



FORESTRY COMMISSION OF NEW SOUTH WALES

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
GLEN INNES MANAGEMENT AREA

In June 1990 the Premier, Mr Greiner, announced a strategy for increased public participation in forest management planning.

Essential to that strategy is a program for the preparation, with appropriate community participation, and exhibition for public comment, of Environmental Impact Statements for a number of forest management areas which contain significant areas of old growth forest.

The Forestry Commission intends to have an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prepared for all State Forests together with those Crown-timber lands proposed for dedication as State Forest within the Glen Innes Forest Management Area. The total area to be covered by the EIS is about 78000ha. About 23500ha of the total area is essentially unlogged and these unlogged areas occur on Warra, Oakwood, Glen Nevis, London Bridge and Curramore State Forests.

The Glen Innes Management Plan (1986) should be seen as the proposal for future operations. As part of the participation process the Forestry Commission now INVITES comments, suggestions and contributions from interested groups, individuals and organisations. These submissions should assist in determining the priority issues to be addressed in the EIS. — Rare Plants Torrington, Warra

Activities proposed by the Forestry Commission include timber harvesting and associated road construction, regeneration establishment, fire protection, grazing, apiculture and recreation. These activities are described in the Glen Innes Management Plan (1986). Pine planting is not an activity in this proposal. The existing pine plantations in the Mt Mitchell area of Glen Innes District are separately covered by the Glen Innes Exotic Forest Management Plan.

Further details or copies of the Glen Innes Management Plan 1986 (\$15.00) can be obtained from the District Forester, Glen Innes Forestry Office (Phone: 067 32 3277).

Further opportunity for comments and submissions will be provided in due course as part of normal EIS procedures leading up to the final determination.

Responses relating to the scope of the EIS and issues to be addressed in it should be directed to:

The District Forester,
P.O. Box 426,
GLEN INNES. N.S.W. 2370.

Closing date for responses is 30th April, 1991.

S.J. TOMS
DISTRICT FORESTER,
GLEN INNES

067 323277

Forestry Commission of N.S.W.



National Parks Association,
85 Faulkner Street,
ARMIDALE. NSW. 2350.

mixed
up
CNPWS!

Forestry Office

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

Your reference:

Our reference : Mr S.J. TOMS
D.O. 333
Telephone: (067) 323277

Fax:

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Forestry Commission has undertaken to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for State Forests and certain designated Crown-timber lands in Glen Innes Forestry District. The public are being invited to participate in the preparation of the EIS.

Attached please find a copy of the notice that will appear in the local press together with some background information concerning the proposed activities.

Those people or organisations that are perceived as having an interest in the future management of these forests are being forwarded letters to ensure that they are aware of this opportunity to comment or contribute to the process.

You are encouraged to make a submission on any respect relating to the environmental or social impact of the proposal. It is suggested that your particular areas of knowledge or interests should receive your special attention.

You are reminded that the date for closure of submissions is 30th April, 1991.

Yours faithfully,

S.J. TOMS,
DISTRICT FORESTER.
12th March, 1991.

GLEN INNES EIS

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

The Management Plan for the Glen Innes Management Area (1986) describes the area and the forestry activities generally proposed in management of the area. The plan sets out the detailed prescriptions under which the activities are to be carried out. The plan is available for examination or purchase at the District Forestry Office, 107 Meade Street, Glen Innes.

A. Area Covered

The area covered by the EIS includes all State Forests in the Glen Innes Management Area together with Crown-timber lands proposed for dedication as State Forest.

State Forest	No.	Area(ha.)
Mt. Mitchell (part)	308	3166
Glen Elgin (part)	331	609
Gibraltar Range (part)	352	17429
Moogem	614	2002
London Bridge	309	3063
Brother	311	7360
Oakwood	555	9211
Glen Nevis	656	6208
Butterleaf	307	5156
Curramore	763	9526
Torrington	320	1593
Warra	335	2770

		68093

CROWN-TIMBER LANDS - DESCRIPTION

Portion No.	Parish	County	Area(ha.)
4 (part)	Butterleaf	Clive	203
14, 18 & 31	Glen Elgin	Clive	717
5, 7 (part), 29	Binny	Clive	499
2, 4 & 28	Binny	Clive	1625
29, 54 (part) & VCL (R96243)	Moogem	Clive	2027
Lot 6	Barool	Gresham	1970
70	Parkes	Gough	2535

			9576

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B. Background

Since preparation of the Management Plan in 1986 a further area of 9450ha of Crown-timber lands has been dedicated as State Forest and this process is continuing.

All State Forests are located primarily on an extensive plateau ranging in elevation from 900 - 1200 metres asl. On the eastern side of the plateau there are steep slopes falling into the Guy Fawkes, Mann and Timbarra Rivers with elevation dropping to 300 metres asl. With the exception of Torrington SF (to the north-west) the subject forest areas are generally located north-east to south-east of Glen Innes. They provide together with the adjoining Gibraltar Range, Guy Fawkes, Nymboida and Washpool National Parks, the Mann River Nature Reserve (total area 101,500ha) and other Crown-timber lands, a large forested area. This forested land further extends beyond the Glen Innes Management Area to the north, east and south.

Approximately 1% of the State Forest is rainforest while the remainder is a mixture of eucalypt forest types. About 50% of the area of eucalypt (hardwood) forest in the proposal is suitable for long-term timber production. About 23500ha of the total area has been identified as essentially unlogged and these unlogged areas occur on Warra, Oakwood, Glen Nevis, London Bridge and Curramore State Forests. Silvicultural treatment (felling of unwanted trees) has been carried out over 2260ha of the previously logged forest which now supports well stocked regrowth stands. The remaining logged forest supports variable regrowth with higher stocking levels where more trees were removed during logging operations.

Much of the area has been subject to low intensity, discontinuous grazing from the turn of the century or earlier. Currently cattle grazing is authorized over more than 60,000ha. In addition there are 66 licensed apiary sites on the proposed EIS. area.

Fire has historically been the most harmful agency to the forests of the area. Late spring is usually the period of highest fire danger. The most common cause of fires on the Management Area has been escape from burns on adjacent private land, illegal fires on State Forest and lightning strikes. Regeneration and developing regrowth stands are the most vulnerable areas to fire.

Recreational use of the Management Area is encouraged with the most popular site being Boundary Creek Falls Forest Park within Moogem State Forest. Roads constructed initially for logging now provide access to visitors wishing to enjoy a natural bushland experience or visit various points of interest.

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C. The Activities

Timber Harvesting - will involve the removal of trees over an area of up to 1000ha per year. The operations will be in accordance with the harvesting and silvicultural prescriptions of the Management Plan to produce hardwood sawlogs and, where markets exist or develop, other products such as girders, fencing timber and pulpwood. Pulpwood would be obtained from tree heads and butts and from ~~salvage logs unsuitable for the production of sawn timber~~. Trees would not be felled solely for the purpose of producing pulpwood. Rainforest will not be logged. Operations will concentrate initially in London Bridge, Oakwood, Brother and Glen Nevis State Forests but may extend to thinning and culling in previously logged areas.

Fire Protection - will involve continuation of existing fuel management burning and fire fighting activities aimed at protecting regenerated areas or areas with special values, as a first priority. Activities will be in accordance with the protection and fuel management prescriptions of the Management Plan.

Grazing - will involve the continuation of existing grazing and extension into other suitable areas provided that grazing does not prejudice forest regeneration or other forest values.

Apiculture - will be encouraged and is expected to continue at about existing levels.

Recreation - will be encouraged and existing facilities maintained. Additional facilities may be developed in response to demonstrated demands.

The attached locality map is an extract from the Glen Innes Management Plan (1986) and does not show recent additions to State Forest.

* FC Team Garry King Glen Innes Regional Planning Forester 064 322 111
 Greg Watts Coff Har 066 528 172
 Andrew Lykes Pt Macqu. 065 839100
 Spencer Breaken Regional Res Forester Waverley 065 85 3744

(Meeting Env'tal Challenge June 1991)
 FC document
 Copy for J Cookhill

John Williams

FORESTRY COMMISSION OF N.S.W. Jan 91

(Notes for discussion with staff of the University of New England, 1/91. See also position paper entitled "Meeting the Environmental Challenge: A Forestry Strategy" June 1990) FC

The EISs will, inter alia:

- describe the location, landform, climate, geology, land tenure, and land-use of the study area
- present inventories of the physical and biological resources
 - water
 - forest soils
 - timber and minor forest products
 - flora
 - fauna
- describe the cultural values
 - scenic
 - recreational
 - aboriginal
 - archaeological
 - historical
 - educational
 - scientific
- describe the socio-economic conditions of the region affected by the proposal
- discuss the likely interactions between the proposal and the environment, stating the likely environmental impacts on the environment
- prescribe measures to minimise the adverse impacts

The resource inventories, descriptions of cultural values and discussion of likely impacts will be based predominantly on existing information, presented in unpublished and published literature, files and reports and other sources such as local knowledge.

Where there is a significant gap in the existing knowledge of resources and cultural values, some new information will be collected in surveys conducted during the preparation of the EIS. The aim will be to collect information to describe the indicative resources and values at a regional level.

Consultants will be engaged to undertake literature reviews, surveys and writing tasks to augment the Forestry Commission's capacity for environmental assessment.

Public participation in the definition of issues, concerns and opportunities to be addressed in the EIS will be encouraged. This is in addition to the statutory requirements for public participation.

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+ Meeting Env'tal Challenge June 1990.

John Williams

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PTD

A. Ingles

PO Box 392 Armidale 2350
19/3/91

Ph 067 424454

Dear Darlan / John Corbitt

Attached please see invitation to Armidale NPA to participate in FEIS studies, & invitation to make submissions to determine priority issues to be addressed in EIS for Glen Innes Mngt area. Deadline Apr 30. Based on Glen Innes Mngt Plan 1986. I also see FC outlined intended EIS contents

23500 of total area essentially unlogged, in SFs Warra, Lorton Bridge, Oakwood, Glen Nevin, & Curroore. Harvesting proposed for up to 1000 ha per yr, & includes pulpwood where markets develop.

Can you submit on old growth forest areas? - send me copy of any data you have so far?

note also 9,546 ha Crown-timber lands proposed for addition/dedication as SF, plus 9,450 already dedicated as SF since '86. Ought to be assessed for O.G.F. etc, and note also Lands Dept will assess any base reserved from sale for conservation values before lifting reservation following conversion - but this will not apply to those dedicated SF already, or those earmarked ^{FC} by Forestry objections.

We will submit re rare or threatened plants, conservation values etc in Toorington SF, Warra SF & Cr leases around them.

How can we get them to consider impact of pulpwood harvesting - distortion of local timber supply - extra stress on O.G.F. etc?? Any data? ^{what would happen?} ^{already existing?}

Note Soil Con admits bound by Part 5 EPA Act - ^{Soil Con} ^{in protected areas} should consider whether logging/clearing permits likely to cause environmental effects & if so, should have an EIS done - or end up in court. W. Could you let me have copy of anything relevant? Beth