

EXTRACTS FROM 'MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR WALCHA-NUNDLE MANAGEMENT AREA 1987'.

SUSTAINED YIELD

"It was considered in the 1960s, for a number of reasons, that management of the hardwood forests on a sustained yield basis would not be economically practicable." (p. 62)

"Following the decision to commence plantation establishment in the Area, sawlog allocations were increased in 1967, to permit harvesting of the hardwood resource prior to conversion of native forest areas to exotic softwood plantation." (p. 23)

The average annual 'hardwood' quota sawlog production for the period 1976-1987 was 27 680 m³ nett., with a further 10 291 m³ nett of ex quota sawlogs (Table, p.44).

"The current best estimate of the quota sawlog volume available from completion of the current program of logging is 493 000 m³ gross. ... ex-quota sawlogs is estimated to be some 49 000 m³ gross ..." (p. 45)

The sawlog allocation from 1.6.86 was determined as 52 000 m³ gross quota (given as 28 110 m³ net quota) to three mills: C.L. Brown & Sons (Wauchope) 6 000; Fenning Timbers (Walcha) 13 200, and; Fenning Timbers (Gloucester) 32 800. (Table, p. 63)

"Experience in hardwood logging to date indicates that there may be little chance of a viable sawlog production for a number of years after the end of the current cutting cycle, because of the dearth of sub-mature trees. It is likely that it would take some 30-40 years before growing stock increased to a level which would permit viable annual yields. The situation is not clear because of the past variability of utilisation standards in sawlog operations, and knowledge of tree and stand growth representative of the stand conditions in this area is scanty." (p. 47)

"In the absence of comprehensive up-to-date information of the nature and distribution of forest resources of the Area, consideration of yield prospects as outlined below is necessarily rudimentary. Routine rainforest logging in the future is not contemplated, and possibilities for products other than sawlogs have not been examined." (p. 47)

"Harvest of the currently identified sawlog resource could continue at present rates for some 10 years; i.e. until 1997. ...

"To bridge the estimated minimum 40 year gap from the

present until growing stock builds up sufficiently to sustain viable quota yields would require a reduction in quota yield from the present 52 000 m³ gross ... to 12 300 gross per annum." (p. 47)

"Reduction of hardwood sawlog to this level now would have a very substantial impact on existing industry and dependent employment; in a situation where such a level of industry and employment could be sustained within 10 years from increasing yields from the plantation resource ..., and the reduced level of yield at this stage, from the indications outlined below, may not support a viable industry. The position is subject to review, depending upon the results of further investigations referred to below." (p. 48)

"There are thus possibilities that investigations would show that an appreciable level of sawlog harvesting would be possible following the end of the current cutting cycle which could increase short-medium term prospects toward the indicated long-term sustained yield ... Forest assessment, to establish medium-term yield prospects, needs to be undertaken before the end of the current cycle. In the meantime, efforts to reduce the yield toward the indicated long-term sustained yield are desirable." (p. 48)

"The available sawlog resource is predominantly in defective old-growth trees in stands of relatively high density and there is little prospect of maintaining current levels of sawlog production. Generally, a higher number of trees than harvested for sawlogs need to be removed to enhance regeneration prospects and promote growth on sub-dominant future crop trees.

"... efforts to reduce yields toward indicated sustained yield level consistent with changing utilization standard are desirable, and opportunities to achieve this in the context of increasing availability of softwood may emerge to minimise local employment and industry impacts." (p. 77).

"The management objectives are:

2. To the extent compatible with objectives 3 and 4 to supply:

(a) Hardwood sawlogs at a rate designed, in the light of changing utilization standards, to meet current allocations as a maximum, and in the longer term on a sustained yield basis to maintain in conjunction with development of the softwood resource, available local industry. (p. 78)

"Maintenance of adequate natural forest cover requirements and related objectives will be met by:

. Adjusting sawlog yield to a level which can be sustained.

(p. 79)

"Hardwood timber production objective will initially be met by harvesting of the remaining unlogged stands of native forest in the Area. Opportunities, in conjunction with the development of the softwood resource, will be taken to reduce the yield toward the indicated sustained yield level.

"Progressive monitoring of actual against estimated yields and investigations to estimate more accurately the remaining hardwood resource available to provide this yield will be undertaken. The yield may be adjusted progressively, to conform with these closer estimates as they become available."

"During the early part of the plan period, investigations will be carried out to determine the rate which can be sustained from the harvesting of mature and defective trees remaining after previous operations, and trees as they become economically available for harvesting from the development to maturity of advance growth retained in logging. Subsequent harvesting from stands regenerated following initial logging in old growth stands will be at a rate which can be sustained in perpetuity, consistent with the maintenance of a viable local industry." (pp. 79-80)

"The yield shall be adjusted as necessary to conform with the strategy outlined in Section 2.1.2. of this Plan [pp. 79-80], and reduced to a level in conformity with changing utilization standards that can be sustained as harvesting in the old-growth stands is completed.

"Opportunities consistent with the maintenance of a viable sawmilling industry should be taken to reduce annual yield towards a sustainable level as industry circumstances permit and in accordance with the strategy of this Plan." (p. 90).

"Volume estimates for the hardwood resource of the area shall be progressively monitored against actual hardwood yield. Investigations shall be undertaken before 1990 to estimate more clearly the remaining hardwood resource. The results of continued monitoring and any further investigations shall be included in annual management plan reports prescribed in 2.8.2. and in respect of the remaining hardwood resource shall be included in the 1988/89 Report." (p. 94)

Long-term Yield

"On a provisional basis, it is estimated that a net area of some 50 000 ha would be suitable for hardwood sawlog

production in perpetuity." (p. 48).

"If an increment figure over a 100 year rotation of 0.5m^3 gross per hectare per year were assumed, the notional net productive area could produce $25\,000\text{ m}^3$ gross per year in perpetuity." (p. 49)

"Theoretically, some 500 ha per year of the net productive area ought to be harvested and successfully regenerated, on a 100 year rotation, even age basis, to achieve long-term sustainable yield. Alternatively on an unevenaged basis, for example with four 25 year cycles, 2 000 ha per year would be harvested annually." (p. 49)

Regeneration Problems

"... This advanced growth may contribute to a second cutting cycle in 50 to 100 years, although it will be slow to develop because the defective trees remaining in the overstorey are often at such a high density as not to give satisfactory growing conditions for retained growing stock or permit the establishment of replacement stocking levels of natural regeneration." (p. 26)

"Occasionally, problems have also been encountered with regeneration of the moist plateau types. Stands occurring on basalt soils in frost-prone area which have been widely opened may develop an almost continuous sward of snow grass or bracken fern that is an effective inhibitor of regeneration, presumably as a consequence of frost effects and frequent burning after logging. In the worst instance, about 400 ha within Enfield State Forest which was heavily logged in 1979. has been subject to the problems described above. ... " (p. 26)

"Regeneration establishment has had mixed success; it is generally satisfactory but certain sites are clearly understocked. Steps need to be taken to ensure regeneration problems are not exacerbated." (p. 47)

"Maintenance of adequate natural forest cover requirements and related objectives will be met by:

- . Regeneration following logging. (p. 79)

RAINFOREST

"General purpose harvesting of rainforests was phased out by 1974. ... In 1982 a Government directive ... resulted in approximately 200 ha of rainforest ... being harvested ..." (p. 22)

"Maintenance of adequate natural forest cover requirements and related objectives will be met by:

. Restriction of harvesting in rainforest types to the salvage of trees damaged, or likely to be damaged by forest operations or by natural causes, and limited selective- removals at an intensity low enough to maintain undisturbed rainforest structure." (p. 79)

"General Prescriptions

"6. Harvesting within rainforest stands shall be restricted to:

. the salvage of dead or dying trees, or of trees damaged or likely, unavoidably, to be damaged by forest operations,

. very selective harvesting of mature trees for specialty use which cannot be met elsewhere, at an intensity low enough to maintain canopy and rainforest structure and composition. (p. 92)

"Harvesting operations in hardwood areas adjoining rainforest stands shall be modified as far as practicable to minimise damage to rainforest structure." (p. 91)

PINE PLANTATIONS

Plantation Problems

"In general terms, the plantations of the Area are not in a uniformly good silvicultural condition. ... it is estimated that around 20% of the plantations either suffers from severe weed competition, is on excessively steep topography, was established on poorly prepared sites, or for various reasons is poorly stocked."

"Site selection was not specifically constrained initially, with emphasis placed on geographic considerations rather than site characteristics. This resulted in some steep slopes and marginal soils being planted. There are some 560 ha in these categories on the western side of Nundle area in the 1967-69 age classes." (p. 30)

"Tending and protection operations were relatively rudimentary prior to about 1970 and stands of such age classes possess a number of problems including blackberry and wattle infestation, and nutritional and disease-related defects. No serious blackberry control was attempted until 1980," (p. 31)

"Blackberry ... is the most troublesome weed species affecting plantation establishment in the Area. This noxious

weed thrives, particularly on basaltic soils, whenever enough light is admitted through the tree canopy to sustain its growth. (p.37) In Nundle plantation (1967 to 1972 A.C.) it is not practical to attempt any control because of the extent of infestation. ... contain substantial areas of side slope over 20°, making access for spraying very difficult." (p. 37)

"... basaltic soils ... tend to be deficient in boron and sulphur which leads to dieback, malformation and increased fungal susceptibility (especially to *Dothistroma*). This is more pronounced in hollows, creek lines and areas where high clay contents and poor drainage further limit root growth and therefore nutrient uptake." (p. 32) 48% of 9 065 ha of existing plantations had been established on basaltic soils (Table, p. 33) and of the 4 800 ha of proposed plantations 70% comprised basaltic soils (p. 33).

"Competition from silver wattle (*Acacia dealbata*) and hickory wattle (*Acacia falciformis*) has been a serious problem to plantations in the Area. ... On Nundle plantation about 700 ha (1967 to 1975 A.C.) have sufficient wattle infestation to affect yield and reduce pine stocking. In the 1974 A.C. of Riamukka plantation about 50 ha has serious wattle competition. In Nundle wattle is not now a serious problem ..." (p. 38)

"Eucalypt regeneration is a problem ... Approximately 100 ha of Nundle plantation has significant eucalypt competition. Most of the 600 ha (1980-1982 A.C.) of Coco Creek plantation has prolific eucalypt regeneration ..." (p. 38).

Snow, wind and hail damage have also occurred (p. 40)

"Rabbits, wallabies, sheep and cattle can cause and have caused damage and occasionally serious losses in young plantations." (p. 40)

"Browsing by native wallaby species has caused considerable damage and establishment failures in some areas of Riamukka plantation." (p. 40)

"Dothistroma septospora: This fungus, causing needle blight of pines, is regarded as a serious forest disease of international importance to which *Pinus radiata*, *Pinus ponderosa*, certain other *Pinus* species and Douglas fir are susceptible."

"The disease causes premature needle fall of the current season foliage and so could seriously affect plantation increment." (pp. 41-42)

Plantation Management

"Low pruning has been employed for many years but has been continually limited by availability of labour. No whole age class has been pruned ... No high pruning has been carried out."

"Non-commercial thinning was introduced in 1977 as no roundwood market for early thinnings was envisaged. ... No such thinning has been carried out since 1980."

"Small amounts of commercial first thinnings have been carried out in the Area since 1975, but major backlogs remain." (p. 31) "A total of about 1650 ha has been non-commercially thinned. None has been undertaken in the Area after 1980." (p.35)

"For this reason, and the concern with safety aspects over the use of 2,4,5-T, Garlon and Brush-off is now the main chemical used for blackberry control." (p. 37) "Some of the recently purchased lands ... contain heavy infestations of blackberries ... aerial spraying is being employed, in combination with ground treatment." (p. 37)

"St. John's Wort ... Control has been attempted using 2,4-D or Roundup." (p. 38). "Nodding thistle ... Control has been attempted using 2,4-D, white spirit, Roundup, Lontrel and M.C.P.A." (p.38). Wattle infestation "Control in the past has generally been by ground applications of high-volume sprays of 2,4,5-T and by slashing with hand tools. Aerial spraying was used on the 1974 and 1975 Age Classes of Nundle plantation ... Control of eucalypt scrub has been by slashing with hand tools or by herbicide spraying ..." (p. 38)

"Current establishment methods on basaltic sites have relied on the use of herbicides to reduce heavy snow grass competition to ensure early survival and development of *P. radiata* seedlings."

"Reforestation of cleared land formerly used for agriculture requires effective measures to reduce competition from grass. A routine treatment of tractor ripping (blade ploughing) and herbicide application (Atrazine, Velpar and Roundup) has been implemented ..." (p. 39).

For *Dothistroma* fungus infection "Control is implemented in the Area ... by aerial applications of copper oxychloride at a rate of 4.5 kg per ha. In 1983 and 1984, ... the copper mixture was modified to a 40% oil/water mixture at an effective rate of 1.67 kg of oxychloride per ha." (p. 42).

"Feral pigs exist in the native forest and plantations in the Area. ... they do play a significant role in spreading blackberries in plantations." (p. 39) Control measures

include "Controlled use of 1080 baits" (p. 39). "Myxomatosis virus and 1080 rabbit poison have greatly helped in the reduction of rabbit numbers." (p. 39). "Ground application with 1080 baits is used prior to planting, with follow-up poisoning after establishment, when necessary." (p. 40)

"Browsing by native wallaby species has caused considerable damage and establishment failures in some areas of Riamukka plantation. ... To prevent further browsing, a permit was obtained from the National Parks and Wildlife Service to reduce the number of wallabies in and surrounding Riamukka and Nundle (1984 A.C.) plantations. Since that time electric fencing has been used with success ..." (p. 40)

Plantation Area and Yield.

9 065 ha of pine plantations were established from 1923 to 1987 (p. 10) and areas "identified as suitable and available" for pine plantation establishment totaled 4 800 ha (p. 33).

"... annual establishment rate has risen to average about 410 ha, since 1968." (p. 30)

"In considering options for future yield management, it is important to recognise that a significant area of the currently established plantation has a poor yield expectation, with large areas of low stocking and terrain too steep to permit normal silvicultural harvesting. Appendix 12 indicates there are a total of over 2 100 ha of plantation in this category."

"In the long term, about 560 ha of the existing 9 065 ha of plantation may not be managed for sustained timber production for reasons of excessive slope and site problems. This leaves a current productive area of about 8 500 ha ...³" (p. 51) This was predicted to be able to supply 89 000 m³ of sawlogs annually in the long term. The average annual production of pine sawlogs was anticipated to be 1988-1992 - 6 600, 1993-1997 - 16 900, 1998-2002 - 33 400 and 2003-2007 - 75 000 m³. (Table, p. 52).

"Subject to a review of available sawlog yield following completion of assessment work, the annual yield of softwood sawlogs shall not exceed an average of 10 000 m³." (p. 82)

"There has been no effective development of a softwood processing industry to date. Allocations of up to 34 000 m³ per annum have not been utilised to any significant extent and there is therefore a significant potential for expansion in the industry in future.

"... To date, the absence of a significant smallwood-using

industry has constrained growth of the sawmilling sector. Indicated sawlog volumes in Section 1.5.2.3 are dependent on the development of such an industry." (p. 73)

"The plantation estate shall continue to be expanded at up to about 500 hectares per annum or as directed by the Commission within the context of its Exotic Softwood Plantation Policy." (p. 85)

NATURAL VALUES

"Specific data on the status and habitat requirements of [Schedule 12 Endangered Fauna] in the Area are lacking, and a number of the listed species have to be regarded as doubtful records." (p. 56)

"The management objectives are:

3. To maintain the Area generally under forest vegetation so as to:

- (a) Conserve soil resources and water catchment capabilities;
- (b) Maintain or develop a scenic forest environment acceptable to the public generally;
- (c) Maintain a diversity of habitat suitable to wildlife indigenous to the Area." (p. 78)

"All proposed operations within the Area shall be examined to determine their likely effect on the environment. Standard Forestry Commission guidelines and operational procedures for the protection of environmental values shall apply in roading, plantation establishment, harvesting and other forest operations." (p. 96)

"Check lists of native flora and fauna species (Appendices 7 and 8) should be updated with a view to monitoring species distribution and abundance in order to provide information on the long-term effect of specific management policies on native species. Opportunities to undertake surveys shall be pursued, or encouraged if outside bodies are involved, to provide further data on species distribution, and management requirements for flora and fauna conservation.

"Vulnerable species shall, when identified, be afforded special protection in harvesting and other forest operations." (p. 97)

S.E.M.C.

"A major hydrology research project was commenced in Dungowan Dam catchment in 1974 and has been maintained since

that time." (p. 21)

"Water quality may be reduced for short periods as a result of soil erosion from road construction, logging operations, clearing for plantation establishment and hazard reduction burning." (p. 54)

"Granitic soils ... are highly erodible ..." (p. 32)

"Maintenance of adequate natural forest cover requirements and related objectives will be met by:

. Application of Standard Erosion Mitigation Conditions in plantation establishment and in all timber harvesting, road design, road construction and maintenance operations. (p. 79)

"Erosion control prescriptions as defined in the Standard Erosion Mitigation Conditions for Logging and Clearing in N.S.W. shall be applied." (p. 91)

copy

Court threats over tree felling

NORTH EAST
DAIRY
25 DEC
22-12-90

By **MARTIN
RASINI**

The Nundle-Nowendoc State Forest is at the centre of allegations of law breaking by the NSW Forestry Commission.

The North East Forest Alliance says the commission has acted illegally to clear-fell hardwood forest and replace it with native pine without producing an environmental impact statement (EIS).

The alliance says it has contacted Lands and Forests Minister Garry West to call for a halt to the activity and will consider court action if necessary.

The Forestry Commission acknowledges that 200ha of hardwood forest are being clear-felled to make way for radiata pine plantation.

Regional forester Brian Furrer said yesterday the clearing activity was the last part of a program adopted for the area in 1986.

"At that time, the Forestry Commission undertook an environmental review of the area, but did not undertake an EIS," he said.

"Clarification of what needs an EIS is changing with each court ruling involving the Forestry Commission and certainly when the project was started we felt were quite within our rights.

"Our view now is that it is only sensible to conclude the program."

The Government wants a halt to clearance of native forest for pine which instead should be planted on cleared land.

Mr Furrer said land had

been bought for the purpose this year and more purchases were planned.

However the North East Forest Alliance is adamant the commission has acted outside the law.

Coordinator John Corkill said legislation required the commission to conduct an EIS before it clear-felled land for pine plantation.

He said he had written to regional foresters advising them of the law and they could be held criminally liable for any breaches.

"I have phoned Mr Furrer who acknowledges he received the letter," he said.

"Yet he refused to call a stop the clearing program," he said.

"It is now a matter for the minister or for the courts."

Court threats over tree felling

NORTH
DAIRY
22-12-90

By MARTIN
RASINI

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NORRIDGE
DAVID
25-7-88
22-12-90

Philip Spark
" Tarcoola"
Back Nundle Rd
Tamworth 2340

Dear John

I have put together and tried to explain locations etc of a few photos we took on the 21st December 1990. This area was the last remaining large forest on the rich basalt plateau of the Nundle State Forest.

Since a teenager I have spent a lot of time in these forests and learnt to fully appreciate the flora and fauna in them. The Commission's attitude along with the locals of the area is to clearfell all areas that are undulating and cultivatable and leave the steeper areas for logging. They feel that this policy provides areas for the native wildlife, whilst satisfying their own needs. This attitude is very shortsighted and wrong, it fails to take into account the specialized environments required by many plants and animals, environments which are only present on the rich high plateau's. The species diversity and richness is far greater in the moist tall forests of this region than on the drier steep slopes.

The map provided shows the extent of clearfelling operations todate, by the areas circled with highlight, and the present clearing shaded in with highlight. The photos taken can be located by their number, to the corresponding number on the map. You may notice that the only remaining section of forest left, that is similar to the previous forests, occurs along the road between Mount Veiw and Murdered Dog, and this strip is confined to the narrow ridge top.

I neglected to photograph the existing pine plantations to show you the appalling management practises carried out at present. The Commission have failed to thin, prune, or control noxious weeds in many areas already planted. Large areas in the Duncans Creek acatchment were planted on very steep sides amongst fallen timber, making harvest and management nearly impossible.

The photos show the only narrow filter strip left that we could see, this is on Brandy Springs Creek, this strip falls short of forming a corridor through the 1200ha by about 400 mtrs.

The proximity to Dungowan Dam alone, should have been enough reason to stop clearfelling. When the forestry cleared the acatchment of South Head Creek much siltation occurred in Dungowan Dam which must have reduced its capacity considerably. The dam itself has been in the news lately concerning its spillway design, which is presently being rectified at a cost of millions of dollars. I wondered if it was justified due to its reduced holding capacity.

I asked Mr Fussell if the Tamworth Council had agreed with their operations, he said they had. I asked an engineer at the council about it, he was unaware of any such agreement but it may have been handled by someone else in his department.

I contacted the Soil Conservation Service regarding the clearing of such areas and was told that the laws concerning clearing on slopes above 18% and in acatchment areas were not binding to the Forestry Commision.
As I see it the Forestry Commision needs to explain;

Why they don't need an EIS before clearing ?

Why they aren't governed by the laws concerning inclination and water acatchment?

Why weren't any wildlife corridors left through the area?

Although the damage is done I would still like to see the Commision forced to say they are guilty. This may force them to be more environmentally considerate in the future. The best outcome would be to see them replant it all with native hardwood.

Thankyou for your interest in this cause, if I can be any further help don't hesitate to call.

Yours sincerely

P Spork

5.20pm 21.12.90 re: Nundle SF. clearing for pine
plantation

Met Regional Forester: Brian Furrer

at Glen Innes R.O. 067 321 894 (h)

He confirmed that work was proceeding over the weekend
and last 20 ha would be completed by Monday 29/12.
He said that he disputed that the work was in
breach of EPA Act. He said he took the view that
the environmental review completed by FCNOW was adequate to
comply with EPA Act. He said he'd acted in 'good faith'.
He said he had sought no legal opinion to verify the
decision he'd taken "off his own bat".

He said that he'd received my letter advising of criminal
liability but had not sought independent legal advice.

He said I was being unreasonable to try + stop work
when nearly 1000 ha had already been cleared. I said
he was being "reckless" + that he should stop the work.

He refused + said it was my view - I said it was my
barristers view and that the trap had been sprung. Thang^{up}.

5.30pm

£

October 1979 Lin Gardan

D.P. spoke to Walcher Nundle: file has details

800 had to go

West told: DP wrote to West → West has
copy of letter

Aug. Dominic told

Mick Cooper → Assistant R.F. Glen Innes.

day after DP spoke to M.P.D.

Martin Rossini

North Daily Leader TAMWORTH

067

Bruce Woolf

FAX

Dailan Pugh

P.O. Box 7

Bonalbo 2470

Dear Bruce,

Sorry about the delay but here is a rough of a letter I would like you to send to the Forestry Commission on my behalf.

I would like them to stop all clearing of native vegetation for ~~pine~~ conifer plantations anywhere in NSW - at least without E.I.S.'s.

If there are any legal avenues to challenge them or for failing to undertake the E.I.S.'s they promised I would like to follow them up also - maybe we could prosecute the individual(s) responsible for deciding not to prepare the E.I.S.'s.

I understand there is currently a temporary freeze on clearing in the Bathurst area, but am ~~to~~ not sure of what is happening in the Nundle-Newendox and Tallaganda ^(near Queanbeyan) areas. I have spoken to the Assistant Regional Forester, Mick Cooper, ^(29/8/90) and he sent me the attached letter. I also spoke to John Mills (30/8/90) from Management Planning and suggested that they stop clearing for pine plantations in the Walcha-Nundle M.A. until the regional E.I.S. they are preparing for the old-growth forests in that M.A. is completed, with the inclusion of pine plantation establishment.

I understand John is keeping you busy down there and it looks as if Chaelundi could soon resurface. I have also written to West about plantations so this letter may be what is required to prompt them into action - i.e. hopefully we won't need to take it too much further.

Thanks for everything

Dailan

We act for Mr D. Pugh who has requested that we write to you in relation to ~~clearing~~ the clearing of native vegetation for the establishment of pine plantations.

Our client instructs us that Mr Gordon, the then Minister for Conservation and Water Resources, announced on the 12th October 1979, ~~the~~ an undertaking by the Forestry Commission to prepare Environmental Impact Statements for conifer plantation development in the Bathurst and Nundle - Nowendoc areas. Furthermore that a similar undertaking was given in 1989 for conifer plantation developments in the Tallagander area.

Our client instructs us that in the ~~Nundle - Nowendoc~~ Walcha - Nundle ^{Management} Area alone 3,764 hectares of native forests were cleared for pine plantations from 1980 to 1990. Furthermore that ~~none of the~~ ^{none of the} E.I.S.'s ~~have~~ ^{for which undertakings were given} ~~agreed to~~ have been prepared.

On our instructions the clearing of ~~some~~ ^{native} forest is an activity which would be likely to significantly affect the environment and as such the Commission is required to carry out an environmental impact statement before commencing such activity by virtue of the provisions of part V of the Environmental ~~and~~ ^{and} Planning Assessment Act 1979.

We are accordingly writing to you to request your advices and undertakings that you will cease any further

To : Bruce Wolf

From: Dailan Pugh

3 pages to follow

**WOOLF
ASSOCIATES
SOLICITORS**

10th Fl, 82 ELIZABETH STREET
SYDNEY NSW 2000
TELEPHONE (02) 221 8522
FACSIMILE (02) 223 3530
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BRUCE WOOLF
BA LLB Dip URP

ASSOCIATES:
BRIAN HILLMAN
LLB. Dip B Admin.
Dip S de Fr des Aff
EDWARD L. MURA
B Ec. LLB.

OUR REF

BSW 2482/0

YOUR REF

DATE

10 December 1990

The Secretary
Forestry Commission of NSW
Forestry House
95 York Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir

CLEARING OF NATIVE VEGETATION FOR PINE PLANTATIONS

We act for Mr D. Pugh who has requested that we write to you in relation to the clearing of native vegetation for the establishment of pine plantations.

Our client instructs us that Mr Gordon, the then Minister for Conservation and Water Resources, announced on 12 October, 1979, an undertaking by the Forestry Commission to prepare Environmental Impact Statements for conifer plantation development in the Bathurst and Nundle-Nowendoc areas. Furthermore that a similar undertaking was given in 1989 for conifer plantation development in the Tallagander area.

Our client instructs us that in the Walcha - Nundle Management Area alone, 3,764 hectares of native forests were cleared for pine plantations from 1980 to 1990. Furthermore, that none of the E.I.S.'s for which undertakings were given have been prepared.

On our instructions the clearing of native forest is an activity which would be likely to significantly affect the environment and as such the Commission is required to carry out an environmental impact statement before commencing such activity by virtue of the provisions of Part V of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979.

We are accordingly writing to you to request your advices and undertakings that you will cease any further clearing without preparing an environmental impact statement.

Yours faithfully



Forestry Commission of N.S.W.



Forestry Office
P.O. Box 426,
GLEN INNES. 2370.

Our reference: Mr. M. Cooper
R.O. Ref/1107

Your reference:

(067)
Telephone: 322111

Mr. Dailan Pugh,
P.O. Box 7,
BONALBO. N.S.W. 2470.

Dear Sir,

This letter is to confirm information on the Walcha/Nundle plantation project given to you by telephone on Wednesday, 29th August, 1990.

For the period from the release date of the Walcha/Nundle Management Plan (1987), until now, 1373 ha of plantation was established of which 793 ha, or 58%, was on land previously native forest.

From the 1991 planting season onwards, 4131 ha is currently available for plantation establishment. This is made up of 3331 ha of freehold land purchased for the purpose, and 800ha, or 19%, of the total native forest land.

This 800 ha of native forest has been salvage logged to maximum utilisation standards and also fully roaded in preparation for plantation establishment.

The 800 ha is made up of two blocks, named Sleemans and Cusacks, and these were clearly identified in the 1987 Management Plan under Section 1.4.2.3 Site Potential (p.33).

After completion of the 800 ha, future plantation establishment will be restricted to land purchased for the purpose.

Yours faithfully,

B.J. FURRER,
REGIONAL FORESTER.

Per: *[Signature]*

4th September, 1990.

**WOOLF
ASSOCIATES
SOLICITORS**

10th Fl, 82 ELIZABETH STREET
SYDNEY NSW 2000
TELEPHONE (02) 221 8522
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BRUCE WOOLF
BA LLB Dip URP

ASSOCIATES:
BRIAN HILLMAN
LLB. Dip B Admin.
Dip S de Fr des Aff
EDWARD L. MURA
B Ec. LLB.

OUR REF

BSW 2482/0

YOUR REF

DATE

10 December 1990

Mr D. Pugh
P.O. Box 7
BONALBO NSW 2470

Dear Dailan

CLEARING OF NATIVE VEGETATION FOR PINE PLANTATIONS

I enclose copy letter dated 10 December, 1990 which I have forwarded to the Forestry Commission in accordance with your instructions.

You will appreciate that following such letter, if you do not receive the undertaking as requested, you would have to commence proceedings reasonably promptly should you seek any interim injunction.

Yours sincerely

Bruce Stephen Woolf

Encl.

25 JUL 1990

New South Wales Government



Forestry Commission of N.S.W.



Messrs Hillman & Woolf
Solicitors
10th Floor
82 Elizabeth Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Forestry House
95-99 York Street
Sydney, N.S.W.
Box 2667 G.P.O. Sydney
N.S.W. 2001
Fax No. (02) 290 1299
Telex: Forcom 21657

Your reference: BSW/2482/0

Our reference: 7090-G (Legal)
Mr.A.Ireland:imh
Telephone: 234 1 596

20th July, 1990.

Dear Sirs,

Mr. D. Pugh -
Walcha-Nundle Management Area

Your letter dated 10th July, 1990 is acknowledged.

The Walcha-Nundle Management Area comprises a total area of about 170 000 hectares.

Would you please specify more precisely the operation to which you refer and its location.

Yours faithfully,

J. F. Yarwood,
Secretary.

Per:

BSW 2482/0

10th July 1990

The Secretary
Forestry Commission of NSW
95 York Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir,

MR D. PUGH
WALCHA - NUNDLE MANAGEMENT AREA

We act for Mr D. Pugh who has requested that we write to you in relation to clear felling activities by the Commission in the Walcha - Nundle Management Area.

Our client instructs that the Commission is clearing some 120 ha of eucalypt forest in the above Area.

On our instructions the clearing of such forest is an activity which would be likely to significantly affect the environment and as such the Commission is required to carry out an environmental impact statement before commencing such activity by virtue of the provisions of part V of the Environmental and Planning Assessment Act 1979.

We are accordingly writing to you to request your advices and undertaking that you will cease any further clearing of such forest and that no further clearing will take place unless and until the Commission has had carried out and considered an environmental impact statement and has otherwise complied with the provisions of part V of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

We would appreciate your reply within, say, seven (7) days.

Yours faithfully,

WCL:025