

Your reference

Our reference A727 SBISHOP:KMH c:\letters\nefafoi.doc

Attention: Georgia Beyer
NEFA
149 Keen Street
LISMORE N.S.W. 2480



Dear Sir/Madam

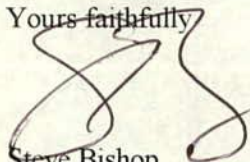
Request for Information

Your request for information of 17/7/96 concerning employment of timber mills has been reviewed by the State Forest Freedom of Information Co-ordinator.

As your request involves third party information you must seek the information under a Freedom of Information application. An application fee of \$30.00 is required for this matter to proceed. This can be paid either to this office of direct to;

F.O.I. Co-ordinator
State Forests of NSW
Locked Bag 23
Post Office
PENNANT HILLS 2120.

Yours faithfully



Steve Bishop
DISTRICT FORESTER
KEMPSEY

State Forests of
New South Wales

Kempsey District
PO Box 77
West Kempsey NSW 2440
Phone (065) 62 1341
Fax (065) 62 8207

- **54% OF ALL PUBLIC FORESTS ARE RESERVED UNDER THE INDUSTRY PLAN SUBMITTED TO GOVERNMENT**
- **TRUE WILDERNESS AND HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE OLD GROWTH WILL NOT BE LOGGED UNDER THE INDUSTRY PLAN**
- **THE JOBS OF OVER 20,000 AUSTRALIANS REQUIRE A SENSIBLE AND BALANCED GOVERNMENT DECISION.**

Management:

Timber products from NSW State Forests are produced under strict environmental codes of practice. Our forests are larger, healthier and contain greater bio-diversity now than they did 30 years ago. This achievement is a direct result of the mimicking of nature carried out by the industry every day in the **25% of public forests set aside for timber production.**

Conservation:

Approximately 54% of all public forested lands in NSW will be conserved at the conclusion of the current Interim Forest Assessment, if the Industry Sustainable Management Option is adopted by government.

Those reserved areas include wilderness, national parks and reserves. They are further complemented by sensitive off reserve management within State Forests, based upon industry engaging in deliberate planting and regeneration programs every day. It is estimated that 160 million trees are created every year. Less than 50% of this number are harvested annually.

Social Good and Employment:

Thousands of families living in rural towns and hamlets throughout New South Wales depend on the industry for their livelihood. The majority of industry companies are family owned (and have been for generations). They are an essential element of our social fabric. **Country people want and need your support.**

Product Demand

New South Wales State Forests produce essential timber products like power poles, feature grade wood flooring, engineered timbers for bridges and high load structures, decorative timbers, fencing, wall panels, the list goes on and on. The alternatives are to import timber from countries (currently \$2 billion annually) who do not have the same high forest management standards that are applied in New South Wales, or use non-renewable resources like steel and plastic - the choice is yours!

Forest products are essential, desirable and sustainable. We want an industry that incorporates conservation, resource certainty and an end to environmental conflict. What do you want?

THE FOREST INDUSTRY - ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIBLE AND PROFITABLE - SERVING THE TIMBER NEEDS OF NEW SOUTH WALES EVERY DAY.

This information is provided by the NSW Forest Products Association, the Timber Trade Industrial Association and the Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union (Forestry Division - NSW Branch) as a community service. Written and authorised by Mr Colin Dorber, Executive Director, NSW FPA Ltd. P.O. Box 903, Darlinghurst. NSW. 2010

John R Corkill
Public Interest Advocate,
Environmental Educator, Planner, Policy Adviser

1 Oliver Place, Lismore. 2480. Phone 066 224 737 w, 066 21 6824 h.

FAX MESSAGE

TO: Elke Nagy, NSW Forest Networker

Date: Wednesday 24 April 1996

AT: Nature Conservation Council of NSW

Fax No. 02 2475 945

No of Pages incl. this: one

Dear Elke,

Here is the details on my travel arrangements for attending Forest Networking meetings in Sydney during week beginning 2 September 1996.

I am travelling on Hazelton Airlines.

My booking number for the flights below is K8TNY6.

Lismore - Sydney ZL 808	11.30 am	Friday	30 August	1996
Sydney - Lismore ZL 819	7.20 pm	Friday	4 May	1996

This ticket is a 'Winter Special' on Hazelton's & I was quoted \$199.00 return. Cheap?!
I appreciate this travel support. Thank you to the NSW forest network!

The flight arrives Sydney @ 1.00 pm and I guess I'll go straight to NCC, so don't expect me before 1.30. See ya then!

Thanks & Cheers!

♥ JRC

If this fax is imperfect please phone the sender on 066 224 737

The Clarence Valley Greens

PO Box 1073 Grafton NSW

Ph/Fax 066 431 863

MEDIA RELEASE : 9th August 1996

WOODS LEADS ENVIRONMENT SELL-OUT

Member for Clarence, Harry Woods has buckled under pressure from Timber Industry lobbyists and now supports a Forest Reserve Plan which includes the logging of Oldgrowth, Wilderness and High Conservation Forests, according to Clarence Valley Greens Secretary, Michael Moriarty.

"Areas which have been identified time and time again as being of extremely high conservation value, such as Chaelundi, Dalmorton and the Washpool Wilderness additions will be handed over to the industry if Labor MPs continue to give in to industry demands." he said.

Mr Moriarty said he was bewildered and dissatisfied with Harry Woods' lack of commitment to forest preservation.

Speaking at industry meetings this week, Woods told workers that he did not support any additional protection of forests in the region above the 30% quota cut which came into effect earlier this year.

"The forest reserve system on the north coast is currently recognised as one of the worst in the country due to overcutting. Harry Woods has decided to ignore the science gathered at great expense to the community by the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council, and the conservation goals set out in the National Forest Policy which he himself helped to develop in the Keating Government." Mr Moriarty said.

Mr Moriarty said the position taken by Harry Woods was not represented in any of the options which have been put forward by RACAC for the consideration of State MP's, and that Woods was stepping outside the process specifically designed to resolve the forest dispute.

"Harry is failing to have the foresight to realise that there are also jobs in forest preservation, and that the protection of areas of high conservation significance are paramount to establishing a comprehensive and adequate reserve system for future generations." he said.

Total Environment Centre

South East Forests Conservation Council

MEDIA RELEASE - 23 SEPTEMBER 1996

Job Lies On Forests May Twist Cabinet Decision Against Conservation

Conservationists fear that lies and distortion by industry and unions on job impacts may twist today's historic decision on forests against the protection promised by Bob Carr.

Mr Mark Blecher, conservation representative on the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council said, *"I have calculated that for the whole east coast no more than 1200 jobs would be affected, based on consultant reports to the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council. There are less than 4100 jobs in the NSW native forest timber industry yet the unions and industry are claiming in mass media advertisements that 13,000 and 20,000 jobs are at risk. Nonsense!"*

"Where are all these so called 'threatened jobs'?", said Mr Blecher, who is also President of the South East Forests Conservation Council. "In fact most of the jobs in the NSW timber industry are in plantations or other areas not affected by the decision."

"There is substantial industry restructuring needed to compensate for years of overcutting in State forests and to give the new park areas required to protect old growth, wilderness and other high conservation value forests.

"Even then, many of the 1200 jobs will not be 'lost', affected workers can be retrained and redeployed, including in the fast expanding softwood plantation industry or in re-equipped sawmills which can now produce more, value added products with less trees.

"The south east forests have been under assault from woodchipping for 25 years. A new national park of 120,000 hectares is desperately needed but is being fought by the industry and unions even though only 89 jobs are affected. At the same time, a new softwood processing plant at Bombala is imminent and will provide 350 timber jobs progressively by 2000, as well as immediate construction jobs," said Mr Blecher.

Mr Jeff Angel, Director of the Total Environment Centre, said "Recent analysis of the whole timber industry employment in NSW (J Clarke 1996) clearly shows that it is less than 2% of employment in most of the regions affected. *There is \$120 million available to restructure just the native forest part of the timber industry. This works out at \$100,000 per job and is surely sufficient given good management of the restructuring funds and goodwill.*"

"It's time that the timber companies and unions stopped misleading the workers and the public. Bob Carr and his Cabinet must not be misled and should stick insist that the unions and the industry stick to the deal made before the election," he concluded.

For comment: Mark Blecher 064 923385(W) or 064 94 2039(H) from 7.00am
Jeff Angel/Noel Plumb 02 247 8476(W) or 018 975 075(M) from 6.00am

20/09 '96 15:33 FAX 61 2 2477118

TOTAL ENV CENTRE

Jobs - the myths

Industry lobbyists use inflated employment figures for the native forest timber industry, to overstate the potential social and economic impact of Government keeping its conservation promises.

They claim to care about people...

...but they are very careless with the facts.

"The jobs of 20,000 Australians require a sensible Government decision"

-Forest Products Association Advertisement, Daily Telegraph, 18.9.96

"Unless the government defies the greens ultimatum, 13,400 jobs will be sacrificed needlessly"

- CFMEU Advertisement, Daily Telegraph, 19.9.96

...and the facts

Direct employment in native forest milling, chipping & value-adding	3,072
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Employment in native forest logging & hauling	1,006
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<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>4,078</u>
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Source: Table 4.5 page B 24, *The Economic Impact of the NSW Timber Industry* - Margules, Groome Poyry Pty 1995, commissioned by State Forests, Office of Forestry, Office of Economic Development and Department of Business and Regional Development.

Note:

- (1) figures are for all regions of NSW (not just IAP regions).
- (2) figures are for 1993/4 (current employment levels are lower).
- (3) figures relate to the entire native forest timber industry (only public land is affected by the IAP).

NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW

THE NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW

39 GEORGE ST

THE ROCKS NSW 2000

PHONE: (02) 247 4206/247 2228

MEDIA STATEMENT... Saturday 21st September 1996 ... MEDIA STATEMENT



CONSERVATIONISTS URGE CARR: KEEP TO WRITTEN POLICY, SAY NO TO FOREST RORT

"The NSW Cabinet must not allow its forest policy to be corrupted, and should insist on completing with integrity the forest assessment process it established" Sid Walker, Executive Officer of the Nature Conservation Council of NSW and conservation representative to the NSW Forestry Advisory Council said today.

"Cabinet, due to consider the matter on Monday, would make a terrible mistake by agreeing to long-term timber contracts now. This breach of policy and due process would mean the \$120 million forest industry package is gobbled up while conservation promises on which it was justified are eventually broken. The people of NSW would be disgusted by such a rort" he said.

"This debate is about public forests. Opinion polls consistently show most people want their forests properly protected. Not surprisingly, most people prefer that beautiful forests and rich natural heritage are conserved, and that diverse and still largely unknown wildlife have a chance of survival" he said.

"A recent Newspann poll showed 80% of people in NSW want forests needed for an CAR reserve system protected from logging. Support was equally strong in metropolitan and rural areas - giving the lie to the notion that a strong pro-conservation decision on forests would be unpopular in the bush.

"Demands for large long-term volume-based timber guarantees at this interim stage in the forest assessment process are a 'try-on' - a last lunge for valuable public assets by the high-volume native forest timber industry. It is an industry with a long, shameful record of operating unsustainably in every sense" he said.

"Appropriate long-term timber rights CANNOT be given before assessment of our native forests is complete. This must include full re-evaluation of the available timber resource. The long-promised comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system must be in place, as well as sustainable off-reserve management, before timber allocations are set for many years" he said.

"The Government would lose a lot of credibility if it breaks written state and national forest policy and signs away public forest heritage blind" he concluded.

For more information contact Sid Walker: 02 9247 4206 (w) or 02 9264 7005 (h)

TOTAL ENVIRONMENT CENTRE

MEDIA RELEASE - 23 SEPTEMBER 1996

NSW CABINET DECISION ON FORESTS BOB CARR'S REPORT CARD

*how will the public judge Bob Carr on today's
historic decision on the forests ?*

Subject	good	pass	fail
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South East Forests

National Park

- 120,000 hectares min.

Wilderness and New

National Parks

- dedication of all identified
wilderness and promised parks

Logging Moratorium

- over all key areas likely to be
needed for reserve system

Timber Guarantees

- defer resource security decision
until final reserve system decided

For comment : Forest Campaign Team 018 975 075 from 6.00 am

**SAVE THE FORESTS
IT'S TIME BOB CARR**

	Total SF	DFA	CCO	CCO & WILD.
Northern Area	1,420,096 ha	1,111,200 ha	602,255 ha	781,961 ha
Central	112,349 ha	73,945 ha	61,568 ha	61,568 ha
Southern	651,861 ha	544,648 ha	226,225 ha	262,841 ha
TOTAL	2,184,306 ha	1,729,793 ha	890,048 ha	1,106,370 ha
As % of SF		79.2 %	40.7 %	50.7 %
As % of DFA			51.5 %	64.0 %

ATTENTION: SID WALKER
FROM: SIMON CLARK

**THIS SHOULD BE BETTER BUT THE WILDERNESS
 IS APPROXIMATE NOT EXACT.**

CHEERS
SIMON.

Folks
~~Don't let anyone say this is a 'land grab'~~ - this may also be of interest.
 Note how the CCO's plus wilderness
 are much smaller than last year's DFA's.
 Don't let anyone say this is a 'land grab'
 by the greenies - the issue is quality,
 not quantity!

MEDIA RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 22 , 1996
NEWCASTLE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

NEWCASTLE UNIONS BREAK RANK ON FORESTS

Late last week a resolution was passed by the Newcastle Trades Hall Council which

" supports the NSW Government's original forest policy which did not entail resource security until the overall CAR process is finalised ".

Unlike the NSW union movement the NTHC seeks the outcome for which the IAP was originally established and that is

" the implementation of a comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) native forest reserve system a moratorium over all areas identified as high conservation value during the Interim Assessment Process (IAP) to be put into place until the reserve system is finalised. "

It is clear from this that the union movement of NSW is divided on the issue of what's best for NSW forests. The IAP was established for the identification of high conservation value forest areas, not to establish resource give aways to the timber industry.

contact : Dean Huff Newcastle Wilderness Society
(049) 294 395

**MEDIA RELEASE****22 September 1996****TIMBER CONTRACTS WILL FAIL INDUSTRY
AND TAX-PAYERS**

The Carr Government is about to sign wood supply contracts that will be impossible to honour and as a result NSW tax-payers will be forced to fund multi-million dollar payouts to timber companies.

This is the assessment of the proposals before NSW Cabinet by Dr Clive Hamilton, former head of research at the Resource Assessment Commission and now Executive Director of Canberra think-tank The Australia Institute. The Resource Assessment Commission carried out the most comprehensive inquiry into Australia's forests.

Dr Hamilton said that the industry has persuaded the Government that it needs resource security before it will invest.

"But the Government is about to give security of access to a resource that isn't there. The proposed arrangements will not induce the rapid transition to value-adding but will prolong existing practices based on low-value timber products. Few companies will make long-term investments when they realise the resource will disappear."

Dr Hamilton said that NSW State Forests' own Wood Resources Study demonstrated that it had been overcutting the forests for decades and that a reduction in quotas by 30% was needed to attain sustained yields, even before any new areas are put aside for conservation reasons.

"But it now appears that the Wood Resources Study seriously overestimated the volume of timber available", said Dr Hamilton, who has conducted a review of the study. "It may be necessary to cut quotas to 35% of 1995 levels for sustained yields and substantially more to provide for a comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system."

"This proposal for resource security can only be false security, especially for timber workers. There will be no compensation clauses in 10-year employment contracts for them."

Dr Hamilton said that the hardwood timber industry will be allowed to limp along for a few more years until its inevitable demise, but at severe cost to the environment. "The Carr Government simply has to bite the bullet. With \$120 million allocated to ease the transition, the conditions will never be more propitious."

Contact: Clive Hamilton 06 2816566 (bh) 06 247 5109 (ah)



FRIENDS OF THE EARTH – SYDNEY

Campaigning on Environmental issues in their social, political and human rights context.

Office: Suite 15, 104 Bathurst Street, Sydney

Postal address: PO Box A474, SYDNEY SOUTH 2000

Phone: (02) 283 2004 ♦ Fax: (02) 283 2005

Friday, 20th September 1996

NEWS RELEASE

TIMBER UNION LEADERS FAIL TEST ON PROVIDING FOR WORKERS' FUTURE

Friends of the Earth, Sydney affiliated with FoE Australia and 54 countries worldwide, condemned today the recent performance of NSW Timber union leaders. Natural environment policy officer, Mr Tom McLoughlin, said today:

"These so called 'leaders' have failed comprehensively to grasp the reality of transition in their industry. They wildly exaggerate the number of workers affected in the current \$120 million re-deployment and retraining package. Only 1,200 workers throughout all of NSW are affected, or in other words there is \$100,000 for helping each worker affected.

These union bosses deliberately ignore the buoyant plantation sector in towns like Oberon and Tumut with very low unemployment - unusual in a regional context.

'Leaders' like Mr Gavin Hillier and Mr Mark Greenhill stood by as massive woodchipping operations increased wood production by 40% while causing job losses of 40% over the last 20 years [Australia wide]. They are discredited and should be treated as such in the historic forest decision to be made by NSW Cabinet this Monday.

More: Tom McLoughlin tel 02-9283 2004w, 9665 5161/308296



**World Wide Fund
For Nature Australia**
ACN 001 594 074

21 Church Street
HAWTHORN, VIC 3122

Postal Address:
Locked Bag 21
HAWTHORN, VIC 3122
Telephone: (03) 9853 7244
Facsimile: (03) 9853 4156

NEWS RELEASE: Friday, 20 September 1996

PREMATURE FOREST COMMITMENT COULD SHAFT TIMBER CERTIFICATION

WWF-World Wide Fund For Nature today expressed concern over indications from government sources that the NSW Cabinet may grant excessive wood volume guarantees to the timber trade. A guarantee of excessive timber volumes will commit the forests to future severe and unsustainable overcutting, so as to avoid financial compensation claims. Entrenched over-cutting will institutionalise poor forestry practices, precluding NSW native forests from any credible program designed to certify timber produced by good forest management.

WWF's Manager- Sustainable Development, Michael Rae, said the NSW's Cabinet should not take any steps that over commit the ability to supply timber of those native forest areas outside of parks and reserves.

"Any commitment to overcutting does nobody any favours," Mr Rae said. "The production of quality sawlogs will be severely jeopardised, as the forests will be cut on shorter and shorter rotations simply to provide volume. Good sawlogs require longer periods between cutting cycles - short cycles are only good to produce timber for fence posts and pulp."

"To its credit the NSW Government has given an undertaking to only use timber from well-managed forests in its own building programs and, in particular, the construction of the Sydney Olympic Games facilities. A decision that leads to the over-cutting of NSW State forests would logically bar the use of the State's own timbers, a disaster for all concerned, especially the forests," Mr Rae said.

"Credible timber certification and labelling schemes, such as that run by the international Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), require a demonstration of best-practice forestry management. NSW's native forests have a good chance of receiving such accreditation and thereby winning access to lucrative international markets. However, this will only occur if the NSW government follows through on its commitments to create a comprehensive, adequate and representative forest reserve system and ensure that the forests available for multiple use are well-managed," Mr Rae said.

"WWF urges the Carr Government to hold to these commitments - for the long term benefit of the forests, the timber industry and the people of NSW," Mr Rae concluded.

Further information: Michael Rae Tel (03) 9853 7244 (W) 0414510060 (Mobile)



NATIONAL PARKS
ASSOCIATION OF NEW INC

PO Box A96 Sydney South NSW 2000

Ph: (02) 264 7994 Fax: (02) 264 7160

New Phone: (02) 9233 4660

New Fax (02) 9233 4880

President Anne Reeves (ah) phone/fax 02 9660 5694

MEDIA RELEASE

Sunday, 22 September 1996

CARR CABINET CONSERVATION CREDENTIALS ON THE LINE OVER FORESTS.

The Carr Cabinet on Monday will effectively be deciding whether to deliver its election promise of a world class eastern forest reserve system, or whether it will so overcommit resources that many of our best remaining forests will eventually have to be logged to meet give-away commitments to the timber industry.

"The loss of our natural forest heritage has been catastrophic for the survival of many plants and animals." said National Parks Association President Anne Reeves. "The Cabinet faces a make or break decision. If Cabinet fails to protect the full suite of remaining state owned native forest types, it will stand condemned for ever for allowing much of these important forests to be chopped and chipped, rather than intact within a magnificent series of reserves, a proud legacy for future generations."

"Re-structuring of the forest industry after decades of overcutting is long overdue and the funds to allow this have been committed as part of the promise."

In the lead-up to the last State election NSW ALP brokered a deal whereby under an Interim Assessment Process (IAP) eastern forests would be assessed for their conservation value, and a moratorium on logging of all areas likely to be required for establishment of a comprehensive and representative reserve system would be placed over them pending more detailed consideration, simultaneously with studies and funding to assist forest workers in the move to a sustainable, value adding forest industry.

"Our thousands of members across NSW will be watching tomorrow to see whether the Carr Government has the vision and the will to stand by its conservation commitments." added Ms Reeves. "National Parks, open to all for activities compatible with their role in protecting nature, serve as an irreplaceable benchmark for the future, a source of inspiration and benefit for the whole community."

"Furthermore, rational boundaries for effective management are critical to maintain long-term integrity and allow rehabilitation of particular ecosystems deliberately targeted in recent years for logging - areas such as the heart of the Coolangubra wilderness. Nowhere will this be more important than in the southeast, where our Association has consistently argued that proposals for a 90,000 hectare South East Forest Park was but a first step and quite inadequate for a viable and comprehensive reserve system."

For further information:
contact Anne Reeves on 02 9660 5694.



NATIONAL PARKS
ASSOCIATION OF NSW INC

PO Box A96 Sydney South NSW 2000
Ph: (02) 264 7994 Fax: (02) 264 7160

New Phone: (02) 9233 4660

New Fax (02) 9233 4880

The Editor,
Sydney Morning Herald,
facsimile: 9282 3492

15 September 1996

Dear Sir,

In facing a critical decision on our eastern forests (cf Saturday front page article) the Carr Government has a rare opportunity to display real vision. The sort of vision for which past governments are still applauded - Wran on rainforests, Fraser on whales.

The alternative is to bow to industry pressure to commit timber from our shrinking native forests. Mounting evidence that past overcutting in many forest compartments has severely depleted available resources indicates this is but a short term solution for the industry. It would be expensive for taxpayers if the government commits to companies like Boral resources which are just not there to deliver; bad for timber workers who might end up with nothing; and a tragedy for conservation of our native forests and the wildlife they support.

A process to deliver a sustainable value-adding plantation based native timber industry that benefits both workers and industry and a comprehensive reserve system was an important pre-election commitment of this government.

Does the Carr government have the strength of character to uphold this vision? Will the community be applauding or weeping as we move into the year 2000?

Yours sincerely,

Anne Reeves,
President.



NATIONAL PARKS
ASSOCIATION OF NSW INC

PO Box A96 Sydney South NSW 2000
Ph: (02) 264 7994 Fax: (02) 264 7160

New Phone: (02) 9233 4660

New Fax (02) 9233 4880

15/9/96

Dear Minister,

**RACAC and the IAP
SAVING THE FORESTS**

The Association has been active during the RACAC IAP process throughout the State. Its country Branches have made direct input into the negotiations, made written submissions into State Forest EIS documents, and communicated with their members on the Process and our preferred outcomes. In Sydney the NPA Executive has participated in the decision making processes of the joint conservation groups and has lobbied the government in association with those groups and in its own right.

The NPA now believes that the Carr Government is at a crossroads. The options as we see it are:

- to establish a comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system as agreed to prior to the last election,
- OR
- to make a hasty decision to promise timber supplies to certain logging companies that it may not be possible to deliver, so called 'resource security'.

The direction decided upon is quite critical. If the Government decides to fulfil its commitments made at the last election and establish the framework within which that comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system can be achieved, then Carr will be remembered in the way that Wran is after his Government decided to protect the rainforests of NSW.


NPA is gravely concerned that the IAP may fail to deliver the responsible outcome which its members have worked for over these past years. Evidence is accumulating that in many compartments the resource just isn't there; topping up from outside the region may be neither practical nor desirable. Yet there is a risk that the ALP Government may prematurely grant timber supply contracts to certain private companies such as Boral. The winners would not be the timber workers, who would not get job security; nor would it be the environment, for the timber contracts being considered would trash some of the best old growth forests that still remain, thus precluding creation of an adequate reserve system; nor would it be the ALP. The government would be condemned by all and sundry for spending community resources propping up a few companies without any long term advantages to either the workers or the environment.

The Association is firm in its view that a positive outcome in the eastern forests is possible through establishment of a comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system together with a sustainable, restructured timber industry based on hard and softwood plantation forests.

At the last election a deal was struck between the conservation movement, the timber workers and the ALP. That deal saw a guarantee of restructuring money to timber workers and a proper assessment of forests for a reserve system.

Please ensure that that deal does not come unstuck.

Yours sincerely,


A.Reeves, President.

Walcha.

Craig Bushy.

very helpful.

mills with 95/96.

Current licences -

Fennings Timbers

No. Emp.
in mill.

Emp.
Bush

SF
vol.

PP.

76.

17.

57,000

att.

quota,
salvage

Ken ~~Ross~~ Ross Mill
Armidale

26

11

↑
included.

Woolbrook Timbers.

11

2

800

—

renewed licence but want take any more vol.

AA.

Somers. softwood.

5

2

1809.

1289

↑
HW?

Riamukaka.

4

1

—

?

JJ JM Archer.

2

—

51

AT Yeoman.

1

—

12

8 more small licensed mills
but no vol.

Urbenville District

To Georgia Beyar, NEFA

From Paul Sharpe, District Forester, Urbenville

Date July 17, 1996

Subject Sawmill intakes.



Herewith, 1995/96 financial year sales figures, major hardwood licencees.

FORD TIMBERS, Urbenville and Woodenbong

Estimate of employee numbers, 7

Mill workers, admin and management staff, logging crews, log truck drivers, highway truck drivers.

	Base annual commitment	Financial Yr Total
Quota	21,600 m3	17,569 m3
Smalls	3,000 m3	2,877 m3
BW/Thrp/Z	2,000 m3	1,899 m3
SG Girders	250 m3	198 m3
	<u>26,850 m3</u>	<u>22,543 m3</u>

Ford's mill also imported significant sawlog volumes from Tenterfield MA and Casino MA during the 1995/96 financial year.

PP log intake = 946.3 m3, (SF records only).

CREVILLIA

Crevillia cut only limited quantities of smalls and Z logs. They do buy some PP logs and cut PPG material, of behalf of L.J. Williams. Estimate of employee numbers, 12 at mill, 3 in bush, 2 truck drivers.

1995 calendar year PP log volumes = nil recorded.

	Base annual commitment	Financial Yr Total
Quota	5,180 m3	5,527 m3
Smalls	500 m3	677 m3
BW/Thrp/Z	1,000 m3	104 m3
SG Girders	100 m3	90 m3
	<u>6,780 m3</u>	<u>6,398 m3</u>

(iii) Other Customers

Coffs Harbour Hardwoods, were supplied 575 m3 against an "up to" allocation of 800 M3. of PPG.

E.J. Williams (Timber Pty Ltd) Coffs Harbour, were supplied 550 m3 against an "up to" allocation of 500 M3. of PPG. (includes additional parcel sale.)

H.K. McIntosh & Sons, Kyogle, were supplied nil against an "up to" allocation of 500 M3. of PPG.

The reporting of PP log movements is not done rigorously by all of our 16 sawmill licence holders (public mills do not require a licence). The 16 sawmill licencees reported cutting 3717 m3 of PP log within the District.

Licensees in neighbouring Districts reported cutting 1850 m3 sourced from this District.

Because of Popl Timber's "less than satisfactory" payment terms, i.e. 12 months or more, a significant volume of PP has been taken from local areas to Enright's sawmill at Beaudesert. Some boresey evidence suggest this may be as high as 1,000 to 5,000 m3 annually.

I hope this is of some assistance.

re: [signature]

P. Sample

cc:

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

To	NEFA		
Attention	Georgia Beyer	Date	17/07/96
Your Fax	224737	Our Fax	066 625826
From	Maree Smith	Phone	066 624499
No of Pages	1 (including this cover page)		



Attached 1 pages is information requested by you.

For DR Jones
Acting District Forester
Casino

State Forests of
New South Wales
Casino District
PO Box 376
Casino NSW 2470
Phone (066) 62 4499

Sheet1

Name	Volume 1995 Jan/Dec Crown	Volume 1996 Jan/June Crown	1995 Jan/Dec Employment Sawmills	Volume 1995 PP	Volume 1996 PP
Appo JH DP				2 nil	nil
B & B Timbers	4895 (Pine)	534 (Pine)		17 nil	nil
Bennett DF GM	5700	2508	14	nil	nil
[REDACTED]	3780	824			
[REDACTED]	3043	1273			
[REDACTED]	1878 (Pine)	794 (Pine)			
Bennett S				1 nil	nil
Brydown P/L				6 nil	nil
Bulmer & Smith	9033 (Pine)	1890 (Pine)	11	nil	nil
[REDACTED]		85			
[REDACTED]	110				
Campbell MJ JAM	1865	689	6	nil	nil
Campbell TW			5	173,975	32,541
[REDACTED]	3648	556			
Convery NA PJ	240	77	4	55,891	nil
[REDACTED]	70	10			
[REDACTED]				24,506	nil
Cole D			3	15,185	29,541
[REDACTED]	90	27			
Dennis & Cotten			4	1049,803	299,115
Duncans	28754	11100	61	5778	452
Dyson Pastoral			2	nil	nil
Everuss TR GR	513		3	28	nil
Ford GC CD			3	299	nil
[REDACTED]		44			
[REDACTED]	67	74			
[REDACTED]	11542	2208			
[REDACTED]	820	1051			
[REDACTED]	2770 (Pine)	557 (Pine)			
[REDACTED]	2813	318			
Gave R LE			6	135,140	nil
Griffith Salvage			7	nil	nil
[REDACTED]	98				
[REDACTED]	1990				
[REDACTED]	47	67			
Hurford	15145	6076	91	nil	nil
Hanna MD Hooking WA			4	425,045	373,532
Higgins JW			2	556,542	nil
Hogan M L M			5	345,574	411,133
Inwaile P/L	562	422	5	3382	165
Jordan DM	917	30	2	nil	nil
Jordan KJ	34	14	2		
[REDACTED]	2658	472			

Sheet1

King DC GT			4	199	88
Law NT	38	39	2 nil	nil	
Livingstone LJ JA	215	49	4		
Lolback LGO	22	2	3		
[REDACTED]	6	7			
Leitch RC	43		4		70,409
Lowe & McLennan			5		388,125
[REDACTED]	38	19			
[REDACTED]	5	4			
Mesray	17385 (Pine)	6591 (Pine)	14		
[REDACTED]	44	63		1648 nil	
[REDACTED]	133	42			
[REDACTED]	252	155			
Mather PJ			7	1863,437	187,638
MacDonald KR JL			2	49,636 nil	
Macintosh HK & sons			10	3217,884 nil	
Munro GJ			3 nil	nil	
McLean GC RD			3 nil	nil	
Nimbin Sawmill	315		6	426,931	137,443
Noble TR	34	10			
Norply P/L	19704 (Pine)	3897			
Notaras J & Sons P/L	4079	1920			
Newby PL	67	24	2 nil	nil	
Newby DJ AF			2 nil	nil	
O'Reilly DJ BW	62	59			
Powell LE LS DJ			3		
Ribera P/L		15	1 nil	nil	
Rappville Sawmill	53		14	1964,71	74,682
Richards JT KJ			4	2516,95	232,342
Richards KJ			3	120,889	35,03
Raimanis A			2 nil	nil	
Ross RAV			2	147,829	78,226
Sepiz P/L		36			
Sharp GD	99	14	2	14,28 nil	
Sly Bros P/L	6273	1921	28	490,904	786,771
Smith DJ	223	75	3	50,711 nil	
SRA	1345	548			
Stuart DG	53	9			
Smith JB Cotton MS	1484	631			
Small MR	7	63	3	209,189	88,492
Santin MB			5	385,08 nil	
Shennahan James, Warr			3 nil	nil	
Shape & Quirk			2	107,508	34,1
steel GJ Tonks GP			3 nil	nil	
Summerville MR			2	228,138 nil	
Tifema P/P Koala P/L			6	2043,828	767,183
Uki Holdings P/L	88		6	801,393	131,805

Sheet 1

Sawmill Licence List

1996

No.	Name	Address	Town	Code
1075	Appo	JH & DP PO Box 17	Lawrence	2460
51008	B & B Timbers (Ballina)	Lot 1 Teven Road	Ballina	2478
10267	Bennett	DF & SM 1 Hare Street	Casino	2470
10312	Bennett	S Myrtle Ck Road	Via Rappville	2470
9819	Brydown P/L	PO Box 422	Woolgoolga	2456
9757	Bulmer & Smith	IWR RW Leeville	Via Casino	2470
7031	Campbell	TW Dungay	Via Murwillumbah	2484
91001	Campbell	MJ & AM 15 Brunswick Terrace	Mullumbimby	2482
1630	Osie	B Coongbar Road	Tabulam South	2470
1390	Convery	NA & PJ Merschaum Vale	Via Alstonville	2477
59003	Coonan	BW SD 100 Shannbrook Road	Via Casino	2470
10166	Dennie & Colton	MY & MS PO Box 892	Grafton	2460
81	Duncaht	PO Box 224	Gooray	4563
1467	Dyason	AP EA PCA PO Box 316	Casino	2470
1545	Everuss	TR GR Eungella	Via Murwillumbah	2484
1407	Ford	GG & CD 3 Pagan Ave	Casino	2470
3876	Griffith Salvage	PO Box 392	Murwillumbah	2484
1442	Hannah & Hosking	MD & WM 1140 Mongogarie Road	Via Casino	2470
1431	Harper	SL & L 107 Ryan Street	South Grafton	2480
1646	Higgins	JW Duigan Road	North Tumbulgum	2490
8162	Hogan	MLW 77 Kyogle Road	Kyogle	2474
71	Hurford's Building	71 Union Street	South Lismore	2480
44002	Invale P/L	CA Post Office	Whipray	2470
1849	Jordan	AM & EM Ellangowan	Via Casino	2470
10000	Jordan	KJ 41 Bridge Street	Coraki	2471
1259	King	DC GT Stratheden	Via Casino	2470
47002	Law & Chamberlain	NR & JM Brunner Highway	Piora	2470
10169	Lorch	RO 41 Dean Street	Casino	2470
9376	Livingstone	JA & LJ PO Box 371	Casino	2470
9793	Lolback	LGO Flat 2 18/18 Fanev St	Casino	2470
3943	Low & McLennan	55 Stapleton Ave	Casino	2470
1074	Mather	PJ McCauley Street	Ashby via Maclean	2463
9991	McDonald	KR JL Zara	Via Chillingham	2484
9991	McIntosh & Sons	HK PO Box 262	Kyogle	2474
1443	McLean	NRJ & RD Wangarui Road	Huonbrook	2482
1043	Mealey P/L	Wyan	Via Rappville	2470
1628	Munro	CJ PO Box 1002	Casino	2470
1119	Newby	FL 137 Hotham Street	Casino	2470
	Patton	EJ AJ BJ JC		
1337	Rappville Sawmilling	PO Box 430	Oxenford QLD	4210
1392	Reynolds	A PO Box 483	Murwillumbah	2484
1320	Ribana Pty Ltd	48 East Street	Casino	2470
1321	Richards	KJ PO Box 737	Casino	2470
1410	Richards	LT & LJ PO Box 22	Casino	2470
61	Robb & Brown Ltd	PO Box 224	Gooray	4563
1553	Ross	RA 1715 Ellangowan Rd	Via Casino	2470
1641	Sand	MS PO Box 6064	South Lismore	2480
3231	Sydney Ply Co	PO Box 9	Woodburn	2472
9849	Shi	Wyan	Via Rappville	2470

Employment.

Richmond River Shire			Casino	
Bennett	1	1	Burnett	14
Brydawn	6	6	Dyason	2
Bulmer & Smith		11	Ford	3
Coonan B.		?	Leitch	4
Hannah & Hosking	4		Livingston	4
Inwake	5		Collback	3
Jordan	2		Cow & McKennon	5
Jordan	2		Munro	3
King	4		Newby	2
Cow & Chamberlain	2		Ribana	1
Mesray	14		Richards WJ	3
Ross	2		Richards JT	4
Sly Bros	28		Tidema	6
Small	3		Warner	3
Smith DJ	3		Wotten	3
Total		87	TOTAL	60

Tim Somerville.
"Dunn's" Murray Scrub Rd.
via Afterlee, Kyogle. 2474

The Hon. Pam Allen.
Minister for The Environment.

Dear Ms. Allen.

I write to you in regard to the Draft Interim Forestry assessment Report as prepared by the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council.

I would first like to congratulate you and your Labor colleagues for the implementation of the Forest Reform Package as evidenced by the dedication of new National Parks, the 30% timber quota cut of 1 July 1996, and the R.A.C.A.C. process itself.

I believe that this process is providing the best chance we've had yet of resolving the protracted conflict in forest management issues.

I believe the future of native forest logging is entirely contingent upon the successful implementation of the comprehensive, adequate, representative reserve system as required by the 1992 National Forest Policy Statement.

If not the entire future then certainly the future of forest conflict, and the level of it's fierceness, will be determined by the present R.A.C.A.C process's ability to ultimately identify such a reserve.

It follows that the only chance for the reserve systems' successful

*b2m25W ^ ~XX ~k <~

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Employment Figures.

Kyogle Shire.

Cole	3	3
Hogan	5	5
Macintosh		10

Norply ?
Fords 6

TOTAL

18

Lismore Shire.

Cannery	4
Harfords	91
Santin	5
Smith	1
Snape & Quirk	2
Vilder & Maczek	7

TOTAL

109

Fords
from Vision Statement

{ Drake had 19
Woodenbony 43

Viherville 25

from
Viherville
social economy
from EIS.

Crewell's 15

Aboriginal cultural heritage values in N.S.W. State Forests were not assessed.

Water quantity and quality issues were not assessed.

Many "targets" for both plants and animals were not met in the C.C.O.

Only 60 of 150 priority fauna species were assessed

Rare species of plants were not considered at all, with only 60 species considered on the basis of museum records only.

Major problems were found in the S.F.N.S.W.'s Wood Resources Survey data, incorrectly stating the actual "standing volume" in some areas.

I strongly believe that all remaining old growth forest should be reserved and that all Identified Wilderness areas should be gazetted immediately as a matter of priority.

Given all of the above it is disappointing that the timber industry "windback options" are being considered at all.

I sincerely hope that all the shortcomings of the interim assessment process are fully recognised and are fully addressed in the upcoming Comprehensive Regional Assessment.

Given that the Conservation Criteria Outcome is in itself conservative I believe it is the only outcome which can possibly approach Federal and State Government Forest Policy.

I also believe the proposed Environment movements' moratoria areas to be a valid contribution to the process in that it more accurately applies Federal Government Reserve criteria.

I fully support the Forest Reserve Plan as proposed by the N.S.W. environment movement. In particular I believe the immediate dedication of all Identified Wilderness areas under the N.S.W. Wilderness Act to be a matter of the upmost priority.

Having fought "on the front line" in the forests of N.E. N.S.W. for over five years, I sincerely believe that Cabinet should, at the very least, choose and implement the Conservation Criteria Outcome of the report.

The adoption of the C.C.O. will provide a solid foundation for the ultimate cessation of conflict in forest management issues.

In closing I again thank you for the facilitation of this process and wish your Government luck in the fulfilment of the process via the Comprehensive Regional Assessments.

Yours Sincerely,

Compartment .

Harvest plan low volume

CASINO

307
+
311 } Salvage + small logs
including reject logs

1500 m³.

79 - 86 .

X

ven 4000
qu 2000
Poles 1000
Salva 2000

} 20% of
current standing
volumes as to
mwr 1994 resource
inventory.

75 ✓

Poles 300
ven 100
Sal 100 .

69 X

ven 200
quoto 400
sal 100 .

	Compartment + descrip.	Harvest Plan low volume.	Wood resources !
CASINO	<u>307 + 311</u> Salvage + small logs including reject logs →	1500 m ³	
	<u>314</u> Poles → Salvage + small logs inc. reject logs →	0 720 m ³	
URB.	<u>212 + 213</u> Thinnings → Poles piles + Girders →	2000 m ³ 2000 m ³	
	<u>164 + 165</u> Thinnings → Poles, Piles + Girders →	500 m ³ 400 m ³	
	<u>176 + 177</u> Thinnings → Poles, Piles + Girders →	500 m ³ 500 m ³	
MUR.	<u>18</u> Poles → Salvage + Small logs Incl. reject logs →	250 m ³ 750 m ³	
	<u>19</u> Salvage →	500 m ³	
	<u>69</u> Salvage →	100 m ³	
	<u>75</u> Salvage →	100 m ³	
	<u>79 - 86</u> Poles → Salvage →	1000 m ³ 2000 m ³	

Urb. MA

Cas. MA

Mwr. MA

Compartment	Harvesting Plan Vol.	Wood Resources Study Vol.
212	Quota 9300 Poles, Piles 2000 = 11300	5413
213	+Girdlers	5958
176	Quota 6000 Poles, Piles 500 = 6500	2440
177	+Girdlers	2199
164	Quota 4100 Poles, Piles 400 = 4500	866
165	+Girdlers	1656
307	Veneer 1480 Quota 9270 = 12230	3016
311	Poles 1480	5205
314	Veneer 360 Quota 2520 = 2880	2126
Sub Totals	37,410	28,879
69	Veneer 200 Quota 400 = 600	2016
75	Poles 300 Veneer 100 = 400	342
79	Veneer 4000 Quota 2000 = 7000	1841
80	Poles 1000	1463
81		836
82		2535
83		0
84		-
85		-
86		632
Sub Totals	8,000	9,665
TOTAL.	45,410	38,544

IAN COHEN MLC

THE GREENS

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PARLIAMENT HOUSE

MACQUARIE STREET

SYDNEY NSW 2000

PH: 230 2603

FAX: 230 2267

EMAIL: CCOHEN@PH.NSW.GOV.AU



03 September 1996

Peter Sams

Secretary

Labor Council of NSW

FAX 02 2613505

Dear Peter,

I am writing to you at this crucial time regarding the forest issue, one of my priority issues.

It has come to my attention that the Labor Council in NSW is supporting the position put forward by the Timber Unions. I urge you and your fellow union officials to take the time and be informed by the conservation movement of the balanced argument for this issue at a crisis time for the future of the forests in NSW.

The NSW ALP's position on this issue was vital in determining preferences from The Greens in the March '95 state election. During the pre-election period I sat down with Gavin Hillier and Mark Greenhill from the CFMEU to discuss various positions in relation to the forest debate, we found we had agreement on certain aspects and this was beneficial for all, including the ALP as it meant we both had positions of support for the Labor Party based on the commitment to resolve this contentious and long term dispute.

One of the outstanding commitments that the Carr ALP gave was to allow for a scientific assessment to take place to determine the need to create a Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative native forest reserve system and compensation for any loss to industry to meet these conservation outcomes. The social justice component of the package was a priority for The Greens, along with ecological sustainability it presented for us as a political party a reasonable outcome we could support. As you may be aware I have strongly supported worker's rights on this issue in Parliament.

The timber industry has available to it \$120 million to facilitate the compensation and restructuring while meeting the conservation outcomes of the decision in the process of creating a sustainable timber industry in NSW.

I believe this to be a generous package, at a time of great uncertainty for workers both state and nationally. With this factor in mind I find the comments currently being aired by the National Association of Forest Industries and the Forest Protection Association to be deplorable, there is a great deal of misinformation and deceit in the presentation of their position to the public and to government.

There has been a long and beneficial association between the conservation movement and the labour movement in NSW and on this issue we would hope there would be continuing support for a balanced achievable outcome to the current conflict.

I, as a Green parliamentarian will continue to support workers rights, as I have done since my election, I have been supportive of the concerns of the labour movement in legislation that so far has been presented to Parliament and will continue to do so.

The position supported by the Labor Council for the unions' call for a cautious approach to the timber issue needs to be viewed in terms of the current stage of the policy.

The decision the government is to shortly make is to identify areas likely to be required for the promised CAR reserve system and to put them under moratorium. This is not a final position, there is still a third stage which determines the long term future of the forests. The move by the industry to try and secure resource security is inappropriate, it is an unreasonable grab supported by a ruthless propaganda campaign in the media and it disregards the agreed process.

The industry is taking an extremist view of the current situation, calling for resource security at this stage of the process would severely undermine the support and trust the conservation movement and The Greens NSW have given to the Carr ALP government.

I urge you to consider the information available from the conservation movement and to consider the long term implications of support for the timber industry's position. I am personally concerned about the welfare of workers in the industry and have supported the resolve that the Carr government presented prior to the state election and the legislative framework that has been adopted to allow this process to be realised. It would be unfortunate if at this stage of the process the government diverted from its commitment and was unable to fulfill its desired outcome, also regrettable would be the union movements support for a position that undermined the respect that has been between the conservation movement and the unions.

It would be significant if it were possible for representations to be made to the government by officials in the union movement for a revisited position in light of a more balanced appraisal of the situation.

I hope that you recognise my deep commitment to this issue. I request that you take the time to look at this current situation and be aware of the other side of the argument. I hope that you can recognise in this and other issues I have been in solidarity with a fair deal for workers and will continue to do so. I believe that natural allies are being turned against each other to satisfy the greedy and unreasonable demands of the industry employers.

For the Earth



IAN COHEN

Northern Star P.2 -
19/8/95

Forests dispute flares again

A timber association official had warned of 'blood on the streets of Grafton' in an effort to intimidate the NSW Government, a conservation group claimed yesterday.

The Nature Conservation Council of New South Wales (NCC) was quoting NSW Forest Products Association (FPA) executive director Col Dorber, as reported in last week's Grafton Examiner newspaper.

"If accurately reported, this statement is a disgraceful attempt to intimidate the Cabinet, which is due to meet in Grafton on Tuesday," said NCC executive officer Sid Walker.

Mr Dorber was showing contempt for the conservation movement's efforts to reach a compromise over NSW's native forests, he said.

Mr Walker said that, in the light of Mr Dorber's comments, the decision of major milling company Boral Timber to rejoin the FPA needed to be questioned.

"A crucial NSW Government decision over areas of public forest to be saved from logging pending further assessment is due in early September," he said.

Forest submissions call for conservation

Far North Coast submissions on the NSW Government's draft interim forestry assessment had been overwhelmingly in favour of protecting the State's forests, according to leading conservation groups.

More than 16,000 public pro-conservation submissions had been received from around the State, the alliance of NSW conservation groups said.

Sid Walker, executive officer of the NSW Conservation Council, said most of these supported the environment movement's forest reserve plan.

"On the Far North Coast, around Lismore and Murwillumbah, conservationist submissions overwhelmed industry supporters nearly four-to-one," he said.

Mr Walker said the public submissions were the culmination of a year-long forestry assessment conducted by the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council. He said only 6000 of the 22,000 submissions received supported the timber industry.

"This is a massive public vote of confidence in the environment movement and an overwhelming call for the maximum possible protection of

old growth forests," he said.

"The forest reserve plan improves on the conservation outcomes identified in the Government's report, but it is also a reasonable compromise in that it still falls short of many Government conservation targets."

Australian Conservation Foundation spokesman Noel Plumb said the submission process had shown there was wide support across the State for forest conservation.

He said support for the timber industry was concentrated in the regions with the most logging of native forests.

Mr Walker said Premier Bob Carr was elected on a 'save the forests' platform last year, and had pledged to protect old-growth forests.

"It would be a tragic irony for us if he became the Premier who really sold the forests out," he said.

A decision on the restructuring of the NSW timber industry is scheduled to be announced early next month.

● Do you have a comment on this issue? Ring the Star Feed Back line on 243 266 and let us know what you think.

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19/8/96

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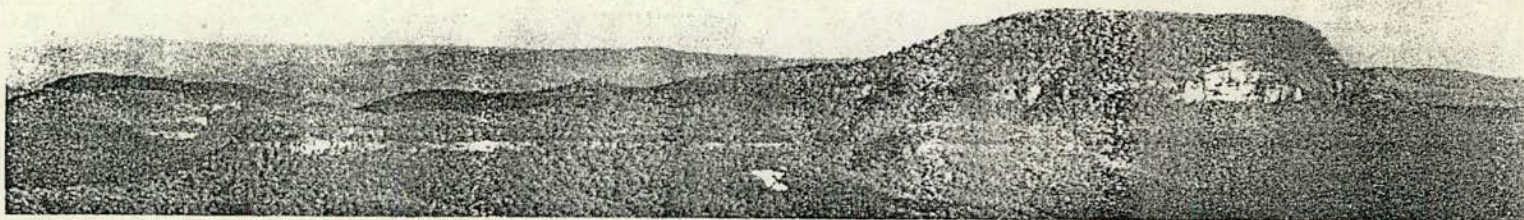
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THE COLONG FOUNDATION FOR WILDERNESS LTD.

BRIEFING ON KEY ISSUES

SECOND ROUND OF WILDERNESS DECLARATIONS

Introduction

The following briefing outlines wilderness issues that the National Parks and Wildlife Service has not adequately addressed in this round of wilderness decisions. The issues embrace perpetual and term leases, travelling stock reserves, the Bicentennial National Trail, 4WD vehicle use, scotch broom in the identified Barrington wilderness and the Dunphy Wilderness Fund.

Taking the actions recommended by the Colong Foundation will help further progress wilderness protection in NSW.

ISSUES OUTSTANDING THAT SHOULD BE ADDRESSED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN DECISIONS ON THE INDIVIDUAL WILDERNESS AREAS

Warrazambil/Lost World:

➤ **Key Action — gazette the identified wilderness in state forest as wilderness and national park**

The remaining unprotected wilderness does not contribute to sustained yield of quota sawlogs (see Table 6.1 Draft Interim Assessment Process Report), and was announced as part of the wilderness Christmas gift to our grandchildren by Mr Fahey on 23 December 1993. Being escarpment forest it has not been logged (although the lower parts of the affected compartments have been). There is no economic or political imperative to stop this part of Mebbin State Forest being added to the Border Ranges National Park.

Washpool:

see table ➤ and refer to relevant action statements

The substantial leasehold properties in state forests must be protected in the Spirabo and Little Spirabo State Forests. The value of wood resources in the identified wilderness is greatly exaggerated.

Mann:

see table ➤ and refer to relevant action statements

Most of Dalmorton State Forest is affected by leasehold. Claims of logging, but few compartments are affected and many of these were only selectively logged in the 1960's and 1970's and capable of restoration. The value of wood resources in the identified wilderness is greatly exaggerated.

Guy Fawkes:

see table P and refer to relevant action statements

Most of western part of the wilderness is leasehold. Over half of Chaelundi State Forest also is leasehold. Severe TSR/BNT problem. The value of wood resources in the identified wilderness is greatly exaggerated.

New England:

see table P and refer to relevant action statements

Macleay Gorges:

see table P and refer to relevant action statements

The extensive areas of leasehold are not being considered. Winterborne and Enmore State Forests were announced as part of the wilderness Christmas gift to our grandchildren by Mr Fahey on 23 December 1993. Relocating the BNT will enable wilderness protection to be extended to the Kunderang Brook area.

Werrikimbe:

see table P and refer to relevant action statements

Relocate BNT and cancel 4WD vehicle access to Racecourse and Spokes Trails to maximise wilderness declaration.

Barrington:

see table P and refer to relevant action statements

Vehicle access should not control decision making on critical forest areas (eg Mountaineer Trail in Whispering Gully). The value of wood resources in the identified wilderness is greatly exaggerated and State Forest concede the area is very little affected by logging.

Stewarts Brook State Forest should be protected as wilderness and the Bicentennial National Trail relocated.

The broom affected areas should be immediately declared wilderness, quarantined and subject to active management. Part of the restructuring money should be used to employ ex-timber workers in the systematic removal and control of scotch broom.

Wollemi:

see table P and refer to relevant action statements

The forests in Wollemi contain no significant timber resources. The Culoul sawmill at Colo Heights has ceased operations. Wilderness protection of the subject part of the Macdonald State Forest should prove uncontroversial.

Kanangra-Boyd:

see table P and refer to relevant action statements

The environment movement rejects the NPWS proposal to create easements or corridors to inholdings in the wilderness.

Vehicle or horseriding use of wilderness by landowners to inholding is permitted by existing use, with the approval of the NPWS. Future owners continue to have the existing use. If the owners of inholdings are given access rights (that they do not have at the moment) then it will prejudice the Government's financial interest. Inholdings will then attract a special value as rural hideaways.

Ettrema:

see table P and refer to relevant action statements

The newly declared additions to Morton National Park must be immediately declared as additions to the Ettrema wilderness.

Budawang:

see table P and refer to relevant action statements

Deua:

see table P and refer to relevant action statements

Goodradigbee:

see table P and refer to relevant action statements

State Forests wilderness additions contain only minor timber resources. Vehicle use of the Broken Cart Trail should not limit the extent of the declared wilderness. Vehicle and horseriding use should be relocated by this round of wilderness decisions.

Nadgee:

see table P and refer to relevant action statements

Newtons Beach should no be managed as wilderness in a nature reserve instead of being managed as a car-based camping reserve. The Newtons Beach area was announced as part of Mr Fahey's Christmas gift to our grandchildren on 23 December 1993. Continued car-based camping in the heart of Nadgee Nature Reserve will generate unacceptably high traffic movements between the beach and Wonboyn.

Coolangubra:

see table P and refer to relevant action statements

Must be immediately declared wilderness and national park as part of the expanded south east forest parks decision.

FOREST RESERVE PLAN — WILDERNESS PROTECTION SCHEME

P = Wilderness issues requiring urgent action

Name	Logging threat	Crown lease-hold	Substantial ORV issues	BNT Horseriding	Fast track wilderness protection
16 ALP PROMISED AREAS FOR DECLARATION					
Warrazambil	P	—	—	—	—
Washpool	P	P	—	P	—
Mann	P	P	—	—	—
Guy Fawkes	P	P	—	P	—
New England	P	P	—	—	—
Macleay Gorges	P	P	—	P	—
Werrikimbe	P	P minor	P	P	—
Pilliga	P	—	—	—	P
Barrington	P	—	P broom	P	—
Wollemi	P	—	—	—	P
Kanangra—Boyd	P	—	no corridors	no corridors	—
Ettrema	declare the announced wilderness over new park additions				
Budawang	P	—	—	—	—
Deua	—	—	—	—	P
Nadgee	P	—	P	—	—
Goodradigbee	P	—	P	P	—
OTHER AREAS FOR DECLARATION					
Levers	—	—	—	—	P
Macdonald	—	—	—	—	P
Coolangubra	declare wilderness over expanded national park				
PIW ADDITIONS (RACAC AREAS FOR FAST TRACKED PROTECTION)					
Macleay Gorges	P	—	—	—	P
Werrikimbe	P	—	—	—	P
Mann	P	—	—	—	P
New England	P	—	—	—	P
Barrington	P	—	—	—	P
Budawang	P	—	—	—	P
Brogo	P	—	—	—	P
Ettrema extn	P	—	—	—	P
PIW NEW AREAS (RACAC AREAS FOR FAST TRACKED PROTECTION)					
Chaelundi	P	—	—	—	P
Mummel Gulf	P	—	—	—	P
Bungonia	P	—	—	—	P
Monga	P	—	—	—	P
Brindabella	—	—	—	—	P

ACTION KEY: **P** Issue must be addressed during this round of wilderness decisions for a good outcome.

— Decision on this issue not a priority at this time but may need attention later.

NOTES:

All areas are NPWS identified or Provisionally Identified (PIW) wilderness (except areas in *italics*).

In all wilderness areas, NPWS park management is unsatisfactory because either no park plan of management exists or the plan inadequately manages the park's wilderness values.

This table represents most of the wilderness in the IFA study area (essentially the coast and tablelands of NSW). The NPWS estate contains several other wilderness areas that are yet to be investigated (eg Grose wilderness in the Blue Mountains National Park and the Brogo wilderness additions in the Wadbilliga National Park).

Areas shown in *italics* have not been officially identified and have either been nominated under the Wilderness Act or are subject to an internal assessment by the NPWS.

ACTION STATEMENTS

Key Actions — interim protection and acquisition of leasehold land in identified wilderness

- All perpetual leasehold areas must be immediately protected by vesting with the Director-General of the NPWS, subject to lease conditions.
- All term leases must be immediately protected as national parks and declared as wilderness on expiry of the lease.
- Leasehold land must be acquired when it is offered to the NPWS using the Dunphy Wilderness Fund (est. max. outlay \$8 million).
- Acquired perpetual leases to be declared national park and wilderness as soon as possible after acquisition.

Background: About 170,000 ha of the northern wilderness areas contain leasehold lands, including 30,000 ha of state forests. These areas remain in a wilderness condition because the land generally have little economic value.

There are many opportunities to protect significant amounts of wilderness leasehold for a relatively small financial outlay. Crown leasehold lands are currently selling for between \$22 and \$44 per hectare. All leasehold within wilderness can be acquired for the total outlay of between \$4 and \$8 million. Currently about 30 per cent of this land is on offer to the NPWS.

In the past, leasehold land has been embraced within the national park estate (eg. three Crown leases were included in the declaration of the Washpool National Park).

Key Actions — revoke all travelling stock reserves in national parks and the redirect the BNT around identified wilderness

- The Minister for Land and Water Conservation must revoke all travelling stock routes that pass through national parks, especially those through identified wilderness areas. If there is any difficulty in immediate revocation of these (and any other Crown reserves), then the care control management of these public lands should be vested in the Director-General of the NPWS.
- As soon as possible after revocation, the Minister for the Environment should declare these former travelling stock routes as national parks and wilderness areas.
- The Minister for the Environment and Minister for Land and Water Conservation should announce, with immediate effect, that the Bicentennial

National Trail has been rerouted around identified wilderness to an interim alternative route.

- The Department of Conservation and Land Management and the National Parks and Wildlife Service should cooperate in a public consultation process over the next six months on alternative routes for the Bicentennial National Trail, including the interim route.
- At the end of the six month period, and following public exhibition and review of these routes, the adopted new route could then be formally created as corridors or easements.

Background: Giving priority to the Bicentennial Trail (BNT) over wilderness protection will substantially reduce the size of the Washpool, Guy Fawkes, Macleay Gorges and Barrington wilderness areas protected during this round of wilderness decisions. The BNT cuts through these identified wilderness areas and illegally passes through the declared Washpool wilderness.

There are three travelling stock routes in the identified Guy Fawkes wilderness and one in Werrikimbe. Travelling stock routes are no longer used to transport stock to market but for illegal grazing of stock in the national park. Unauthorised fires start along stock routes in the Guy Fawkes National Park on a regular basis with the effect that green pick for grazing is promoted in the national park.

The retention of the TSR through the identified Werrikimbe wilderness has apparently prevented the extension of declared wilderness southwards over existing national park. The travelling stock routes in the Guy Fawkes wilderness are used by the Bicentennial National Trail, it follows the Guy Fawkes River, one of the longest wild rivers in northern NSW.

The National Trail organisers gave a commitment that the Trail would not go through proposed wilderness areas when negotiating the proposal with the Government in 1987.

Key Action — exclude off-road vehicle use

- The Government to resolve to immediately prevent the ingress of off-road vehicle use into identified wilderness.

Key Actions — revoke state forests and declare wilderness, logging moratorium, and fast track protection for provisionally identified wilderness

- All identified wilderness in state forests should be protected as wilderness and reserved in national parks immediately.
- An immediate logging moratorium should be established over the Pilliga, Wollemi and Deua wilderness proposals.
- In order to stop the rapid loss of Provisionally Identified Wilderness, an immediate and mandatory logging moratorium must be applied to these areas. Protection of these areas as wilderness in national parks should be via

a fast track process of assessment and declaration under the Wilderness Act (the Forest Products Association also wants a fast track assessment of Provisionally Identified Wilderness).

Background: Contrary to State Forests' advice, the long term sawlog yield from wilderness must be LESS than for regrowth forest on a per hectare basis. Most wilderness forests are in steep, often rainforested, terrain that severely constrains environmentally responsible logging or are remnant tableland forests with limited value for long term timber production. If it were not for these factors unprotected wilderness forests would have been heavily logged.

State Forests' wood resources study seeks to justify "business as usual" old growth and wilderness logging. Logging old growth can at best support "dinosaur" timber mills for another few years.

Even the Forest Products Association's submission to RACAC admits that the Boral sawmills at Tenterfield and Glen Innes will close. State Forests' environmental impact reports establish the unproductive nature of forests on the New England tableland. For example, the growth increment estimates for the N5 negotiation region range from 0.1 to 0.41 m³/ha/yr (Tenterfield and Glen Innes EIS reports). These forests are 200 to 50 times less productive than areas under the best hardwood plantation management.

These rare tableland forests contain some of the poorest conserved forest types in NSW with high native mammal diversity and should not be sacrificed for a once-off logging operation.

Supporting business as usual logging, Forest Products Association's wilderness disturbance assessment report attacks the definition of wilderness in the Act and claims that a number of compartments in the Provisionally Identified Wilderness and the Identified Wilderness Areas have been logged.

The report exaggerates the damage, as many of the figures in it depict clearing, huts and roads outside wilderness areas. There is no recording of how many compartments have not been logged, though these are probably the best available wilderness areas left.

Judging from the maps supplied, the logged compartments are a small proportion of the whole. For instance in the Chandlers Creek map 31 out of 148 compartments have been logged and in Stockyard Creek 3 out of 20. From this report the extent and severity of logging in each compartment is unclear and it is unlikely logging affects most of each compartment.

The fact that logging has occurred in these last near pristine areas is an indictment of past land use planning. It would appear that the assessment aims to prove that these areas are already degraded and should continue to be further degraded. This is a complete denial of the Government's wilderness policy. As Bob Carr said when introducing the Wilderness Bill "if we fail in the task now before us, if we do not accept the responsibility to protect some of what remains, then we must surely and rightly expect the condemnation of this and future generations."

The Wilderness Act itself fully recognises that all wilderness is to some extent degrade by including in the definition of wilderness land that is capable of restoration.

Wilderness now covers only 5% of land in the state. Its preservation is the most effective means of preserving endangered species and honouring Australia's obligation to pursue action to protect biodiversity.

The fact that parts of the Provisionally Identified Wilderness and the Identified Wilderness Areas have been logged is no reason for continuing to log them. It is rather a warning that logging should cease if wilderness is to be preserved. The Government should not hesitate in its resolve to protect wilderness. To resume logging after such a long running moratorium will be politically very damaging as the public will see it as a cynical policy reversal.



Keith Muir
Director
12 August, 1996

Monday 5 August, 1996

The Hon Bob Carr MP
Premier of New South Wales
Level 40, Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Carr

The Colong Foundation, The Wilderness Society and Total Environment Centre requests an urgent meeting with you to discuss the Wilderness Policy.

So far, only 16 per cent of the potential wilderness under the Policy has been protected. "Major concessions" to off-road vehicle and horseriding lobbied were granted by the April 12 decision. Since then, the legal branch of the National Parks and Wildlife Service has developed a concept of access corridors for inholdings in declared wilderness that would allow commercial use of access to inholdings. If implemented, this legal concept will for example result in a "snakes and ladders" Kanangra-Boyd wilderness and erosion of the wilderness concept by horseriding and 4WD parties, and helicopter operations.

The next round of wilderness proposals appears not to be progressing as well as hoped. For example, travelling stock reserves and Bicentennial National Trail separating parts of the Guy Fawkes wilderness will not be revoked (see attached).

Opportunities to protect significant amounts of wilderness for a relatively small financial outlay are not being considered. About 30,000 ha of Crown leasehold in state forests and a further 150,000 ha of other Crown lands are currently selling for between \$22 and \$44 per hectare (\$4 to \$8 million to acquire all of it). Currently about 30 per cent of this land is on offer to the NPWS. Funding the Dunphy Wilderness Fund would secure these significant potential advances in wilderness protection.

Failure to include leasehold lands and travelling stock routes in wilderness, along with other secondary land use management decisions, is constraining positive outcomes from this important round of wilderness and forest decisions.

Due to the funding required and the cooperation of various Government departments your intervention is needed. I hope the enclosed wilderness lobby book will rekindle memories and inspire action for wilderness protection.

Unfortunately the lobby book is not yours to keep, as the Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning has not seen it yet. I will be back to collect it from your office on Thursday.

Yours sincerely

Keith Muir
Director

Exclusive to Newcastle Herald.

August 25th 1996.

HUNTER FORESTS: INDUSTRY AND CONSERVATION BOTH FAIL

Spokesperson for North East Forest Alliance, Barrie Griffiths, said today that past overcutting and mismanagement had produced a situation where neither a viable sawlog industry, nor an adequate forest reserve system, were possible outcomes in Gloucester and Chichester management areas. Mr Griffiths said that analysis of data available through the Interim Assessment Process indicates the position is even worse than previously assessed.

"It has been obvious for at least ten years that the situation was hopeless, yet instead of immediate appropriate action, we have seen drawn-out assessments and proposals, and basically business-as-usual approved to July 1997. The only responsible outcome is that what little old growth, wilderness, critical habitat and catchment areas as remain are assessed and reserved as the nearest approach to an adequate reserve system now possible."

"In Gloucester and Chichester management areas, the overcutting of past decades has been allowed to continue to the present, including allocations for the current year to June 1997. Cutting has deliberately followed a policy of cutting out the old growth as rapidly as possible. Consequently so little quality old growth and high conservation mature forest remains that the option of an adequate reserve system is no longer available. The failure to set allocations at sustainable levels and the lack of provision for conservation reserves has produced the situation that there is no longer the possibility of a viable quota sawlog industry in Chichester and Gloucester management areas."

"The reality of the situation is clear if we consider the estimates used in the EIS and the Interim Assessment Process. At current allocations all old growth in Chichester would be gone by 2004 even if none (excepting areas in Whispering Gully and Mt Carrow) is set aside or declared as wilderness. Very little volume would be available from 2004 from regrowth; SFNSW estimate only 4,300 m3 gross is available from regrowth, and this estimate is based on applying a computer program to growth increment figures from Kendall M.A., which has very different soils, climate and forest types. The current annual allocation for Chichester is 10,150 m3 gross. There has still not been an inventory of standing volume - old growth and regrowth - for Chichester, nor for Gloucester."

"In Gloucester, at current allocations all old growth could be gone by 2011, without any areas set aside or added to the Barrington Wilderness. By about 2013 there would be no volume whatsoever available until 2020, when an estimated 5,000 m3 per year would be available from regrowth."

"These figures assume that even after decades of gross overcutting and virtually no provision for conservation reserves, almost all remaining old growth and identified wilderness is harvested, at current annual allocation volumes. Moreover, estimates of volumes available from regrowth, which in the absence of any inventory of standing volume contain a large margin of error, also assume even more intensive harvesting of regrowth than hitherto, using new proposed "gaps and clusters" or "patch clearfelling" techniques. However,

it is most unlikely that these much-criticised methods will be permitted.

--- "Of a total area of about 111,000 hectares, only about 1,300 hectares are currently set aside as conservation reserves in Chichester and Gloucester management areas."

"In this context the environment movement's proposed total moratorium area represents a significant compromise in allowing industry to continue for about three years, albeit at reduced allocations after July 1997, and involves logging forests with identified high conservation values. The effect of this much-belated provision for conservation reserves is that the timber industry in Gloucester and Chichester ceases to be viable as a high volume low value extraction industry in about 2000, instead of by 2013. With or without provision for conservation, the industry in the very near future must be based on plantation supplies and low volumes of high quality specialty products from native forests.

"The tragedy is that we have lost the opportunity to put in place an adequate system of reserves in these forests. The environment movement's proposed moratoria under the Interim Assessment Process are merely deferred areas for assessment, not gazetted reserves. Anything less than this minimum would be a travesty of the process, a breach of State Government policy and commitments, and of the National Forest Policy agreement.

Barrie Griffiths 065 773105

A public meeting organised by the Wilderness Society is being held in the Banquet Room, Newcastle Town Hall this Tuesday August 27th at 7.0 pm, dealing with the Interim Assessment Process and the Barrington Wilderness.

Principles:

* Simple, clear, repetition of our goal (not a demand).

"Australia needs a healthy, forest reserve system."

"Australia's forests must be protected for future generations." etc.

* We don't - demand.

- talk about details, minutiae

- threaten (our message is clear the campaign continues ~~and~~ until our goal is realised!).

* Additional lines

Our goal

* long term security

(good for regional papers).

Baddies

* sustainable industry

logging

Companies

(contrast).

*

split

NB Sorry, not thinking clearly. I have a heavy cold.

bric

(one of two

Think — 1) Type
— 2) Timeline

Strategy

TV		Radio		Print		
National	Regional Bulletins	Sydney	Local	State	Local	Magazine
	Greens Con					
Greens/	Media releases/ to time with Grafton Cabinet (long term security)		Time on talkback radio/ Rural ABC	State-wide Restatement - No backroom Deals	"Grafton" Media Blitz essential papers - long term security	Human Interest Story, Grafton Tops Follow up?
Local National Day of Action		Contact		Boral		
Suzuki Visit		Line up for Sydney radio spots ?		Guest column?		Weekly interview with Suzuki
of Canberra some visual resource required?						

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Dr Brand ... co-operation needed

belled timber. An international timber certification and labelling scheme was likely to be voluntary, he said, so consumers rather than governments would decide whether to buy labelled timber in preference to unlabelled products.

The UN will discuss the need for an international treaty setting environmental standards for forest management, at a conference in Geneva in September.

Europe, America, Japan and other advanced economies, as a way of lowering energy costs to industry and of meeting greenhouse targets.

mental policy as much industry more competit
"In the UK, 10 per

Dr Doldman said timber producing nations were still trying to agree to a definition of environmentally responsible forestry.

"There's some difficulty in reaching agreement on what sustainable forestry management is," he said.

Agreed standards of forest management also will be negotiated at a meeting of the Montreal Group — representing the world's biggest tropical and temperate timber

producers — in Canbe
A former secretary of t
forestry specialist Dr Da
seconded to NSW State
its forest management sy
three years.

Dr Brand said conse
and community groups n
more to improve forestry
"We now have a man

Green's the colour of money as NSW buys back its trees

THE AUSTRALIAN 15/7/96

RON Milliner, a contract logger from Bomballa in southern NSW, once found himself among 180 anti-logging protesters in the area where he was working. Despite the rowdy scene, he was not concerned.

"I remember saying to them, because by then I knew a lot of them by their first names, that if you feel so strongly about it, why don't you pay me up and I'll leave ... if that's what you want."

That was seven years ago. The 50-year-old Milliner and three other contract loggers from Bomballa are now among the first of what is expected to be several hundred of the 3900 timber workers in NSW to be paid by the NSW and federal governments to leave the native timber industry — a move possible because of an agreement last year between the State Government, timber industry and the conservation movement to reduce logging by 30 per cent in NSW.

In return, hardwood sawmillers will be able to access government funds to upgrade their equipment and add value.

If successful, the historic deal will — according to the timber industry — pave the way for a sustainable future. But, according to conservationists, it raises questions about government accountability and whether the native forest sector — a shrinking part of the total timber industry — should be granted such a big pot of money.

Clive Hamilton, executive director of the Australia Institute and former head of research at the now defunct federal Resources Assessment Commission, says the restructuring package is necessary to "smooth the inevitable transition the industry will have to make" from sourcing from native forests to plantations. He says the social justice elements of the package are excellent, in looking after displaced workers, and that at some stage soon the industry will have to shed labour and cut back logging to survive.

He says that to be competitive, the hardwood industry must shift to low-volume, high-value-added products, such as furniture. Its current high-output, low-value profile means it cannot compete against softwoods for building materials or imports from New Zealand.

Although debt-free and now running another business, a concrete dispatching plant, Milliner doubts whether he would be able to afford the \$1 million-plus to buy the harvesting machinery necessary to work in the radiata pine plantations in the Bomballa region. In any case, plans for a transition to pine have been put on hold because the town's major employer, CSR Ltd, has laid off 18 staff

■ The NSW timber industry is now receiving financial help from federal and State governments. **JOHN MACLEAY** reports that questions remain about the targeting of all this cash.



Historic deal: Forest workers are paid to quit

from its softwood processing plant.

Despite pressure from the conservation movement, the NSW Government — through the office of its Forests Minister, Kim Yeadon — either will not give the number or does not know just how many displaced timber workers will be eventually affected by redundancy after the federal and State governments spend a total of \$120 million on the industry over the next five years. The payouts have been up to \$470,000. For truck owner-drivers alone, a \$10 million compensation package has been set aside.

The agreement — to take almost a one-third cutback in resource availability — was not taken lightly by the timber industry, which lobbied hard, in tandem with the timber unions, to maximise the restructuring package to its best advantage.

The package includes giving the industry "resource security" where, in return for an agreement to value-add their product, sawmillers will be given secure five-year logging quotas that can be traded on an open market.

But the concept of resource security has angered many conservationists. However, the man in charge of negotiations for the timber industry, Col Dorber, the executive director of the Forest Products Association, says resource security is necessary before the industry will commit money to reinvesting.

A good friend of Dorber, Peter Anderson, a former Labor minister and one-time rival to Premier Carr, has been hired by the FPA to supplement the behind-the-scenes work in opening doors to ministers' offices. Dorber, an openly active member of the National Party, says Anderson has been instrumental in rebuilding bridges with the State Government.

Anderson, while not disclosing his lobbying techniques, says the timber industry and its major union, the Construction, Mining, Forestry and Energy Union, would never have agreed to the cutback in logging without a compensation package.

A joint industry union body, the Forest Industries Structural Adjustment Committee, will assess and determine who receives the funds according to strict guidelines that will later be checked by the NSW Auditor-General.

The money to be spent by NSW and the federal governments easily dwarfs the last major compensation package offered to the timber industry when the Federal Government paid \$75 million to compensate for the industry's loss of resources when the Daintree forests of north Queensland were declared a World Heritage area in 1987.

Sid Walker, the executive director of the Nature Conservation Council of NSW, says conservation outcomes should be an essential element of the NSW timber restructuring package. He is concerned that resource security will be given to the industry before the criteria to determine what constitutes sufficient benchmark for value-adding been determined.

A committee envisaged by the State government to investigate value adding expected to comprise union officials, timber industry representatives or to meet, even though the logging come into effect from July 1. "I think that, given the pace of that's not very likely," says W

ATT: ANNE REEVES - NPA, JEFF ANGEL - TEC, NOEL PLUMB,
KEITH MOIR - COLONG, SUSIE RUSSELL - NEFA, TOM M'CLOUD -
FOE, PETER WRIGHT - ACF, FELICITY WADE - TWS,
SIMON/CRAIG - CONSERVAC, PAUL WINN/TOOIE - TWS,
DAILAN PUGH/JL - NEFA, MARK BLETCHER - SEFCL,
LYN ORREGO, JIM
TENDER - NCEL

Howard in forests plea to Carr

By CRAIG SKEHAN
and DANIEL LEWIS

The Prime Minister, Mr Howard, has written to the Premier, Mr Carr, calling on State Cabinet not to cut logging quotas which would cause major economic dislocation to timber towns.

However, the State Government is concerned that at the same time as suggesting quota levels should be maintained, the Federal Government also wanted to maximise conservation for a national system of forest reserves.

A spokeswoman for the NSW Minister for Land, Mr Yeadon, said the Federal Government's position was "schizophrenic".

However, Federal officials said the letter had been sent to Mr Carr in a spirit of co-operation.

A spokesman for the Prime Minister said the Commonwealth was committed to work with the NSW Government to ensure there was a sustainable forest industry.

He said the Commonwealth was committed to speeding up completion of regional agreements for the national forest reserve system, providing certainty to both the industry and the conservation movement.



Mr Carr... letter.

The former Keating Labor Government in Canberra and Labor in NSW had set up a \$120 million pool of funds to deal with the economic impacts of an initial 30 per cent quota cut.

However, State Cabinet is due to decide early next month whether to cut quotas by a further 20 per cent or 40 per cent.

The warning from Mr Howard to Mr Carr signals that the Commonwealth may in future not be willing to provide additional funds for industry assistance to deal with quota reductions it opposes.

Mr Howard made it plain that he did not believe the interim assess-

ment process now under way was the appropriate time for timber quota reductions.

However, the NSW Government says that while Mr Howard wanted large areas protected pending the finalisation of reserves, that would mean gross overcutting within a relatively small area if quotas were maintained.

Mr Yeadon's spokeswoman said interest groups, including conservationists, unionists, companies and the Commonwealth were being widely consulted.

"It is not good enough to delay decisions, creating uncertainty for investment in the industry," she said of Mr Howard's plan.

The spokeswoman said the State Government believed existing funding for the industry package would be adequate.

The NSW Cabinet is meeting today in Grafton, in the Clarence Valley, where there are 60 mills employing up to 1,000 people, and Mr Carr is scheduled to meet timber workers.

According to the State Government, the timber industry around Grafton is unsustainable if environmental objectives are to be met.

LIMITED
TIME
ONLY

6

SMH 20.8.96.
P 4.

★ Forests dilemma for Carr as supporters split ★

The Carr Government is being torn in opposing directions by two of its key support groups on the eve of crucial talks over new native forest reserve systems.

Green groups, the unions and the timber industry will hold six hours of talks tomorrow with the Cabinet subcommittee on forests, made up of the Minister for the Environment, Ms Allan, the Minister for Conservation, Mr Yeadon, and the Minister for Planning, Mr Knowles.

The subcommittee will then make a submission to Cabinet on what areas of the State should be set aside and protected from logging.

Greens and the unions have

split on the issue, leaving the Government in the position of trying to appease both groups.

"We didn't work our guts out supporting the ALP's environment policies at the State election to be duded 18 months later," said Mr Jeff Angel, director of the Total Environment Centre.

Mr Noel Plumb, the Democrat whose preferences in Gladesville were vital to the narrow win of the Labor MP Mr John Watkins, has written to the ALP, with a number of other minor party candidates in marginal seats, threatening to direct preferences away from Labor at the next election. SMH 29/8/96

Mr Angel said this would almost certainly lead to the Government losing Gladesville, Blue Mountains and Bathurst.

However, an executive officer with the NSW Labor Council, Mr Mark Lennon, said the green groups were ignoring that the ALP went to the last election with twin objectives for forests: to conserve them while letting a viable timber industry survive.

"We have a difference of opinion as to how the policy can be achieved. We believe that the greens' position won't ensure the industry is viable into the future," Mr Lennon said.

□ NATHAN VASS ★

N.S. NOREDO brokers forestry 19/8/96 accord

Agreement has been reached by traditional opponents about the assessment of forests in the Northern Rivers, Northern Rivers Regional Economic Development Organisation (NOREDO) chairman Jim Gallagher said yesterday.

He said the agreement had been submitted by NOREDO to the NSW Resource and Conservation Assessment Council.

Dr Gallagher said that if the NSW Government approved the proposal, a regional assessment body

SMH 30/8/96

Living fossils grow into pots of money

By RICHARD MACEY

The Wollemi pine, once thought to have become extinct tens of millions of years ago, is likely to be sold at nurseries in three years.

Potted offspring of the "living fossils" would become popular as indoor "Aussie Christmas trees", a Royal Botanic Gardens assistant director, Mr Don Blaxell, predicted yesterday.

He said the Botanic Gardens would advertise in October for a commercial partner to help it develop the pine - now regarded as one of the world's rarest plants - for home gardens.

The Wollemi pine will make its public debut tomorrow when three saplings produced from a

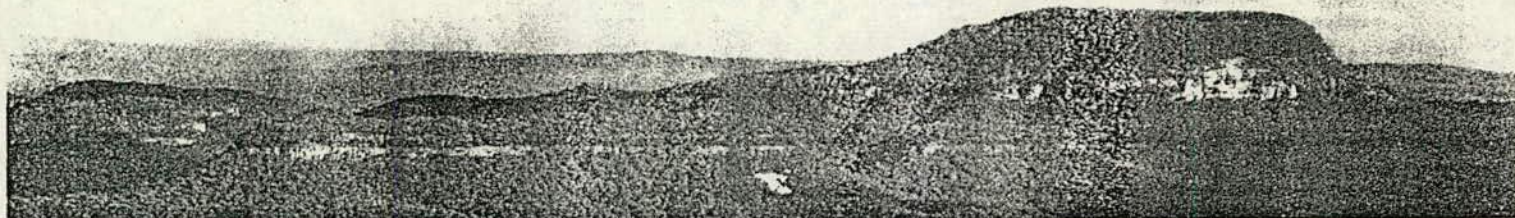
The largest trees in the wild are 35 metres tall and up to 10 metres wide. Mr Blaxell believes they will probably grow shorter and wider in Sydney gardens.

He predicted they would make excellent pot plants for people with small gardens and said he would pot one to decorate as his Christmas tree.

If the commercial breeding program began next year, small pines could be on sale in 1999.

However, Mr Blaxell said there would be no point releasing the plants until tens of thousands were grown to meet the expected rush on nurseries.

A handful of other botanic gardens would begin receiving the



THE COLONG FOUNDATION FOR WILDERNESS LTD.

Thursday 8 August, 1996

The Hon Pam Allan
Minister for the Environment
Level 9, St James Centre
111 Elizabeth Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Ms Allan

Wilderness Follies

The Government is about to make critical decisions affecting icon wilderness areas throughout NSW. During the recent public comment period, immense support was demonstrated for protection of these rare areas.

State Forests in its submission to the Government's forest review process has greatly exaggerated the timber resources in wilderness areas (see attached table on the CORNUCOPIA INDEX). Wilderness in state forests survive on relatively steep land on the Great Escarpment or are remnant tableland forests with limited value for long term timber production. For instance, even the Forest Products Association recognise that closure of Boral's Glen Innes and Tenterfield sawmills that rely on tableland forests was apparent even before the Interim Forest Assessment Process commenced.

One of the key means to restructure the native timber industry is retooling so that regrowth and plantation timber can be used for high quality, value added end uses. However, just like the rainforest debate of a decade ago, State Forests' wants logging to continue in the majestic old growth and wilderness areas. These 'dinosaur' operations can last at best a short few years until the resource is cut out. Now is the time to retool.

Supporting this 'business as usual' approach, the Forest Products Association's wilderness submission claims that parts of these near pristine wilderness have been logged or otherwise degraded. The submission exaggerates the situation and contains figures illustrating damage well outside wilderness areas. Past damage (often no more than limited selective logging of small areas prior to the 1980's), is no reason to further degrade them by logging, but rather is a warning logging must cease before the last wilderness remnants are forever lost.

All NPWS identified wilderness can be returned to a near-pristine condition, just like those damaged areas of the declared Washpool wilderness that are now inscribed on the World Heritage list. To resume logging after such a long running moratorium on wilderness will be politically very damaging as the public will see it as a cynical policy reversal.

The Colong Foundation requests that you make representations to the Premier and the Minister for Lands and Water Conservation and ask them not to compromise NSW Labor's resolve to shift the State's native timber industry out of old growth and wilderness forests.

Yours sincerely

Keith Muir

GLOUCESTER WALK, 88 CUMBERLAND STREET SYDNEY 2000 (ACN 001 112 143).
TELEPHONE (02) 241 2702. FAX (02) 241 1289

Derivation of the Cornucopia Index — the exaggeration of sawlog resources in wilderness areas (source data, Table 6.1 in DIFA Report).

Neg. region	State forests in each region (ha)	Identified wilderness in SF (ha)◆	% SF in identified wilderness	"Long Term" wood supply - (first class sawlogs in SF (m³/yr))	"Long Term" wood supply in SF (less id. wilderness (m³/yr))	Wood supply forgone in protecting id. wilderness in SF (m³/yr)	% decrease in sustained yield from SF wilderness protection	%dec %SF = Corn. Index (R)
N1	81,237	936	1.0	22,320	22,320	0	0.0	0.0
N2 R	452,068	29,028	6.4	115,055	97,718	R 17,337	15.1	2.4
N3	429,428	44,019	10.2	153,575	143,560	10,015	6.5	0.6
N4 R	195,178	24,144*	12.4	45,821	26,640	R 19,181	41.8	3.4
N5 ☒	157,316	40,904	26.0	28,980	21,000	☒ 7,980	27.5	1.1
N6 ☒	150,002	8,240	5.5	29,400	28,875	☒ 525	1.8	0.3
CENTRAL	112,349	3,000	2.7	14,144	14,144	0	0.0	0
S1 R	297,318	25,700	8.6	45,688	39,775	R 5,913	12.9	1.5
S2 R	96,520	9,000	9.3	9,700	7,400	R 2,300	23.7	2.6
TUMUT R	177,289	2,620	1.5	41,700	39,990	R 1,710	4.1	2.7
EDEN	236,598	11,704	4.9	26,200	~25,000#	~1,200#	4.6	0.9
TOTAL	2,385,303	119,295	5.0	532,583	466,422	R 66,161	12.4	2.5

Notes: R THE CORNUCOPIA INDEX: An Index value greater than ONE indicates that State Forests' predicted long term sawlog yield for wilderness is overstated because the yield per hectare should be less than elsewhere in the region (ie a cornucopia index >1). An Index greater than TWO indicates that the predicted long term sawlog yields for wilderness in these regions is greatly exaggerated. The real long term sawlog yield for wilderness must be LESS than other forest areas on a per hectare basis because of steep terrain, inaccessibility and rainforest. If it were not for these factors it is probable that the wilderness would have been heavily logged.

☒ The tableland forests in N5 and N6 have a very low increment of commercial timber growth of around 0.2 m³/ha/yr. This does not justify once-off logging of rare wilderness forests. (The wilderness forests in N6 were promised protection by Mr Fahey in 23/12/93.)

• The total area of State Forest in Barrington wilderness (the figure in table 6.1 of the DIFA report excludes Stewarts Brook State Forest).

Guesstimate that assumes old growth does not contain vastly more available first quality timber resources than regrowth areas due to physical constraints, such as terrain and poor soils, and that the long term wood supply is equally constrained (required information is not available from Table 6.1 of the DIFA Report).

◆ Sources: Colong Foundation Wilderness Red Index, 1993 and Forest Products Association RACAC and wilderness submissions.

Thursday August 8, 1996.

Dear Delegate,

This letter has been sent to the Labor Council and a preliminary meeting with Mr. Mark Lennon was held this afternoon. It was agreed a further meeting between the environment movement representatives and the timber unions is the next step to take in addressing our concerns. Hopefully this will occur sometime early next week.

We do not need to stress the point that if the Labor movement is going to support a position that will see high conservation value forests logged over the next few years then it will be working in opposition to the aims and hopes of the conservation movement.

We fear that the trade union movement does not fully comprehend the implications of the position it is currently supporting. As it stands, the unions' position would lead to renewed conflict and the loss of this historic opportunity to resolve conflict over native forests in NSW.

We ask for:

1. An opportunity to address the Labor Council at the next meeting to put our point of view; and
2. The Labor Council to reconsider it's position on this matter.

Nature Conservation Council of NSW; Total Environment Centre;
Colong Foundation for Wilderness; Friends of the Earth;
Australian Conservation Foundation; National Parks Association;
North East Forest Alliance; South East Forest Conservation Council;
Conservation Council for the South East Region and Canberra;
The Wilderness Society

Forest Parks Countdown
39 George St., The Rocks, 2000
ph 2474206; fax 2475945

August 5, 1996

To Mr. Peter Sams, State Secretary of the NSW Labor Council,

Dear Peter,

The Interim Forest Assessment Process nears completion. This process has enjoyed the support of all the major forest conservation groups in NSW. We have been involved since its inception and are keen to work through a process that will see high conservation ~~value~~ forests of NSW protected at long last, on a rational basis.

The aim of the Interim Assessment Process is to identify and place under moratorium those areas identified as high conservation value and likely to be required for a comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system.

Comprehensive regional assessments have been fast-tracked by the Federal Government so that the reserve system can hopefully be finalised by 1998/9.

We understand from our representative on the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council, Mr. Dailan Pugh, that the submission of the CFMEU to the Interim Forest Assessment Process purports to have been made on behalf of the NSW Trade Union Movement. As we are extremely concerned at a number of the positions expressed in that submission we would like to clarify the NSW Labor Council's position on this matter. The protection of forests has been a long standing environmental protection issue in NSW, and the environment movement has enjoyed the support of members of many unions during the fight for their protection.

We are extremely concerned that the position adopted by the CFMEU is contrary to the National Forest Policy process which has the support of the NSW Government and which industry, unions and conservationists have participated in.

The NFPS states " ...until the assessments are completed, forest management agencies will avoid activities that may significantly affect those areas of old-growth forest or wilderness that are likely to have high conservation value."

The Conservation Criteria Outcome, while not meeting a number of our concerns or targets is the only outcome from the IAP process which attempts to meet the requirements of the National Forest Policy.

The outcome which the CFMEU and the "NSW Trade Union Movement" endorses gives minimal conservation outcomes for old growth, endangered species or forest types.

It would mean that thousands of hectares, in fact most, of the remaining areas of high conservation value old growth forest in NSW will be logged within the next decade. The \$120 million restructuring fund will have achieved nothing. Furthermore it will mean that the monies from the Environmental Trust Fund will have been spent illegally as the legislation clearly states they can only be expended when tied to a conservation outcome.

The IAP presents the best opportunity to achieve a resolution of this important issue. We seek an urgent opportunity to discuss the Labor Council position on the CFMEU submission to the Interim Assessment Process. Mr Sid Walker or Ms Susie Russell, on behalf of the above mentioned organisations, will call to arrange a suitable time for meeting with you or your representatives.

Yours sincerely,



Susie Russell, Conservation Representative,
Forestry Advisory Council



Forestry Structural
Adjustment Unit

Margaret Richardson
Flat 11
270 Campbell Parade
NORTH BONDI NSW 2026

Dear M/s Richardson

Further to your conversation with Ms Thollar of the Unit please find a breakdown of figures hereunder in relation to the Forestry Industry Structural Adjustment Package. Please note that these figures are flexible and approximates only and represent a \$60m contribution from both the New South Wales and Commonwealth Governments.

Worker Assistance	\$55 million
Financial Assistance for Businesses	\$35 million
Industry and Enterprise Development	\$30 million
	<hr/>
	\$120 million
	<hr/>

Yours sincerely

Jane McAloon
Director

16 July 1996

12 August 1996
TOTAL ENVIRONMENT CENTRE INC.
SHOP 1, GLOUCESTER WALK, 88 CUMBERLAND STREET, SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2000
Phones (02) 247 4714 - (02) 247 8476 Fax (02) 247 7118



Mr R Bowen
Director
Resource and Conservation Assessment Council
Governor Macquarie Tower
Phillip Street Sydney 2000

BY HAND

Dear Mr Bowen

I write at short notice to express deep concerns in the environment movement at the report of David Balloch and Associates titled "Analysis of written submissions on the Interim Assessment Process (IAP)" and dated August 1996.

It is our view that unless this report is substantially amended and updated, the overwhelming public support by way of submissions to RACAC for the environment movement's position on forest conservation, and our Forest Reserve Plan in particular, may be severely understated and inaccurately reported.

The report analyses only 7618 of a total of 20486 public submissions lodged and includes only 4801 conservationist submissions although our support was 16081 out of the 20846 total - that is nearly 80% of the submissions.

Of equal concern is the key statement in the report in Section 2.3 (Page 5) that "The analysis shows that 4801 submissions (63%) were representative of the 'conservationist' point of view and generally sought, directly or indirectly (through stated support of the environment movement's Forest Reserve Plan and Package), the Conservation Criteria Negotiation Outcome in all RACAC negotiation regions and Outcome 3 in Eden Negotiation Region."

This statement is quite incorrect as the Forest Reserve Plan specifically supports a conservation position in each region, except Eden, based on a combination of the CCNO's **plus** additional environment movement moratorium areas. In Eden, the designated CCNO was absolutely rejected by the environment movement which then negotiated Outcome 3 (immediate National Park reservation) and also supported Outcome 4 (for additional areas to be deferred from logging for further study as potential reserves).

You will also be aware that we have clearly stated that the CCNO for S1 was grossly deficient because of inadequate and delayed data to our negotiator, while we have called for Tumut to be redone due to the lack of critical data.

In short, the key statement significantly distorts the public support for our position and this is confirmed by the report's comment in section 2.8 (Page 10) that 66.2% of all conservation submissions specifically called for the

implementation of the Forest Reserve Plan (57.4%) or our moratorium areas (8.8%).

Table 4 : Analysis of submissions by respondent type and negotiation regions. This also significantly understates our support in that it apparently excludes most submissions supporting the Forest Reserve Plan as not specific to a region despite the fact that the FRP has a detailed and specific proposal for each negotiation region.

Table 5: Analysis of submissions by respondent type and stated negotiation outcome. Again, this severely underreports the clear views of many conservationist submissions by apparently excluding most FRP based submissions, presumably on the grounds they do not have a desired or stated outcome (see remarks immediately following Table 5). This is clearly incorrect given that the FRP has a detailed and specific proposal for each negotiation region.

We are deeply concerned that any report to the Government on the outcome of the IAP's public consultation phase, based on the Balloch report, will be seriously biased against our position. If this were to occur we would immediately seek to redress the situation through all possible legal and administrative channels.

We seek your immediate assurance that the analysis of the IAP submissions will be revised and updated to overcome the problems detailed by us.

Your urgent reply is requested.

Yours sincerely


Jeff Angel

**Colong Foundation
The Wilderness Society**

**Total Environment Centre
Nature Conservation Council**

Monday 12 August, 1996

The Hon Pam Allan MP
Minister for the Environment
Level 9, St James Centre
111 Elizabeth Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Ms Allan

Unsatisfactory approach to wilderness protection by NPWS

The undersigned environment organisations are concerned at the ambivalent attitude of the NPWS to wilderness protection which threatens to squander the Carr Government's historic opportunity to greatly improve the state of wilderness protection by full implementation of its forests and wilderness policies.

We believe the NPWS's approach is unhelpful. It is partly a legacy of the Greiner and Fahey Governments, (when a policy was formulated to amend the Wilderness Act adversely) and it is encouraged by a misconception current within some areas of the NPWS that the community is forced to make a 'choice' between wilderness or biodiversity conservation.

The following key issues need to be addressed immediately if there is to be a satisfactory decision on wilderness:

1. declarations under the Wilderness Act should be made immediately over all identified wilderness areas. Lands identified as wilderness should only be excluded from a declaration if there is a requirement for consent by a private interest-holder with secure tenure (not a NSW government agency) and if that consent cannot be obtained.
2. as a prelude to their dedication as national parks under the National Parks and Wildlife Act, all lands within formally identified wilderness areas should immediately be vested in the Director-General. Lands subject to an existing interest which cannot be terminated should be vested in the Director-General. Lands subject to an existing interest which cannot be terminated should be vested in the Director General's ownership and control to the fullest extent possible.
3. lands within formally identified wilderness areas should be dedicated under the National Parks and Wildlife Act in the near future (1996).
4. Travelling stock routes or reserves or other public reserves within formally identified wilderness area should be made subject to wilderness declarations, revoked immediately to allow vesting in the Director-General, and dedicated as national park at an early date.

5. Notice of termination should be given for permissive occupancies within wilderness areas to allow the land to be appropriately declared and dedicated in the near future (1996).
6. Private inholdings (freehold and leasehold) within wilderness areas should be given priority for acquisition by the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Where possible, uses of leaseholds should be controlled appropriately through lease conditions. The Government must consider resumption action in the public interest in all appropriate cases. Access arrangements should be brought into line with wilderness management to the fullest extent possible.
7. The 'Bicentennial National (horse) Trail' should be immediately relocated out of formally identified wilderness areas. Alternative non-wilderness routes should be advised by the Government as an interim measure, with a process of public consultation before determination of the final routes (but routes through wilderness areas remaining out of contention).
8. No vehicle tracks should be maintained within wilderness areas other than those for which there is a genuine and compelling management need demonstrated by the NPWS. Vehicular tracks retained for management purposes within wilderness areas should be effectively closed to the public.

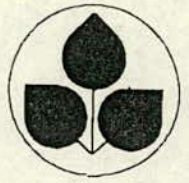
Yours sincerely

Keith Muir
Colong Foundation

Jeff Angel
Total Environment Centre

Felicity Wade
The Wilderness Society

Peter Prineas
Nature Conservation Council



Attention Forest Campaigners

Call for submissions

JANIS Proposed Nationally Agreed Reserve Criteria

The Federal Government has released for comment a watered-down version of the 1995 Reserve Criteria (the 15% paper). It has been agreed by the Commonwealth and State officials and, once this comment process is over, it will be referred to several committees and then the relevant Ministers who will sign off on it, presumably in a few months time.

The new paper has lots of "flexibility" - flexibility to reduce the target from 15% to 10% if socio-economic impacts are not acceptable, flexibility not to protect old growth forest and flexibility to allow logging right up to wilderness boundaries.

Please make a submission and let the officials know what a waste of time and money these new criteria are. Submissions are officially due by the 31st July but should be accepted after that if you let them know you are sending one. The contact details are:

Peter Lawrence
Forests Taskforce, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
3-5 National Circuit
BARTON ACT 2600
Phone: 06 271 5130
Fax: 06 271 5511

These notes can be e-mailed to you if they will help you prepare your submissions.

Thanks.

Peter Wright
ACF Biodiversity Campaigner
33 George St, Sydney
Ph: 02 247 4285, Fax: 02 247 1206, Email: acfsyd@peg.apc.org

Notes for a Submission on the *Proposed Nationally Agreed Criteria for the Establishment of a Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative Reserve System for Forests in Australia*

General Themes

- Inconsistent with NFPS.
- Confusion between conservation on public and private land, and off-reserve management.
- Flexibility for conservation vs. Security for industry. One can only hope that there will be great flexibility to add areas for conservation and little resource security for industry which may limit future conservation options.
- Our original position was 30% of all forest types, plus 100% protection for areas of high conservation value such as old growth forest, endangered species habitat, refugia etc.

Specific Comments

2.2 A REGIONAL APPROACH TO CONSERVATION (p.6)

- IBRA regions have been described as "the topmost rung of an hierarchical classification scheme which should not be used for anything other than continental scale comparisons" (Thackway, R & Cresswell, ID (eds) 1994. *Towards and Interim Biogeographic Regionalization for Australia. Proceedings of a technical meeting held at the South Australian Dept of Environment and Natural Resources, 7-11 Feb 1994*). This document, however, says that combinations of IBRA regions could be used in the forest assessments. Given that they have been developed as a framework for comprehensive regional assessment, it is inappropriate to aggregate them for regional forest assessments. Forest assessment regions should be either IBRA regions or parts of IBRA regions.

4. COMPONENTS OF THE CAR SYSTEM

- The document says that "conservation zones in approved forest management plans and covenants on private land that bind successors in title" are ways to "provide for biodiversity and old-growth forest conservation and wilderness" outside the Dedicated Reserve system on public land. Conservation zones can, in most States, be changed by a forest management agency without agreement from the Minister, and so provide much less security than either the Dedicated Reserve system, or even covenants. They are incapable of providing permanent protection for irreplaceable values such as old-growth forest, wilderness and biodiversity. They should more correctly be considered part of off-reserve management, not the CAR reserve system. Targets should be met within the dedicated reserve system.

- State covenanting systems for private land should be reviewed to ensure that they provide secure long-term tenure and that appropriate government support is provided to landowners.
- The document suggests that the CAR reserve system comprises dedicated reserves, informal reserves (mapped areas reserved by management arrangements in production forest management plans) and values protected by prescription (but which are not mapped, e.g. riparian vegetation). Both the latter two categories are expected to change over time, and are not protected by Parliament even Ministerial action. Values protected by prescription are suggested to include areas which cannot be mapped. This lack of security of tenure, and the possibility that areas which cannot be mapped are considered part of the CAR reserve system is entirely unacceptable and inconsistent with the National Forest Policy Statement. The NFPS makes it very clear that the CAR reserve system comprises dedicated reserves only (see 4.1 Conservation):

“The nature conservation objectives are being pursued in three ways. First, parts of the public native forest estate will continue to be set aside in dedicated nature conservation reserve systems to protect native forest communities, based on the principles of comprehensiveness, adequacy and representativeness. The reserve system will safeguard endangered and vulnerable species and communities. Other areas of forest will also be protected to safeguard special areas and to provide links where possible between reserves or other protected areas. Nature conservation reserves will be managed so as to protect their values. Second, there will be complementary management outside reserves, in public native forests that are available for wood production and other commercial uses and in forests on unallocated or leased Crown land. Third, the management of private forests in sympathy with nature conservation goals will be promoted.”

Informal reserves and values protected by prescription are rightly components of off-reserve management. The CAR reserve system must comprise only dedicated reserves, i.e. areas which can be mapped, are managed for nature conservation, and which are protected by Parliamentary action.

4.1.2 Informal Reserves

- The circumstances in which it may not be “possible or practicable to include conservation values into Dedicated Reserves” should be clearly articulated. Vagueness will encourage this loophole to be exploited.

4.1.3 Values Protected by Prescription

- The protection of values by prescription is part of ecologically sustainable off-reserve management. It should not be considered part of the CAR reserve system.
- Given that values protected by prescription are not mapped and do not require Parliamentary action to change them, they should not apply to areas of high conservation value (e.g. unique, irreplaceable, threatened, or vulnerable ecosystems or species). Many rare communities, such as the small rainforest fragments of East Gippsland, should be protected not by prescription but by large reserves which encompass all the fragments and the forest which surrounds them. Protection of rainforest fragments necessarily requires protection of the forest that surrounds them.

4.2 PRIVATE LAND

- The mechanism used to protect conservation values currently on private land should be appropriate to the value. A suggested hierarchy is outlined below:

Unique/irreplaceable species habitat or ecosystem: Acquisition and inclusion in the dedicated reserve system.

Endangered species habitat or ecosystem: acquisition and inclusion in the dedicated reserve system.

Vulnerable or rare habitat or ecosystem: covenant which binds successors in title.

This proposed hierarchy is consistent with NFPS, which states: "Purchase of private land for reservation purposes is appropriate in cases where high conservation values are inadequately represented on Crown land and where complementary management practices on those private lands are unlikely to adequately protect those conservation values or provide for public amenity," and "The Governments will ensure that unique features and heritage values of conservation significance are protected as part of the overall reservation systems."

5.1 FLEXIBILITY

- The document proposes that the criteria be considered "guidelines rather than mandatory targets". Without setting minimum national standards or detailed procedures to guide the application of the criteria it will not be possible to establish the much-touted "world-class reserve system." The criteria as proposed now depend for their interpretation on negotiation between the Commonwealth and the States. With no clearly established baseline, conservation groups can have no faith that this process will fulfil the aim of establishing a truly comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system.
- If conservation criteria are to be applied with flexibility "to allow for changes to the CAR reserve system as a result of changes in knowledge and changes in biota" then the Regional Agreements must also provide a matching level of flexibility.
- The document proposes that where there are socio-economic trade-offs, and biodiversity, old-growth and wilderness values are being considered, "optimisation of biodiversity should take precedence." All targets should be met before any trade-offs are considered, and if they are to occur, the protection of irreplaceable values such as old-growth and wilderness should take precedence. Old-growth and wilderness should remain the highest priorities in this document as they are in the NFPS: "The strategy acknowledges the significance of these areas to the Australian community because of their very high aesthetic, cultural and nature conservation values and their freedom from disturbance."

5.3 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- "Regional Forest Agreements: The Commonwealth Position" (February 1995) makes it very clear that social and economic impact assessments will be made once the resource use options have been identified. This document proposes to integrate the "application of the reserve criteria with social and economic considerations." It should be made clear (both here and in 6.1.1 and 6.1.2) that the options which arise from fully applying the criteria and

meeting the targets should be assessed for their social and economic impact once they have been generated. This is consistent with the Commonwealth Position. Suspected social and economic impacts should not be used as a reason for constraining the options generated.

- The document proposes that "The analytical processes which integrate the application of the reserve criteria with social and economic considerations should be transparent." This suggests that stakeholders should have the opportunity to be involved in generating the options.
- Any cost-benefit analysis of options should consider:
 - the direct costs associated with the choice, implementation and management of a production forest;
 - the opportunity costs of non-timber uses which are incompatible with wood production;
 - the community's willingness to pay for the conservation of forests; and
 - the potential for developing non-forest work opportunities in the region, particularly in the plantation sector.

6.1 BIODIVERSITY CRITERIA

6.1.1 Discussion

- See comments under 5.3 above regarding socio-economic impacts. The time and process for assessing social and economic impacts is clearly articulated in the Commonwealth Position on Regional Forest Agreements. It should be restated here to ensure there is no ambiguity.
- In areas where the reserve system is inadequate and forests are being overcut (i.e. all native forest logging operations) the NFPS process should lead to less native forest being available for logging and lower logging rates. This, after all, is the whole point of the exercise. Any native forest industry reform process which is limited in its conservation results by its impact on the native forest industry is a pointless exercise.
- If social and economic impacts are to limit conservation outcomes, guidelines should be developed which identify the level of impact considered acceptable to avoid decisions being made on purely political bases.
- Q: Is Beard 1979 a suitable classification for WA forests?

6.1.2 Criteria

(1)

- See comments under 5.3 above regarding socio-economic impacts. The time and process for assessing social and economic impacts is clearly articulated in the Commonwealth Position on Regional Forest Agreements. It should be restated here to ensure there is no ambiguity.
- This criterion should be retained as 15% as a baseline, as it was in the Commonwealth criteria. This figure was chosen because it built on the internationally agreed minimum of 10% and then added an additional 5% to ensure that unknown as well as known elements of

biodiversity were protected. Without an unambiguous baseline, the Commonwealth will be under pressure to agree to lower levels of reservation in those areas where higher levels are most needed, i.e. areas where the forest communities are under the greatest threat from logging.

(2)

- Under the previous criteria, *Athrotaxis selaginoides* rainforests were acknowledged as needing "almost total reservation" because of their "susceptibility to further destruction by fire and... limited ability to invade burned areas". Without any explanation, this has now been weakened to "higher levels of reservation." A community such as this which has little prospect of surviving disturbance should be given 100% protection.
- Rainforest is widely acknowledged as a vulnerable ecosystem and should be specifically acknowledged as such in this criterion.

(3)

- This criterion, as expressed, is inconsistent with the NFPS. The NFPS makes very clear that reservation should be acknowledged as the priority mechanism for endangered and vulnerable species and ecosystems: "The reserve system will safeguard endangered and vulnerable species and communities. Other areas of forest will also be protected to safeguard special areas and to provide links where possible between reserves or other protected areas."

(4)

- This criterion should also make mention of the NFPS requirement to establish corridors and links to cope with climate change events: "In developing the nature conservation reserve system and forest management approaches in other public native forests, each Government will, where possible, ensure that effective corridor systems link reserves, refuges and areas with a relatively large range of altitudinal and other geographical variation so as to take into account the possible impacts of climate change."

(5)

- While the previous criteria stated that "All known elements of biodiversity should be represented in reserves", this document says that "The reserve system should seek to maximise the areas of high quality habitat for all known elements of biodiversity wherever practicable". This is so vague as to be meaningless. The original wording should be maintained. At the very least, the four categories listed in the points should be protected in the reserve system.

(6)

- Add to this criterion "...and should be designed consistent with the principles expressed in section 7. Reserve Design and Management."

6.2 OLD-GROWTH FOREST CRITERIA

6.2.1 Discussion

- The unwelcome spectre of 'flexibility' appears in the old growth criteria also: "...lower thresholds may apply in regions where disturbance and fragmentation are less evident." The targets should be absolute minima, and not flexible guidelines.

6.2.2 Criteria

(2)

- The old-growth sliding scale should be retained. It was a logical and consistent mechanism for recognising that rarer old growth needs higher levels of protection and for recognising the higher value placed by the community on old-growth forest.
- While the series of points in this criterion are generally appropriate, the failure to tie them to clear targets and mechanisms for identification renders them ineffective.
- The objective of increasing the levels of protection to protect "the largest and least fragmented areas of old-growth" appears inconsistent with the overall aim of protecting only 60% of old growth communities which are not rare. The largest and least fragmented areas of old growth are likely to occur in forest types which are not rare.

6.3 WILDERNESS CRITERIA

- The statement concerning the difficulty in managing feral animals and weeds in wilderness areas is an unnecessary and misleading generalisation. Some ferals, such as foxes, are far less prevalent in wilderness areas than in other lands. "The fox is probably most abundant in fragmented environments typically found in agricultural landscapes because these offer a wide variety of cover, food and den sites. More uniform, open environments are less favoured as are heavily forested or mountainous areas." (Saunders, G, B Coman, J Kinnear & M Braysher 1995. *Managing Vertebrate Pests: Foxes*. AGPS, Canberra).

6.3.1 Criteria

- The previous criteria did not allow activities adjacent to wilderness areas which would reduce their wilderness quality. This is entirely logical given that wilderness areas are defined by their remoteness from settlement and access. The criteria in this document do not include this requirement. A resort, road or logging operation could be established along the boundary of a wilderness area and so reduce its wilderness value. This, combined with the criterion recognising "nodal" areas of wilderness of higher quality suggest that the aim is not to protect areas of NWI 12 value, but areas with some undefined higher wilderness value. The original criterion should be retained so that at the very least, NWI 12 areas are identified, protected and managed to maintain and enhance the values for which they were reserved.

- 'Flexibility' appears yet again in deciding what is the area large enough to be considered wilderness. "Higher thresholds may apply within a region where wilderness is extensive." All remaining wilderness should be protected.
- The final criterion should read "Wherever possible, wilderness boundaries should follow ecological and management features such as topography, water catchment boundaries, roads and other transport routes.

7. RESERVE DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT

- This section includes some excellent principles which are essential to the long-term viability of the dedicated reserve system. They should be tightened up to ensure that they are adopted.
- The proviso in the fourth point concerning reserves across environmental gradients should be removed. It is inconsistent with the overarching principle expressed in the NFPS: "In developing the nature conservation reserve system and forest management approaches in other public native forests, each Government will, where possible, ensure that effective corridor systems link reserves, refuges and areas with a relatively large range of altitudinal and other geographical variation so as to take into account the possible impacts of climate change."
- The final point should be amended to read: "Reserve design and the management of the adjacent lands should aim to..." It will not always be possible for reserve design alone to take account of the impact of threatening processes.
- Two additional criteria should be added:
 - Small reserved areas will require more conservative management in the adjacent lands.
 - Clusters of small fragmented areas of high conservation value are best protected through the reservation of all the surrounding forest which may have lower conservation value.
- The third sentence from the bottom of this section should read: "Wilderness values also will need to be maintained by appropriate management and design of wilderness areas and the adjacent lands." as wilderness values are partly determined by the level of disturbance in adjacent lands.

AUG 16 '96 17:21

P.1/1



The Wilderness Society (Sydney) Inc.
1st Floor, 263 Broadway, GLEBE NSW 2037
Ph (02) 412 255 Fax (02) 552 4073

Media Release

16/8/96

Attention all Chiefs of Staff and Environment Reporters

WILDERNESS SOCIETY LABELS ENVIRONMENT MINISTER ALLAN AS UNCOMMITTED .

The Wilderness Society today castigated NSW Environment Minister for being unwilling to fight for wilderness conservation. Wilderness Society activists who "greeted" Minister Allan and other guests at the opening of the new Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation Research at the Australian Museum in Sydney pointed to the irony of her presence when her government is about to back down on pre-election wilderness protection promises.

"The irony of Pam Allan opening this centre at a time when the Carr Government is all set to renege on its pre-election promise to protect 1 million hectares of wilderness in the state is breathtaking. The vast majority of the world's scientists recognise that wilderness conservation is by far and away the best way to protect biodiversity yet Allan with help from the timber industry champion, Kim Yeadon look like protecting only a third of their pre-election promise. No wonder people are disillusioned with the major parties", said Felicity Wade, NSW campaign co-ordinator for the Society today.

"Allan has signalled very clearly that she is not prepared to take on the harder aspects of conserving wilderness. She is uncommitted to protection of our state's biodiversity. This morning on ABC radio she spoke of Nadgee wilderness as if protecting it was simply a matter of weighing up interest groups' concerns. Her very own National Parks Service has identified the area as needing wilderness protection for the continued integrity of this last coastal wilderness. According to the minister wilderness protection is the stuff of cynical political deals. We are fed up with chocolate environment ministers who do not fight for their portfolio's interests."

More Information Felicity Wade 019-158-328 or 02-552-2355

Protecting, promoting and preserving wilderness

Elke - for networking please.

THE N.S.W. LABOR COUNCIL'S POSITION ON FORESTS - DID YOUR UNION REALLY ENDORSE IT???

On 27 June 1996 the NSW Labor Council discussed the resource and employment implications of the NSW interim forest assessment process and passed a resolution which states: "Labor Council supports the (forest) unions call for a cautious approach to the question of timber resource withdrawal."

The NSW conservation movement, also a party to the NSW forest process, appreciates the need for the union movement to take a cautious approach to changes that affect the employment prospects of union members. We have consistently supported a generous safety net for timber workers which compare favourably with most other industries affected by job losses.

However, a further position paper on forests (attached), which was prepared in the context of a crucial NSW Government decision expected in early September, purports to be the view of 'the NSW union movement' yet presents a far more detailed position which we believe to be factually incorrect, logically inconsistent and effectively advocating the betrayal of the Carr Government's environmental commitments on forests. If adopted, this position would destroy the Government's forest peace process - at a time when conservationists have been bending over backwards to make it work.

Has your union truly endorsed this position?

The crucial flaw

The main purpose of the Government's forest Interim Assessment Process (IAP) is to set some areas aside from logging for about two years while fuller assessments are carried out, leading to a resolution of conservation and resource issues. The position put forward by the unions claims that unless the moratorium is limited to an area able to generate current (96/7) quotas on a long-term basis, the industry will collapse.

That is clearly nonsense. In almost every region, the industry can clearly keep going for more than two years outside forests recognised in the IAP as likely to be needed for the reserve system. In the few regions where that may not be possible, the industry has overcut beyond the point where it can be kept going on anything like its current scale; by definition, in those regions it cannot co-exist with reasonable conservation standards.

Other problems with the unions' position are:-

* The unions claim that the 30% quota cut introduced in July this year was to achieve conservation outcomes. In reality, these cuts were needed simply "in order to bring the industry onto a sustainable yield basis" (Kim Yeadon, June 1995). According to State Forests own figures, in some regions even greater cuts may be needed to adjust to sustained yield, without any new conservation gains such as moratoria or reserves.

* The unions' 'minimalist' position, rather than ensuring sustainable jobs in the forest

industry, will continue the current rates of over-cutting and will lead to an employment crisis when the high quality resource is exhausted in the short to medium term.

* There is no empirical evidence to prove that "anything greater than a 30% reduction will have a dramatic impact on the viability of the industry" as claimed in the timber unions' position paper. Almost every timber mill closure over the past 18 months has been a consequence of economic factors such as competition from plantation pines and the downturn in the building industry - not 'resource withdrawal'. More jobs and a long term future for the industry will be created through value-adding to produce high value timber products - not through maintaining unsustainable logging practices.

* The unions paper makes a misleading reference to a 'social impact study' carried out during the IAP, which discusses the potential social impacts of changes to wood supplies in five towns. The study showed no appreciable difference between "timber dependant" communities and "non-timber dependant" communities; ie. it showed that there is a general down-turn in the economies of rural towns - and does not support the view that rural NSW will suffer massive social disruption because of timber quota reductions.

* The unions claim that the \$120 million forest industry restructuring package (\$60m from the NSW Environment Trust) is insufficient to do more than allow industry adjust to current quota levels. If so, the public, who were sold the package on the basis it would deliver 'world class reserves', were seriously misled.

In reality, the timber industry package is comparable per capita to the north Queensland timber industry restructuring package, where within five years 97% of displaced workers had been re-trained and placed into new jobs. It is far more than 20,000 redundant Commonwealth government employees or other displaced workers are getting and certainly enough for re-training, relocation and re-deployment of displaced NSW timber workers.

* The unions claim that current quotas (which are set at 30% of last year's levels) really amount to a larger drop because of 'complementary management'. This is illogical nonsense. A 30% quota cut does not reduce the amount of timber available by any more than 30%!

THE N.S.W. LABOR GOVERNMENT'S CREDIBILITY RELIES ON IT KEEPING BOTH EMPLOYMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROMISES. THESE PROMISES NEED NOT BE MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE, BUT CANNOT BOTH BE KEPT IF THE TIMBER INDUSTRY AND THE UNIONS ARE SUCCESSFUL WITH THEIR THEIR UNCOMPROMISING AMBIT CLAIM.

PEACE IN OUR FORESTS, AND CONSERVATION MOVEMENT SUPPORT FOR THE LABOR GOVERNMENT, DEPEND ON A RATIONAL BALANCE BETWEEN MAINTAINING TIMBER SUPPLY AND ENSURING FOREST PROTECTION OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS. WE CALL FOR UNIONISTS AND CONSERVATIONISTS TO JOIN TOGETHER TO SUPPORT THIS GOAL.



FOREST UNIONS POSITION - I.A.P.

The NSW union movement restates its commitment to developing a forest industry that is efficient, sustainable and committed to value adding. As a step to achieving this goal, unions participated in the independent assessment process which is a cornerstone of the government's forest policy. Unions believe that the process has an important role to play in ensuring a viable long term industry that is built around the principle of sustainability.

However, unions are concerned that the IAP, rather than enhancing the opportunities for a long term, value added forest industry could in fact achieve the reverse. Forest unions are therefore, advocating that a minimalist view would be taken to the question of withdrawal of timber resources as a result of the I.A.P..

Overall, the position of the forest unions can be summarised as follows:

- It is acknowledged that there will be an overall reduction of the timber resource available for logging of 30%
- Anything greater than a 30% reduction will have a dramatic impact on the viability of the industry

- The social consequences of going beyond a 30% cut will be significant. Job losses, both direct and indirect will be such as to devastate rural communities who rely on the industry.
- The \$120 million compensation package will be nowhere near sufficient if the reduction in resource is greater than 30%.
- It is clear that conservation targets can be met with a 30% reduction in the resources available.

Forest unions can not emphasise enough the need for a cautious approach from the Government in determining an outcome from the I.A.P..

Figures show that any reduction of the amount of timber resources available by 30% will reduce the actual amount of timber to approximately 53% as a result of complementary management of non-reserved forests.

Research has indicated the likely devastating impact both socially and economically of any decision greater than the 30% reduction.

The Governments policy involves meeting the twin goals of conserving any old growth forests whilst developing a viable long term industry. These goals are not mutually exclusive.

Hi John, Georgia + crew,
Here are some recent
clippings from the Examiner.

mic

DE SAT 24th Aug

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"I challenge Mr Causley to produce the evidence to support his claims of intimidation," Mr Dorber said. "I will debate him in any public forum about the operations of the FSAC."

Mr Causley accused FSAC of mishandling funds which were designed to subsidise changes in the forest industry.

He said members of the FSAC had intimidated and threatened people who spoke out against the handling of the \$120 million funds.

He said large slices of the timber industry was not being heard in the process because the FPA, which was acting as the main industry representative, only represented a minority of the industry.

He said yesterday he would personally refer the matter to the Independent Commission Against Corruption if he had to.

But Mr Dorber said the committee was under strict procedural guidelines about the distribution of funds.

"The committee members, myself included, have been paranoid about procedural fairness, equity and the proper application of funds," Mr Dorber said.

Mr Hillier said Mr

Causley had proven to be totally ineffectual in the forestry debate.

He said Mr Causley voted against any compensation for the timber industry in NSW Parliament last year.

"He wanted to deny companies and workers any help then and is continuing the line now," Mr Hillier said.

But Mr Causley said the FPA had sold out to the NSW Labor Government and that a large majority of the timber industry was being ignored as a result.

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PEOPLE who spoke too loudly against the management of the \$120 million forestry restructuring process were being intimidated and threatened the Member for Page, Ian Causley, said yesterday.

Mr Causley said the funds were being mishandled and that the Forestry Restructuring Assessment Committee (FRAC) should be referred to the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC).

He said the Forests Products Association (FPA), which was consulting with the NSW Government on the distribution of the funds, only represented a small proportion of the forest industry.

Mr Causley said many small timber millers, graziers and bee keepers had not been heard by the State Government.

He said one person who complained about not being represented adequately was told by a member of the FRAC to shut up or "I'm going to put my foot on your back and crush you".

"In many ways the State Government is using the restructuring money - \$120 million, \$20 million of which is federal money - as hush money to quieten sections of the timber industry," he said.

1996

Greens support Causley on forestry adjustment funds

THE Greens have lent their support to the Member for Page, Ian Causley, in his call for a fairer distribution of forestry adjustment funds.

Clarence Valley Greens secretary Michael Moriarty said small millers in the valley were just as entitled to compensation as larger timber industry interests under the Forest Industry Structural Adjustment Package (FISAP).

"While we recognise that it is important that money is available for those wishing to exit the industry, and to enable larger mills to process smaller logs, money must also be made available to small timber millers, graziers and bee keepers," Mr Moriarty said.

Mr Causley said last week a large slice of the timber industry was not being heard in the process because the Forest Products Association (FPA), which was acting as the main industry representative, only represented a minority of the industry.

Mr Moriarty said local conservation groups had been approached recently by small millers who claimed their interests were being ignored by the FPA.

He said it was always the Greens' belief that the timber industry did not look after its workers and that mechanisation was responsible for job losses, not conservationists.

"While we are currently extracting twice as much timber from our native forests than we were 40 years ago, the industry is only employing half the number of workers," he said.

ends

DE
Mon

26th Aug

Northern Star p.2 -
19/8/96

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The Nature Conservation Council of New South Wales (NCC) was quoting NSW Forest Products Association (FPA) executive director Col Dorber, as reported in last week's Grafton Examiner newspaper.

"If accurately reported, this statement is a disgraceful attempt to intimidate the Cabinet, which is due to meet in Grafton on Tuesday," said NCC executive officer Sid Walker.

Mr Dorber was showing contempt for the conservation movement's efforts to reach a compromise over NSW's native forests, he said.

Mr Walker said that, in the light of Mr Dorber's comments, the decision of major milling company Boral Timber to rejoin the FPA needed to be questioned.

"A crucial NSW Government decision over areas of public forest to be saved from logging pending further assessment is due in early September," he said.

Forest submissions call for conservation

Far North Coast submissions on the NSW Government's draft interim forestry assessment had been overwhelmingly in favour of protecting the State's forests, according to leading conservation groups.

More than 16,000 public pro-conservation submissions had been received from around the State, the alliance of NSW conservation groups said.

Sid Walker, executive officer of the NSW Conservation Council, said most of these supported the environment movement's forest reserve plan.

"On the Far North Coast, around Lismore and Murwillumbah, conservationist submissions overwhelmed industry supporters nearly four-to-one," he said.

Mr Walker said the public submissions were the culmination of a year-long forestry assessment conducted by the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council. He said only 6000 of the 22,000 submissions received supported the timber industry.

"This is a massive public vote of confidence in the environment movement and an overwhelming call for the maximum possible protection of

old growth forests," he said.

"The forest reserve plan improves on the conservation outcomes identified in the Government's report, but it is also a reasonable compromise in that it still falls short of many Government conservation targets."

Australian Conservation Foundation spokesman Noel Plumb said the submission process had shown there was wide support across the State for forest conservation.

He said support for the timber industry was concentrated in the regions with the most logging of native forests.

Mr Walker said Premier Bob Carr was elected on a 'save the forests' platform last year, and had pledged to protect old-growth forests.

"It would be a tragic irony for us if he became the Premier who really sold the forests out," he said.

A decision on the restructuring of the NSW timber industry is scheduled to be announced early next month.

● Do you have a comment on this issue? Ring the Star Feed Back line on 243 266 and let us know what you think.



The Wilderness Society (Sydney) Inc.
1st Floor, 263 Broadway, GLEBE NSW 2037
Ph: (02) 552 2355 Fax: (02) 552 1077

Media Release

Attention All Chiefs of Staff and Environment Writers

Wilderness Society- No More Compromise on NSW Forest Promises

The Wilderness Society today walked out on a meeting with the forest cabinet sub-committee of Ministers Yeadon, Knowles and Allan in disagreement with the further watering down of conservation options for forest conservation which is appearing increasingly likely.

"We have hit the end of our willingness to compromise on protection of high conservation value forests," said Felicity Wade, NSW Campaign Coordinator for the Wilderness Society. "We have worked with this process, recognising the value of a negotiated approach with all stake holders. But the pre-election promises were clear."

"The Conservation Option generated by this process provides the bare bones of a reserve system necessary to protect the state's many threatened species. Any back down by government on full and complete protection can only be viewed as a betrayal of pre-election promises. It's as simple as that. Enough is enough."

According to National Campaign Director of the Wilderness Society Kevin Parker, "This is a once only opportunity for the State Government to produce a result that will provide a first class reserve system and a certain future for the timber industry. The Wilderness Society will however not take a backward step in taking whatever peaceful action is necessary to prevent any further destruction of old growth or wilderness forests" ~~He~~ concluded.

**More Information: Phone Felicity Wade 019-158-328
Kevin Parker 018-449-080**

NSW: FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE PARTY LAUNCHED
PARTY

SYDNEY, Aug 26 AAP - Self-described "keen four-wheeler" and retired bank manager Bob Shaw today launched a new political party to fight what he believes is encroaching discrimination against four-wheel drive enthusiasts.

The Four Wheel Drive Party claims a thousand members and campaigns on the slogan: "We Drive And We Vote."

Mr Shaw, 55, said the party was prepared to field political candidates in any New South Wales by-election.

It believes its members were being locked out of national parks and beaches due to the efforts of environmentalists who, at times, portray 4WD enthusiasts as "some sort of bush bashing yahoos".

"There's quite a bit of anger out there," he told AAP.

"We're getting sick and tired of being locked out of national parks and kept off beaches when most four wheel drivers are family people who love the outdoors."

He is determined to fight efforts of conservationists to keep such areas for the exclusive use of bushwalkers.

"We can see no evidence of damage being done to national parks by four wheel drives," he said.

"We don't want to bulldoze roads through national parks we just want access."

However, he did concede there was always a risk that "there's always that element that could just barge through".

He also believes the rising cost of diesel fuel has discriminated against four wheel drivers and was determined to fight threats to ban bull bars from urban areas.

The recommendation had been put to the NSW government's Staysafe Committee, he said.

"There's no evidence that a properly constructed bull bar is a danger to anybody, and it's certainly essential on many outback roads," he said.

"You just wonder where we're going to be banned from next."
AAP maur/srw/rsm

26-08-96 1440

With Compliments —



GO GET 'EM!

To: Sid Walker 2pp follow

Clarence Valley Centre 066471003

F:01

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North East State Forests Harvesting Advisory Panel

A Harvesting Advisory Panel has been set up in northern NSW to assist conflict resolution between State Forests, the timber industry and conservationists.

The Harvesting Advisory Panel's main aim is to provide timber resource to the industry at the State government's wood supply commitments from areas that are not of high conservation value.

The panel will also look at improving harvesting practices and harvesting plan preparation to protect conservation, cultural and timber values within areas to be harvested.

There have been other similar panels proposed following the Whian Whian, and Murwillumbah blockades, which never happened.

The areas covered by the panel include all State Forests in the Murwillumbah, Urbenville and Casino Management Areas.

NEFA has 3 representatives on the panel along with 3 industry, 1 union (CFMEU), 1 National Parks and Wildlife Service, 1 Environmental Protection Authority, 1 Koori and 1 State Forests representative.

At this stage the panel is considered by State forests a trial and will be implemented in other areas if it is successful.

So far the panel has been mainly looking at the Whian Whian State Forest where the community opposition to destructive harvesting is very strong and commitments have been given to the industry for timber that doesn't exist. While State Forests insist that the timber is there, NEFA hired a private consultant to assess the resource and found that State Forests' estimates were far from accurate and that State Forests simply won't be able to fulfil the timber commitments.

The panel is finding similar problems throughout the area, where State Forests' volume estimates are far beyond what actually is there on the ground. This has very serious implications as areas would have to be trashed to try to fulfil the timber commitments and further wood supply agreements may be made on resource data that is simply wrong.

NEFA has for years been forcing State Forests to stay out of sensitive areas and to improve harvesting practices, this panel will give us the opportunity to further these goals without having to run back to the barricades.

Perhaps one of the best things about the panel is that all stakeholders in the forest issue get to regularly sit around a table and discuss differences of opinion and common ground and learn a real respect for each other.

Georgia Beyer
23/8/96

~ tree mend us ~



How WELL were the IAP's met in the assessment of public

Dailan Pugh, environment movement delegate to the Resource



Introduction

This assessment is based upon a review of the IAP negotiations outcomes which assesses targets for the whole of N-E NSW based upon the IAP data bases & application of the full targets.

For the purposes of this exercise, it is taken as given that all National Parks, all public lands within identified Wilderness Areas, all State Forests' exclusion areas and all Vacant Crown Land are protected (as per the IAP process). Targets are then considered in relation as to how the Conservation Criteria Outcome (CCO) from the IAP negotiations, and the protected IAP layer, meet the assessment's conservation targets.

The targets are also considered in relation as to how additional areas included in the Environment Movement's Moratorium Areas (EMMA) improve targets' scores.

'Old Growth' forests ~ Oldgrowth

The oldgrowth targets applied in the IAP were those established by the Commonwealth. These set a baseline target of 60% of oldgrowth increasing up to 100% depending upon the proportion of the remaining extent of each forest type that remains as oldgrowth.

These targets do not account for how much of the original extent of each forest type remains as oldgrowth or the conservation values of oldgrowth. Of the pre-European extent of forests, 24 forest types have less than (<)5% left as oldgrowth, 13 types have <10% now as oldgrowth, 24 types have <20% still as oldgrowth and only 27 types have more than 20% remaining.

There have been significant problems with the application of oldgrowth targets in the IAP due to:

- oldgrowth being deleted from a few compartments which have not yet been logged,
- targets being applied to all mapped oldgrowth rather than restricted to the areas being assessed (which resulted in an overstatement of achievements of targets), and
- targets being significantly understated due to the erroneous assumption that all of the 54% of forests that were not growth-staged are regrowth.

Using the Commonwealth's targets of 60-100% as applied to mapped forests in the IAP, targets for oldgrowth in 39 forest types were not met in any subregions, OGF targets in 15 forest types were not met in at least one subregion, and 34 forest types met or exceeded OGF targets.

This achievement of targets changes dramatically when the projected extent of oldgrowth is used instead of the mapped extent, oldgrowth targets for

- * 47 forest types are not met in any subregions,
- * 16 forest types are not met in at least one sub-region, and
- * 25 forest types are met or exceeded.

The "available" state forests subjected to the assessment encompass some 306,000 hectares of oldgrowth of which 68% is identified in the CCO, leaving 99,000 hectares unprotected.

The EMMA increases the protection to 82% but still leaves 56,000 hectares unprotected.

CONSERVATION TARGETS forests in North-East NSW ?

& Conservation Assessment Council (RACAC) reports...

In the preparation of the EMMA account was taken of the following factors:

- Premier Bob Carr's promise to protect oldgrowth forest,
- the failure of the IAP process to identify all high conservation value oldgrowth forest (While the Commonwealth's targets may of been exceeded for some forest types there was no process to identify & assess 'oldgrowth' not included in the CCO for other high conservation values),
- the recognition by the Conservation Working Group that it was not possible to assess all the identified conservation values of oldgrowth in the time available and that
- this would have to be done in the CRA or before oldgrowth was released for logging, &
- the inherent value of all remaining OGF.

Before any old growth forest surplus to the criteria used in the IAP is released for logging a more detailed assessment will need to be undertaken.

This assessment must take into account other values detailed in the Commonwealth criteria but not considered in the IAP, including:

- * the flora and fauna values of stands,
- * the forest types' status as a refugia;
- * water values;
- * cultural attributes (archaeological, spiritual & community values);
- * tourism and recreational values; and,
- * context.

Wilderness

The criteria require that 90%, or more wherever practicable, of the areas of high quality wilderness that meet minimum area requirements be protected.

For the IAP, areas of potential wilderness identified by the Commonwealth outside existing Wilderness Areas were reviewed. Some were accepted as Provisionally Identified Wilderness (PIW).

In north-east NSW the eight (8) identified Wilderness Areas were included in the protected layer for the IAP, though 23% of these Wilderness Areas occur on private lands and thus will not actually be protected in the IAP. Only 68% of PIW was identified in the CCO. In effect 76% of all wilderness will be provided with interim protection if the CCO is adopted.

EMMA encompassed almost all PIW on public lands, thus increasing the proportion of wilderness given interim protection to around 78%.

Forest Types

During the IAP, forest type targets were based upon application of the Commonwealth's baseline of 15% of their pre-European extent. Targets were varied such that more widespread forest types received a proportionately lower target and rarer forest types a higher target while maintaining an average target of 15%. Targets were then varied to account for vulnerability of each forest type.

For north-east NSW rainforest and 88 non-rainforest forest types used in negotiations. An expert flora panel then identified sub-regions for 38 of these forest types to account for species differences and ensure representation throughout their ranges.

Of the 88 non-rainforest types, full targets were only achieved for 11 forest types in the CCO.

Overall, targets for 13 forest types were met, but were below target, in at least one subregion, ~ 80-99% of targets were met for 9 forest types, ~ 60-79% of targets were met for 6 forest types, ~ 40-59% of targets were met for 12 foresttypes, ~ 20-39% of targets were met for 15 foresttypes, & 1-19% of targets were met for 22 forest types.

Under the CCO a total of 72,569 ha of the "available" 'non-rainforest' forest types and 62,000 ha of "available" rainforest are still required to meet targets.

The EMMA significantly improved targets for most forest types, with a further 5 forest types achieving targets in all sub-regions and 5 types achieving targets in at least one other sub-region. EMMA encompasses an additional 45,134 ha of the 'non-rainforest' forest types and 17,886 ha of rainforest required to meet targets.

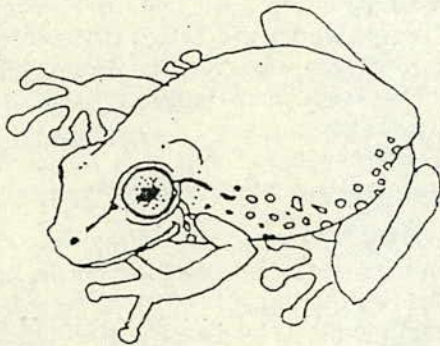
There can be no doubt that the Environment Movements Moratorium Areas significantly improve the achievement of forest type targets and thus should be placed under moratorium if there is any intent to fully comply with the intent of the IAP to put all forests likely to be required for a reserve system under moratoria.

It is evident that even with the inclusion of EMMA in moratoria there still remains 54 forest types under target which occur on state forests available for logging.

How WELL were the IAP's CONSERVATION TARGETS met in the assessment of public forests in North-East NSW ? *Continued.*

Fourty eight (48) of these require 100% of their extent on state forests to be protected to achieve targets and thus should be fully deferred from logging, with the other 6 types partially deferred, if there is to be a genuine attempt to meet the IAP targets.

27 rare "non-rainforest" forest types had insufficient extent to allow predictive modelling to be undertaken and thus they were excluded from the assessment. It is considered essential that, as in the DFA, these forest types are identified as "protected" and excluded from logging.



Fauna

Due to time constraints the IAP only considered 64 of the 150 priority fauna species identified in north-east NSW.

The process involved establishing an expert fauna panel to identify viable population sizes for each species and how these populations should be distributed across the landscape. These targets were then applied to predictive models of the species in the IAP. Most of the predictive models overpredict suitable habitat and thus the achievement of targets is generally overstated, for some species grossly so. Thus the actual achievement of targets is generally well below that given here.

Population targets were applied for 50 of the 64 fauna species assessed. Of these 50 there were 34 with home-ranges (breeding units) of 0.1ha to 5ha. These are the species that generally fared best in the CCO.

Of the 13 frogs assessed 6 met targets in all sub-regions under the CCO & 7 met targets in at least 66% of sub-regions.

The 3 snakes assessed met targets in all sub-regions. Of the 4 lizards assessed one met targets in all subregions and 3 met targets in at least 50% of sub-regions.

The five small ground mammals assessed fared the best of the mammal groups, with three species meeting targets under the CCO and the others achieving targets in at least 75% of sub-regions.

Of the four arboreal mammals and one macropod with small home-ranges, none met targets in all sub-regions under the CCO, with them all achieving targets in at least 50% of sub-regions.

16 fauna species assessed which have home-ranges (breeding units) over 15 ha. In the CCO:

- only two (Rufous Scrub-bird, Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby) met targets in most sub-regions;
- four (Rufous Bettong, Spotted-tailed Quoll, Yellow-bellied Glider, Square-tailed Kite, Albert's Lyrebird) met targets in less than 25% of sub-regions, while
- seven (Marbled Frogmouth, Masked Owl, Powerful Owl, Sooty Owl, Red Goshawk, Parma Wallaby, Brush-tailed Phascogale) failed to meet targets in any sub-region.

EMMA significantly increased the achievement of targets for all these species, but only managed to fully meet targets in one additional sub-region for Yellow-bellied Glider.

Even if all of the Wilderness and all the forests identified in the CCO are protected this still only represents in the order of:

- ~ one territory of Red Goshawk,
- ~ 36 territories of Square-tailed Kite,
- ~ 70 territories of Powerful Owl,
- ~ 162 territories of Barking Owl,
- ~ 242 territories of Sooty Owl,
- ~ 245 territories of Masked Owl, and
- ~ 386 territories of Tiger Quolls.

These population numbers are very far below what is required for their long-term survival. The fate of these higher-order predators should be of major concern as they are essential to maintaining the ecological balance of our forests.

Conclusion

It is apparent that many of our fauna are in serious trouble even if all habitat included in the CCO and the EMMA is reserved. Their survival will depend upon increasing their representation in the reserve system and management of their habitat across all land tenures.

Copy for Sid

NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW

THE NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW
39 GEORGE ST
THE ROCKS NSW 2000
PHONE: (02) 247 4206/247 2228
FAX: (02) 247 5945



2 August 1996

The Hon Bob Carr
Premier of NSW
Governor Macquarie Tower
SYDNEY NSW 2000

By fax (02) 228 3935

Dear Mr Carr,

The Nature Conservation Council of NSW on behalf of the groups involved in the NSW Forests Interim Assessment Process, seeks a meeting with you as a matter of urgency. Such a meeting must take place before the Government's impending decision on forests is made.

We are extremely concerned that your Government may be about to agree to long-term contracts to supply timber from the public forests. This action could extinguish your Government's capacity to deliver its long term conservation commitments and lead the Government into a situation in which it is forced to break important election promises.

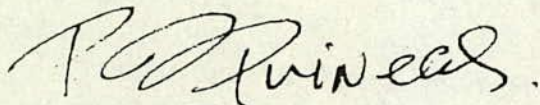
At the proposed meeting we wish to present to you information which shows that such long term supply agreements cannot be safely made by the Government because the current resource information is deficient and unreliable.

The situation may be so serious that far from being the Premier who 'saves the forests' you could be cast unwillingly in the role of a Premier who missed the last chance of creating a proper forest reserve system and ensuring sustainable off-reserve management (the key conservation goals of the National Forest Policy and your own policy).

At the meeting with you we would seek the opportunity to present succinctly our principle concerns and requests regarding other important issues at stake in the forthcoming Cabinet decision: the moratorium to be imposed until the C.A.R. reserve system is finalised; the declaration of a new national park in the Eden region and other promised forest national parks; wilderness determinations; and long term controls on vegetation clearance.

We realise that your schedule does not normally permit meetings at short notice, however the fate of our native forests and the standing of the Carr Government may depend on this opportunity to clearly and directly communicate our concerns to you. We urge you to give a small delegation your personal attention for one hour in the coming days before the Government's decision is taken on these matters.

Your sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'P. Prineas', with a stylized, cursive script.

Peter Prineas
Chairman.

TOTAL ENVIRONMENT CENTRE INC.SHOP 1, GLOUCESTER WALK, 88 CUMBERLAND STREET, SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2000
Phones (02) 247 4714 - (02) 247 8476 Fax (02) 247 7118

3 September 1996

The Hon Bob Carr
Premier of NSW
Level 40, Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place Sydney 2000

Dear Mr Carr,

**New Public Opinion Poll -
Massive Support for Protection of Forests Needed for Park System**

Please find attached a copy of the Newspoll opinion survey commissioned by environment groups on the issue of protecting those forests most likely to be needed for an adequate national park system. We are providing the full poll for your information and that of relevant Ministers and government agencies to consider in the light of the forthcoming forest decision. Please note that it is not for public release apart from the information in our media release which is also enclosed.

The poll focuses on the core issue to be decided by the Government and shows overwhelming public support for the campaign promises to protect the forests. Some 80% (Newspoll advise that the variation on the sample used is plus or minus 5%), evenly divided between the country and the Sydney metropolitan area want logging excluded from those forests identified by a Government inquiry to be most likely needed to be needed for an adequate national park system. As you know RACAC produced a conservation criteria outcome that gives the best result of all published RACAC options for a future park system.¹

The poll results have a significant bearing on the moratorium part of upcoming Cabinet's forest decision.

The poll demonstrates a continuing and very high level of public concern for forest protection since your Government's election.

Yours sincerely

Jeff Angel, Director

Copy to:

Ms Pam Allan	Minister for the Environment
Mr Craig Knowles	Minister for Planning and Urban Affairs
Mr Kim Yeadon	Minister for Land and Water Conservation
Mr Rex Bowen	Director, RACAC

¹ The Forest Reserve Plan makes additional recommendations on moratoria. Also Eden has separate park outcome.

Copy for Syd

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39 GEORGE ST
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The situation may be so serious that far from being the Premier who 'saves the forests' you could be cast unwillingly in the role of a Premier who missed the last chance of creating a proper forest reserve system and ensuring sustainable off-reserve management (the key conservation goals of the National Forest Policy and your own policy).



Access for all

Reflecting on the past few months

While the Outdoor Recreation Party may be in its infant stages, they are giving their opponents something to think about. Their office has been set up with computers and fax machines to enable a quick response to the tactics of the government and the extreme sector of the green movement. While talk-back radio has been extensively with great success.

The party has also become aware of the National Parks Act 1995, Section 19, which makes it unlawful to climb mountains,

abseil, to congregate in groups of more than three, or do anything mildly exciting in our parks. The rangers have conceded that they would not enforce such rules. If this is the case, why have the rules been written in the first place? We must take the caretakers to task over the governing of our land.

Womboyn wilderness

Womboyn is a delightful south coast village, about thirty kilometres south of Eden. About 100 people reside there, although this number increases during the holiday periods. Womboyn boasts some of the best surf and estuary fishing in New South Wales and during winter, visiting anglers cast beyond the breakers on Newtons Beach in pursuit of Australian salmon, while summertime sees

holiday makers chasing flathead and whiting in nearby Lake Womboyn. Until recently, life in the peaceful community was idyllic.

But things have changed. Womboyn is surrounded by national parks. Once-upon-a-time this was considered an asset. Last year's election of a new state government shattered Womboyn's way of life. Suddenly, and with negligible consultation, Environment Minister, Pam Allan, announced plans to declare huge sections of the parks as wilderness areas. Under the wilderness plan, public access by vehicles is forbidden. The tracks will be closed to locals and holiday makers alike. Visiting families will find themselves locked out of areas they have enjoyed for years. Under the proposals, anyone visiting the local beach now will have to walk ten kms. Do you think families will make the effort? We think not. They will take their holidays elsewhere. Womboyn's lifeblood, its tourist economy, will dry up.

With one stroke of her pen, Ms Allan will destroy the economy of this little community. We wonder if she's ever even visited the area she is denying from these local residents and nature-lovers.

If you've ever wondered why much of rural Australia is in decline, take a look at Womboyn. This was a town where young people could have a future. But that's all over now. Business will close and people will leave. Thanks to the creation of a wilderness area for the elite few, Womboyn faces a bleak future.

Join the Protest Rally

If the idea of being locked out of your land, and seeing small communities placed into despair outrages you, then make a stand at the protest rally at Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney on Tuesday 17th September. If you are a mountain bike rider, bushwalker, 4wd tourer, rock climber, abseiler, angler, horse rider, skier, caravanner, camper, day picnicker, dirt bike rider, canoeist or outdoor enthusiast, all of these activities are now under threat. Demonstrate your outrage by attending this event. Vehicles will meet at 10.30am at Mrs Maquaries Chair, while speeches start at 1pm in front of Parliament House.

Come along, protest and don't forget to bring along your family, fishing gear etc, and illustrate to the government the diverse range of people that are affected by their judgements.

For more info on the Outdoor Recreation Party and how you can help, phone Freecall 1800 500 905 or send \$20 for membership to PO Box 803, Crows Nest NSW 2065.

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4WD COUNCIL**

4 Word

Forest Lies

Over the last few months (years?) the greenies have been crying foul over the governments decision to increase the level of the woodchipping industry here in Australia. There have been all sorts of accusations by groups involved in the conservation movement but the more I listen to them, the more I think that they are beating the drum. Not for the survival of the forests per se, but more for their own survival and the bureaucracy they have managed to build up over the years.

Attacking the bona fide's of our local environmental movement recently was none other than one of the leading environmentalists in today's cluttered, crowded ... and clouded environmental debates.

Dr Patrick Moore came out and looked at Australia's forests and was soon taking our greenies to task.

Who the hell is Patrick Moore?

Well, his environmental record is impeccable. Apart from having a PhD in Ecology and an Honours BSc in Forest Biology he was also a co-founding member of Greenpeace and was, for seven years, the President for Greenpeace Canada and a Director of Greenpeace International. You'd have to say that with credentials such as these, he was a little more than your average conservationist and somebody who would back our green groups - if they were right, that is!

What he had to say about our greenies makes interesting reading. He believes that many of today's environmental groups are so extreme that they pose a greater threat to the global environment than mainstream society and he completely rejects the zero-tolerance attitude of many greenie groups, which the ACF and the Wilderness Society are so full of.

He challenged the Wilderness Society's claims that our native animals were in danger of becoming extinct because of logging, by asking the simple question, "Name a single species that has become extinct due to forestry in Australia?" They couldn't!

He also asked "Show me the places where forests have disappeared due to logging?" Once again they couldn't. In fact, the Australian Bureau of Agricultural Resources and Economics has measured a slight increase in the amount of forested land due to reforestation on farming land.

No other country in the world has protected such vast areas of its native forests like we have in Australia. We have over 42 million hectares of forests which is something like 62 Percent of pre-European levels. Of that 42 million, just over 11 million hectares are private forests with some logging, while of the remaining 31 or so million hectares of public forests only 7.1 million are available for logging operations. The remainder are conservation reserves, national parks, vacant crown land, and state forest reserves where logging is currently not allowed.

So well managed have our forests been in the last 100 or so years that they are being acclaimed by greenies as bio diversity hotspots and worthy not only of national park protection but also ranking for World Heritage protection and acclaim.

The greenies have hi-jacked the forestry debate with unsupported statements and in many cases, they are downright lies. Their 'preserve everything at all costs' approach means they want to keep on making new parks and protected areas, where what we really need is a more balanced approach to the sustained use of our forests.

In my view, some areas currently protected because of the lies already told, should be opened up for well managed logging operations. That way our 7.1 million hectares of loggable forests will be even more sustainable and a whole lot better for it, as well!

See you in the bush - our over-protected bush!

Ron Moon
Editor

ATT

RECEIVED 2 9 AUG 1996

PROTEST RALLY

***DEMONSTRATE YOUR OUTRAGE
AT BEING LOCKED OUT OF PUBLIC LAND.***

HORSE RIDING - BIKE RIDING - 4WD - FISHING - CANOEING

ARE YOUR WEEKENDS SPENT DOING ANY OF THE ABOVE,
WARNING - BOB CARR'S WILDERNESS ACT
WILL LOCK YOU OUT OF THE PLACES YOU USE TO GO!

PARLIAMENT HOUSE
MACQUARIE STREET SYDNEY

TUESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 1996

VEHICLES TO MEET 10:30AM SHARP.
AT MRS MACQUARIE'S ROAD,
MRS MACQUARIE'S POINT, SYDNEY.

AT 11:30AM VEHICLES WILL DRIVE ONCE AROUND
PARLIAMENT HOUSE AND RETURN.

AT 1:PM
SPEAKERS WILL COMMENCE
IN FRONT OF
PARLIAMENT HOUSE.

Please bring your Family.

REMEMBER

"The World is Ruled by Those Who Show Up."



OUTDOORS

July 1996

Volume 1 Issue 3



The Newsletter of

The Outdoor Recreation Party Limited

P.O. Box 803 Crows Nest NSW 2065

Telephone 1800 500 905

Facsimile (02) 363 2514

ACN 071 954 875

After the first adrenalin filled days of the Party's existence, it is now time to not only continue membership enrolment, but to get our fledgling administration organised.

The first Party office has opened in Sydney, with high capacity computers, printers, fax machines, modems etc. having been acquired and installed. We are now able to respond quickly to the devious tactics of our opponents; the unrelenting "extreme greens".

April was a highly successful month. The Easter Jamboree was well attended by 4WD enthusiasts, and provided an excellent opportunity to spread our message.

The Caravan & Camping Show followed and our stand was enthusiastically manned, recruiting members at the rate of one every eight minutes. A rate we challenge any political party to match.

Our team also attended a rally on the NSW South Coast, which was well attended by a public furious at Wilderness closures. Once again membership recruitment was brisk. The Horse Alliance was in attendance, and many horses mingled with the crowds of 4WD enthusiasts, bushwalkers, motorcyclists etc. During April Party membership doubled.

Following the hectic events of April, the team had hardly drawn breath when May showered us with more and more activity. A stand was manned at Scone celebrating their Equine Expo, and we had representation at a PLUA public meeting at Warimoo in the Blue Mountains, and at the annual 4WD Swap meet at Bass Hill drive-in.

Talk back radio was used to carry our message with great success. Having a straight forward message, sticking to it, and (by now) having considerable media experience, makes our team quite formidable when arguing against our opponents efforts to justify their self-serving activities.

June was probably the blackest month in the history of the public's rights to access public land.

Wilderness areas were declared in Parks at: Kanangra Boyd, Macleay Gorges, Barrington, Werrikimbe, and along Yalwal Creek (which is not even in a National Park)!

Further "identified" areas were put forward for public comment at: Guy Fawkes, Bindery-Mann, Nadgi, New England, and Washpool.

Whilst attempting to organise comment on these areas (limited to only 28 days consultation) further areas were "identified" at: Barrington Tops, Kanangra-Boyd, Macleay Gorges, Werrikimbe, Budawang, and Goobarragandra.

However public consultation for this last batch was limited to a mere ten working days!

How arrogant NPWS have become; 10 working days for public consultation; what a sham! They are making NSW look like a 1950's Communist State with sham public exhibitions of fair play.

During June our team debated the Wilderness Society and Colong Foundation at the University of Western Sydney, and attended meetings and rallies at Wollongong and Lithgow.

The more our opponents are confronted, the clearer it becomes that their arguments are based only upon resentment, and appointment of themselves as the sole beneficiaries of Wilderness, to the exclusion of everyone else.

We also became aware of the National Parks Act 1995, Section 19, which makes it unlawful to climb mountains, abseil, participate in any white water activity, to congregate in groups of more than 3, or do anything mildly exciting in OUR Parks. Rangers have tried to fob us off with "we will not enforce such rules". Well, why put such statutes on the books? What do they think the public mentality is; to sit around and let such nonsense go unchallenged?

The NSW Parliament has two houses. The Lower House has politicians elected from each constituency. The Upper House has politicians who are elected on a State basis determined by their Party, i.e. what they stand for. Bob Carr, Peter Collins and all your local members, occupy the Lower House, whilst the Greens, Shooters and many others occupy the Upper House.

The Upper House is generally a "hung" Parliament; meaning it is balanced, with neither of the major parties dominating matters. It is the Upper House where the Outdoor Recreation Party will redress the scandals of the current lock up of our land.

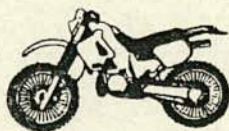
On the 17th. September next a large demonstration is scheduled at Parliament House in Sydney. Please mark your diaries. Further information will be released nearer the time.

The Outdoor Recreation Party will unlock the gates, but we require your support to do it.

Malcolm Jones

Chairman

June was probably the blackest month in the history of the public's rights to access public land.



Only a few years ago our public lands including National Parks and State Forests were ours to enjoy.

In recent times the Governments of the day have yielded to "extreme green" pressure, and our Parks and Forests are being systematically locked up. The Wilderness Act has been introduced, with public land being identified and assessed at bewildering speed. Roads and tracks are being closed at an alarming rate, eroding traditional access to the most beautiful parts of our state.

Because of this government strategy, The Outdoor Recreation Party has been formed to respond politically to these unfair developments.

The Outdoor Recreation Party targets seats in the Upper House of the NSW Parliament.

The Outdoor Recreation Party WILL maintain and restore access to public lands!

Since the political stance taken by

outdoor recreationalists, the NSW Government and the National Parks and Wildlife Service have sobered. Realising our political potential, they have opened serious dialogue (previously denied us).

ACCESS FOR ALL cannot be taken for granted: WE MUST NOW FIGHT FOR OUR RIGHTS!

The Outdoor Recreation Party **DOES NOT** seek to influence your traditional voting preferences in the NSW Lower House, but does seek your support in the NSW Upper House.

The success of the Party depends on your support as an outdoor recreationalist. You may belong to The Outdoor Recreation Party for \$20 per annum, or you may donate to our election fighting fund.

Your membership will add to our strength, and entitle you to vote on party issues. You will receive a membership card, and a regular newsletter.

THE OUTDOOR RECREATION PARTY



APPLICATION TO JOIN

Please fill in all details !

Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, etc): _____

Given Name: _____

Surname: _____

Address: _____

Suburb/Town: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____

Facsimile: _____

Main recreational interest: _____

DATE JOINED: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Membership fees	
Ordinary member	\$20
Concessional member (students, pensioners, not working)	\$10
Donation	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

THE OUTDOOR RECREATION PARTY LIMITED
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Att

PROTEST RALLY

*PARLIAMENT HOUSE
MACQUARIE STREET SYDNEY*

YOUR FREEDOM IS UNDER ATTACK FROM BOB CARR'S WILDERNESS
ACT AND S.19 OF THE NATIONAL PARKS ACT

IF YOU ARE A MOUNTAIN BIKER, BUSHWALKER, 4WD
TOURER, ROCK CLIMBER, ABSEILER, ANGLER,
HORSERIDER, SKIERS, CARAVAN OR CAMPER, DAY
PICNICKER, DIRTBIKE RIDER, CANOEIST OR OUTDOOR
ENTHUSIASTS.

ALL OF THESE ACTIVITIES ARE UNDER THREAT NOW!

DEMONSTRATE YOUR OUTRAGE BY ATTENDING ON
TUESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER

VEHICLES MEET AT 10.30AM,
MRS MACQUARIE'S CHAIR

SPEECHES COMMENCE AT 1PM IN FRONT OF
PARLIAMENT HOUSE

FOR MORE RALLY INFORMATION OR PARTY
MEMBERSHIP PLEASE CALL
1800 500 905

THE OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL PARTY ACCESS FOR ALL

PLEASE COPY AND DISTRIBUTE TO OTHERS

Daily
Exam
3rd Sept

Possible Boral deal for long-term gain

CORPORATE giant Boral may meet the Premier this week in a bid to clinch a guarantee of massive 10-year timber contracts with the NSW Government, according to Sid Walker, Executive Officer at the Nature Conservation Council of NSW.

"If granted, these compensatable guarantees to wood from public forests would prevent Bob Carr from ever fulfilling his key forest conservation promises," Mr Walker said.

"Boral, already the largest consumer of logs obtained from native forests in NSW, is seeking to entrench its dominant position over the State's native forest-based timber industry for at least another decade.

"Conservationists are calling on the Carr Government to stand firm in the face of extreme pressure from an ugly alliance of Boral, the Construction Forestry Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU) leadership and the Forest Products Association," he said.

"These powerful vested interests are trying to get the government to break its promise to save the old growth forests, to put in place a 'world class' forest reserve sys-

tem by the year 2000, and to ensure that 'managed' areas outside the reserves is ecologically sustainable."

Mr Walker said that unless other sectors of the community put pressure against these forces hostile to our forests, the government may buckle.

"For that reason, indications that Boral is facing a growing consumer revolt — and signs that cracks may already be appearing in the supposedly united 'union' position on the future of NSW's forests, are both very important. They provide space for the government to make a more rational decision," Mr Walker said.

"It is reprehensible that corporate giants like Boral and hardline unions like the CFMEU are demanding long-term timber guarantees at such high levels that the government's commitments could not be met.

"Unless Boral changes its stance in the next few days, it would be very ill-advised for the company to consider being a sponsor of the 2000 green Olympics. Such a move from the major destroyer of native forest in NSW would attract massive opposition from the NSW environment movement as well as international ridicule," Mr Walker said.

Daily Exam
3rd Sept

FPA guilty of sabotage says Greens

THE Clarence Valley Greens have accused the NSW Forest Products Association (FPA) of trying to sabotage the process set up to determine which areas of forest are needed for future reserve systems and which forests should be made available for logging in NSW.

"The FPA are stepping outside the process and misleading the public by inventing options contrary to those put forward for public consultation and the consideration of government by the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council," according to Clarence Valley Greens Secretary, Michael Moriarty.

Mr Moriarty said the FPA's "Sustainable Management Proposal" was a play on words and did nothing whatsoever to achieve a balance between conservation and industry.

"Sustainable" in the context of the FPA position is providing as many logs as possible to mills and has nothing to do with sustaining the environment. What Col Dorber and the FPA are suggesting is business as usual with no further cuts in logging," he said.

Mr Moriarty said Mr Dorber's recent claim that "all workers and their families

lies have ever wanted from the government was the proper application of science," to resolve the forest dispute, would be laughable if the issue it dealt with was not so serious.

"Col Dorber was present during the RACAC negotiations which were based on best available science and which concluded that areas which have been identified as being likely to be required for a Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative Reserve System need to be placed under moratorium until Comprehensive Regional Assessments are completed," he said.

Mr Moriarty said that the FPA were trying to undermine the conflict resolution process by pressuring the government to make commitments to resource security which would pre-empt the results of future regional assessments.

"The FPA are trying to get the government to make promises on resource security which just may not be there," he said.

"If the government over-commits, it will find itself paying compensation to the timber industry yet again."

Mr Moriarty said the FPA was betraying the "good faith" which had been established between stakeholders.

ATT: John
Corkil

P.01
066431863

Clarence Enviro. Centre

Loggers increase pressure over reserves

SYDNEY - Logging industry leaders yesterday called on New South Wales Premier Bob Carr to save rural jobs by refusing to declare more forests as environmental reserves.

Dr Robert Bain, executive director of the National Association of Forest Industries (NAFI), said loggers would mount a publicity campaign starting this week, targeting local newspapers in provincial or rural seats held by government or cabinet members.

An expansion of the campaign to

include metropolitan newspapers and TV stations was being considered, he said.

"Premier Carr had honoured his promise to cut timber supply by 30 per cent," he said.

"More than 3.7 million hectares or 37,000 square kilometres of NSW forest is locked up in national parks, reserves and other areas not available for logging.

"But incredibly, even bigger reductions - savage cuts of 50 per cent or 70 per cent - are now being can-

vassed as part of the Resource and Conservation Council interim forest assessment process."

Dr Bain said two mills, at Eden and Moruya in southern New South Wales, had closed in the past three months because of the existing restrictions on timber supply with "devastating" consequences for the local communities.

If further cuts were introduced the same effect would be repeated tenfold in the northern part of the State, he said.

He said Australia already imported \$3 billion worth of wood products a year - which would rise to between \$5 billion and \$8 billion if the proposed restrictions were enacted.

"We have basically got a government and cabinet of city-based people, and we really don't think they understand what's going on in the country," he said.

However, executive officer of the Nature Conservation Council of New South Wales Sid Walker said that although forests were given time to

regenerate after the loggers moved on, most scientists agreed that current practices were not enough to protect the "world-class" biodiversity of the State's forests.

"They are trying to get the Government to breach its election commitments and give them long-term guarantees on wood supplies," he said.

"If they succeed, they will have driven a coach and horses through Bob Carr's commitment to save the forests."

Daily Examiner
2.9.96

Future of timber jobs rests with Ministers

THE NSW Native Forest Industry yesterday placed fairly and squarely in the laps of Ministers Craig Knowles, Kim Yeadon and Pam Allan the future of the industry, and the well-being of hundreds of industry companies and thousands of rural workers and their families.

Col Dorber, executive director of the Forest Products Association (FPA), Resource and Conservation Assessment Council (RACAC) Mem-

ber and principal negotiator for industry in the Interim Assessment Process, said a delegation had presented a comprehensive written submission (underpinned by the 1700-page FPA submission to RACAC) to the three State Government Ministers who must now take the full recommendations to the full Cabinet.

With Mr Dorber on the delegation are FPA president, Kerry Pidcock, former ALP Minister and now FPA political advisor, Peter Anderson, FPA assistant director, Russell Ainley and consultant, wilderness issues, Mick

O'Neill.

"Today is the litmus test of the industry and union decision to work constructively and co-operatively with government to deliver a balanced outcome in the native forest logging debate," Mr Dorber said.

"The FPA, on behalf of industry, presented a formal submission to Ministers Knowles, Yeadon and Allen (the Government Cabinet Forestry sub-committee) identifying the conservation, economic and social benefits of the Sustained Management Option, designed to take the industry forward

in accordance with government policy, to being internationally competitive and operating within ecologically sustainable guidelines.

"The Sustained Management Option is supported by the NSW Labor Council and its affiliated Unions. The CFMEU (NSW Branch) has worked closely with industry to ensure a viable outcome to the debate."

"In addition, country-based Local Government Councils (13 of them representing over 125,000 ratepayers) had endorsed the industry position. Major submissions in support, from large

numbers of business groups, progress associations and Chambers of Commerce, were also received."

Mr Dorber said the "the overwhelming support received by industry and the delivery of a balanced outcome centred upon, security, industry self reliance, conservation, off reserve management and sustainable yield harvesting practices, designed to ensure society's growing demand for strong, durable, beautiful and essential hardwood building and decorative products are met, should win the day"

Daily Exam
31.8.96

Hi John,
Media as requested
~
Mic

JOAN C.

A message to the Hon Ernie Page, MLA for Coogee
and his NSW Cabinet Colleagues

MR PAGE, IT'S TIME TO PROTECT PEOPLE.

The Messenger
(Eastern
South eastern
suburbs
of Sydney
Tues.
3/2/96
- home
delivered
free
paper)
p.11

The Government has honoured its election promise to cut timber supply by 30%. Vast areas of NSW forest and wilderness are now permanently set aside in national parks and reserves.

But the cutbacks have had serious repercussions in local communities, causing job losses, hurting families and damaging the State economy.

Incredibly, even more savage reductions are now being canvassed. Yet, as the Government's own reports show, any further reduction will devastate entire communities.* That's why it is crucial that you and your fellow Ministers help Premier Carr hold the line and reject extremist demands to lock up even more forest.

Mr Page, we urge you to carefully consider the social and economic consequences of your impending decision on NSW forest management.

Listen to the unions and the NSW Labor Council and remember you represent the *people* of NSW. Make sure NSW makes the best possible use of its sustainable resources for the benefit of both country and city people.

Protect our communities as you would our forests.

**National Association
of Forest Industries**

*Socio-Economic and Regional Impact Study, draft report to the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council (RACAC), Preliminary Social Impact Assessment, prepared for the RACAC Socio-Economic Working Group.

IAN COHEN MLC

THE GREENS

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PARLIAMENT HOUSE

MACQUARIE STREET

SYDNEY NSW 2000

PH: 230 2603

FAX: 230 2267

EMAIL: CCOHEN@PH.NSW.GOV.AU



03 September 1996

Peter Sams

Secretary

Labor Council of NSW

FAX 02 2613505

Dear Peter,

I am writing to you at this crucial time regarding the forest issue, one of my priority issues.

It has come to my attention that the Labor Council in NSW is supporting the position put forward by the Timber Unions. I urge you and your fellow union officials to take the time and be informed by the conservation movement of the balanced argument for this issue at a crisis time for the future of the forests in NSW.

The NSW ALP's position on this issue was vital in determining preferences from The Greens in the March '95 state election. During the pre-election period I sat down with Gavin Hillier and Mark Greenhill from the CFMEU to discuss various positions in relation to the forest debate, we found we had agreement on certain aspects and this was beneficial for all, including the ALP as it meant we both had positions of support for the Labor Party based on the commitment to resolve this contentious and long term dispute.

One of the outstanding commitments that the Carr ALP gave was to allow for a scientific assessment to take place to determine the need to create a Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative native forest reserve system and compensation for any loss to industry to meet these conservation outcomes. The social justice component of the package was a priority for The Greens, along with ecological sustainability it presented for us as a political party a reasonable outcome we could support. As you may be aware I have strongly supported worker's rights on this issue in Parliament.

The timber industry has available to it \$120 million to facilitate the compensation and restructuring while meeting the conservation outcomes of the decision in the process of creating a sustainable timber industry in NSW.

I believe this to be a generous package, at a time of great uncertainty for workers both state and nationally. With this factor in mind I find the comments currently being aired by the National Association of Forest Industries and the Forest Protection Association to be deplorable, there is a great deal of misinformation and deceit in the presentation of their position to the public and to government.

There has been a long and beneficial association between the conservation movement and the labour movement in NSW and on this issue we would hope there would be continuing support for a balanced achievable outcome to the current conflict.

I, as a Green parliamentarian will continue to support workers rights, as I have done since my election, I have been supportive of the concerns of the labour movement in legislation that so far has been presented to Parliament and will continue to do so.

The position supported by the Labor Council for the unions' call for a cautious approach to the timber issue needs to be viewed in terms of the current stage of the policy.

The decision the government is to shortly make is to identify areas likely to be required for the promised CAR reserve system and to put them under moratorium. This is not a final position, there is still a third stage which determines the long term future of the forests. The move by the industry to try and secure resource security is inappropriate, it is an unreasonable grab supported by a ruthless propaganda campaign in the media and it disregards the agreed process.

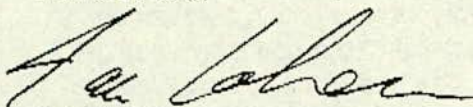
The industry is taking an extremist view of the current situation, calling for resource security at this stage of the process would severely undermine the support and trust the conservation movement and The Greens NSW have given to the Carr ALP government.

I urge you to consider the information available from the conservation movement and to consider the long term implications of support for the timber industrys' position. I am personally concerned about the welfare of workers in the industry and have supported the resolve that the Carr government presented prior to the state election and the legislative framework that has been adopted to allow this process to be realised. It would be unfortunate if at this stage of the process the government diverted from its commitment and was unable to fulfill its desired outcome, also regrettable would be the union movements support for a position that undermined the respect that has been between the conservation movement and the unions.

It would be significant if it were possible for representations to be made to the government by officials in the union movement for a revisited position in light of a more balanced appraisal of the situation.

I hope that you recognise my deep commitment to this issue. I request that you take the time to look at this current situation and be aware of the other side of the argument. I hope that you can recognise in this and other issues I have been in solidarity with a fair deal for workers and will continue to do so. I believe that natural allies are being turned against each other to satisfy the greedy and unreasonable demands of the industry employers.

For the Earth



IAN COHEN

IAN COHEN MLC

THE GREENS

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PARLIAMENT HOUSE

MACQUARIE STREET

SYDNEY NSW 2000

PH: 230 2603

FAX: 230 2267

EMAIL: CCOHEN@PH.NSW.GOV.AU



03 September 1996

Maurie O'Sullivan
President
Public Service Association
FAX 02 2621623

Dear Maurie

I am writing to you at this crucial time regarding the forest issue, one of my priority issues.

It has come to my attention that the Labor Council in NSW is supporting the position put forward by the Timber Unions. I urge you and your fellow union officials to take the time and be informed by the conservation movement of the balanced argument for this issue at a crisis time for the future of the forests in NSW.

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The industry is taking an extremist view of the current situation, calling for resource security at this stage of the process would severely undermine the support and trust the conservation movement and The Greens NSW have given to the Carr ALP government.

I urge you to consider the information available from the conservation movement and to consider the long term implications of support for the timber industrys' position. I am personally concerned about the welfare of workers in the industry and have supported the resolve that the Carr government presented prior to the state election and the legislative framework that has been adopted to allow this process to be realised. It would be unfortunate if at this stage of the process the government diverted from its commitment and was unable to fulfill its desired outcome, also regrettable would be the union movements support for a position that undermined the respect that has been between the conservation movement and the unions.

It would be significant if it were possible for representations to be made to the government by officials in the union movement for a revisited position in light of a more balanced appraisal of the situation.

Once again I would like to thank you for past support and hope that you recognise my deep commitment to this issue. I request that you take the time to look at this current situation and be aware of the other side of the argument. I hope that you can recognise in this and other issues I have been in solidarity with a fair deal for workers and will continue to do so. I believe that natural allies are being turned against each other to satisfy the greedy and unreasonable demands of the industry employers.

For the Earth



IAN COHEN

Copy for Sid

NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW

THE NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW
39 GEORGE ST
THE ROCKS NSW 2000
PHONE: (02) 247 4206/247 2228
FAX: (02) 247 5945



2 August 1996

The Hon Bob Carr
Premier of NSW
Governor Macquarie Tower
SYDNEY NSW 2000

By fax (02) 228 3935

Dear Mr Carr,

The Nature Conservation Council of NSW on behalf of the groups involved in the NSW Forests Interim Assessment Process, seeks a meeting with you as a matter of urgency. Such a meeting must take place before the Government's impending decision on forests is made.

We are extremely concerned that your Government may be about to agree to long-term contracts to supply timber from the public forests. This action could extinguish your Government's capacity to deliver its long term conservation commitments and lead the Government into a situation in which it is forced to break important election promises.

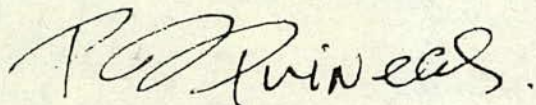
At the proposed meeting we wish to present to you information which shows that such long term supply agreements cannot be safely made by the Government because the current resource information is deficient and unreliable.

The situation may be so serious that far from being the Premier who 'saves the forests' you could be cast unwillingly in the role of a Premier who missed the last chance of creating a proper forest reserve system and ensuring sustainable off-reserve management (the key conservation goals of the National Forest Policy and your own policy).

At the meeting with you we would seek the opportunity to present succinctly our principle concerns and requests regarding other important issues at stake in the forthcoming Cabinet decision: the moratorium to be imposed until the C.A.R. reserve system is finalised; the declaration of a new national park in the Eden region and other promised forest national parks; wilderness determinations; and long term controls on vegetation clearance.

We realise that your schedule does not normally permit meetings at short notice, however the fate of our native forests and the standing of the Carr Government may depend on this opportunity to clearly and directly communicate our concerns to you. We urge you to give a small delegation your personal attention for one hour in the coming days before the Government's decision is taken on these matters.

Your sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Prineas', with a stylized, cursive script.

Peter Prineas
Chairman.

Daily
Exam
3rd Sept

Possible Boral deal for long-term gain

CORPORATE giant Boral may meet the Premier this week in a bid to clinch a guarantee of massive 10-year timber contracts with the NSW Government, according to Sid Walker, Executive Officer at the Nature Conservation Council of NSW.

"If granted, these compensatable guarantees to wood from public forests would prevent Bob Carr from ever fulfilling his key forest conservation promises," Mr Walker said.

"Boral, already the largest consumer of logs obtained from native forests in NSW, is seeking to entrench its dominant position over the State's native forest-based timber industry for at least another decade.

"Conservationists are calling on the Carr Government to stand firm in the face of extreme pressure from an ugly alliance of Boral, the Construction Forestry Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU) leadership and the Forest Products Association," he said.

"These powerful vested interest are trying to get the government to break its promise to save the old growth forests, to put in place a 'world class' forest reserve sys-

tem by the year 2000, and to ensure that 'management outside the reserves is ecologically sustainable'."

Mr Walker said that unless other sectors of the community put pressure against these forces hostile to our forests, the government may buckle.

"For that reason, indications that Boral is facing a growing consumer revolt — and signs that cracks may already be appearing in the supposedly united 'union' position on the future of NSW's forests, are both very important. They provide space for the government to make a more rational decision," Mr Walker said.

"It is reprehensible that corporate giants like Boral and hardline unions like the CFMEU are demanding long-term timber guarantees at such high levels that the government's commitments could not be met.

"Unless Boral changes its stance in the next few days, it would be very ill advised for the company to consider being a sponsor of the 2000 green Olympics. Such a move from the major destroyer of native forest in NSW would attract massive opposition from the NSW environment movement as well as international ridicule," Mr Walker said.

Daily Exam
3rd Sept

FPA guilty of sabotage says Greens

THE Clarence Valley Greens have accused the NSW Forest Products Association (FPA) of trying to sabotage the process set up to determine which areas of forest are needed for future reserve systems and which forests should be made available for logging in NSW.

"The FPA are stepping outside the process and misleading the public by inventing options contrary to those put forward for public consultation and the consideration of government by the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council," according to Clarence Valley Greens Secretary, Michael Moriarty.

Mr Moriarty said the FPA's "Sustainable Management Proposal" was a play on words and did nothing whatsoever to achieve a balance between conservation and industry.

"Sustainable" in the context of the FPA position is providing as many logs as possible to mills and has nothing to do with sustaining the environment. What Col Dorber and the FPA are suggesting is business as usual with no further cuts in logging," he said.

Mr Moriarty said Mr Dorber's recent claim that "all workers and their families

lies have ever wanted from the government was the proper application of science," to resolve the forest dispute, would be laughable if the issue it dealt with was not so serious.

"Col Dorber was present during the RACAC negotiations which were based on best available science and which concluded that areas which have been identified as being likely to be required for a Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative Reserve System need to be placed under moratorium until Comprehensive Regional Assessments are completed," he said.

Mr Moriarty said that the FPA were trying to undermine the conflict resolution process by pressuring the government to make commitments to resource security which would pre-empt the results of future regional assessments.

"The FPA are trying to get the government to make promises on resource which just may not be there," he said.

"If the government over-commits, it will find itself paying compensation to the timber industry yet again."

Mr Moriarty said the FPA was betraying the "good faith" which had been established between stakeholders and the government in the negotiations.

ATT: John
Corkil

TOTAL ENVIRONMENT CENTRE INC.

SHOP 1, GLOUCESTER WALK, 88 CUMBERLAND STREET, SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2000
Phones (02) 247 4714 - (02) 247 8476 Fax (02) 247 7118

3 September 1996

The Hon Bob Carr
Premier of NSW
Level 40, Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place Sydney 2000

Dear Mr Carr,

**New Public Opinion Poll -
Massive Support for Protection of Forests Needed for Park System**

Please find attached a copy of the Newspoll opinion survey commissioned by environment groups on the issue of protecting those forests most likely to be needed for an adequate national park system. We are providing the full poll for your information and that of relevant Ministers and government agencies to consider in the light of the forthcoming forest decision. Please note that it is not for public release apart from the information in our media release which is also enclosed.

The poll focuses on the core issue to be decided by the Government and shows overwhelming public support for the campaign promises to protect the forests. Some 80% (Newspoll advise that the variation on the sample used is plus or minus 5%), evenly divided between the country and the Sydney metropolitan area want logging excluded from those forests identified by a Government inquiry to be most likely needed to be needed for an adequate national park system. As you know RACAC produced a conservation criteria outcome that gives the best result of all published RACAC options for a future park system.¹

The poll results have a significant bearing on the moratorium part of upcoming Cabinet's forest decision.

The poll demonstrates a continuing and very high level of public concern for forest protection since your Government's election.

Yours sincerely

Jeff Angel, Director

Copy to:

Ms Pam Allan	Minister for the Environment
Mr Craig Knowles	Minister for Planning and Urban Affairs
Mr Kim Yeadon	Minister for Land and Water Conservation
Mr Rex Bowen	Director, RACAC

¹ The Forest Reserve Plan makes additional recommendations on moratoria. Also Eden has separate park outcome.

Copy for Std

NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW

THE NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW
39 GEORGE ST
THE ROCKS NSW 2000
PHONE: (02) 247 4206/247 2228
FAX: (02) 247 5945



2 August 1996

The Hon Bob Carr
Premier of NSW
Governor Macquarie Tower
SYDNEY NSW 2000

By fax (02) 228 3935

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At the proposed meeting we wish to present to you information which shows that such long term supply agreements cannot be safely made by the Government because the current resource information is deficient and unreliable.

The situation may be so serious that far from being the Premier who 'saves the forests' you could be cast unwillingly in the role of a Premier who missed the last chance of creating a proper forest reserve system and ensuring sustainable off-reserve management (the key conservation goals of the National Forest Policy and your own policy).



Access for all

Reflecting on the past few months

While the Outdoor Recreation Party may be in its infant stages, they are giving their opponents something to think about. Their office has been set up with computers and fax machines to enable a quick response to the tactics of the government and the extreme sector of the green movement. While talk-back radio has been extensively with great success.

The party has also become aware of the National Parks Act 1995, Section 19, which makes it unlawful to climb mountains,

abseil, to congregate in groups of more than three, or do anything mildly exciting in our parks. The rangers have conceded that they would not enforce such rules. If this is the case, why have the rules been written in the first place? We must take the caretakers to task over the governing of our land.

Womboyn wilderness

Womboyn is a delightful south coast village, about thirty kilometres south of Eden. About 100 people reside there, although this number increases during the holiday periods. Womboyn boasts some of the best surf and estuary fishing in New South Wales and during winter, visiting anglers cast beyond the breakers on Newtons Beach in pursuit of Australian salmon, while summertime sees

holiday makers chasing flathead and whiting in nearby Lake Womboyn. Until recently, life in the peaceful community was idyllic.

But things have changed. Womboyn is surrounded by national parks. Once-upon-a-time this was considered an asset. Last year's election of a new state government shattered Womboyn's way of life. Suddenly, and with negligible consultation, Environment Minister, Pam Allan, announced plans to declare huge sections of the parks as wilderness areas. Under the wilderness plan, public access by vehicles is forbidden. The tracks will be closed to locals and holiday makers alike. Visiting families will find themselves locked out of areas they have enjoyed for years. Under the proposals, anyone visiting the local beach now will have to walk ten kms. Do you think families will make the effort? We think not. They will take their holidays elsewhere. Womboyn's lifeblood, its tourist economy, will dry up.

With one stroke of her pen, Ms Allan will destroy the economy of this little community. We wonder if she's ever even visited the area she is denying from these local residents and nature-lovers.

If you've ever wondered why much of rural Australia is in decline, take a look at Womboyn. This was a town where young people could have a future. But that's all over now. Business will close and people will leave. Thanks to the creation of a wilderness area for the elite few, Womboyn faces a bleak future.

Join the Protest Rally

If the idea of being locked out of your land, and seeing small communities placed into despair outrages you, then make a stand at the protest rally at Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney on Tuesday 17th September. If you are a mountain bike rider, bushwalker, 4wd tourer, rock climber, abseiler, angler, horse rider, skier, caravanner, camper, day picnicker, dirt bike rider, canoeist or outdoor enthusiast, all of these activities are now under threat. Demonstrate your outrage by attending this event. Vehicles will meet at 10.30am at Mrs Maquaries Chair, while speeches start at 1pm in front of Parliament House.

Come along, protest and don't forget to bring along your family, fishing gear etc, and illustrate to the government the diverse range of people that are affected by their judgements.

For more info on the Outdoor Recreation Party and how you can help, phone Freecall 1800 500 905 or send \$20 for membership to PO Box 803, Crows Nest NSW 2065.

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4 Word

Forest Lies

Over the last few months (years?) the greenies have been crying foul over the governments decision to increase the level of the woodchipping industry here in Australia. There have been all sorts of accusations by groups involved in the conservation movement but the more I listen to them, the more I think that they are beating the drum. Not for the survival of the forests per se, but more for their own survival and the bureaucracy they have managed to build up over the years.

Attacking the bona fide's of our local environmental movement recently was none other than one of the leading environmentalists in today's cluttered, crowded ... and clouded environmental debates.

Dr Patrick Moore came out and looked at Australia's forests and was soon taking our greenies to task.

Who the hell is Patrick Moore?

Well, his environmental record is impeccable. Apart from having a PhD in Ecology and an Honours BSc in Forest Biology he was also a co-founding member of Greenpeace and was, for seven years, the President for Greenpeace Canada and a Director of Greenpeace International. You'd have to say that with credentials such as these, he was a little more than your average conservationist and somebody who would back our green groups - if they were right, that is!

What he had to say about our greenies makes interesting reading. He believes that many of today's environmental groups are so extreme that they pose a greater threat to the global environment than mainstream society and he completely rejects the zero-tolerance attitude of many greenie groups, which the ACF and the Wilderness Society are so full of.

He challenged the Wilderness Society's claims that our native animals were in danger of becoming extinct because of logging, by asking the simple question, "Name a single species that has become extinct due to forestry in Australia?" They couldn't!

He also asked "Show me the places where forests have disappeared due to logging?" Once again they couldn't. In fact, the Australian Bureau of Agricultural Resources and Economics has measured a slight increase in the amount of forested land due to reforestation on farming land.

No other country in the world has protected such vast areas of its native forests like we have in Australia. We have over 42 million hectares of forests which is something like 62 Percent of pre-European levels. Of that 42 million, just over 11 million hectares are private forests with some logging, while of the remaining 31 or so million hectares of public forests only 7.1 million are available for logging operations. The remainder are conservation reserves, national parks, vacant crown land, and state forest reserves where logging is currently not allowed.

So well managed have our forests been in the last 100 or so years that they are being acclaimed by greenies as bio diversity hotspots and worthy not only of national park protection but also ranking for World Heritage protection and acclaim.

The greenies have hi-jacked the forestry debate with unsupported statements and in many cases, they are downright lies. Their 'preserve everything at all costs' approach means they want to keep on making new parks and protected areas, where what we really need is a more balanced approach to the sustained use of our forests.

In my view, some areas currently protected because of the lies already told, should be opened up for well managed logging operations. That way our 7.1 million hectares of loggable forests will be even more sustainable and a whole lot better for it, as well!

See you in the bush - our over-protected bush!

Ron Moon
Editor

Sept/Jan 96 No 152

ATT

RECEIVED 29 AUG 1996

PROTEST RALLY

***DEMONSTRATE YOUR OUTRAGE
AT BEING LOCKED OUT OF PUBLIC LAND.***

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ARE YOUR WEEKENDS SPENT DOING ANY OF THE ABOVE,
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WILL LOCK YOU OUT OF THE PLACES YOU USE TO GO!

PARLIAMENT HOUSE
MACQUARIE STREET SYDNEY

TUESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 1996

VEHICLES TO MEET 10:30AM SHARP.
AT MRS MACQUARIE'S ROAD,
MRS MACQUARIE'S POINT, SYDNEY.

AT 11:30AM VEHICLES WILL DRIVE ONCE AROUND
PARLIAMENT HOUSE AND RETURN.

AT 1:PM
SPEAKERS WILL COMMENCE
IN FRONT OF
PARLIAMENT HOUSE.

Please bring your Family.

REMEMBER

"The World is Ruled by Those Who Show Up."



OUTDOORS

July 1996

Volume 1 Issue 3



The Newsletter of

The Outdoor Recreation Party Limited

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After the first adrenalin filled days of the Party's existence, it is now time to not only continue membership enrolment, but to get our fledgling administration organised.

The first Party office has opened in Sydney, with high capacity computers, printers, fax machines, modems etc. having been acquired and installed. We are now able to respond quickly to the devious tactics of our opponents; the unrelenting "extreme greens".

April was a highly successful month. The Easter Jamboree was well attended by 4WD enthusiasts, and provided an excellent opportunity to spread our message.

The Caravan & Camping Show followed and our stand was enthusiastically manned, recruiting members at the rate of one every eight minutes. A rate we challenge any political party to match.

Our team also attended a rally on the NSW South Coast, which was well attended by a public furious at Wilderness closures. Once again membership recruitment was brisk. The Horse Alliance was in attendance, and many horses mingled with the crowds of 4WD enthusiasts, bushwalkers, motorcyclists etc. During April Party membership doubled.

Following the hectic events of April, the team had hardly drawn breath when May showered us with more and more activity. A stand was manned at Scone celebrating their Equine Expo, and we had representation at a PLUA public meeting at Warimoo in the Blue Mountains, and at the annual 4WD Swap meet at Bass Hill drive-in.

Talk back radio was used to carry our message with great success. Having a straight forward message, sticking to it, and (by now) having considerable media experience, makes our team quite formidable when arguing against our opponents efforts to justify their self-serving activities.

June was probably the blackest month in the history of the public's rights to access public land.

Wilderness areas were declared in Parks at: Kanangra Boyd, Macleay Gorges, Barrington, Werrikimbe, and along Yabwal Creek (which is not even in a National Park)!

Further "identified" areas were put forward for public comment at: Guy Fawkes, Bindery-Mann, Nadgi, New England, and Washpool.

Whilst attempting to organise comment on these areas (limited to only 28 days consultation) further areas were "identified" at: Barrington Tops, Kanangra-Boyd, Macleay Gorges, Werrikimbe, Budawang, and Goobarragandra.

However public consultation for this last batch was limited to a mere ten working days!

How arrogant NPWS have become; 10 working days for public consultation; what a sham! They are making NSW look like a 1950's Communist State with sham public exhibitions of fair play.

During June our team debated the Wilderness Society and Colong Foundation at the University of Western Sydney, and attended meetings and rallies at Wollongong and Lithgow.

The more our opponents are confronted, the clearer it becomes that their arguments are based only upon resentment, and appointment of themselves as the sole beneficiaries of Wilderness, to the exclusion of everyone else.

We also became aware of the National Parks Act 1995, Section 19, which makes it unlawful to climb mountains, abseil, participate in any white water activity, to congregate in groups of more than 3, or do anything mildly exciting in OUR Parks. Rangers have tried to fob us off with "we will not enforce such rules". Well, why put such statutes on the books? What do they think the public mentality is; to sit around and let such nonsense go unchallenged?

The NSW Parliament has two houses. The Lower House has politicians elected from each constituency. The Upper House has politicians who are elected on a State basis determined by their Party, i.e. what they stand for. Bob Carr, Peter Collins and all your local members, occupy the Lower House, whilst the Greens, Shooters and many others occupy the Upper House.

The Upper House is generally a "hung" Parliament; meaning it is balanced, with neither of the major parties dominating matters. It is the Upper House where the Outdoor Recreation Party will redress the scandals of the current lock up of our land.

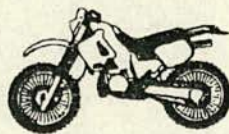
On the 17th. September next a large demonstration is scheduled at Parliament House in Sydney. Please mark your diaries. Further information will be released nearer the time.

The Outdoor Recreation Party will unlock the gates, but we require your support to do it.

Malcolm Jones

Chairman

June was probably the blackest month in the history of the public's rights to access public land.



Only a few years ago our public lands including National Parks and State Forests were ours to enjoy.

In recent times the Governments of the day have yielded to "extreme green" pressure, and our Parks and Forests are being systematically locked up. The Wilderness Act has been introduced, with public land being identified and assessed at bewildering speed. Roads and tracks are being closed at an alarming rate, eroding traditional access to the most beautiful parts of our state.

Because of this government strategy, The Outdoor Recreation Party has been formed to respond politically to these unfair developments.

The Outdoor Recreation Party targets seats in the Upper House of the NSW Parliament.

The Outdoor Recreation Party WILL maintain and restore access to public lands!

Since the political stance taken by

outdoor recreationalists, the NSW Government and the National Parks and Wildlife Service have sobered. Realising our political potential, they have opened serious dialogue (previously denied us).

ACCESS FOR ALL cannot be taken for granted: WE MUST NOW FIGHT FOR OUR RIGHTS!

The Outdoor Recreation Party **DOES NOT** seek to influence your traditional voting preferences in the NSW Lower House, but does seek your support in the NSW Upper House.

The success of the Party depends on your support as an outdoor recreationalist. You may belong to The Outdoor Recreation Party for \$20 per annum, or you may donate to our election fighting fund.

Your membership will add to our strength, and entitle you to vote on party issues. You will receive a membership card, and a regular newsletter.

THE OUTDOOR RECREATION PARTY



APPLICATION TO JOIN

Please fill in all details !

Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, etc): _____

Given Name: _____

Surname: _____

Address: _____

Suburb/Town: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____

Facsimile: _____

Main recreational interest: _____

DATE JOINED: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Membership fees

Ordinary member	\$20
Concessional member	\$10
(students, pensioners, not working)	
Donation	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

THE OUTDOOR RECREATION PARTY LIMITED

P.O. Box 803 Crows Nest NSW 2065

Telephone 1800 500 905

A Company limited by guarantee ACN 071 954 875

ATT

PROTEST RALLY

*PARLIAMENT HOUSE
MACQUARIE STREET SYDNEY*

YOUR FREEDOM IS UNDER ATTACK FROM BOB CARR'S WILDERNESS
ACT AND S.19 OF THE NATIONAL PARKS ACT

IF YOU ARE A MOUNTAIN BIKER, BUSHWALKER, 4WD
TOURER, ROCK CLIMBER, ABSEILER, ANGLER,
HORSERIDER, SKIERS, CARAVAN OR CAMPER, DAY
PICNICKER, DIRTBIKE RIDER, CANOEIST OR OUTDOOR
ENTHUSIASTS.

ALL OF THESE ACTIVITIES ARE UNDER THREAT NOW!

DEMONSTRATE YOUR OUTRAGE BY ATTENDING ON
TUESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER

VEHICLES MEET AT 10.30AM,
MRS MACQUARIE'S CHAIR

SPEECHES COMMENCE AT 1PM IN FRONT OF
PARLIAMENT HOUSE

FOR MORE RALLY INFORMATION OR PARTY
MEMBERSHIP PLEASE CALL
1800 500 905

THE OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL PARTY ACCESS FOR ALL

PLEASE COPY AND DISTRIBUTE TO OTHERS

Carr's Moment of Truth

The NSW Government's imminent decision on forests is crucial to its environmental record and long-term relationship with the conservation movement.

In the run-up to the 1995 State election, Bob Carr repeatedly promised to 'save the forests'. His skilful use of the pledge helped draw a clear distinction between the ALP and the Coalition Government on one key issue which helped boost Labor's overall vote.

The active support of environmentalists enthused by Carr's forest pledges was decisive in at least two marginal seats—Gladesville and the Blue Mountains—enough to swing the election.

This decision, coming at the conclusion of the Government's 'Interim Assessment Process' (IAP), is the key test of whether Bob Carr's forest promise was genuine.

Forest Reserve Plan

In July, major NSW environment groups including the NCC launched the 'Forest Reserve Plan' as a united submission to the IAP. The plan calls for:

- a logging moratorium over areas identified during the IAP as likely to be needed for the long-promised 'Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative' (CAR) forest reserve system.
- declaration now of new National Parks in a few areas of outstanding environmental value (including the long, long overdue South East Forests National Park.)
- protection for identified wilderness under the Wilderness Act.
- rejection of timber industry demands for 'resource security' (corporate rights to public forests), which jeopardise governments' ability to keep key promises on long-term forest conservation: a CAR reserve system and sustainable off-reserve management.
- imaginative use of the \$120 million Structural Adjustment Package so that affected workers and communities are protected while real conservation outcomes are achieved.

Support

During the IAP, the Government received some 22,000 submissions from the public. The vast majority supported the 'Forest Reserve Plan'.

In July, a letter supporting the Forest Reserve Plan and signed by environment

regrowth logging ... This shift will occur over a realistic period, but *without detriment to the protection of high conservation old growth and wilderness forests* ... A central objective ... is to establish ... an *ecologically sustainable* sawlog-driven timber industry".

The ALP also promised to "conduct, in co-operation with the Federal Government, comprehensive environmental regional assessments... [which] will encompass both public and private lands... [and] be used to establish a CAR reserve system."



groups was sent to all Members of the NSW Parliament.

Policy

The Forest Reserve Plan asks for no more than faithful implementation of the key conservation commitments in the Government's Policy. This policy states "A Carr Labor Government will shift the basis of the State's timber industry from logging old growth and wilderness forests ... toward a reliance on plantation and

Purpose

The main purpose of the IAP was to determine areas likely to be needed for a CAR reserve system, so they can be placed under moratorium pending completion of Comprehensive Regional Assessments (CRAs).

These areas were worked out during the IAP in computer-supported stakeholder negotiations. Agreed criteria for a CAR reserve system were applied to get a "Conservation Criteria Outcome" (CCO) for each of 11 forest regions. There was limited success in reaching conservation targets within the CCO—but it is the *only* outcome generated in the negotiations which attempts to do so.

Further negotiations progressively wound back the size of the proposed moratorium in each region, in order to meet industry resource targets.

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From the Chair ..

It's time to deliver on the forests

It's time for the Government to deliver on Premier Bob Carr's central promise of the 1995 State election—to save the native forests of NSW. The detail of this promise is set out in the ALP forests' policy which calls for a halt to logging in old growth and wilderness forests and the protection of these areas, and other significant conservation values of the native forests, in a comprehensive reserve system.

Premier Carr's ALP Government won office by a narrow margin in March 1995. The NSW environment movement assessed the environmental performances and credentials of the parties prior to the election, and widely publicised the conclusion that our environment had better prospects under the ALP than the Coalition.

Some environmental organisations (not the NCC, which does not align itself with any political party) also gave support to the ALP on polling day, influencing the results in some marginal seats. Mr Carr's promise to 'save the forests,' backed up by a detailed forests policy hammered out over many weeks of negotiations before the election, was a critical factor in the favourable assessment of the ALP, and



important in the voters' perceptions of Bob Carr's bid to become Premier.

Funding of 120 million dollars has been provided from environmental trust funds and by the Howard Government in Canberra to meet the cost of implementing Mr Carr's promise, and to buffer workers and timber millers who may be affected. The dimensions of the environment movement's claim—the areas that need to be protected to 'save' the forests—have now been defined and placed before the Government.

The size of the claim has drawn some negative responses from the bureaucracy. Warnings from the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) are fairly standard and used to be put down to bureaucratic timidity, but it is disturbing to hear of recent NPWS opposition to the setting aside of tracts of forest as wilderness. The rationale for this stance is that we can't expect to save both the wilderness forests and the many fragments needed for biodiversity conservation.

Environmental groups have a bolder vision than the bureaucrats, and a sceptical view of the prospects of a forests reserve system comprised of small areas with logging operations continuing around them. The forests policy negotiated with the ALP recognised this and provided that statutory processes for the protection of biodiversity, particularly endangered animal and plant species, would continue to be applied in the forests.

There are good environmental, social and economic reasons why Bob Carr's promise to save our native forests should be honoured in full. A consideration of no small importance for the Government is that its performance on the forests is something people will think about as they cast their votes at the next election. And if the decision is a good one, it will be remembered for many years to come.

Peter Prineas, Chairman, Nature Conservation Council of NSW ●

NCC Annual Conference

The Nature Conservation Council of NSW is a peak body made up of more than a hundred non-government environmental organisations throughout the State. Top of the calendar for the NCC is the annual conference held at the end of October each year when policy is debated, reports are presented and the NCC Executive is elected. Annual conferences are usually addressed and opened by a distinguished guest, often a senior policy maker in the environmental field.

This year's annual conference will be held on the weekend of October 26–27 and member groups are urged to start thinking about their contributions now.

There is no shortage of events on the environmental calendar, but NCC's annual conference is very important. Notions of democracy have faded a bit within the environmental movement as the debate has become the province of small 'policy communities' inside and outside government. To some extent, this is an unavoidable result of increased professionalism in the non-government environmental movement. Over the past decade, part time contributions became difficult to maintain as the complexity of issues grew, more resources were committed to resolving some of the problems, and the pace of policy formulation and decision-making picked up speed.

This trend has inherent dangers. In any situation, a small group of people is usually easier to 'manage' than a large group. Senior government managers are paid big salaries for their ability to handle and shape 'situations,' including the environmental kind, to the advantage of their bureaucracies and the Ministers of the day. Our late colleague, Milo Dunphy, recognised these pitfalls when he called for a return to the grass roots.

NCC's annual conference stands out as the NSW environment movement's major institutional defence against these pressures. It provides an opportunity for delegates to meet with people of similar interests from all over the State, and to discuss and debate the policies, problems and future directions of the State's environment movement.

Peter Prineas ●

Environment NSW

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LAND CONSERVATION

Happy Birthday SEPP 46?

State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 46: Protection and Management of Native Vegetation, was announced on August 10 1995. SEPP46 requires landholders to obtain consent from the Department of Land and Water Conservation before commencing clearing operations on lands to which the SEPP applies.

The aim of the Policy is to "prevent inappropriate native vegetation clearance within NSW" and ensure that native vegetation is "protected and managed in the environmental, social and economic interests of the State". It was introduced in recognition of the fact that land clearing has been a major factor in land degradation, loss of biodiversity and habitat, and declining sustainability of land use.

Courageous

The conservation movement has long argued that the general absence of controls on vegetation clearance in NSW was a major impediment to achieving biodiversity conservation, and welcomed the SEPP's introduction as a necessary and courageous decision by the Government.

The NSW Environmental Planning & Assessment Act, under which the Policy was introduced, does not require that SEPPs be subject to prior public notification and consultation. While this is at variance with the requirements of other planning and land management instruments, and offends principles of openness and transparency of government, the ability to introduce SEPPs by the stroke of a pen recognises that there are circumstances where delay in implementation may defeat a SEPP's very purpose. SEPP46 is a case in point. Experience elsewhere suggests that if the introduction of clearance controls had been preceded by a discussion period, widespread panic clearing would have occurred.

The response of farmers' organisations to the SEPP was, typically, outrage and opposition. In late 1995, under intense pressure from the rural lobby, the Government agreed to significant

amendments to the Policy. These removed the concurrence role for approvals from the National Parks and Wildlife Service and made changes to the treatment of grasslands.

Interim

SEPP46 was intended as an interim measure until more permanent mechanisms and procedures to address land clearing were developed. Public submissions were called for, and public meetings held around the State. A Vegetation Forum was established to consider the responses and report to Kim Yeadon, Minister for Land & Water Conservation, on options for future developments.

Despite the divergent views held by the members of the Forum, the meetings were held with a spirit of cooperation, and showed that dialogue between the various parties is possible.

Alternatives

The Vegetation Forum has now reported to the Minister and throws the ball firmly back into his court. Its report identifies areas of disagreement, and presents the Minister with a number of alternative actions. Which, if any, will be adopted, and what the timetable is for developing the replacement for SEPP46, remain open questions. In the meantime, SEPP46 remains in operation in its present form.

The Vegetation Forum was in agreement that SEPP46 should be replaced by legislation covering the whole State (rather than being geographically restricted, as is SEPP46). There was no agreement on the form of the legislation, the options being a new stand alone Vegetation Management Act or amendments to various existing Acts. There was agreement that the legislation should allow for a hierarchy of vegetation management plans, with regional plans (although with no consensus as to how regions were to be defined) providing the framework for individual property, or group of properties' plans.

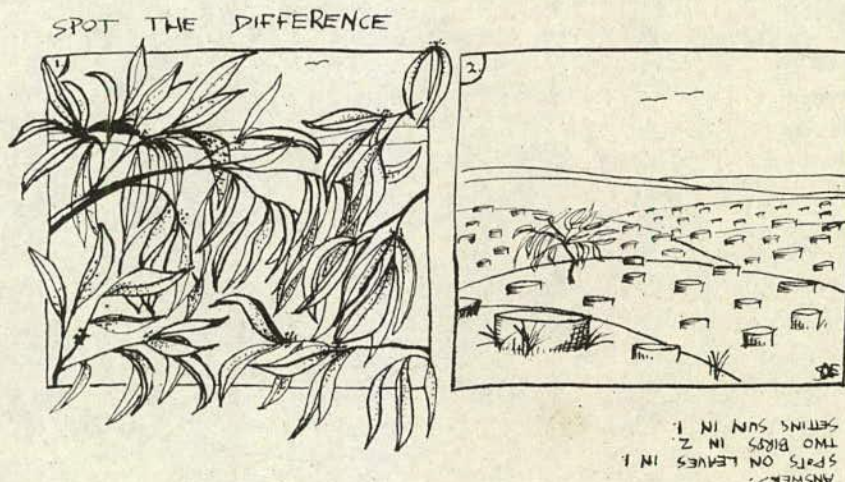
Self regulation

The most fundamental difference of opinion on the Forum related to what might happen in the case of individual properties for which a property plan had not been prepared. Should there be self-regulation so that landholders were free to carry out operations they thought compatible with the regional plan, or should there be a notification system to check that the provisions of the regional plan were not breached? In the case of property plans, if deviations from the regional plan were approved, could there be a mechanism to prevent the incremental destruction of the aims and objectives of the regional plan?

While predictably there was disagreement over any possible requirements for compensation, there was agreement that implementation of any vegetation management regime would require substantial resources for administration, monitoring, education, management

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Cartoon by Susan Wicks, courtesy of "Black 'n' White 'n' Green", published by Envirobook.



TRANSPORT

Transport policy off the rails

A May 1996 State budget which heavily favoured road transport once again squashed any hopes of upgrading NSW rail systems to be able to seriously compete in the freight market.

Included in the budget was a record \$1.9 billion to be spent on a roads program, in addition to a massive commitment of \$2.2 billion to upgrade the Pacific Highway. The situation for rail capital works is unclear. NSW Transport Minister Brian Langton has claimed a \$932 million capital works program is in place for State Rail. This contrasts with a 1996-97 allocation of capital grants of only \$382 million.

In June, NSW State Parliament was more concerned with splitting State Rail into four new groups: the Rail Access Corporation, Freight Rail Corporation, Rail Services Authority and a restructured State Rail Authority. The changes came into effect on 1 July 1996.

During debate over the enabling legislation, Greens MLC, the Hon Ian Cohen, provided insight into the NSW rail debacle:

"[Our rail system has] basic problems that adversely affect the efficiency and competitiveness of rail freight and passenger train services. ... In fact, some 575 kilometres, or 40 per cent, of the mainline interstate track in NSW fails to meet basic fast freight train standards. It is clear that State Rail has improved its performance and reduced its deficits. However, as a 1995 Commonwealth Parliamentary Library Paper reported: 'rail is probably fast reaching the point where the scope for marginal productivity improvements from operational, for example work practice, reforms may be limited. Future significant gains in productivity will rely increasingly on effective track investment initiatives'.

Cohen continued: "It is not as if straightening out the worst of our mainline railway track requires engineering miracles or heavy expenditure, as shown by the extensive work that

has been done by the Queensland Government in their current Mainline Upgrade Program.

"This program includes 119 kilometres of high quality deviations between Brisbane and Cairns, with an average cost of less than \$1.5 million per kilometre. ... new locos and wagons, and hundreds of new bridges. ... Their rail capital works program has been running at about \$700 million a year for about two years now—far in excess of the true NSW rail capital works budget. This is despite Queensland having half the population of NSW."

"What the Carr and truck Government is offering the people of NSW, in this Bill to improve rail, is totally inadequate. It is incumbent on this Parliament to make provision to speed up our trains before the Olympic Games through track upgrading, and to improve the efficiency and competitiveness of rail freight.

He added: "In order to ensure full competitive neutrality between road and rail freight, it will not only be necessary to straighten out the worst of our winding rail tracks, but also ensure that road pricing for urban commuters covers all road, social and environmental costs, and that the road freight industry makes a full contribution to the roads it uses in the course of its business."

However, on 1 July 1996, NSW also adopted National Road Transport

All I need is the air that I breathe...

NSW Department of Health and Environment Protection Authority studies have concluded that air quality in Sydney results in the early death of 400 people a year, triggers asthma attacks in people who already have it, increases susceptibility to infection, and irritates eyes and breathing passages.

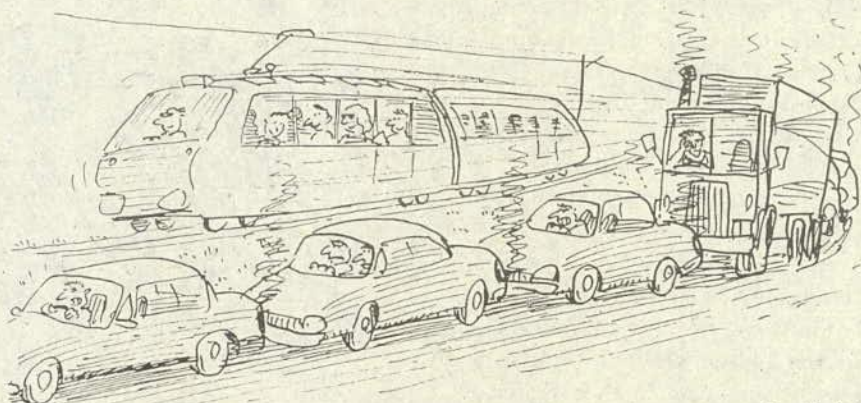
They also state that replacing older more polluting cars with new, less polluting cars **is not enough** to protect Sydney's air quality. Increased use of public transport is essential.

"But you can't catch public transport if it isn't there, that's why Smogbusters is working in Western Sydney to get better bus and train services", says Christine Laurence, Smogbuster Project Coordinator for the Nature Conservation Council.

The NSW Department of Transport's draft Public Transport Strategy for Western Sydney is a good start—the challenge is to make it happen. Contact Christine on (02) 247 4080 for details.

Commission registration fees for heavy trucks which slashed most B-Double (articulated semi-trailers) annual registration and permit fees from about \$14000 to \$5500, and halved annual fees for heavier semitrailers from about \$8000 to \$4000. The reductions will cost NSW about \$75 million a year. This however, did not stop the RTA getting a record budget of about \$1.9 billion. At the same time, the squeeze has been put on the rail capital works budget.

It remains to be seen if the Carr Government is capable of making real improvements to NSW rail track, and gaining a 'level playing field' for road transport and rail freight—or whether we have a "Carr and truck Government" with ever more funds for roads at the expense of rail. ●



Les Robinson

New Trust or Old Politics?

Natural Heritage Trust Bill

A bold initiative which has significantly 'upped the ante' in Federal action to protect the environment—or a shameless plot to divide the environment movement and alienate conservationists from their natural allies in the Senate? A major leap forward in Commonwealth action on the environment—or an expanded primary industry agenda wrapped in green packaging?

Reactions to the Howard Government's Natural Heritage Trust Bill, and to its decision to link funding of its new environmental initiatives to the partial privatisation of Telstra, have been mixed.

Welcome moves

The NCC welcomes the Government's recognition of the scale of the environmental crisis and applauds its stated intention to increase environmental funding. However, we have grave misgivings about the approach to environmental policy, and believe the NHT Bill will need major amendment if it is to meet its stated aims.

The NCC Executive resolved in May 1996 that "while a proposed expansion in governmental expenditure is welcome, it is unacceptable that environmental expenditure is made contingent on any particular fund-raising initiative".

By insisting on this artificial link, the Government has increased scepticism over the veracity of its environmental concern. It is hard to avoid the conclusion that it is 'using' public concern over the environment to pressure non-Government Senators to support its privatisation Bills.

Instead of looking forward with confidence to rising environmental expenditure, Australians face contracting environmental programs in the coming budget and politically long and acrimonious debate over who's to blame for the Coalition's failure to deliver its program.

Concerns

In addition to the issues of funding and whether the government's expenditure proposals will ever be implemented, the NCC believes there are significant problems with the NHT Bill as it stands.

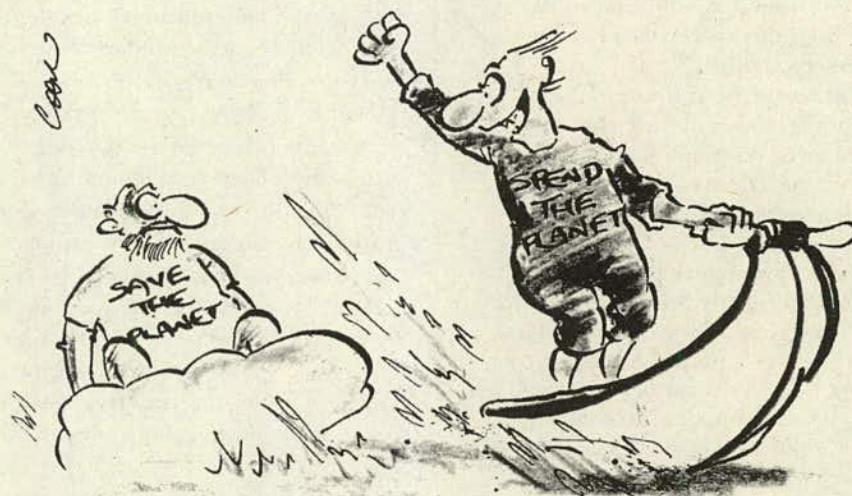
It provides for the establishment of a Trust to control the substantial sum (in the order of a billion dollars) which

would be lodged in the new environmental 'kitty' from the Telstra sale. But how *environmental* will it really be?

The Government proposes that the Trust will be jointly controlled by the Primary Industry and Environment Ministers. Two of the largest programs—Landcare & Farm Forestry, and the Murray Darling 2001—costed at more than \$440 million in total—are both significantly oriented to agricultural production. Equal involvement of the primary industry portfolio in the Trust Board of Management suggests this influence will

they are not, the proposed funding level is often inadequate. For instance, expenditure for the National Reserve System (\$80 million to the end of the century) is far below the level needed to deliver a national protected areas system by the year 2000 as promised.

Funding for programs such as wetlands conservation and endangered species are clearly inadequate. Some environmental issues of momentous importance, such as the threat of rapid climate change, are not seriously addressed by the Government's environmental package as it stands.



Cartoon by Patrick Cook from "Black 'n' White 'n' Green", published by Envirobook.

be extensive.

The breakdown of expenditure within the \$318 National Vegetation Initiative, the largest new program proposed under the Bill, is of dubious merit. Only one quarter is allocated towards encouraging retention of remnant vegetation, with the remainder for revegetation projects. Yet as a general rule, the benefit for biodiversity conservation of saving what's left is greater than afforesting equivalent areas. It is lunacy to fund expensive revegetation projects while clearance continues on a massive scale. Despite this, the Commonwealth has yet to take decisive action to halt broadscale clearance.

Better than Cure

Newly-elected Senator Bob Brown has lambasted the NHT Bill for its emphasis on environmental repair, as opposed to prevention. It is a telling criticism. Not all of its programs are curative, but where

The Price of Results?

Spending a lot of money on the environment is a necessary, but not sufficient, condition for positive environmental outcomes. Most of the Government's poor decisions on the environment to date, such as weakening World Heritage management standards by allowing new mining operations (Kakadu) or tourist development (Hinchinbrook), did not require money for a good outcome—just the guts to say no!

Ultimately, results count—tangible environmental outcomes. These will only be achieved on the scale needed if governments develop an unequivocal commitment to environmental protection, and take a holistic approach to environmental policy which emphasises prevention over cure and employs various levers of government to get results.

Sid Walker, Executive Officer, NCC ●

Carr's Moment of Truth *continued from page 1*

Despite the rapid pace of the IAP, it has been the best process ever applied in Australia for determining the areas of public forest most likely to be needed for CAR reserves. It would be appalling if the Government now effectively ignores the information generated through its own process and opens up high conservation value forests for logging.

A good moratorium is also a key test of the environmental bona fides of the Commonwealth, which will play an important role in the process. So far, the Howard Government has indicated general support for an outcome based on the CCO. It could win badly-needed plaudits from environmentalists if it at least helps this process succeed.

Industry Grab

The most serious threat to the IAP—and to the success of the Government's entire forest reform process—is the timber lobby's push for new, secure medium and long-term timber rights to public forests.

Industry is seeking guaranteed resource at slightly below current (1996/7) levels—giving an appearance of 'compromise'. Yet because past over-cutting has been so severe, further cuts are needed even without conservation gains.

To make matters worse, it has become increasingly recognised by Government agencies that resource estimates given by State Forests' "Wood Resources Study" are inaccurate. It would be utterly reckless for the Government to give contracts to industry before CRAs have clarified the amount of timber resource compatible with meeting the Government's environmental commitments.

The Carr Government must reject industry demands which, if accepted, would turn its forest reforms into a farce and critically damage the Premier's environmental reputation. ●

COMPROMISE

It should be emphasised that the 'Forest Reserve Plan' represents a major compromise by the NSW environment movement. The IAP set targets for protection of endangered species, biodiversity, old growth forest and wilderness. It was found that to fully meet the targets (themselves the product of compromise) reservation of almost *all* native forests was required. Yet to provide continuing timber supplies, the Forest Reserve Plan attempts only to meet conservation targets to a 'reasonable' standard.

NSW State of the Environment 1997

Work on the NSW 1997 State of the Environment Report has begun in earnest. Four working groups have been established to consider and draft the Report, covering the themes of Atmosphere, Land, Water and Towards Sustainability. NCC representatives sit on all working groups: Caron Morrison and Peter Prineas of the NCC; Brigid Dowsett of the Australian Conservation Foundation; and Andreas Glanznig of the Community Biodiversity Network. State of the Environment reports are required by law to be produced every two years—the last report was 1995.

State of the Environment (SoE) reporting is a vital part of information systems which integrate monitoring and reporting efforts and management practices. By organising information into a framework which reports on pressures acting on the environment, the SoE Reporting System can provide important feedback on environmental trends, and allow policies, programs and management practices to be adapted where needed.

The NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has proposed that the 1997 report be structured into four chapters: three environmental media (Atmosphere, Land and Water) and a concluding chapter to draw various themes together (Towards Sustainability). This approach is in marked contrast to the 1995 report, which provided 12 separate chapters on a wide range of environmental issues.

The NCC has expressed its concern that the 1997 SoE Report may become too oversimplified to be of much value. We believe that difficulties experienced in preparing the 1995 report have resulted in the pendulum swinging too far towards an over-simplified structure. This could bury key themes and issues, such as human settlements and biodiversity.

The Federal Government's 1996 National SoE Report takes a more balanced approach. It includes chapters on human settlements, biodiversity and natural and cultural heritage in addition

to those proposed for the 1997 NSW report. The national approach is more sensible and facilitates integration between SoE at different levels of government.

Take biodiversity for example. In NSW, local governments are required by law to report on various themes, including biodiversity. The Commonwealth also dedicates a chapter to biodiversity issues to meet its obligations under the National Strategy for the Conservation of Australia's Biological Diversity. This Strategy requires governments to "incorporate 'state of biological diversity' reports in the SoE reports prepared by States, Territories and the Commonwealth." At this stage, NSW does not appear to be lining up with local or national approaches.

Although a signatory to the National Strategy, it appears that NSW is seeking to defy that Strategy by not including a dedicated 'state of biodiversity' chapter in the 1997 report.

The NSW Environment Protection Authority has released a discussion paper on the NSW SoE reporting system for public comment by 30 September, 1996. This provides an opportunity to argue for a more sensible approach to be adopted. ●

WHAT YOU CAN DO?

You may wish to comment on the paper and make the point that a NSW SoE Report structure which includes chapters on human settlements and biodiversity is a more sensible approach and would lead to better integration with the national SoE reporting system.

The discussion paper, entitled "The Future of NSW: State of the Environment Reporting" is available from the NSW EPA or can be viewed in the NCC Library, 39 George Street, The Rocks, Sydney 2000.

RESERVES

Selling our National Parks

Plans for a huge expansion of the Perisher Ski Resort in Kosciusko National Park represent a turning point for the national parks of New South Wales, and challenge the 'public' character of our parks system.

The national park idea originated in the USA when the Yellowstone National Park was reserved in 1872. Since then national parks have become a universally recognised institution and many countries have established national park systems to protect public lands of high conservation and scenic value from the pressures of development.

Australians were quick to adopt this American innovation, with New South Wales creating the 'National Park' on the coast south of Sydney in 1879 (The 'Royal' was added when the Queen visited in 1954). In 1967, after many decades of indifferent and inconsistent management the State's national parks were brought under the control of a single government authority, the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS).

In its first two decades the NPWS enjoyed strong growth, high morale and widespread community support. National parks and other reserves expanded quickly. In its third decade the path of the NPWS has become much more rocky, with intense pressures on the organisation to satisfy commercial and interest group pressures. The abrupt removal of two Directors of NPWS by their ministers signalled the end of a strongly principled philosophy of national park management, and the emergence of a more 'managerial' style in which the Service tends to judge its success by how well it delivers the Government's program (these days very much influenced by Treasury).

By the early 1990s the changes in the park management philosophy of the NPWS, driven by pressures from State Treasury and tourism, were obvious. There was nothing new about the tension between developing the parks for recreation and tourism on the one hand, and protecting their conservation values on the other. What was new was that the NPWS was beginning to erode the public character of our national parks by a

process of privatisation. This is a fundamental departure from national park philosophy and management principles.

Privatisation began in a small way in the 1970s when some long term leases for private apartments were granted at Thredbo in the Kosciusko National Park. Over the years, the Thredbo head lease has been subdivided and private dwellings developed and sold off by the

additional accommodation (about a thousand beds) will be made available. It is likely, based on experience at Thredbo, that the Perisher expansion is being driven by the potential to develop and sell private dwellings under long term leases. The NPWS can look forward to many thousands of dollars per bed for approving this type of development, and the developers' profits would be similar.



A view of Kosciusko National Park.

head lessee to private buyers. Lease conditions have usually required that these dwellings be made available for holiday lettings in order to give a semblance of public availability and compliance with the National Parks and Wildlife Act, but leaseholders would have little difficulty avoiding these requirements. The development and sale of private dwellings under long term leases has been financially attractive for both the NPWS and the Thredbo head lessee, and this form of development has fuelled the expansion of the Thredbo resort in recent years. Thredbo now supports a speculative real estate market based on these private dwellings.

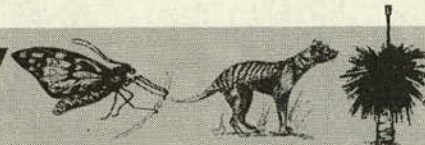
In 1993/94 the NPWS approved a large increase in accommodation for resorts on the Perisher Range. At a recent workshop arranged by its consultant, Kin hills, a major development at Perisher was unveiled, with buildings up to five storeys in height.

The NPWS is not saying yet how this

If private dwellings can be developed and sold at Kosciusko, the same can happen in any national park. The NPWS may be a worthy organisation, but it is not nearly as important as the public's national parks. The Service is not entitled to fund its bureaucracy through the creation and sale of private property rights in our national parks.

In June this year Nature Conservation Council's Executive, concerned at the excessive development and privatisation of resort areas in Kosciusko National Park, decided to press for a review of the planned resort expansion and for amendments to the National Parks and Wildlife Act. The NCC wants the Act changed to prohibit the development and sale of private dwellings in national parks, and to bring the NPWS under the management of an expert and representative board of directors robust enough to guide the organisation and to soundly manage the park system into the next century.

Peter Prineas, Chairman NCC ●



Getting the Threatened Species Act to Work

When you get a new tool experts say "when all else fails, read the instructions". Good advice for the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), which has been caught napping in crucial areas of new threatened species laws.

The Environmental Defender's Office (EDO) and the NPWS have both been running education programmes about the *Threatened Species Conservation Act*, which integrates assessment and approval of developments by local councils and the NPWS. Recent developments show the NPWS might understand the theory, but have little practical idea of how it will enforce the law.

The EDO is acting in court proceedings to stop clearing of land at Evan's Head, which our client says is habitat of threatened species. Clearing of habitat is illegal unless it is essential to carry out development consent and follows the conditions of consent. To work out whether the law is being broken, the NPWS needs to look at the development consent.

In the Evans Head case, the EDO told the NPWS about the alleged breaches. The NPWS said that they accept the advice of local councils about whether a development consent is being followed, and that it is not their role to look at the consent. They further stated that the matter was a Council responsibility and that the NPWS would not take any action. The NPWS did not even have a copy of the development consent.

Without this development consent, it is impossible for the NPWS to know whether the work is legal. To refuse to investigate what appears to be a serious breach of the law is of great concern. NPWS does not appear to appreciate its obligations in administering the law. They are confused between enforcing threatened species laws and enforcing the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act.

What is worse, the errors of NPWS have compromised our client's case. An

injunction to stop the clearing was refused by the Land and Environment Court, with the Judge saying:

"...relying as he does on a breach of the Environmental Planning & Assess-

approval process and are paying close attention to what is occurring and what is to occur on the site, have seen fit to intervene.

The Court might expect... that there would be some indication that the relevant authorities have at least a concern about what is actually happening or is about to happen, but that is not the case in the present proceedings."

As the Judge has pointed out, the NPWS is the body with responsibility for administering the Act. It's time they accepted that responsibility.

The TSC Act is soon to be reviewed. The EDO would like to hear of other examples where the law is not being administered properly or it needs to be changed. Please send details to Level 9, 89

York Street, Sydney 2000 or email edo@peg.apc.org.

James Johnson, Director, Environmental Defender's Office ●

Cartoon by Judy Horacek, from "Black 'n' White 'n' Green", published by *Envirobook*.



ment Act, administered in this case by the Richmond Rivers Shire Council, and a breach of the National Parks & Wildlife Act, administered by the NPWS, there is nothing ... to show that either of those authorities, who both appear to have been involved in the

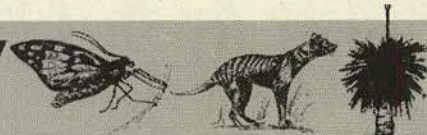
Streamlining the Approvals Process

The Government is currently looking at ways of streamlining the approvals process. The most recent example of "integration", the threatened species laws, have resulted in the loss of basic rights of access to information. There is no obligation on local councils to advertise or exhibit species impact statements.

The Director General of NPWS states: "Species impact statements (SIS) were not designed to guide public consultation. Rather they are expert documents designed to enable NPWS to exercise its role in advising the decision making authority on how to handle threatened species considerations", and "the role of the SIS is to guide the concurrence of the Director General of NPWS by providing all the relevant details".

This attitude has no place in today's environmental decision-making. There is little information on threatened species throughout large parts of the state. It is not possible for a consultant who examines a site over a limited period to know "all the relevant details". This approach precludes the knowledge and expertise of the community who may have lived in and studied an area for decades.

A Green Paper, *Towards an Integrated Land Use, Planning and Natural Resource Approvals Policy for NSW* has been released. The NCC has circulated a draft submission prepared by the EDO for comment. Please respond because the issue is important.



Draft Biological Diversity Strategy soon on display

Public comment will be invited from late September on the State Government's Draft Biological Diversity Strategy. The Draft Strategy has been prepared by the NPWS and the NSW Biological Diversity Advisory Council (BDAC), which has representatives from stakeholders including three conservationists (through NCC).

The draft strategy, which was required to be prepared by the Threatened Species Conservation Act (1995) is a whole of government strategy. It is expected to lay out a plan for Government and community cooperation to protect and conserve biodiversity in NSW.

Once in place, the strategy will fulfil Australia's obligations under the National Strategy for the Conservation of Australia's Biological Diversity and under the Biological Diversity Convention. The Strategy is expected to cover a lot of ground, given the broad connections between biodiversity conservation and a range of environmental issues.

With so many issues at state, the draft will need a huge number of submissions. The BDAC will use the submissions to advise the Director of NPWS about changes to the Strategy. A key issue will be to establish a biodiversity fund to achieve the strategy. Measures to protect freshwater and marine fish must also be included in the strategy as they have been excluded from the Threatened Species Conservation Act.

For anyone wishing to make a submission, the draft strategy should be available at least from NPWS offices and the NCC. Check the NCC website as well. It may also be available from regional conservation centres and selected government department offices. Check with NCC or Kim Brebach at the Threatened Species Network on 9241 1438 for further details. At this stage, the draft will be open for comment from 23 September to 4 November (these dates are still subject to Cabinet approval). ●

How to Nominate Threatened Species

Threatened species should be better protected in NSW thanks to the new *Threatened Species Conservation Act (1995)*. Community participation in its various processes is one of its strong points, and will be crucial to its successful implementation. The TSC Act provides specific protection through integration with state planning processes which isn't provided by the Commonwealth's *Endangered Species Protection*



A rare and endangered Squirrel Glider

Act (1992). The TSC Act aims to both protect and recover species and ecological communities in NSW. It does this by providing development controls, and by conserving threatened species through a range of proactive measures including identification of critical habitat; preparation of recovery plans for endangered species, populations and ecological communities; and threat abatement plans.

Successful implementation of these measures will of course depend on comprehensive State and Federal government funding. Community participation can only go so far.

What can be nominated?

There are some worthwhile new concepts in the TSC Act including broad scope for public nominations, which are dealt with by an independent expert Scientific Committee. Firstly you can nominate a population of a common or vulnerable species as an

"endangered population". To be considered endangered, a population must be at the edge of its range, an island population, genetically distinct or have "other conservation significance".

Secondly, you can nominate ecological communities as endangered. An ecological community is an assemblage of different species. You can also nominate threatening processes, that is processes which threaten species, ecological communities or endangered populations with extinction. "Incidental capture of sea birds during oceanic longline fishing operations" is an example of a specific threatening processes.

Species can be nominated as either vulnerable or endangered.

Of course an ecological community, endangered population or threatening processes must appear on the Schedules (lists) under either law before it can receive attention under the Act. At this stage there are none on the TSC Act Schedules. This is a crucial area for community involvement. Once nominations are made, timetables start to kick in, recovery plans have to be written, critical habitat declared (in NSW) and so on.

Regulations and Guidelines

Most of the solid detail about the legally required contents of nominations can be found in the guidelines and regulations for both Acts.

The NPWS is currently preparing regulations and guidelines for nominations under the TSC Act. These should be available from late August onwards, from Kylie Mayne, Executive Officer to the Scientific Committee, at the NPWS on (02) 9585 6940.

Guidelines for how to make nominations for species, ecological communities or threatening processes under the ESP Act are available from the Australian Nature Conservation Agency (ANCA) on (06) 250 0722 or fax (06) 250 0214.

Kim Brebach, NSW Coordinator
Threatened Species Network ●

Wingecaribee Swamp: heritage or clapped out mining site?

Peat wetlands are a rare ecosystem type in Australia. Wingecaribee Swamp, located in the headwaters of the Wingecaribee River near Bowral, is a *montane peatland* or *mire*, and is the largest highland wetland type in the country.

The Swamp has other important values that add to its uniqueness including at least two rare plant species, gentian (*Gentiana wingecaribensis*) and the leek orchid (*Prasophyllum uroglossum*); significant Aboriginal heritage; several species of rare, threatened or endangered fauna; and outstanding landscape values.

The Swamp plays a significant role in relation to the drinking water quality of the Wingecaribee Reservoir, e.g. regulating high energy flows; filtering

and nutrient removal; thermal lag that promotes reservoir stability; and is a natural sink for CO₂ (greenhouse), nutrients and heavy metals.

Wingecaribee Swamp is of scientific significance as a source of pollen and fossils; is listed on the National Estate; and is a designated National Trust landscape area and proposed Nature Reserve.

All of these values are threatened by peat mining which has slowly been destroying the Swamp. The only Government agency known to support the continuation of this ecologically destructive activity is the Department of Mineral Resources! Peat mining produces no product that cannot be substituted with an alternative material (most of which offer recycling or by-

product opportunities).

The Nature Conservation Council is calling upon the NSW Government to: immediately close the peat mining activity; declare the area as the Wingecaribee Swamp Nature Reserve; and prepare a nomination for its listing under the Ramsar Convention in Costa Rica.

Judy Messer, Vice Chairperson, Nature Conservation Council ●

WHAT YOU CAN DO
Add your voice to the call for this unique wetland by writing to the Premier, Mr Bob Carr, as a matter of urgency.

Sydney Water's Licence Regulator

When the Sydney Water Board was corporatised by Act of Parliament, it was 'set free' from the day to day control of Government and expected to operate on a commercial basis like corporations in the private sector.

As a way of ensuring that the organisation's environmental and social responsibilities would continue to be met, Sydney Water was given appropriate statutory objectives and the discipline of an operating licence which sets out a range of objectives towards which the organisation is expected to work. The Act provides that Sydney Water's performance of its operating licence requirements will be assessed every year by means of an independent audit managed by a body called the Licence Regulator.

The Licence Regulator's first audit has now been completed and its report submitted to the NSW Parliament.

The Licence Regulator reported that while Sydney Water met operating licence requirements for its core business activities of providing safe drinking water and disposal of sewage, "there is room for considerable improvement in the organisations' compliance with a number of operating licence requirements".

Compliance with customer service requirements was found to be low, with a tendency to "apply narrow and strained definitions which prejudice the interests of citizens ...". A serious problem uncovered in the audit was that although several thousand customer complaints were received by Sydney Water during 1995, only 180 met Sydney Water's interpretation of a "complaint" auditable under the operating licence. Sydney Water's approach to customer service in the areas of water pressure and continuity were also found wanting.

An effective regulatory regime for the new corporation in respect of environmental protection and drinking water quality has still not been devised, as Sydney Water, the EPA and the Department of Health have still not concluded Memoranda of Understanding intended to govern these processes.

The Licence Regulator also expressed concern that Sydney Water managed only "partial compliance in achieving the reasonably modest and achievable targets set for it with respect to ecological sustainable development (ESD)". A related issue noted in the report is the continuing disagreement between Sydney Water, the EPA and the Pricing Tribunal as to their respective responsibilities for defining and establishing methodologies for achieving ESD.

The Licence Regulator's Report (incorporating the report of the auditor Coopers Lybrand and CH2M Hill) can be purchased for \$10.00 from the GTE Licence Regulator Unit at the Department of Land and Water Conservation. A copy is held in the NCC Library.

Peter Prineas is one of five part time members of the Licence Regulator to Sydney Water. ●



A Test of NSW Coastal Policy

Craig Knowles, The State Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning, will soon make a crucial decision to either approve or reject a development application by the ALP-controlled Shellharbour Council to build a 350 berth marina at South Shellharbour Beach, 20 km south of Wollongong.

The development, to be built in the active coastal zone, will destroy a 12 hectare salt marsh wetland and create an alternative fresh water wetland. A 120 metre channel through the beach and massive breakwaters and groynes (rock walls which extend out from the shoreline) are also planned. The development is highly likely to cause extensive beach erosion and generate pollution which together will damage the unique offshore coral and sponge reefs.

A State-appointed Commission of Inquiry recommended approval of the development after three months of hearings in late March this year. Only one local resident, a real estate developer, gave evidence supporting the proposal. Twenty-one local residents gave often lengthy objections.

Shellharbour Council spent over a million dollars of the ratepayers money engaging experts to justify the proposal.

By contrast the local conservation organisation, SPACE (Shellharbour Peoples' Association for Conservation of the Environment) relied on experts on aboriginal rights, wetlands, ocean currents, economics, legal matters, marine biology and water quality who either gave their services free or received small expense payments.

With a stated cost of \$34.3 million, to be met by selling off most of 229 hectares

of public land, including the local public golf course, there is considerable local opposition to the proposal. It includes one Independent councillor and three ALP councillors elected in 1995.

SPACE also believes that the boatharbour will be a financially disastrous white elephant. Whatever the Minister's decision the locals will continue the struggle until the proposal is scrapped.

George Petersen, Secretary, SPACE ●

South Shellharbour Beach. The entrance to the boatharbour would be through the lagoon shown on the left.



Caring for our Oceans and Coasts

The Marine and Coastal Community Network was established in 1993 under the Ocean Rescue 2000 programme to assist community involvement in caring for our oceans and coast.

The Network consists of a national coordinator and programme assistant; six regional coordinators, one in each state; and a network of concerned participants including representatives from industry, government conservation groups, schools and the broader community.

Craig Bohm, the recently appointed NSW coordinator is now based at the premises of the Nature Conservation

Council. The NSW office is focussing its efforts this year on compiling the NSW Marine and Coastal Contacts Directory—an inventory of government, industry and community groups along the NSW coast—and facilitating Ocean Care Day.

Ocean Care Day is a nationwide event held around the coast to raise public awareness about marine and coastal issues and environments. The day is driven by local, coastal communities (including schools, environment groups, councils and recreation groups) who wish to show the world what they are doing for their local environment.

Ocean Care Day is held on Sunday 1 December.

The Network also produces a national, quarterly newsletter called *Waves* which highlights issues and activities of national, state and local significance relating to marine and coastal environments.

To be added to the *Waves* mailing list or to find out more about Ocean Care Day or other activities of the Marine and Coastal Community Network, contact Craig at the NCC on (02) 9247 4120. ●





Lake Cowal Gold Mine—not over yet

Following recent NSW Government decision to reject gold mining at Lake Cowal, mining company North Ltd has been heavily lobbying the Government back benches. Mr Knowles, Minister for Urban Affairs, has indicated that a new development application from North Ltd would be considered, although no application has been submitted to date.

The Australian Workers' Union (AWU) has served notice on the Government that it is prepared to stage a 'St Vincent's' style campaign to reopen negotiations. The union has threatened to take its campaign to the ALP State Conference in October.

Now is the time to write those letters to ensure that this unique wetland is permanently saved. ●

Help needed to green Armidale

Dedicated locals have established a much-needed Environment Centre in Armidale. The Centre has been opened on a shoe-string, and the founders plan to make it self-sufficient quickly. They need about \$4,000 to keep going until income picks up, and donations are urgently needed. Please send donations care of the NCC; clearly marked for the Armidale EC. Cheques should be made out to the Armidale Environment Centre. Tax-deductibility is not possible. For more information contact Cameron Way on 067 711155 (if no answer call 067 332085). ●

Crisis Facing Sydney Basin Agriculture

The majority of Sydney's fresh vegetables are produced in the area surrounding Sydney which is just a slight extension of the Hawkesbury-Nepean catchment.

Recent reports by government research teams have revealed serious threats to the sustainability of what is known as the Sydney Basin Agriculture (SBA) region.

Late last year a NSW Department of Agriculture research team discovered very high cadmium levels in districts that produce green vegetables for Sydney's millions. That was followed in May this year by a NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) report on tests carried out in the Hawkesbury-Nepean catchment. It showed phosphorous levels 40 times the accepted limit; nitrogen levels 100 times the accepted limit; and further, that various pollution readings exceeded EPA limits on many occasions and were excessive.

Two years earlier an EPA survey of rural landholders in the region found the 60% of farmers either couldn't, or didn't read the instruction labels on agricultural chemical containers.

The once-glorious river system has become so polluted during the last decade (when essential action was repeatedly postponed) that swimming in the river is regarded as 'high risk'. Health authorities have advised people with cuts or scratches who come in contact with the water to seek medical attention.

Adding to the problem of what is to become of this fertile green arc around the nation's largest city, is pressure from land developers who want general land re-zoning, to allow more remote suburbs to be added to the sprawl south-west and north-west of Sydney.

Your Input Needed

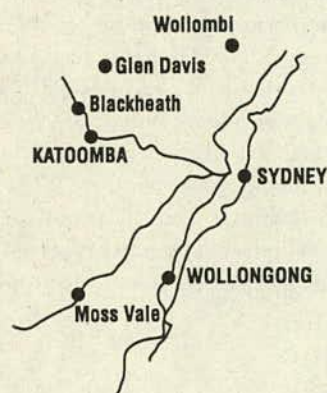
Recently the NSW Agriculture department established a committee to consider these urgent problems and suggest possible futures for this region that produces over \$900 million in agriculture each year.

Graham Clark, Vice President of

NCC member organisation the Organic Producers Council, and director of NASAA (National Association for Sustainable Agriculture) was appointed to the committee. He feels that if the urban sprawl is to be curtailed then a strong fight must be put up to ensure that agriculture and the green belt/heritage character of outer Sydney be retained.

Most of the members of the planning committee are representatives from State and Local government departments, agriculture consultancies and rural industries.

Sydney Basin Agriculture Region



Graham would like to see the NCC promoting high status for the region's rural amenity, its strong heritage background, and use as a passive recreation area.

He believes that this is a battle that can be won, and invites advice and involvement from NCC members. He also sees the SBA problem as a useful model of the work that needs to be done to achieve a general paradigm shift in agriculture decision-making towards ESD sustainability.

His appointment to the committee suggests that some decision-makers in NSW Agriculture may be prepared to support ESD agriculture systems.

For further information write to NASAA, P.O. Box 770, North Sydney 2059 or phone (02) 858 5717. ●

FORESTS

New Woodchip Emperor Crowned?

In July the Howard Government announced an increase in woodchip exports of more than one million tonnes. This rise was granted after a noisy campaign from industry lobbyists, who alleged that large volumes of sawmill and logging residues had been going to 'waste'.

The industry lobby claimed that a three million tonne increase in the woodchip quota could be achieved without any additional logging, and criticised the Government's announcement for being 'only a third of a decision'. This helped foster the perception that, with both sides complaining, the decision must have been 'balanced'—a tried and tested environmental exploiters' public relations tactic.

In reality, large woodchip companies did very well out of this decision. Although the Government's announcement said the one million tonne quota increase must be sourced exclusively from sawlog residue and thinnings, there is no such requirement for the remainder of their quota. Consequently, the companies' ability to export more woodchips from whichever sources they wish will be largely unfettered.

As a consequence, forests with low volumes of sawlogs but richer in 'pulp' grade timber will be more economic to log. This was the kind of thinking 25 years ago which gave rise to the abomination of the Eden woodchip industry. It expands the market for low-grade native forest timber when native forests, as opposed to plantations, are increasingly uneconomic as a high volume source of sawlogs. In other words, at a time when economic forces favour a more positive environmental outcome, John Howard's decision helps restore the market for broadscale destruction.

The Howard Government also announced that woodchipping from private lands would be exempted from (and hence additional to) the quotas. There will be a three-part test to determine whether a landowner's application is approved: is the private forest 'degraded?'; will it be replaced with a plantation?; and, is it not needed for the reserve system?

If, after consulting the Environment Minister, Resources Minister John Anderson believes the answer is yes to all three, land-owners can clearfell their land and export the lot as woodchips. Land-owners seeking fast bucks, but fearful that their forests may not meet the criteria, can relax; the Government is



Koorang Island, Sawmillers Exports' woodchip loading facility

quite unable to say how it will make these complex decisions or monitor the outcomes. The reality is likely to be open slather for private landowners—unless State governments stop this happening.

The deregulation of private land woodchip exports is also likely to bring the plantations industry into disrepute, as conservationists' support for plantation establishment has always been on the basis of using previously cleared land. It has also created a new category of woodchip exports outside of official quotas making it impossible to tell what the future level of woodchip exports will be (it may turn out to be greater than the three million additional tonnes per annum sought by the industry).

NSW environment groups participating in the Interim Assessment Process had an additional argument to use against higher woodchip quotas. According to information derived through the IAP—and readily available to the Commonwealth—the NSW Forestry Commission's own 'best' estimates of the quantity of pulpwood extracted from NSW forests show that it is already unsustainable,

especially in the south east. The Government's own data shows that quotas should be going down, not up, and the Federal Government is therefore undermining a process in which it is a participant.

This is disappointing, but perhaps not surprising; government decisions on forests rarely have much to do with logic, due process or even public opinion. On this occasion, John Howard at least had the decency to meet environment groups and try to follow the arguments. He wanted to make sure that 'no more trees would be cut down' if the Government agreed to industry demands. Was he reassured that as John Anderson's monitoring system is so poor, no-one will ever be able to prove it?

Sid Walker ●

Footnote: the changes agreed by the Federal Government may yet be challenged in the Senate, providing the Federal ALP with an early opportunity to restore its reputation on forests. If Kim Beazley and Carmen Lawrence work hard to re-establish Labor's environmental credentials, the new Woodchip Emperor may yet come to rue the day he sold out the forests because he couldn't count the trees.

WHAT ABOUT BORAL

Mystery surrounds 'new deals' in the offing between the NSW Government and Boral. Boral is part-owner of the notorious woodchip company Sawmillers Export, and holds timber rights to over half the sawlog quota on the north coast of NSW.

In July, all annual quota holders supposedly took a 30% cut, but nobody's saying what's happened to Boral's long-term wood supply agreements. Has Boral agreed to an immediate quota cut in return for a more secure long-term guarantee? Or has it not yet increased its stranglehold over NSW's public forests?

Other Boral mysteries invite further inquiry. Are some major shareholders becoming squeamish about Boral's pariah status and urging the Board to drop the timber division? Will Boral's coming AGM be the noisiest on record?

Boral Green Shareholders invite your support; the call for a mass boycott of Boral products grows louder by the day.

The greatest mystery is how Boral got away with it for so long!

Happy Birthday SEPP 46?

continued from page 3

support and incentives. The provision of such resources in any new legislative regime will be a measure of the Government's commitment to sustainable environmental management. The provision of funding for vegetation management must be realistic (ie. substantial) or the chance of restoring the goodwill of landholders will be lost. The fine print of the Government's response to the Vegetation Forum's report will need to be scrutinised: what exemptions (geographically, for specific vegetation types, for specific processes or purposes) might be proposed, what monitoring and notification provisions are proposed, how will plans be prepared and approved, what will be the role of government agencies (other than DLWC) and non-government organisations?

Better management

The introduction and administration of SEPP46 has, at least in some instances, damaged relationships between landholders and the Government. Re-establishing working relationships will be a necessary priority within the management framework which replaces SEPP46. Nevertheless, SEPP46 should not be regarded as a counter-productive failure.

SEPP46 has forced the agenda and, hopefully, will lead to a better vegetation management regime in the future. It has increased awareness of land clearing as an issue for the present and not merely the past, and may have served to limit clearing over the past year. After the initial deluge of clearing applications in the first few months after SEPP46 was introduced, the number of new applications has dropped considerably.

Despite numerous assaults on SEPP46 the credibility of its objectives has not been shaken. It is now up to the Government to ensure that what replaces achieves those same objectives more effectively.

Professor Paul Adam, NCC representative on the Vegetation Forum ●



NCC on the Web!

NCC now has an Internet Website called Environment NSW. We hope this will become a central site for the NSW Environment movement. The address is: <http://www.peg.apc.org/~nccnsw>.

The site has been developing over the past few months and contains information on NCC in general, the annual report, member groups, NCC campaigns, upcoming events, publications (with on line ordering form), plus links to relevant NSW, Australian and International websites.

If you'd like us to link your website to the NCC, or put any information on our site please contact the webmaster, Kim Brebach at NCC on Tuesdays on (02) 9247 5945 or email him at nccnsw@peg.apc.org. ●

GGW2000—towards an environmentally responsible Olympics

In 1993, when Sydney won the bid for the 2000 Olympic Games it became apparent to Australian environment groups that a structure was required to facilitate ongoing community participation in the environmental management of the Games. Thus, Green Games Watch (GGW) 2000 was established to act as the community's environmental watchdog for the Sydney Olympics.

GGW2000 is a coalition of the Australian Conservation Foundation, National Parks Association of NSW, National Toxics Network, Nature Conservation Council of NSW, and Total Environment Centre. Associate membership is open to community groups and already includes Greening Australia and Bicycle NSW.

Aims and objectives

The major aims of GGW2000 are to assist in ensuring ecologically sustainable development in the provision of Olympic facilities and event management; interna-

tional best practice in the environmental management of the Olympics to promote competitiveness of Australia's environmental industries overseas; and coordinated planning for the Olympics and Metropolitan Region to ensure long-term benefits for the local community and NSW.



Community participation

As part of its commitment to ongoing community participation in the planning of the Games, GGW2000 held a community workshop in April this year to identify community concerns about the 'greenness' of the Games. Another workshop is planned for the latter half of this year.

GGW2000 is always happy to hear from people interested in an environmentally responsible Olympic Games. The GGW2000 office can be contacted by: phone: (02) 9386 1555, fax: (02) 9386 1544, email: ggw2000@wr.com.au; post: PO Box 62 Bondi Junction 2022. ●

Join the Green Team

Most of the aims and goals of the NCC's Environment Centre can only be achieved with voluntary help. We can offer a wide range of activities to suit different skills and interests including general office duties, campaign assistance, fundraising, organising seminars, research, writing, desktop publishing and assisting in the library.

The Environment Centre is open from 9.30 am to 5.30 pm weekdays but there are also opportunities for after hours work.

Contact Lisa McDermott or Bruce Diekman on (02) 9247 4206 or just drop into 39 George Street, The Rocks. ●

Greatly missed

Peter Archer, NCC's volunteer librarian, died of pneumonia in July. Peter's efforts to upgrade the NCC library in recent years helped to revitalise this valuable resource and make it once again a useful and useable reference library for the environmental movement. His premature death leaves us without one of the most kindly personalities to frequent the NSW Environment Centre—and one of the most hard-working. Peter, and his skills, will be greatly missed at the NCC. ●

Smogbusters

Over 10,000 fair-goers were greeted by a streamer and poster draped bus, surrounded by gas mask-wearing high school students at the recent Blacktown Community Fair parade. The event was a highlight of National Public Transport Week, where the NCC's Smogbusters worked with local groups to demonstrate that the community does value environmentally sustainable transport and clean air.

Another event of the week was the third Public Transport Derby. Eight teams raced around the public transport system, seeing how many given destinations they could reach in a set time before reaching Parliament House where the Minister for Transport, Mr Brian Langton, presented the Trophy.

Other recent Smogbusters activities have included organising two public meetings, which have established a small lobby group; displays at the Auburn Environmental Expo; and design of an educational brochure. To find out more, call Christine Laurence at the NCC. ●

Launch of Urban Bushland under Threat

The joint NCC/TEC publication *Urban Bushland under Threat* will be launched by the Hon. Craig Knowles, Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning, at the Environment Centre, 39 George Street, The Rocks on Thursday 5 September, 1996. NCC member group representatives are invited to join in celebrating the launch of this important research study and show their support for the protection of urban bushland.

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment Management Committee, the two volume report, is now available for \$30.00 plus \$6.00 postage and packaging. Contact the NCC for your copies. ●



Peter Archer & Bruce Diekman in the NCC Library.

ELO Report

The 1996 Spring session of the NSW Parliament resulted in something of a mixed bag for environmental interests. On the positive side, members of the ELO group made significant and valuable input to a number of important Bills, including the Transport Administration (Rail Corporatisation and Restructuring) Amendment Bill, National Parks and Wildlife (Regional Parks) Amendment Bill, Environmentally Hazardous Chemicals Bill, Environmental Protection and Assessment (Contaminated Lands) Amendment Bill and the Gas Supply Bill.

With Harry Woods' victory in the Clarence by-election, the Government has shored its position in the Lower House, but environment groups maintained a position of considerable influence in the Upper House. Our relationship with the Coalition did not lead to successes as significant as the amendments to the electricity and threatened species conservation reforms won during the previous session, however a working relationship has been maintained.

The decision to save the internationally significant wetlands at Lake Cowal from North's goldmine was loudly applauded by the ELO groups early on in the session. Unfortunately, elsewhere the Government showed a remarkable willingness to bend over backwards for the mining industry, most dramatically with the State Environmental Planning

(Permissible Mining) Bill, and the Environmental Planning and Water Legislation Bill. Both of which are repugnant to environment groups.

The Government's willingness to restrict and pre-empt public consultation and override decisions of the Land and Environment Court and the Court of Appeal is a very disturbing development. This does not augur well for the future of Lake Cowal in light of the growing pressure on the Government to revisit their decision.

Among the most significant achievements that may be claimed by the ELO groups for this session are the amendments gained to the Rail Corporatisation and Restructuring legislation and the Regional Parks Amendment Bill.

A new section was added to the Rail Bill which will see the establishment of a Public Transport Advisory Council which is intended to act as a strong advocate for public transport, and closely monitor the performance of public passenger services. Compliance with the principles of ecologically sustainable development and social responsibility were added to the objectives of the new corporations and authorities established under the Bill. Requiring opportunities for public comment on draft corporate plans will assist in the setting of targets. It is to be hoped that these and other changes made to the Bill will go some way to reducing car dependency, improving public transport and attracting freight away from trucks and onto the rail network.

Amendments to the Regional Parks Bill saw a significant tightening up of the definition of lands suitable for reservation as regional parks, and has prevented the possibility of high conservation value areas being included in this category. Public input into draft plans of management was secured, revocation of lands dedicated as Regional Parks will require an Act of Parliament and a potential proliferation of trust management of State Recreation Areas was thwarted.

In the coming session, major initiatives are also expected in pollution licencing (Stage II reforms), fisheries and vegetation legislation.

Brent Hoare works as the Environment Liaison Officer (ELO) to the NSW Parliament on behalf of the Nature Conservation Council, Total Environment Centre, Australian Conservation Foundation, Friends Of the Earth, National Parks Association, The Wilderness Society and Greenpeace. ●

Are you an environmentalist and a Boral or BHP Shareholder?

If so, the Nature Conservation Council would like to hear from you. Our last Annual Conference resolved to advertise for environmentally-conscious BHP shareholders to lodge their names with NCC, so we can arrange a meeting for such shareholders to discuss the company's environmental record and pressure for much-needed improvements.

In addition, we'd like to hear from environmentally-aware Boral shareholders, who also have plenty to complain about! (see page 13) NCC would like to help newcomers make contact with an existing group of green Boral shareholders in Sydney.

So, don't be shy! If you have shares in either company and care about the environment, make sure your voice isn't lost. **For more information contact Sid Walker on (02) 9247 4206.**

ENVIRONMENT NSW

The Nature Conservation Council of NSW
39 George Street
The Rocks NSW 2000
Phone: (02) 9247 4206 Fax: (02) 9247 5945
Email: nccnsw@peg.apc.org

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to be sure of future issues**

John Corkill
North East Forest Alliance
c/- 149 Keen St
Lismore NSW 2480

*received
29.8.96*

NCC's Kosciusko Campaign

Reserving fragile environments in national parks is half the battle. Getting good management of the parks is the other half.

Ski resorts at Kosciusko are poised for a huge expansion driven by capital from the real estate market, cabins developments are to spring up at Warrumbungle National Park, and a new through road is to be pushed through Kaputar National Park: all are signs of a radical reversal of park management policies by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS).

NCC has employed Andy Wilson, a former NPWS ranger and now a director of the Colong Foundation, as a part-time campaigner to take on the privatisation and development push at Kosciusko.

**OUR CAMPAIGN FOR BETTER MANAGEMENT OF THE PARKS NEEDS YOUR
SUPPORT. PERSONAL DONATIONS TO NCC ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.**

Send your donation to the NCC, 39 George Street, The Rocks, 2000. (02) 9247 4206.



FOREST UNIONS POSITION - I.A.P.

The NSW union movement restates its commitment to developing a forest industry that is efficient, sustainable and committed to value adding. As a step to achieving this goal, unions participated in the independent assessment process which is a cornerstone of the government's forest policy. Unions believe that the process has an important role to play in ensuring a viable long term industry that is built around the principle of sustainability.

However, unions are concerned that the IAP, rather than enhancing the opportunities for a long term, value added forest industry could in fact achieve the reverse. Forest unions are therefore, advocating that a minimalist view would be taken to the question of withdrawal of timber resources as a result of the I.A.P..

Overall, the position of the forest unions can be summarised as follows:

- It is acknowledged that there will be an overall reduction of the timber resource available for logging of 30%
- Anything greater than a 30% reduction will have a dramatic impact on the viability of the industry

Labor Council of New South Wales
State Branch of the Australian Council of Trade Unions
Secretary: Peter Sams
10th Floor, Labor Council Building, 377 - 383 Sussex Street Sydney NSW 2000
Telephone: (02) 264 1691 Facsimile: (02) 261 3505

- The social consequences of going beyond a 30% cut will be significant. Job losses, both direct and indirect will be such as to devastate rural communities who rely on the industry.
- The \$120 million compensation package will be nowhere near sufficient if the reduction in resource is greater than 30%.
- It is clear that conservation targets can be met with a 30% reduction in the resources available.

Forest unions can not emphasise enough the need for a cautious approach from the Government in determining an outcome from the I.A.P..

Figures show that any reduction of the amount of timber resources available by 30% will reduce the actual amount of timber to approximately 53% as a result of complementary management of non-reserved forests.

Research has indicated the likely devastating impact both socially and economically of any decision greater than the 30% reduction.

The Governments policy involves meeting the twin goals of conserving any old growth forests whilst developing a viable long term industry. These goals are not mutually exclusive.

TOTAL ENVIRONMENT CENTRE INC.

SHOP 1, GLOUCESTER WALK, 88 CUMBERLAND STREET, SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2000
Phones (02) 247 4714 - (02) 247 8476 Fax (02) 247 7118



Attention: State Political Reporter or Chief of Staff
MEDIA RELEASE 16 AUGUST 1996

UNION MOVE ON FORESTS SPELLS POLITICAL SUICIDE FOR CARR

Attempts by the Australian Workers and other unions to lock the Carr Government into environmental vandalism will, if successful, mean political suicide for the NSW Government, Total Environment Centre said today.

"The AWU are lobbying hard to reverse the Carr Government's decision on Lake Cowal and in conjunction with other unions, for it to adopt a forest policy that will log major wilderness and old growth forests. Pressure is being placed on MPs with strong union links and threats are being made about AWU voting blocks at ALP forums," said Jeff Angel, Director of the Centre.

"I assume that it is in the interests of the union movement to have a Labor Government. But if the Carr Government adopts dinosaur environment policies it will lose Government. The green vote will collapse. We did not turn out at election day in March 1995 to support Bob Carr's environment policies to be duded 18 months later."

"The upcoming forest decision will be the crucial test of the Government's green credentials. It will be the biggest environmental decision in NSW in 25 years - bigger than the Wran Government rainforest decision. There is great expectation in the community that the Government will deliver on its promise of a world class forest reserve system."

"The Forestry Policy was promoted as the basis for peace in the forest dispute. This will not occur unless controversial areas are taken off the logging agenda during the crucial moratorium period. The benchmark for such a moratorium is the environment group's Forest Reserve Plan. It largely embraces the Conservation Criteria Outcome produced by RACAC. On the other hand the unions are promoting a hot spot approach with vastly smaller protection areas - this is simply a recipe for ongoing conflict and blockades right up to the next State Election," said Mr Angel.

Further information: Jeff Angel (02) 247 8476

Northern Star p2 -
19/8/96

Forests dispute flares again

A timber association official had warned of 'blood on the streets of Grafton' in an effort to intimidate the NSW Government, a conservation group claimed yesterday.

The Nature Conservation Council of New South Wales (NCC) was quoting NSW Forest Products Association (FPA) executive director Col Dorber, as reported in last week's Grafton Examiner newspaper.

"If accurately reported, this statement is a disgraceful attempt to intimidate the Cabinet, which is due to meet in Grafton on Tuesday," said NCC executive officer Sid Walker.

Mr Dorber was showing contempt for the conservation movement's efforts to reach a compromise over NSW's native forests, he said.

Mr Walker said that, in the light of Mr Dorber's comments, the decision of major milling company Boral Timber to rejoin the FPA needed to be questioned.

"A crucial NSW Government decision over areas of public forest to be saved from logging pending further assessment is due in early September," he said.

N.S. Lismore

Monday 26/8/96 p2.

Forest submissions call for conservation

Far North Coast submissions on the NSW Government's draft interim forestry assessment had been overwhelmingly in favour of protecting the State's forests, according to leading conservation groups.

More than 16,000 public pro-conservation submissions had been received from around the State, the alliance of NSW conservation groups said.

Sid Walker, executive officer of the NSW Conservation Council, said most of these supported the environment movement's forest reserve plan.

"On the Far North Coast, around Lismore and Murwillumbah, conservationist submissions overwhelmed industry supporters nearly four-to-one," he said.

Mr Walker said the public submissions were the culmination of a year-long forestry assessment conducted by the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council. He said only 6000 of the 22,000 submissions received supported the timber industry.

"This is a massive public vote of confidence in the environment movement and an overwhelming call for the maximum possible protection of

old growth forests," he said.

"The forest reserve plan improves on the conservation outcomes identified in the Government's report, but it is also a reasonable compromise in that it still falls short of many Government conservation targets."

Australian Conservation Foundation spokesman Noel Plumb said the submission process had shown there was wide support across the State for forest conservation.

He said support for the timber industry was concentrated in the regions with the most logging of native forests.

Mr Walker said Premier Bob Carr was elected on a 'save the forests' platform last year, and had pledged to protect old-growth forests.

"It would be a tragic irony for us if he became the Premier who really sold the forests out," he said.

A decision on the restructuring of the NSW timber industry is scheduled to be announced early next month.

● Do you have a comment on this issue? Ring the Star Feed Back line on 243 266 and let us know what you think.

Examiner

Today Fri 16/8

Timber giant seeks status quo on supply

BORAL Timber threw its support behind the NSW Forest Products Association's (FPA) submissions to the State Government yesterday.

The FPA submission calls for current timber supply levels from State Forests to be maintained.

The levels were cut by 30 per cent on July 1.

But the NSW Government is discussing cuts of up to 70 per cent of the pre-July timber supply.

Boral has two timber mills in the Grafton area, one in South Grafton and one in Koolkhan.

The company said recently one of the Grafton mills would close if resource supplies were cut by more than 30 per cent.

Boral Timber's general manager, Keith Sullivan, said there was unanimous support across the NSW native timber industry for the FPA.

Dubbing the FPA submission "the sustainable management option", Mr Sullivan said rural communities would benefit if the Government adopted the plan.

He said the option would bring "stability, new investment and security to an industry sector that has now been under siege for over 20 years".

"Boral is a significant contributor to the rural and regional economies of this State," he said.

"In that capacity the company is committed to the wise use of our forests in perpetuity.

"We support the FPA objective that will bequeath a forest resource to our children and to their children that can be harvested in an ecologically sustainable manner, forever."

Mr Sullivan said the NSW timber industry sustained more than 20,000 jobs and contributed \$2 billion a year to the State's economy.

"The timber industry is the mainstay of most rural communities and has the support not only of those communities but most of the elected local government councils as well," he said.

Executive director of the FPA Col Dorber said Boral's support of the package was crucial.

He said the FPA's option should be adopted by the State Government "if you don't want to have blood on the streets of Grafton".

State Cabinet will meet at the Grafton Civic Centre next Tuesday and the timber issue is expected to be at the top of the agenda.

***NEEA says: We care
about people too!
Please compensate
affected workers,
families & towns***

9.1**A Critique of
'The Economic Impact of the NSW Timber Industry'**

by Margules, Groome Poyry, Powell and James ~ December 1995

The following critique of this report, hereafter referred to as MPG et al, is greatly assisted by the work of consultant resource economist Ms Judy Clark and draws on analyses contained in her paper 'The Economic Impact of the NSW Timber Industry' ~ An appraisal and application of findings'.

In our assessment the MPG ^{et al} report provides a misleading and unreliable guide to the actual operations and economic value of the NSW Timber Industry due to several disturbing weaknesses in their analyses, viz:

- Statistics used in the analyses are those of 1993/ 1994, and they provide a 'snap shot' of the timber industry at that time. Considerable change has occurred in the NSW timber industry since the end of June 1994, and thus, the report wrongly focuses on the state of the industry, now two years ago. It is not explained why the timber industry of 1994/'95 was not the focus of the 'snap shot' given that the study is dated December 1995 but was not released until April 1996!.
- The definition of the 'woods products industry' has been applied in an inconsistent way which understates the direct importance of plantation wood & recycling and exaggerates the direct importance of the native forest sawntimber, relative to woodchip exports.
- The MPG ^{et al} study applies a different definition of the wood products industry in Sydney, from that applied in regional NSW. The 'wood products industry' definition applied in Sydney region, includes furniture, joinery & truss fabrication yet these sections of the industry appear not to have been included in the analysis of employment and productivity used in the MPG ^{et al} study.
- The study, because it combines unlike definitions of the 'wood products industry' misrepresents the actual extent of the industry and the contributions made to the industry's productivity and employment by, particularly, those operations which add value to plantation timber in further processing, beyond initial milling. This combination of two differing 'wood products industries' into one summarised industry report produces an analysis which is skewed and biased in that it overstates the significance of the native forest based industry.
- Timber processing plants which process wood based panels, in further value adding appear to be excluded from the MPG et al analysis, with the result that the report understates the economic and employment significance of that part of the wood products industry involved in processing of plantation timbers compared with the industry sector dependent on native forests. This incorrect analysis also overstates the significance of solid wood products compared to the manufactured, and highly value added, wood products.
- Further processing of plantation timbers appears to be under-reported due to the MPG et al study's failure to include within their definition of the wood products industry, those parts of the industry which purchase sawn timber from plantation sources from the primary processor, for further processing. If all plantation timber

North East Forest Alliance

Ph/ Fax 066 224 737. C/-149 Keen St Lismore 2480.

Mr Ron Rathbourne, Secretary,
Lismore District & Richmond Valley Labour Council
PO Box 70 Lismore 2480.

29 August 1996

Dear Mr Rathbourne,

Re: Discussions on NSW Forest Assessment & Timber Industry Re-structuring

Thank you for speaking frankly with me on the phone today.

I write to confirm our conversation and formalise the North East Forest Alliance's offer to provide a briefing to, and engage in some robust discussion with the labour movement in the northern Tweed, Brunswick, Richmond & Clarence Rivers region, regarding the forest assessment processes, timber industry restructuring and the socio-economic impacts of major changes in quota levels.

While we'd like to focus on employment, we'd obviously prefer that this follow our briefing, which will naturally report principally on conservation outcomes.

NEFA representatives would appreciate the opportunity for an open discussion with the labour movement and I suggest that the meeting could be held on the basis of private talks whereby media would not be told or invited.

For obvious reasons NEFA would prefer the meeting to be held as soon as possible. I shall be in Sydney til the 7th but will be available after Sunday 8 September. May I suggest that you consider an early date soon after that, and nominate a venue in Lismore. A weekday early evening meeting say 6 -9 pm is suggested. If this isn't suitable please also suggest dates & times which suit the TLC. Our delegation will include Dailan Pugh, myself and perhaps 5 of our local co-ordinators.

We would like to demonstrate the computer based Geographic Information System being used in the process, if that is acceptable and perhaps exhibit our maps of local forests. I anticipate copies of RACAC's draft report on the Interim Forest Assessment report, NEFA's submission and other documents will be on hand for perusal.

Please find enclosed copies of the Autumn and Winter editions of our publication '*The NEFA Leaf*' which contain articles with background information on our views on the forest assessment process and the results achieved to date.

Also enclosed is one copy of NEFA's Submission to the RACAC on the IFA and several copies of the Summary of the NEFA Submission. You will note that there are a number of recommendations which may be of interest to your members. e.g # 80 on page (xii).

NEFA has not copyrighted these documents so feel free to copy and refer our documents to any relevant person within the labour council's network. Certainly if many of those who attend on the night have had a chance to read NEFA's position statements our proposed meeting may proceed very quickly to a constructive informed discussion.

I understand that your colleagues in the Tweed valley labour council may also be interested in this meeting since the areas under assessment, and the areas & workers facing perhaps greatest immediate difficulty are in the Murwillumbah Management Area. Is it possible for your organisation to extend invitations to other relevant labour organisations in the northern rivers area to also attend and participate in discussions?

I will telephone you from Sydney early next week to seek your advice on progress on our requests above. Or I can be contacted next week on 02 2474 206 ph, 02 2475 945 fax.

Thank you again for your interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely

John R Corkill
Co-ordinator (Casino MA)

- All revenue and employment in mills which receive native forest timbers appear, in MPG et al, to be attributed to the 'sawn timber' side of the equation, yet many of these mills generate considerable volumes of woodchips. In NE NSW up to 50% of the timber volume harvested from public forests ends up as woodchip. In many operations, particularly on private lands, the percentage of timber volume which ends up as chips is considerably higher. Thus the economic contributions made by native forest saw milling are overstated and the contributions made from the high volume, low labour, no value added woodchip 'production' are disguised.
- No indication is given in the MPG study as to what percentage of the wood products obtained by the 'wood products industry' are obtained from private lands. The figures, and estimates, provided appear as regional and statewide data sets with no differentiation as to the land tenure of the timber's source. This failure to identify the relative relationship between private and public sources of 'hardwood' timber will tend to skew any impact analyses of reductions in volumes of hardwood available from 'public' forest sources. A 50% reduction in 'public' hardwood sources will not necessarily mean a 50% reduction in hardwood sawlogs generally, yet this simplistic, and misleading, conclusion is likely to be drawn based on the data presented.
- While the number of persons employed in the 'other forest activities' sector of the wood products industry has been adjusted to show effective full-time jobs in the 3 western regions, no indication is given in figure 1 of the MPG et al report that all jobs reported are effective full-time employment. It is assumed that if the reporting of these 'jobs' is adjusted to reflect the part-time and contractual nature of employment in 'wood products industry', the number of effective full-time positions in the industry would be reduced, possibly by as much as one half.

Many of the assumptions set out on page xiii) of the MPG report are erroneous and undermine the reliability of the report, viz:

- The input-output tables are fixed in their appraisal of the relationships between various sectors of the industry. The relationships of 1989/1990, the baseline year in MPG industry assessment, are likely to severely under-report the linkages present in the industry in 1996, especially those between joinery and furniture makers and the manufacturers of wood based panels, producing a bias in the report towards sawntimber producers.
- Concern is expressed at the potential double-counting of further processed native forest sawn timber due to this economic contribution being recorded in both the productivity of 'other industries' and as part of the productivity generated by the initial industry processing.
- The assumption that input-output tables do not allow for variations in returns to scale is seriously questioned. It is highly unlikely that this is true and contribution to employment growth forecast in MPG et al report will not be realised. In the event that the volume of timber processed doubles (i.e. achieves a 100% growth) the resulting employment growth is more likely to be of the order of 50% due to economies of scale and increased worker productivity. This assumption leads to an overstating of the likely employment in the event of increased timber supply and

John R Corkill
Public Interest Advocate,
Environmental Educator, Planner, Policy Adviser
Casino MA co-ordinator for the North East Forest Alliance

1 Oliver Place, Lismore. 2480. Ph /Fax 066 224 737 or ph 066 21 6824 ah

FAX MESSAGE

TO: Harry Woods MP for Clarence

Date: 21/8/1996

AT: Grafton Electorate Office

Fax No. 453 166

No. of Pages incl. this: two (2)

Dear Harry ,

Re: Your position on forest protection

I'm writing to you as an act of courtesy since I feel its appropriate to make my views known to you personally, since these views are already being publicly aired.

Your admission yesterday that you have "sold us out" is extremely disappointing.

I and many others are very disappointed in your decision to:

- reject the National Forest Policy Statement's commitments to achieve "*a comprehensive adequate and representative reserve system*" and "*an ecologically sustainable timber industry*" as signed by your then leader, PM Paul Keating;
- publicly contradict the NSW Labor Party's published Forestry Policy and Premier Carr's personal pre-election promise to protect "high conservation value 'old growth' forest and identified wilderness areas";
- step outside the process of the Interim Forest Assessment, its' negotiations and its' clarification of facts from fallacy, by demanding your preferred outcome;
- support logging of the Washpool, Mann-Bindery and Guy Fawkes (Chaelundi) wilderness areas, after our long & successful campaigns to protect them;
- refuse to publicly support the motion carried by your local Grafton ALP Branch, which supports the adoption of the Conservation Criteria Outcome.

Given this extra-ordinary situation it appears that you've rejected the Labor Party's position and have adopted the Forest Products Association position. How ironic that it should be Col Dorber singing (badly) 'Come on Harry, come on come on' etc... when this is the man who publicly endorsed, funded and authorised spiteful anti-Labor, anti-Keating and anti-Woods ads in an earlier Federal election. Have you forgotten this already?

It seems that those who oppose you Harry, and insult you & the ALP later get your greatest endorsement. What are we supposed to learn from this? How can the environment movement and local members of *The Greens* continue to support Labor (as we've done repeatedly) when you appear to have learnt nothing from the federal election result?

When you were MP for Page your balanced position was respected, but now you've lost much of that respect because as MP for Clarence you (and your adviser Mr Flanagan) seem to have uncritically accepted as gospel, the timber industry's hyperbolic claims. Has Mr Flanagan actually done any original research or critical review of data on this matter before advising you, or has he just served up what Col and Gavin Hillier feed him?

Mr Carr repeatedly spoke of 'balance' yesterday, but it appears that you've abandoned your sense of balance, and now only put the views of the timber industry to Premier Carr and the ALP Government. Since you won't do it, we've little choice but to now tell Labor voters across NSW that you've abandoned the ALP's rank and file members, repudiated NSW Labor's official published policies and are now happy 'in bed' with Col Dorber.

Shall we tell Mr Carr his 'next' Cabinet Minister publicly opposes ALP pre-election promises?

Incidentally, I noticed that Grafton didn't grind to a halt yesterday. The town didn't stop and less than one quarter of the 1200 'jobs', said by FPA to be hanging in the balance, turned up to the rally to hear industry lies and falsehoods. (It's more like 100 jobs actually.) Perhaps more people have had enough of timber industry intimidation and can see Dorber's falseness, than you realise.

At no point has there been a real debate on the issues. Certainly you've not convened a sensible public meeting, where views are publicly argued and facts and logic are brought to bear, rather than threats and insults. Instead a one-sided rally was told a pack of lies and environmentalists were insulted and prevented from addressing the public. Great democracy you have in Grafton!

If you want to do another 'Don Day' impression and set back Labor's greatest conservation decision in decades, go ahead - but be prepared for plenty of criticism and anger. I for one, will take the kid gloves off, if that's what you want. The environment movement is here to stay, many Labor voters support us and we're in this for the long haul - are you?

So you've decided to back Dorber? - fine! So did the previous MP for Clarence... We fought him and the Coalition state government successfully for 7 years and we'll fight you and Labor too if you dud us and renege on the Labor Party's written public pre-election promises.

Here's a couple of statements to provide 'certainty' for you, the ALP and industry...

If the ALP goes all the way with Dorber and adopts a moratoria area which omits forests identified by the best science available as being required for a CAR reserve system, NEFA will walk out of the rorted assessment process and we will re-commence our protests and blockades.

If Labor decides to betray environmentalists and play politics with our forests' bio-diversity, we can and will play politics again too. Forestry operations will be repeatedly interrupted by protests, scores of police will again be required, hundreds of arrests will again have to be made and we will sheet the blame for another decade of forest protests home to you personally, mate! Labor's green credentials will then be seen to be as dead as a Hastings River Mouse under State Forests' management.

And if a Labor Government issues Wood Supply Agreements or 'resource security' to industry for periods, and for volumes of timber which just aren't there, endangering the creation of the CAR reserve system and entrenching unsustainable levels of logging, (as the CFMEU demands) we will oppose these agreements and fight them publicly, in the media, in Parliament, in the courts, in the cities and in the bush - everywhere... The 'so-called' 50% option is NOT an 'option' if the NFPS goals are to be met and Labor's credibility is to remain intact.

Please don't feign surprise or indignation at the tone of this letter. I'm engaging in what Graham Richardson used to call a 'robust debate' and this is politics, right? I am not making threats, I'm deeply disturbed by your position and so I'm offering a very clear warning. And unlike Col Dorber's claims, my warnings should have a very real ring of truth about them.

If you still doubt who is credible, ask Col why Dorriggo didn't become a ghost town, like he said it would, when Chaelundi wilderness compartments weren't logged in 1991!

If you'd like to get some 'balance' back in your public position, if you'd like to hear a spirited debate on the issues, if you'd like to have a critical review of what industry has told you or Mr Flanagan, please feel free to contact me on 066 224 737 or Dailan on 066 882 268 and we'll be only too happy to help in these regards.

If you choose to ignore NEFA and this letter - fine ~ but we won't be ignoring you!

Yours sincerely,
(more in sorrow than anger)


John R Corkill

If this fax is imperfect please phone the sender on 066 224 737

North East Forest Alliance

Ph/ Fax 066 224 737. C/-149 Keen St Lismore 2480.

Mr Adam McLean, Attention: Ms April Francis
Solicitor,
NSW Aboriginal Legal Service.
P.O. Box 695 Strawberry Hills

26th August 1996

Dear Adam/ April,

Re: Consultation between North East Forest Alliance and ALS regarding the NSW Government's Interim Forest Assessment and proposed final assessment.

I am writing to you to introduce our organisation and to request a meeting with you.

The North East Forest Alliance is a regional environment network particularly concerned with forest protection, operating in northern NSW. Please see p.1 of the enclosed copies of our publication 'The NEFA Leaf', which explains NEFA's goals and activities.

Many times over recent years there has been good co-operation and communication between environment groups and aboriginal people to secure the protection of important places, like Fingal Head & North Washpool and to defeat dangerous Government initiatives like Premier Fahey's 'Natural Resource Package' in 1992.

NEFA wishes to develop better dialogue and consultation with aboriginal people in the northern rivers Bundjalung region and in pursuit of this objective we have recently written to LALCs FNC Regional ALC and Bundjalung Elders in Council. We respectfully request an opportunity to meet with NSW ALS representatives to provide a detailed briefing, if requested, and to pursue this consultation.

NEFA recognises that aboriginal people & organisations have very considerable interests in this region's forests. It is not the intention of our round of proposed meetings with LALCs, FNC ALC & Elders to interfere in, or cut across, land claims made under NSW legislation or native title claims lodged under the Federal Native Title Act. The purpose of these meetings is a briefing on ongoing forest assessment & our, NEFA's, position on several relevant issues.

We believe that our briefing may be relevant to the ALS, since we understand that your office is handling the legal actions of various land claims, lodged for Bundjalung country generally. We respect the requirements for solicitor - client confidentiality and do not in any way seek the ALS's breach of confidences. Our meeting would be to appraise you of current scenarios, from our perspective, for your information and adjudication as to relevance.

In the meeting we seek, NEFA reps would:

- properly introduce our reps, our organisation and explain our goals and objectives;
- provide a briefing on the present stage of the Interim Forest Assessment;
- show copies of our maps and information and provide copies where requested;
- report on the likely further development of the assessment process in this region;
- report on NEFA's submission on the Draft Interim Forest Assessment Report;
- raise, for your information and consideration, our hopes and concerns with the proposed 'comprehensive regional assessment', with a view to discussing these;
- answer questions put by ALS, either 'on the spot' or later in writing.

Please find enclosed copies of:

- ~ our public information leaflet 'Act now for our forests', and
- ~ NEFA Leaf's Autumn Edition, with NEFA explained etc. & feature story on forest assessment;
- ~ NEFA Leaf's Winter Edition, with NEFA several feature reports on forest assessment issues;
- ~ a copy of the Summary of the NEFA Submission to RACAC on the Interim Forest Assessment.

Thanks for your attention to our request. We look forward to a reply at your earliest convenience.
Yours sincerely,

John R Corkill
Co-ordinator

removals on some of the most significantly affected communities (with one exception) and to consider the impact of timber-resource losses on regions in a simplistic and biased manner.

A valid economic assessment must identify socially optimal outcomes of proposals, thus in relation to forests it should include assessments of direct use value, ecological function value, option value, existence value and bequest value. The need to incorporate these into economic assessments is well established in the literature, though it needs to be recognised that some values of forests take a monetary form and some can not be quantified in such a form.

There is a need to consider all the socio-economic resources provided by the regions' public lands. To place the timber values in context it is necessary to assess the forest's preservation values (i.e. by assessing and accounting for public opinion and identifying priceless attributes), the replacement cost of public resources removed (e.g. soils, nutrients, water, habitat) and the current and potential economic worth of non-timber values (e.g. recreation/tourism, water supply, nectar, and non-timber plant products). It is equally important to identify the impacts of one use upon others (including negative multiplier effects). For example, logging of mature trees significantly decreases the availability of nectar and water, thus it has a negative impact on these other economic attributes.

Tourism is the most rapidly expanding sector of the State's economy. It thus essential that the current and future socio-economic opportunities provided by this be accounted for. There has been some work undertaken in identifying the recreational values of forests which could be used along with readily available recreational statistics (for lands subject to the assessment) and projected growth in this sector to provide preliminary advice on the economic value of forest recreation. As well as quantifiable recreational values there are non-quantifiable values relating to the experience of a person which may only be assessed by attitude surveys. As well as a recent study by the NPWS there is also:

Kuring-gai College of Advanced Education, 1988, New England-Dorrigo Tourism Study, final report. Report to NPWS.

Public forests are a major source of water within the regions being assessed. Water is a critical resource and its availability is a limiting factor in the expansion of many communities and agricultural activities. It is thus of immense socio-economic value. There is no doubt that the conversion of mature and old growth to regrowth (wholly or in part) will have a significant affect on stream flows and water availability to downstream users. It is thus essential that water availability and value be taken into account in socio-economic assessments of forests. In broad terms it would be possible to equate declines in water availability with removal of volumes of quota sawlogs, though assessing the economics of this would need to be evaluated in terms of lost productivity and the costs of additional works (ie building new water storages). Some relevant literature includes:

Langford, K.J. and O'Shaughnessy, P.J. (1977), Some effects of forest change on water values. *Aust. For.* 40, 3: 192-218.



FRIENDS OF THE EARTH — SYDNEY

Campaigning on Environmental issues in their social, political and human rights context.

Office: Suite 15, 104 Balhurst Street, Sydney

Postal address: PO Box A474, SYDNEY SOUTH 2000

Phone: (02) 283 2004 ♦ Fax: (02) 283 2005

MEMO

To: Forest campaigners - NSW IAP
 From: Tom McLoughlin
 Re: Response to clippings sent through
 Date: Thursday, 1st August 1996

Friends

Please find attached some articles that I have asked Elke to circulate with the minutes of the most recent Sydney groups' meeting. They relate to:

- the crash in the building industry affecting Boral and to a slightly less extent CSR
- the TWS NSW advertising campaign featured in the *Australian* business pages on 25/7/96 and on the two biggest commercial radio stations in Sydney ie 2Day FM and MMM
- really neat letter to the editor in today's *Australian* by a woodworker

In addition the *The Land* newspaper featured 8 pages on 18/7/96 on trees on farms.

Kind regards

Tom McLoughlin
 Tom McLoughlin.

Aug 1/8/96

Two choices with forests

THOUGH I've lived by woodworking for almost 20 years now, I rarely use Australian timber. Instead, I import from the United States and Japan, chuffed that I'm reversing the usual practice — value-adding to raw material from the sustainably-harvested, carefully managed forests of those prosperous, developed nations (even Japan has more forest than us).

Australia doesn't lack high-quality, cabinet-grade timbers. But suitable native species have been undervalued and poorly managed for generations. Our frontier attitude meant we didn't plant behind us as we cut. The low point exemplifying this lack of respect for our forests — and ourselves — came late last century when the finest stands of our most durable hardwood, the superb blood-red furniture timber, West Australian Jarrah, were exported as sleepers for the London underground. It's been downhill from there. Remaining stands are currently being pulverised, bleached and pulped for Japanese paper cups.

The push by woodchipping companies to increase their export quota, and the Federal Government's acceptance that "sawmill waste" and "residue" from the clear-felling of sawlogs will otherwise be wasted, is utterly spurious. It allies with the consistent effort by woodchippers to deceive the public into believing that chips are merely a by-product of building and furniture timber. But how, when woodchips — low-value by comparison — now account for more than half the timber industry's income? It's plain that clear-felling for woodchips is

driving the current over-supply of sawn timber and its price depression; that the tail is wagging the dog. Paltry, recently-begun hardwood plantations are bound to be chipped to boot. After so long allowing timber companies to "harvest" with no regard to the future (can you be said to harvest, if you have not planted?) high-quality sawlogs are now only found in areas of high conservation value. In a market glutted with sawn timber, the pressure in old-growth forests to go for the fast buck and chip, is intense. Species loss aside, this clearly both degrades our forests and destroys our labour-intensive sawmill industry.

It will doubtless surprise many Australians when five years hence the world market fills with fine quality, valuable Australian hardwood that wasn't grown here. The far-sighted South Africans and South Americans began eucalyptus plantations decades ago. Why didn't we? Presumably because God planted ours, and there was always more to be had over the next hill. Perhaps that's the rub of a lucky country: not seeing the dwindling wood for the trees until it's too late.

We have two choices: a long moratorium enabling plantations to catch up, or the continuing, permanent degradation of a national resource for a pittance — surely qualifying us Australians, if nothing else does, as the dumb white trash of Asia.

So which?

ANDREW HERRICK
 Parkdale, Vic

2 pages follow.

BUSINESS

RETAIL REGION

Robin Bromby examines the latest trends among Asia's billion-plus consumers

FEATURES - 25



GREEN PAPER

The Wilderness Society has joined the advertising big league

MARKETING - 27

SYN

Wilderness Society taps green emotions

By ANDREW MCGARRY

IT may not be easy being green but the Wilderness Society has begun a co-ordinated advertising campaign to kickstart public protest over the environment and make its job a little easier.

The campaign, which started in Sydney last weekend, combines television, radio and billboard advertising.

The slogan on the 30-second community service advertisement — "There are some things you can never get back" — tries to tap people's emotional response to the environment.

NSW campaign co-ordinator Ms Felicity Wade said: "The environment is always one of the top two or three issues in people's minds but what we have to do is to try and get our message across, make them get angry, make them protest, make them start something big."

This campaign has been put together on a wing and a prayer, not to mention services donated by individuals in the advertising industry.

It also marks a departure for the environmental group, part of a "growing up" process in line with the society's 20th birthday this year.

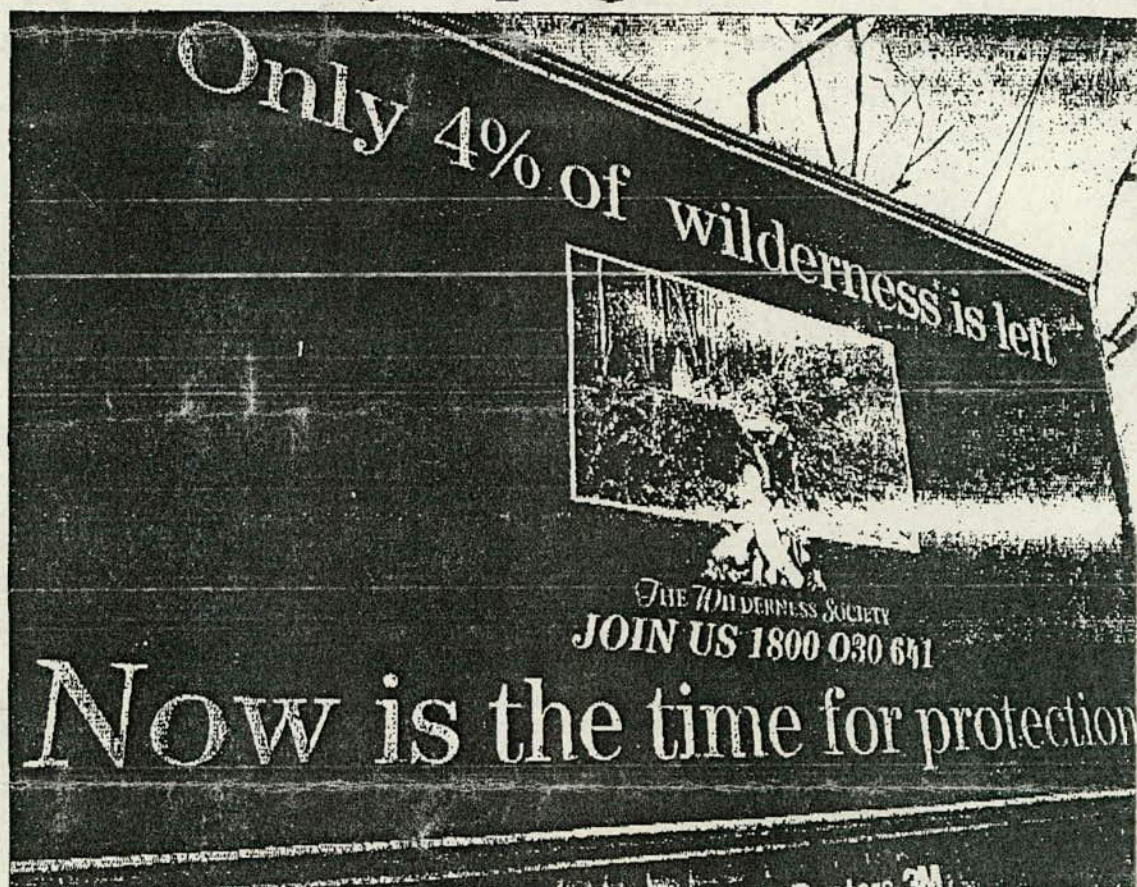
"Traditionally, the environment movement has relied on the energy and commitment of a groundswell of community support, courtesy of the letter writing stall, the slide show and the odd bit of media coverage of cheeky direct action," Ms Wade said.

"Industry has got smarter during the last decade and has realised the huge advantage it has in terms of money and resources to get its message across."

"Last year, the woodchipping industry spent a rumoured \$8 million with John Singleton Advertising on developing a radio, TV and print campaign — how can we compete?"

The society is probably best known for its street activities using people in kooka suits, indicating its lack of major funds to drive its message home.

As a comparison with big business advertising resources, the society estimates its campaign is costed at about \$60,000 worth of donated



Wing and a prayer: A billboard spreads the society's message at Glebe in inner Sydney — Picture: Kristi Miller

resources, with air time gained by "favours from friends and a lot of pleading".

One main aim of the campaign is to highlight what the society sees as the systematic breaking of key promises by State and federal governments over the environment and wilderness areas.

Ms Wade said the Carr Labor Government in NSW deserved criticism for its lack of action on wilderness areas.

"The Carr Government promised to protect the last 4 per cent of wilderness in NSW," she said.

"Based on these promises, the environment movement got behind it — but to date it has protected only 16 per cent of what it promised and the wilderness forests are still threatened by woodchipping."

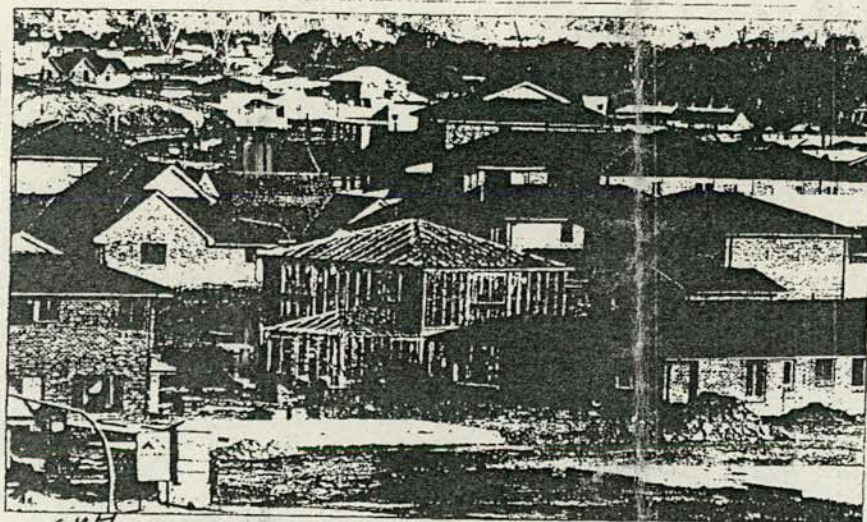
The Federal Government also copped a bucketing for its recent decision to increase export woodchipping by 40 per cent, from 5

million tonnes to 7 million tonnes.

"Polling shows about 80 per cent of Australians are opposed to woodchipping, so we know we're coming from a base of strong public support," Ms Wade said.

The campaign is being tested in Sydney with a view to more launches in other capital cities around Australia, as the society continues to take the fight for people's hearts and minds from the streets into the mass media.

Radio ads running highest possible frequency 25x7 & 11/11/11
other distribution still occurring.
Cheers.
F



Housing hopes dashed... again

By DIANE STOTT
in Canberra

Faint hopes that the housing industry had bottomed were dashed yesterday as new home building approvals slumped further.

Bureau of Statistics figures showed home building approvals in June fell 8 per cent, seasonally adjusted — 15 per cent lower than they were a year earlier.

Private sector house approvals rose 1.5 per cent but there was a 21 per cent fall in other property approvals.

NSW led the fall in medium-density housing approvals, as the strong pick-up in approvals last month in that State was more than reversed.

Government approvals have fallen to just 253 in the month, even lower than their previous record low in the 13-year history of the statistics.

Director at the Housing Industry Association, Mr Bob Egan, described the results as "disappointing" and underlined the continuing weakness in the housing market. But he held out hope that recent reductions in interest rates from home lending wars have yet to boost the figures.

Over 1995-96, there were 125,000 home building approvals, 27 per cent below 1994-95.

HIA's new home sales survey, also released yesterday, failed to hail any

significant improvement in the housing market.

Despite an encouraging 8 per cent pick-up in home sales, home building starts fell 15 per cent in June.

"So, the national housing market is struggling, due in part to buyers delaying decisions on home purchase until after the August Budget," Mr Egan said.

Hopes of an end to the slump are pinned to an end to the uncertainty and hopes that the Budget would set the climate for an interest rate cut.

Chief economist with Bankers Trust, Dr Chris Caton, said a rate cut was looking quite likely.

It would make old builders spit chips

From page 35
this stage of the cycle has made it difficult to manage. It had the effect of management operating with one hand tied behind its back.

But the ever watchful eye of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission means that any industry-wide move must not be seen as concerted.

With the smart money betting on a June 1997 pick-up, investors in building materials companies should be arguing that the management of these groups simply can't sit around until next year waiting for the market to recover.

Prices will need to be addressed before then. If the only thing executives can do is grit their teeth and hold on for the ride then they are being overpaid.

The capacity which has been installed by these companies — particularly over the past five years — must be managed. If there has been a misjudgment of long-term growth trends in residential and commercial building then a respectable return on assets

will be achieved only when both markets are running at their highs.

And when these two cycles do not run in tandem then convergence of peaks may occur only once in 10 years.

And this is aggravated by the oversupply — this means that mid-cycle returns also will be unimpressive.

While the building materials companies may get a reprieve next year when the market starts to reignite and investors pour back into the stocks to catch some good times, the management would be wise to avoid a collective exhale.

Their shareholders would be better served if the overcapacity issue were looked to in the medium term.

In the longer term increased geographic diversification may allay fears that the rout that building materials company have experienced this time around will not be as comprehensive next time.

Investors would probably like to see a bigger buffer against the steep cycles experienced in the Australian building markets.

ABACUS

SMH 31/7/96

It would make old builder spit chips

THE release of yesterday's June building approvals showing a 7.9 per cent seasonally adjusted slump should have convinced the last of optimists that there would be no recovery in housing for the remainder of 1996.

The two longest faces in Sydney's CBD yesterday undoubtedly would have been CSR boss Geoff Kells and Boral chief Tony Berg, whose company strategies for tough times have been openly criticised around the corporate community over the past few months.

For both men, the big issue they need to face is simple — at what stage in calendar 1997 will the cycle begin its upturn?

While both men were surely aware that the upturn was not around the corner, the last glimmer of hope that this cycle would break the historical pattern would have evaporated with the release of the ABS data yesterday.

And while there also has been a deal of personal criticism of Berg and Kells, this probably reflects their particular management styles as much as their ability to work with what they have.



ELIZABETH KNIGHT

dent on the Australian building materials market."

At the root of the problem is the vast overcapacity in the Australian building products market. While other downturns have been as severe, they have not necessarily been as troublesome. There are estimates that, based on the current capacity in the industry, the market could easily cope with 220,000 in annual housing starts but the market is running at only 120,000.

But because the fixed costs remain in place, the players have engaged in spectacular competition to ensure sales volume through their operations.

There has been a good deal of attention given to costs. However, the improvements have not been reflected in the sales to profit margins; they instead have been translated into price reductions in an effort to snare a bit more market share.

Ultimately, the cost cutting moved across each company and matched their ability to discount prices.

To increase competition further, the main building materials companies moved further into each other's product areas. The most recent of these moves has been CSR into fibre cement.

There is undoubtedly room for more cost cutting and the program must be adhered to with vigilance. But something else must be done.

In the short term both CSR and Boral recently have made noises about increasing their prices.

The lack of pricing control they have experienced during Continued page 38

The root of the problem is the vast overcapacity in the market.

The professional market has now formed a consensus that the 1997 financial year earnings for CSR, Boral and James Hardie will be below those in 1996.

And while both companies have taken on "problem child" status there is a general belief that CSR's geographic and product based diversity puts it in a slightly better position than Boral.

Both CSR and Boral's balance sheets provide better insulation for the earnings downturn than James Hardie.

However, the bottom line is that all three are highly depen-

SMH 31/7/96

confidential

Important!! Forest meeting 13.8.96.

10am - 4pm at NCC

(in the library).

Please fax agenda items to Elke.

Minutes

Sydney IAP Forest Co-ordination Meeting 7.8.96

Present: Sid Walker, Anne Reeves, Jeff Angel, Peter Wright, Keith Muir, Felicity Wade, Susie Russell, Noel Plumb (facilitator), Elke Nagy (minute taker).

Distribution: Simon Clark Craig Darlington (CONSERAC), Paul Winn/Tookie (TWS-Newcastle), Dailan Pugh/John Corkill/Tim Thorncraft (NEFA), Lyn Orrego (NEFA), Mark Bletcher (SEFCC), Brian Everingham (NPA), Sue Salmon, those present.

Agenda:

1. Updates
2. Strategy
3. Media co-ordinator

1. Updates

Jeff:

- . marginal electorate letters delivered to relevant politicians and Della Bosca. Will release publicly in a week or two.
- . had a meeting with Della Bosca 6.8.96 with Sue Salmon. Della Bosca very sensitive to political implications of decision. Some discussion re. N1 (ALP would like to win) and N2 (ALP would like to keep).
- . Grafton Cabinet meeting on 20.8.96 - industry will be out in force, we need to counter this.
- . meeting Ernie Page 7.8.96, general support.
- . Unions and FPA submission have some elements in our favour e.g. \$6 mill. to fix up N1, FPA says SFNSW has mucked up forests in N1.
- . currently picking out key quotes of FPA submission and will photocopy text.

Sid:

- . Caucus and Left Caucus discussed forests today. Not meeting again till next month.
- . Drafted a letter to Caucus; sent copy to Saffin and Gaudry as the most friendly. Will finalise draft and send to all Caucus members.

- . ABC T.V. news Mon. 5.8.96 terrible, "decision must be good for industry". Woods is supporting industry.
- . Cabinet meeting on Central Coast next week.
- . Pam Allen will meet, no set date yet; Knowles may meet.
- . Greg Hoare will find a consultant and do most of the work on the WRS study.

Susie:

- . Value-adding sub-committee of FAC have produced a draft consultant report re. basis of term agreements (the draft report is available from Susie).
- . NEFA are planning a Grafton action on 20.8.96.
- . Meeting with Labour Council 2pm 8.8.96.

Keith:

- . Currently preparing 3-4 lobbying documents.
- . Blatant lack of support for the FRP by NPWS
- . Meeting with Bob Debus last Friday, 2.8.96. Promised to encourage Carr to meet with us.

Tom:

- . Has prepared a draft 1pg text (which will be circulated for comment) to send to Telstra contact re. \$120 mill. compensation package and how it compares favourably with lack of provision and job cutting within Telstra. Also including Coolah newspaper article and some lobbying documents.
- . will follow up on various union contacts.

Peter:

- . Senate debate re. woodchip regulations unlikely to result in a favourable outcome even if Labour, Greens and Democrats support us as still need Harradine's vote to achieve a majority. 9th Sept. most likely date for woodchipping resolution, same with the walkout. Greens, Labour and Democrats discussing co-ordination of action.
- . Chased up model forests in Canada - received some info. via e-mail. There is some indication of the model system resulting in clearfelling in National Parks. On the whole, unpromising, though more information may be forthcoming.
- . Dr Norman Mayers (author of "Gaia Planet Management Plan") will be meeting with Carr Sept. 18th/19th. May give a briefing in the parliamentary theatre.

Noel:

- . still working on marginal electorates, holding letterwriting stalls and postering.
- . approx. 400 letters received for each of the Drummoyne, Coogee and Gladesville electorates.
- . more posters are being printed.

Felicity:

- . Suzuki is visiting TWS shop 28.8.96.
- . TWS holding a Boral National Day of Action, Saturday, 24.8.96 . will be based mainly The day of action will link in with Barrington.
- . Kevin Parker doing lots of regional media re. wilderness in Wollongong etc.
- . West Syd. TWS doing postering and have received 300 individual letters to Carr on wilderness.

2. Strategy:

The meeting noted the decision of the PLU 5.8.96 that we continue to strongly support the FRP as our principal position up until the completion of the RACAC process and report. We reject and oppose resource security provisions and seek to minimise tradeable rights.

Jeff

Action:

1. will draft a "tough", political reality style joint groups letter to every Labour State MP.
2. will release marginal electorate letters from candidates. Meeting agreed to delegate the decision re. timing and release strategy to Jeff and Felicity.
3. Jeff to draft possible questions for an opinion poll to take to the forest meeting, 13.8.96. Meeting agreed to incorporate generic questions that will be useful after the IAP campaign.
4. A tactical mailout to all FCG database and groups marginal electorate members in late August - suggestions for content to Jeff - mailing labels to Noel.

Sid

Action:

1. to co-ordinate an intermediate mail-out consisting of an action package, including a short update, A4 poster and multiple stickers. To be mailed out to all people on NCC IAP database. Meeting agreed to authorize the expenditure of \$500 - \$1000 for the production of stickers and mailing costs. Noel and Felicity to help co-ordinate. N.B. meeting agreed also to a mailout to inform our supporters re. cabinet decision.
2. Sid and Felicity to investigate the possibility of Suzuki publicly supporting us.

Anne:

Action:

1. Brian Everingham and Anne may draft a proposal re. possible media angles to bring to forest meeting, 13.8.96.
2. Send copy of NPA's submission on wilderness to Elke to network.

Susie

Action:

1. to give copy of original letter sent to the Labour Council to Elke to network, and to give a copy to Brian to send on to the Teachers Union delegates.
2. Meeting with timber union delegates proposed early next week. Decision as to who will go has been deferred till Tuesday's meeting, 13.8.96.

Keith

Action:

1. Meeting with Pam Allan Monday 12.8.96 to discuss wilderness management. Jeff, Felicity, Peter Prineas also attending.
2. To give Elke copy of letter to Carr so it can be networked.
3. to write briefing paper re. wilderness and give to Elke to network.
4. To write a joint groups letter to NPWS re. lack of FRP support. Felicity to help. Letter will be circulated prior to release.
5. Colong/TWS seeking to meet with Carr re. wilderness. Keith will attempt to have meeting opened to include IAP in general and others attend can attend if desired.

Noel

Action:

1. will invite Sue Salmon to forest meeting, 13.8.96.
2. will research costs of conducting an opinion poll - to be discussed at forest meeting, Tuesday, 13.8.96.

Elke

Action:

1. send minutes from the PLU and this meeting to Sue Salmon.

Felicity

Action:

1. To investigate the possibility of Bob Brown making a public statement or attending an event etc. while attending a Greens Conference on the Central Coast, 24th/25th August; could link in with Suzuki's visit.

Everyone !!

All significant letters and submissions should be copied and sent to networker so that networking can happen !!!

3. Media worker

- . meeting to agreed to reduce the networker (Elke) to three days a week and employ a media worker for 3 days a week.
- . the media worker will liaise with the key groups as appropriate.
- . the media co-ordinator will not be a spokesperson for the campaign.

*** Meeting agreed that Sid will co-ordinate the employment of a media worker and that Sid and Jeff will generally direct the media worker.

*** Elke will be working as the networker at NCC on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

These days are subject to change if necessary.

N.B. Elke will be working at NCC on Mondays and Fridays in another capacity and is available if necessary.

Meeting concluded approx. 7.20pm

Attachments:

1. List of all IAP Sumissions currently available at NCC (ring Elke to receive copies) Please send any copies of major submissions you have that are not already listed!!!
2. Timetable of all known meetings (please inform Elke of any meetings that are not already listed)

1. Submissions available for circulation:

- . The Bendalong & Districts Environmental Association. (re. Conjola State Forest)
- . CONSERAC
- . NPA
- . NEFA
- . NSW Aboriginal Land Council
- . Friends of Mugarlowe River
- . Friends of the Earth
- . Unions
- . Forest Products - wilderness areas
- . Central Study Area - Paul Winn (Newcastle Environment office).
- . NSW Minerals Council

2. Meetings Timeline:

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 9.8.96 | Sydney Labour Council Meeting |
| 12.8.96 | Meeting with Pam Allan re. wilderness management |
| 13.8.96 | Forest meeting at NCC |
| 24/25.8.96 | Greens National Conference on Central Coast |
| 20.8.96 | Grafton Cabinet Meeting |
| 24.8.96 | Boral National Day of Action |
| 28.8.96 | Suzuki visiting Sydney TWS shop |
| 9.9.96 | Likely date for Federal woodchipping resolution |
| 18/19.9.96 | Dr Norman Mayers will be meeting with Carr |

08/08 '96 THU 16:45 FAX 61 2 92475945

NATURE CONSERVATION

001

NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW



FACSIMILE

To: From: ELKE

Organisation:

Fax Number: Date: 8.8.96 Total pages including this one: 6

39 George Street, THE ROCKS NSW 2000, Ph: (02) 247 4206, 247 2228, Fax: (02) 247 5945

COMMENTS:

ATT: ANNE REEVES - NPA, TOM M'CLOUGHLIN - FOE,
FELICITY WADE - TWS, CRAIG DARLINTON /
SIMON CLARK - CONSERVAC, MARK BLETHEN - SERC,
PAUL WINN / TOOIE - TWS (NEWCASTLE), DAILAN PUGH /
JOHN CORKILL - NEFA, LYN ORREGO - NEFA,

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Action:

1. will draft a "tough", political reality style joint groups letter to every Labour State MP.
2. will release marginal electorate letters from candidates. Meeting agreed to delegate the decision re. timing and release strategy to Jeff and Felicity.
3. Jeff to draft possible questions for an opinion poll to take to the forest meeting, 13.8.96. Meeting agreed to incorporate generic questions that will be useful after the IAP campaign.
4. A tactical mailout to all FCG database and groups marginal electorate members in late August - suggestions for content to Jeff - mailing labels to Noel.

Sid

Action:

1. to co-ordinate an intermediate mail-out consisting of an action package, including a short update, A4 poster and multiple stickers. To be mailed out to all people on NCC IAP database. Meeting agreed to authorize the expenditure of \$500 - \$1000 for the production of stickers and mailing costs. Noel and Felicity to help co-ordinate. N.B. meeting agreed also to a mailout to inform our supporters re. cabinet decision.
2. Sid and Felicity to investigate the possibility of Suzuki publicly supporting us.

Anne:

Action:

1. Brian Everingham and Anne may draft a proposal re. possible media angles to bring to forest meeting, 13.8.96.
2. Send copy of NPA's submission on wilderness to Elke to network.

Susie

Action:

1. to give copy of original letter sent to the Labour Council to Elke to network, and to give a copy to Brian to send on to the Teachers Union delegates.
2. Meeting with timber union delegates proposed early next week. Decision as to who will go has been deferred till Tuesday's meeting, 13.8.96.

Keith

Action:

1. Meeting with Pam Allan Monday 12.8.96 to discuss wilderness management. Jeff, Felicity, Peter Prineas also attending.
2. To give Elke copy of letter to Carr so it can be networked.
3. to write briefing paper re. wilderness and give to Elke to network.
4. To write a joint groups letter to NPWS re. lack of FRP support. Felicity to help. Letter will be circulated prior to release.
5. Colong/TWS seeking to meet with Carr re. wilderness. Keith will attempt to have meeting opened to include IAP in general and others attend can attend if desired.

A BRIEFING NOTE FROM THE NSW FOREST PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION ON BEHALF OF THE HARDWOOD INDUSTRY

Purpose: To provide State and Federal Members of Parliament with an over-view of matters affecting the industry, that are in the news.

Contact: Mr. Col Dorber, Executive Director 02 9360 4022
(Pager 016 286 359. After Hours 02 9981 4596.).
Mr. Russell Ainley, Assistant Director FPA, 02 9360 4022 or,
Mr. Peter Anderson, Political Consultant to the FPA.
(0414 353907.)

ISSUE: NSW INTERIM FOREST ASSESSMENT PROCESS - WILDERNESS

** This briefing note contains a summary of the FPA Wilderness Disturbance Report, prepared as a joint initiative by the FPA and the Boral Timber Division. The full report is available for inspection at FPA's Offices.*

Over-view of Wilderness Disturbance Report:

The FPA Report establishes by analysing written historical data and current day photographic evidence that significant disturbance in the form of logging, grazing and/or settlement has occurred within both NSW Identified Wilderness and Core Wilderness.

In some cases the long history of disturbance has fragmented proposed wilderness areas as a result the criteria under which they have been identified

NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW

THE NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW
39 GEORGE ST
THE ROCKS NSW 2000
PHONE: (02) 247 4206/247 2228
FAX: (02) 247 5945



Dear friend,

I am writing to you because you are identified on the RACAC newsletter mailing list as a conservationist.

As reported in this latest RACAC Newsletter, the negotiations at Hurstville are now over and the public comment phase of the Interim Assessment Process is about to begin.

This is the stage of the process where you have a crucial role to play.

The negotiations have generated a lot of very useful information, including a number of possible forest moratoria to apply from August 1st. Government may choose from these possibilities - or select some other option. In the final analysis, the decision will be heavily influenced by political considerations.

If it becomes clear that a large majority of those involved want a good environmental outcome, government will be more likely to select an outcome favourable to conservation. If not, the reverse is likely - and this unique opportunity to protect all areas likely to be required for a CAR reserve system will be missed.

It's up to you!

To play an effective part in the critical next few weeks, we suggest you:

- register with the Nature Conservation Council to receive our 'Forest Parks Countdown' mailouts, which will keep you informed about what's going on from a conservationist perspective.
- follow up with further action! Make a submission to the RACAC report, saying that you want all areas likely to be required for a CAR forest reserve system protected - and write to Premier Carr and Prime Minister Howard saying that's what you want. Our mailouts will assist you in writing submissions and letters.

The IAP has been the best and most open process ever to help determine which forests of eastern NSW most need saving. To make sure they are saved, we need your help.

Regards,

Sid Walker (on behalf of environment groups participating in the RACAC process)

N.E.F.A.

North East Forest Alliance

Ph/Fax 066 224 737. C/-149 Keen St Lismore 2480.

Invoice

31/7/96

To: Nature Conservation Council

From: John Corkill, North East Forest Alliance

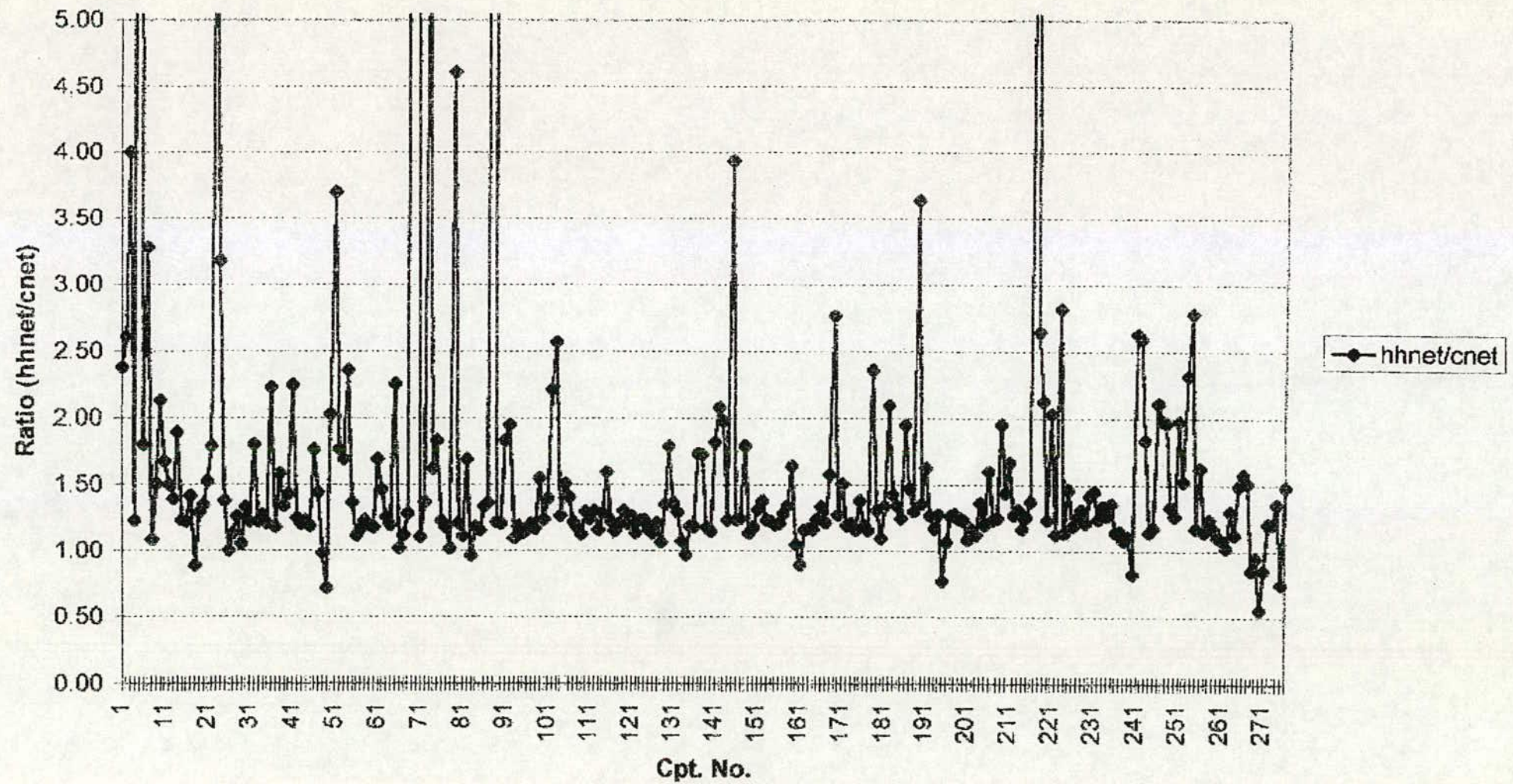
<u>Item Description</u>	<u>Amount Payable</u>
<u>IAP Costs</u>	
Regional meetings x 2	\$200.00
3 days networking & costs for N1 & N6	\$800.00
Submission preparation and printing	\$1800.00
	<u>Total</u>
	<u>\$2800.00</u>

Payment can be made directly into the NEFA bank account:
Commonwealth Bank Acc. No. 2656 1018 1269
and the receipt sent to:
NEFA 149 Keen Street, Lismore 2480
or by cheque made out to North East Forest Alliance.

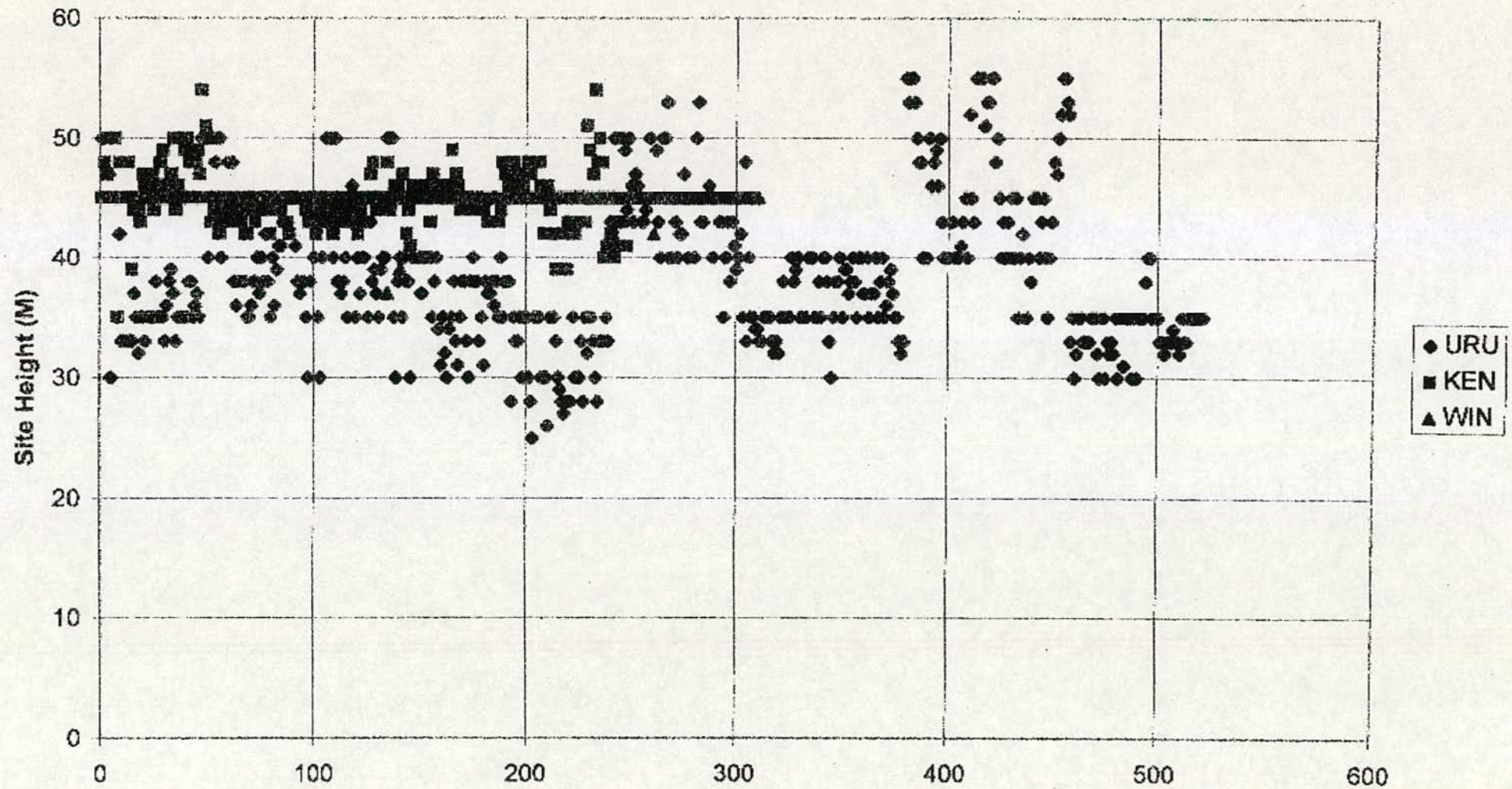
WMA: Compartments with no MAI (caswvph) but other values in the WRS.

sfno	cpt	cgros	cnet	cmsiteht	cmryrlog	charvhi	charvlo	charvpu	cffyrlog	cnpvall	caswvtp	caswvtp	caswvtp	cwsi
285	1	128	103	45	1975	0	0	0	2025	1525	0	0	0	2
285	2	104	85	45	1996	0	0	0	2025	1050	0	0	0	1
285	3	59	48	45	1996	0	0	0	2025	2219	0	0	0	2
285	4	314	254	45	1996	0	0	0	2025	7763	0	0	0	4
285	35	105	85	45	1995	0	0	0	2045	376	0	0	0	1
285	53	12	10	45	1995	0	0	0	2045	44	0	0	0	1
779	63	0	0	45	1955	0	0	0	2015	0	0	0	0	1
779	114	0	0	45	1965	0	0	0	2005	5	0	0	0	1
285	119	51	41	45	1985	0	0	0	2045	184	0	0	0	1
767	137	11	9	45	1975	0	0	0	2025	64	0	0	0	1
767	150	2	1	45	1985	0	0	0	2015	122	0	0	0	1
285	178	18	14	45	1955	85	11	149	2025	184	0	0	0	1
285	179	171	138	45	1985	0	0	0	2025	2464	0	0	0	2
911	266	35	28	45	1995	0	0	0	2025	202	0	0	0	1
337	282	32	26	45	1995	0	0	0	2025	241	0	0	0	1
337	288	52	42	45	1975	0	0	0	2025	299	0	0	0	1
337	290	31	25	45	1995	0	0	0	2025	181	0	0	0	1
337	292	70	57	37	1995	0	10	52	2025	537	0	0	0	1
337	297	123	100	45	1975	0	0	0	2025	1141	0	0	0	2
337	308	41	34	45	1995	0	0	0	2025	240	0	0	0	1
337	309	17	14	45	1995	0	0	0	2025	135	0	0	0	1
337	310	65	53	45	1985	0	0	0	2025	477	0	0	0	1
337	312	90	73	45	1985	0	0	0	2025	805	0	0	0	1
337	313	10	8	45	1995	0	0	0	2025	59	0	0	0	1
337	314	48	39	45	1985	0	0	0	2025	434	0	0	0	1

If the Standing Volume and MAI indicated here are accurate, (1) from where does the Net Present Value derive, and (2) should these cpts. have a cnet figure?

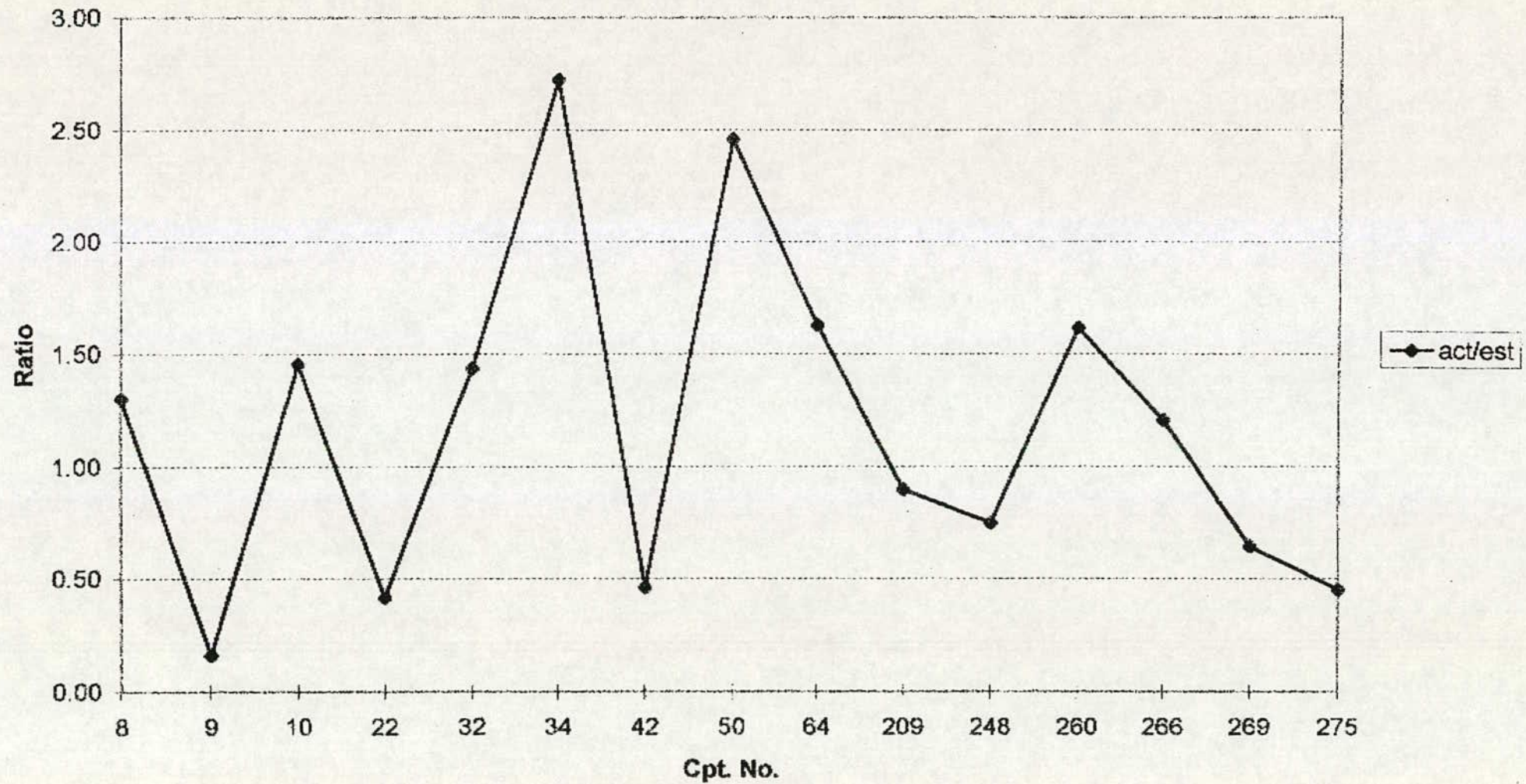
WMA: Proportion of Net Areas from Harvesting Histories vs WRS data

N3: Site Height estimates for 3 MA



85

Acty_Esty

WMA:Quota sawlog yields, Actual : Estimated

NEGOTIATION REPORTS

OUTSTANDING ISSUES TO RESOLVE BEFORE SIGNING

Central Region

Con. outcome: is WRS 47% (NPWS) or 56% (Ridley)

ex-wilderness WRS ??? % (outcome 4)

70% outcome WRS = 67 or 68% ?

Outcome 3 (50%) not required as WRS Consv. outcome now 56%

All N Regions

Ridley expects shorter lists of types to managed off-reserve

N1

industry variation for 60%

Captains Creek and Nullum situations need checking for each option given computer tagging problems.

N5

Check with Russ about industry submission on meeting 50%

N3

Base level 70% ex-wilderness

Eden

title of Preferred NP Outcome - Ridley wants Environment Groups preferred outcome

MAPS

Ridley and Pugh should have faxed their map amendments to Jo White

Freyas Mun.

223 866

Orbis St.

→ Mt Burrell

A message to Premier Carr and his Ministers:

MR. CARR, THE FUTURE OF GRAFTON IS IN YOUR HANDS.

Your 30% reduction of available forest resource is already having severe repercussions on many NSW towns. Any more and some simply won't survive. The forestry industry is the economic backbone of many communities, generating essential jobs and services.

According to your own Report, your 30% cut will cost 163 jobs in this region alone.

Incredibly, even more savage reductions are now being canvassed — cuts which would undoubtedly devastate entire communities. 72 mills are on the line.

Therefore, we urge you and your Ministers to carefully consider the consequences of your decision on the future management of our forests. Make sure NSW makes best possible use of its sustainable resources for the benefit of both country and city people.

Stand up for our communities. Protect them as you would our forests.

Remember, the survival of communities like Grafton depends on you.

**The National Association
of Forest Industries.**

APPENDIX 2a

ACHIEVEMENT OF OLDGROWTH TARGETS IN THE INTERIM ASSESSMENT PROCESS

FOREST TYPES	OLDGROWTH			PROJECTED OLDGROWTH FORESTS					OLDGROWTH TARGETS				CONSERVATION CRITERIA OUTCOME				E.M.M.A.	
	Mapped Oldgrowth on NP&NR	Oldgrowth on NP&NR + other "Protected" Forests	Oldgrowth on "Available" Lands	Assumed % of Wilderness outside SF&NP as OG	Projected Oldgrowth in Wilderness outside NP&SF	Assumed % of Forest Outside NP&SF as OG	Projected Oldgrowth outside NP,SF &Wild.	Projected total Oldgrowth	Oldgrowth Target set in IAP %	Mapped Oldgrowth Required to Meet Targets	Oldgrowth Target Based on Projected Extent %	Projected Oldgrowth Required to Meet Targets	Con. Criteria Outcome Oldgrowth	% of Mapped Oldgrowth Target Achieved	% of Projected Oldgrowth Target Achieved	"Protected" Oldgrowth + CCO as % of Original FT	Available Oldgrowth still Not Protected	EMMA Oldgrowth
T 30	398	400	77		0	3	101	576	100	529	100	576	75	90	82	3	2	0
T 31	2851	2878	1183	81	32	6	2475	6559	100	4607	100	6559	1036	85	60	2	147	52
T 32	179	179	3		0	1	13	195	100	226	100	195	3	81	93	1	0	0
T 36/1	500	508	305	100	1	2	198	1012	100	900	100	1012	287	88	79	2	18	12
T 36/2	958	993	516	86	110	2	240	1840	100	1750	100	1840	390	78	75	4	126	6
T 36/3	335	1615	1250	44	241	2	230	2965	100	3296	100	2965	929	77	86	6	321	256
T 37/1	375	1637	2033	76	229	2	768	4504	100	4539	100	4504	1343	66	66	3	690	376
T 37/2	5076	8268	4656	60	674	2	922	13537	86	12461	88	11900	2299	85	89	6	2357	578
T 37/3	2659	2789	2187	99	509	7	1225	6626	78	4178	71	4681	1613	104	94	9	574	197
T 38/1	0	18	5	100	4	1	3	25	100	55	100	25	0	33	72	1	5	5
T 38/2	5221	6720	1710	100	5	12	2163	10592	60	5416	60	6355	1180	146	124	24	530	195
T 39/1	4	4	2		0	1	60	66	100	19	100	66	2	32	9	0	0	0
T 39/2	40	41	196		0	5	135	371	100	269	100	371	190	86	62	4	6	5
T 40	81	82	369		0	8	272	723	100	574	83	603	354	76	72	4	15	0
T 41/1	4758	4760	72		0	12	2277	7109	76	3833	62	4380	72	126	110	8	0	0
T 41/2	1311	1311	31		0	3	84	1426	60	856	60	856	30	157	157	15	1	1
T 41/3	2704	2757	6487	90	4	13	2997	12219	69	6911	60	7332	5517	120	113	13	970	138
T 42	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	100	1	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
T 45	2131	2345	143	96	98	22	1324	3901	60	1566	60	2340	124	158	105	13	19	6
T 46/1	2680	3592	5869	72	417	8	4316	14123	86	9031	77	10931	4831	93	77	6	1038	518
T 46/2	1610	2539	1238	94	893	9	316	4342	60	2419	60	2605	1001	140	136	22	237	114
T 46/3	235	453	623	93	132	6	277	1439	84	1051	81	1159	477	89	80	6	146	72
T 47/1	3766	5885	7029	75	951	6	2210	15384	77	10946	74	11368	5203	101	98	9	1826	1060
T 47/2	10920	18518	5803	84	1977	8	1410	26005	60	15449	60	15603	3373	140	140	25	2430	1547
T 47/3	867	925	776		0	4	214	1905	87	1549	85	1621	741	108	103	8	35	26
T 48/1	41	80	176	50	8	1	106	370	100	328	100	370	154	71	63	1	22	6
T 48/2	174	282	88	95	103	1	45	443	100	558	100	443	60	60	77	2	28	12
T 48/3	673	688	548	38	1	4	425	1658	100	1330	100	1658	536	92	74	3	12	12
T 49/1	78	89	45	100	27	1	53	214	100	163	100	214	39	79	60	1	6	1
T 49/2	8	14	10	90	7	16	49	75	88	40	69	52	10	59	46	3	0	0
T 49/3	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	100	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
T 51	11	11	15		0	1	16	42	100	31	100	42	12	74	54	0	3	3
T 52	0	10	1	100	0	1	2	13	100	12	100	13	0	83	78	2	1	0
T 53/1	491	1149	3325	79	39	8	1965	6462	87	4189	78	5058	2442	86	71	6	883	471
T 53/2	6679	14102	10661	73	2048	8	3668	28307	62	16938	60	16912	5471	115	116	12	5190	2314
T 53/3	1812	1914	678	41	0	3	537	3128	100	2789	100	3128	660	92	82	3	18	15
T 54	15	43	201	93	0	16	1	245	60	146	60	147	192	161	160	40	9	7
T 55	34	62	184		0	10	56	274	66	177	65	177	178	136	135	12	6	0
T 60/1	261	334	1226	32	35	3	615	2211	100	1828	100	2211	1090	78	64	2	136	39
T 60/2	566	1578	2035	90	273	7	934	4474	77	3154	74	3312	1316	92	87	8	719	306
T 60/3	533	626	596	84	144	4	243	1581	88	1206	85	1342	478	91	82	5	118	29
T 60/4	346	357	667	49	9	2	401	1433	100	1156	100	1433	605	83	67	1	62	32
T 61/1	1629	2171	863	90	144	18	633	3657	60	2024	60	2194	648	139	128	26	215	40
T 61/2	56	62	6	100	41	18	498	601	100	175	72	433	6	37	16	1	0	0

	153	1992	1993	6892	0
	154	1971	1996	3983	3042
	157	1984	?		902
	158	1984	?		1953
	174	1985	1950	566	0
	176	1996	1996	3892	2440
541 Edinburgh Castle	124	1994	1995	247	0
	125	1990	1990	798	142
	126	1973	1977	1736	0
	127	1987	1987	2881	1100
	128	1988	1990	4053	0
	132	1990	1990	3450	0
	134	1993	1995	3425	0
542 Mt. Lindesay	277	1988	1980	2084	0
	278	1994	1996	3723	1000
	280	1983	1970	4972	1000
	281	1983	1996	4342	0
	283	1984	1977	2483	1000
610 Rich. Range	271	1991	1993	3128	0
	272	1994	1995	1598	0
	273	1994	1995	2066	0
753 Sth. Toonumbat	274	1989	1995	4614	2200
TOTALS				54346	21950
Totals bold (unlogged since 1985)				54749	25782
					21950

APPENDIX 6a URBENVILLE MA, COMPARTMENTS OUTSIDE THE CCO

State Forest	Cmpt.	Last Year Logged WRS	Last Year Logged District SF	FAMIS Quota Volume 1985 (cum)	WRS Harvestable Volume 1996 (cum)	District State Forests 1996 est. (cum)	Comments
1 Koreelah	30	1987	1988	2185	0		
	31	1987	1988	3258	0		
	33	1988	1989	1669	472		
	34	1989	1989	3957	1971		
2 Beaury	71(/2)	1983	1984	4203	1074		
	72(/2)	1985	1970	3431	306	1200	
	76	1982	1982	3728	2434	2500	
	90	1982	1983	1924	1461	1500	
	91	1982	1979	1146	0	1000	
	92	1992	1993	4268	0		
	93	1992	1993	3812	0		
	100	1992	1993	2594	0		
	101	1992	1993	2000	395		
	102	1989	1990	3435	1537		
	103	1988	1989	4377	1429		
	105	1988	1989	3201	1782		
	106	1988	1989	2116	833		
	107	1988	1989	2671	1090		
	108(/2)	1990	1970	711	724	500	
	109	1991	1992	1319	1019		
120 Bald Knob	38	1984	1995	<u>1816</u>	1148		
	39	1984	1985	<u>776</u>	346		
	40	1984	1986	<u>2037</u>	1940		
	41	1985	1986	2298	1736		
	62	1994	1995	189	177		
	63	1994	1995	3168	0		
	64	1988	1989	566	374		
	65	1989	1990	2367	0		
	66	1983	1984	5253	3625	2150	
	69	1970		?	738		
121 Donaldson	42	1985	1986	<u>3381</u>	3024		
	44	1984	1985	<u>1446</u>	1052		
	47	1976	1979	2530	2138	2200	
	57	1994	1995	3921	0		
	58	1990	1990	1858	625		
	59	1994	1995	1986	0		
	60	1981	1982	1809	1192	1500	
343 Toonumbar	61	1987	1988	1605	1683		
	244	1994	1995	3194	0		
	245	1994	1995	3552	0		
346 Woodenbong	67	1988	1989	769	0		
394 Yabbra	139(/2)	1988	1970	1933	1735	1500	
	141	1988	1990	3793	0		
	142	1989	1990	3225	0		
	143	1987	1989	2698	0		
	144(/2)	1991	1970	554	87	300	
	147	1990	1991	1450	0		
	148	1989	1990	2069	0		
	149	1990	1990	5864	1096		
	150	1982	1983	3197	1693	1000	



E a r t h S p a n

Environmental Survey, Mapping & Management

Mr John Corkill
North East Forest Alliance
c/o Big Scrub Environment Centre
149 Keen Street
LISMORE NSW 2480

24 June 1996

Our Reference:
c:austin\es\nefa.doc

Dear John

RE: Draft Interim Forestry Assessment Report

As per our recent telephone conversation, please find enclosed information you may find useful in commenting on the abovenamed report, namely:

1. A report to the NPWS on the Interim Old Growth Forest Mapping Project including methodologies, limitations, and recommendations.
2. Major 'controversial' issues to be raised in the submission.
3. A draft submission detailing such issues.

Should you have any queries or would like to discuss any of the issues raised in the documentation, please do not hesitate to call any time.

Kind regards,

Angela McCauley B.Sc. (Geography)

encl.

Typos:

p4 *In* Labor's Forestry Policy a committment.... ✓

p4 Coalition policy para 1 which is C... A... R... ✓

p5 3.0 line 3 to *meet* the conservation ✓

p aims of reform 2nd line delete *being* ✓

p. yes FISAP ✓

p 9 4th last para *actually not actuality* ✓

p9 says p1

p 11 scoping agreement 1st line last word should be *and* ✓

p11 also says p1 *need to redo page numbers* ✓

3.1.3 2nd line could realistically be

rainforest NEFA disappointed ID of

Note here perhaps that resource unit data had no size restriction thus there are very small 4-5 ha resource units able to be mapped, how not r/f?

Wilderness treatment of ... delete under line 2

Expert panels... para 2 line 2 could many of

reference to WINERMS.... may not be capable of doing job.. may need bigger GIS

Senior officer position referred to as his should be *this*

medium density fibreboard on the nose until a new adhesive other than formaldehyde is found... change to particle board

force majeure

complementary not complimentary

p40 *Judy* Clark not *Juy*

Figures for plantation size... should say 10,000ha

Study was released April 1996 not June 96

WRS 2nd para *methodological*

*Crops + Cluster
more than 35% of canopy
to be removed. while further
assessment of logging goes on*

No clearfelling in any

dailan@am.com.au

Comments on NEFA submission by Susie, Greg and Jane 20/7/96

*Comments on IAP process need to be prefaced by lots of positive stuff about the process, stakeholder involvement and resourcing and access to most data. Tempered by -lack of time with data pre negotiations, etc and difficulties getting WRS data

*Reserve criteria: do we want to mention that the feds have just watered down the 15% to if the socio-economic impacts are not too drastic. Well \$120 million to make sure it isn't.

*re PFR, the role is not clear in the policy. Should the PFR draft prescriptions they them have to regulate? No, doesn't there need to be a separation of functions? Things are moving so fast ie the model forest idea and the local "partnerships" ie North Coast Forest Advisory Board or whatever you discussed last week in Lismore, that SFNSW as we know it may be a thing of the past and the rewrite will be far more significant than anyone imagined in march 1995. Where corporatisation and PFR etc fit into this I don't think anyone knows and I think we should be prepared to shift laterally and envisage a whole new picture of forest management, regulatory framework etc and then work out the PFR. this was discussed briefly at the FAC last week. Where does FAC sit w.r.t. NEF Advisory Board etc. More structures are being created to deal with problems and none has a clear picture of how they tie together. The good news is that there is a window of opportunity to completely reshape forest management structure and aims in the next few years if we work on links with those in SFNSW who secretly harbour such wild dreams. Surely we can dream that Drielsma will go and that the new regime will actually work to redress the problems of the past?

*It is probably worth a section on the new approach to forestry SFNSW is promoting: this is the model forest/partnership model. One interesting point is that the model forest idea moves away from sustained yield as the basis for forest management. It actually says it is outdated and inappropriate if we expect more than timber from our forests. For the IAP to be stuck on sustained yield figures which could determine forest policy for the next decade is to completely undermine the good work SFNSW is doing to come to terms with past criticism. I think we should emphasize this. If you agree I will do a couple of paras expanding on the above.

in
WRS
crit?

*Structural Adjustment stuff is a bit outdated given that the committee exists and a number of the suggestions are being carried out. Perhaps more relevant to talk about once in a lifetime opportunity to windback industry to match resource... in 10 years time if unsustainable practices continue there will be no money to do it again. Emphasize accountability, conservation movement exclude from committee making decisions on money.. danger that it will not be used properly. Already rumours to this effect

} MW

*Water yield etc. This is why in our EMMA we have used reserve design principles to try and maximise catchment values

*WSA

*Section on sustained yield should follow WSA section (tourism should either be amalgamated with earlier tourism or put later)

*re MPG analysis-it's good although some repetition ie diff. b/w Sydney and regional definitions for wood products industry In Section 4

-re numbers employed in SFNSW the proposed closure of District offices should also lead to significant decrease in employees as duplication procedures are eliminated
-conclusion is pet results of FPA as well

Dailan Pugh,
Conservation representative on RACAC
Repentance Ck. Rd., Rosebank, NSW 2480
Ph. 066 882268, Fax. 066 882248

The Honourable Bob Carr
Premier of NSW
Parliament House
(Att. Robert Griggs)
Fax: 02 2283935

4 June 1996

RE: INTERIM ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Dear Premier,

The RACAC process for identifying outcomes of applying reserve criteria and industry options exemplifies the meaning of "open and transparent". The involvement of principle stakeholders in decision making on RACAC and its working groups, the provision of all information to stakeholders, the use of state of the art computer technology, and the interactive negotiation phase with stakeholders undoubtedly represent current best practice in stakeholder participation and dispute resolution. There is no doubt that to date the open, transparent and informed process of land assessment employed by RACAC is world leading.

There is now a real threat that all the good will engendered by RACAC will be undone by a political decision to pre-empt due process by guaranteeing forests identified as likely to be required for an adequate reserve system to the industry. Just as there is now the real prospect of a resolution to the forest dispute, there is a greater risk of a return to the entrenched and bitter forest conflicts which characterised the previous NSW Government.

THE IAP

The Interim Assessment Process (IAP) undertaken by RACAC used the best information obtainable in the time available. This resulted in a limited assessment using data of variable adequacy. For some assessment regions there is reasonably good data while for others the data is poor. Most of the data and modelling utilised requires validation and improvement. Cultural, social and economic aspects have only received cursory consideration. Aside from with stakeholders, the public consultation has been limited. These shortcomings are well recognised within RACAC.

As an interim process the IAP fulfils its aim to "identify on a regional basis those forests that may need to be set aside from logging for inclusion in a comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system" only in so far as these meet the Commonwealth's Reserve Criteria. In the assessment there was an emphasis on forest type targets, with frequent under achievement of targets for the limited number of plants and animals being considered. In general the assessment has identified State Forest compartments meeting the criteria for likely inclusion in a CAR reserve system, rather than all compartments which are likely to be required for a CAR reserve system, i.e. the compartments identified represent the cores around which the CAR reserve system needs to be constructed using catchments and reserve design principles (which was only partially achieved during the negotiation process).

Most significantly the IAP didn't completely fulfil its task of "*identifying likely high conservation value old-growth forest*". While the artificial Commonwealth constraint of only reserving 60% of some oldgrowth was relaxed, it was in effect replaced with the forest type targets. Some significant areas of oldgrowth in the more widespread forest types were thus not identified because the forest type targets had been exceeded, even though they had other "*high conservation values*".

The IAP must be recognised as the interim process that it was always intended to be. There is a need to refine the outcomes from the negotiations to ensure that all forests likely to be required for a reserve system, including all oldgrowth forests of likely high conservation value, are more fully delineated. Such forests need to be placed under moratoria while the CRAs are undertaken.

RESOURCE SECURITY

The IAP was intended to be a temporary process to identify forest "*areas to be available for logging and areas to be deferred from logging in the period from July 1996 to the completion of the RFAs*". The Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs) are the outcomes from the Comprehensive Regional Assessments (CRA). It was intended to ensure that sufficient resources would be left available for the period until the RFA was completed. This intent was belatedly thwarted in May when one of the three members of Cabinet's Natural Resources Sub-committee, Kim Yeadon, attempted to pre-empt the IAP and CRA by giving five to ten year guaranteed volumes of sawlogs to industry. While the proposed quanta did not get up, the NSW Cabinet gave in principle approval to the concept and a commitment to set quanta after the IAP. This profoundly changed the significance and finality with which the IAP is being treated.

As well as identifying those forests fulfilling the reserve criteria the negotiation phase then had to identify various industry options which supplied estimated sustained yields at 30%, 50% or 70% of 1995 quota allocations to industry. These options were generated by the industry and State Forests de-selecting compartments identified as required for a reserve system on a timber supply basis until the various resource supply levels were reached. Reserve targets crashed as compartments of the highest conservation values were de-selected. While the options generated will inform community debate during the CRA, there is an intent by the timber industry and unions to complete their subversion of the 1992 National Forest Policy Statement and your Government's forest policy commitments by forcing the Government to adopt an industry wind-back option, by the end of July, which forecloses any chance of ever achieving a comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system.

It is evident that there are sufficient timber resources left outside the forests identified in the IAP reserve criteria outcomes for all such forests to be placed under moratoria while still supplying adequate timber resources to industry for the period of the CRA.

The application of the reserve criteria was estimated by State Forests to leave from 18% to 63% of the 1995 quota allocations available to industry on a long-term 'economic' sustained yield basis (note that the sustained yield was often well below quota commitments to begin with, as low as 56% of 1995 quota in one region). Due to the limitations of State Forests' data and modelling these sustained yield calculations are indicative only.

The actual amount of the standing volumes of sawlogs left available to industry are far higher than indicated by State Forests' sustained yield modelling. The standing volumes of sawlogs best represent the potential short-term impact of the criteria outcomes on the industry. For example,

under the reserve criteria outcome Tenterfield/Glen Innes (N5) was left with a standing volume of sawlogs of around 33% and an estimated sustainable yield of only 18%, and Bulahdelah/Gloucester (N4) with a standing volume of around 49% and an estimated sustained yield of only 19%. With 33% to 70% of standing timber volumes left outside those forests identified as likely to be required for a CAR reserve system there are obviously sufficient resources left to maintain industry until CRAs are completed.

It is possible for your Government to place all forests likely to be required for a CAR reserve system under moratoria while a CRA is undertaken. The problem is how to provide an equitable industry outcome and facilitate industry restructuring during the CRA process.

The proposed 5-10 year tradeable resource guarantees to industry as an outcome of the IAP were promoted as a mechanism to facilitate industry restructuring (by mills selling their windfall volumes to other mills and closing down). This represents but one, very profitable, way for industry restructuring to be encouraged. Other ways need to be found.

Many mills were built with a limited life aimed at maximising profits by cutting out the oldgrowth forest and then closing down. While some mills have attempted to modernise others have never upgraded their equipment and consistently fought attempts to reduce their cutting to a sustainable level. Some of these 'dinosaur' mills are past their 'use by date' and certainly do not warrant any free gifts of public assets.

The Government has a \$120 million dollar Structural Adjustment Program, with its three major components being industry development, worker assistance and business exit assistance. This program will to some extent mitigate impacts on workers and companies while facilitating restructuring, but will do little to mitigate impacts on vulnerable rural communities.

COMMUNITY EQUITY

It is revealing that the timber industry expects the community, through Government, to give it millions of dollars worth of resources and restructuring assistance, while also expecting that they have a right to restructure themselves regardless of community impacts.

It needs to be recognised that the state forests belong to the public of NSW (over half the forests are on private lands and already subject to 'free market forces') and thus need to be used to maximise the public good rather than for private gain. The ethics of literally giving a private company millions of dollars worth of public assets (tradeable quotas) and allowing companies sole determination of where timber is milled (i.e. failing to use distribution of public assets to maximise the socio-economic benefits by encouraging mills to remain near centres of greatest economic need) must be questioned.

There are no specific provisions for minimising or mitigating impacts on affected communities in the Government's current packages. It is the effect of mill closures on rural communities that is most frequently used by the timber industry as justification for its existence. While on a regional basis the native-hardwood industry only employs a small proportion of the population, there can be no doubt sawmills are a significant employer in some smaller and more remote country towns. Social equity requires that preference be given to retaining mills in such towns. Market forces on their own have consistently led to centralisation of milling facilities into fewer and larger towns, there is every reason to expect this trend to intensify. It is inevitable that mills will continue to close in vulnerable towns (as they have been doing for the last few decades). Through the timber

resources and structural adjustment funds it controls the Government has the ability (if not the will) to influence the siting of the remaining mills to maximise societal benefits.

Where towns are significantly affected by Government decisions to protect forests which lead to mill closures it is essential that the Government provide structural adjustment assistance to the affected communities, not just to some workers and the mill owners. There is an urgent need for the Government to extend its Structural Adjustment Program to include programs aimed at mitigating community impacts.

RECOMMENDATIONS

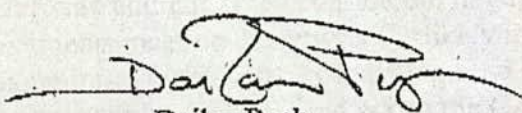
The process followed to date with RACAC has been exemplary, and the prospect of resolving the protracted forest debate is so tantalising close. It would destroy all the good work to date if the Government now decided to turn its back on the National Forest Policy Statement, its own policy and RACAC by pre-empting the CRA process.

If the process to date is not to be a wasted opportunity, it is important for the Government to continue the negotiation process in an effort to reach an agreed outcome from the IAP. Some lateral thinking will be required by the Government to identify means to ensure industry restructuring, social equity and a moratorium on logging of forests likely to be required for a CAR reserve system.

It is recommended that the Government attempt to identify a workable resolution by:

1. Establishing a Taskforce comprised of a representative from State Forests, NPWS and DUAP to negotiate acceptable outcomes between stakeholders on a regional basis. It would be appropriate for this Taskforce to be comprised of the Government's senior officers on the RACAC Steering Committee (Bob Smith (SF), Leanne Wallace (NPWS) and Rex Bowen (DUAP/RACAC)) with the responsibility to assess the options being advocated by interest groups, and to attempt to facilitate mutually acceptable outcomes from the IAP;
2. Facilitating dialogue within, and between, the stakeholder groups. To continue to participate in the IAP process, and adequately consult internally, the conservation movement (and likely other stakeholders) require financial assistance; and
3. Enabling stakeholders to be involved in an interactive process with Cabinet's Natural Resources Sub-committee prior to Cabinet considering the issue. Should no or limited resolution of some issues be achieved by the Taskforce it would be appreciated if the stakeholders were able to make their cases before the Sub-committee, in a process which includes opportunities to explain their position, respond to issues raised by other stakeholders and comment on proposals raised by the Ministers.

Yours sincerely,



Dailan Pugh

cc, Pam Allen, Kim Yeadon, Craig Knowles.

Stage 2

Parks Now!

Proposed Parks

People to Do!

Chaelundi

Mt Washpool

Richmond Range

Yabbara

Cambridge Plateau

Wilson's Peak

Mt Northfagus

Jens.

Darlan

Bellinger R. SF.

Bangil Bangil

Warrel Creek

Barrington

PotKobin

Ph/Fax

LEIF (066) 558720

Kristin (066) 558557

TIM SCRACE 558712

Trevor Jack Pike

Michael Jones

Paul Whin

Lyn O ~~to~~ interested
to see / & will send
any worthy suggestions

~~del~~

NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW

THE NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW
39 GEORGE ST
THE ROCKS NSW 2000
PHONE: (02) 247 4206/247 2228
FAX: (02) 247 5945



Invitation to the launch of

ACT LOCALLY

A guide to community environmental action in NSW

written by Kathy Fook and Anne Roberts

published by the Nature Conservation Council of NSW

11am, Monday May 13th

39 George St., The Rocks NSW 2000

light refreshments provided

Act Locally will be launched by the
NSW Minister for the Environment and Jack Munday

The NCC gratefully acknowledges the support received from the
Environmental Trusts which made this project possible.

RSVP by Thursday May 9th
Bruce Diekman or Lisa McDermott 02 247 4206 (fax 247 5945)

John R Corkill
Public Interest Advocate,
Environmental Educator, Planner, Policy Adviser
**North East Forest Alliance Co-ordinator &
Nature Conservation Council of NSW's delegate to NSW Coastal Committee**

1 Oliver Place, Lismore. 2480. Ph /Fax 066 224 737 or ph 066 21 6824 ah

FAX MESSAGE

TO: Alan Davies

Date: 1/7/1996

AT: Southern Cross Uni

Fax No. 221 789

No. of Pages incl. this: TWO

Dear Alan,

The material you faxed me misses the target by miles.

I am not interested in, nor did I agree to, editing a further version of a document from another process in which I was not involved.

I agreed to edit a write up of the agreed points made in our discussions about responding to the exhibited **draft Interim Forest Assessment Report**.

Your document is headed 'Noredo Forest Industry Submission' (!) on the draft Interim Forest Submission'. I thought NOREDO was an acronym, and thus should be clearly capitalised. NEFA is not part of the 'Forest Industry' - just ask Kerry Pidcock!



E a r t h S p a n

P.O. Box 23
URUNGA NSW 2455

Phone (066) 550 361

Dear John.

As EarthSpan operates on a limited budget,
any contribution you can make towards
photocopy costs (around \$5) would be
greatly appreciated.

Happy Reading. With Compliments
Angela McCauley.

FAX:

DAILAN - NEFA
CRAIG - CANBERRA
MARK - BEGA
SUSIE - NEFA
TOM - FOE
ANNE - NPA
FELICITY - TWS
KEITH - COLONG
PETER - ACF

FROM: JEFF ANGEL 3 july 1996

FOREST RESERVE PLAN - FINAL DRAFT

The attached draft is the final for any desperate comment. It excludes north east park proposals which I will have by today.

Any comments must arrive to me by noon tomorrow Thursday.

It will then go to the printers on Monday and be launched on Wednesday (media release to do). We can at a later date produce one with colour photos for Bob Carr.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'JA' or 'Jeff Angel', written in a cursive style.

after JWA 2/7

INTRODUCTION AND KEY ISSUES

The Forest Reserve Plan (FRP) has been prepared by environment groups in response to the Draft Interim Forestry Assessment Report (RACAC 1996) and after consultation with conservationists involved in forest conservation campaigns along the eastern seaboard of the state.

The values assessed by the IAP have been core concerns of environmentalists for more than 25 years. Old growth because it has been almost removed from the Australian landscape and represents a complex ecosystem; vegetation types and threatened species because of their immense biodiversity values and uniqueness on the planet and wilderness which is intact (or capable of restoration), rare and diminishing rapidly.

The FRP contains three key elements, aimed at facilitating a sound forest reserve outcome for native forests east of the Great Divide:

- proposals for immediate moratoria areas, where forestry operations are banned by the New South Wales Government pending further assessment as part of the National Forest Policy's objective of a 'comprehensive, adequate and representative' (CAR) reserve system. Such areas should also be included in an amended list of Commonwealth Deferred Forest Areas (DFAs); and
- proposals for immediate dedication of national parks over identified wilderness areas and additional areas regarded as core, but not final reserves, towards fulfilling the CAR park system; and
- proposals to fast track final assessment and protection of provisionally identified wilderness.

This report is accompanied by maps which show the first two proposals.

Interim Assessment Process (IAP)

The Interim Assessment Process is the first stage of the NSW Government's Forestry Policy, put to the electorate in March 1995. The then Carr Opposition received extensive support from environmentalists in a tight electoral contest, as a result of its environmental policies and in particular, the Forestry, Nature Conservation and Wilderness Policies. The Forestry Policy which involved the various stakeholders in its formulation, was greeted by the environment movement and others, as a potential circuit breaker in the cycle of community conflict over native forest protection.

The environment movement has been involved in the IAP since its inception under the auspices of the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council. We welcome the open, interactive process available to the stakeholders during the negotiation process and congratulate the Government for its landmark decision to release all available information to stakeholders.

While there are inadequacies in the information base and assessment processes, it must be acknowledged that the scale and depth of the data made available, is unparalleled. This information resource, provides an opportunity to make rational and environmentally sustainable decisions about forest conservation. Thus, setting the stage for resolution of many of the substantial conflicts over native forests.

It should be noted that the IAP is intended to lead to a further detailed assessment process that is finalised upon dedication of a CAR reserve system. The actual time taken for each forest region to be completed will depend on the adequacy of the conservation and wood resource data and the size and complexity of the area involved. For example the Tumut region had no old growth or predictive flora and fauna studies (RACAC 1996 p26) and was limited (without explanation) to one option that preserved current quotas. As a result other options were not created and conservation futures cannot be properly assessed.

A further factor to be considered by decision makers is that the IAP options contain compromises at the RACAC 'full' conservation criteria. This occurred in four ways:

- modelled endangered fauna data was not fully applied in the negotiation process to regions and thus important critical habitat areas are likely to not be protected;
- a number of forest-type targets cannot be met because so much forest has already been cleared (RACAC 1996 p23);
- reserve design (which is fundamental to the CAR outcome) was not treated as "paramount" during negotiations (RACAC 1996 p20); and
- other conservation values such as scenery, water catchment protection and Aboriginal sites were not considered.

(note: The Government and RACAC have agreed to assess western forests at a later stage).

Wilderness

The Government's Wilderness Policy is now running in tandem with the IAP. That is, the commercial state forest areas that have been previously identified as having wilderness values under the Wilderness Act are subject to public consultation and will be determined for reservation in association with the IAP. At present the Government has a policy that prohibits forestry activities in these wilderness areas. It would be absurd to restart logging in such rare areas. The Government is also well behind schedule in its promise to protect these areas within 12 months of election. Out of 1.40mill ha of potential wilderness in the Government's Wilderness Policy, only 223,000ha (or 16%) has been declared to date.

RACAC have also identified 'provisional wilderness areas' (PIW). Such areas have been filtered through size, National Wilderness Inventory and preliminary disturbance criteria. They were further examined using the criteria of the Wilderness Act. Tentative

management boundaries were drawn and refined to include buffer and adequate protection of wilderness values.

While further assessment is foreshadowed by RACAC (p28) the environment movement believes that PIW areas have already been subject to a robust assessment and should be fast tracked and gazetted as wilderness and national park.

Off-reserve management

The National Forest Policy (1992) and the NSW Government are committed to ecologically sustainable forest management. This will require research and an unqualified commitment in any timber licences, that environmental regulation processes (water catchment, threatened species, soil conservation, aboriginal heritage), will prevail. In recent correspondence the NSW Minister for Land and Water Conservation has confirmed that ongoing quotas and term agreements will be subject to constraints to ensure supply levels are "ecologically sustainable" (as well as ensuring the completion of the IAP/CRA/RFA process). (Yeadon to Clover Moore 18 April 1996; Yeadon to Muir 14 June 1996).

It is understood that some forest managers believe that off-reserve or integrated landscape management can be a replacement for proposed changes in land tenure and new reserves under the National Parks and Wildlife Act. This is rejected in the strongest possible terms by the environment movement. Such a move would immediately polarise the debate and demolish current joint stakeholder processes.

It should be noted that some environment groups believe that native forest logging is unsustainable per se and would prefer that the industry transfer to plantation resources as soon as possible.

Resource Security

During March 1996 the Carr Government considered resource security proposals that would have contravened its Forestry Policy. In response to objections from the environment movement the plan was modified to the granting of 5 year (with 5 year renewal rights) licences and a commitment to unquantified tradeable quotas.

This plan still contravenes the Government's Policy and is unacceptable to the environment movement. It seriously prejudices environmental outcomes (for new reserves and off-reserve management) both now at the crucial IAP decision point and in the future as the timber industry makes efforts to lock up resources, behind compensation provisions.

Economic context to IAP decisions

The Government will be considering the socio-economic impact of IAP moratoria and reserve decisions. While there is much work to be done on particular regions and environmental groups will be providing specific proposals, it is important to understand the broad economic context to forest conservation decisions.

Timber industry rhetoric has implied that the IAP decision will adversely affect some 20,000 - 40,000 jobs (the latter figure is after application of a flow-on multiplier). In fact

review of the basic data - *The Economic Impact of the New South Wales Timber Industry* (Margules 1996) - shows that there are 6,000 jobs in the native forest non-Sydney region industry, accounting for 0.7% of rural NSW employment (J Clark 1996¹). Further additional jobs occur in processing in Sydney but in this case, a large resource input is plantation and imported timber.

In fact data shows that the plantation sector is growing rapidly and will overtake the native forest industry. At present it accounts for 40% of the sawntimber production in NSW, with sawlog supply to more than double by 2000. J Clark estimates that domestic processing of the increasing availability of plantation wood in the state, can generate an additional 3,500 direct jobs to the current 6,300 plantation based jobs, in the next 5 years.

Thus the NSW scale of the impact of an IAP decision is much less than the industry suggests and a healthy wood products industry will continue (even at the 70% native forest quota cut level).

Specific impacts will depend on regional characteristics. The Government has the very large amount of \$120mill to assist industry adjustment, worker and business exit assistance. Indications from the Wet Tropics scheme and recent allocations to logging contractors in the south east show that such funds can be effectively used.

As this is taxpayer's money (half derived from environmental funds), it is incumbent on government to ensure that the community obtains value for money in expenditure with environmental outcomes and a substantial reduction in community conflict. Such a large fund is unlikely to be repeated.

Also some regions already have or potentially have a very large softwood plantation industry (eg Eden, Murray) and these can absorb lost native forest jobs. A further factor that must be considered is that in a number of regions the native forest based industries together with the full flow-on multiplier effects account for less than 1.5% of regional employment (see Judy Clark 1996). This has implications for alleged regional socio-economic effects of conservation decisions and indicates that local economies are much more robust than industry is claiming.

The final factor to consider is that quotas can be gradually reduced over a few years, to allow for transition to new jobs in the plantation sector and to other parts of the economy. It is clear from RACAC data that there are large quantities of native forest resource outside proposed conservation areas.

ECONOMIC CASE STUDY 1: EDEN MANAGEMENT AREA

The native forest timber industry in the Eden area is primarily woodchip driven with 90% of logs going directly to the chipmill. The region also has one of the largest softwood plantation estates in NSW. It is now coming on stream and within 5-8 years will be producing 10 times as much sawlog timber as the native timber industry.

¹ The Economic Impact of the New South Wales Timber Industry (Margules Groome Poyry and James) - an appraisal and application of findings.

Sustained yield

In 1995 the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning reported that sustained yield sawlog supply was 59,000m³ pa, based on State Forest claims. On the first day of the IAP negotiations for Eden, State Forests reduced the yield figure to 40,000m³.

It is understood that the 26,000m³ secret quota limit deemed by the Government, was based on a 56% cut in the 1995 sustained yield. However in order for the 56% cut to be maintained with the updated sustained yield amount, the quota should now be 17,600m³.

It is of note that at this level, the only sawmill remaining in the management area - Tablelands - could survive for at least 25 years to 2020. The vast majority of sawlogs are committed in the long term by a government agreement to one mill to Tablelands, up to 2007. Under IAP Outcome 3, Tablelands can have its full annual quota of 34,000m³ pa up to 2007 or can take a reduction to 18,000m³ pa now and last until 2020 when regrowth is fully available. Significant quantities of recovered timber and early regrowth are additional to this resource and with modern milling technology can maximise timber output at a higher rate than currently. No jobs should be lost from the sawmill sector, although mill relocation may be envisaged.

Quota cuts for the woodchip mill are unlikely to lead to any loss in chipmill jobs as it is already one a one shift operation and the cut is not a large proportion of the total throughput.

The major impact of a large national park is on timber getting and transport jobs. While some of these may be taken up in expansion of the softwood industry, allocation of industry adjustment funds will be required.

Alternative employment

CSR and Pratt Industries are currently interested in developing the Bombala pine plantation resource. If this goes ahead total new employment will grow rapidly to exceed total current employment (approx 230) in the entire Eden native forest based industry. This offers the opportunity to close the native forest export woodchip industry down completely. The Government also has worker and business assistance funds available from the \$120mill restructuring package to assist redeployment, business exit and can create additional management jobs in the new national park.

51, 52 case study

RESERVE PROPOSALS

Introduction

The following proposals are based on the outcomes of the Interim Assessment Process. They adopt the Conservation Criteria Outcome (CCO) which was the best fit conservation result, at the time, from the negotiations under the auspices of the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council. Since then further assessment has been undertaken by the environment movement and all regions (except Eden) have additional reserve proposals. This has resulted in:

moratorium areas (Environment Movement's Moratorium Areas (EMMA) - CCO plus new areas) which take the precautionary approach with reserve design to allow the full value of refugia, wildlife corridors and other links; and improved achievement of forest type and fauna protection criteria. The EMMA does not include vacant crown land and statutory reserves as these were automatically excluded from logging for the comprehensive regional assessment period.

immediate park areas which are a collation of long standing park plans (with some minor improvements for reserve design). Identified wilderness areas are also proposed as immediate park and provisional wilderness areas for fast track declaration (see Table 1).

This process has involved consultations with local environment groups and has utilised an improved familiarity with the RACAC database (during the negotiations some obvious candidates for protection were omitted and in some cases data was only made available a short time before negotiations began).

The following sections are divided according to each negotiating region or group of regions.

North East

(N1 - N6 Negotiating Regions)

see Maps

- dailan's stuff here (need to edit a bit) -

Wilderness and Immediate Park Proposals

- parks stuff still to come - insert north to south in the next section with new numbering, which will relate to the maps -

~~NORTH EAST NEW SOUTH WALES~~ (N1-N6 Negotiation Regions) ~~N1 to N6~~

North-east NSW has internationally significant conservation values as one of the world's strongholds of biodiversity. Its exceptionally high diversity of species, large number of endemic species, significant populations of species which have declined elsewhere in Australia and importance for migratory fauna, identify it as one of Australia's major refuge areas necessary to maintain Australia's declining biodiversity. Its alarmingly high numbers of threatened species and grossly inadequate forest reserve system emphasise the need for urgent action to be taken to create the promised comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system and adopt ecologically sustainable management practices in all the region's forests.

North-east NSW encompasses an area of some 7.3 million hectares from the Hunter River north to the Queensland Border and from the coast west to the New England Highway on the Tablelands.

Two hundred years ago north-east NSW was predominantly a complex mosaic of rainforests and eucalypt dominated forests and woodlands, interspersed with wetlands and heathlands, and fringed on the coast by mangrove forests. Today 58% of the original vegetation remains and a large proportion of this has been degraded.

North east NSW supports some 400,000 ha of rainforests, primarily situated in wet refugia along the Great Escarpment and adjacent ranges. The cool-temperate rainforests, epitomised by primeval forests of Antarctic Beech and treeferns, extend northwards from their stronghold at Barrington Tops, while the diverse subtropical rainforests, with their abundance of palms and epiphytes, extend south from their strongholds in the Border Ranges.

Associated with these rainforests are the tall oldgrowth forests dominated by ancient Brush Box (some over 2,000 years old) and Tallowwood, and the smooth pale columns of massive Blue Gum and Flooded Gum.

To the west the region encompasses part of the New England Tablelands with its now extensively cleared forests and woodlands of Peppermint, New England Stringybark, Yellow Box, gnarled Snow Gum and stately Manna Gum. The rugged and spectacular Great Escarpment and associated gorges delineate the eastern edge of the Tablelands. The escarpment's forests are dominated by New England Blackbutt in association with Messmate and Silvertop Stringybark.

The lower valleys in the gorges are dry forests and woodlands dominated by Grey Gum, Grey Box, Grey Ironbark and redgums. The coastal foothill forests are characterised by coastal Blackbutt in various associations, with extensive stands of spotted gums occupying the open valleys, particularly the lower Clarence and Richmond River valleys. The coastal wetlands and heathlands are fringed by Paperbark and Scribbly Gums.

North-east NSW, in conjunction with south-east Queensland, is known to be nationally and internationally significant for its diversity of plants and animals. This region is the evolutionary hub of the wet sub-tropics, the high number of endemic species this has generated is enhanced by an overlap of four zoogeographical influences. As noted by the NPWS *"Nowhere else in Australia do so many zoogeographical influences combine"*. The region supports 35 endemic vertebrate fauna species and is the distributional stronghold for 37 other species. Some 260 plant species,

representing 131 genera and 63 families, are largely restricted to north-east NSW and far south east Queensland.

Eighty two of the regions fauna species are classified as threatened with extinction in NSW with nine of these and the Eastern Freshwater Cod listed nationally. 248 plant species are listed on the national list of Rare Or Threatened Australian Plants, representing 48% of such species in NSW and the highest number of vulnerable and endangered plant species for any similar region in Australia. There is no doubt that the regions' ecosystems and species are in crisis.

Despite north-east NSW being one of the most biologically diverse areas in Australia it has less of its forests in reserves than any other forest region in Australia. Today 7% of the area is currently protected in National Parks and Nature Reserves. Even within reserved areas there is a clear bias towards representation of the least productive forest types. As noted by NPWS:

"Clearly the locations of existing reserves are extremely biased, catering very well for some environments but very badly for others. In general there is an over-representation of environments with steeper slopes and/or less fertile geology and an under-representation of flat, fertile environments. There is also an over-representation of cool, wet environments relative to other climatic combinations". (REF ?) x

For the Interim Assessment Process (IAP) north-east NSW was divided into six negotiation regions:

N1. Urbenville and Murwillumbah; a region of 577,000 ha encompassing the heart of Australia's wet subtropical forests. Public lands are largely confined to the ranges, with their remnant volcanic plateaus from the Focal Peak and Mount Warning Volcanoes. Some 45% of this region has been cleared, the 129,000 ha of forests on public land or in wilderness represent 44% of extant forests and include 57,000 ha of rainforest, 13,000 ha of oldgrowth and the Warrazambil Wilderness.

N2. Casino, Grafton, Coffs Harbour and Dorrigo; a region of 1,824,000 ha encompassing a wide diversity of landforms, including the extensive sandstone country of the lower Clarence and Richmond River valleys, remnant volcanic plateaus from the Focal Peak and Ebor Volcanoes and the rugged gorges of the Great Escarpment. Some 37% of this region has been cleared, the 565,000 ha of forests on public land or in wilderness represent 52% of extant forests and include 92,000 ha of rainforest, 185,000 ha of oldgrowth, parts of the Washpool, Mann and Guy Fawkes Wildernesses and the provisionally identified Chaelundi Wilderness.

N3. Urunga, Kempsey, Wauchope, Kendall, Wingham and Taree; a region of 1,487,000 ha encompassing the coastal plain from Coffs Harbour south to Taree and extending west to include remnants from the Ebor Volcano and the gorges and plateaus of the Great Escarpment. Some 30% of this region has been cleared, the 584,000 ha of forests on public land or in wilderness represent 60% of extant forests and include 107,000 ha of rainforest, 187,000 ha of oldgrowth, and parts of the New England, Macleay Gorges and Werrikimbe Wildernesses.

N4. Bulahdelah, Gloucester, Wallaroo and Mt. Royal; a region of 1,349,000 ha encompassing the coastal plain from Forster south to Newcastle and extending west to include remnants of the Barrington Volcano, part of the Great Escarpment and a south-eastern extension of the New England Tablelands. Some 50% of this region has been cleared, the

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265,000 ha of forests on public land or in wilderness represent 42% of extant forests and include 63,000 ha of rainforest, 55,000 ha of oldgrowth and the Barrington Wilderness.

N5. Tenterfield and Glen Innes; a region of 730,000 ha encompassing the eastern edge of the New England Tablelands and gorges associated with the Great Escarpment. Some 38% of this region has been cleared, the 215,000 ha of forests on public land or in wilderness represent 50% of extant forests and include 6,000 ha of rainforest, 129,000 ha of oldgrowth and parts of the Washpool, Mann and Guy Fawkes Wildernesses.

N6. Styx and Walcha-Nundle; a region of 1,345,000 ha encompassing the eastern edge of the New England Tablelands and gorges associated with the Great Escarpment. Some 56% of this region has been cleared, the 301,000 ha of forests on public land or in wilderness represent 55% of extant forests and include 26,000 ha of rainforest, 167,000 ha of oldgrowth, parts of the Guy Fawkes, Washpool and Macleay Gorges Wildernesses and the provisionally identified Mummel Gulf Wilderness.

THE CONSERVATION CRITERIA OUTCOME

Of the 162,000 ha of rainforest on State Forests (outside wilderness) 62% was identified under the Conservation Criteria Outcome ~~CCO~~ with 62,000 ha remaining available. Of the 88 non-rainforest forest types used in negotiations, targets for 50 forest types were not met, targets for 20 forest types were not met in at least one subregion, targets were met for 6 forest types on public lands but still remained below overall targets and targets were met or exceeded for 12 forest types.

Of the 277,000 ha of oldgrowth forests identified on State Forests (outside wilderness) 69% was included in the CCO, with 85,000 ha remaining available for logging. Using the Commonwealth's targets of 60-100%, targets for oldgrowth in 18 forest types were not met, targets for oldgrowth in 17 forest types were not met in at least one subregion, targets for oldgrowth were met for 11 forest types but remained below overall targets and targets were met or exceeded for oldgrowth in 42 forest types. The actual targets will change significantly when private lands are assessed for oldgrowth, as the overall area of identified oldgrowth increases proportionately more will have to be reserved on public lands.

explain In north-east NSW all identified wilderness was included in the protected layer for the IAP, though there is apparently no intent to provide interim protection for the extensive leasehold and private properties which fall within these areas. Of the 59,000 hectares of Provisionally Identified Wilderness only 68% was included in the CCO. The Commonwealth's target of 90% or more of NWI 12 is unlikely to have been achieved. *NWI*

Only 63 of 150 priority fauna species were able to be considered in the timeframe of the IAP. Of these, 33 failed to achieve 90% of the population targets set by the expert panel for at least some of their populations. It is the species with the largest home ranges that generally fared the worst. For example, the targets for Brush-tailed Phascogales were not reached for any of their 8 populations (with three populations only achieving 1% of targets), Tiger Quolls only just met targets for one of their 9 populations (with 2 populations achieving less than 3% of targets), Yellow-bellied Glider for 3 of their 14 populations, and the Masked and Powerful Owls failed to reach 25% of target for any of their populations. It is evident that given the vulnerability of many of these species to logging they are unlikely to persist far into the future under the CCO.

The paucity of locality information for vulnerable and endangered plants and the fact that less than a third of the priority species were able to be considered means that they have fared little better than the fauna.

~~ENVIRONMENT MOVEMENT'S MORATORIUM AREAS~~

Moratoria

As part of the review process a base map was prepared which depicted the forest types and fauna species for which targets had still not been achieved under the Conservation Criteria Outcome ~~(CCO)~~. Maps specific to each negotiation region were prepared and aggregated into an overall map for north-east NSW. These maps were prepared and utilised in the computerised Geographic Information System provided to stakeholders for the process.

Predicted habitat of fauna species and populations which had achieved less than 90% of their target in the CCO was mapped over available forests (available forests being those on State Forests). For most such species more than 90% of all classes of their predicted habitat was required, so all habitat was mapped. For those species requiring less than 90% of the available predicted habitat the classes of habitat best approximating requirements was used. A second layer for all identified species and populations depicting optimal (class 1) habitat was prepared in order to identify areas of highest priority.

Forest types under target in the CCO were aggregated into 6 classes (1-19, 20-39, 40-59, 60-79, 80-99 and 100+) according to the percentage of remaining available forest types required to meet targets. A further layer was prepared identifying the least disturbed (mostly non-regrowth) areas of these forest types that were within remaining targets.

A further layer depicting all oldgrowth forest and Provisionally Identified Wilderness was included.

These maps were then used, along with reserve design principles, to identify compartments with a significant contribution to targets, and thus the highest priority, for inclusion in moratoria. The resultant areas identified are proposed for addition to the CCO as the Environment Movement's Moratorium Areas ~~(EMMA)~~.

The resultant EMMA significantly improves targets for most forest types, oldgrowth forest, Provisionally Identified Wilderness and some fauna and flora species. Due to the scattered occurrence and limited extent on State Forests of many features targets were able to be improved but many were still not achieved. Only 6 additional forest types fully achieve targets and two others achieve targets in more subregions. All Provisionally Identified Wilderness is included, though 45,000 ha of oldgrowth and 44,000 ha of rainforest still remains on State Forests outside EMMA. Flora and fauna targets have been improved, with most fauna populations achieving targets, except for those species with large home ranges which mostly still remain well below requirements.

For north-east NSW EMMA is still a conservative outcome which represents a minimum which needs to be placed under moratoria while the Comprehensive Regional Assessment is undertaken. Even then it is essential that State Forests refrain from logging rainforest (as ecologically defined), oldgrowth forest and forest types significantly below target. During the moratorium stringent surveys and prescriptions for threatened plants and animals will need to be imposed if they are to be given any chance of survival.

✓ 1. Warrazambil (~~in the~~ NI region)

The Warrazambil wilderness is part of the World Heritage listed Border Ranges National Park on the Tweed Range situated on the north-western part of the Mount Warning Caldera. The wilderness is within the largest remaining expanse of subtropical rainforest in Australia, containing 45 threatened native animals.

There remains 2,000 ha of identified rainforest wilderness to be declared. This includes about 625 ha in the Mebbin State Forest and a further 1,375 ha of the Border Ranges

National Park. The declaration of 800 ha of the Mebbin State Forest was announced by the Fahey Government in December 1993. State Forests did not at the time object to its inclusion in the wilderness. Although the area is set aside from logging as a reserve area in the Draft Interim Forestry Assessment Report, declaration of the remaining state forest section of this wilderness would be consistent with the Government's Wilderness Policy.

2. Washpool (~~in the~~ N2 and N5 regions)

Straddling the Demon Fault, Washpool wilderness cradles enormous forest biodiversity. The younger geology of its eastern half supports spectacular wet forests, while the geology of older and drier western half sustains drier, more open forests, natural grasslands and scientifically important dry rainforests in favourable niches.

There are 29,956 ha of state forest in the identified Washpool wilderness, including the unprotected half of the Willowie Scrub - the largest unlogged coachwood forest remaining in the world. About 22,000 ha of state forest wilderness are in the Glen Innes region that has by far the lowest percentage of forested lands protected in national parks. There are about 7,000 ha of leasehold properties within the identified wilderness and grazing leases also cover state forests in the west and north-east.

3. Guy Fawkes (~~in the~~ N2, N5 and N6 regions)

The Guy Fawkes River along with its major tributaries, the Aberfoyle and Sara Rivers, have cut meandering gorges along the Demon Fault that runs north-south through the area. The unprotected sections of the wilderness contain stands of 17 poorly conserved old growth forest associations and 15 previously undocumented plant associations.

There are 24,076 ha of state forests in the identified wilderness. About a third of this is inaccessible to logging. State Forests has logging access to a further 6,923 ha of the Crown leasehold lands. The 45,972 ha of Crown leasehold and grazing leases over state forests in the north-western parts of the wilderness should be given interim protection until acquired.

4. Bindery-Mann (~~in the~~ N2 and N5 regions)

Twenty-eight endangered animals, including the Hastings River Mouse that is in imminent danger of extinction, an endangered fish, the long-nosed potoroo, the brush-tailed wallaby, the parma wallaby, dwarf-crowned snake, pacific baza, peregrine falcon, wompoo fruit dove, powerful owl and rufus scrub-bird are found in this wilderness.

The threatened sections of the Mann wilderness outside the national parks contain the best remaining stand old growth spotted gum forest in Australia and rare unlogged hoop pine forest of national significance. All of the 20,027 ha of state forests in the identified wilderness should be immediately added to the Nymboida and Gibraltar Range national parks and declared wilderness.

5. New England (N3 and N6 regions)

Located on an abrupt edge of the escarpment of the New England tableland, the wilderness embraces impressive cliffs, rugged ridges, spurs and streams. Rainforests and

wet sclerophyll forests interknit and are the most prevalent vegetation types. The identified New England, Werrikimbe and Macleay Gorges wilderness areas together form an area of virtually unbroken natural land that could provide the largest and most significant and secure refuge for forest dependant fauna in north-east NSW.

Almost half of the identified New England wilderness is in state forests (25,680 ha). The wilderness has the greatest topographic relief of any wilderness in Australia (an altitudinal range of 1,450 m). This altitudinal range contributes to the variety of vegetation communities and fauna habitats present in the area. Over 500 plant species are found there. Much of the state forests within the wilderness are inaccessible to logging operations or contain high conservation values (eg. Petroi Plateau, Burril Bulai Aboriginal Place, the NPWS referenced Sunday and Scraggy Creek areas, and the cool temperate rainforest east of the Cunnawarra Range).

6. Macleay Gorges (N3 and N6 regions)

The rugged Macleay Gorges on the eastern fall of the New England Tableland between Walcha and Armidale includes one of the most extensive systems of wild rivers in the State. On the fringing forested tablelands, eleven rare plant communities occur in the wilderness that elsewhere were cleared for grazing.

The 4,489 ha of wilderness in the Winterbourne and Enmore State Forests and part of Styx River State Forest contain tableland forest communities that merit protection. When the Fahey Government announced its December 1993 Wilderness Christmas present, State Forests did not object to the addition of these forest areas to the wilderness estate. The numerous isolated sections of the Oxley Wild Rivers National Park and the above state-forests should be managed as wilderness. Future wilderness declaration of these isolated national park areas should be indicated in the next park plan of management. Declaration of these areas can be achieved when the intervening leasehold areas are acquired and added to the national park estate.

The two areas of provisionally identified wilderness in Carrai State Forest totalling 841 ha should be fast tracked for protection via a wilderness assessment process under the Wilderness Act. These forest areas adjoin the existing national park along the watershed east of Kunderang Brook.

7. Werrikimbe (in the N3 region)

The Werrikimbe wilderness is one of the most diverse forest wilderness areas in the State. It includes the spectacular headwaters of the Hastings and Forbes Rivers, most of the Carrai Plateau - an easterly projection of the New England Tableland, and the adjoining heavily dissected country.

The World Heritage listed rainforests of Werrikimbe National Park, together with the mostly undisturbed forests to the north in the Macleay Gorges and New England wilderness areas, is the largest essentially contiguous refuge for forest dependent fauna in the north-east part of the State.

Forest areas that should be added to the park and immediately declared wilderness include:

- The World Heritage listed Banda Banda Flora Reserve and the proposed Spokes Conservation Area proposed in the Kempsey/Wauchope forestry EIS are linked to the declared wilderness through the recently declared Willi Willi National Park;
- The identified parts of the Yessabah and Mount Boss State Forests being mostly steep and inaccessible are unable to be logged without major environmental damage;
- The Carrai State Forest within the identified wilderness most of which is either too steep to log or contains important 'Macleay' dry rainforest communities.

The adjoining 9,620 ha Willi Willi National Park to the north-east can be immediately declared part of the Werrikimbe wilderness. The southern part of the Werrikimbe National Park south of the Travelling Stock Reserve (TSR), including the former Fenwicks Scrub Flora Reserve and the TSR should also be immediately added to the wilderness.

8. Barrington (~~in the~~ N4 region)

The wilderness is centred on Barrington Tops, a unique high basalt plateau. Sub-alpine swamps on the plateau are the most extensive outside Kosciusko National Park. The swamps are the source of numerous rivers that feed the Hunter, Manning and Barrington Rivers. The wilderness features World Heritage listed rainforests.

There are 23,737 ha of State Forests in the identified wilderness, and a further 1,573 ha that have provisionally been identified as wilderness. Blue Gum Flora and Gloucester River Flora Reserves, the Cobark Forest Park and Antarctic Beech Forest Preserves, and the wilderness in parts of the Stewarts Brook, Barrington Tops and Chichester State Forests should be immediately protected in the park and declared wilderness. Protection of the outstanding wilderness and rainforest qualities of the Whispering Gully in the Chichester State Forest was supported by the former Minister for the Environment, Mr Tim Moore in 1988.

The 2,330 ha 'Devils Hole' wilderness identified in the 1989 draft park management plan is too small to be declared wilderness. The existing wilderness should be linked to the Devils Hole area by declaring Barrington Tops State Forest together with adjoining Crown lands in the Kholwha Creek catchment. This Crown parcel separating the two parts of Barrington Tops National Park should immediately be added to the NPWS estate and declared wilderness. Bringing this area under wilderness management should help arrest dispersal of Scotch Broom by controlling and actively managing access.

Central
(Central Negotiating Region)
see Map

Moratoria

- Kathy to type in from Paul Winn -

Southern
(S1, S2, Tumut Negotiating Regions)
see Maps

CONSERVATION MOVEMENT IAP PROPOSAL - CENTRAL NEGOTIATION REGION

This region is an important transitional zone between warm and cool environments to the north and south. The moister forest communities of the Morisset Forestry District are not prevalent in the current reserve system of the region. Large areas of these forest communities have been heavily cleared for agriculture. A 1993 NPWS survey found that 99% of the natural vegetation of the central Hunter Valley floor had been cleared and that only scattered small remnants remain.

The Morisset Forestry District appears to be the southern limit of 16 fauna species and the northern limit of six fauna species. Of the 41 schedule 12 fauna species expected to occur in the Morisset Forestry District, only 18 were recorded in the District's recently released FIS. Six species of frogs have not been sighted in recent years and concern has been raised as to their conservation status in the District.

The Conservation Criteria Outcome

Of the 36 forest type targeted in the assessment; 5 were under target.
Of the 24 fauna species habitat models targeted; 5 were under target.
Of the 22 fauna species records targeted; 8 were under target.
Of the 13 flora species records targeted; 1 was under target.

Old Growth

Very few areas of old growth remain in the Morisset Forestry District therefore it was agreed during the negotiations that all old growth outside the deferred compartments be given protection on off reserve management.

The Proposal

The conservation movements proposal for the Central negotiation region involves the addition to the Conservation Criteria Outcome of nine compartments and the partial deferral of an additional 2 compartments.

1. X McPherson SF compartments 191 and all 197 (part 197 deferred under Conservation Criteria Outcome) contain relatively large areas of old growth and small areas of forest type 36- Moist Blackbutt, which requires 100% reservation, as well as localities of the vulnerable plants *Tetratheca glandulosa* and *Malaleuca groveana*, the rare plant *Lamandra brevis* and records of the vulnerable and rare Powerful and Sooty Owls. They also contain known localities of Glossy Black Cockatoos, a vulnerable and rare species not considered in this assessment.
2. X Putty SF compartments 580, 593-597, 599 contain a Yellow bellied glider record and small areas of old growth but were primarily selected for reserve design.
3. X Heaton SF compartments 151, 151a, 151b and 157, 157a, 157b. These compartments are partially deferred under the 50% and the 70% Wood Supply Outcome but not the Conservation Criteria Outcome. The feature under part deferral being the numerous localities of the vulnerable plant *Tetratheca juncea* within these compartments.

The southern area includes Nowra, Batemans Bay and Narooma Management Areas and in this Plan also covers the Tumut region, with its alpine environment. It covers some 571,000 hectares of state forest. While these areas contain major national parks, important forest communities remain unprotected, including old growth, White-box and Yellow-box woodlands. The escarpment and coastal areas as well as Kosciusko National Park are major tourist destinations.

S1, S2 Moratoria

1. Jervis Bay and Nowra Area

Some exceptional remnant forests remain relatively untouched in this area. The wildlife corridors crucial to the long-term ecological viability of the Jervis Bay National Park, involving eight years of consultation and identified in the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning Jervis Bay Planning Study, need to be included in the IAP moratoria (Currambene, Nowra and Tomerong State Forests (SF) with links through Yerrilyong SF and the proposed Parma Creek Nature Reserve).

2. Conjola /MacDonald SF Area

MacDonald, Conjola and parts of Jerrawangala SFs have very high conservation values in their own right and form a crucial link between existing coastal reserves and Morton National Park. Much of MacDonald SF contains crucial old growth and aboriginal sites and has been provisionally identified as wilderness through the National Wilderness Inventory. Conjola SF contains at least 9 threatened fauna species and was initially proposed as national park with the 1994 park extensions. Parts of Jerrawangala SF contains areas of old growth and provide the only viable link between the coastal ecosystems of Cudmirrah/Conjola NPs and Morton NP (via MacDonald and Conjola SFs). MacDonald and Conjola SFs need to be immediately included in national parks while the Jerrawangala SF link should be included in the IAP moratorium.

3. Croobyar SF Area

Croobyar SF has very high conservation value old growth forests adjoining Morton National Park and documented sacred aboriginal sites. It also provides an important link to the unique coastal ecosystems of Woodburn and Termeil SFs and is the upper catchment of creeks flowing into Lake Conjola, Burrill Lake and Tabourie Lake.

4. Flat Rock /Yadboro SF Areas

Most sections of Flat Rock and Yadboro SFs adjoining Morton and Budawang NPs are NPWS identified wilderness and should be immediately included in the IAP logging moratorium. The rare old growth found in these untouched wilderness areas extend through the southern sections of Flat Rock SF and occurs in patches along the eastern side of Yadboro SF. These areas should be included in the IAP logging moratoria.

5. Kioloa/Termeil SF and Coastal Areas

Termeil SF contains one of only two intact rare coastal lake ecosystems left in the south east. Kioloa SF also contains rare forest types and coastal ecosystems and adjoins Murramarang NP. All of the SF areas east of the highway are designated National Estate. The long standing Murramarang NP extension proposals, including Kioloa and Termeil SFs, crown land and private land, should be included in the IAP logging moratoria. The link between Morton NP/Flat Rock SF and the proposed Murramarang NP should be maintained by IAP logging moratoria on high conservation value compartments on the eastern side of North and South Brooman SFs.

6. Buckenbowra/Monga SF Areas

The conservation of Monga and Buckenbowra SFs is one of the highest priorities of NSW forest conservation groups. These SFs contain exceptionally high quality old growth forest and unique ecosystems, including the northern and southern extents of many flora species. It forms an important refugia and its value was recognised by all IAP stakeholders. Much of these SFs are ~~Commonwealth~~ ^{NPWS} provisionally identified wilderness (NWI 12) and/or National Estate. All provisional wilderness must be reserved to fulfil the Commonwealth Criteria. These SFs are the only viable link between Budawang NP and Deua NP. Parts of Quart Pot SF adjoining Deua NP are also an important part of this link, as well as representing important conservation values.

7. Dampier/Bodalla SF Areas

The IAP negotiations on both Bodalla and Dampier SFs suffered because data sets were not supplied until less than 24 hours before negotiations commenced. Key areas of rare forest types and rainforest in southern S1 Region were therefore not properly reflected in any of the negotiation outcomes.

A large portion of western Dampier SF, adjoining Deua NP, is NPWS identified wilderness and automatically deferred from logging. The unlogged areas to the north of this stretching into Mungerarie SF, also adjoining Deua NP, contain vital areas of old growth and endangered species habitat and must be included in the IAP moratorium. Dampier SF also contains the largest contiguous area of rainforest south of Sydney which urgently needs to be included in the IAP moratorium.

Bodalla SF contains rare, under-represented forest types that require 100% reservation, plus linking areas required for wildlife corridors and reserve design. These need to be excluded from logging for at least the IAP moratorium period. The links between Deua/Wadbilliga NPs and important refugia such as Goura Nature Reserve must also be maintained.

8. Moss Vale MA, Northern and Central Tallaganda SF Areas

Meryla, Jellore, Yarrawa and Wingello SFs contain patches of old growth and rare forest types identified in the negotiations. These compartments, and the provisionally identified wilderness adjacent to Morton NP should be retained in the moratoria.

The northern part of Tallaganda SF contains the largest unlogged/lightly selectively logged area of state forest in the S2 Region and the conservation values represented are extremely high. Most of this area was identified as suitable for moratoria in the IAP negotiation process, but a few compartments bordering the pine plantation area were

left out of the moratoria. These compartments are important due to their old growth values, patches of rare forest types and reserve design values as the top part of the Molloy Ck catchment that feeds into the Shoalhaven River system.

In the Central part of Tallaganda SF logging should be excluded from a number of compartments need pending the comprehensive regional assessment because of the identification of rare forest types and areas of old growth.

9. Southern Tallaganda and Badja SF Area

Selected compartments in southern Tallaganda SF contain old growth and rare forest type values, as does the Middle Mountain areas bordering Deva NP. Parts of Middle Mt are also NPWS identified wilderness and is also at the top of the Shoalhaven R. catchment.

The areas to the east of Badja Swamp nature reserve are the catchment of the Swamp, which is the largest peat bog complex in southern NSW. The compartments contain a very rare Quoll latrine site, indicating extensive Quoll activities in this area. These compartments also border Deva NP. Much of the southern part of Badja SF is NPWS identified wilderness, with the western edge also in need of inclusion in the moratoria because of rare forest types.

10. Berlang and Bendoura SF Areas

Berlang and Bendoura SFs are unlogged and contain both extensive old growth areas and rare forest types. They have been selected for moratorium through the IAP negotiation process.

Tumut Moratoria

The Environment Movement's proposals for Interim Assessment Process logging moratoria in the Tumut Region contains only minor extensions to the Final Agreed Outcomes map. The EMMA proposal picks up areas on the basis of additional incomplete data that was not used in the IAP negotiations and the boundaries reflect reserve design principles.

Of most concern in the Tumut region was the lack of data. Most data sets were incomplete, especially fauna data. A precautionary approach must therefore be taken to forest areas likely to be required for a comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system. The development of data for this Region is a high priority.

1. Bungongo SF Area

The eastern half of the native forest area of Bungongo SF contained rare forest types, while initial work being done by Dr David Lindenmayer indicates high conservation values in the native forest areas, including some of the best examples of highland forest types. As Dr Lindenmayer's work will not be completed until after the IAP, and his data was not used in the negotiation phase, all areas of native forest in Bungongo SF need to be set aside from logging until the comprehensive regional assessment () can properly detail the full range of conservation values contained in this forest.

2. Buccleuch SF Area

All of Buccleuch SF was once part of the old Kosciuszko State Park, but was excised from the park when the Kosciuszko NP was declared in 1967. The northern section of this forest is also Greater Glider and Powerful Owl habitat, while the southern parts of the forest are NPWS identified wilderness.

3. Maragle SF Area

The western parts of Maragle SF, around Sawpit, Reedy and Gap Creeks, contain areas of old growth forest that were not identified in the negotiation process. These compartments are contiguous with other proposed moratoria areas and need urgent assessment in the CRA.

S1, S2 and Tumut Wilderness and Immediate Park Proposals

1. Cambewarra Range

These three areas extend from Black Ash nature Reserve to Bugong and consist of Timber Reserves 121A and 207 and vacant crown land known as Cambewarra Mountain. These areas were identified by rainforest expert Alex Floyd (mid 1980s) as containing important remnant rainforest and are recommended as a nature reserve.

2. Red Rocks Nature Reserve

This crown land is a referenced NPWS proposal for addition to the Red Rocks Nature Reserve.

3. Bugong and Tallowa Crown Lands and Ettrema Wilderness

Recent fauna audits (Daly and Murphy 1995) have identified Bugong and Tallowa Crown Lands as crucial for up to 17 threatened fauna species, including the Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby and Broad Headed Snake, and are proposed by NPWS as National Park. Taken together, the above three proposals provide a contiguous link to Morton NP.

The Ettrema wilderness behind the Nowra area has a distinctive character of exposed folded metamorphic rocks of the gorges that dissect the sandstone of the Morton Plateau. Ettrema is one of the most pristine, weed free, wilderness areas in the State containing almost the entire Ettrema Creek catchment. The area is part of the proposed Blue Mountains and surrounding plateaus World Heritage area. Declaring the proposed wilderness additions will secure the existing wilderness and add to the park's eucalypt diversity, a key attribute of the world heritage proposal.

4. Bomaderry Creek Crown Land

This is a proposed Bushland Reserve and Regional Park. It is presently gazetted as a Reserve for Environmental Protection and Recreation and contains rare flora species.

5. Parma Creek Vacant Crown Land

This area is a proposed Nature Reserve referenced by the NPWS.

6. Jervis Bay Habitat Corridors

Crown land and existing reserves around Jervis Bay have been extensively surveyed and proposed as crucial parts of the Jervis Bay Marine Park/National Park proposal. Beecroft Peninsula has extraordinary conservation values and must be included in this Park, as supported by local residents and State and Federal politicians (Moore, Kelly, Richardson, Ray, Knott, Faulkner, Gash).

Compartments in Tomerong, Nowra, Currumbene and Yerrilyong SFs forming the main corridor links through farming land to the forested escarpment should also be gazetted to maintain the viability of Jervis Bay NP.

7. Cudmirrah National Park Extension

Only a small part of the Cudmirrah National park proposal by the NPWS has been gazetted. The remaining 22 SF compartments in Conjola SF and adjacent VCL contain a number of very rare old growth forest types and recent investigations have found species of orchids previously unknown to science. The strong local community concern over the current logging of this NP proposal must be taken into account.

8. Murramarang National Park Extension

The thin band of coastal National Park that currently forms the Murramarang NP belies the long history of reservation proposals in the area. Beginning with investigations by Myles Dunphy in 1940 a series of proposals from the NPWS, NPA, NCC and TEC cover the area.

The proposal covers all of Benandarah, Kioloa and Termeil SFs east of the Pacific Highway and includes catchments for Durras and Termeil lakes. It is time to set aside significant areas of these rare coastal Spotted Gum forests which have suffered logging for over a hundred years to allow regeneration to take place.

9. Budawang-Deua NPs Link; Monga SF; and wilderness

That part of Monga SF forming the valley of the Mongarlowe River and some compartments to the west are a long standing icon for the environment movement and are agreed by all stakeholders as important for reservation. This unusual perched valley running parallel to the escarpment is a moisture trap and contains remnant rainforest providing a refugia for rare species and a vital link between Morton and Budawang SFs. A section of the SF is also provisionally identified wilderness by the NPWS and its gazettal as a NP is a high priority for the environment movement.

North of this area is the Budawang Wilderness. The wilderness is the most southerly extension of the proposed World Heritage area for the Blue Mountains and the surrounding plateaus. There are 11,714 ha of identified wilderness in state forest and a further 1,277 ha of the McDonald State Forest has been provisionally identified as wilderness. A further 8,752 ha of high quality wilderness was nominated by the Nature

Conservation Council of NSW and merit immediate protection, including an area around Mount Budawang that was excluded from the identified wilderness.

10. Deua National Park Extension East: Dampier SF

This is an area fulfilling Commonwealth criteria that falls within the Deua NP extension proposed by the Canopy Native Forest Committee in 1992. It contains a significant area of identified wilderness and also the largest area of contiguous rainforest south of Sydney.

11. Deua National Park Extension West: Badja and Tallaganda SFs

This area also falls within the 1992 Canopy Native Forest Committee NP proposal. It contains the catchment to the largest peat bog in southern NSW and a major area of identified wilderness. From the Badja-Queanbeyan EIS there are also records of *Phebalium ellipticum*, *Phebalium carruthersii* and *Prostanthera walteri*, plant species on the Commonwealth's Rare Or Threatened Australian Plants (ROTAP) list.

Tumut

Kosciusko National Park extension: Buccleuch SF

The northern section of this forest is Greater Glider and Powerful Owl habitat, while the southern parts of the forest are NPWS identified wilderness.

The unique alpine wilderness extensions of Goodradigbee embrace varying High Country terrain from subalpine frost hollows, alpine ash forests to mountain peaks. The 32,000 ha Buccleuch State Forest was once part of the Kosciusko State Park but was filched from the park by the former Premier Tom Lewis upon the declaration of Kosciusko National Park in 1967. The remaining old growth and high conservation value forests in this area should be returned to the park and the 2,620 ha of identified wilderness declared wilderness and added to the national park.

Eden

(Eden Negotiating Region)

see Map

The Eden Negotiation Region extends from Bermagui to the Victorian border and west to the top edge of the Monaro Escarpment. Twenty five years of clearfelling and intensive logging have resulted in the loss of more than half of the area's old growth forests; extensive fragmentation of wildlife habitat and the destruction of the Wallagarah Wilderness. From 1989 to 1990 over 10,000 people joined protests in the region to protect old growth forests and to end woodchipping.

As a result of the recent forest assessment, the Government must declare a South East Forest Park larger than 90,000 hectares. Initial negotiations were artificially constrained by an area and quota limit. It was only through generation of two additional outcomes (3 and 4) that the conservation task was adequately revealed.

Why the 90,000 ha and quota limit IAP outcomes (1 and 2) are unacceptable

Due to their size and volume constraints they:

- significantly fail to achieve targets for a number of conservation features (RACAC 1996)
 - fail to meet the 100% identified wilderness reservation target (RACAC ibid)
- fail to satisfy reserve design criteria - a key concern.

The Extended National Park Outcome (Outcome 3 - 120,000ha)

The Extended National Park Outcome moves substantially towards the establishment of a CAR reserve system in the Eden Management Area by:

- generally improving reserve design criteria in all areas by minimising the boundary to area ratio, avoiding linear areas and connecting reserves to allow movement of species. Historically the parks in the Eden region have been narrow unwanted strips of forest.
- giving greater protection of rare forest types.
- protecting habitat of threatened species. The Eden region provides habitat for at least 9 endangered and 37 vulnerable animal species. (Threatened Species Conservation Act NSW 1995).

It also:

1. Protects the identified Coolangubra wilderness - its inclusion substantially increases the credibility of the reserve design by minimising boundary to area ratio, including catchment boundaries and retaining a substantial link to Nalbaugh National Park. Coolangubra is also identified as critical habitat for a broad range of flora and fauna.
2. Protects the identified Nadgee wilderness, the only coastal wilderness in NSW.
3. Allows greater achievement of targets for a number of conservation features, particularly old growth forest, including the Mt Imlay extension and enormous Brown Barrels (*E. fastigata*) in Glenbog SF. (RACAC 1996)
4. Provides a contiguous forest reserve system between the Brogo Wilderness in the north and the Genoa Wilderness in the south, including existing National Parks, and incorporating high conservation value old growth forest areas and high arboreal mammal habitat in Glenbog SF; Tantawangalo SF, Cathcart SF, Coolangubra SF, Bombala SF, Nalbaugh SF and Bondi SF.
5. Creates a linked forest reserve system between the Tantawangalo National Park in the west and the Bournda Nature Reserve on the east coast, incorporating high conservation value old growth forest areas in Tantawangalo SF and Yurramie SF, including key koala areas.
7. Protects the fauna "hot spot" near the Victorian border, incorporating parts of Nungatta SF and Yambulla SF and including Waailimma Mountain Flora Reserve and

Mount Poole Flora Reserve, with particular protection for the highly endangered Long-footed Potoroo.

8. Creates northern and southern extensions to Yowaka National Park incorporating high conservation value old growth and poorly conserved coastal foothill and rainforest areas in Nullica SF and including Stanton Rock Flora Reserve and Jingera Flora Reserve.

9. Incorporates high conservation value old growth forest in Towamba SF and Yambulla SF by a north west extension to Mount Imlay National Park.

10. Extends to the east of Biamanga Aboriginal Place, linking it with Mimosa Rocks National Park and including parts of the Mumbulla SF and Murrah SF also protecting high species diversity.

Moratoria

(Outcome 4 - 140,000 ha)

In addition to the immediate declaration of the Extended National Park Outcome there is a clear need to place a moratorium over the additional areas identified in the full conservation criteria outcome (Deferred Forest Area Outcome) if a CAR reserve system is to be achieved. These areas are essential to more fully meet Commonwealth criteria, including old growth and vegetation types.

Table 1: FOREST RESERVE PLAN — WILDERNESS AREAS

Name	Nat Parks	State Forest	Crown Lands	Freehold Land	Wilderness at risk (ha)	Wilderness Declared
16 ALP PROMISED IDENTIFIED AREAS FOR DECLARATION						(Carr contrib. 25/6)
Warrazambil	1,375	625	—	—	2,000	(7,000) 7,000
Washpool	225	29,956	6,980	967	38,128	(NONE) 30,975
Mann	3,973	20,027	2,983	1,034	28,017	(NONE) 25,398
Guy Fawkes	3,739	24,076	59,680	4,196	91,691	(NONE) 29,625
New England	1,596	25,680	100	2,116	29,492	(NONE) 28,000
Macleay Gorges	40,833	4,489	63,081	6,989	115,392	(50,000) 50,000
Werrikimbe	16,194	20,602	3,242	102	40,140	(26,500) 26,500
Pilliga	42,000	83,000	?	?	-125,000	(NONE) NONE
Barrington	5,900	23,737	1,310	—	30,947	(32,033) 32,033
Wollemi#	420,000	9,000	300	3,230	432,530	(NONE) NONE
Kanangra-Boyd	126,823	270	9,512	3,555	140,270	NONE NONE
Ettrema	2,088	—	11,834	59	13,981	(4,380) 64,380
Budawang	—	11,714	789	470	12,973	(69,700) 69,700
Deua*	34,780	24,750	3,600	300	63,430	(670) 34,570
Nadgee	3,341	2,920	50	—	6,311	(NONE) 13,775
Goodradigbee	8,733	2,620	—	—	11,353	(33,746) 83,921
subtotal	711,600	283,466	163,461	23,018	1,181,545	(224,029) 495,877
OTHER IDENTIFIED AREAS FOR DECLARATION						
Levers	15,422	—	—	—	15,422	NONE
Macdonald#	83,900	—	—	5,700	89,600	NONE
Coolangubra	15,580	8,784	40	—	24,404	NONE
subtotal	114,902	8,784	40	5,700	129,426	NONE
PIW ADDITIONS RACAC AREAS FOR FAST TRACKED PROTECTION						
Macleay Gorges	—	5,776	—	—	5,776	NONE
Werrikimbe	3,736	13,758	3,735	1,245	22,474	NONE
Mann	—	3,097	—	—	3,097	NONE
New England	—	408	—	—	408	NONE
Barrington	—	1,573	—	—	1,573	NONE
Budawang	—	1,277	—	—	1,277	NONE
Brogo	?	222	—	—	222+?	NONE
Ettrema extn	16,957	—	—	—	16,957	NONE
subtotal	20,693	26,111	3,735	1,245	51,784	NONE
PIW NEW AREAS RACAC AREAS FOR FAST TRACKED PROTECTION						
Chaelundi	—	14,113	—	—	14,113	NONE
Mummel Gulf	—	12,278	—	—	12,278	NONE
Bungonia	15,726	4,494	1,123	1,123	22,466	NONE
Monga	2,360	16,509	—	—	18,869	NONE
Brindabella	20,934	—	—	—	20,934	NONE
subtotal	39,020	47,394	1,123	1,123	88,660	NONE
TOTAL	886,214	365,755	168,359	31,086	1,451,422	(222,939) 495,877

NOTES:

All figures are NPWS identified or Provisionally Identified (PIW) wilderness (except areas in *italics*).

This table represents most of the wilderness in the IFA study area (essentially the coast and tablelands of NSW). The NPWS estate contains several wilderness areas (eg Grose wilderness in the Blue Mountains National Park Brogo wilderness additions in the Wadbilliga National Park).

Areas shown in *italics* have not been officially identified and have either been nominated under the Wilderness Act or subject are to an internal assessment by the NPWS.

Wilderness declared by the Carr Government is listed as a subset of the total area declared.

Macdonald and Wollemi tenure data based on the 1986 Wilderness Working Group report.

* The Deua wilderness includes an 18,000 ha addition and a 5,000 ha addition in the Donalds Creek area, the result of a nomination by the Canopy Committee of TEC.

WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Is this section, optional
if the groups sign on to
the Wilderness submission

About a quarter (283,306 ha) of the threatened wilderness captured by the Government's Wilderness Policy is in state forest and subject to a logging moratorium. This represents about one twelfth of the 3.3 million hectares of state forests in NSW. A further 163,461 ha is Crown land, most of which is leasehold land. This Forest Reserve Plan is also a submission on currently exhibited wilderness areas. A number of management issues arise in these areas.

N.B. MOST
OF THIS
IS
UNLIKELY
TO BE
INCLUDED

So far, most protected wilderness in NSW occurs on land useless for any economic purpose and is not desired by horseriders or off-road vehicle recreationists. These declared wilderness areas are to date essentially opportunistic reserves in steep terrain that are inaccessible to motorised transport. These reserves do not adequately sample the State's forest biodiversity.

Leasehold areas

The extent of protected wilderness indicated in the Draft Forestry Assessment Report is greatly exaggerated. Crown leasehold lands were included by RACAC in the "protected" area layer can be subject to grazing, roading, mining, firewood collection, subdivision, disposal as freehold land, and many other forms of development. It is not possible to achieve the Commonwealth 90% reservation target for wilderness without acquisition of leasehold land.

Stocking and fire management of leasehold properties within identified wilderness should be closely monitored by the Department of Land and Water Conservation. Grazing and fire hazard reduction should be undertaken at levels appropriate for unimproved native bushland so that wilderness qualities are not damaged.

Protection of PIW areas

Provisionally Identified Wilderness (PIW) areas identified by RACAC are not subject to a mandatory logging moratorium. Recent logging and roading in the S2 and N2 regions has reduced PIW wilderness in these regions (RACAC 1996, pg 28). Over 140,000 ha are in PIW areas and well over half are separate new wilderness areas (eg Mummel Gulf).

It is not possible to achieve the Commonwealth 90% reservation target for wilderness without protection of Provisionally Identified Wilderness, even if all previously identified wilderness is protected.

Conservation groups request that in order to stop the rapid loss of PIW areas, an immediate logging moratorium should apply to PIW areas. Protection of these areas as wilderness and dedication as national parks should be via a fast track process of assessment and declaration under the Wilderness Act. Failure to do so will result in the rapid loss of wilderness qualities on lands excluded from the moratorium.

B.L.D.X Previous government decisions

Apart from the limited extent of wilderness declared by the Carr Government, major concessions [to] 4WD and vehicle touring interests fulfilled in [the 12 April] wilderness declarations include the exclusion and maintenance of some popular trails in the

Warrazamil, Macleay Gorges, Werrikimbe, Barrington, Kanangra Boyd, Ettrema, Budawang and Goobarragandra localities (NPWS information package). Of legally accessible trails mapped within these identified areas, more than 350 km (or about 65%) have been retained.

Conservation groups strongly oppose giving priority access to off-road vehicles in the remaining 5% of NSW that is wilderness. The off road vehicles lobby already has priority access to 95% of NSW.

The State Pollution Control Commission inquiry (1979) into the recreational use of off-road vehicles found that *"the use of vehicles in areas of high wilderness value, jeopardises wilderness qualities. The desire to explore and trailblaze areas of virgin country can cause immeasurable damage to flora and fauna, cutting deep impressions as vehicles can tyre-spin their way to gain traction over rough terrain. Narrow trails are widened, hillsides are rut scarred, erosion is initiated, reserves become and remain scarred, front-end winches ropescar and ruin vegetation, archaeological relics are damaged and the possibility of fires is increased from vehicles and the activities of users of vehicles."* (pg. 32).

For the above reasons, conservation groups request that threatened wilderness identified inside national parks be reexamined by Cabinet in the coming round of wilderness decisions. Reexamination is especially critical for Barrington where continued off road vehicle use will spread scotch broom into other unprotected and highly vulnerable wilderness areas such as Werrikimbe.

Conservationists were also disappointed to read that *major concessions [to] horseriders in [the 12 April] round of wilderness declarations include the exclusion of the Bicentennial National Trail in the Macleay Gorges, Werrikimbe and Barrington Tops areas.* (NPWS information package). The wilderness in Kosciuszko National Park was improperly assessed and reduced in size to accommodate horseriders.

The Bicentennial National Trail passes through about 85 km of unprotected wilderness bisecting several wilderness areas. This represents only 1.6 % of the total Trail. These concessions damage identified wilderness by encouraging weed invasion, soil erosion and stream sedimentation. The environmental impacts of horseriding will increase park management costs and still not prevent irreparable damage. In Kur-ring-gai National Park, the NPWS spends \$4,000 a kilometre each year to maintain eroding horseriding trails.

The conservation groups believe that the Trail should be relocated to prevent environmental impacts to wilderness from horseriding, including weed dispersal and erosion of walking tracks. The Trail organisers pledged to avoid existing and future wilderness areas when seeking Government support for the proposal (Allan, M. 5 May, 1988). The Government should hold the Trail organisers to that commitment.

As a further compromise in the last round of wilderness decisions, the NPWS has introduced for 'special groups' a controlled access system in order to allow continued vehicle access (NPWS information package). Also the *"NPWS is currently investigating an improved mechanism for allowing commercial activities in declared wilderness"*.

The Conservation groups consider these decisions by the NPWS compromise the sound management and integrity of wilderness areas in NSW. The Carr Government's poor

performance on declaring the first eight areas in the Wilderness Policy has triggered a major campaign by conservation groups. The next round must not repeat these mistakes.

Specific areas

Warrazambil

Partial closure of part of the Tweed Range Scenic Drive is required to join wilderness in the Mebbin State Forest with the declared wilderness in the national park. In this proposal, the section of the Tweed Range Scenic Drive leading to the Tweed Valley lookout, the loop road around Brindle Creek and the Sheepstation Creek camping ground would be retained for use by vehicle-based tourists.

Washpool

The western section of the wilderness contains several vehicle trails, all of which are capable of rehabilitation. If retained, maintenance costs and environmental damage will increase with use.

Guy Fawkes

To restore wilderness qualities, the fire trails and recently upgraded logging roads, such as the Broadmeadows Road and Corner Camp Fire Trail, should be closed and allowed to revegetate. Three Travelling Stock Reserves (TSR) subdivide the existing wilderness into three small units. These TSR's must be revoked to unite the wilderness. Due to these TSR's, illegal grazing and the associated unlawful fire lighting intended to encourage grass in the heart of the Guy Fawkes National Park has continued. Horseriders using the Bicentennial National Trail (BNT) that uses these TSR's should be redirected around the park, perhaps to Chaelundi Way.

Bindery-Mann

The identified wilderness receives little 4WD vehicle use. Public access to the Cunglebung trail for some time has been prevented by locked gates. Numerous trails in the adjoining state forests are suitable for car camping and vehicle-based recreation. The Mulligans Hut camping ground, and Dandahra and Platypus picnic grounds are unaffected by the wilderness declaration. There are ample opportunities for bee keepers to gain access to native forests outside the proposed wilderness.

New England

All roads and trails with the identified wilderness should be allowed to revegetate naturally as successfully achieved in the Washpool wilderness.

Macleay Gorges

The numerous isolated sections of the Oxley Wild Rivers National Park and the above state forests should be managed as wilderness. Future wilderness declaration of these isolated national park areas should be indicated in the next park plan of management.

Declaration of these areas can be achieved when the intervening leasehold areas are acquired and added to the national park estate.

Following declaration of this wilderness, the visitor facilities at Apsley, Tia, Wollomombi and Gara Falls, Budds Mare, Dangars Gorge, Long Nose Point and Georges Creek would continue to be available to motor tourists. East Kunderang Homestead is excluded from the wilderness. Opening the Elcom tracks is a backward step and has created the risk that Motor vehicles will traverse the bed and banks of the Apsley River. The Elcom trail has been closed since the park was declared in 1976 until the Carr Government announced it would open the trail. This access track to Apsley River gorge must be closed.

Horseriders using the section of the BNT along the Macleay River and Kunderang Brook should be redirected and honouring a commitment made by Trail organisers in 1988. This would permit substantial protection of the wilderness to the east. Former stock routes once used for cattle drives may be used by the Trail. The precise location of the horseriding route is contingent on considerations such as camp sites, grass and vehicle support requirements.

Werrikimbe

The three commercial 4WD tour companies that have licences in state forests that include forests in the identified wilderness can be relocated to nearby areas. Nearby car tourist opportunities include the Carrai and Cookerawombeela tourist roads, and the visitor facilities at Cobcrofts Mountain, Mooraback, Brushy Mountain, Wilson River, Grass Tree and Plateau Beech.

Horseriders using the Bicentennial National Trail (BNT) that leads to Youdales Hut should be redirected east around the park. The roads at the base of Carrai Plateau, including the Carrai and other forest trails that led to the Pappinbarra River valley would permit such parties to continue on extended journeys.

Barrington

The 2,330 ha 'Devils Hole' wilderness identified in the 1989 draft park management plan is too small to be declared wilderness. The existing wilderness should be linked to the Devils Hole area by declaring Barrington Tops State Forest together with adjoining Crown lands in the Kholwha Creek catchment. This Crown parcel separating the two parts of Barrington Tops National Park should immediately be added to the NPWS estate and declared wilderness. Bringing this area under wilderness management should help arrest dispersal of Scotch Broom by controlling and actively managing access.

The two wheel drive access, upon which the majority of the tourism at Barrington Tops depends, would be unaffected by wilderness declaration or the quarantine of broom affected areas.

There is no need to maintain public 4WD access to any part of the identified wilderness area. There are 52 visitor facilities outside the wilderness shown on the 1:125,000

Barrington Forest Region Map, compared to only four visitor facilities for 4WD vehicles inside the identified wilderness area.

Ettrema

The 11,834 ha Crown lands and 2,088 ha of national park to the south of Yalwal State Forest contain 4WD trails that are in places badly eroded, contributing sediments to otherwise pristine creek catchments. Vehicle access by Yalwal Road to Yalwal, a council managed camping ground, Danjera Dam and Yalwal Mountain would be retained. Vehicle support for walking tourists using the proposed Two Rivers Walking Trail could be provided outside the wilderness.

Visitor facilities at nearby Tallowa Dam enable easy canoeing access to the declared wilderness along the Shoalhaven River and to Morton National Park adjoining the lake. The Nerriga will continue to provide an opportunity for park vehicle based tourists to enjoy the area, including the Tianjara Falls. The Tolwong Road should be closed to link the western Bungonia wilderness to the declared Ettrema wilderness.

Budawang

Declaration of this wilderness will not affect motor tourist access to popular picnic grounds associated with Pigeon House Mountain, Little Forest Plateau, the George Boyd Picnic area, the Wog Wog Area and its associated Tindery Trail, and camping at the track head to the Castle. The Tianjara Fire Trail passes over sensitive sedgeland and wet heaths. This Trail has also become badly eroded in several places.

Goodradigbee

All licences for stock movement through Kosciusko National Park should be cancelled to prevent water pollution from cow manure, weed invasion, soil erosion and stream bank damage. Stock can be transported by road as occurs elsewhere in Australia. Broken Cart Trail and Lone Pine Trail are affected by these stock movements.

One tour company, Reynella Riders offers horseriding with the cattle drives through the park. This sort of tourism is ecologically incompatible with park management and should be discontinued. Vehicle and horseriding opportunities would be virtually unchanged by this proposed wilderness declaration. The Broken Cart Trail which passes through majestic stands of montane old growth forest, however, should be closed. Retention of vehicle access to this trail may make subsequent wilderness declaration of Buccleuch State Forest more problematic.

Coolangubra

A number of roads penetrate the wilderness area: Wog Way Road, Kanoonah Road, Pheasants Road, part of the New Mines Road and Mataganah Road. Once these logging roads are closed they will revegetate rapidly. Roads of similar size were closed and successfully rehabilitated within the declared part of the Washpool wilderness.

The Coolangubra is eminently capable of rehabilitation as wilderness. Less than 11% of the state forest area outside the existing parks has been logged between 1990 and 1993,

before the wilderness was placed under a logging moratorium. Selective logging in some areas prior to that date did not prevent its identification as wilderness in 1988 and the core area is still essentially intact.

Nadgee

Existing vehicle access to the nature reserve places the extensive sand masses in the reserve at risk of invasion by virulent die-back disease that is typically spread by motor vehicles. Off road vehicles also damage the very fragile sand and heath vegetation of the nature reserve.

Access to nature reserves is by permit only but these park regulations are ignored by local residents. Access to fishing places in the wilderness should be by foot to minimise hazards to native vegetation and Aboriginal sites. There is no ban on fishing in wilderness.

There are very few large beaches that can be managed to exclude vehicle access. Wonboyn Beach is part of the nature reserve and should be managed to protect its sensitive dune systems and Aboriginal sites by excluding motor vehicles from the beach. Vehicle access to Ben Boyd and Mallacoota are both less than half an hours drive away. Local residents will not be greatly disadvantaged by reservation of Wonboyn Beach (Disaster Bay) and Newtons Beach as part of the wilderness.

In response to the concerns of Wonboyn residents, conservation groups do not object to the excision from the wilderness of the access road to the mouth of Wonboyn Lake, provided vehicles could not then gain access to the beach. This will provide vehicle access to the boat ramp and make access to Wonboyn Beach only a short walk.

Issues concerning Forest Conservation in NSW

*(Notes on the drawbacks and flaws in the Interim Assessment Process
and the proposed reserve system, June 1996).*

1. Areas contained in the Conservation Criteria Outcome are still currently licenced by the NPWS and logged by State Forests of NSW. This obviously pre-empts the conservation outcome.
2. The 'conservation status' of Deferred Forest Areas (DFA) remains unclear as logging is to continue (cf. Lollypop licencing and Andrew Lugg's comments on this issue at the Grafton public RACAC meeting).
3. Vacant Crown Land is considered 'protected' in the Interim Assessment Process (IAP). Given these areas are likely to undergo Native Title claims, no such protection can be guaranteed.
4. Cultural issues were not addressed and no representatives of the Aboriginal community were invited to the negotiation process, despite the fact the forest areas under consideration may actually be Native Title Land in certain circumstances.
5. Socio-economic considerations are inadequate. Such a study was not completed in the IAP; in the literature cited only five timber towns were studied (with no controls); no consideration was given to the fact rural towns per se are in decline; the long-term economic benefits of ecotourism were not fully explored; nor were other socio-economic alternatives considered.
6. Despite guidelines for the inclusion of a 'range of growth stages' in a comprehensive reserve system, there is no target for mature forest (which in any case was not mapped by the old growth forest mapping project but nonetheless somehow appears as a layer in the NPWS database W-ERMS).
7. It should be emphasised that the layers of information contained in the GIS may be misleading or inaccurate (cf. disclaimer on all maps). For example, the accuracy of forest typing is unknown; the growth stage map classes contain variable components of mature forest (eg. areas coded as regrowth forest may contain 0-69% mature crown cover); information on post-photo logging has been amalgamated and therefore fails to distinguish between less intensive logging (ie. for poles / girders) and the more intensive gaps and cluster logging; there has only been limited field assessment of forest values; and the 'merging' of data on a compartment basis combined with the minimum 25ha concept places artificial boundaries on the landscape inevitably resulting in unreliable/ inaccurate database layers. Consequently, there has been a reliance on outdated, limited or erroneous data in the decision making process.
8. It remains uncertain whether the Harvesting Protocol between State Forests of NSW and NPWS will continue or that it is effective (ie. the cessation of logging in areas of potential high conservation value forests outside of the DFA until further assessments can be made). Once again, this has the potential to pre-empt the conservation outcome as not all forested areas have been mapped and conservation targets are still unconfirmed.
9. No mention has been made of forestry practices outside the DFA. Are they to be managed on an ecologically sustainable basis or be subject to intense logging practices (ie. gaps and clusters). For the purposes of connectivity in reserve design, 'habitat corridors' linking isolated DFA should also be included in the reserve system.
10. Old growth forest cannot be defined by a stump count (ie. species and various life forms make up a forest, not some arbitrary number of stumps). Areas mapped as old growth forest should be considered as such until the CRA has been completed, irrespective of any stump count.
11. The CRA for North-Eastern NSW should extend beyond previous studies by NPWS (ie. NRAC study) due to the large area of forest in this region and the enormous biodiversity contained within the Macleay-MacPherson floristic overlap zone.
12. The short time frame of the Interim Forest Assessment precludes adequate community consultation whilst printing problems with the Forestry Assessment Report has led to a limited response time for public comment.

It appears the entire Forestry Assessment process is a public relations exercise given the role of State Forests as overseer and editor of information output and the fact that logging continues in high conservation value forests while the NPWS looks on in complicity.



LISMORE
City Council

All communications to
GENERAL MANAGER

Reference Number

GW:CD:96-10337:S145

Contact

Mr G Wilson

June 27, 1996

Mr T Thorncraft
North East Forest Alliance
56 College Street
LISMORE NSW 2480

Dear Mr Thorncraft

RE: INFORMATION STALL - CARRINGTON LANE

Reference is made to your letter dated June 25, 1996 concerning the above.

No objection is raised to the information stall being conducted in the terms as outlined in your application.

Yours faithfully

Col Cooper
GROUP MANAGER
CORPORATE SERVICES

43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah, New South Wales, 2480

P.O. Box 23A, Lismore, 2480

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A GUIDE TO THE NSW INTERIM ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR CONSERVATION GROUPS

By the 1st of July 1996 the future of our forests may be entrenched for the next five years by way of resource security guarantees to the native forest industry. Between now and then there is one last chance to protect our public forests of the highest conservation value.

By around mid-May the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council will release for public comment a report and maps delineating moratorium options for public forests. One of these options will delineate all forests likely to be required for a comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system, other options will include watered down reserves aimed at providing certain volumes of timber to industry. In June the NSW government will decide which option to adopt and issue resource security to the native forest timber industry based upon their preferred option. This will be a political decision and thus based upon the government's perception of which option will give them the best political advantage.

**LAST CHANCE FOR OUR FORESTS?
YOUR HELP IS URGENTLY REQUIRED TO GENERATE THE POLITICAL
WILL TO ENSURE THE BEST ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOME. IT IS UP
TO THE ENVIRONMENT MOVEMENT TO COUNTER THOSE WHO WILL
BE ADVOCATING THAT IT ALL BE LOGGED. PLEASE HELP.**

THE PROCESS

The National Forest Policy was signed by Prime Minister Keating and the premiers of all the mainland states in 1992. It promised to establish a comprehensive, adequate and representative forest reserve system for public lands by the end of 1995. Due to the lack of political will this commitment was obviously not met. Though now some real progress towards this goal is finally being made.

The NFPS also stated that, "*Until the assessments are completed, forest management agencies will avoid activities that may significantly affect those areas of old-growth forests or wilderness that are likely to have high conservation value*". This resulted in the much maligned Deferred Forest Areas (DFAs) which were designed to protect forests for 2-3 years while a more detailed and scientific assessment, called the Comprehensive Regional Assessment (CRA) is undertaken. In NSW however the DFAs are to be replaced by the Interim Assessment Process (IAP), a significantly more open and scientific process.

To facilitate this process the NSW government initiated the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council (RACAC). RACAC constitutes representatives from government departments, independent experts and representatives from union, industry and conservation stakeholder groups. Its initial aim is to undertake an Interim Assessment Process (IAP) to identify all forests on public land in eastern NSW

likely to be required for a comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system, whilst also allowing for the maintenance of a viable native forest timber industry.

Under RACAC a Conservation Working Group (CWG) is overseeing data preparation and assessing the methods by which the Commonwealth's reserve criteria can be applied, and a Socio-Economic Working Group (SEWG) is developing methods of assessing the effects of any reservation outcome. These groups are overseen by a Steering Committee. Conservation groups are represented on all these committees.

A negotiation phase will begin on the 22nd of April and run for three weeks after which time a number of options will be released for public comment. Representatives of NPWS, State Forests, conservation groups, timber industry and the Commonwealth will be involved in negotiations to identify all forests likely to be required for a reserve system. Thus all stakeholders will have access to all data relevant to the process and will be involved in the decisions.

It needs to be remembered that the IAP was intended to be an interim process. It is using the best information obtainable in the time available, though the quality of the data is variable between regions. It was intended to set the scene for the Comprehensive Regional Assessment by placing moratoria over all forests likely to be required for a CAR reserve system, identifying the gaps in current information and focusing community debate on key issues.

Due to successful lobbying by the timber industry the IAP has become far more important and final than was intended. Now the NSW Cabinet has decided to issue Wood Supply Agreements to the industry for five years (possibly with an extension up to 10 years) following the release of the IAP. Rather than simply ensuring that sufficient resources are left to keep industry going until the CRA it is now intended to identify a variety of options ranging from all forests likely to be required for a CAR reserve system through to maintaining high volumes to industry (ie by continuing to log oldgrowth and wilderness). While the CRAs will still be done they may not be able to take effect for some time if forests required for the reserve system have already been allocated to industry.

The biggest impediment to achieving a worthwhile outcome is the gross overcutting by the timber industry under the previous government. It has already been identified that there needs to be a reduction of at least 30% to 40% in cutting rates just to bring the industry down to a more sustainable level of logging. This is without meeting conservation outcomes. Somehow we have to achieve our conservation goals within what is left.

RESERVE CRITERIA

The RACAC Conservation Working Group has representatives of conservation groups, Forest Products Association, State Forests, National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning.

One of the main tasks of the Conservation Working Group has been to adapt the Commonwealth's reserve criteria for application in NSW. This is necessary because most of the criteria mentioned are general principles and thus have had to be made into quantifiable targets.

Four basic criteria are being utilised to set reservation targets:

1. Species

The highest priority plant and animal species have selected for each region and reservation targets set on an individual basis. Due to time constraints not all priority species were able to be considered. Panels of experts were established to set reservation targets for each species. The expert panels also examined each species distribution against evident dispersal barriers, known genetic variation and broad environmental gradients to identify sub-regions for many species, and identified irreplaceable localities for reservation where these represented known key localities.

The expert panels reviewed records to establish data bases for the IAP. For **fauna** they either reviewed models predicting the occurrence of species across the landscape (north east NSW) or developed expert models based on species' known habitat preferences. Such predictive models are based upon using mapped variables (e.g. forest types, growth stage, temperature, rainfall, geology etc.) to extrapolate from known localities to identify likely suitable habitat elsewhere in a region.

The basic strategy adopted in setting reservation targets for **fauna** in the IAP has been to use expert knowledge to establish areas required to maintain viable population units, so that functioning communities of species vulnerable to threatening processes are retained throughout the forest estate, rather than ending up with isolated individuals or un-viable populations spread throughout the forest.

This methodology is based upon a number of studies which have shown that each species requires a population of at least certain size to be retained to maintain their viability, and thus persistence, over time. There is also a necessity to ensure that dispersal between these populations can occur to maintain genetic fitness. The most famous example of this type of approach is the North American Spotted Owl, where the adopted strategy was based upon ideally reserving blocks of habitat suitable to maintain 20 or more pairs of spotted owls, with smaller habitat blocks acceptable when the ideal size could not be found. To account for dispersal it was determined that generally, the 20-pair blocks should be not more than 12 miles apart and the smaller habitat blocks not more than 7 miles apart.

Expert fauna panels determined reservation targets for target fauna species by:

- using breeding units (i.e. female home ranges or the average densities of females) as a basis for identifying viable population units for each species or identifying a reservation target for suitable habitat; and,
- setting reservation targets, based on population units and taking into account regional vulnerability and endemism, for each sub-region.

For **flora** baseline reservation targets were set for the following threat categories:

Endangered	85% of localities
Vulnerable	60% of localities
Other species of conservation concern	30% of localities

For each target species, the panels then considered adjusting the targets (up or down) depending on the level of endemism, life history and threats to their habitat.

2. Forest types

Existing maps delineating forest types (at a scale of 1:25,000) were used where available. The existing forest type mapping and/or flora plot data were used predict the distribution of forest types across unmapped (including cleared) lands based on similarities in geology, soils, climate, topography and other attributes. For northern and central regions State Forests forest type maps are the basis for forest types while in other regions floristic plots have been used to identify floristic communities.

The Commonwealth's baseline target of reserving 15% of the 1750 - pre-European - extent of each forest type has been adopted. This baseline target has been varied (based on predicted original distribution) by the use of a formulae which ensures that a reservation target of 15% of the total 1750 forest area is established, with increased reservation targets for naturally rare forest types compensated for by corresponding decreases in reservation targets for the more widespread forest types. While this maintains the overall target as 15%, in effect it establishes targets for individual forest types varying from 10% to 100% according to natural rarity.

This target is further varied to account for vulnerability. Surrogates for vulnerability were taken to be the extent to which a forest type has been cleared (past depletion) and the percentage of the remaining extent of each forest type which occurs on private and leasehold land (existing vulnerability). By the use of another formulae the natural rarity target was adjusted in a linear fashion from 0 to a maximum of 50% for past depletion and 20% for existing vulnerability.

The flora panels checked adjusted targets for all forest types. Further adjustments were considered taking into account other threats, regional endemism and heterogeneity of forest types.

Due to the extensive clearing of some forest types and the restricted extent of some others on lands subject to this assessment it is not possible to achieve the reservation target set for many forest types.

Rainforest

As part of the interim oldgrowth forest assessment project rainforests were re-mapped on a more ecological basis than has been done in the past. In that project rainforest was identified where less than 30% of its canopy is comprised of pyrophytic emergents (canopy species mostly requiring occasional fires for regeneration ie eucalypts, Brush Box, Turpentine) and where a well developed rainforest understorey was visible when less than 50% of the canopy was comprised of pyrophytic emergents. Rainforest stands generally less than 25 ha in size were not mapped in the oldgrowth project and thus still require further assessment.

The NPWS argued that all stands identified as having a rainforest understorey should be managed as rainforest. Though as there was some inconsistency amongst interpreters in identifying rainforest where 30-50% of the canopy was formed by pyrophytic emergents it was decided that for the purpose of the LAP such stands would only be identified as rainforest where they were classed as oldgrowth forest. This was based on the rationale that if it is oldgrowth it is likely that the rainforest would be well developed.

This still leaves unresolved forests identified as having 30-50% of their canopy comprised of pyrophytic emergents over rainforest and which are not oldgrowth forests. The status of these forests

and those with canopies comprised of more than 50% of pyrophytic emergents over a rainforest understorey require further assessment during the CRA.

While it is agreed that rainforest should be 100% protected the reservation targets for rainforest have still not been finally decided. There are problems in north-east NSW where small stands of rainforest are scattered throughout the forests. To avoid the scenario in north-east NSW of almost every compartment being identified for reservation, often on the basis of only a small area of rainforest, it has been recommended that smaller stands (except where identified by botanists as particularly significant) be filtered out and all larger stands be set a reservation target of 100%. A target of 100% has been recommended for rainforests elsewhere in the state

3. Oldgrowth forest

One of the most ambitious of RACAC's projects was to map the growth stages of forests over public lands in eastern NSW within 6 months. To achieve this task a simplified methodology was developed that used interpretation of 1:25,000 aerial photographs. This Aerial Photograph Interpretation (API) involved interpreters identifying patches of forest with similar crown characteristics and assessing the relative dominance of regrowth (pointed crowns) and senescent (irregular crowns) trees visible in these patches. Due to the timeframe broad categories and in general a minimum patch size of 25 hectares were adopted. The relative proportions of regrowth and senescent crowns were divided into classes of <10%, 10-30% and >30%. A total of 3.3 million hectares was so mapped.

Senescent trees are not readily visible from photographs for some tree species (atypical) growing on high and moderate quality sites or in forests growing on poorer sites. Thus the definition of which growth stages are candidate oldgrowth forest, as adopted for the IAP, varies according to site quality and whether species show "typical" growth stages. For the more controversial classes (tc, sb and sc) logging history was applied such that if State Forests had records of logging occurring in the past 20 years it was excluded from the candidate oldgrowth category.

The definition of oldgrowth adopted by the oldgrowth project is:

"Old growth forest is forest which has a significant proportion of the oldest discernible growth stages in its overstorey and negligible structural evidence of disturbances, using interpretation of 1:25,000 scale aerial photographs. These criteria must be interpreted within the context of the characteristics which would be expected of the latest successional stage(s) likely to be attained by the vegetation type under the unmodified disturbance regime characteristic of its site."

CANDIDATE OLDGROWTH CLASSES ADOPTED FOR THE IAP.

REGROWTH	t <10%			s 10-30%			e >30%
SENESCENT	a >30%	b 10-30%	c <10%	a >30%	b 10-30%	c <10%	
HIGH S.Q.							
MOD. S.Q.							
ATYPICAL							
LOW S.Q.							
V. LOW S.Q.							

It needs to be noted that the IAP has only identified **candidate** oldgrowth stands greater than around 25 hectares in size. While the definition adopted will include most of the larger stands of oldgrowth it will also include some stands that are not oldgrowth and omit most smaller stands of oldgrowth.

Reservation targets for candidate old growth forest were set in line with the Commonwealth criteria, such that:

- for forest types that have been extensively cleared (85 per cent cleared or more) or with less than 10 per cent of their extant distribution as oldgrowth the reservation target is 100%;
- for forest types with 10 to 25 per cent of their extant distribution as old growth, old growth reservation targets vary inversely from 90% to 60%; and,
- for forest types with more than 25 per cent of their extant distribution as old growth, the old growth reservation target is 60%.

The setting of a specific oldgrowth target for each forest type results in two base reservation targets for each forest type:

- where the oldgrowth target exceeds the forest type target, the oldgrowth target is given priority,
- where the forest type target exceeds the oldgrowth target, then the remaining forest type target is met by any remaining oldgrowth available until the forest type target is reached.

4. Wilderness

The Commonwealth requires that 90% or more of "high quality" (*NWI ±12*) wilderness be protected. For the IAP it was decided to identify for protection 100% of NPWS identified wildernesses, with additional areas of "high quality" wilderness identified by the Commonwealth being assessed to see if they meet NSW criteria.

WOOD RESOURCES STUDY

In typical fashion State Forests have ignored the process of review and consultation established by RACAC, to which all other studies have been subjected, by undertaking their own Wood Resources Study in isolation from RACAC. This has understandably led to considerable concern within RACAC over their methodology and the validity of their data layers. Attempts are still being made to have their study independently reviewed though time is running out.

State Forests' Wood Resources Study will be used to identify the current and future timber yields a section of forest is likely to produce. Areas will be mapped onto a GIS that are similar in stand yield characteristics. This will allow the identification of the "value" of a stand in timber terms and an estimate of sustainable (not ecologically) yield until any future date for any given area to be calculated.

Thus when the initial reserve system has been designed the effect on sustainable yield can be calculated. Also during negotiations, compartments of similar conservation value can be discriminated on their contribution to harvestable volume and sustainable yield. The Wood Resources Study data layer will appear on the negotiation GIS.

NEGOTIATION PROCESS

Within the five study areas being assessed eleven negotiation regions, based on State Forests' Management Areas (MAs), have been identified:

Northern Study Area:

- N1. Urbenville and Murwillumbah MAs
- N2. Casino, Grafton, Coffs Harbour and Dorrigo MAs
- N3. Urunga, Kempsey, Wauchope, Kendall, Wingham and Taree MAs.
- N4. Bulahdelah, Gloucester, Wallaroo and Mt. Royal MAs.
- N5. Tenterfield and Glen Innes MAs.
- N6. Styx and Walcha-Nundle MAs.

Central Study Area (part): Morisset MA

Southern Study Area:

- S1. Bateman's Bay and Narooma MAs
- S2. Queanbeyan/Badja MAs

Eden Study Area: Eden MA

Tumut Study Area: Bago-Maragle MA; Tumut Native Forests Working Circle (Buccleuch & Bungongo SFs)

The negotiations will revolve around an interactive Geographical Information System (GIS is a computer based mapping system) containing the data layers developed through the CWG and State Forests' Wood Resources Study.

The actual structure of the negotiation phase is still being finalised, though will basically comprise:

1. Automatic selection of areas of the highest conservation values,
2. NPWS, State Forests, conservation, native timber industry and Commonwealth negotiators using the interactive GIS to identify other forests likely to be required for a reserve system, taking into account reserve targets, reserve design principles and timber values.

The negotiation period will be from the 22 April until the 10 May, giving 15 working days (including one public holiday) to complete negotiations for 11 regions. Thus the process will give limited time for each region. There will be principle negotiators for each interest group with two or more advisers for each negotiator allowed to be present when each region is being negotiated. The aim is to continue negotiations until all reserve criteria have been met.

At the end of negotiations some as yet undecided process will be used to identify reserve options. While one of these options will be "all forests likely to be required for a reserve system", other options will most likely represent various conservation trade-offs aimed at providing certain levels of supply to industry. Following this the various options will go on public display for one month.

Geographic Information System

The basic building blocks of the reserve system used in negotiations will be State Forest compartments with an average area of 200 ha. Although these are not the optimal unit of choice with regards to reserve design, any smaller units such as sub-catchment boundaries would leave the GIS unworkable due to too many units being analysed.

The main information unit visible on the GIS screen will be the irreplaceability of the compartment. Irreplaceability can be defined in two ways:

- Irreplaceability is the potential contribution of any site to a reservation goal.
- Irreplaceability is the extent to which the options for a representative reserve system are lost if that site is lost.

Each State Forest compartment may contain a range of features which are capable of contributing to the reservation goals set by the reserve targets. Some features, such as wilderness, have reservation targets set at 100%. Compartments containing these features have an irreplaceability rating of 100%, meaning to fulfil the reservation criteria they (or at least that part with the value) must be included in the reservation system. Other areas will have lower irreplaceability levels and thus enable choices to be made for reservation, for example ten compartments containing forest type x will have an irreplaceability level of 50% if only five of them are needed to reach the reservation target of that forest type.

The information leading to the irreplaceability level can be called up at any time for individual compartments, both in tabular and map form.

Many compartments will be given a high irreplaceability ranking based upon the contribution of a small area of a value to that ranking, in such cases the percentage contribution of that value to the compartment will be taken into consideration. For example a 200 ha compartment may contain 10 ha of a 100% irreplaceable value and have no other values requiring reservation. Where values or areas requiring reservation only represent a small fraction of a compartment and/or do not fit into any reasonable reserve design they may have to be protected using other means such as State Forests reserve, Preferred Management Priority zone or logging protocols.

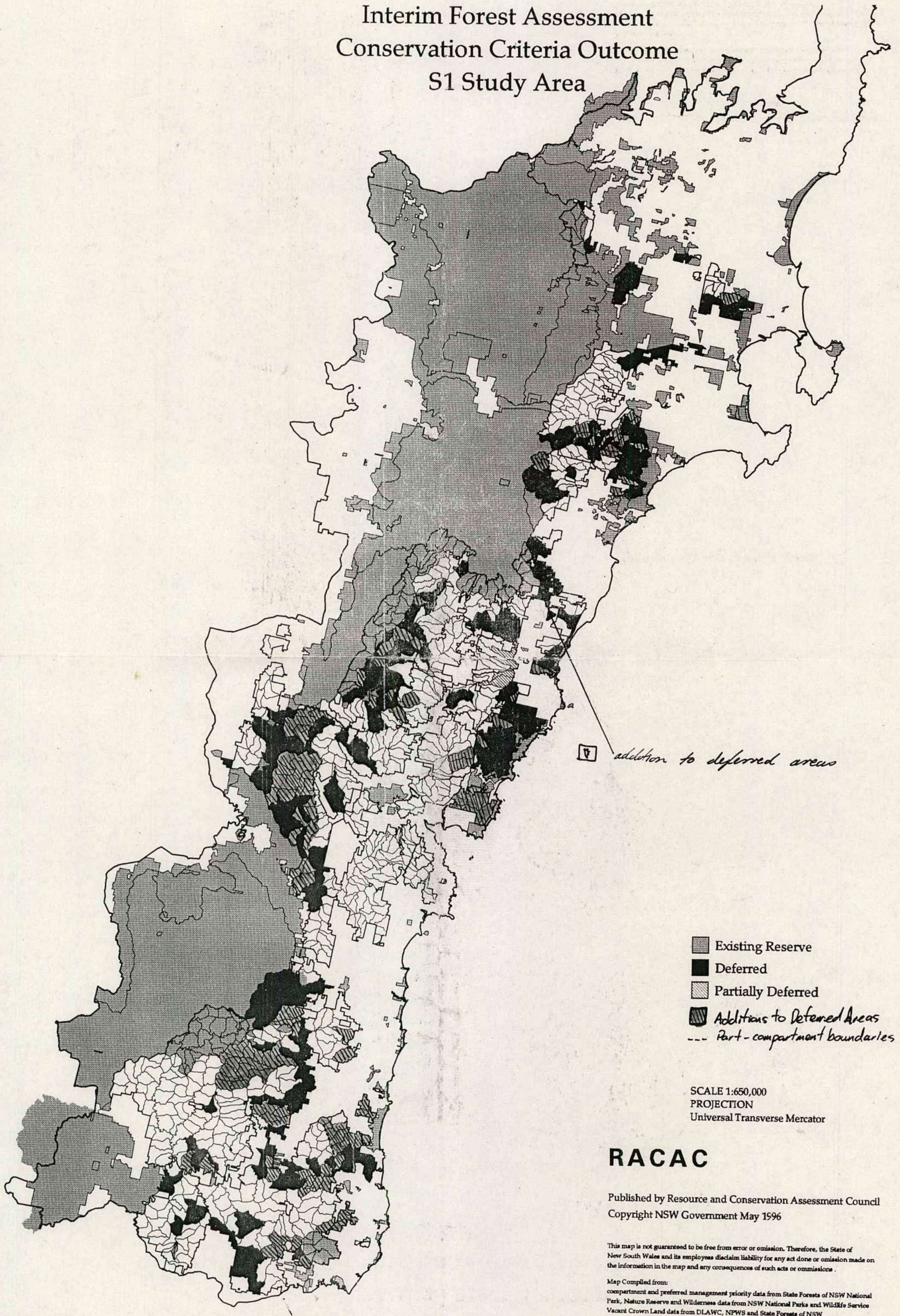
During the negotiation phase the irreplaceability of compartments is recalculated each time a compartment or group of compartments is selected for inclusion in the reserve system. Thus (as in the above example) when the five of the compartments containing forest type x have been selected, the irreplaceability of the remaining five compartments will fall to zero for that feature as its reservation target has been met.

This design allows for flexible decision making during the negotiation process with the most irreplaceable areas acting as seeds for reserve development. It also facilitates 'trading' of compartments whilst still fulfilling reservation goals to improve reservation design or increase the timber resource found outside the reserve system.

Also if the fulfilment of all reservation targets is considered by the government to excessively restrict the resource available to the timber industry then the effect on conservation goals of releasing any compartments is explicit and documented.

For further information please contact:

Interim Forest Assessment Conservation Criteria Outcome S1 Study Area



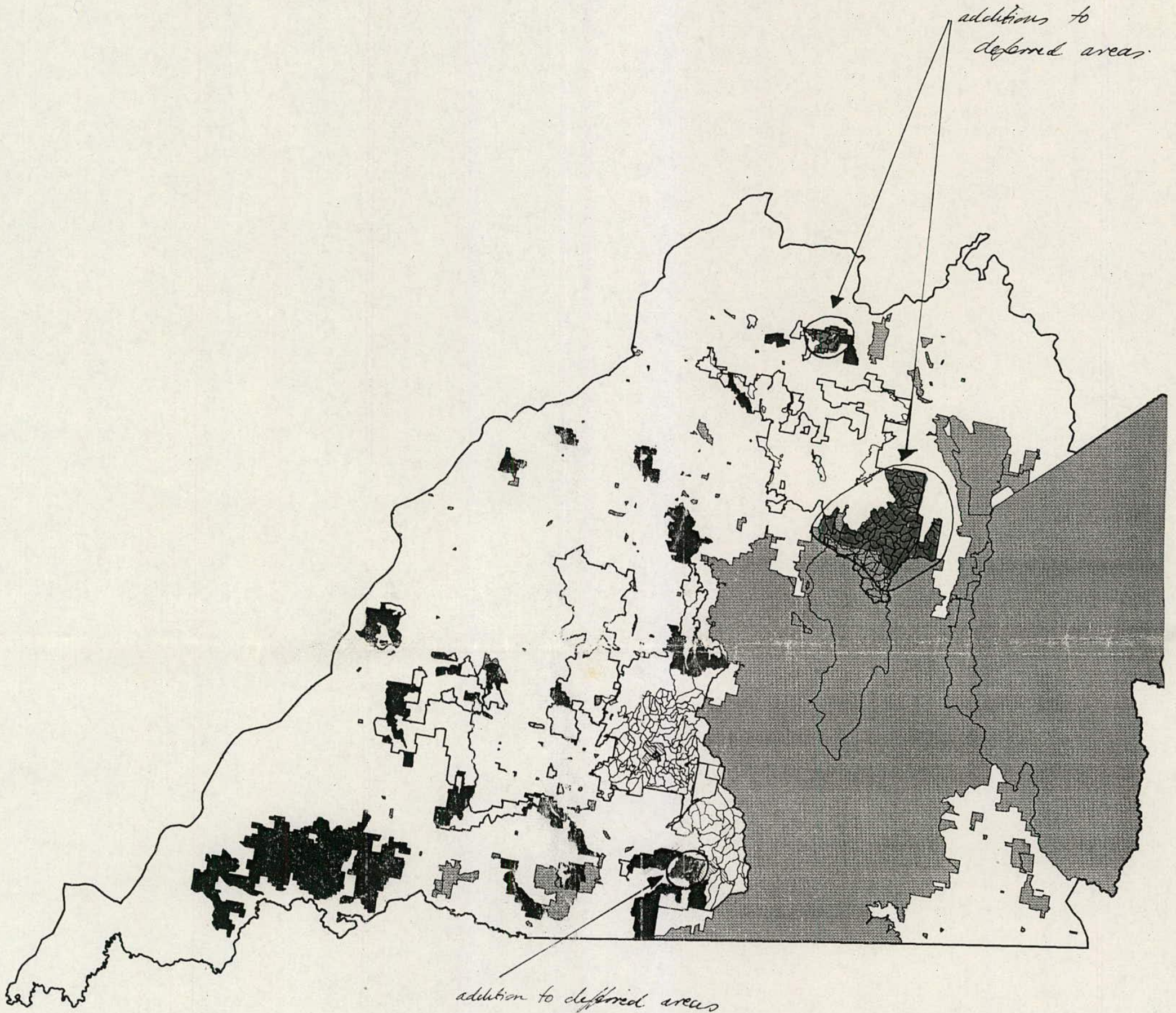
RACAC

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Map Compiled from:
compartment and preferred management priority data from State Forests of NSW National Park, Nature Reserve and Wilderness data from NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
Vacant Crown Land data from DLAWC, NPWS and State Forests of NSW

Interim Forest Assessment Final Agreed Outcome Tumut Study Area



- Existing Reserve
- Deferred
- Partially Deferred
- Additions to Deferred Areas
- Part-compartment boundaries

SCALE 1:650,000
PROJECTION
Universal Transverse Mercator

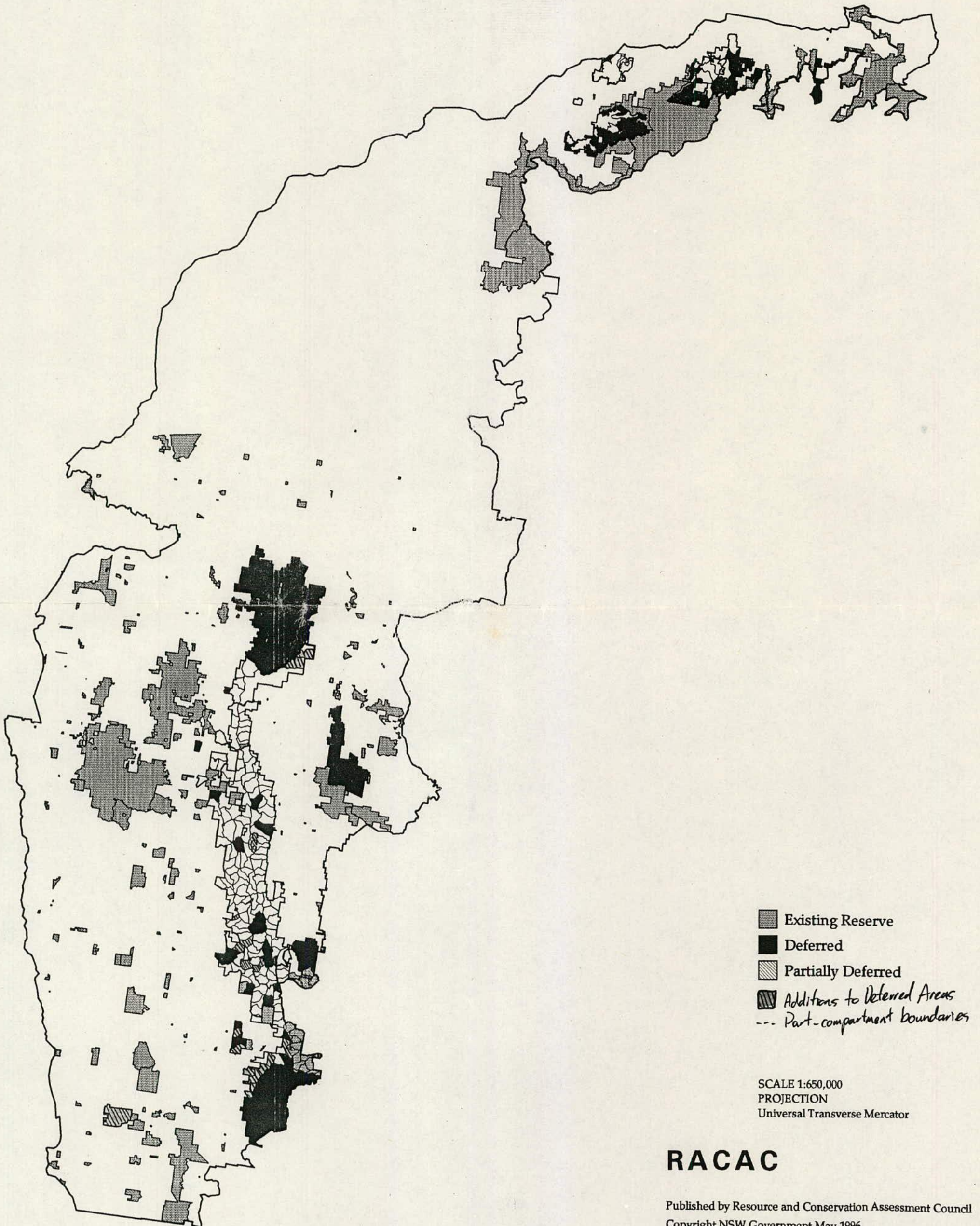
RACAC

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Vacant Crown Land data from DLAWC, NPWS and State Forests of NSW

Interim Forest Assessment Conservation Criteria Outcome S2 Study Area



RACAC

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Vacant Crown Land data from DLAWC, NPWS and State Forests of NSW

Notes on Contents

0. Executive Summary

i - iii

Insert short gutzy summary here

1. Introduction to NEFA

1

Insert here page 1 of the Autumn NEFA Leaf

2. The Context of this Submission

Insert here a paragraph or two referring to each of the following related forestry processes: the new Threatened Species Act, Forestry Regulation review, EIS's, Restructuring of SFNSW; current review of SEMGL's, EPA Pollution Control Licences, Gap & Cluster Review;

3. Stage 2 - Wilderness & National Park dedications

Insert here details of the proposed Stage 2 National Parks:

all identified wilderness areas (incl Washpool & Billilimbra, Chaelundi, Oakes, Styx River & Nulla 5 Day, Carrai & Yessabah, and Mount Royal, Chicester, Stewart's Brook & Barrington Tops SF's);

plus (+) creation of longstanding reserve proposals for

Warrell Creek; Bellinger River SF; Yabbara and Richmond Range;

and additions to Bongil Bongil NP;

All NP proposals must have details of the 'irreplaceable values' & recent history set out in a double-sided A4 sheet, plus good clear boundaries preferably on a 1:25,000 topo map.

save til later.

4. Comprehensive Regional Assessment Processes

Insert here our proposed revised CRA timetable for N1 & N2 plus recommendations for CRA's including:

5. Cabinet Sub-Committee consultations

Insert here a request for Minister Allan, Knowles & Yeadon to engage in a further round of negotiations with RACAC to develop recommendation(s) to Cabinet.

Paul + Mary Lemon Nat. Park

+ Pokolbin SF

Mt Clunie, Mt Northagus

Cambridge Plateau

+

T-bah extension

Yabbara!

North Brother?

Terry Evans

5!

6. Why the 'Conservation Criteria Outcomes' are not good enough

Insert here our comments on a sub-regional basis, including the following general comments:

The Interim Assessment has several weaknesses which limit the reliability of the computer based mapping. This is due to new technology and processes, limited data & time and the fact that this has never been done before! Thus...

- only 50 of 150 priority fauna species were able to be assessed in the IAP - many birds, mammals & reptile species were not considered.
- Many 'targets' for both plants and animals were not met even in the Conservation Criteria Outcomes.
- Major problems with the accuracy of SFNSW Wood Resources Survey (WRS) data, were also found, with the WRS figures apparently understating the actual 'standing volume' in many compartments.

Since the IAP used the Commonwealth Reserve Criteria, as adapted by RACAC for use in NSW, mis-matches in policy goals were also been identified.

- Premier Bob Carr has pledged to protect all wilderness & high conservation value old growth forests, while the Commonwealth's Reserve Criteria requires only 60 to 100 % of remaining 'old growth' forest to be reserved.
- The Commonwealth may allow up to 40% of remaining 'old growth' forest to be logged!
- the IAP does not address water quality & quantity issues nor the protection of aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW State Forests

7. EMMA and Why we need it

NEFA is re-mapping the areas which the north coast environment movement wants to see placed under logging moratorium until the final comprehensive regional assessment is completed.

These maps aim to meet all or many more of the RACAC 'targets', including all old growth & provisionally identified wild-erness areas.

8. Critique of Socio-Economic Analyses

Insert here our comments on a sub-regional basis, including the following general comments:

9. Critique of SFNSW's 'Wood Resources Study'

Insert here comments, including examples on a sub-regional basis, as prepared by Jane
065 504402 phone: or 065 504 572 fax

10. Acknowledgements & Thanks

End of fax

Wed 12/6/96

Dear All

It is I am already + we have been smitten by Murphy several times. Only way to resolve it in the short-term is to print A3 maps like the IAP with our additions.

Things to remember

- ① It is a draft
- ② There are a few errors due to software ie some cpts that don't come up on the maps that will have to be filled in by hand.
- ③ The legend is not clear to the uninitiated - you will need to explain

Protected = Nat'l Parks, Identified Wilderness, Vacant Crown Land

Criteria = The RACAE Conservation Criteria Outcome

Emma - Environment Movements (Additional)
Moratorium Areas

The numbers N1 → N6 are the regions the north-east has been broken up into

Changes can be suggested up to 5pm Friday!

Sorry there are no big maps.

Have also done an example of fauna modelling with actual sightings over the top.

And a vegetation cover map overlaid with rainforests + old growth of different site quality

And a map of vegetation - showing cleared land etc to put the whole thing in context.

That's all for now

Susie + Greg!

N.E.F.A.

North East Forest Alliance

Ph/ Fax 066 224 737. C/-149 Keen St Lismore 2480.

Doza,
Bowraville Lands Council
Bowraville 2449.

19 June 1996

Dear Doza,

Here is a copy of the report on the Interim Assessment Process (IAP) which has assessed public forests to identify areas that may need to be set aside for a reserve system. Submissions, through letters or phone calls, on the report will be accepted until about 11 July.

The IAP has identified different options for reservation including the conservation criteria option and watered down options for the industry. We are creating our own option which adds areas that were left out that we think should have been included, like Mistake.

I'm very concerned that Koori values and sites have not been taken into account in the IAP. There was a Koori representative from Dept. of Aboriginal Affairs on RACAC (the group who oversaw the process), but apparently he didn't turn up much and didn't say anything when he was there.

At the start of the IAP process 5 or 6 Aboriginal Lands Council representatives approached RACAC to say that it wasn't appropriate to be involved in the IAP at this stage.

NEFA is saying in our submission that Koori values (as well as other things like water vales) were not looked at and should be. We are encouraging others to do the same.

I think it's too late in the IAP to make big changes, but the IAP is only one of the steps towards a reserve system so it's not too late to have new information put into the whole process. If you want, it would be good to have a say now, so that the government is aware of problems that need to be addressed in the next step which is the Comprehensive Regional Assessments.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Also, here is a copy of our NEFA Leaf. Stories, poems and pictures are most welcome.

I hope that you and your family are well. I think of Mistake Forest a lot and when I've finished my job I hope to come back and visit again.

For the forest,

Georgia Beyer,
NEFA Coordinator.

ual harmonics, or as a composite value representing all the harmonics; the latter is more common, and is called Total Harmonic Distortion (THD).

Harmonic distortion can be caused by the clipping of a waveform (when an amplifier is driven to a point where the output cannot produce adequate voltage to trace the input waveform). It can be caused by other circuit faults or design errors. In loudspeakers, it can be caused by resonances, voice coil rubbing or striking against the magnetic structure, or diaphragm break-up. It is beyond the scope of this handbook to explore the origins of harmonic distortion in any greater detail.

8.4.2 Measuring Harmonic Distortion

One method of measuring harmonic distortion is to inject a single frequency, sine wave test signal at the input of the device under test, and to then use a deep, very narrow band rejection filter to eliminate that same test signal at the device output. This leaves only the distortion products at the output. A simple voltage measurement of everything that's left at the output and calls that the "total harmonic distortion." The problem with this measurement is that it also measures any noise present at the output. This is why manufacturers sometimes print a spec like this:

Total Distortion & Noise:

Less than 1% at +4 dBm.

If this spec is accompanied by a very low output noise specification, you can assume that most of the 1% is, in fact, distortion... if the noise is high, then perhaps a lot of the measured "distortion" is actually noise voltage. It is not necessary to be a detective if the equipment is measured using a wave analyzer.

By using a wave analyzer, which precisely indicates signals present in bands as narrow as 1/10 octave... or a spectrum analyzer that provides a detailed graphic view of the entire

output waveform, with respect to frequency and amplitude, individual harmonic frequencies can be identified and measured. Using such equipment, individual harmonics may be specified. For example, it is not uncommon to see the following specification:

Harmonic Distortion:

2nd Harmonic, -60 dB,
3rd Harmonic, -75 dB, relative to maximum rated output at 1 kHz.

We know such a spec has been measured with an analyzer, rather than a notch filter. It is less susceptible to inaccuracies due to noise, unless there is a very high noise level. With an analyzer, we generally view the noise voltage. Therefore, if we want to convert a "dB" distortion spec into a "percent" spec, we can use the following formula:

$$\% \text{Distortion}_{V \text{ or } SPL} = 100 \cdot 10^{-dB/20}$$

PROBLEM: What is the percent 2nd harmonic distortion of an output whose 2nd harmonic is 60 dB below the +4 dBm signal?

$$\begin{aligned} \% \text{Distortion} &= 100 \cdot 10^{-60/20} \\ &= 100 \cdot 10^{-3} \\ &= 100 \cdot .001 \\ &= 0.1\% \text{ 2nd} \\ &\text{Harmonic Distortion} \end{aligned}$$

The above equation can be used for individual harmonics, or for total harmonic distortion. If we are looking at dB in relation to output power, then the equation is modified to reflect the "10 log" relationship, as follows:

$$\% \text{Distortion}_{(\text{Power})} = 100 \cdot 10^{-dB/10}$$

PROBLEM: What is the percent 2nd HD of an output rated as follows:

Second Harmonic Distortion:

30 dB below maximum rated output of 100 watts.

(Solution is on the next page.)

How To Read & INTERPRET Specifications

YAMAHA

INPUT REINFORCEMENT
HANDBOOK

Page 1 - Page 2-72

IAP, ROADSHOW,

GEAR-

Report kits

Obtain from RACAC or NCC?

Give to who?

How many?

Summary sheets?

Submission instruction sheets?

Stamped envelopes?

NCC mailout rego forms [FOREST PARKS COUNTDOWN]

Computer

Tim's?

Big monitor

Licensed WINERMS

Display Stuff

Boards-Tim? Bunker? BEC?

Banners-Bunker

Maps-Report and Emma

Pretty GIS maps? What Features

What old NEFA displays are relevant?

Deferral Comp lists

Piccies? Tim can laser print some. NEFA has lots. Dailan? Lyn?

Video? Tim can buy player if suitable tape avail. JC? WFA?

Blown up point lists or projector?

Sidney Rally posters

RACAC Consult sess. posters and rego forms

TIMELINE

Comm Group meetings

Env Cents, NPAs etc

Market Sub writing stalls?

At Env Cent stalls Market management policy? Dates?

Bellingen, Byron, Lismore Carboot

Channon

Bangalow

Ring Bob re market dates

Ring NPA contacts and Ulitarra

Other groups Lions, Apex, Rotary, Chambers of Comm,
Councils, 4wds, Landscape painters

Uni Env Clubs

Native Plant Societies, Orchid Growers,

Landcare and Rivercare groups

TCMs

Political Parties- Libs, Nats, Greens, Dems

Hippy Communities -Witaliba, Bundagen

Ring Forestry re their dates ***

RACAC Dates 4.30-8.30pm

Lismore 18-6

Grafton 19-6

Kempsey 20-6

Maitland 25-6

Batemans 26-6

Merimb 27-6

Syd 1-7

FPA dates?

SAVE OUR NORTH EAST FORESTS !

The story so far ...

In December 1992 then PM Paul Keating, then Premier John Fahey and the Premiers of all other mainland states signed the National Forests Policy Statement, promising a "comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system" across public lands by the end of 1995.

In March 1995 after years of court cases and forest protest actions ALP Leader Bob Carr became NSW Premier, pledging to create such a system of reserves and to restructure the timber industry.

After 3 years of stalling, the first step towards the CAR reserve system was the Commonwealth's disastrous 1995 Deferred Forest Areas (DFA) which was criticised by conservationists, scientists and the timber industry. Premier Carr was not impressed.

Carr Government moves forward

During May 1996, the NSW Government's Interim Assessment Process (IAP), identified areas that are "likely to be required" for a CAR reserve system. The IAP, unlike the DFA, was a transparent, scientific process that involves all stakeholders.

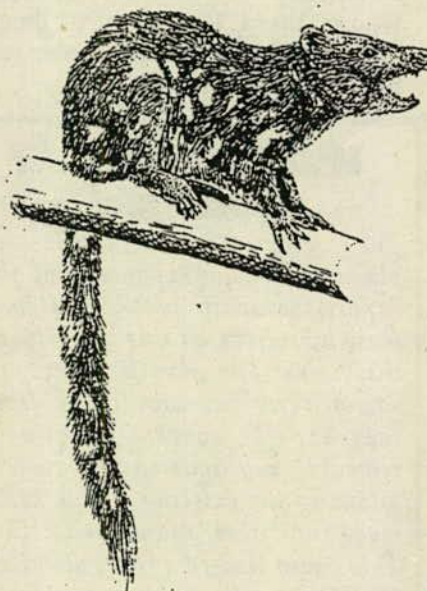
NEFA supports this process and is represented on the body carrying out the interim assessment, the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council (RACAC), by Mr Dailan Pugh.

Two working groups were established: on conservation & on socio-economic assessments.

Earlier this year RACAC interpreted the Commonwealth reserve criteria and developed detailed targets, for use in the IAP's recent negotiation stage, to ensure key conservation goals are actually achieved.

Further Quota Cuts Required

A 30% across-the-board cut in timber quotas has already been announced by the Carr Government, to reduce '96/'97 quotas volumes to 70% of the 1995 / 1996 levels. The new quota levels will come into effect on 1/7/1996.



Spotted-tail Quoll - *Dasyurus maculata*
(Tiger Cat) Dailan Pugh

That 30% cut was made as an urgent measure to bring quotas closer to sustainable yield, without guaranteeing that these new levels of quota were themselves 'sustainable'. No conservation goals were involved in this nearly one-third quota reduction. Thus anyone arguing for "only a 30% cut" is arguing for the status quo, & no conservation gain.

Quotas will have to again be reduced if the 'comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system' promised in the National Forest Policy Statement is to be delivered.

Essential reading: The IAP Draft Report

A publicly exhibited draft report on the IAP, complete with detailed maps, is due in mid June.

By using an interactive computer process and applying these criteria and targets to meet biodiversity goals, RACAC was able to identify & map forest areas in "conservation criteria outcomes" for public lands in northern NSW.

Other map outputs developed in the negotiations, clawed back forests required in the conservation criteria outcome, and identified timber areas needed under cuts of 30%, 50% & 70% to the '95/'96 timber quota.

Public comment will be invited for a month, after which RACAC is to write up a Final Report.

NSW Cabinet's Natural Resources Sub-Committee of Ministers Knowles, Allan & Yeadon will prepare a submission for the whole Cabinet to consider later in July.

INTERNET saves TREES and FORESTS!

For those so inclined, Thursday Plantation & local world wide web-zine, planet_byron, have co-sponsored a special page on the Internet where users can log-on and leave their comments on forest protection.

This initiative was developed by planet_byron since Kim Yeadon's office doesn't have an e-mail address and faxing comments through will only use more paper!

Or if you can't do it today - use your own personal computer at home & log on to:

http://www.om.com.au/thursday_plantation/loggerheads.html & leave your forest protection message.

For more info contact Pierre Geslin today or e-mail him @ http://www.om.com.au/planet_byron

Weaknesses in the Interim Assessment

The Interim Assessment has several weaknesses which limit the reliability of the computer based mapping. This is due to new technology and processes, limited data & time and the fact that this has never been done before! Thus...

- only 50 of 150 priority fauna species were able to be assessed in the IAP - many birds, mammals & reptile species were not considered.
- Many 'targets' for both plants and animals were not met even in the Conservation Criteria Outcomes.
- Major problems with the accuracy of SFNSW Wood Resources Survey (WRS) data, were also found, with the WRS figures apparently understating the actual 'standing volume' in many compartments.

And since the IAP is using the Commonwealth Reserve Criteria, as adapted by RACAC for use in NSW, mis-matches in policy goals have also been identified.

- Premier Bob Carr has pledged to protect 'all wilderness & high conservation value old growth forests, while the Commonwealth's Reserve Criteria requires only 60 to 100 % of remaining 'old growth' forest to be reserved.
- The Commonwealth may allow up to 40% of remaining 'old growth' forest to be logged!
- the IAP does not address water quality & quantity issues nor the protection of aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW State Forests

It's plain that a further, final comprehensive regional assessment is required to gain real certainty about the actual areas requiring protection.

Responding to the IAP Draft Report

NEFA is re-mapping the areas which the north coast environment movement wants to see placed under logging moratorium until the final comprehensive regional assessment is completed.

These maps aim to meet all or many more of the RACAC 'targets', including all old growth & provisionally identified wilderness areas. More on this later...



NEFA is also requesting working groups of regional stakeholders, be formed to meet once the Draft Report goes on display, to begin to plan what happens next, leading to up to the final assessment.

This final assessment must be done in the region, not from Sydney.

But we can't wait for two or more years for all the National Parks to come at once!

Premier Carr will be asked to dedicate several more new National Parks this year to cover: identified wilderness areas and 'irreplaceable' areas, identified as having the highest of the high conservation values, particularly where these forests have been previously proposed for protection by the community or NPWS.

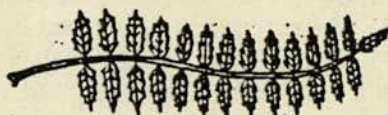
WOODCHIPPING Aaarrgh!

The Federal Government is planning a major expansion of the export woodchip quotas and may make a decision on this as early as this week! The plan is to exempt sawmill residue woodchips from the export quota, effectively removing any limit on this source, allowing the existing quotas to be made up from roundwood only. This could lead to a rapid doubling of the volumes of woodchips exported from Australian forests.

Please ring (06 2777 111) and ask to be connected with PM John Howard, Minister for Resources John Anderson or Environment Minister Sen. Robert Hill &/OR write to them C/- Parliament House Canberra. 2600 & insist on no increase in woodchip exports. Ask them to ensure that woodchip exports are phased out and Australia's forest resources receive maximum domestic value adding.

For more info on IAP or other forest issues call NEFA 066 224 737.

1 June 1996 - Printed on recycled paper



WHAT YOU CAN DO...

It's essential that the public get involved e.g.

- get a copy of the IAP Draft Report, available from: RACAC, GPO Box 3927 Sydney, 2000. Ph 02 228 3166 or from State Forests or National Parks & Wildlife Service offices;
- write a letter to the Ministers, or Premier Bob Carr, @ NSW Parliament House, Macquarie St, Sydney. 2000.
- make a submission to RACAC on the IAP Draft Report;
- write a Letter to the Editor;
- phone in to talk-back radio;
- lobby your local MP in person;

.Ring these Ministers NOW!

PAM ALLAN

Environment

02 233 4044 ph 02 233 3617fax

KIM YEADON

Land & Water Conservation

02 228 3688 ph 02 228 3801 fax

CRAIG KNOWLES

Urban Affairs & Planning

02 228 4499 ph 02 228 3716 fax

Or ring the Parliament House switchboard on 02 230 2111 & ask

- Ask for:
 - the moratorium areas sought by the environment movement;
 - new Stage 2 National Parks;
 - further timber industry restructuring;
 - help for affected workers;
 - regional groups to prepare for CRA's;
 - finally, a reserve system of integrity.

• Thank them for
 - the new Parks of Stage 1;
 - last years 30% quota cut;
 - the RACAC process itself.
 They deserve our encouragement & thanks. *But the job's not done yet!*

forest parks countdown

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Joint groups information briefing sheet

31 May 1996

Interim Assessment Process - crucial forest battle gets underway

Major forest review

The NSW Government is attempting to resolve the native forest debate through a major review which will set aside some areas for wood production, some for conservation, and put others into logging moratoria for further examination.

The extent to which forests are logged or conserved will be determined by the Government. Its decision will be influenced by public opinion.

This process provides the best opportunity to protect forests along the eastern seaboard for a generation and heralds the most challenging forest conservation campaign in NSW history.

The process so far

Earlier this year the Carr Government established a negotiation process involving conservation and industry representatives, and State and Commonwealth Government officials. Negotiators were required to identify moratoria options for eleven forest areas (see map).

To enable the stakeholders to discuss the options, available information on the conservation values and timber yields of forest areas was put onto computer. The participants then assessed the implications of different options, negotiating options which best fit their preferred criteria.

Despite technical difficulties and gaps in data, staff of the National Parks and Wildlife Service were able to translate the options into computer-generated maps of forest regions. These will go on public display in June.

The regions covered by the negotiations include the coast and mountain forests of eastern NSW, except for the Sydney Region. The western slopes and plains, and western river districts were not included. These areas are to be assessed at a later stage.

Public consultation

The Government plans a brief public consultation process—from early June to early July—for community input on the Interim Assessment Process.

A variety of options, some favouring conservation and others the timber industry, will be released for public review.

The government will decide which options are chosen. It is imperative that Bob Carr receives many letters stating a strong preference for the best conservation options.

The options

The negotiated 'conservation criteria best fit' options for each region were produced with input from local environmentalists but negotiated with the stakeholders to fit the agreed criteria for the process (see below).

Even these option maps may not include areas that you know to be valuable. You can say this in your submission during the public exhibition period, and add areas which you believe should be included in a reserve system.

Other options that provide 70%, 50% and 30% of the current timber yields in each region were also negotiated.

Current logging operations have been recognised by both government and industry as unsustainable because of overcutting and a 30% reduction in operations from 1 July 1996 has already been agreed.

Consequently, the 70% option provides little if any additional forest for a reserve system in most regions. The results of the other options vary from region to region.

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Joint groups information briefing sheet

31 May 1996

Interim Assessment Process - questions and answers

What is the significance of the coming NSW forest decision?

The NSW Government will shortly decide which areas of forest it considers are likely to be required for a forest reserve system.

Logging will stop in these areas while more detailed regional assessments are done. Some new National Parks may be gazetted before the end of the year if we can make a strong enough case to Government.

Why is this forest process different?

This is the first time in NSW that conservation groups, industry and unions have joined government officials in detailed negotiations about the future of the forests.

It is also the first time that all parties have had access to the government's computerised data on the values of the forests, and the first time that all parties have together considered how that data should be interpreted.

It is the last chance for putting in place an ecologically rational moratorium to protect high conservation value forests, pending the establishment of a 'comprehensive, adequate and representative' reserve system (see below).

Why is this forest process so important?

Once this moratorium is in place more detailed studies will be carried out over several years during a comprehensive regional assessment.

This is designed to lead to a regional forest agreement which resolves the final boundaries of a system of national parks and reserves.

Areas excluded from the moratorium will be much harder to protect at a later stage—and may be lost to logging.

What is resource security?

Under a resource security agreement, a private company is given the right to extract a guaranteed amount of timber from an area of public forest for a long period (say 20 years).

If the government wants to reduce timber yields because of new information (for example, a new sighting of an endangered animal) it must compensate the company. In effect, it must buy back public forest which has been handed over to private companies.

Environment groups strongly oppose resource security.

For more answers to your questions
come along to the
Special Briefing
Wednesday 12 June at 6.30 pm
at the National Parks Association

What is a comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system?

Comprehensive: The reserve system gives broad coverage to the full range of native forest biodiversity, that is community, species and genetic variation.

Adequate: The reserve system is sufficiently large, and constructed in such a way that normal ecosystem processes can continue indefinitely, and resist disturbance from outside.

Representative: The reserve system includes representative samples of the diversity within forest communities (for example, both old growth and regrowth samples of a forest community).

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Joint groups information briefing sheet

31 May 1996

Interim Assessment Process - what you can do

1. Find out about the options generated by the Interim Assessment Process negotiations. Contact the Nature Conservation Council (NCC) to register your interest in attending the Special Briefing Meeting: Wednesday 12 June 1996, 6.30 pm, National Parks Association, Level 4, Imperial Arcade, Sydney. NCC phone (02) 247 4206; fax (02) 247 4285
2. Attend the Public Rally to show your support for conserving the remaining native forests of NSW: Thursday 20 June 1996, 7.00 pm, Sydney Town Hall. Help distribute rally leaflets (see attached).
3. Attend regional meetings in the Blue Mountains and Bathurst, and metropolitan meetings in Drummoyne and Gladesville. You will be notified if you live in these areas.
4. Register with the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council to attend its information meetings: GPO Box 3927, Sydney, NSW 2001, phone (02) 228 3166, fax: (02) 228 4967.
5. Send in a submission on your preferred options during the public exhibition period.
6. Write to newspapers, stating your preference for conservation of NSW native forests.
7. Be ready to ring talk-back radio to state your views on native forest protection.
8. Get copies of the Forest Parks Countdown broadsheet (due out in mid-June) for distribution in your area. Contact the Nature Conservation Council if you can help.
9. Donate to the Nature Conservation Council of NSW. We urgently need more funds for this crucial campaign.

10. Write to Bob Carr: (suggested guide only)

Dear Mr Carr,

Thank you for trying to resolve the dispute over NSW native forests. I ask you to:

- ☐ Place all areas likely to be needed for a comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) forest reserve system under moratorium without delay.
- ☐ Create new National Parks this year to protect core areas of the future reserve system.
- ☐ Refuse demands from logging companies for contracts which would force you to abandon promises of a CAR forest reserve system and sustainable management outside reserves.

Yours sincerely,

11. Write to John Howard: (guide only)

Dear Mr Howard,

Thank you for contributing \$60 million to the NSW Government's forestry reform program. I ask you to:

- ☐ Support the rapid creation of a comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) forest reserve system in NSW.
- ☐ Use your influence to ensure an immediate moratorium over all areas likely to be needed for a CAR forest reserve system.
- ☐ Use your powers to end native forest export woodchipping and help bring about sustainable off-reserve forest management.

Yours sincerely,

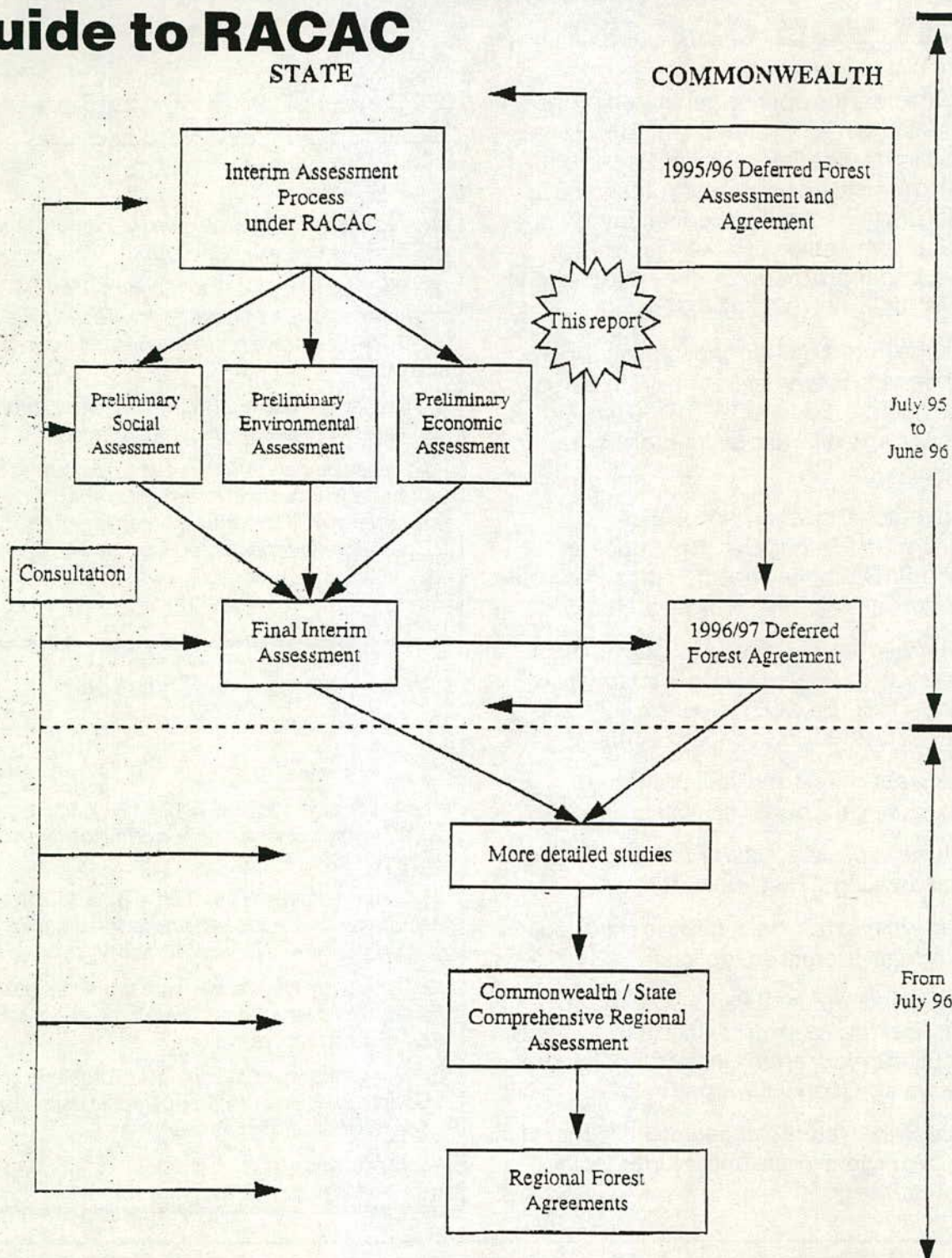
forest parks countdown

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Joint groups information briefing sheet

31 May 1996

Interim Assessment Process - a guide to RACAC



The Forest Parks Countdown campaign is supported by the Nature Conservation Council of NSW, the Total Environment Centre, the Australian Conservation Foundation, the National Parks Association of NSW, The Wilderness Society, the South East Forests Conservation Council, the Humane Society International, Friends of the Earth, the North East Forest Alliance, the Colong Foundation for Wilderness and the Conservation Council of SE Region and Canberra.

=====

John R Corkill
Public Interest Advocate,
Environmental Educator, Planner, Policy Adviser

1 Oliver Place, Lismore. 2480. Ph 066 21 6824

Attention Kathy Fook

Mr Walker & Ms Russell,
@ Nature Conservation Council of NSW,
per fax no. 02 2475 945

13 June 1996

Dear Susie & Sid,

< URGENT >

Re: use of a term 'Forest Reserve Plan'

I don't like this term and suggest it be expunged from our IAP responses. Here's why:

- it's a noun consisting of all singular words, when it's forests plural, reserves plural, and in the sense that a 'plan' is a map, there's plans plural;
- this term has a dangerously 'final' sound to it, when where we are up to now (& this needs constant repetition) is still only an interim assessment. The major emphasis on our IAP responses must be on achieving effective moratoria over areas of HCV forest identified thru the IAP - we CANNOT achieve major reserves at this time so lets stop trying and aim to do what we CAN do, which is to get good moratoria across the widest possible area;
- the term 'reserve' has too wide a range of meanings and uses: presumably SFNSW see their Flora Reserves as 'forest reserves', we talk about remnant forests in roadside reserves, and there are reserves under the Crown Lands Act as being reserved for whatever specified purpose, not to mention local council reserves, Army Reserves and reserves sitting on the interchange bench etc.
 - * While I acknowledge that there are Nature Reserves under the NPWA its merely another use of the word 'reserve' in a sea of uses of 'reserve'. Nature Reserve is at least accurate, but perhaps too specific! What I think we all want to see is for these forests to come under the care, control and management of the National Parks & Wildlife Service (vested in the Minister for the Environment) either as National Parks or as Nature Reserves and we should say what we want - not something which has numerous potential divergent interpretations.
 - * Our goal is a 'comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system' but the use of the term reserve here comes complete with the necessary description of what kind of reserves. The term 'CAR reserve system' was a term coined in the NFPS - while at this stage we are inventing a term to describe what we are asking for in the next 6 weeks and over the next 3 years. *essentially by Gov'ts.*
- the term is misleadingly close to 'Forest Peace Plan' used years ago in the SE forest campaign ^{and} when there are very few correlations between then and now;
- the Stage 2 of National Park dedications (and hopefully identified wilderness) must be seen as only the next step in a process which has several further components, including additional field surveys and data collection (& verification) leading to the comprehensive regional assessments; We must guard against any tendency which gives the impression that 'if the Stage 2 NP's are dedicated, then the greenies have got what they want'. Using the term 'Forest Reserve Plan' allows this tendency plenty of scope...

- what are we going to call our proposed National Parks identified during a comprehensive regional assessment, when responding to future CRA reports if we use this term now?;
- the term has no sense of ownership: whose forest reserve plan? I bet Dorber has a forest reserve plan, and I bet SFNSW does too! The acronym NEFA developed EMMA: the environment movements moratoria areas, avoids all these shortcomings, with the added benefit that we are not likely to have our response confused with the 'conservation criteria outcomes';

I believe that what we (NEFA) are talking about (at least) is better described as a 'strategy' or a 'process', but is plainly not a plan. This strategy will require much planning and many detailed plans to achieve each element.

Forest Parks Strategy

There are clearly identifiable elements to our overall strategy which include:

- * dedication of Stage 2 NP & id Wilderness areas a.s.a.p.;
- * industry restructuring including compensation;
- * major debate on best practice standards of forest management for areas available for harvesting and for areas required to be managed for conservation values 'off-reserve';
- * identifying weaknesses in the IAP and describing how the CRA can improve on the IAP;
- * further (sub-)regional surveys, data collection and verification;
- * comprehensive regional assessments of sub-regions involving regional stakeholders;
- * then and probably not before then, pushing for the creation of major new forest National Parks & Nature Reserves based on 'final' assessments in a joint Commonwealth / State CRA.

Forest Conservation Strategy

I have today received a script of a Forest Park Countdown Slide Show sent on by Tom Mc? which uses this term 'Forest Reserve Plan' in reference to slide 20 of Wild Cattle Creek SF.

too late?

Does the propagation of this term 'Forest Reserve Plan' mean that the 'consultation' on a joint IAP response from the NSW environment movement has decided to ignore my earlier expressions of concern about this term?

I for one will not be using this misleading, dangerous and 'Sydney-fied' term in my response to the IAP and I suggest that you do what you can to ensure that the decision (by whom?) to adopt this term is revisited.

Cheers

J.R. Corkill.

Attention Forest campaigners!

This is my understanding of what was agreed to in Sunday's phone link up.

If this is not what you understand we agreed please let me know! Cheers! JRC

J.R. CORKILL
006
224737

Summary of the Environment Movement's Response to the Interim Forest Assessment

In responding to the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council's (RACAC's) Interim Assessment for Forests on public lands, the NSW environment movement has:

- * welcomed and affirmed the usefulness of the open, interactive process available to stakeholders in the negotiation stage of the interim assessment;
- * congratulated the NSW Government for its landmark decision to release all available information to stakeholders involved in the forest assessment;
- * developed a constructive critique of the process of interim assessment and the published Draft Report on the Interim Forest Assessment;
- * prepared a 2 part **Forest Reserve Plan** to seek the:
 - i) creation of immediate 'moratoria areas' where forestry operations are banned pending further assessment, and these areas' inclusion in an amended list of Commonwealth Deferred Forest Areas (DFAs); and
 - ii) immediate dedication of already identified wilderness areas under the NSW Wilderness Act and additional new National Parks, as a further, but not final, step towards fulfilling the Government commitment to create a 'comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system.

This **Forest Reserve Plan** contains the first 2 parts of a larger package of measures being sought from the NSW Government as the interim assessment concludes.

This larger **Forest Reserve Package** includes additional measures to address:

- * timber industry restructuring, compensation to affected workers and Government wood supply agreements for the industry;
- * pre-requisites and preparations for the final stage of forest assessment, the Comprehensive Regional Assessments (CRAs); and
- * the nature, location and methodology to be used in the promised CRAs.

The **Forest Reserve Plan**, including maps, will be publicly launched late in the week commencing 24 June.

Details of the **Forest Reserve Package** will be publicly released in the week commencing 1 July 1996.

In responding to the JAP the NSW Env.

Min't has: and affirmed the usefulness of
* welcomed the open interactive process ^{available to stakeholders} ~~offer~~ via the JAP;

* developed a ^{constructive} critique of the JAP process
and the Draft Interim Forest Assessment Report;

* prepared a 2 part Forest Reserve Plan
to seek the ^{at} creation immediate ^{more far reaching} areas and
(these areas) inclusion in an amended ^{at that time} Commemorated DFA areas;
- immediate dedication id. Wild & further NP's as a

Further, but not ~~part of~~ the Gov't commitment to create
final step towards } a comprehensive adequate & reorganised
reserve system. as ^{and reiterated in ALP Policy} promised in the MHS.

* formulated ^{in the} a package ~~of~~ ^{which includes} additional measures, needed to ^{the} address

- timber industry restructuring & WSA to industry
- preparations for the final stage of forest assessment, comprehensive regional assessment ^{etc.} (CRA's)

John R Corkill

Public Interest Advocate,
Environmental Educator, Planner, Policy Adviser

Nature Conservation Council of NSW's delegate to NSW Coastal Committee

1 Oliver Place, Lismore. 2480. Ph /Fax 066 224 737 or ph 066 21 6824 ah

Mr Peter Prineas, Chairman,
Nature Conservation Council of NSW,
@ home fax no. 02 690 1586

15 June 1996

Dear Peter,

Re: Impact of State Environmental Planning (Permissible Mining) Bill 1996

I refer to the above Bill, currently before the NSW Parliament, to briefing papers provided by the environmental liaison officer and to our phone conversation this morning.

I confirm my verbal advice on the potentially serious adverse impact of this Bill on any forth-coming NSW Coastal Policy.

A close examination of the 'First Print' version, reveals that the Bill :

- * adopts a new SEPP 45 which is of state-wide effect;
- * validates the Minister earlier special consent to the Bengalla coal mine;
- * apply to the coastal zone, however it is defined under a revised NSW Coastal Policy;
- * validates hitherto unlawful mining by commencing retrospectively on 4 August 1995;
- * removes the requirement for local councils or other consent authorities to be satisfied with environmental protection measures before mining is approved;
- * removes any conditional permissibility of mining by local councils in local environment plans (LEPs), i.e. if it's possible to mine under whatever conditions, it's now possible to mine without those conditions having been met beforehand, or at any time;
- * asserts mining as a priority economic activity;
- * grants the new SEPP a primary position in NSW law since it specifies that it will prevail in the event of any inconsistency with another (read: any other) planning instrument;
- * pre-empt's the (hopelessly overdue) revised NSW Coastal Policy.

The Minister's Caucus Briefing Note claims that where mining is strictly prohibited and not possible under any conditions, this Bill will not apply, and on my reading of the Bill that appears so.

In that sense I see the Bill as being narrower than the SEPP 45 which was found by the Land & Environment Court to effectively permit mining anywhere, since mining could now not be a prohibited use or activity within a local planning instrument. I have seen preliminary comments by counsel to the effect that 'kinds of mines' prohibited in LEP's, e.g. visually intrusive mines, may now be permissible under this Bill. Further detailed advice on the actual breadth of the impact of the Bill's provision's will soon be prepared for the Rosemount Wines and may be made available.

If the Bill effectively re-makes SEPP 45 as if it had been made on 4 August 1995, and given the express superiority of Bill, has the earlier, broader SEPP 45 been effectively repealed?

I recommend that NCC seek urgent independent legal counsel's advice on this and other questions for our own information and consideration before proceeding to meet the Minister to seek either the Bill's withdrawal or substantial amendment.

These questions ought to include the following. Does this Bill and the new? SEPP 45:

- * nullify all environmental protection zones for purposes of mining;
- * permit otherwise prohibited 'kinds' of mining or mining where it is otherwise prohibited?
- * affect SEPP 14 Coastal Wetlands, SEPP 19 Urban Bushlands or SEPP 26 Littoral Rainforest areas;
- * permit mining in National Park estate areas or wilderness areas;
- * improve on the previous SEPP 45 arrangements in any way.

13-6-96.
TMC.

John Cookill

- ♦ Nature Conservation Council
 - ♦ Total Environment Centre
- ♦ Australian Conservation Foundation
 - ♦ National Parks Association
 - ♦ The Wilderness Society
- ♦ South East Forest Conservation Council
 - ♦ Humane Society International
 - ♦ Friends of the Earth
 - ♦ North East Forest Alliance
 - ♦ Colong Foundation for Wilderness
- ♦ Conservation Council of SE Region and Canberra

The Forest Park Countdown — Slide Show

June 1996

Your Role in Giving Native Forests a Future

In the next two months your help is vital to saving the remaining native forests in NSW. The Carr Government is the only State Government serious about protecting in parks old growth forests, wilderness, endangered wildlife and the diversity of forest types under the 1992 National Forest Policy Strategy.

The process is the biggest review of the 3.3 million hectare State Forest estate ever attempted.

The Carr Government's forest assessment process has permitted conservationists across the State to develop a park and moratorium proposal, called the Forest Reserve Plan. The Plan identifies wilderness and forest areas that should make up the first stage of reserve proposals and other areas that should not be logged while further studies are done.

Slide 1 LOST WORLD WILDERNESS on the Border Ranges. The Tweed Range escarpment shown here are in the Mebbin State Forest. Its footslopes could be logged unless protected after the current round of forest assessments if not added to the national park estate.

2 GUY FAWKES WILDERNESS is on the Great Escarpment north east of Armidale. This shot looks over Mount Bees Nest. A large part of this wilderness is threatened by logging in the long term but is currently protected by a moratorium. If this area is not protected as wilderness, it will be logged before the end of the century.

3 WILDERNESS DEFINITION Wilderness contains the largest remnants of the natural environment. There is no pristine wilderness, except in the polar regions but the areas identified by the NPWS are the best we have left. The National Forest Policy requires that ninety per cent of wilderness be protected.

4 WILDERNESS MAP This is the approximate distribution of wilderness in NSW. The National Parks and Wildlife Service has identified a further seven small wilderness areas that are not shown here. The amount of wilderness is about four per cent of NSW. As the demand for more of our natural resources grows along with our population, these last remnants of relatively untouched land come under increasing threat from logging, especially in the wilderness areas only recently identified by the Parks Service.

5 BINGHI WILDERNESS This wilderness area has draw the short straw in the NSW Government's forest and wilderness policies. Parts of Binghi, however, are in are in a multiple use park that allows for grazing, mining and gem fossicking.

6 WASHPOOL WILDERNESS The Government's wilderness policy should see the protection of seven new wilderness areas and substantial additions to another eight areas. This represents about a million hectares, including about 250,000 ha of threatened forests. The Washpool wilderness shown here includes 25,000 ha of state forests that should be protected under this policy.

7 MANN WILDERNESS The NSW wilderness estate is incredibly diverse. The Mann wilderness shown here contains spectacular Coachwood and Spotted Gum Forests poorly reserved in national parks.

8 GOODRADIGBEE WILDERNESS is an alpine wilderness where the threatened Burramys (Mountain Pygmy Possum) and alpine ash forests are found. The

wilderness policy should see returned 5,000 ha of the Buchleuch State Forests that was filched from the Kosciusko park in 1967.

- 9 NADGEE WILDERNESS Our only coastal wilderness straddles the state border with Victoria but still has half of its main river catchment threatened by woodchipping.
- 10 and 11 DEUA WILDERNESS is a magnificent forest wilderness, that continues to be threatened by logging and off road vehicle incursion.
- 12 DIRT TRACK The State Pollution Control Commission found that off road vehicles should not be allowed into wilderness areas. The off road vehicle lobby is not satisfied with access to 96 per cent of land in NSW. The Outdoor Recreation Party want off road vehicle access to every fire trail in every national park, causing untold damage through erosion and weed dispersal. Tracks such as this one can go back to nature. The Viper Scrub Road in the Washpool wilderness and the Mount Armour for limestone mine development road in Kanangra wilderness have all but disappeared.
- 13 TREE HOLLOWES Only old growth forest trees over 120 years old develop hollows. Logging causes a marked decline in arboreal mammal and bird diversity as the regrowth does not contain hollows.
- 14 THE GREATER GLIDER is one of several tree dwelling mammals that needs hollows for nesting.
- 15 THE SOOTY OWL, an endangered species, is an enormous bird that feeds on greater gliders.
- 16 THE BUSH TRAILED WALLABY, also an endangered species, is so rare that the National Parks and Wildlife Service is keen receive reports from anyone who sees one. It is commonly found in steep rocky terrain adjoining grassy flats.
- 17 TREE FROGS are a disappearing phenomenon. One species of gastric brooding frog give birth through its mouth and can actually turn off its gastric juices. Its a pity that the species is now extinct due to residential development. All scientific possibilities of helping people with stomach ulcers have gone with it. Frogs are indicators of environmental disturbance and I always keep an eye out for them when bushwalking.
- 18 MAP OF AUSTRALIA In 1788 thirteen per cent of Australia was forested but now less than half remains. Native vegetation continues to be cleared at a rate of 500,000 ha per year (DEST, 1995 pg 38). Of the remaining forests, less than a fifth is old growth forest (RAC, 1992 pg 27). Most of the old growth, however, is on land useless for timber production. The most threatened forest are the productive rich types that support the most diverse wildlife populations. The Government will shortly be presented with the conservation groups Forest Reserve Plan that, if adopted, will lead to the greatly increased protection for native forests.
- 19 MOUNTAIN ASH are the tallest flowering plants. This specimen stands 125 metres and old growth trees like this one will be protected under the Government's plan.
- 20 TWO THOUSAND YEAR OLD TALLOWWOOD Trees like this are still felled in the northern forests of NSW, for example at Wild Cattle Creek State Forest. The

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Forest Reserve Plan introduced into the Forest Interim Assessment Process will help ensure these forest are protected. As a marginal electorate resident, your help in lobbying the Government will be vital to ensuring the Plan succeeds.

21 RAINFOREST is still unprotected in parts of NSW, for example in the North Washpool area where until recently illegal logging continued without proper environmental assessment. Rainforest is destroyed by logging where it forms an understorey to eucalypt forest as happens often in northern NSW (eg Chaelundi State Forest) or where State Forests pretend it isn't rainforest, as is the case with the Brush Box forests.

22 and 23 TANTAWANGALO STATE FOREST is part of the South East Forests National Park plan that would protect this forest. This area has been subjected to logging to feed the ever hungry Eden woodchip mill. State Forests do not charge enough royalties to cover its costs and the provision of road infrastructure. Our taxes continue to subsidise the destruction of native forests.

24 COOLANGUBRA STATE FOREST has been the heart of south east forest controversy for ten years contains some of the richest tree dwelling mammal habitat in the region.

25 THE ROAD TO NOWHERE Coolangubra wilderness has been violated by the Wog Way Road shown here and by logging in some of its finest forest stands.

26 YOU CAN'T REPLANT AN ECOSYSTEM. For this reason all state governments have agreed to protect representative samples of native forests to create what is called a Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative forest reserve system.

27 THE BURNING QUESTION This slide illustrates how State Forests regenerate moist forest types. It is called a post harvest, regeneration burn.

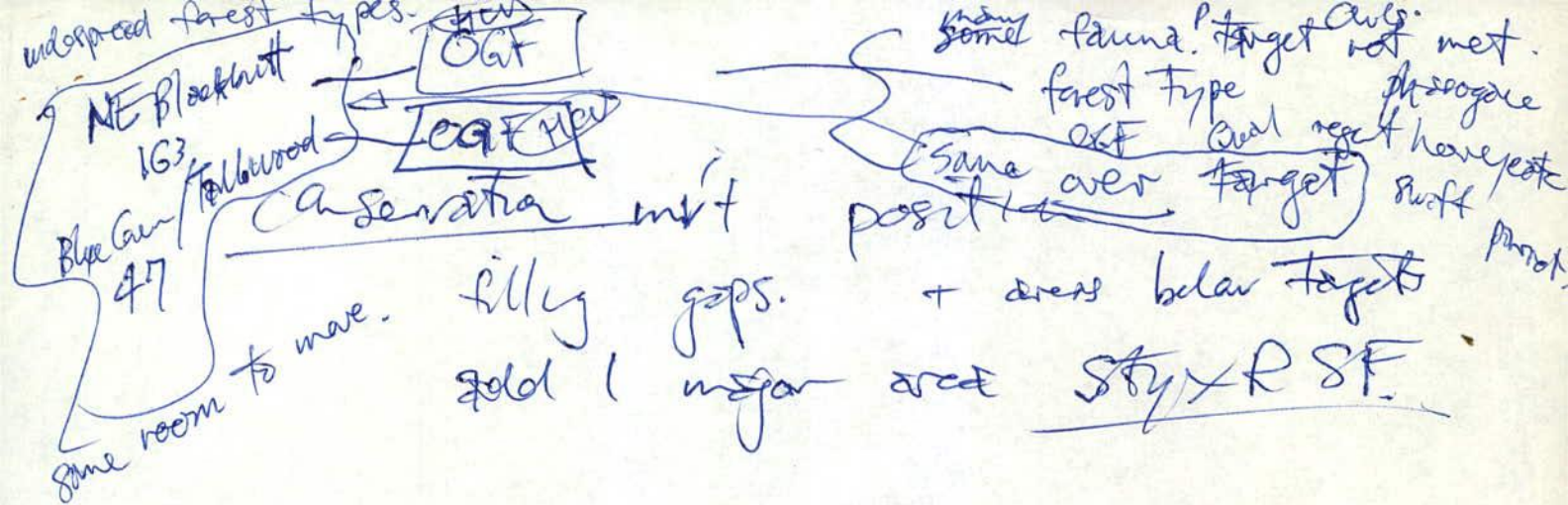
28 FOREST ANNIHILATED A regeneration burn creates an ash bed for the seed from selected "habitat trees" that are usually chosen on the basis of commercial timber production. Non-commercial trees and the original forest ecosystem are annihilated.

29 UNCONTROLLED BURNING These hot regeneration burns can get out of hand and burn adjoining forest, as do the frequent control burns for fuel reduction. In the north of the state, local graziers lease state forests for grazing and are regularly burning off to promote grass. The result is that very little timber regenerates and many potential sawlogs are damaged. Much of the remaining timber is only good for woodchipping when it is eventually harvested.

30 TIMBER HAULAGE CONTRACTOR In 1991 the Resource Assessment Commission estimated that woodchipping directly employed only 804 people in the whole of Australia, or 2 % of total employment in the forest products industry. Woodchipping is cheap and makes for a quick economic turnover of capital invested in turning native forests into stick-like plantations. The forest industry is becoming increasingly woodchip driven. Industry advocates argue that gap and cluster clearfelling is essential to remove uneconomic old growth forest trees that clutter the timber in state forests with biodiversity.

- 31 WOODCHIPPING IN THE BAD OLD 1970s. This is what woodchipping used to be like. Now its more cosmetic, with 40 hectare clearfells on alternate forest coupes in the south east and football field size clearfells in the north east. Clearfelling destroys the structure and forest type diversity of the original forests, along with its arboreal mammal habitat. As forest operations become more economically efficient, the more native forests become like plantations.
- 32 THE EDEN WOODCHIP MILL Ninety per cent of trees in the south east end up being converted into twenty cent sized pieced at this tree grinding factory.
- 33 THE FUTURE is up to you. Now is the time to get active to save NSW forests. The Government has committed \$120 million to saving native forests, including the south east and wilderness. An assessment of suitable reserves has been being undertaken using Commonwealth reserve selection criteria. The first stage of forest and wilderness parks have been identified using this data. The NSW Government will determine the fate of these proposed wilderness and forest parks and moratorium areas during July. At the end of this talk we will discuss how you and your conservation groups can help save native forests by supporting the Forest Reserve Plan.
- 34 FOREST BLOCKADE At the moment there are few forest blockades because many, but certainly not all, important forest areas are protected from logging by a logging moratorium. This situation could change tomorrow with greatly increased woodchipping concessions being granted over native forests and if the NSW Government gives in to forest industry pressure for resource security.
- 35 A FOREST GATHERING These people are camping out in the snow in the Glenbog State Forest. Due to the non-violent forest demonstrations by such citizens, this old growth forest is very likely to be protected as part of the South East Forest Park proposal that is part of the Forest Reserve Plan.
- 36 FOREST RALLY Large gatherings and rallies are part of the process of demonstrating the broad community support for the protection of native forests. We ask you to help make these rallies a success by promoting such events in your newsletters and organising telephone trees that can be used to inform people of up and coming forest campaign events.
- 37 BUDAWANG WILDERNESS After all the hard work you can be proud that these magnificent wilderness and forest areas will be protected for future generations and for the forests themselves. Right now is the best time to be active on this issue because never before has a Government attempted to protect forests through a well funded transition process that involves everyone.

Thankyou.



Socio-economic assessments way.
over-estimates

"was likely to be required to
CAR Reserve."

- maximum over all IAP identified forest until CRA:
- longstanding reserve proposals which have continued by IAP protected immediately Stage 2. PK dedication (24 new NPS) wilderness

⊕ not all fauna sp 150 priority fauna sp only 50 sp incl. IAP due to time constraints

⊕ Commonwealth OGF criteria 50-100% of remaining extent of OGF + forest type doesn't take into account the high conservation values: numerical target → totally inadequate. +

LABOR'S HAIRY CHESTS

OVERLOOK NUMEROUS BARE PATCHES IN POST ELECTION NAVEL GAZING

Resource and Conservation Assessment Council

R A C A C

Level 21

Governor Macquarie Tower

1 Farrer Place

GPO Box 3927

Sydney 2001

Tel: (02) 228 3166

Fax: (02) 228 4967

Mr Dailin Pugh
Repentance Creek Road
ROSEBANK NSW 2480

06 June 1996

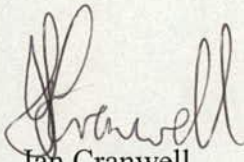
Dear Mr Pugh

Please find enclosed a copy of the Draft Interim Forestry Assessment Report and summary documentation for your early information. It is anticipated that Minister Yeadon will make a statement to release the report in Parliament this afternoon.

Also please note that all letters prepared by key stakeholders are included with your copy, but only the relevant one will be circulated to the respective interest groups in the mail out.

Additional higher quality print copies of the report will be forwarded as soon as available.

Yours sincerely



Ian Cranwell
Manager



Big FOREST Meeting

*Sydney Town Hall,
20th June, 7 pm.*

Please come and help us protect
our native forests from further
destruction. It's our best chance
this decade to save what is left.

Say NO to export woodchipping.

Endorsed by:



The Old Growth Preservation
Society

NORTH EAST FOREST ALLIANCE



forest parks countdown

information
update



Joint groups information briefing sheet

31 May 1996

Interim Assessment Process - crucial forest battle gets underway

Major forest review

The NSW Government is attempting to resolve the native forest debate through a major review which will set aside some areas for wood production, some for conservation, and put others into logging moratoria for further examination.

The extent to which forests are logged or conserved will be determined by the Government. Its decision will be influenced by public opinion.

This process provides the best opportunity to protect forests along the eastern seaboard for a generation and heralds the most challenging forest conservation campaign in NSW history.

The process so far

Earlier this year the Carr Government established a negotiation process involving conservation and industry representatives, and State and Commonwealth Government officials. Negotiators were required to identify moratoria options for eleven forest areas (see map).

To enable the stakeholders to discuss the options, available information on the conservation values and timber yields of forest areas was put onto computer. The participants then assessed the implications of different options, negotiating options which best fit their preferred criteria.

Despite technical difficulties and gaps in data, staff of the National Parks and Wildlife Service were able to translate the options into computer-generated maps of forest regions. These will go on public display in June.

The regions covered by the negotiations include the coast and mountain forests of eastern NSW, except for the Sydney Region. The western slopes and plains, and western river districts were not included. These areas are to be assessed at a later stage.

Public consultation

The Government plans a brief public consultation process—from early June to early July—for community input on the Interim Assessment Process.

A variety of options, some favouring conservation and others the timber industry, will be released for public review.

The government will decide which options are chosen. It is imperative that Bob Carr receives many letters stating a strong preference for the best conservation options.

The options

The negotiated 'conservation criteria best fit' options for each region were produced with input from local environmentalists but negotiated with the stakeholders to fit the agreed criteria for the process (see below).

Even these option maps may not include areas that you know to be valuable. You can say this in your submission during the public exhibition period, and add areas which you believe should be included in a reserve system.

Other options that provide 70%, 50% and 30% of the current timber yields in each region were also negotiated.

Current logging operations have been recognised by both government and industry as unsustainable because of overcutting and a 30% reduction in operations from 1 July 1996 has already been agreed.

Consequently, the 70% option provides little if any additional forest for a reserve system in most regions. The results of the other options vary from region to region.



The reserve targets

Four main criteria have been used to determine whether forests are needed for a reserve system, and are reflected in the 'conservation' options: the presence of wilderness, old growth forest, wildlife, and certain forest types.

At least 90% of remaining wilderness, 60% to 100% of old growth forest, core habitat of threatened species and 15% of the estimated pre-European extent of all forest communities were criteria used as targets for the 'conservation' options.

This forest process is the best opportunity to protect forests along the eastern seaboard for a generation.

All National Parks and Wildlife Service 'identified' wilderness areas were given a 100% reservation target, as was naturally rare forest and rainforest. Targets for protecting core wildlife habitat were based on assessments of the areas required to maintain viable populations of plants and animals.

Application of these criteria does not demand full protection of all areas native forest, but does provide the best basis so far for protecting all areas likely to be needed for the long-promised 'comprehensive, adequate and representative' reserve system.

Industry and reserve implications

It has been recognised that a substantial increase in current cutting rates is needed just to provide for sustained yield timber production in areas currently available for logging. The protection of additional forests will further reduce timber supply.

A joint Commonwealth and State financial package of \$120 million has been committed for structural adjustment of the industry and as compensation for affected workers.

In addition to this, industry lobbyists recently persuaded the State Government to consider granting them long-term contracts to wood from public forests from mid-1996.

This would breach the Government's pre-election forest policy, which was to wait until comprehensive regional assessments were completed before giving the industry greater security to native forest timber.

It is essential that the Carr Government keeps to its original policy, because large-scale contracts to native forest timber at this stage would pre-empt its ability to create a comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system and ensure sustainable management outside reserves.

Industry lobbyists will doubtless demand greater rights to log public native forests and claim that a moratorium which meets government criteria for a reserve system would have catastrophic social and economic consequences.

Given its relatively small size, this industry is a powerful and effective force. Its determination to log native forests unsustainably has frustrated all previous efforts to resolve the forest conflict.

Those of us who want better protection for NSW forests must speak out in the coming weeks.

Your role

The Government will only protect all high conservation value forests in a reserve system if that is the best political option. Your lobbying, letter writing, ringing talk-back radio, organising meetings and deputations will be crucial to the outcome.

Turn to page 5 of this campaign update to find out what you can do.

forest parks countdown

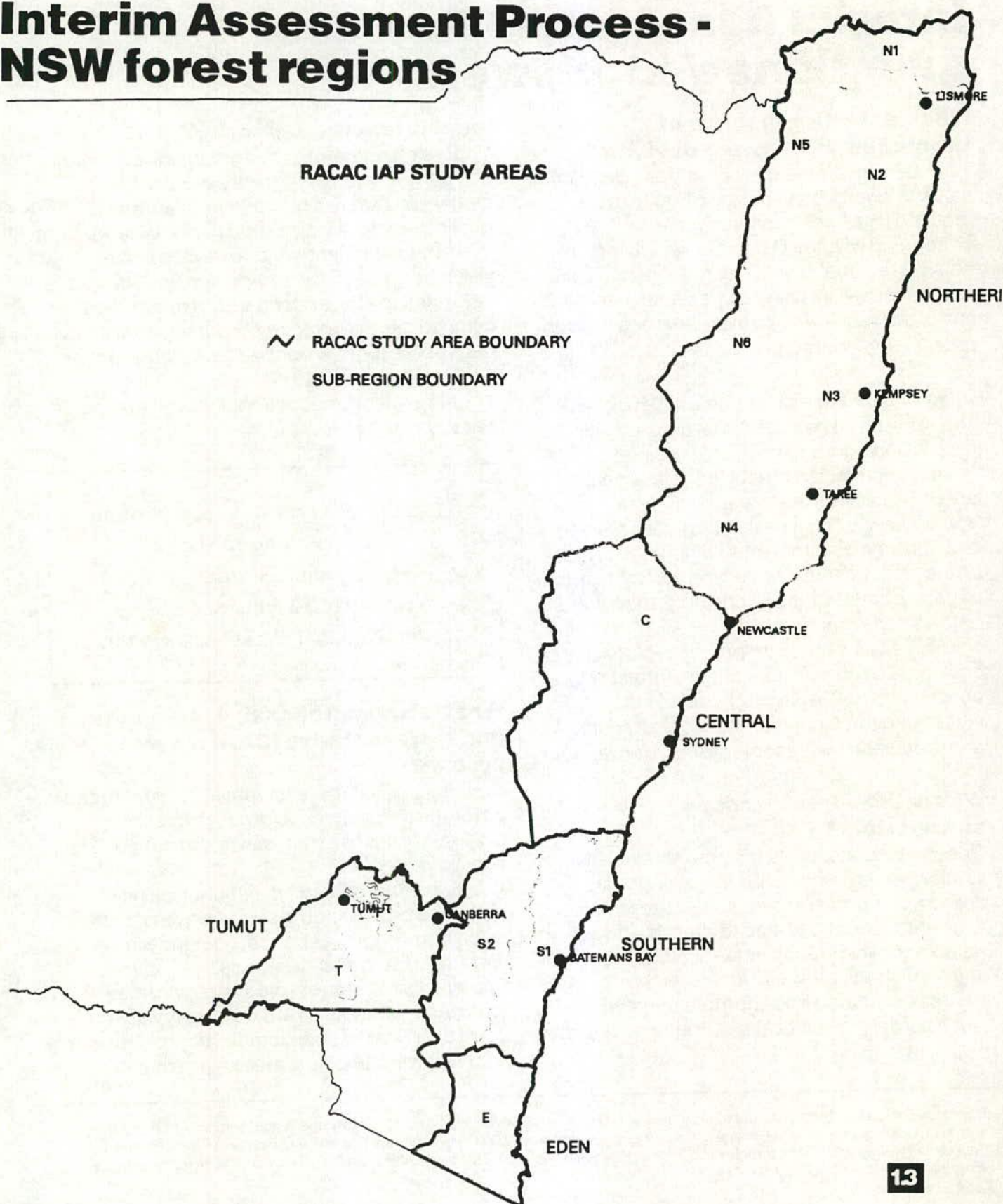
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Joint groups information briefing sheet

31 May 1996

Interim Assessment Process - NSW forest regions



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Joint groups information briefing sheet

31 May 1996

Interim Assessment Process - questions and answers

What is the significance of the coming NSW forest decision?

The NSW Government will shortly decide which areas of forest it considers are likely to be required for a forest reserve system.

Logging will stop in these areas while more detailed regional assessments are done. Some new National Parks may be gazetted before the end of the year if we can make a strong enough case to Government.

Why is this forest process different?

This is the first time in NSW that conservation groups, industry and unions have joined government officials in detailed negotiations about the future of the forests.

It is also the first time that all parties have had access to the government's computerised data on the values of the forests, and the first time that all parties have together considered how that data should be interpreted.

It is the last chance for putting in place an ecologically rational moratorium to protect high conservation value forests, pending the establishment of a 'comprehensive, adequate and representative' reserve system (see below).

Why is this forest process so important?

Once this moratorium is in place more detailed studies will be carried out over several years during a comprehensive regional assessment.

This is designed to lead to a regional forest agreement which resolves the final boundaries of a system of national parks and reserves.

Areas excluded from the moratorium will be much harder to protect at a later stage—and may be lost to logging.

What is resource security?

Under a resource security agreement, a private company is given the right to extract a guaranteed amount of timber from an area of public forest for a long period (say 20 years).

If the government wants to reduce timber yields because of new information (for example, a new sighting of an endangered animal) it must compensate the company. In effect, it must buy back public forest which has been handed over to private companies.

Environment groups strongly oppose resource security.

For more answers to your questions
come along to the
Special Briefing
Wednesday 12 June at 6.30 pm
at the National Parks Association

What is a comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system?

Comprehensive: The reserve system gives broad coverage to the full range of native forest biodiversity, that is community, species and genetic variation.

Adequate: The reserve system is sufficiently large, and constructed in such a way that normal ecosystem processes can continue indefinitely, and resist disturbance from outside.

Representative: The reserve system includes representative samples of the diversity within forest communities (for example, both old growth and regrowth samples of a forest community).

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Joint groups information briefing sheet

31 May 1996

Interim Assessment Process - what you can do

1. Find out about the options generated by the Interim Assessment Process negotiations. Contact the Nature Conservation Council (NCC) to register your interest in attending the Special Briefing Meeting: Wednesday 12 June 1996, 6.30 pm, National Parks Association, Level 4, Imperial Arcade, Sydney. NCC phone (02) 247 4206; fax (02) 247 4285
2. Attend the Public Rally to show your support for conserving the remaining native forests of NSW: Thursday 20 June 1996, 7.00 pm, Sydney Town Hall. Help distribute rally leaflets (see attached).
3. Attend regional meetings in the Blue Mountains and Bathurst, and metropolitan meetings in Drummoyne and Gladesville. You will be notified if you live in these areas.
4. Register with the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council to attend its information meetings: GPO Box 3927, Sydney, NSW 2001, phone (02) 228 3166, fax: (02) 228 4967.
5. Send in a submission on your preferred options during the public exhibition period.
6. Write to newspapers, stating your preference for conservation of NSW native forests.
7. Be ready to ring talk-back radio to state your views on native forest protection.
8. Get copies of the Forest Parks Countdown broadsheet (due out in mid-June) for distribution in your area. Contact the Nature Conservation Council if you can help.
9. Donate to the Nature Conservation Council of NSW. We urgently need more funds for this crucial campaign.

10. Write to Bob Carr: (suggested guide only)

Dear Mr Carr,

Thank you for trying to resolve the dispute over NSW native forests. I ask you to:

- ☐ Place all areas likely to be needed for a comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) forest reserve system under moratorium without delay.
- ☐ Create new National Parks this year to protect core areas of the future reserve system.
- ☐ Refuse demands from logging companies for contracts which would force you to abandon promises of a CAR forest reserve system and sustainable management outside reserves.

Yours sincerely,

11. Write to John Howard: (guide only)

Dear Mr Howard,

Thank you for contributing \$60 million to the NSW Government's forestry reform program. I ask you to:

- ☐ Support the rapid creation of a comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) forest reserve system in NSW.
- ☐ Use your influence to ensure an immediate moratorium over all areas likely to be needed for a CAR forest reserve system.
- ☐ Use your powers to end native forest export woodchipping and help bring about sustainable off-reserve forest management.

Yours sincerely,

forest parks countdown

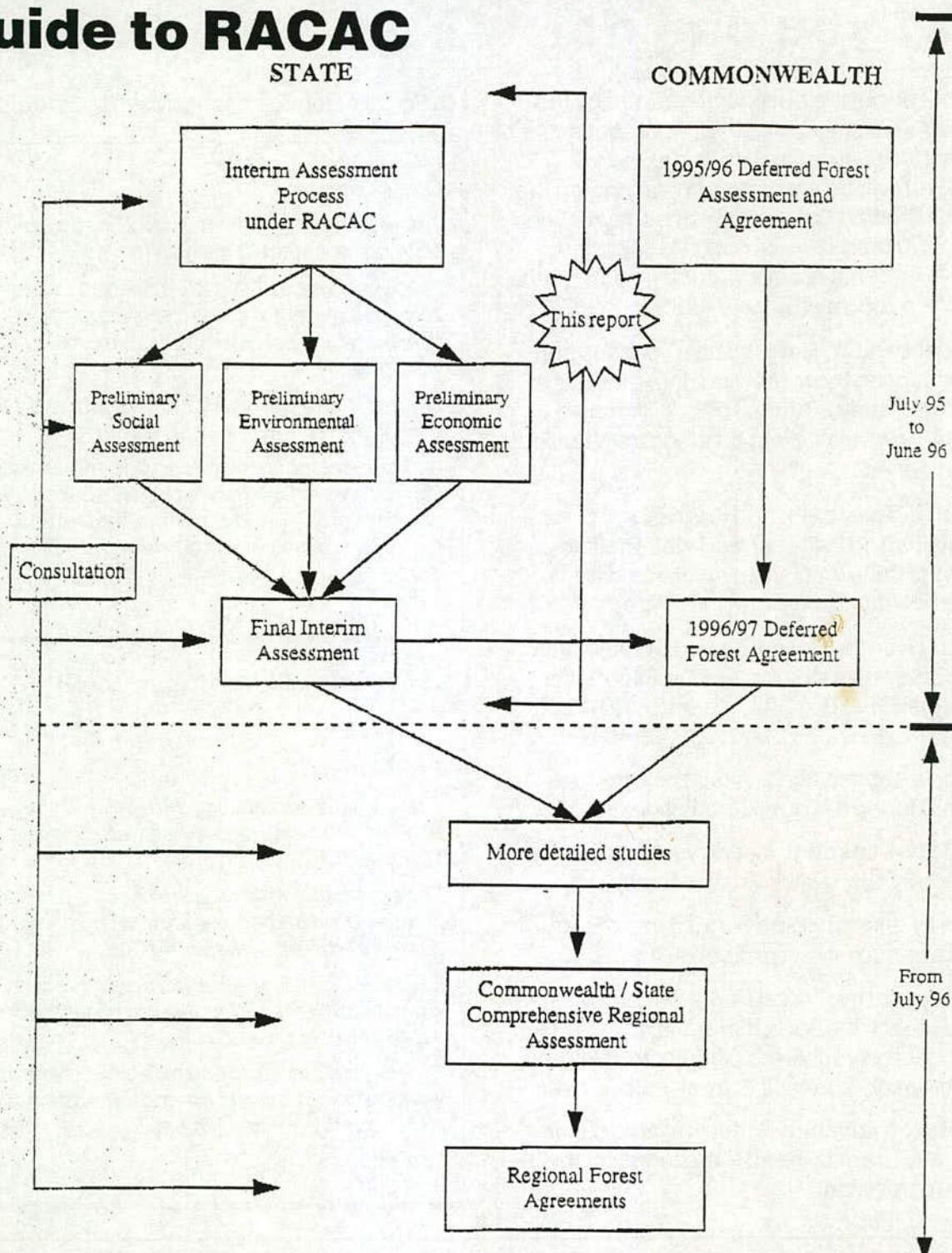
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Joint groups information briefing sheet

31 May 1996

Interim Assessment Process - a guide to RACAC



The Forest Parks Countdown campaign is supported by the Nature Conservation Council of NSW, the Total Environment Centre, the Australian Conservation Foundation, the National Parks Association of NSW, The Wilderness Society, the South East Forests Conservation Council, the Humane Society International, Friends of the Earth, the North East Forest Alliance, the Colong Foundation for Wilderness and the Conservation Council of SE Region and Canberra.

Weaknesses in IAP

as per leaflet?

(+)

- technology + ~~processes?~~ programs?
- data → 'targets' probs.
- limited data
- limited time?! to review data + targets

'experimental' negotiation process.

be there to help save our north east forests



**green
band
aid**

**A BENEFIT CONCERT FOR DAVID
BRADBURY'S LATEST DOCUMENTARY
'LOGGERHEADS' AND THE NORTH EAST
FOREST ALLIANCE (NEFA)**



**SATURDAY
JUNE 1ST
FULL MOON • GATES
OPEN 3PM**

*Thursday Plantation's Natural
Amphitheatre, on the Pacific
Highway, North of Ballina
Street Performances
Yummy Food & Drinks*

**PETER GARRETT
AS MC WITH**

GRACE KNIGHT

PAUL KELLY

TIDDAS

KEV CARMODY

MANDY NOLAN

WILD ZINNIAS

CHRIS FISHER

AND THE

DREAMCATCHERS

COOLANGUBRA DUO

JOJO SMITH

PRE-SALE TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM BALLINA - HAGANS
SOUNDWORKS, BELLINGEN - BELLINGEN TRAVEL, BYRON BAY -
SOUNDWAVES, BRISBANE - SKINNYS RECORDS, CASINO - VIBES
RECORD BAR, COFFS HARBOUR - COFFS HARBOUR RECORD
STORE, THE GOLD COAST - FLEX YOUR HEAD MUSIC STORE,
GRAFTON - THE CLARENCE ENVIRONMENT CENTRE, LISMORE -
MUSIC BAZAAR, MULLUMBIMBY - FACE THE MUSIC. FOR \$20
(USUAL OUTLET FEES APPLY), OR \$23 AT THE GATE.
CHILDREN UNDER 12YRS FREE AND 12-16YRS \$15. TICKET
WORLD PHONE CHARGE AVAILABLE OLD PH 131931, OTHER
STATES PH 073 3223 0444. 1900 130 262 75 CENTS PER
MINUTE. HIGHER RATES MAY APPLY FROM MOBILE OR PAY
PHONES. VOICE INFORMATION PROCESSING SERVICES

Harvesting Plan Quotas

- Murwillumbah MA

- Whiran Whiran. 69

products	veneer	200 m ³ gross.
	Quota	400 m ³ "
	Salvage	100 m ³ "
	Fencing Timber	

Already logged Murwillumbah.

- Wollumbin 19

veneer	1600 m ³ gross.
Quota	100 m ³ "
Salvage	500 m ³ "

- this compartment has had continuous harvesting since 94 and is still current. Our recent negotiations have at least halved the quota left.

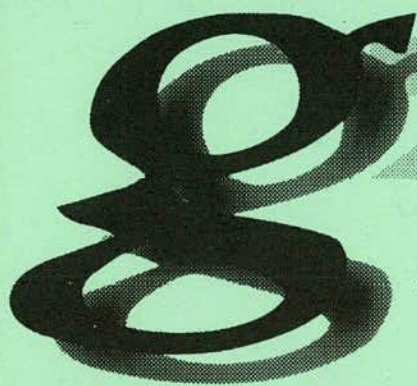
- Wollumbin 18.

Veneer	500 m ³
Quota	750 m ³
Poles	250 m ³

Salvaged small logs, including reject logs
750 m³

- this cpt was also subject to negotiations and has had the area avail. halved (also) it is still current.

be there to help save our north east forests



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• Uirhenville MA

Yahbra 176-177

Quota sawlogs (assessed) 6000 m³

Thinnings 500 m³

Poles, piles & girders 500 m³

- operations current.

Yahbra 164 & 165

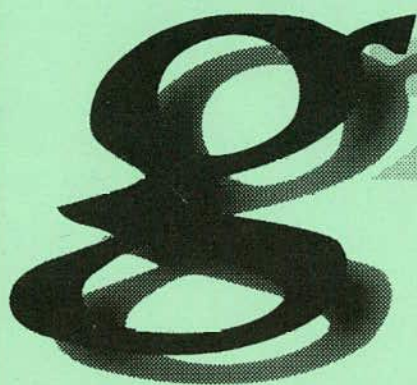
Quota sawlogs (assessed) 4100 m³

Thinnings 500 m³

Poles, Piles & girders 400 m³

- operations current.

be there to help save our north east forests



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NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW

THE NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW
39 GEORGE ST
THE ROCKS NSW 2000
PHONE: (02) 247 4266/247 2228
FAX: (02) 247 5945



MEDIA RELEASE...Monday 22nd April 1996...MEDIA RELEASE

CRUCIAL FOREST NEGOTIATIONS NEW TO START THIS WEEK IN NEW SOUTH WALES CC EXPECTS GOVERNMENT TO DELIVER

Conservationists, the timber industry and unions, and representatives, of the NSW and Federal Governments will enter a 3-week negotiating process at Hurstville on Tuesday 23rd April, to attempt an historic breakthrough in the long-running conflict over NSW's native forests.

The Nature Conservation Council has welcomed the imminent start to negotiations over implementing the 'Interim Assessment Process' (IAP) - the second and crucial stage of the Carr Government's forest policy.

For the first time in Australia, a systematic, science-based process, with stakeholder involvement, will "identify, on a regional basis, those forest areas that may need to be set aside from logging for their inclusion in a comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system".

Industry, conservation and government representatives will negotiate four scenarios each for ten regions in eastern NSW. One scenario is based on achieving agreed Commonwealth/State criteria for a comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system.

Under the other three scenarios, potential forest reserves will be designed to accommodate logging at 70%, 50% and 30% of current levels. Only two scenarios will be identified for the Eden region.

After three weeks of negotiations, the results will be released for public comment, leading to a decision by government towards the end of June.

"So far, the Carr Government has shown welcome commitment to a fair forest assessment process. It is utilising advanced technology to aid negotiations, and is providing substantial assistance to stakeholders, including unprecedented - although not unreasonable - access to information about NSW's public forests" said Sid Walker, Executive Officer of the Nature Conservation Council of NSW.*

"The Federal Government has also played a constructive role to date, requiring NSW to satisfy Commonwealth criteria for a comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system" Mr Walker said.

"As long as the Interim Assessment Process (IAP) is allowed to run its course - and all stakeholders negotiate in good faith - this is the best opportunity ever to identify and protect the areas likely to be needed for the long-term CAR forest reserve system in eastern NSW" he said.

"While the NCC is engaging in this process in good faith, we will be critical participants who can be relied upon to speak out if we see the process not being followed faithfully and the forests betrayed" he said.

"Further action will be needed after the IAP to secure the long-term reserve system, but this current stage in the implementation of government forest policy is of momentous significance - especially in view of timber industry demands that 'resource security' guarantees to timber companies are also an outcome of the IAP" Mr Walker added.

"If industry succeeds in getting major resource guarantees when the IAP moratorium is declared in June, many public native forests outside the moratorium will be intensively logged. Those forests may never again be considered for reservation. This is their last chance" he concluded.

For more information contact:

Sid Walker on 02 247 4206 (w) and 02 264 7005 (h)

or members of the conservation negotiating team on 02 544 3962

* the Nature Conservation Council of NSW (NCC) is co-ordinating the NSW conservationist movement's involvement in the IAP. The NCC, peak body of the NSW conservation movement, has 100 member groups.

NEFA

North East Forest Alliance

149 Keen St Lismore 2480 Phone/Fax (066) 22 4737

Penny
Byron Echo,
Fax 841 719

23rd May 1996

Dear Penny,

Here is the promised article. I've made it as simple as possible but didn't want to leave out the important details. Have fun with the feature.

xx Georgiä Beyer

P.S. If a photo is to be used, a forest or a nice endangered species photo would be good eg. a koala or a Tiger Quoll.

♡g

Who is NEFA?

The North East Forest Alliance is an alliance of groups and individuals working to protect our old growth and high conservation value forests, rainforests and wilderness. NEFA supports the development of an ecologically sustainable timber industry in plantations and native forests.

NEFA formed in 1989 and has succeeded in protecting areas of old growth such as Dome Mountain, Chaelundi and the Mummel Gulf and in forcing the NSW Government to improve logging practices by preparing Environmental Impact Statements and implementing logging conditions.

The Interim Assessment Process

In 1992 the Prime Minister and the Premiers of all mainland states signed the National Forest Policy Statement which promised a "Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative (CAR) Reserve System".

After 3 years of stalling, the first step towards the CAR reserve system was the Commonwealth's disastrous 1995 Deferred Forest Areas (DFA) which was criticised by conservationists, scientists and the timber industry.

The second step is the NSW Government's Interim Assessment Process (IAP), which is currently identifying areas that are "likely to be required for a CAR Reserve System".

The IAP, unlike the DFA, is a transparent, scientific process that involves all stakeholders. NEFA supports this process and is represented on the body carrying out the interim assessment, the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council (RACAC), by Mr Dailan Pugh. Earlier this year RACAC interpreted the Commonwealth Government's conservation reserve criteria and developed detailed targets, for use in the IAP's recent negotiation stage, to ensure key conservation goals are actually achieved.

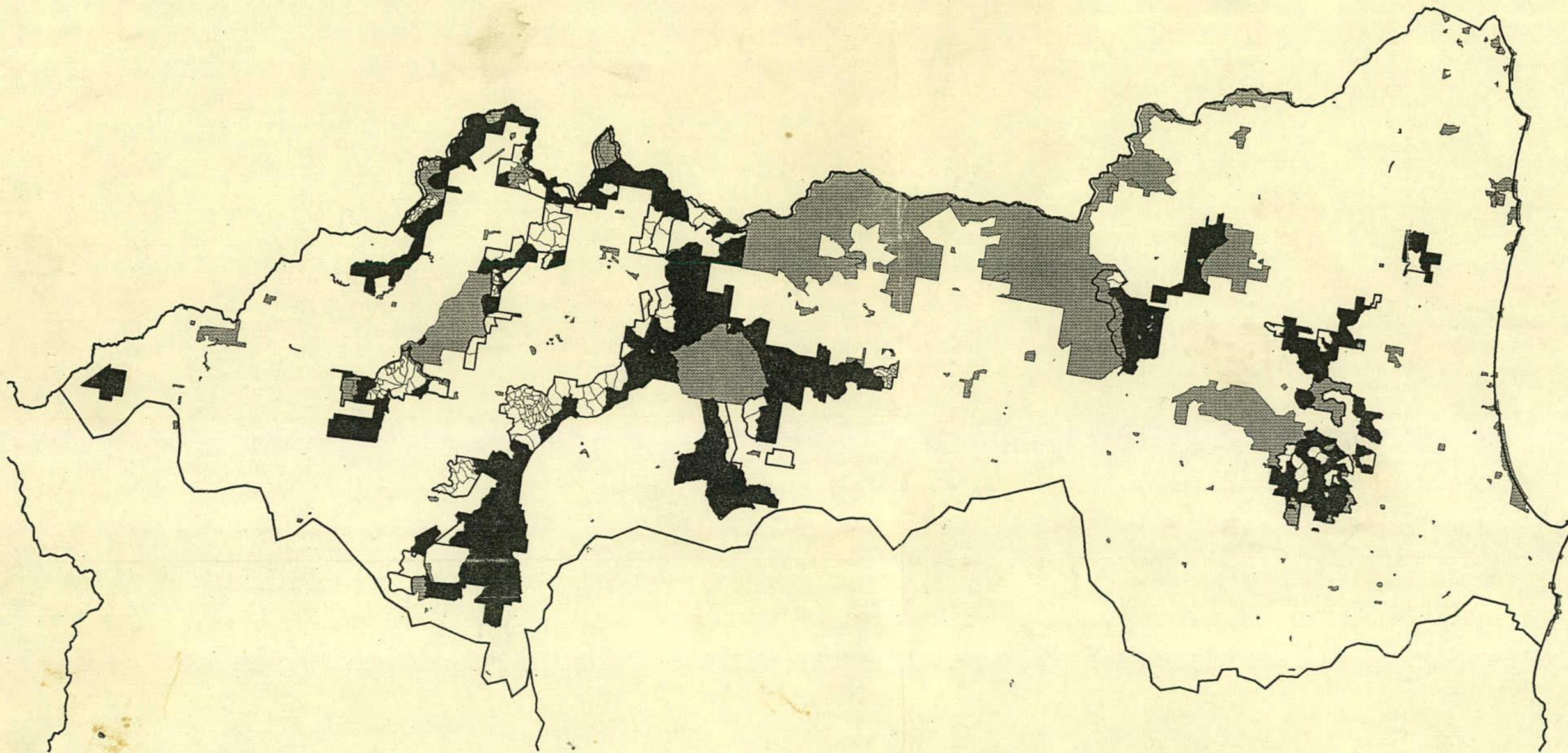
By applying these criteria & targets to meet the conservation goals, a "conservation option" for public lands in northern NSW has been identified. Other options developed during the negotiations, 'wind back' the conservation option and identify timber areas required under 30%, 50% and 70% timber quota cuts. All these options will be reported upon in a publicly exhibited draft report to be released in early June. Public comment will be invited until late June, when RACAC is to write up a Final Report. NSW Cabinet will consider the IAP outcomes in July.

The areas finally identified in the IAP will be placed under moratorium from logging until Regional Forest Agreements are concluded and the final CAR reserve system implemented.

It's essential that the public get involved and make submissions on the IAP Draft Report. The report will be available ~~at~~ from RACAC, GPO Box 3927 Sydney, Ph 02 228 3166 or from State Forests and National Parks and Wildlife Service offices.

For more information on the IAP or other forest issues call NEFA 066 224 737.

Interim Forest Assessment
Conservation Criteria Outcome
N1 Study Area



Existing Reserve
Deferred
Partially Deferred

SCALE 1:650,000
PROJECTION
Universal Transverse Mercator

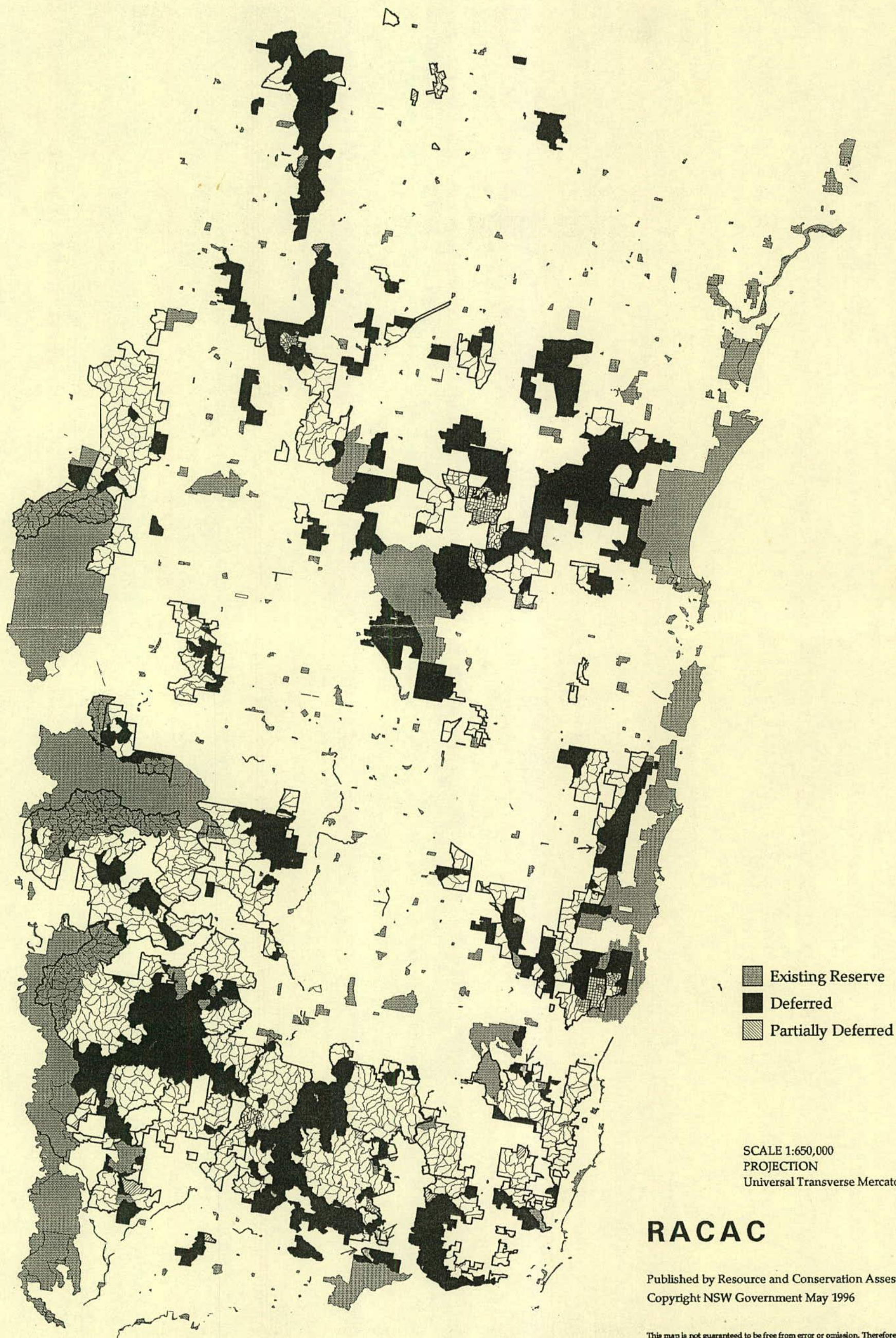
RACAC

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Map Compiled from:
compartment and preferred management priority data from State Forests of NSW National Park, Nature Reserve and Wilderness data from NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
Vacant Crown Land data from DLAWC, NPWS and State Forests of NSW

Interim Forest Assessment Conservation Criteria Outcome N2 Study Area



Existing Reserve
Deferred
Partially Deferred

SCALE 1:650,000
PROJECTION
Universal Transverse Mercator

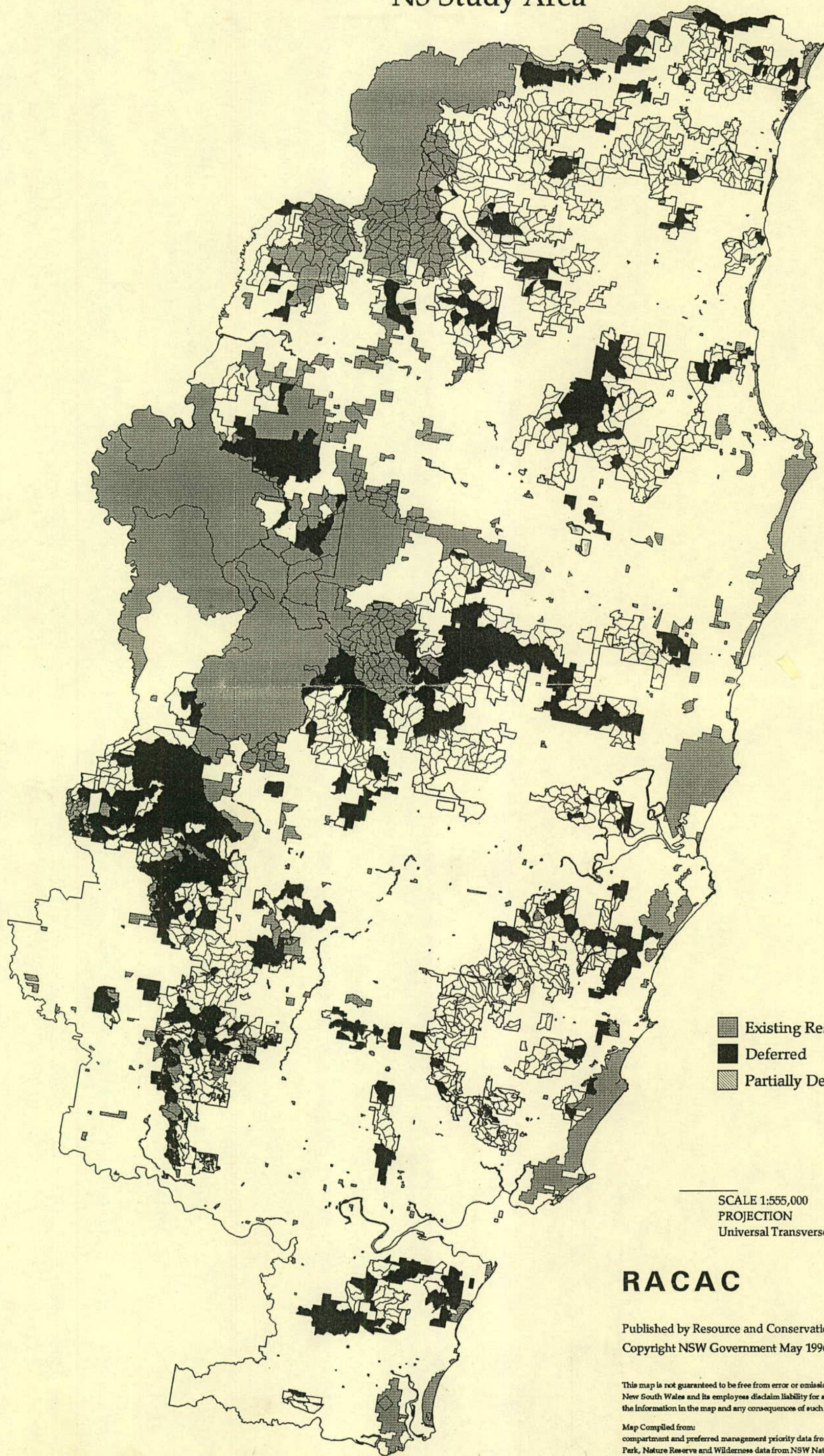
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Vacant Crown Land data from DLAWC, NPWS and State Forests of NSW

Interim Forest Assessment Conservation Criteria Outcome N3 Study Area



Existing Reserve
Deferred
Partially Deferred

SCALE 1:555,000
PROJECTION
Universal Transverse Mercator

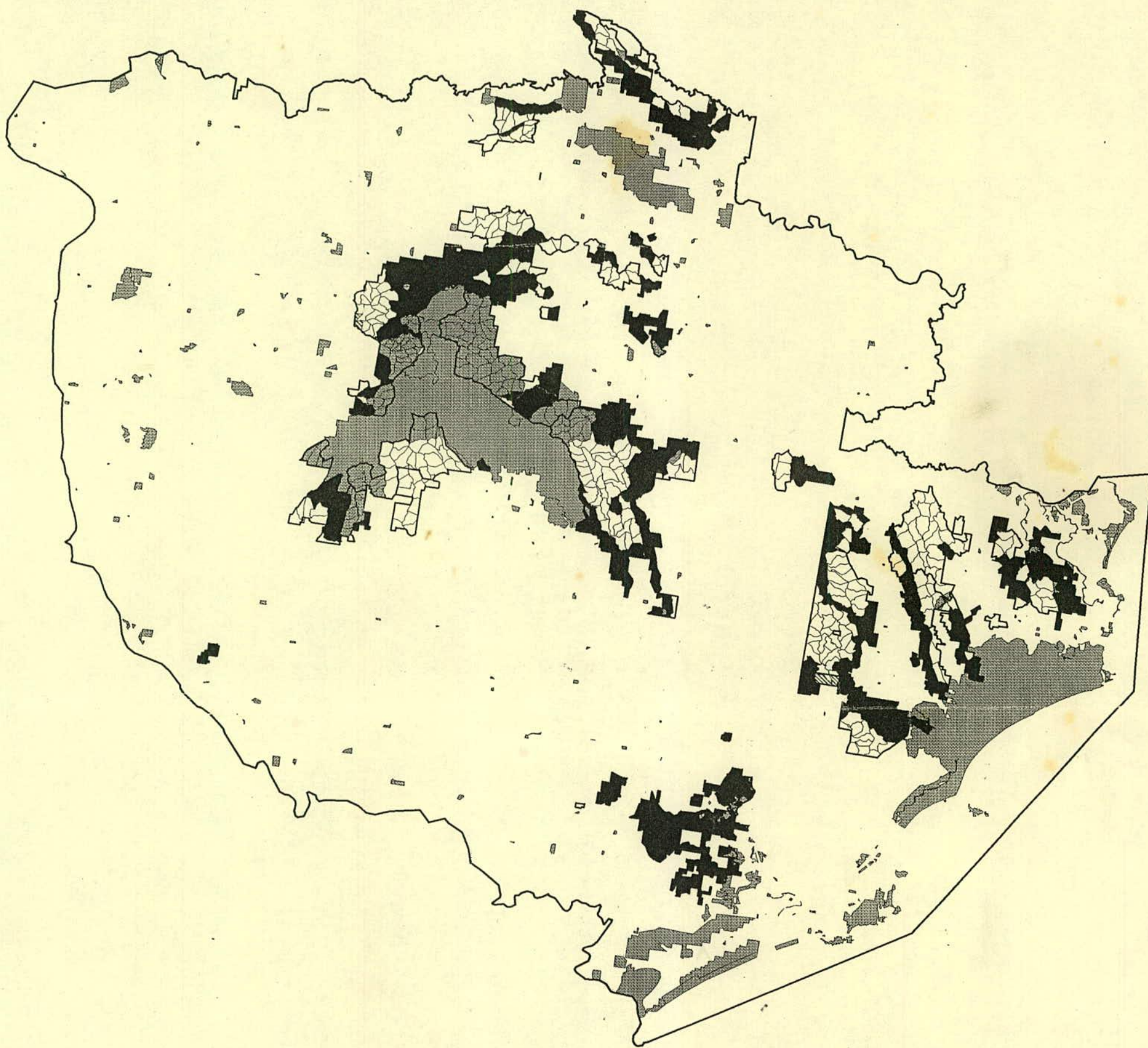
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Interim Forest Assessment Conservation Criteria Outcome N4 Study Area



Existing Reserve
Deferred
Partially Deferred

SCALE 1:650,000
PROJECTION
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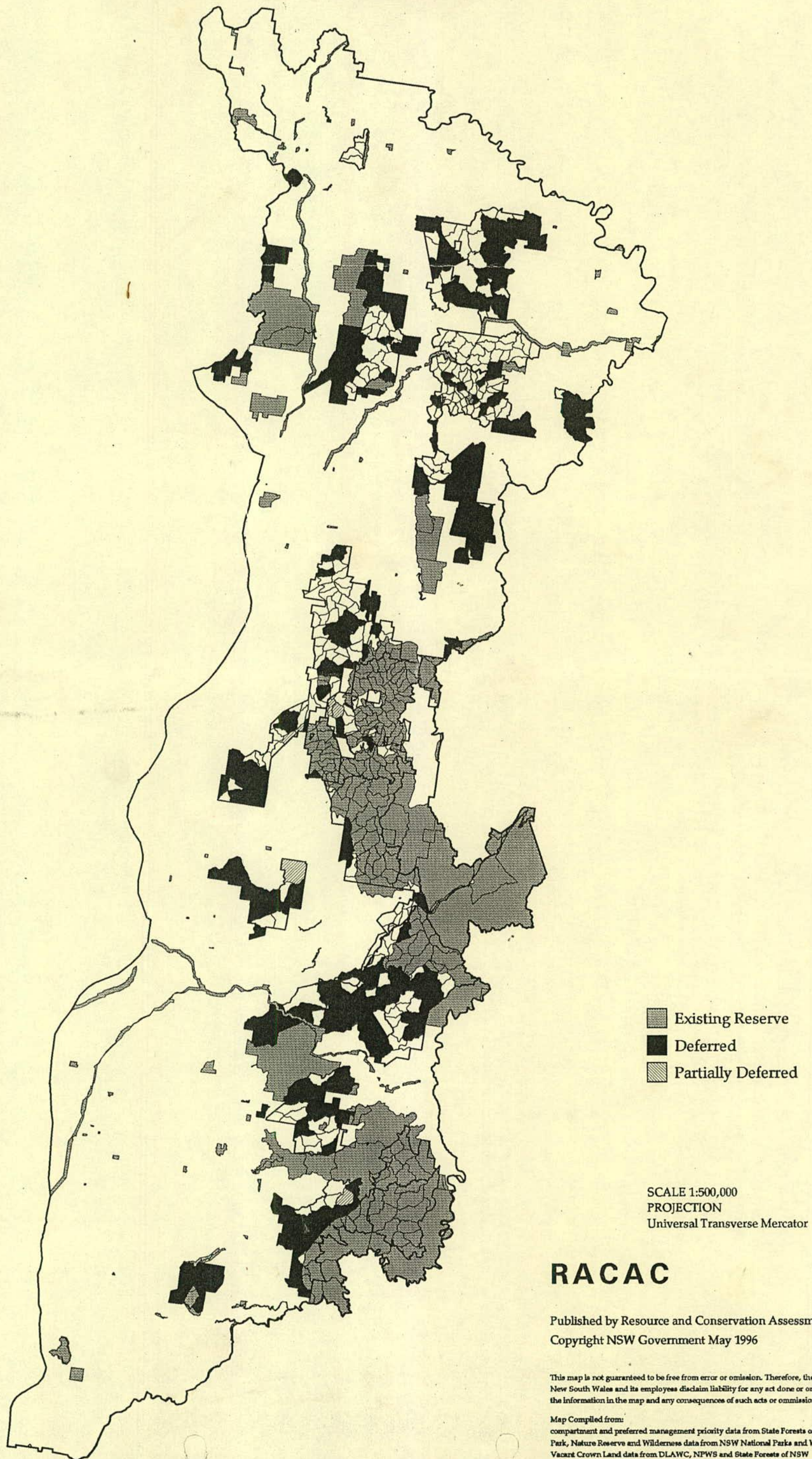
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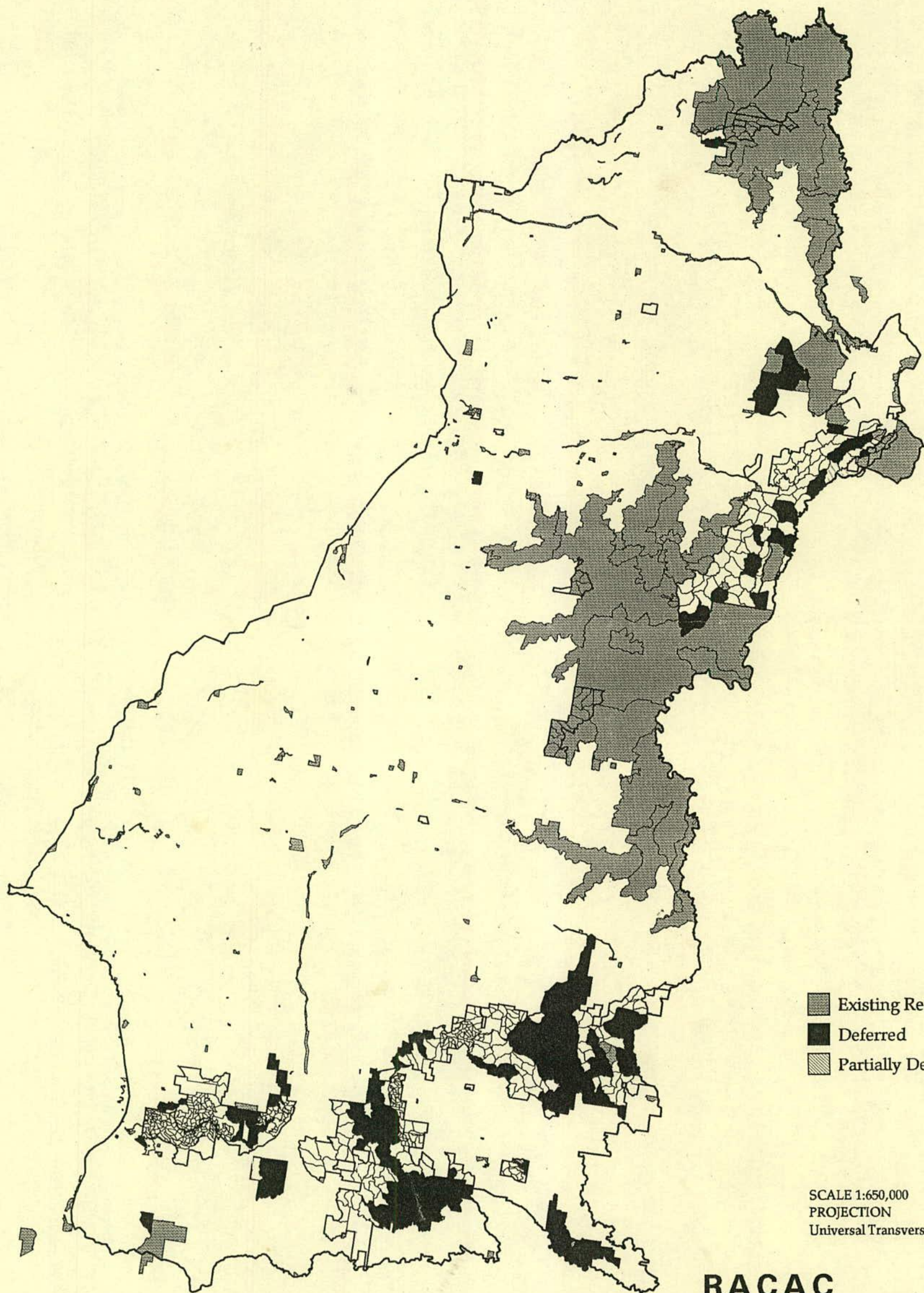
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Interim Forest Assessment
Conservation Criteria Outcome
N5 Study Area



Interim Forest Assessment
Conservation Criteria Outcome
N6 Study Area



Existing Reserve
Deferred
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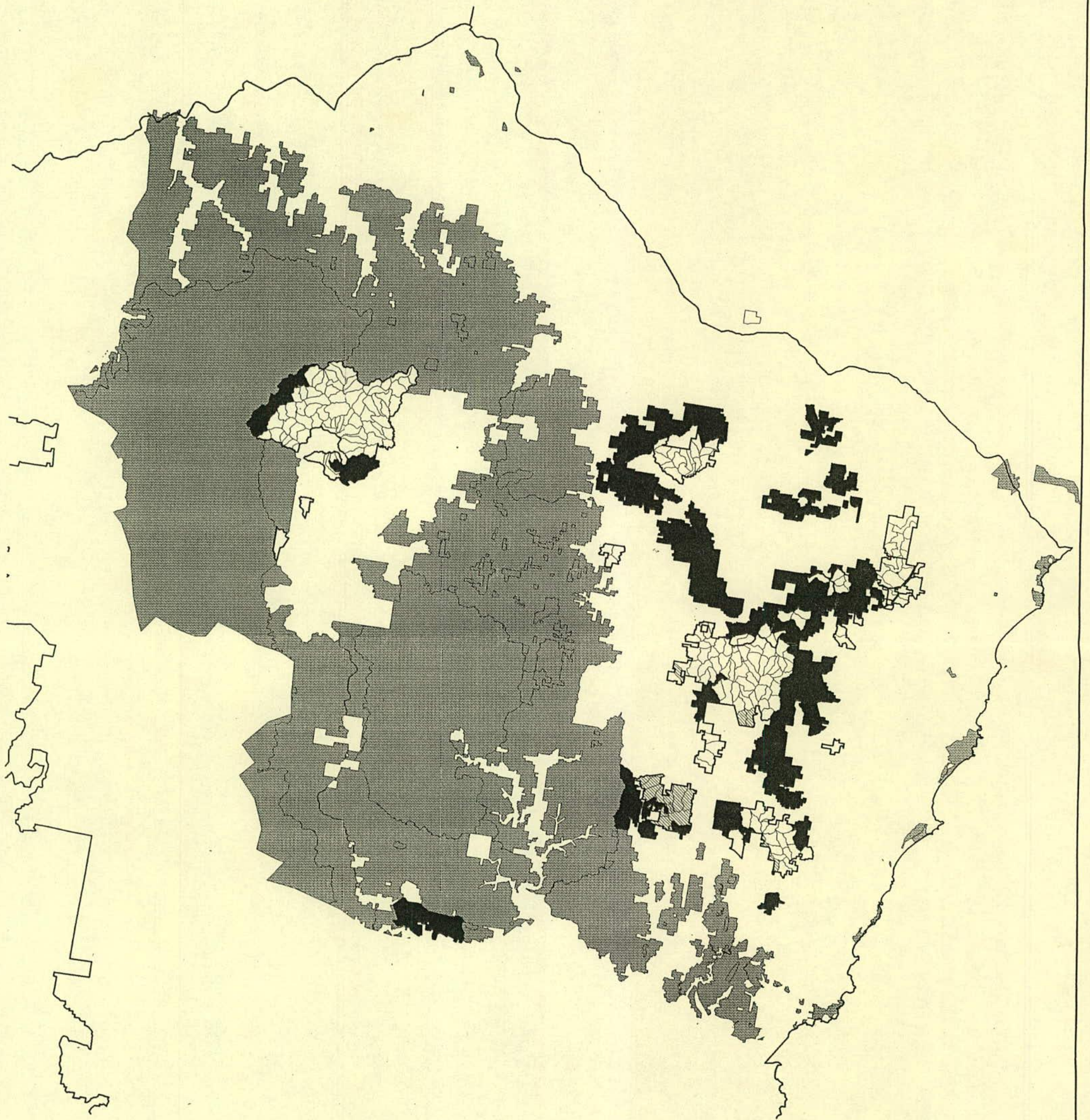
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Interim Forest Assessment

Approximate 50% Wood Supply Outcome

Central Study Area



-  Existing Reserve
-  Deferred
-  Partially Deferred

SCALE 1:650,000
PROJECTION
Universal Transverse Mercator

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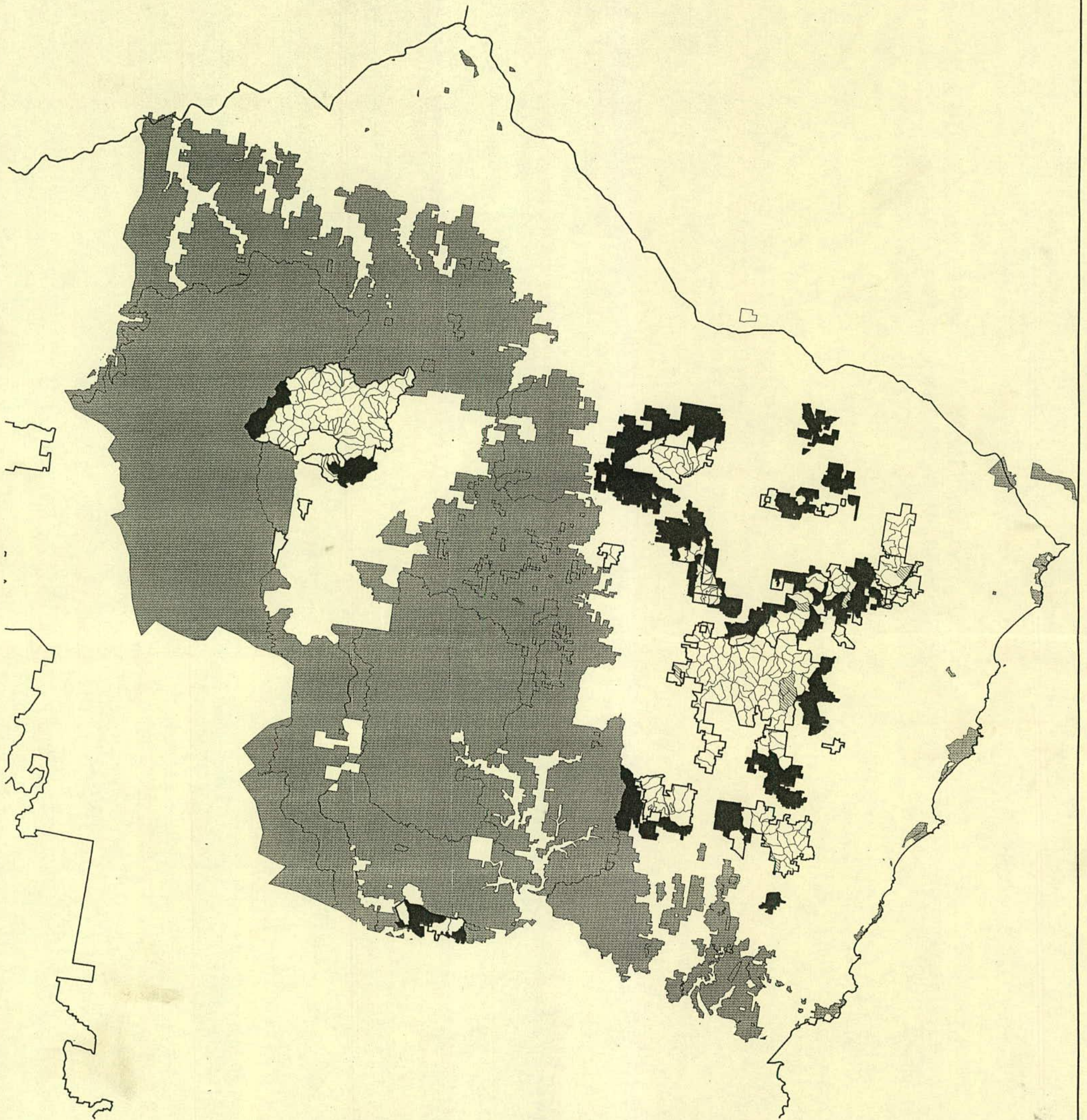
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Interim Forest Assessment

Approximately 70% Wood Supply Outcome

Central Study Area



-  Existing Reserve
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-  Partially Deferred

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NSWCA

A GUIDE TO THE
NSW INTERIM ASSESSMENT PROCESS
FOR CONSERVATION GROUPS

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THAT IT ALL BE LOGGED. PLEASE HELP.

THE PROCESS

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To facilitate this process the NSW government initiated the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council (RACAC). RACAC constitutes

representatives from government departments, independent experts and representatives from union, industry and conservation stakeholder groups. Its initial aim is to undertake an Interim Assessment Process (IAP) to identify all forests on public land in eastern NSW likely to be required for a comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system, whilst also allowing for the maintenance of a viable native forest timber industry.

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The biggest impediment to achieving a worthwhile outcome is the gross overcutting by the timber industry under the previous government. It has already been identified that there needs to be a reduction of at least 30% to 40% in cutting rates just to bring the industry down to a more sustainable level of logging. This is without meeting

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RESERVE CRITERIA

The RACAC Conservation Working Group has representatives of conservation groups, Forest Products Association, State Forests, National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning.

One of the main tasks of the Conservation Working Group has been to adapt the Commonwealth's reserve criteria for application in NSW. This is necessary because most of the criteria mentioned are general principles and thus have had to be made into quantifiable targets.

Four basic criteria are being utilised to set reservation targets:

1. Species

The highest priority plant and animal species have selected for each region and reservation targets set on an individual basis. Due to time constraints not all priority species were able to be considered. Panels of experts were established to set reservation targets for each species. The expert panels also examined each species distribution against evident dispersal barriers, known genetic variation and broad environmental gradients to identify sub-regions for many species, and identified irreplaceable localities for reservation where these represented known key localities.

The expert panels reviewed records to establish data bases for the IAP. For fauna they either reviewed models predicting the occurrence of species across the landscape (north east NSW) or developed expert models based on species' known habitat preferences. Such predictive models are based upon using mapped variables (e.g. forest types, growth stage, temperature, rainfall, geology etc.) to extrapolate from known localities to identify likely suitable habitat elsewhere in a region.

The basic strategy adopted in setting reservation targets for fauna in the IAP has been to use expert knowledge to establish areas required to maintain viable population units, so that functioning communities of species vulnerable to threatening processes are retained throughout the forest estate, rather than ending up with isolated individuals or un-viable populations spread throughout the forest.

This methodology is based upon a number of studies which have shown that each species requires a population of at least certain size to be retained to maintain their viability, and thus persistence, over time. There is also a necessity to ensure that dispersal between

these populations can occur to maintain genetic fitness. The most famous example of this type of approach is the North American Spotted Owl, where the adopted strategy was based upon ideally reserving blocks of habitat suitable to maintain 20 or more pairs of spotted owls, with smaller habitat blocks acceptable when the ideal size could not be found. To account for dispersal it was determined that generally, the 20-pair blocks should be not more than 12 miles apart and the smaller habitat blocks not more than 7 miles apart.

Expert fauna panels determined reservation targets for target fauna species by:

- using breeding units (i.e. female home ranges or the average densities of females) as a basis for identifying viable population units for each species or identifying a reservation target for suitable habitat; and,
- setting reservation targets, based on population units and taking into account regional vulnerability and endemism, for each sub-region.

For flora baseline reservation targets were set for the following threat categories:

Endangered	85% of
localities	
Vulnerable	60% of
localities	
Other species of conservation concern	30% of localities

For each target species, the panels then considered adjusting the targets (up or down) depending on the level of endemism, life history and threats to their habitat.

2. Forest types

Existing maps delineating forest types (at a scale of 1:25,000) were used where available. The existing forest type mapping and/or flora plot data were used predict the distribution of forest types across unmapped (including cleared) lands based on similarities in geology, soils, climate, topography and other attributes. For northern and central regions State Forests forest type maps are the basis for forest types while in other regions floristic plots have been used to identify floristic communities.

The Commonwealth's baseline target of reserving 15% of the 1750 - pre-European - extent of each forest type has been adopted. This baseline target has been varied (based on predicted original distribution) by the use of a formulae which ensures that a reservation target of 15% of the total 1750 forest area is established, with increased reservation targets for naturally rare forest types compensated for by corresponding decreases in reservation targets for the more widespread forest types. While this

maintains the overall target as 15%, in effect it establishes targets for individual forest types varying from 10% to 100% according to natural rarity.

This target is further varied to account for vulnerability. Surrogates for vulnerability were taken to be the extent to which a forest type has been cleared (past depletion) and the percentage of the remaining extent of each forest type which occurs on private and leasehold land (existing vulnerability). By the use of another formulae the natural rarity target was adjusted in a linear fashion from 0 to a maximum of 50% for past depletion and 20% for existing vulnerability.

The flora panels checked adjusted targets for all forest types. Further adjustments were considered taking into account other threats, regional endemism and heterogeneity of forest types.

Due to the extensive clearing of some forest types and the restricted extent of some others on lands subject to this assessment it is not possible to achieve the reservation target set for many forest types.

Rainforest

As part of the interim oldgrowth forest assessment project rainforests were re-mapped on a more ecological basis than has been done in the past. In that project rainforest was identified where less than 30% of its canopy is comprised of pyrophytic emergents (canopy species mostly requiring occasional fires for regeneration. ie eucalypts, Brush Box, Turpentine) and where a well developed rainforest understorey was visible when less than 50% of the canopy was comprised of pyrophytic emergents. Rainforest stands generally less than 25 ha in size were not mapped in the oldgrowth project and thus still require further assessment.

The NPWS argued that all stands identified as having a rainforest understorey should be managed as rainforest. Though as there was some inconsistency amongst interpreters in identifying rainforest where 30-50% of the canopy was formed by pyrophitic emergents it was decided that for the purpose of the IAP such stands would only be identified as rainforest where they were classed as oldgrowth forest. This was based on the rationale that if it is oldgrowth it is likely that the rainforest would be well developed.

This still leaves unresolved forests identified as having 30-50% of their canopy comprised of pyrophytic emergents over rainforest and which are not oldgrowth forests. The status of these forests and those with canopies comprised of more than 50% of pyrophytic emergents over a rainforest understorey require further assessment during the CRA.

While it is agreed that rainforest should be 100% protected the reservation targets for rainforest have still not been finally decided. There are problems in north-east NSW where small stands of rainforest are scattered throughout the forests. To avoid the scenario in north-east NSW of almost every compartment being identified for reservation, often on the basis of only a small area of rainforest, it has been recommended that smaller stands (except where identified by botanists as particularly significant) be filtered out and all larger stands be set a reservation target of 100%. A target of 100% has been recommended for rainforests elsewhere in the state

3. Oldgrowth forest

One of the most ambitious of RACAC's projects was to map the growth stages of forests over public lands in eastern NSW within 6 months. To achieve this task a simplified methodology was developed that used interpretation of 1:25,000 aerial photographs. This Aerial Photograph Interpretation (API) involved interpreters identifying patches of forest with similar crown characteristics and assessing the relative dominance of regrowth (pointed crowns) and senescent (irregular crowns) trees visible in these patches. Due to the timeframe broad categories and in general a minimum patch size of 25 hectares were adopted. The relative proportions of regrowth and senescent crowns were divided into classes of <10%, 10-30% and >30%. A total of 3.3 million hectares was so mapped.

Senescent trees are not readily visible from photographs for some tree species (atypical) growing on high and moderate quality sites or in forests growing on poorer sites. Thus the definition of which growth stages are candidate oldgrowth forest, as adopted for the IAP, varies according to site quality and whether species show "typical" growth stages. For the more controversial classes (tc, sb and sc) logging history was applied such that if State Forests had records of logging occurring in the past 20 years it was excluded from the candidate oldgrowth category.

The definition of oldgrowth adopted by the oldgrowth project is:
"Old growth forest is forest which has a significant proportion of the oldest discernible growth stages in its overstorey and negligible structural evidence of disturbances, using interpretation of 1:25,000 scale aerial photographs. These criteria must be interpreted within the context of the characteristics which would be expected of the latest successional stage(s) likely to be attained by the vegetation type under the unmodified disturbance regime characteristic of its site."

CANDIDATE OLDGROWTH CLASSES ADOPTED FOR THE IAP.

It needs to be noted that the IAP has only identified candidate oldgrowth stands greater than around 25 hectares in size. While the definition adopted will include most of the larger stands of oldgrowth it will also include some stands that are not oldgrowth and omit most smaller stands of oldgrowth.

Reservation targets for candidate old growth forest were set in line with the Commonwealth criteria, such that:

- for forest types that have been extensively cleared (85 per cent cleared or more) or with less than 10 per cent of their extant distribution as oldgrowth the reservation target is 100%;
- for forest types with 10 to 25 per cent of their extant distribution as old growth, old growth reservation targets vary inversely from 90% to 60%; and,
- for forest types with more than 25 per cent of their extant distribution as old growth, the old growth reservation target is 60%.

The setting of a specific oldgrowth target for each forest type results in two base reservation targets for each forest type:

- where the oldgrowth target exceeds the forest type target, the oldgrowth target is given priority,
- where the forest type target exceeds the oldgrowth target, then the remaining forest type target is met by any remaining oldgrowth available until the forest type target is reached.

4. Wilderness

The Commonwealth requires that 90% or more of "high quality" (NWI +12) wilderness be protected. For the IAP it was decided to identify for protection 100% of NPWS identified wildernesses, with additional areas of "high quality" wilderness identified by the Commonwealth being assessed to see if they meet NSW criteria.

WOOD RESOURCES STUDY

In typical fashion State Forests have ignored the process of review and consultation established by RACAC, to which all other studies have been subjected, by undertaking their own Wood Resources Study in isolation from RACAC. This has understandably led to considerable

concern within RACAC over their methodology and the validity of their data layers. Attempts are still being made to have their study independently reviewed though time is running out.

State Forests' Wood Resources Study will be used to identify the current and future timber yields a section of forest is likely to produce. Areas will be mapped onto a GIS that are similar in stand yield characteristics. This will allow the identification of the "value" of a stand in timber terms and an estimate of sustainable (not ecologically) yield until any future date for any given area to be calculated.

Thus when the initial reserve system has been designed the effect on sustainable yield can be calculated. Also during negotiations, compartments of similar conservation value can be discriminated on their contribution to harvestable volume and sustainable yield. The Wood Resources Study data layer will appear on the negotiation GIS.

NEGOTIATION PROCESS

Within the five study areas being assessed eleven negotiation regions, based on State Forests' Management Areas (MAs), have been identified:

Northern Study Area:

- N1. Urbenville and Murwillumbah MAs
- N2. Casino, Grafton, Coffs Harbour and Dorrigo MAs
- N3. Urunga, Kempsey, Wauchope, Kendall, Wingham and Taree MAs.
- N4. Bulahdelah, Gloucester, Wallaroo and Mt. Royal MAs.
- N5. Tenterfield and Glen Innes MAs.
- N6. Styx and Walcha-Nundle MAs.

Central Study Area (part): Morisset MA

Southern Study Area:

- S1. Bateman's Bay and Narooma MAs
- S2. Queanbeyan/Badja MAs

Eden Study Area: Eden MA

Tumut Study Area: Bago-Maragle MA; Tumut Native Forests Working Circle (Buccleuch & Bungongo SFs)

The negotiations will revolve around an interactive Geographical Information System (GIS is a computer based mapping system) containing the data layers developed through the CWG and State Forests' Wood Resources Study.

The actual structure of the negotiation phase is still being finalised, though will basically comprise:

1. Automatic selection of areas of the highest conservation values,
2. NPWS, State Forests, conservation, native timber industry and Commonwealth negotiators using the interactive GIS to identify

other forests likely to be required for a reserve system, taking into account reserve targets, reserve design principles and timber values.

The negotiation period will be from the 22 April until the 10 May, giving 15 working days (including one public holiday) to complete negotiations for 11 regions. Thus the process will give limited time for each region. There will be principle negotiators for each interest group with two or more advisers for each negotiator allowed to be present when each region is being negotiated. The aim is to continue negotiations until all reserve criteria have been met.

At the end of negotiations some as yet undecided process will be used to identify reserve options. While one of these options will be "all forests likely to be required for a reserve system", other options will most likely represent various conservation trade-offs aimed at providing certain levels of supply to industry. Following this the various options will go on public display for one month.

Geographic Information System

The basic building blocks of the reserve system used in negotiations will be State Forest compartments with an average area of 200 ha. Although these are not the optimal unit of choice with regards to reserve design, any smaller units such as sub-catchment boundaries would leave the GIS unworkable due to too many units being analysed.

The main information unit visible on the GIS screen will be the irreplaceability of the compartment. Irreplaceability can be defined in two ways:

- Irreplaceability is the potential contribution of any site to a reservation goal.
- Irreplaceability is the extent to which the options for a representative reserve system are lost if that site is lost.

Each State Forest compartment may contain a range of features which are capable of contributing to the reservation goals set by the reserve targets. Some features, such as wilderness, have reservation targets set at 100%. Compartments containing these features have an irreplaceability rating of 100%, meaning to fulfil the reservation criteria they (or at least that part with the value) must be included in the reservation system. Other areas will have lower irreplaceability levels and thus enable choices to be made for reservation, for example ten compartments containing forest type x will have an irreplaceability level of 50% if only five of them are needed to reach the reservation target of that forest type.

The information leading to the irreplaceability level can be called up at any time for individual compartments, both in tabular and map form.

Many compartments will be given a high irreplaceability ranking based upon the contribution of a small area of a value to that ranking, in such cases the percentage contribution of that value to the compartment will be taken into consideration. For example a 200 ha compartment may contain 10 ha of a 100% irreplaceable value and have no other values requiring reservation. Where values or areas requiring reservation only represent a small fraction of a compartment and/or do not fit into any reasonable reserve design they may have to be protected using other means such as State Forests reserve, Preferred Management Priority zone or logging protocols.

During the negotiation phase the irreplaceability of compartments is recalculated each time a compartment or group of compartments is selected for inclusion in the reserve system. Thus (as in the above example) when the five of the compartments containing forest type x have been selected, the irreplaceability of the remaining five compartments will fall to zero for that feature as its reservation target has been met.

This design allows for flexible decision making during the negotiation process with the most irreplaceable areas acting as seeds for reserve development. It also facilitates 'trading' of compartments whilst still fulfilling reservation goals to improve reservation design or increase the timber resource found outside the reserve system.

Also if the fulfilment of all reservation targets is considered by the government to excessively restrict the resource available to the timber industry then the effect on conservation goals of releasing any compartments is explicit and documented.

For further information please contact:

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point out how critical this submission round is

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Vulnerable	60% of localities
Other species of conservation concern	30% of localities

For each target species, the panels then considered adjusting the targets (up or down) depending on the level of endemism, life history and threats to their habitat.

2. Forest types

Existing maps delineating forest types (at a scale of 1:25,000) were used where available. The existing forest type mapping and/or flora plot data were used predict the distribution of forest types across unmapped (including cleared) lands based on similarities in geology, soils, climate, topography and other attributes. For northern and central regions State Forests forest type maps are the basis for forest types while in other regions floristic plots have been used to identify floristic communities.

The Commonwealth's baseline target of reserving 15% of the 1750 - pre-European - extent of each forest type has been adopted. This baseline target has been varied (based on predicted original distribution) by the use of a formulae which ensures that a reservation target of 15% of the total 1750 forest area is established, with increased reservation targets for naturally rare forest types compensated for by corresponding decreases in reservation targets for the more widespread forest types. While this maintains the overall target as 15%, in effect it establishes targets for individual forest types varying from 10% to 100% according to natural rarity.

This target is further varied to account for vulnerability. Surrogates for vulnerability were taken to be the extent to which a forest type has been cleared (past depletion) and the percentage of the remaining extent of each forest type which occurs on private and leasehold land (existing vulnerability). By the use of another formulae the natural rarity target was adjusted in a linear fashion from 0 to a maximum of 50% for past depletion and 20% for existing vulnerability.

The flora panels checked adjusted targets for all forest types. Further adjustments were considered taking into account other threats, regional endemism and heterogeneity of forest types.

Due to the extensive clearing of some forest types and the restricted extent of some others on lands subject to this assessment it is not possible to achieve the reservation target set for many forest types.

Rainforest

As part of the interim oldgrowth forest assessment project rainforests were re-mapped on a more ecological basis than has been done in the past. In that project rainforest was identified where less than 30% of its canopy is comprised of pyrophytic emergents (canopy species mostly requiring occasional fires for regeneration, ie eucalypts, Brush Box, Turpentine) and where a well developed rainforest understorey was visible when less than 50% of the canopy was comprised of pyrophytic emergents. Rainforest stands generally less than 25 ha in size were not mapped in the oldgrowth project and thus still require further assessment.

The NPWS argued that all stands identified as having a rainforest understorey should be managed as rainforest. Though as there was some inconsistency amongst interpreters in identifying rainforest where 30-50% of the canopy was formed by pyrophytic emergents it was decided that for the purpose of the LAP such stands would only be identified as rainforest where they were classed as oldgrowth forest. This was based on the rationale that if it is oldgrowth it is likely that the rainforest would be well developed.

This still leaves unresolved forests identified as having 30-50% of their canopy comprised of pyrophytic emergents over rainforest and which are not oldgrowth forests. The status of these forests

and those with canopies comprised of more than 50% of pyrophytic emergents over a rainforest understorey require further assessment during the CRA.

While it is agreed that rainforest should be 100% protected the reservation targets for rainforest have still not been finally decided. There are problems in north-east NSW where small stands of rainforest are scattered throughout the forests. To avoid the scenario in north-east NSW of almost every compartment being identified for reservation, often on the basis of only a small area of rainforest, it has been recommended that smaller stands (except where identified by botanists as particularly significant) be filtered out and all larger stands be set a reservation target of 100%. A target of 100% has been recommended for rainforests elsewhere in the state

3. Oldgrowth forest

One of the most ambitious of RACAC's projects was to map the growth stages of forests over public lands in eastern NSW within 6 months. To achieve this task a simplified methodology was developed that used interpretation of 1:25,000 aerial photographs. This Aerial Photograph Interpretation (API) involved interpreters identifying patches of forest with similar crown characteristics and assessing the relative dominance of regrowth (pointed crowns) and senescent (irregular crowns) trees visible in these patches. Due to the timeframe broad categories and in general a minimum patch size of 25 hectares were adopted. The relative proportions of regrowth and senescent crowns were divided into classes of <10%, 10-30% and >30%. A total of 3.3 million hectares was so mapped.

Senescent trees are not readily visible from photographs for some tree species (atypical) growing on high and moderate quality sites or in forests growing on poorer sites. Thus the definition of which growth stages are candidate oldgrowth forest, as adopted for the IAP, varies according to site quality and whether species show "typical" growth stages. For the more controversial classes (tc, sb and sc) logging history was applied such that if State Forests had records of logging occurring in the past 20 years it was excluded from the candidate oldgrowth category.

The definition of oldgrowth adopted by the oldgrowth project is:

"Old growth forest is forest which has a significant proportion of the oldest discernible growth stages in its overstorey and negligible structural evidence of disturbances, using interpretation of 1:25,000 scale aerial photographs. These criteria must be interpreted within the context of the characteristics which would be expected of the latest successional stage(s) likely to be attained by the vegetation type under the unmodified disturbance regime characteristic of its site."

CANDIDATE OLDGROWTH CLASSES ADOPTED FOR THE IAP.

REGROWTH	t <10%			s 10-30%			e >30%
SENESCENT	a >30%	b 10-30%	c <10%	a >30%	b 10-30%	c <10%	
HIGH S.Q.							
MOD. S.Q.							
ATYPICAL							
LOW S.Q.							
V. LOW S.Q.							

It needs to be noted that the IAP has only identified **candidate** oldgrowth stands greater than around 25 hectares in size. While the definition adopted will include most of the larger stands of oldgrowth it will also include some stands that are not oldgrowth and omit most smaller stands of oldgrowth.

Reservation targets for candidate old growth forest were set in line with the Commonwealth criteria, such that:

- for forest types that have been extensively cleared (85 per cent cleared or more) or with less than 10 per cent of their extant distribution as oldgrowth the reservation target is 100%;
- for forest types with 10 to 25 per cent of their extant distribution as old growth, old growth reservation targets vary inversely from 90% to 60%; and,
- for forest types with more than 25 per cent of their extant distribution as old growth, the old growth reservation target is 60%.

The setting of a specific oldgrowth target for each forest type results in two base reservation targets for each forest type:

- where the oldgrowth target exceeds the forest type target, the oldgrowth target is given priority,
- where the forest type target exceeds the oldgrowth target, then the remaining forest type target is met by any remaining oldgrowth available until the forest type target is reached.

4. Wilderness

The Commonwealth requires that 90% or more of "high quality" (*NWI ±12*) wilderness be protected. For the IAP it was decided to identify for protection 100% of NPWS identified wildernesses, with additional areas of "high quality" wilderness identified by the Commonwealth being assessed to see if they meet NSW criteria.

WOOD RESOURCES STUDY

In typical fashion State Forests have ignored the process of review and consultation established by RACAC, to which all other studies have been subjected, by undertaking their own Wood Resources Study in isolation from RACAC. This has understandably led to considerable concern within RACAC over their methodology and the validity of their data layers. Attempts are still being made to have their study independently reviewed though time is running out.

State Forests' Wood Resources Study will be used to identify the current and future timber yields a section of forest is likely to produce. Areas will be mapped onto a GIS that are similar in stand yield characteristics. This will allow the identification of the "value" of a stand in timber terms and an estimate of sustainable (not ecologically) yield until any future date for any given area to be calculated.

Thus when the initial reserve system has been designed the effect on sustainable yield can be calculated. Also during negotiations, compartments of similar conservation value can be discriminated on their contribution to harvestable volume and sustainable yield. The Wood Resources Study data layer will appear on the negotiation GIS.

NEGOTIATION PROCESS

Within the five study areas being assessed eleven negotiation regions, based on State Forests' Management Areas (MAs), have been identified:

Northern Study Area:

- N1. Urbenville and Murwillumbah MAs
- N2. Casino, Grafton, Coffs Harbour and Dorrigo MAs
- N3. Urunga, Kempsey, Wauchope, Kendall, Wingham and Taree MAs.
- N4. Bulahdelah, Gloucester, Wallaroo and Mt. Royal MAs.
- N5. Tenterfield and Glen Innes MAs.
- N6. Styx and Walcha-Nundle MAs.

Central Study Area (part): Morisset MA

Southern Study Area:

- S1. Bateman's Bay and Narooma MAs
- S2. Queanbeyan/Badja MAs

Eden Study Area: Eden MA

Tumut Study Area: Bago-Maragle MA; Tumut Native Forests Working Circle (Buccleuch & Bungongo SFs)

The negotiations will revolve around an interactive Geographical Information System (GIS is a computer based mapping system) containing the data layers developed through the CWG and State Forests' Wood Resources Study.

The actual structure of the negotiation phase is still being finalised, though will basically comprise:

1. Automatic selection of areas of the highest conservation values,
2. NPWS, State Forests, conservation, native timber industry and Commonwealth negotiators using the interactive GIS to identify other forests likely to be required for a reserve system, taking into account reserve targets, reserve design principles and timber values.

The negotiation period will be from the 22 April until the 10 May, giving 15 working days (including one public holiday) to complete negotiations for 11 regions. Thus the process will give limited time for each region. There will be principle negotiators for each interest group with two or more advisers for each negotiator allowed to be present when each region is being negotiated. The aim is to continue negotiations until all reserve criteria have been met.

At the end of negotiations some as yet undecided process will be used to identify reserve options. While one of these options will be "all forests likely to be required for a reserve system", other options will most likely represent various conservation trade-offs aimed at providing certain levels of supply to industry. Following this the various options will go on public display for one month.

Geographic Information System

The basic building blocks of the reserve system used in negotiations will be State Forest compartments with an average area of 200 ha. Although these are not the optimal unit of choice with regards to reserve design, any smaller units such as sub-catchment boundaries would leave the GIS unworkable due to too many units being analysed.

The main information unit visible on the GIS screen will be the irreplaceability of the compartment. Irreplaceability can be defined in two ways:

- Irreplaceability is the potential contribution of any site to a reservation goal.
- Irreplaceability is the extent to which the options for a representative reserve system are lost if that site is lost.

Each State Forest compartment may contain a range of features which are capable of contributing to the reservation goals set by the reserve targets. Some features, such as wilderness, have reservation targets set at 100%. Compartments containing these features have an irreplaceability rating of 100%, meaning to fulfil the reservation criteria they (or at least that part with the value) must be included in the reservation system. Other areas will have lower irreplaceability levels and thus enable choices to be made for reservation, for example ten compartments containing forest type x will have an irreplaceability level of 50% if only five of them are needed to reach the reservation target of that forest type.

The information leading to the irreplaceability level can be called up at any time for individual compartments, both in tabular and map form.

Many compartments will be given a high irreplaceability ranking based upon the contribution of a small area of a value to that ranking, in such cases the percentage contribution of that value to the compartment will be taken into consideration. For example a 200 ha compartment may contain 10 ha of a 100% irreplaceable value and have no other values requiring reservation. Where values or areas requiring reservation only represent a small fraction of a compartment and/or do not fit into any reasonable reserve design they may have to be protected using other means such as State Forests reserve, Preferred Management Priority zone or logging protocols.

During the negotiation phase the irreplaceability of compartments is recalculated each time a compartment or group of compartments is selected for inclusion in the reserve system. Thus (as in the above example) when the five of the compartments containing forest type x have been selected, the irreplaceability of the remaining five compartments will fall to zero for that feature as its reservation target has been met.

This design allows for flexible decision making during the negotiation process with the most irreplaceable areas acting as seeds for reserve development. It also facilitates 'trading' of compartments whilst still fulfilling reservation goals to improve reservation design or increase the timber resource found outside the reserve system.

Also if the fulfilment of all reservation targets is considered by the government to excessively restrict the resource available to the timber industry then the effect on conservation goals of releasing any compartments is explicit and documented.

For further information please contact:

DRAFT INTERIM FORESTRY ASSESSMENT REPORT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q Why was an interim forest assessment necessary?

For decades now there has been uncertainty about the future of our forests. New South Wales is participating in the implementation of the National Forest Policy which aims to resolve the debate by creating across Australia a reserve forest system which is comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR). At the same time, forest areas available for sustainable timber production and other sustainable forest uses will be identified.

The creation of this system will require a comprehensive and detailed assessment involving all stakeholders and the community. The NSW Government therefore undertook this interim assessment to identify forest areas which may need to be deferred from logging in the creation of a national system. It is designed to bring interim certainty into the forest debate while the longer, more comprehensive assessment takes place.

It must be emphasised that this is an interim assessment only. It will not take the place of the longer, more comprehensive assessment which will follow. When finalised by the Government, this interim assessment will provide stakeholders with assurances about which areas are available for future conservation and which are available for timber production while the comprehensive assessment takes place.

Q How does the interim forest assessment in New South Wales relate to the Commonwealth's deferred forest areas (DFAs)?

Using new data and involving forest stakeholders in the process, the assessment will be used to redefine the deferred forest areas (DFAs) identified by the Commonwealth and New South Wales in 1995.

Q How have the community's interests been represented throughout this process?

The NSW Government's forest reforms are unique in that they involve stakeholders in the decision-making process from the earliest stages. Those stakeholders are represented on the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council (RACAC) and include industry, conservationists, unionists, Aboriginal communities and the NSW and Commonwealth Governments. RACAC is responsible for overseeing the interim assessment.

The NSW interim forest assessment has been undertaken as part of a national initiative to create a system of forest reserves across Australia and to develop a timber industry based on sound ecological sustainable management and value-adding. This national system will be established following a detailed and comprehensive assessment leading to regional forest agreements between the Commonwealth and State Governments.

The interim forest assessment identifies forest areas which may be needed for inclusion in that reserve system and therefore need to be deferred from logging until the comprehensive assessment is completed. It also identifies areas which would be available for logging.

The interim assessment has involved forest stakeholders, including industry, union, conservationists and government agencies. Stakeholders are represented on RACAC and its working groups and they participated directly in the four week long negotiations which developed the outcomes of the assessment. These negotiations between stakeholders were unprecedented, producing outcomes negotiated by all sides rather than victory for just one side. The negotiation phase was an important step in the search for resolution of the forest debate which recognises both the conservation values and the values to the timber industry of New South Wales's eastern forests.

We invite you to comment on the draft report.



In four weeks of intensive sessions in Sydney, industry, union, conservation and government representatives negotiated on a range of outcomes for the future use of public forests in eastern New South Wales. These negotiations - indeed the whole forest assessment process in New South Wales - have no precedent. In New South Wales the Government recognises that, on an issue as controversial as the State's forests, only an outcome involving all parties can be agreed to.

Q What does the 15 per cent benchmark mean?

The 15% benchmark was developed by the Commonwealth and adopted in the interim by New South Wales in the Scoping Agreement between the governments. It requires a broad benchmark of 15% of pre-1750 vegetation to be reserved but can vary according to natural rarity, past depletion and level of threat. The interim assessment targets are adjusted to take into account natural rarity according to a formula which sets some common types at 10% of pre-1750 distribution and adjusts other types so that the overall level of reservation is maintained at 15%. For example, naturally very rare types have a reservation target of 100% and other types have an intermediate target.

Q How was old growth forest defined for the purposes of data collection? How do we know the data on which this interim assessment is based is reliable?

There is no unanimous definition of old growth forest. For the interim assessment RACAC developed a definition of likely, or 'candidate', old growth to guide interim deferral.

'Growth stage' mapping was done by twenty four air photo interpretive contractors who interpreted from aerial photos the current growth stage and disturbance. The methodology was to map the growth stages of forests in terms of the proportion of regrowth trees, mature trees, over-mature or senescent trees and obvious past evidence of logging or fire damage in each stand. From the mapped growth stages, categories were selected to be treated as possible old growth for the interim assessment. The validation of the aerial photography interpretation project is ongoing and there will be ground truthing of areas in dispute.

Q How did the negotiations work?

The negotiators used computer programs containing extensive databases of information about the biological features and wood resources of the forests. On screen, they were then able to identify which areas were important and may be needed to fulfil conservation targets and which areas may be needed to supply industry needs at a range of sustainable yield levels.

Conservation targets have been determined by the New South Wales and Commonwealth Governments in their Scoping Agreement.

The negotiations produced up to four outcomes for each of the eleven negotiation regions for the consideration of the Government. For all regions except Eden, these outcomes were arrived at by:

- Progressively building up a deferred forest area option on conservation features. The deferred area was 'built' until all conservation targets were satisfied as far as possible. Choices were made to least affect timber volumes.
- 'Rollback' of the deferred area taking account of industry considerations. Scenarios giving 70%, 50% and 30% of quota allocations at July 1995 were documented where possible, given the yield available at the start. The process also minimised, as far as possible, effects on conservation targets.
- The computer program allowed selection of forestry compartments for their importance for meeting conservation targets. Various combinations of questions put to the computer allowed selection of the best combination of required areas.
- The allocation-reduction targets were based on the calculation of sustained yield from the Wood Resources Study (prepared by State Forests of NSW). Forestry operational management implications were also considered in developing the outcomes.

In the case of the Eden Management Area the Government required outcomes which produced a maximum 90 000 hectare reserve and provided a minimum per annum level of sawlog quota of 26 000 cubic metres.

SUMMARY

NEGOTIATION OUTCOMES

For the interim assessment, the eastern forests of New South Wales were divided into eleven regions. The northern regions were numbered N1 to N6, and the southern regions S1 and S2. See accompanying map. Up to four alternative outcomes were produced for all negotiation areas except Eden.

The basic aim of the negotiations was to see which parts of State forests would have to be deferred from logging to fully or partially meet the reservation targets derived from the conservation criteria. Set proportions of current wood allocations were used as benchmarks to develop the alternative outcomes. Up to four alternative outcomes were produced for each negotiation area (except Eden, which was done differently and is explained in the Eden section at the end of this section). The four outcomes were:

- Conservation Criteria Outcome – meeting the conservation criteria as fully as practicable (while the aim was to fully meet criteria, in practice widely dispersed forest types were not always met, and targets for rare and endangered plants and animals were often also not met).
- Wood supply at approximately 30% of the current quota log allocation.
- Wood supply at approximately 50% of the current quota log allocation.
- Wood supply at approximately 70% of the current quota log allocation (this corresponds to the Government's policy for a cut to this level for quotas in 1995/6).

The 30%, 50% and 70% outcomes (where different to the conservation criteria outcome) meet a proportion of conservation criteria targets. The overall proportion decreases with decreasing area of proposed deferral.

Where the conservation criteria outcome matched one of the 30%, 50% or 70% outcomes the same outcome is presented twice, under each title, for completeness.

Figures are also given for each negotiation area giving the current long term sustainable wood supply figure as a percentage of current (1995) quota sawlog allocation. The base supply figure is the current wood supply figure but it is calculated with wood supply from identified wilderness areas excluded.

Each of the four outcomes may not have been needed or appropriate for each negotiation region for one or both of two reasons. Because it is Government policy to protect in the interim process wilderness identified under the Wilderness Act, the effect of removing these wilderness areas from production was calculated by the Wood Resources Study. If this figure was well below the 70% mark – for example, 56% – it was not possible to produce a 70% outcome. The second reason is that if the conservation criteria outcome had a wood resources level of around 50%, there was no need to develop a 30% outcome.

Negotiators from all the stakeholders were involved in producing the outcomes.

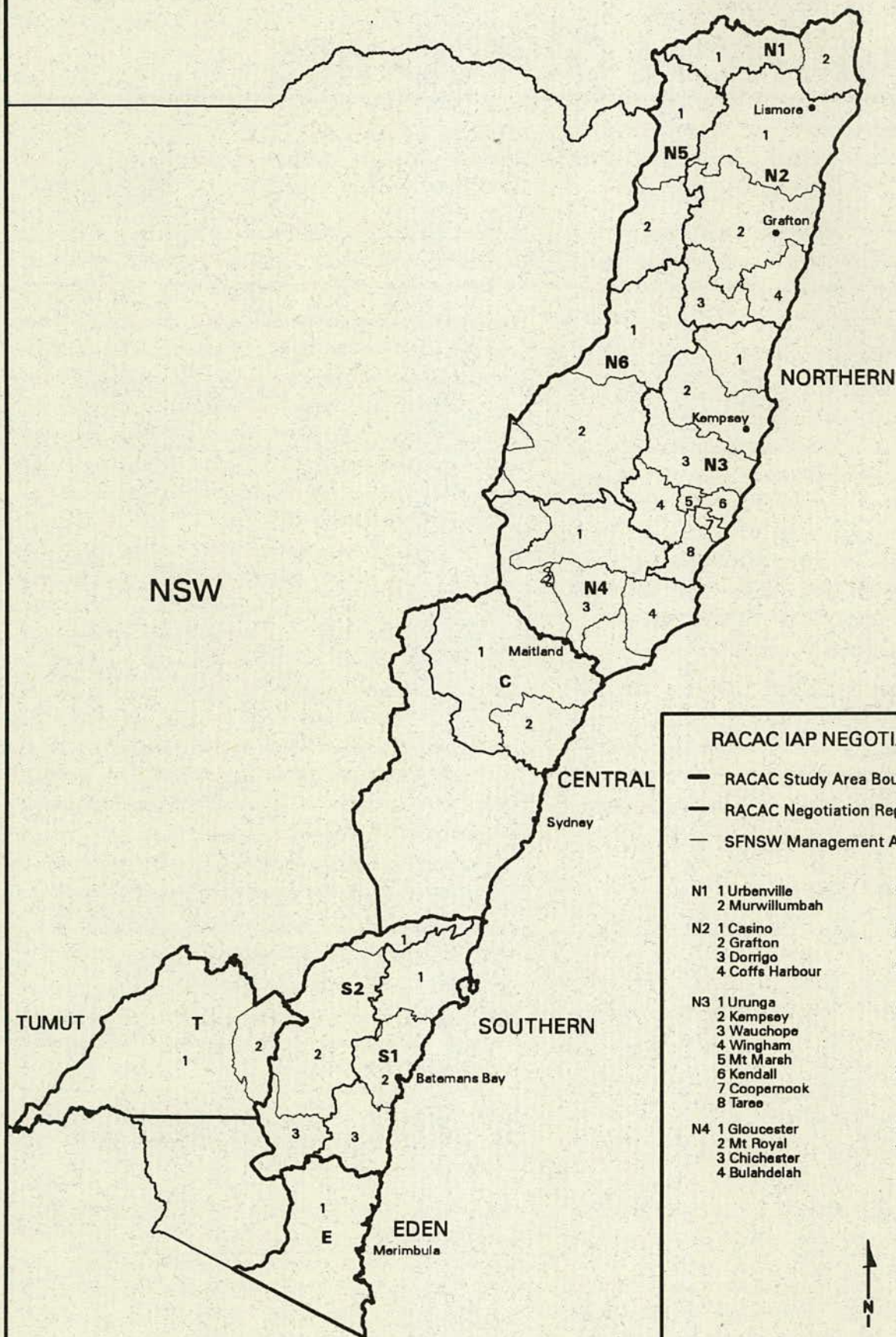
The negotiations resulted in several products for each outcome for each region. The main product is a map for each region showing the State Forests compartments proposed to be deferred for each outcome. These maps are reproduced in the Draft Interim Forest Assessment Report, and large versions are on display at local State Forests, NPWS, Urban Affairs and Planning offices as well as at environment centres. In addition to the maps, wood resources information was produced, as was information on the degree to which each conservation target was met (for example, the percentage of the target for a forest type target which had been selected for deferral).

In summary, the outcomes for the eleven negotiation regions are:

N1 Includes State Forest Management Areas: Urbenville and Murwillumbah

Long Term Wood Supply: The Wood Resources Model shows that 60% of the 1995 quota sawlog allocation could be supplied from all State forest.

Base Supply: N1 had a base supply of 60% of 1995 (current) quota sawlog supply. That is, 60% of the current allocation could be provided as a sustained yield from State forest excluding identified wilderness, according to the Wood Resources Study. In this case the exclusion of identified wilderness did not change the sustained yield. In this case 4363 hectares of State forest is unavailable for logging.



RACAC IAP NEGOTIATION AREAS

- RACAC Study Area Boundary (eg NORTHERN)
- RACAC Negotiation Region (eg N1)
- SFNSW Management Area

N1 1 Urbenville
2 Murwillumbah

N5 1 Tenterfield
2 Glen Innes

N2 1 Casino
2 Grafton
3 Dorrigo
4 Coffs Harbour

N6 1 Styx River
2 Walcha- Nundle

N3 1 Urunga
2 Kempsey
3 Wauchope
4 Wingham
5 Mt Marsh
6 Kendall
7 Coopernook
8 Taree

C 1 Cessnock
2 Wyong

N4 1 Gloucester
2 Mt Royal
3 Chichester
4 Bulahdelah

S1 1 Nowra
2 Batemans Bay
3 Narooma

S2 1 Moss Vale
2 Queanbeyan
3 Badja

E 1 Eden
T 1 Tumut
2 A.C.T.



SCALE 1 : 4 500 000

RACAC

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Outcomes

Conservation Criteria Outcome: 55,106 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 18% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

Approximate 30% Wood Supply Outcome: 42,669 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 29% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

Approximate 50% Wood Supply Outcome: 23,328 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 47% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

(Approximate 70% Wood Supply Outcome): This outcome could not be achieved because the base supply was 60%. In this negotiation region the exclusion of identified wilderness areas from potential wood supply made no difference to the modelled supply (it was still 60%) because the identified wilderness is steep and inaccessible.

N2 Includes State Forest Management Areas: Casino, Dorrigo, Coffs Harbour and Grafton.

Long Term Wood Supply: The Wood Resources Model shows that 73% of the 1995 quota sawlog allocation could be supplied from all State forest.

Base Supply: N2 had a base supply of 62% of 1995 (current) quota sawlog supply. That is, 62% of the current allocation could be provided as a sustained yield from State forest, excluding identified wilderness, according to the Wood Resources Study. In this case 38,086 hectares of State forest is unavailable for logging.

Outcomes

Conservation Criteria Outcome: 190,134 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 29% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

Approximate 30% Wood Supply Outcome: The Conservation Criteria Outcome was adopted as the approximately 30% outcome. 190,134 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 29% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

Approximate 50% Wood Supply Outcome: 100,059 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 48% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

(Approximate 70% Wood Supply Outcome): This outcome could not be achieved because the base supply was 62%. (The Industry negotiators (supported by the Union) presented an option for reaching 70% involving the logging of 67 compartments in identified wilderness.)

N3 Includes State Forest Management Areas: Coopernook, Kempsey, Kendall, Marsh, Taree, Urunga, Wauchope and Wingham.

Long Term Wood Supply: The Wood Resources Model shows that 92% of the 1995 quota sawlog allocation could be supplied from all State forest.

Base Supply: N3 had a base supply of 86% of 1995 (current) quota sawlog supply. That is, 62% of the current allocation could be provided as a sustained yield from State forest, excluding identified wilderness, according to the Wood Resources Study.

Outcomes

Conservation Criteria Outcome: 129,998 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 56% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

(Approximate 30% Wood Supply Outcome): Because the Conservation Criteria Outcome was at 56% a 30% wood supply outcome was not developed.

Approximate 50% Wood Supply Outcome: The Conservation Criteria Outcome was adopted as the approximately 50% outcome. 129,998 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging.

Approximate 70% Wood Supply Outcome: 83,889 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 72% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

N4 Includes State Forest Management Areas: Bulahdelah, Chichester, Gloucester and Mount Royal.

Long Term Wood Supply: The Wood Resources Model shows that 86% of the 1995 quota sawlog allocation could be supplied from all State forest.

Base Supply: N4 has a base supply of 50% of 1995 (current) quota sawlog supply. That is, 50% of the current allocation could be provided as a sustained yield from State forest, excluding identified wilderness, according to the Wood Resources Study. In this case 26,106 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging.

Outcomes

Conservation Criteria Outcome: 96,075 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 19% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

Approximate 30% Wood Supply Outcome: 66,684 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 32% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

Approximate 50% Wood Supply Outcome: This outcome is identical to the Base Supply situation. 26,106 hectares would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 50% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

(Approximate 70% Wood Supply Outcome): This outcome could not be achieved because the base supply was 50%. (The Industry negotiators (supported by the Union) presented an option for reaching 70% involving the logging of some compartments in identified wilderness.)

N5 Includes State Forest Management Areas: Glen Innes and Tenterfield.

Long Term Wood Supply: The Wood Resources Model shows that 69% of the 1995 quota sawlog allocation could be supplied from all State forest.

Base Supply: N5 has a base supply of 50% of 1995 (current) quota sawlog supply. That is, 50% of the current allocation could be provided as a sustained yield from State forest, excluding identified wilderness, according to the Wood Resources Study. In this case 41,723 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging.

Outcomes

Conservation Criteria Outcome: 68,543 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 18% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

Approximate 30% Wood Supply Outcome: 50,447 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 32% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

Approximate 50% Wood Supply Outcome: This outcome is identical to the Base Supply situation. 41,723 hectares would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 50% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation. (The industry negotiators (supported by the Union) developed an option for reaching 50% supply taking into account resource design and proposing some logging in some compartments in identified wilderness).

(Approximate 70% Wood Supply Outcome): This outcome could not be achieved because the base supply was 50%. (The Industry negotiators (supported by the Union) presented an option for reaching 70% involving the logging of some compartments in identified wilderness.)

N6 Includes State Forest Management Areas: Walcha/Nundle and Styx River.

Long Term Wood Supply: The Wood Resources Model shows that 56% of the 1995 quota sawlog allocation could be supplied from all State forest.

Base Supply: N2 has a base supply of 55 % of 1995 (current) quota sawlog supply. That is, 55% of the current allocation could be provided as a sustained yield from State forest, excluding identified wilderness, according to the Wood Resources Study. In this case 9,428 hectares would be unavailable for logging.

Outcomes

Conservation Criteria Outcome: 62,399 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 28% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

Approximate 30% Wood Supply Outcome: The Conservation Criteria Outcome was adopted as the approximately 30% outcome. 62,399 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 28% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

Approximate 50% Wood Supply Outcome: 9,656 hectares would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 52% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

(Approximate 70% Wood Supply Outcome): This outcome could not be achieved because the base supply was 55%.

Central Includes State Forest Management Areas: Cessnock and Wyong. (Part of Moss Vale MA is within the Central Region but was not included in that negotiations and was dealt with separately).

Long Term Wood Supply: The Wood Resources Model shows that 104% of the 1995 quota sawlog allocation could be supplied from all State forest as a sustainable yield.

Base Supply: Central has a base supply of 104 % of 1995 (current) quota sawlog supply. That is, 104% of the current allocation could be provided as a sustained yield from State forest according to the Wood Resources Study. There is no identified wilderness within State forest boundaries.

Outcomes

In all outcomes all compartments (except pine plantations) in the central region in Jellore, Belangalo, Bangadilly, Keverstone and Kembla State Forests of the Moss Vale Management Area are deferred. A part of Moss Vale MA is in negotiation region S1.

Conservation Criteria Outcome: 61,568 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 47% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

(Approximate 30% Wood Supply Outcome): Because the Conservation Criteria Outcome was at 47% a 30% wood supply outcome was not developed.

Approximate 50% Wood Supply Outcome: 58,920 hectares would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 56% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

Approximate 70% Wood Supply Outcome: 45,164 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 68% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

S1 Includes State Forest Management Areas: Nowra, Batemans Bay and Narooma.

Long Term Wood Supply: The Wood Resources Model shows that 85% of the 1995 quota sawlog allocation could be supplied from all State forest, as a sustainable yield.

Base Supply: S1 has a base supply of 74 % of 1995 (current) quota sawlog supply. That is, 74% of the current allocation could be provided as a sustained yield from State forest, excluding identified wilderness, according to the Wood Resources Study.

Outcomes

Conservation Criteria Outcome: 75,504 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 53% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

(Approximate 30% Wood Supply Outcome): Because the Conservation Criteria Outcome was at 53% a 30% wood supply outcome was not developed.

Approximate 50% Wood Supply Outcome: The Conservation Criteria Outcome was adopted as the approximately 50% outcome. 75,504 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 53% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation

Approximate 70% Wood Supply Outcome: 19,036 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 70% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

S2 Includes State Forest Management Areas: Queanbeyan/Badja and part Moss Vale

Long Term Wood Supply: The Wood Resources Model shows that 97% of the 1995 quota sawlog allocation could be supplied from all State forest, as a sustainable yield.

Base Supply: S2 has a base supply of 74 % of 1995 (current) quota sawlog supply. That is, 74% of the current allocation could be provided as a sustained yield from State forest, excluding identified wilderness, according to the Wood Resources Study.

Outcomes

Conservation Criteria Outcome: 44,514 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 63% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

(Approximate 30% Wood Supply Outcome): Because the Conservation Criteria Outcome was at 63% a 30% wood supply outcome was not developed.

(Approximate 50% Wood Supply Outcome): Because the Conservation Criteria Outcome was at 63% a 30% wood supply outcome was not developed.

Approximate 70% Wood Supply Outcome: 42,070 hectares of State forest would be unavailable for logging. The Wood Resources Study gave the sustainable yield for this outcome as 70% of 1995 quota sawlog allocation.

Tumut

Long Term Wood Supply: The Wood Resources Model shows that 97% of the 1995 quota sawlog allocation could be supplied from all State forest, as a sustainable yield.

Base Supply: Tumut has a base supply of 93% of 1995 (current) quota sawlog supply. That is, 93% of the current allocation could be provided as a sustained yield from State forest, excluding identified wilderness, according to the Wood Resources Study.

Outcome

Only one outcome was required in Tumut. It produced only a slight reduction in the sustainable wood supply base level (93%) and 73,600 hectares would be unavailable for logging. It was developed to meet vegetation type targets.

Eden Includes State Forest Management Areas: Eden

The procedure for the other ten negotiation regions is described in the insert in this summary, but basically, there were no up-front limits, and a range of outcomes were produced for consideration by the Government.

For the Eden negotiation region, the Government gave RACAC two specific requirements for outcomes:

- ability to supply 26,000m³ of quota sawlogs per year on a sustainable basis. The Wood Resources Model was used to provide the yield figure.
- the proposing of additional national parks/reserves to bring the total to 90,000 hectares, including the national parks/reserves of the Southeast Forests Agreement of 1990.

For Eden, these two outcomes were produced which meet the Government's requirements within reasonable limits:

- **Conservation Criteria Outcome (90,000 hectare total)**

The outcome would produce an annual sustainable yield of 24,900 m³, with 41,861 hectares of State forest proposed for addition to national parks/reserves.

Within the government's limits, this outcome was developed to best meet the conservation criteria targets.

- **Industry and Union Preferred Criteria Outcome (90,000 hectare total).**

The outcome would produce an annual sustainable yield of 26,200 m³, with 46,721 hectares of State forest proposed for addition to national parks/reserves.

As the name implies, this outcome was developed to maintain access to selected high quality and high volume forests.

Two other outcomes were developed for Eden:

- **Extended National Park Outcome (120,000 hectare total).**

The outcome would produce an annual sustainable yield of 18,100 m³, with 72,831 hectares of State forest unavailable for logging.

This outcome added to the Conservation Criteria Outcome by including additional areas to the Conservation Criteria Outcome identified by the conservation negotiators as being of high conservation value.

- **Deferred Forest Areas Outcome (exceeds 140,000 hectare total).**

The outcome would produce an annual sustainable yield of between 12,000 m³ and 14,100m³ (depending on the wood available from partially deferred compartments), with 106,207 hectares of State forest unavailable for logging.

This outcome was developed to meet the Commonwealth Government's forest type and old growth criteria to the fullest practicable extent.

Q Why were the outcomes for Eden different?

For ten negotiation regions there were no up-front limits, and a range of outcomes were produced for consideration by the Government. In the case of the Eden negotiation region, the Government gave RACAC two specific requirements for outcomes:

- ability to supply 26 000m³ of quota sawlogs per year on a sustainable basis. The Wood Resources Model was used to provide the yield figure.
- the proposing of additional national parks/reserves to bring the total to 90 000 hectares including the national parks/reserves of the Southeast Forest Agreement of 1990.

For Eden, two outcomes were produced which were able to meet the Government's requirements within reasonable limits and two which could not.

Q Are social factors as well as environmental and resource factors being examined?

A preliminary study has been undertaken to develop and test methods for assessing the impact of reductions in wood supply on the lives of people in timber communities. A summary of the draft consultancy report is included in the *Draft Interim Forest Assessment Report*.

The preliminary study concludes that the benefits of sustainable management and preservation of forests are both national and worldwide. However, those local communities which the study focused on perceive they receive none of these benefits – on the contrary, they see the effects on their community as negative. Consequently, a strong sense of helplessness prevails in timber towns. Government initiatives for retraining, relocation, structural adjustment, resource security, value-adding and plantations need to be properly promoted and implemented. The study recommends greater involvement of local communities in the decisions affecting their future.

Q What about the economic impacts – not just on the timber industry as a whole but also at a local and regional level?

RACAC has gathered data on economic impacts that could result from changes in wood supply. This data is based on possible scenarios rather than on specific proposed changes in quota sawlog supply, total log supply and the supply

conditions, which were not available. The following preliminary results from this work are therefore indicative only, and are based on the effect of an overall reduction in log supply.

- If the reduction in log supply were 30%, most mills would make internal adjustments, there would be limited structural change and the overall reduction in activity and employment would be less than 30%.
- If the reduction in log supply were 50% or higher, substantial structural change would occur. With some rationalisation among mills, there would be productivity gains that indicate a percentage loss in employment in excess of the percentage reduction in log supply. If there were some expansion into other activities, there would be an offsetting growth in employment. The total result would depend on the balance between the structural and productivity changes and the expansion activities.
- Overall, somewhere between a 30% reduction and a 50% reduction in log supply, the thrust of change through industry adjustment switches from internal changes to one involving mill closures and buy-outs by other mills.

This preliminary economic analysis has also identified local government areas where, relatively, the largest adjustments may occur. These are listed in the *Draft Interim Forest Assessment Report*. Additional reports were also prepared which examine the non-timber products and services that are associated with forested lands (for example, bee keeping); a framework for future economic analysis for the CRAs and an understanding of the context of RACAC's economic data collection.

Q What happens next?

A consultation period begins with the release of the draft report. During this time RACAC will be seeking submissions from all sections of the community. It will also be conducting consultation sessions throughout the regions at: Lismore, Grafton, Kempsey, Maitland, Sydney, Batemans Bay and Merimbula.

The aim of the sessions is to brief people on the proposals for the interim forest assessment and take your feedback into account before the report is finalised. The meetings will run from 4.30 pm to 8.30 pm, with the following format:



- briefing on process and the proposals for the deferred forest areas
- questions
- feedback on the proposals
- questions
- summing up

The issues which emerge in the consultations will be considered along with the submissions in the preparation of the final report. We invite you to these meetings to have your say.

Submissions will be considered by RACAC before the interim assessment report is forwarded to the Government for finalisation. The Government's decision will be an interim determination of those areas to be deferred and those which may be logged. It is emphasised that this assessment is a temporary measure to allow logging to continue while the longer and far more comprehensive forest assessment occurs.

The community will continue to have its say in the development of the comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system of forests. Committees made up of regional representatives will be integral to the development of the regional forest agreements (RFAs) which ultimately will be made between the Commonwealth and State Governments.

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