

From Grafton head west along the Gwydir highway (towards Glen Innes) about 12 km out of Grafton turn left into Old Glen Innes Road. Follow Old Glen Innes Road out over the Orara River and keep going, you will climb the Buccarumbi range and as you descend again you will have to turn sharply and cross abridge at the bottom of the hill (be careful). Continue until you cross a low bridge (Buccarumbi Bridge) there will be a strip of bitumen after the bridge with a house on the right hand side. Shortly after the bitumen finishes, turn right onto blacksmith shop forest rd, the sign will probably be down so look for some kind of temporary marker. Turn into Blacksmith road and continue past the intersection with Old Cunglebung Rd and on to Cunglebung Forest Rd. Cunglebung Forest Rd is the Eastern approach to Mosquito c k trail. Otherwise continue straight along blacksmith rd until the intersection with Winterville Rd, here you will find a shed, the owners have been contacted and it can be used as a temporary base camp. GOOD LUCK.

A hand-drawn map of the Bindery Wildlife Wilderness Area and surrounding regions. The map is oriented with North at the top, indicated by a north arrow. The main map shows the Bindery Wildlife Wilderness Area, which is bounded by the Gwydir Hwy to the north and the Blacksmith Shop Forest Rd to the south. The area is divided into several sections, including the Bindery Wildlife Wilderness Area, the Bindery Wildlife Wilderness Area, and the Bindery Wildlife Wilderness Area. The map also shows the location of Dalmorton, Grafton, and the Buccarumbi Bridge. An inset map in the top right corner shows the area's location relative to Grafton and the Pacific Hwy.



The Bindery wilderness
- another jewel at risk...



GEOLOGY

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The plant life of the area is exceptionally diverse ranging from coastal communities to higher altitude Tableland types. The forests include rain-forest (warm temperate and subtropical), as well as eucalypt communities ranging from tall old growth forests to low shrubby woodlands, mallee, wet and dry heathland and sedgeland. The high diversity reflects the considerable variations within the topography, soils, rainfall & climate.

The Bindery area contains some of the best remaining intact stands old growth Spotted Gum forest in NE NSW. Spotted gum communities are poorly represented within reserves on the North coast.

NPWS observed in its 1992 Assessment Report that "... commercial hardwood exploitation and development have been so extensive that it is rare to find large tracts of land such as the proposed Bindery wilderness area, with relatively intact tall open forest and old growth forest."

FAUNA

The nominated area supports a high biodiversity generally and in particular a high concentration of threatened species. The area is widely acknowledged as one of the most important areas in Australia for high priority species. (Braithwaite 91, Kennedy and Burton 86)

The diversity of habitats within the Bindery wilderness area represent many different zones between lower altitude coastal areas to the Tablelands. The climatic, geological and topographic variation combines to provide pre-conditions for a high diversity of faunal populations. There are high population densities of species which depend upon tall old growth forests: possums, gliders, owls, cockatoos, & parrots.

The area is also an important seasonal habitat for a large range of migratory species and
 "...has importance as a comparatively unroaded area

with an associated low number of feral species... which have decimated medium terrestrial mammal populations over much of Australia' (NPWS Bindery Assessment Report 92)

The NPWS report also stated...
"The area has the capacity to maintain essential ecological processes that have been impaired in areas where timber harvesting and its associated perturbations (road making, stream sedimentation, exotic plant and animal invasion, and an altered fire regimen) have changed the availability of specific microclimates, food resources and homesites."

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Bindery wilderness also contains archaeological evidence of prehistoric aboriginal occupation, dated into the the last 4000 years. Sacred sites remain the knowledge of tribal elders. They are not revealed to non aboriginal people, and they require the protection of the natural forest.

NSW GOV'T LAND USE POLICIES

(Log now, assess later) As a result of the Timber Industry (Interim Protection) Act (TIIPA) logging and road construction can now occur in wilderness areas, rainforests, old growth forests and important habitat refuge areas without any form of prior scientific assessment.

Exemption from planning laws

The effect of the TI(IP) Act was to exempt the Forestry Commission from the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 (EP&A Act) which requires the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements (EIS's) for any activities which significantly affect the environment. This law has been in place for over a decade and all other industries are still required to produce EISs prior to carrying out such activities. The Forestry Commission has been humiliated numerous times in court actions brought on behalf of the North East Forest Alliance, revealing successive violations of the EP&A Act.

Obstruction of Endangered Fauna (Interim Protection) Act.

The Endangered Fauna (Interim Protection) Act (EF(IP) Act) was passed in December 1991 by the ALP Opposition and Independents. The passage of the Act followed a successful court action by NEFA to enforce sections of the National Parks and Wildlife Act which prohibited the killing of endangered species. Since its inception the EF(IP) Act has met with continued obstruction from government agencies, specifically the Forestry Commission, and in particular from Cabinet interference in the administration of the Act.

The Forestry Commission has still failed to prepare the Fauna Impact Statements required under the Act, as a condition precedent to applying for a licence to kill endangered species. Such open refusal by a government agency to obey the law is an outrage, yet it is actively encouraged by cabinet ministers who exert undue political pressures on departments such as National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), to frustrate the aims of the legislation. Instead of bringing the Forestry commission to account for its unlawful avoidance of the legislation, the rules have been bent to enable the Commission to avoid its responsibilities under the Endangered Fauna Act.

Licences to pollute

As well as exemptions from planning and fauna laws, FCNSW has also been issued with statewide 'licences to pollute' waters throughout forests in NSW. These licences were granted by the so-called Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), as a response to court actions threatened by NEFA over massive soil erosion, stream pollution and rockslides resulting from roading operations at Mt Killiecrankie in part of the New England wilderness. The licences, issued without any prior scientific surveys, are so broad that they allow the Forestry commission to continue unsound roading in excessively steep country with totally inadequate controls.

CURRENT THREATS TO THE BINDERY WILDERNESS.

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the Bindery wilderness area specifically to commence logging as soon as possible, in a transparent attempt to predjudice the areas wilderness values before it can be protected.

The TI(IP) Act specifically singled out the Mosquito Ck area, as one of the areas in which roading would be allowed without any prior EIS. Bindery has been identified as wilderness in the NPWS Assessment Report. Many areas in the nominated wilderness area were excluded in the NPWS Report because their wilderness values had been destroyed by recent roading and logging.

As a result of exemptions to planning laws currently enjoyed by Forestry Commission, there is little legal impediment to the rapid destruction of this area. The Commission has licences to kill endangered species, pollute rivers, and build roads without any prior scientific survey.

The future of the Bindery wilderness cannot be left up to Cabinet Ministers and irresponsible FCNSW staff. **DIRECT ACTION** will be needed to save this area.

RATIONAL ECONOMICS DEMANDS AN END TO OLDGROWTH FOREST LOGGING

Many times during NEFA's Old Growth Forests campaign the advocates of continued destruction of unique forest areas have sought to raise the spectre of job losses, asserting that loss of forest resource will have huge impacts on the North Coast economy. The claims of job losses resulting from the Rainforest Decision of 1982 are false and dangerously misleading. Check the facts below.

The Bindery wilderness area is within the Forestry commissions Grafton Management Area. When part of that Area was included in the Washpool Nat Park in 1982 local millers again claimed they would all close. Despite often repeated claims of hundreds of jobs lost, in fact in 1982 there were 439 people employed in the timber industry in the Management Area and by 1991 there were still 435 employed. Furthermore, the 1987 grafton management plan reveals that only 24% of timber industry employment in the area is dependant on the public forests.

Thus no employment collapse is likely if the Bindery is protected and removed from timber production.

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the region. The average daily expenditure were estimated by KCAE to be \$34, \$59, and \$89 respectively. At 1992 \$ values the average visitor would spend \$77 per day.

Washpool NP's contribution to the regional economy is thus calculated to have been >\$2.5m in 1991 - and growing at 40% p.a!

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Clearly on FCNSW own figures the forests of the Grafton Management Area have been grossly overcut. If there is a shortage of timber in future this massive overcutting must be the prime culprit, not forest protection and ecosystem conservation!

It is reprehensible that these levels of logging, far in excess of sustained yield quotas have been allowed to be cut. The continuation of this practice is in contravention of the 1987 Management Plan, and ignores the recommendation of the Commonwealth Resource Assessment Commission (RAC). Since the passing of the Timber Industry Interim Protection Act requires that forest operations be 'ecologically sustainable', this overcutting is quite illegal.

MILLION DOLLAR LOSSES HUGE PUBLIC SUBSIDIES

FCNSW's own Annual Reports show that in 1990/91 the Grafton Management Area ran up a loss of \$298,000 (without considering the numerous hidden subsidies). Grafton MA's total loss over the 10 years 1981 to 1991 is \$1.7m (in 1991 \$ values). In 1987 Grafton MA's royalties for hardwood sawlogs were charged at only 76% of the State average!

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Non-quantifiable costs include, stream pollution, loss

of topsoil, reduced water yields, loss of wildlife, nutrients, old growth forest, wilderness and the destabilisation of forest ecosystems.

It's the costs of road construction into otherwise undisturbed wild forest such as Dalmorton SF in the Bindery Wilderness which is costing FCNSW and the taxpayer so much money. If the timber industry and the forests are to have a future it is essential that the industry retol and restructure their operations to rely on re-growth and plantations.

THE NORTH EAST FOREST ALLIANCE

NEFA has been campaigning for the preservation of old growth forests since 1989. Through a combination of court actions, media statements, forest protest and blockades and public education, NEFA has delayed and in some cases prevented the destruction of several significant old growth remnants including Washpool, Chaelundi, Killiecrankie, Mummel highlands and the Mt Royal areas. NEFA intends to maintain the fight in the Bindery wilderness area.

HOW WILL BINDERY BE SAVED?

Your body or your bucks! Direct forest protest will be the main tenet of NEFA's campaign to save Bindery. Attempts to find solutions through the courts whilst often successful are costly and can be quickly overridden by ministerial manoeuvres. If you want to save Bindery & other wilderness areas in NSW it's a case of "Your body or your bucks" (or both).

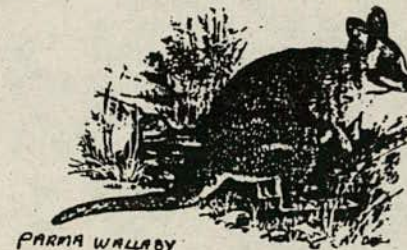
YOUR BODY Blockaders are needed at Mosquito Ck. See attached map. Contact local environment centres for details. Big Scrub EC 066 213 278; Clarence EC 066 431863. Bring tents, tools, trucks, 4WDs, food, warm sleeping gear, wire, ropes, cameras etc

YOUR BUCKS NEFA is a network of individuals dedicated to preserving NE NSW remaining old growth forests and wilderness areas. NEFA operates on the donations from the public. NEFA pays no rentals or wages and donors can be sure that all money received goes directly into saving our ancient forests.

Send donations to NEFA

c/- Big Scrub Environment Centre
149 Keen St Lismore NSW 2480
ph 066 213 278 fax 066 222 676

Tax deductability for donations can be arranged.
WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT URGENTLY!



**INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO BAN LANDMINES
AUSTRALIAN NETWORKSYDNEY**



Date: October 27, 1994

RE: INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO BAN LANDMINES

I write on behalf of the INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO BAN LANDMINES: NSW LANDMINES NETWORK to seek your support in bringing the campaign to ban landmines to the attention of your members and to request they become actively involved.

We ask you to promote the campaign by disseminating information about landmines and their consequences to members of your organisation. We specifically request that you ask members to write, phone or fax Senator Gareth Evans, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade about banning landmines. Parliament House phone number is (062) 777-111.

Experienced lobbyists have suggested to us that the campaign is most likely to succeed if communication comes thick and fast during September 1994 and is followed up at a later date. However the matter is of such urgent concern that writing to the minister at any time is more desirable than letting it slide.

To facilitate communication with Senator Evans we attach a sample letter. We ask that you copy it and make it available to all who are most likely to communicate with Senator Evans if all they have to do is sign a copy, add a few personal remarks and mail it. Others may wish to compose and send their own message.

If Senator Evans is to be convinced that he must do all he can to make this urgent international campaign effective he must have evidence from great numbers of Australians that they have high expectations that he will act for them. To politicians numbers count.

I am also enclosing a petition which you might ask people to sign and return to Community Aid Abroad, GPO Box 1000, Sydney 2001. We need signatures urgently to apply pressure to the government.

The NSW Landmines Network, which is representative of many non government organisations, invites members of your organisation to join the committee, attend its meetings and/or to publicise the campaign in whatever ways they can.

Further information can be obtained by telephoning NSW Landmines Network, Lynne Hutton-Williams on 02/264-1399, Thursdays and Fridays. A speaker and/or video is available to your organisation by arrangement.

I thank you for your interest and hope you will do everything in your power to make the International Campaign To Ban Landmines work.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. John Ward,
Medical Association for the Prevention of War,
NSW Landmines Network

Senator Gareth Evans,
Minister For Foreign Affairs,
c/- Parliament House
Canberra. ACT 2600

RE: INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO BAN LANDMINES

I support the INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO BAN LANDMINES and urge you to press for a total ban on the production, stockpiling, trade and use of landmines. Not only do landmines cause the death of at least 10,000 non-combatants each year and the serious injury, including amputations and permanent disablement, of another 5,400 but they dramatically increase world poverty by diverting already inadequate medical resources and alienating agricultural and grazing lands in countries where hunger is pervasive. The suffering caused by Landmines CAN BE PREVENTED. Their widespread use is intolerable when our planet is beset by exponential human suffering and problems of environmental degradation.

Landmines, like chemical weapons, CAN AND MUST BE BANNED. We, the people, urge this task upon you as one of the highest priorities for the International Community in our time. The United Nations has a responsibility to uphold the human rights of children and other innocent people, the preservation of animals and care for the earth's precious soil. LANDMINES VIOLATE BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS AND DESTROY LIFE IN THE WIDEST SENSE.

The existing Landmines Protocol is not working. Landmines can be activated up to 75 years after being laid. Clearing landmines is an extremely hazardous occupation. The cost of clearing landmines, 100 times the low cost of laying them, can seldom be born by a country recovering from war. Already costs have outstripped available resources from those relatively few donor countries with a humanitarian interest in mines clearance.

Non Government organisations aiming to work constructively for sustainable development now expend their scarce resources clearing landmines and tending incapacitated victims. The vicious cycle of world poverty is needlessly perpetuated.

The UN has the capability of surmounting the difficulties involved in enacting a ban, promoting its ratification to members and providing surveillance essential to its enforcement. It must be prevailed upon to act with determination. Countries currently supporting a unilateral moratorium, eg. US, Belgium, France, are most likely to lead the way in supporting a total ban. Most mines are made by countries affiliated with the UN and are therefore subject to its aims and influence.

The extent of suffering caused by landmines is well documented. Unless a TOTAL BAN is effected human misery in poorer countries will increase alarmingly. It cannot be allowed to continue for want of decisive action.

I strongly urge you, on behalf of all conscientious Australians, to initiate action at the UN to ban Landmines.

Yours in peace,

PETITION

TOTAL BAN OF ANTI-PERSONNEL LAND MINES

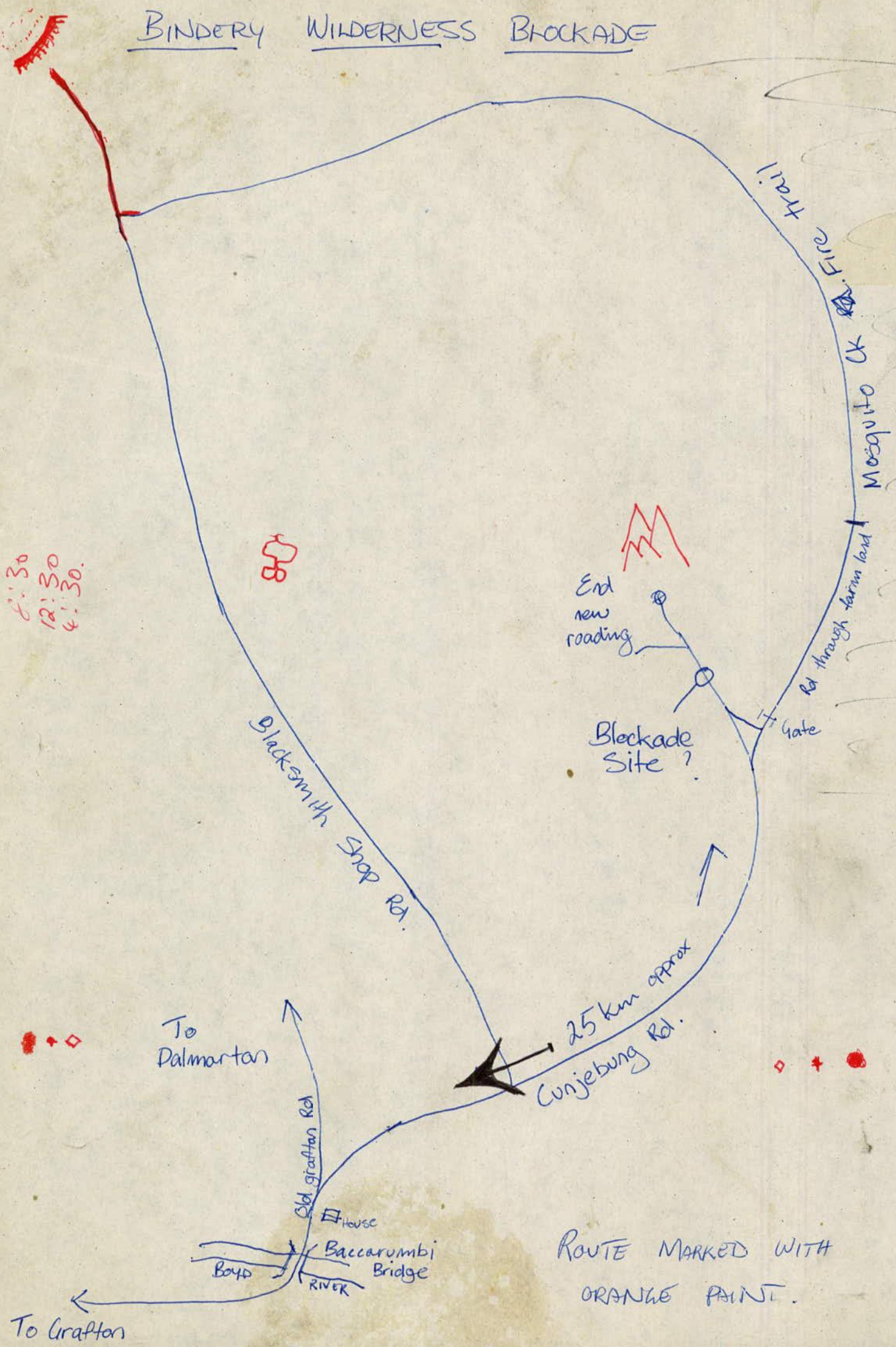
TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ASSEMBLED IN PARLIAMENT:

We the citizens of Australia call on the Federal Government to support the world-wide campaign to ban the production, stockpiling and use of anti-personnel land mines.

Furthermore we urge the government to give a higher priority to mine clearance in effected countries and to use its influence to encourage other countries to financially support the clearance of land mines in poor countries.

[illegible]

BINDERY WILDERNESS BLOCKADE





The Bindery wilderness - another jewel at risk...

Featuring the wild 'n' scenic Mann & Nymboida Rivers

ROADING OPERATIONS THREATEN TO DESTROY PRISTINE WILDERNESS VALUES

GEOLOGY

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The plant life of the area is exceptionally diverse ranging from coastal communities to higher altitude Tableland types. The forests include rain-forest (warm temperate and subtropical), as well as eucalypt communities ranging from tall old growth forests to low shrubby woodlands, mallee, wet and dry heathland and sedgeland. The high diversity reflects the considerable variations within the topography, soils, rainfall & climate.

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Non-quantifiable costs include, stream pollution, loss of topsoil, reduced water yields, loss of wildlife, nutrients, old growth forest, wilderness and the destabilisation of forest ecosystems.

It's the costs of road construction into otherwise undisturbed wild forest such as Dalmorton SF in the Bindery Wilderness which is costing FCNSW and the taxpayer so much money. If the timber industry and the forests are to have a future it is essential that the industry retool and restructure their operations to rely on re-growth and plantations.

THE NORTH EAST FOREST ALLIANCE

NEFA has been campaigning for the preservation of old growth forests since 1989. Through a combination of court actions, media statements, forest protest and blockades and public education, NEFA has delayed and in some cases prevented the destruction of several significant old growth remnants including Washpool, Chaelundi, Killiekrankie, Mummel highlands and the Mt Royal areas. NEFA intends to maintain the fight in the Bindery wilderness area.

Glossy Black-Cockatoo

Calyptrorhynchus lathamii



HOW WILL BINDERY BE SAVED?

Your body or your bucks! Direct forest protest will be the main tenet of NEFA's campaign to save Bindery. Attempts to find solutions through the courts whilst often successful are costly and can be quickly overridden by ministerial manoeuvres. If you want to save Bindery & other wilderness areas in NSW it's a case of "Your body or your bucks" (or both).

YOUR BODY Blockaders are needed at Mosquito Ck. See attached map. Contact local environment centres for details. Big Scrub EC 066 213 278; Clarence EC 066 431863. **Bring** tents, tools, trucks, 4WDs, food, warm sleeping gear, wire, ropes, cameras etc

YOUR BUCKS NEFA is a network of individuals dedicated to preserving NE NSW remaining old growth forests and wilderness areas. NEFA operates on the donations from the public. NEFA pays no rentals or wages and donors can be sure that all money received goes directly into saving our ancient forests.

Send donations to NEFA

c/- Big Scrub Environment Centre
149 Keen St Lismore NSW 2480
ph 066 213 278 fax 066 222 676

Tax deductability for donations can be arranged.
WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT URGENTLY!

HOW TO GET THERE

From Grafton head west along the Gwydir highway (towards Glen Innes) about 12 km out of Grafton turn left into Old Glen Innes Road. Follow Old Glen Innes Road out over the Orara River and keep going, you will climb the Buccarumbi range and as you descend again you will have to turn sharply and cross a bridge at the bottom of the hill (be careful). Continue until you cross a low bridge (Buccarumbi Bridge) there will be a strip of bitumen after the bridge with a house on the right hand side. Shortly after the bitumen finishes, turn right onto blacksmith shop forest rd, the sign will probably be down so look for some kind of temporary marker. Turn into Blacksmith road and continue past the intersection with Old Cunglebung Rd and on to Cunglebung Forest Rd. Cunglebung Forest Rd is the Eastern approach to Mosquito ck trail. The base camp will be where the recent roadworks end (of course) **GOOD LUCK**.

For more information contact.. Big Scrub Environment centre 066 213 278
Clarence Environment centre 066 431 863

**NORTH EAST FOREST ALLIANCE
(NEFA)**

MEDIA RELEASE 11 August 1992

Wilderness roading plan rorts EIS process.

"Plans by the Forestry Commission to push ahead with road construction in the Bindery Wilderness area makes a mockery of any pretence at public consultation in process of environmental impact assessment", according to North East Forest Alliance spokesperson, Mr Aidan Ricketts.

"Grafton District Forester, Mr Williams must know something about the outcome of the EIS that the rest of the community doesn't if he is prepared to spend over \$1 million of taxpayers money to construct a road into the area on the assumption that the EIS will give an all clear to logging", Mr Ricketts said.

"Mr Williams owes an apology to all the members of the Grafton EIS Community Advisory Panel, who have committed many hours of time to a process which is being treated with contempt."

"There is a clear case of "sweetheart deals" between the Forestry Commission and local industry. The Grafton Management area recorded a loss of \$298 000 in 1990/91, yet subsidises the local industry by charging only 57% of the royalty paid for hardwood sawlogs in the adjacent Casino management area. Now they propose to spend another \$1 million of taxpayers money on this unnecessary and speculative road."

⇒ NEFA is calling on MR Coady + Mr Williams to explain.

"NEFA views the situation in the Grafton Management area so seriously that we are seeking legal advice with a view to putting the ~~x~~ facts before the ICAC", Mr Ricketts said.

It is not a case of jobs vs environment, it is a case of the public footing the bill for an inefficient, destructive and heavily subsidised operation.

The only conclusion that can be drawn is that the Forestry commission continues to prefer confrontation to open and consultative decision making.

For more information contact Mr Aidan Ricketts 066 213 278

Please find Forestry Commission Data enclosed as follows.

'Road Construction costs for Mosquito ck road.'

Call Coady + Mr Williams to explain the
why people millers get out a massive subsidy.



N.E.F.A.

NORTH EAST FOREST ALLIANCE

SYDNEY: NSW Environment Centre, 39 George St, The Rocks, 2000. Ph. 02 2474 206, Fx 02 2475 945
LISMORE: The Big Scrub Environment Centre Inc, 149 Keen St, Lismore, 2480. Ph 066 213 278, Fx 066 222 676

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"Nefa calls on both Ian Causley and Minister Gary West to explain the massive losses and why Grafton millers receive such a massive subsidy. NEFA views the situation in the Grafton Management area so seriously that we are seeking legal advice with a view to putting the facts before the Independent Commission Against Corruption", Mr Ricketts said.

It is not a case of jobs vs environment, it is a case of the public footing the bill for an inefficient, destructive and heavily subsidised operation.

The only conclusion that can be drawn is that the Forestry commission continues to prefer confrontation to open and consultative decision making.

For more information contact Mr Aidan Ricketts 066 213 278

*1990/91 Annual report Grafton

Please find Forestry Commission Data enclosed as follows.

'Road Construction costs for Mosquito ck road.'

Proposed Road Construction and Cost

It is proposed to construct a total of approximately 124 km of new road with an estimated total cost at 1987 prices of \$1,118,000.

Construction costs are based on actual costs incurred on the construction of Blacksmiths Shop road Stage III and associated logging roads completed last year.

The following roads, grouped according to function, are proposed:

Secondary Access - Class II, 5.5 m formation, 30 km/h design speed.

Cunglebung road - 25 km @ \$9,000/km = \$225,000

Feeder Roads - Class III, 4.2 m formation, 20 km/h design speed.

Old Barney road	- 10 km
Barool road	- 6 km
Mosquito Creek road	- 15 km
Lloyds road (part)	- 3 km

34 km @ \$6,000/km = \$204,000

Service Roads - Class IV, 4.2 m formation, <20 km/h design speed.

Lloyds road (part) and associated log roads	- 7 km
Lemon Tree road and associated log roads	- 4
Downfall road	- 5
Splitters road and associated log roads	- 6
Springbrook road	- 3
Mosquito Creek log roads	- 2
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NEB road and associated log roads	- 3
Reedy Creek road and associated log roads	- 2
Burnt Grid road and associated log roads	- 8
Old Barney log roads	- 10
Grass Tree road and associated log roads	- 6
Barool log roads	- 3

65 km

@ \$2,000/km = \$130,000

Total direct cost = \$ 559,000

Plus 100% O/H = \$1,118,000

ATT J CORKILL.

FAX AUG 11 1992 08:00 ABC LISMORE 066 251073592 08:24E 266512509/066251073 P.1

P01 01



FORESTRY COMMISSION OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Conserving forests for our future

MEDIA RELEASE

11.08.92

FORESTRY ROAD AN INVESTMENT FOR THE COMMUNITY

Grafton District Forester Mr Bob Williams today announced :

"The Forestry Commission has approved the construction of Stage Two of Mosquito Creek Road in Dalmorton State Forest and construction will commence immediately."

"The road represents a substantial investment for the whole community in forest access for timber production and forest management. This project achieves the Commission's dual aims of ecologically sustainable management and production of forest products for a commercial return," said Mr Williams.

"It will also play an important role in protection of the forest ecosystem from wildfire," Mr Williams said.

Stage One of Mosquito Creek road has already been built.

"Stage Two of the roading system is 11.6 kilometres long. It will provide access to approximately 14,900 cubic metres of sawlogs and poles, which will be harvested in accordance with strict environmental standards. The timber products will return an estimated revenue of \$ 300,000 for the people of NSW," said Mr Williams.

Mr Williams was particularly pleased to announce that "The new road will provide employment for 6 people during the construction phase, and a further 8 people will be employed in harvesting the timber."

"The road is located on the edge of the area nominated for consideration as a wilderness area. It will be maintained in the future for fire protection and it will be a great asset for the community," said District Forester Mr Bob Williams.

"The timber supply area accessed by this road is outside of the area nominated for consideration as the Bindary / Mann Wilderness area. Construction of the road is specifically authorised under the Timber Industry (Interim Protection) Act, which sets aside a large area of old growth forest for comprehensive environmental assessment while at the same time allowing some areas to be harvested to continue timber supplies to industry and the community," said Mr Williams.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT COMMUNITY LIASON OFFICER JACQUI PARRY ON (066) 628172.

TOTAL P.02


92-08-11 08:33

PAGE = 01

Forestry Commission of N.S.W.



Forestry Office
PO Box 366
GRAFTON 2460


Mr Aidan Ricketts
NEFA
C/- Big Scrub Environment Centre
149 Keen Street
LISMORE 2480

Your reference:

Our reference: 588 RJW:SO

Telephone: 432022

Fax: 432131

Contact Officer:
Bob Williams

10 August 1992

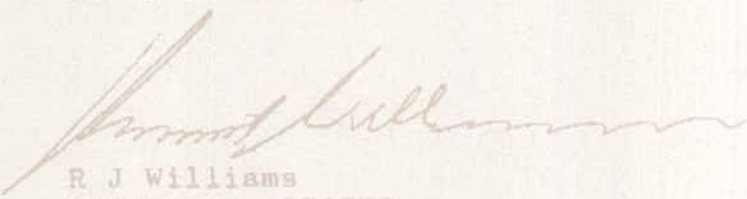
Dear Mr Ricketts

Please be advised that Mosquito Creek Road Stage II has been approved and construction will follow on from Stage I.

Mosquito Creek Road will provide access for the harvesting of an estimated 14 900 m³ gross of sawlogs and poles from areas outside of the wilderness area; providing an 11.7% return on investment.

In accordance with the Timber Industry (Interim Protection) Act no harvesting will take place inside the nominated wilderness boundary until the Grafton Forests EIS is determined.

Yours faithfully


R J Williams
DISTRICT FORESTER

Forestry Commission of N.S.W.

Forestry Office
PO Box 388
GRAFTON 2460

Mr Aidan Ricketts
NEFA
C/- Big Scrub Environment Centre
149 Keen Street
LISMORE 2480

Your reference:

Our reference: 588 RJW:SO

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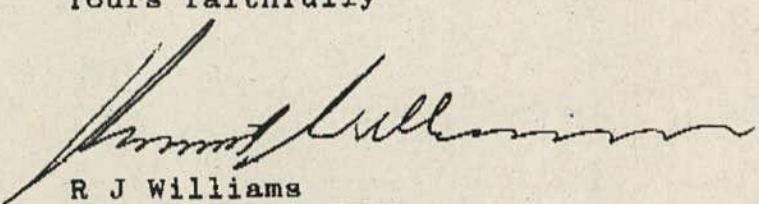
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Yours faithfully


R J Williams
DISTRICT FORESTER



BRUSH BOX
Lophoceros cornutus

N.E.F.A.

NORTH EAST FOREST ALLIANCE

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LISMORE: The Big Scrub Environment Centre Inc, 149 Keen St, Lismore. 2480. Ph 066 213 278, Fx 066 222 676

15 July 1992 MEDIA RELEASE

FOR CLARENCE E.C.

"Mosquito Ck Rd a waste of public money"- NEFA

Forestry Commission plans to push ahead with road construction on the edge of the area assessed as wilderness by the NPWS, were described as a "waste of taxpayers money", by North East Forest Alliance spokesperson, Mr Aidan Ricketts.

It is the public, and not the timber industry which pays for these roads. Logging in the Bindery wilderness area would be unlawful if commenced prior to completion of the Grafton EIS.

"The cost of the road construction is well over \$1 million, and NEFA is asking that construction be delayed until after completion of the EIS and until the government has made a decision concerning the future of the Bindery wilderness. To build the road now is to pre-empt both of those legal processes. The Forestry Commission is not acting in good faith in proceeding at this stage", Mr Ricketts said.

The Forestry Commissions own annual report shows that the Grafton management area ran up a loss of \$298 000 in 1990/91. The area charges only 76% of the state average for hardwood sawlog royalties. This is a clear case of mismanagement, and it is the public who are paying to subsidise these wilderness logging operations, Mr Ricketts said.

NEFA encourages the people of Grafton to obtain a copy of the areas management plan and see for themselves the extent of financial mismanagement in this area.

"It is not a case of jobs vs environment, it is a case of the taxpayer footing the bill for an inefficient, destructive and heavily subsidised operation", Mr Ricketts said.

-----For more
information contact Mr Aidan Ricketts 066 213 278



BRUSH BOX
Lophoceros confertus

N.E.F.A.

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14 July 1992
Mr R Williams
District Forester
PO Box 336
Grafton NSW 2460

Dear Mr Williams,

I refer to your letter dated 13 July 1992 regarding your intention to begin roadworks on stage one of Mosquito Ck Road.

It is noteworthy that the road construction in question is intended to serve future logging operations in an assessed Wilderness area. Construction of such a road without awaiting the outcome of either the the Grafton EIS or the procedures for declaration of wilderness areas contained in the Wilderness Act 1987, amounts to pre-empting of those legal processes.

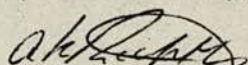
In view of the costs involved in the road construction, and the fact that the Grafton management area already operates at a substantial loss, it is suggested that construction at this stage represents a major expenditure of public money in the absence of finalisation of the legal processes outlined above. Should logging in the wilderness area not be approved, how could your office financially justify the expenditure on road construction.

Accordingly, the North East Forest Alliance requests that roading in the area be delayed at least until your office has satisfied the requirements of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act and the Wilderness Act with respect to logging in the areas which the road is designed to serve.

It is noted that, as advised you are intending at this stage only to construct stage one to the East of Cunglebung Ck, which does not encroach upon the assessed wilderness area.

Please confirm that your office will continue to abide by our existing agreement to provide two weeks notice before any further construction takes place to the west of Cunglebung Ck.

Yours faithfully,



Aidan Ricketts

Grafton

JAS:30

Roading Plan Dalmorton State Forest No 874

The enclosed roading plan for the remainder of the readily accessible country in Dalmorton State Forest is submitted for approval.

It covers all that portion of forest south of Wellington-Cunglebung Creeks, east of Stoney Creek, west of Heedy Creek and north of the very steep country which limits roading and logging in the Reunion road area. For ease of reference this shall be referred to as the Mosquito Creek Section.

The section north of Cunglebung-Wellington Creeks (the Kaloe Mountain Section) will require extensive and detailed investigation, probably by helicopter prior to its submission for approval.

Forester Barnes identified from his examination of aerial photographs of the Kaloe Mountain Section, significant obstacles, chiefly rock and steep side-slopes, which need further investigation to establish the feasibility of road construction.

A very preliminary plan is included to indicate the relationship the two networks have.

The original plan for the "Cunglebung Management Area" was approved on 22/12/75 and modified on 29/11/76 (HC 9263 FOD).

Construction of the most recently approved roading, Blacksmiths Shop Road Stage III and associated logging roads, was completed in August 1986.

Area and Resources Served

The plan identifies only the higher timber volume types shown by yellow shading. Experience from logging similar forest types in the Reunion and Double Jump road areas has shown that the volume contributed by the lower volume types is of little significance.

The proposed roading plan will serve some 4600 ha of higher volume types. This is expected to yield 202,400 m³ gross of timber with a gross revenue at 1987 prices of 32,227,800.

Revenue has been calculated using actual yields from logging operations conducted over the last 3 years and approved royalty rates for Flat Rate Sales in Grafton District.

Compulsory Sawlogs (Previously quota sawlogs)

4600 ha @ 35m³/ha = 161,000 m³ gross @ 23.00/m³ = 3,693,000

Non-compulsory Sawlogs (Previously ex-quota sawlogs including sawlogs <40cm)

4600 ha @ 6m³/ha = 27,600 m³ gross @ 2.00/m³ = 55,200

- 2 -

Poles

4600 ha @ $3\text{m}^3/\text{ha} = 13,800\text{ m}^3$ gross @ $\$42.00/\text{m}^3 = \$ 579,600$

Gross Revenue $\$2,727,800$

Proposed Road Construction and Cost

It is proposed to construct a total of approximately 124 km of new road with an estimated total cost at 1987 prices of $\$1,118,000$.

Construction costs are based on actual costs incurred on the construction of Blacksmiths Shop road Stage III and associated logging roads completed last year.

The following roads, grouped according to function, are proposed:

Secondary Access - Class II, 5.5 m formation, 30 km/h design speed.

Gunglebung road - 25 km @ $\$9,000/\text{km} = \$225,000$

Feeder Roads - Class III, 4.2 m formation, 20 km/h design speed.

Old Barney road - 10 km
Barool road - 6 km
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Lloyds road (part) - 3 km

$34\text{ km} @ \$6,000/\text{km} = \$204,000$

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NEB road and associated log roads - 3
Reedy Creek road and associated log roads - 2
Burnt Grid road and associated log roads - 8
Old Barney log roads - 10
Grass Tree road and associated log roads - 6
Barool log roads - 3

65 km

@ $\$2,000/\text{km} = \$130,000$

Total direct cost = $\$ 559,000$

Plus 100% O/H = $\$1,118,000$

- 3 -

Nett gain after roading is:

Gross revenue	32,727,800
Construction costs	<u>31,118,000</u>
Nett gain	<u>\$1,609,800</u>

Purpose

Road construction will provide access for logging to a significant proportion of the District's remaining resource.

Dalmorton SF is estimated to yield some 297,000 m³ nett of quota quality sawlogs over the next 24 years which is 70% of the total resource.

This roading network will provide immediate access to 30% of the District's resource and provide partial access to the remainder.

All three Crown Sawmills will be supplied in part from this area as soon as it becomes available. There will also be increasing reliance on the area as other forests such as Clouds Creek, Cungai, Morara and Candole are completed.

Current quotas to be supplied are:

Allen Taylor & Co Ltd	9,980 m ³	nett per annum
Duncans Holdings Ltd	5,050 m ³	nett per annum
J Notaras & Sons Ltd	4,120 m ³	nett per annum

Projected Timetable

Survey and construction of parts of the network are needed early as possible.

Logging is currently underway on the eastern end of Blacksmiths Shop Stage III and on the northern end of Long Ridge road, the construction of which was only completed in August last year.

At the present rate of cutting there is only 18 months to 2 years roading ahead of logging. It is anticipated, however, that this dependence on Dalmorton SF may be considerably reduced when roading is completed in Billilimbra SF.

Priorities for survey and immediate construction are:

1. Part Cunglebung road - Class II	2.5 km
Reedy Creek road & assoc. log roads - Class IV	2.0 km
Lloyds road & assoc. log roads - Part Class III	3.0 km
- Part Class IV	7.0 km
	<u>14.5 km</u>

- 4 -

2. Old Barney road - Class III	4.5 km
Associated log roads - Class IV	6.0 km
Burnt Grid road & Assoc. log roads - Class IV ..	8.0 km
Grass Tree road & assoc. log roads - Class IV ..	6.0 km
NEB road & assoc. log roads - Class IV	3.0 km
	<hr/>
	27.5 km

Construction of Cunglebung/Lloyds/Reedy Creek roads will enable completion of logging in Crown Lease 38/20 and the finalization of compensation for disturbance.

Construction of Old Barney road will likewise enable completion of logging in Crown Lease 38/18 as well as providing ready access to a significant volume of timber.

Survey and construction of the remainder of Cunglebung, Downfall, Splitters, Mosquito Creek, Springbrook, Lemon Tree, Barool and Combos roads and their associated log roads would then proceed at a later date.

Sensitive Issues

The roading network proposed for the Mosquito Creek section just encroaches on the southern edge of the Mann Wilderness Area proposed in the Report of the Wilderness working Group released in August 1986.

The very preliminary network proposed for the Kaloe Mountain Section is almost entirely within that same Wilderness Area.

The likely reaction of the environmental lobby to proposals to construct roads and carry out logging in this area is not expected to be great but could not, I imagine, be discounted.

Of consequence, however, could be the possible encroachment of Barool road on the Vacant Crown Land south of the Mann River in parts, particularly on the ridge-top saddles.

As this area is the subject of a claim by the National Parks and Wildlife Service, boundary location would need to be discussed and facility made to exclude the proposed road from the Park where necessary.

Several Crown Leases over which State Forest has been dedicated will be affected by the proposal, however, experience to date indicates that this is unlikely to be of any significance.

Encroachments on Private Property

Cunglebung road may encroach in parts on Portion 3, Parish of Dalmorton and Portion 4, Parish of Cowan over its length from the limit of the present construction to its junction with Lloyds road. It will definitely bisect Portion 3, Parish of Cowan between its intersection with Lloyds road and Dinner Creek.

Portion 3, Parish of Dalmorton is owned by PH & JF Lindeman but its sale is currently being negotiated by D G Scott.

Portion 3, Parish of Cowan is owned by JP, HR & DW Lloyd.

I expect that approval to enter both properties will be readily forthcoming and that resumption will not be resisted.

Mosquito Creek road may encroach on the north western corner of Portion 31, Parish of Urania but with luck the link road in that vicinity may avoid the private property altogether.

Portion 31 is also owned by D G Scott.

Precision survey may be required to locate the corner of Portion 31, but I understand the boundaries of Portion 3, Parish of Cowan and Portion 3, Parish of Dalmorton are already fenced.

Method of Construction

It is proposed to construct all Class II, Class III and the majority of Class IV roads with the Commission's Komatsu D85 A and Mitsubishi MG 400 grader.

The minor Class IV roads will be constructed by sawmiller rebate.

Recommendation

That the roading plan for the Mosquito Creek section of Dalmorton State Forest be approved and that survey instructions for part of Cunglebung road, Reedy Creek road, Lloyds road and associated log roads be issued as early as possible.

Enclosed is the plan to which this proposal refers. (10 CERTIFIED)

The Environmental Review will be forwarded shortly under separate cover.

R J Williams
DISTRICT FORESTER

Per:

22 July 1987

The Regional Forester
COFFS HARBOUR

Forestry Commission of N.S.W.



Forestry Office
PO Box 366
GRAFTON 2460

22/1/92
Mr Aiden Ricketts
C/- Big Scrub Environment Centre
LISMORE NSW 2480

Your reference: 588 R Williams:SO
Our reference:
Telephone: 432022
Fax: 432131

22.06.1992

Dear Aiden

At our meeting last Tuesday you might recall that I indicated that, subject to confirmation from higher authority, I would be prepared to advise you when Mosquito Creek Road had been approved and provide two weeks notice of the commencement of construction. Your contingent indicated that you would prefer a months notice.

Please take this letter as your official advice that the Commission will advise you when Mosquito Creek Road is approved and will provide a minimum of two (2) weeks notice of the commencement of construction.

Please find attached the Roding Economics for the Mosquito Creek Section Dalmorton State Forest.

Yours faithfully

R J Williams
DISTRICT FORESTER

N.E.F.A.

7.13.1992 9:13

P. 1

FORCOM GR 066 32131

FORESTRY COMMISSION OF NSW
Conserving forests for our future

Grafton District Office
Facsimile Transmission Cover Sheet

To: NORTH EAST FOREST ALLIANCE

Mr Bob Williams
District Forester
PO Box 366
GRAFTON NSW 2460

Attention: Aiden Rickets
C/- Big Scrub Environment Centre
LISMORE, NSW 2480.

Ph: (066) 432022
Fax: (066) 432131

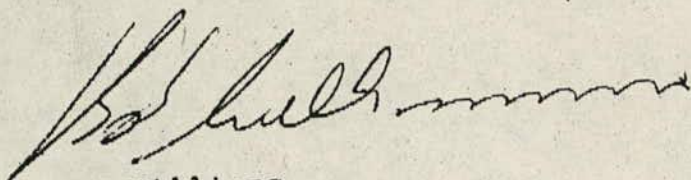
13th July, 1992

No. of pages to follow: 1

Message:

Please be advised that construction of Mosquito Creek Road Stage I is likely to commence two weeks from today or some time thereafter.

Mosquito Creek Road Stage I which is 1.5 km long ends at Cunglebung Creek i.e. it is entirely east of Cunglebung Creek and outside the area recommended by NPWS for inclusion in the Bindery Wilderness.


R.J. Williams
DISTRICT FORESTER

problems with this transmission.

22/1/92

Forestry Office
PO Box 366
GRAFTON 2460

Mr Aiden Ricketts
Off- Big Scrub Environment Centre
DISMORE NSW 2480

Your reference 588 R Williams:SO
Our reference
Telephone 432022
Fax 432131
22.06.1992


Dear Aiden

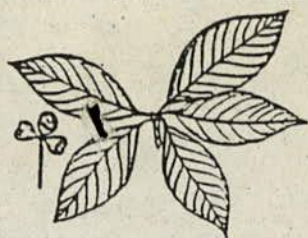
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Please take this letter as your official advice that the Commission will advise you when Mosquito Creek Road is approved and will provide a minimum of two (2) weeks notice of the commencement of construction.

Please find attached the Roading Economics for the Mosquito Creek Section Dalmorton State Forest.

Yours faithfully


R J Williams
DISTRICT FORESTER



BRUSH BOX
Lophosatanon confertus

N.E.F.A.

NORTH EAST FOREST ALLIANCE

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LISMORE: The Big Scrub Environment Centre Inc, 149 Keen St, Lismore. 2480. Ph 066 213 278, Fx 066 222 676

Media Release 15 June

Attention
MURRAY
MILES

Meeting to discuss Wilderness logging proposal

"The North East Forest Alliance (NEFA) has set up a forest watch in part of the Bindery wilderness area in the Dalmorton state forest west of Grafton", said Mr Aidan Ricketts, a spokesperson for NEFA.

The Forestry Commission intends to construct a road which will encroach on part of the area assessed as wilderness in a recent report by the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

"Logging in the wilderness area would be unlawful without completion of an EIS, and building the road now would pre-empt the decision making processes under the Wilderness Act", Mr Ricketts said.

"Several parts of the original nominated area have already been excluded from the National Parks and Wildlife Service Assessment Report because recent logging and roading had destroyed their wilderness qualities. NEFA is determined to prevent a similar situation occurring again", Mr Ricketts said.

A meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday between NEFA and the Grafton District Forester Mr Williams, and it is hoped that confrontation in the forest can be avoided.

For more information contact Mr Aidan Ricketts 066 213 278



BRUSH BOX
Lophoceros confertus

N.E.F.A.

NORTH EAST FOREST ALLIANCE

SYDNEY: NSW Environment Centre, 39 George St, The Rocks. 2000. Ph. 02 2474 206, Fx 02 2475 945

LISMORE: The Big Scrub Environment Centre Inc, 149 Keen St, Lismore. 2480. Ph 066 213 278. Fx 066 222 676

MEDIA Release JUNE 12 1992

ATTENTION
IAN CAMERON.

Confrontation likely over wilderness roading plan.

The Forestry Commission is building a road into a previously unlogged section of the Bindery wilderness area in the Dalmorton state forest west of Grafton, according to Mr Aidan Ricketts, a spokesperson for the North East Forest Alliance (NEFA).

The area was nominated as a wilderness area in 1988 and an Assessment Report has now been prepared by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), which identifies the areas which qualify as wilderness. Some areas which were part of the nominated area have been excluded in the Assessment because recent logging has already destroyed their wilderness qualities.

The Forestry Commission is now intending to push a road further into the Wilderness area specifically for the purposes of logging the area, yet logging in the area cannot lawfully take place without completion of an EIS, which is not due until July 1993. Clearly the Commission's haste to build the road now is a cynical attempt to pre-empt the decision making processes under the Wilderness Act, by destroying the area's wilderness values before the area can be protected, Mr Ricketts said.

The road construction will be at great expense to the public and the Forestry Commission can offer no satisfactory reason for the hasty timing of the operation.

The North East Forest Alliance will not accept the Forestry Commission's approach of "destroy now, assess later", and is prepared to take direct action in the forest to prevent the destruction of this important wilderness area, Mr Ricketts said.

The area contains important habitat for a large number of endangered species and contains some of the last old growth Spotted Gum stands on the North Coast.

----For more information contact Mr Aidan Ricketts 066 213 278.

John - this is same ideas for when the inevitable "But the
TI(IP) Act says we can build the Road"
line comes up.

MEDIA RELEASE June 1992

Roading operations in wilderness, an outrage- NEFA

The Forestry Commission with the overt support of the Greiner ¹⁵ government are embarking on a search and destroy mission in the states last wilderness areas, according to Mr Aidan Ricketts spokesperson for the North East Forest Alliance.

The Forestry Commission has got to be joking if they think they can rely on the Timber Industry Interim Protection Act, to justify these outrageous roading operations into part of the Assessed Bindery wilderness area.

"Substantial portions of the area originally nominated as wilderness were excluded in the NPWS Assessment of the area because they had been destroyed by recent logging. Clearly the Commission is intending more of the same for Mosquito Ck", Mr Ricketts said.

"In the past ten years the Commission has been found to have repeatedly breached the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, they have breached the National Parks and Wildlife Act, and most recently have deliberately failed to comply with key provisions of the Endangered Fauna Interim Protection Act", Mr Ricketts said.

"The Commission has got a hide to turn around seek refuge in something as shonky as the Timber Industry(Interim Protection) Act. The passage of the TI(IP) Act has been one of the most shameful chapters in the Greiner governments otherwise appalling environmental record. You may as well refer to it as the Timber Industry Protection Racket", MR Ricketts said.

For More information contact 0066 213 278

MR AIDAN RICKETTS