan and Fiona nominated as reps for today.
- Topics - Campaign focus and broad policy formulations.
- No agreement was reached on a spokesperson for NEFA in the future
- There was also a comment asking 'not to push the Foresters too much too soon. The pulp issue has brought alot of sawmillers and greens together - it would not be a good idea to alienate them now. It was agreed to concentrate on broad forestry issues mainly.

Community Education

- The Big Scrub is starting a package now. To save on duplication of efforts it was agreed to put 'packages' through the network.
- A Washpool roadshow was discussed - slides and talks etc;
- Peter Metcalfe mentioned also as someone who was trialling materials on environmental education. (Peter can organise this)

Political Liaison

- Recognised that we need to co-ordinate this.
- J. Corkill - PLO job has lists of polities, ph. no's, info on latest events etc; questions can be asked in parliament via Richard Jones etc;
- John's contact address - Nature Conservation Council, 39 George Street, Sydney, Ph. 274206 or 272 278 (fax 275945)
- John explained that with lobbying efforts - important to recognise that a letter is dealt with by a politicians staff (mostly), therefore personal representation is more effective.
- If delegations go to see a local member - tell John (especially if juicy info comes up)
- There are also 3 National Liaison Officers in Canberra.
- Relay your info: to NCC (attention J. Corkill)
- e.g; letter saying we..... saw Wendy Machin today and she said this.....

..... blah blah blah

Direct Action

- CVCC - big rally imminent if Pulp Mill is a goer.
Washpool - imminent action (in the next few weeks) to delay road building / logging until a court case can be organised.

Resolved to establish a contact file of people willing to defend in the field. RIC putting out an Action Alert
Discussion centred on the possibility of organising a Non-Violent Action training course (for 15 to 20 people). People in Sydney can conduct. John Corkill to organise this for NEFA purposes.

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SERVICE

Ashley Love explained a bit about the history and applications. The GIS - a computer system for Natural Resource Management Applications and data base for Governments, Schools, Homes, Conservation Groups.
Data can be vegetation, Topography, Geology, Land Tenure, Rare Plants (ROTAP), Animals (WLDATA) and Aboriginal Sites (MINATA). Maps of any scale can be produced with overlays, tabulations modelling and predictions etc;
It costs \$12,000 to \$15,000 to set up with a capacity for the whole North Coast.

There are 4 main levels

1. National - ERIC (Resources M'in. Cook) OLD Growth Survey \$260,000 worth. and ENDRIC (Richardsons Env. Dept.)
2. Regional - NPWS, SCS, Dept. Ag, Lands Dept., Dept. Planning PWD, SPCC all have uses and resource info on file. Can get access or buy some.
3. Local Government - Coffs and Byron have started with cadastral and/or environmental info bases.
- 4- Local Issues - Red Rock Catchment (NCEC group working on a test case with funding)

An IBM 50 or Equivalent needed to run. Digitised requirements are needed plus a decent printer.

Contact Ashley Love (NPWS - Grafton) for more info.

TEC FOREST POLICY

Forest Summit later this year to discuss this.

Decided that the co-ordinators of regions should get copies of this and where possible evaluate and discuss at the summit.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE ?

1. NEFA media release
2. NEFA Summit
 - the mail out of policies, objectives etc; by when?
decided end of August
 - the minutes of this meeting - to regional co-ordinator
 - Extra papers - Research list, NVA training, Course
info (ongoing)
3. Feedback on Drafts
 - by when? (end of September)
4. NEFA networking
 - co-ordinators by telephone link up
 - letters and local area meetings
5. Specific Campaigns
 - to be run by local or regional co-ordinated groups
6. State Policies
 - NEFA input into TEC policies etc;
7. NVA Training Course
 - To be notified
8. NON NEFA WORK
 - Legal angles, lobbying, media etc; where possible
this should all be handled within the local or regional
groups.

NEXT MEETING:

Where: Grafton (Vene to be confirmed)
When: 18/19th of November (over 2 days again)
Who to Co-Ordinate: M. Frohlich and friends

Dear Hadyn,

10 MAY 1989

R.I.C.
8.5.89.

Enclosed is an article on
Palawan you might be able to use
somewhere or simply read for yourself.
Also enclosed is a copy of the
petition. I've sent copies of both
to Penny Figgis.

Today I read a quote by
Bob Hawke saying that, "If one thing
is certain it is that the world is
becoming more environmentally conscious"
Great stuff!

Okay, see you later, it
was really good to meet you.

Ciao, Nick Hopkins

Rainforest

Palawan - The Last Environmental Frontier

Outstanding coral reefs, primal unlogged tropical rainforest, rare plants and animals found nowhere else on the planet - this description now fits only a shrinking number of locations. One such place is the island of Palawan, dubbed by many as the last environmental frontier in the Philippines.

Palawan is located directly north of Borneo where the Penan people of Sarawak are struggling to save the pristine forests of their tribal lands. Indeed Palawan contains many striking parallels with the situation in Sarawak. Three different tribal groups in Palawan are all in danger of losing their forest homelands and their traditional culture. The indiscriminate logging of timber in Palawan has predictably led to the dramatic degeneration of water quality in streams throughout Palawan echoing the despoilation of watercourses in the tribal lands of the Penan.

Both Palawan and Borneo were in fact linked by a land bridge at a time when sea levels were lower. This explains the strong geological, ethnic, zoological and botanical affinities between the two islands now separated by water and a national boundary.

Palawan is a narrow island stretching some 450 kilometres in a roughly north-south direction. The total land area is 15,000 square kilometres, fitting into Tasmania 4 1/2 times. About one half of Palawan is still forested but these forests are disappearing at a rate of 19,000 hectares a year. Predictably, this deforestation is causing topsoil loss, habitat destruction, the slow genocide of the indigenous tribes and the loss of botanical diversity. The "downstream" effects include the siltation of lowland river systems and consequent massive floods threatening 450,000 hectares of lowland agriculture in Palawan. On a global scale the earth is losing still more of its ability to convert carbon-dioxide to life-giving oxygen.

The world class coral reefs are also victims of increased siltation being slowly covered by the soil washed off the denuded slopes. The increased run-off combined with dynamite and cyanide fishing are rapidly depleting the fish population around the island. This is especially crucial because over 60% of Manila's fish supplies come from Palawan's waters.

Heavily implicated in this environmental crisis are the activities of two major logging companies, the Pagdanan Timber Corporation and the Nationwide Princessa Timber Corporation which between them control 227,440 hectares or 1/3 of Palawan's total land area. The main logging concessionaire who controls both companies is Jose Alvarez. It is Alvarez and men like him who stand to substantially profit from commercial logging. They have

many allies in the House of Representatives including the speaker Ramon Mitra who many believe is being groomed by the U.S. as one potential successor to Cory Aquino.

Committed to exposing the vested interests in the logging industry are the environmental whistle-blowers such as the Haribon Foundation. Haribon, the most broadly-based and highly respected environmental organisation in the Philippines, has focussed its attention since last year on the complex environmental issues confronting Palawan.

Haribon acknowledges the destructive role of the small-scale slash and burn farmers or "kainingeros". These people are typically internal migrants dislocated from other parts of the Philippines due to military operations or lack of arable land. They flock to the promised land of Palawan at a rate of 50 families a week. After the commercial operators have logged an area the kainingeros can gain relatively easy access to the remaining forests which they proceed to slash, burn and plant with subsistence crops. Good soil fertility under these conditions lasts only one or two seasons. To avoid crop failures then the kainingeros are forced to move on.

On a nationwide level, both the agricultural activity aimed at feeding 60 million Filipinos and the massive production of crops for export combine to create enormous environmental pressures. With a population of only 1/2 million people, Palawan still stands a chance of avoiding the extent of environmental destruction suffered by the rest of country.

In 1983, Friends of the Earth in Italy adopted the campaign to save Palawan as part of its International Campaign for Tropical Rainforest co-ordinated by Friends of the Earth International. Also in 1983 Haribon launched a campaign in the Philippines to protect Palawan. Already individuals within Haribon have received death threats on more than one occasion. They take it as a sign that they are starting to become effective. They have already collected half a million signatures in a petition campaign entitled "Vote for the Motherland". They aim to collect one million signatures, the same amount that finally convinced Cory Aquino to run for the Presidency in 1985.

As fellow inhabitants of this region of the world we in Australia can play a special role by providing international support to Haribon for its Palawan campaign. To this end the Rainforest Information Centre in Lismore has printed a petition for distribution within Australia and beyond. You will find a copy of it in your local environment centre. Please take the time to read and sign it. For further information or video material write to the Rainforest Information Centre, P.O. Box 368, Lismore, N.S.W., 2480 OR The Haribon Foundation, 3rd floor, Liberty Building, Pasay Rd., Makati, Manila, The Philippines.



DIVERSITY

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BIOLOGICAL

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A. pto for questions

Every year an area of tropical rainforest larger than TASMANIA is destroyed, the world's plant and animal species are disappearing at an estimated 1,000 times the natural rate of extinction, wetlands are being drained and coral reefs are being dynamited.

We are losing species before they are being discovered. Already we know the pharmacological benefits of some plants yet there are thousands to be analyzed for potential medicinal benefits.

Every time we destroy nature, we destroy Biological Diversity – our variety of life in all its forms. Biological Diversity cures us, feeds us and provides raw materials for industry. It is therefore in our interest to PROTECT IT.

Q. PTO FOR ANSWERS

Wwfa

G. m. a. n. e. c. h. a. t. e. z. w. h. o.
c. a. n. h. o. l. d. a. c. a. n. e. f. f. e. c. t. u. a. l. m. e. n. t.

4. S. a. f. e. n. a. t. i. n. g. N. a. t. u. r. e. m. e. a. n. s. p. r. o. t. e. c. t. i. n. g.
o. v. e. r. s. o. u. r. e. s. o. u. r. c. e. s. o. u. r. c. e. s.

3. Q. L. D. p. l. a. n. t. T. h. a. t. m. a. y. b. e. a. n. A. i. d. s. c. u. r. e.

2. a. n. y. t. h. a. t. i. s. d. e. s. t. r. o. y. e. d.
a. n. d. t. h. e. s. i. z. e. o. f. t. h. e. a. r. e. a.

1. ? c. o. n. s. e. r. v. a. t. i. o. n. g. r. o. u. p. a. c. t. i. n. g. 4
b. i. o. l. o. g. i. c. a. l. d. i. v. e. r. s. i. t. y.

Health, food, macadamia nuts, green plums, industry, Aids research and Queensland's Blackbean all have something in common.

TO FIND OUT WHAT THAT IS.....

*World Wildlife Fund Australia
has pleasure in inviting you
to the national launch by Jenny Kee
of a new international conservation campaign.
Biological Diversity.*

Guest speaker includes Dr Mervyn Hegarty of CSIRO'S Division of Tropical Crops and Pastures in Brisbane, who will speak on the value of the rainforest for health and talk on his work with Aids Research.

As part of the launch children from Sydney's Marrickville Primary School will be there to give their views on how they see the future of conservation.

This will be followed by a biologically diverse luncheon consisting of rainforest and bush foods – it may be our last if we don't look after our natural world.

TIME: 11.00am
DATE: Tuesday 16th May
VENUE: The Regent Hotel,
George Street Sydney.
(Regent Rooms II & III)

RSVP: Susanne Briggs or
Kim MacDonald.
WWF Australia.
Phone: (02) 261 5572.
By 12th May, 1989.

STRICT EMBARGO: 12 NOON, SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER



PRESS RELEASE

SUNDAY, 11TH DECEMBER, 1988

GOVERNMENT PURCHASES OVER 700 HECTARES OF NORTH COAST
RAINFOREST AND COASTAL LANDS

The Minister for the Environment, Tim Moore, said today the Government had purchased about 714 hectares of valuable rainforest and coastal land for addition to north coast national parks and reserves.

Mr. Moore said he had also approved the establishment of a new rainforest nature reserve from some of the newly acquired land.

He said the parcels of land consist of:

- ° 124 hectares of coastal wetland and rainforest for addition to Bundjalung National Park near Yamba.
- ° 136 hectares of rainforest to Border Ranges National Park near Kyogle.
- ° 169 hectares of rainforest to Mount Warning National Park near Murwillumbah.
- ° 57 hectares of rainforest to Numinbah Nature Reserve near Murwillumbah.
- ° 228 hectares of rainforest to create the new Inner Pocket Nature Reserve inland of Brunswick Heads.

Mr. Moore said the 124 hectares for addition to Bundjalung National Park had been purchased from Mr and Mrs Ray Evans of Iluka.

He said the 600 hectares of rainforest land was purchased from Mr. E.B. Bryan of Bryant Bros. sawmillers of Murwillumbah.

"Both parties will today only receive part-payment for their land. Further payment will be made in the future."

Mr. Moore said the Federal Government, as part of the National Rainforest Conservation Programme, will contribute to the cost of purchasing the Bryant rainforest land for addition to the three World Heritage listed areas - Border Ranges, Mount Warning and Numinbah.

"While this Government recognises the need to purchase private land for conservation, it is essential that property owners, such as the Evans' and Mr. Bryant, receive fair and proper payment," he said.

Inquiries: John MacGregor - (02) 221.6477

Berkeley Wiles - (02) 585.5449

EX.

New South Wales Government

Rainforest



National Parks and Wildlife Service



29 SEP 1987

Dr. J. Messer,
Nature Conservation Council
of New South Wales,
176 Cumberland Street,
SYDNEY. NSW. 2000

189-193 Kent Street
Sydney
P.O. Box N189, Grosvenor
Place, Sydney, N.S.W. 2000
Telegrams: Napawi, Sydney
Telex AA26034

Our reference:

Your reference:

Telephone: 237 6500
Extension:

Dear Dr. Messer,

24 SEP 1987

I refer to your letter dated 20th August, 1987 regarding the National Rainforest Conservation Program. Regrettably I am unable at this time to locate a copy of your letter of 10th June referred to.

I note that your Council seeks consultation on the 3rd year of the Program. I will be happy to arrange that consultation at the appropriate time.

Turning to the specific issues raised in your most recent letter I am surprised that you consider management planning should not be receiving emphasis under the NRCP. Management planning of the rainforest parks and in particular the World Heritage Parks, is a Service priority. Ironically though, management planning was a very minor component of the first year program as implemented. Management planning of the rainforest parks continued through 1986/87 without funding under the NRCP. Priority attention was given to the Caldera Parks (draft now on exhibition) with on-going planning of New England and Dorrigo National Parks. Planning of Barrington Tops has commenced without Commonwealth funds, although a contribution has been sought from the 1987/88 program.

gains in no +
area of parks
consolidation
must be
study + protection
NOT DEVEL

When
protection +
understanding

I make no apologies for the number of projects involving track construction and interpretive centres. Having made so many gains in rainforest conservation in recent years, it is a deliberate strategy of the Service to consolidate those gains. A part of this strategy is to promote greater public support for on-going protection of those forests, especially in local communities. Controlled public usage is an essential component of the strategy.

Public support
for can't
was
still is high

of resource consolidated then consider development
This is not to say that other aspects of rainforest conservation are being negotiated. Indeed a range of projects apart from track construction and interpretation were included in the 1986/87 program and are included in the 1987/88 program. They include regeneration, weed

eradication, botanical survey, fauna research and of course a major component on land acquisition.

*specifically
what projects*

On the question of land acquisition, two factors resulted in poor acquisition performance. Firstly, the Commonwealth allocation of funds did not occur until after State funds had been committed. Secondly, whilst the Service had commenced valuations and negotiating for various important rainforest areas (valued at far more than the funds available) all negotiations failed to reach a successful conclusion within the financial year. Funds were carried over and a major acquisition program combining two years of funding is now well advanced and lands have been purchased.

*what project
specifically?*

On the question of Focal Peak, the importance of this area is recognised but it is proper that this project be undertaken by Service staff as a routine project without the need for Commonwealth funding.

was is

Focal Peak off limits to Commonwealth \$ + to be treated as routine when P of M are Com funded. Surely P of M are routine!
I understand that the Service did consult with Mr. John Corkhill when it learned that Minister Cohen had invited contribution to the program from environment groups. I regret that the Nature Conservation Council feels that it has not been adequately consulted.

didn't happen!
As soon as the Commonwealth has approved the 1987/88 program I will recommend to the Minister Mr. Carr that he join with Senator Richardson in releasing details of the 1987/88 program. I am confident that environment groups including the Nature Conservation Council will be most impressed with the number (52+ projects) and range of projects to be undertaken.

No! pre-empt rational planning process + public participation

Meanwhile could I suggest that you consult with Suzanne Chate at this office should you wish an informal briefing on last year's and this year's program.

want formal negotiation which has impact!

Yours faithfully,

John Whitehouse

J. F. Whitehouse,
Director.



PRESS

22 JUN 1988

Strictly
Embargoed
0100 hrs
15 June 1988
14/88

"HAVE TROPICAL FORESTS ANY FUTURE?" ASKS WWF

GLAND, Switzerland - "The problems of the destruction of natural resources and damage to the environment have become part of the Latin American conscience," according to 30 Latin American artists and writers in a WWF-World Wide Fund for Nature Special Report published today. The declaration, written by Mexican poet Homero Aridjis and signed among others by Placido Domingo, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Ruben Blades, Carlos Fuentes and Manuel Puig, is the lead article in a WWF 16-page report on Latin American Forests(attached).

The report - containing articles in English, Spanish and Portuguese - is being published before the Council meeting of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), scheduled to begin in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 22 June. "Since Latin American Forests promise to become the major source of the world's tropical hardwood trade in the next few decades, this meeting of the ITTO comes at the key time," says WWF International's Conservation Officer, Chris Elliott, in another of the Report articles. "There may still be time to use suitable areas of Latin America's tropical forests sustainably. Managing this is the challenge that member countries face at this ITTO meeting."

The 42-member ITTO is headquartered in Yokohama, Japan and has never before met in a country that actually produces tropical timber. WWF's report is aimed at heightening public and political awareness of the appalling problems facing Latin America's forest, and at highlighting the potentially major role the ITTO could play in their conservation.

... /
WWF INTERNATIONAL
CH- 1196 Gland, Switzerland
Telephone: (022) 64 71 81
Telegrams: Panda, Gland
Telex: 28 183 wwff ch
Telefax: (022) 64 42 38

In addition to articles on rubber-tapping in the Amazon, the Latin American timber trade and acid rain in tropical forests, the report also contains a poster-sized colour map showing critical conservation sites and protected areas in Latin America. Every delegate to the ITTO meeting will be given a copy of the Special Report by senior executives from WWF organizations in Europe, Asia and the Americas who have been invited to the Rio meeting as observers.

"The question asked on the front page by Latin American artists from eight countries is: Have the tropical forests any future?" says Adam Markham, WWF Campaigns Officer and the report's editor. "Our role in Brazil during the next weeks will be to turn the spotlight of world attention on the ITTO, and let the delegates know that we believe the future lies largely in their hands."

- ends -

Notes to Editors:

1. A WWF Position Paper - "Tropical Forest Conservation and the International Tropical Timber Organization" will be published on 21 June and is available from Kate Pont at WWF in Gland, Switzerland.
2. Complete English transcripts of the articles that appear in the Special Report in Portuguese or Spanish are available from Kate Pont at WWF in Gland, Switzerland.
3. WWF-World Wide Fund for Nature is known in Australia, Canada and the United States as World Wildlife Fund.

For further information, please contact one of the following:

In Switzerland:

Leyla Alyanak
WWF International
1196 Gland

Phone: (+41-22) 64 71 81
FAX: (+41-22) 64 32 39
Telex: 419 618

In Brazil (from 16 June 1988)

Adam Markham or Gordon Shepherd
Hotel Novo Mundo
Praia do Flamengo, 20
Rio de Janeiro
Phone: (+55-21) 225 7366
Telex: 33282