

ADVENTURES OF AN EARLY NATURALIST  
ON THE RICHMOND

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by A. A. Leycester of Tunstall Station, Richmond River.

from "The Sydney Mail" Saturday, July 10, 1880 (p. 56).

The following narrative of an excursion made nearly forty years ago to the mountains of the Richmond and Tweed Rivers, New South Wales in quest of Prince Albert's lyre-birds, by Mr. A. A. Leycester, as related by that gentleman, cannot fail to prove interesting to our readers:-

The first lyre-bird was shot and preserved by me during the winter of 1844, just after having formed a cattle station known as "Tunstall", situated on one of the northern branches of the Richmond River, which was called by the blacks "Durrigan", and by the sawyers "Leycester's Creek", I being the first grazier in that locality.

In those days I carried on a system of barter with the sawyers, with beef for cedar, which induced me to penetrate those vast and most beautiful brushes, in order to brand and take possession of the cedar exchanged; and always having taken a great interest in collecting specimens of natural history, I was much delighted with the great field that presented itself, for which, every way one turned, something new and rare met the eye, and I at once commenced to make a general collection of Nature's gifts, many cases of which from time to time found their way home to friends in old England, where they were much appreciated. But it was not till the year 1847 that the Richmond River lyre-bird was discovered to be a new variety, for there were none of the *Menura Superba* to be found in that district to compare it with, and had it not been for my much esteemed friend the late Dr. Stephenson (who was an experienced naturalist), it might have been many years longer before the discovery would have been made, when the doctor at once detected the difference in the formation of the tail feathers, the tail being divested of the two principal feathers which form the lyre, and many people thought that they were young male birds which had not attained their full tails.

My description of the habits of the *Menura Alberti*, which I forwarded to Mr. Gould (the ornithologist, who was at that time in England he had published in the naturalist's work called "The Ibis"; and an anxiety to possess the egg of this rare and most remarkable bird, induced me to make an excursion to the mountains, of which the following is a narrative.

In order to ascertain the habits and economy of *Menura Alberti* more correctly than I had hitherto done, and also to procure the egg and nest of these birds, towards the end of the month of April, 1859, I made preparations for a shooting campaign in the brushy mountains of the Richmond and Tweed Rivers. I first installed into my service two of my old favourite aborigines, Billy and Davy; the former was quite a young man, and had not yet taken to himself a wife; the latter was about thirty years of age, and being of a noble family, indulged in the right of two wives, one of whom had two children, and the other none. We agreed to take with us the unencumbered one, whose name was "Polly", to wait upon us in camp, to fetch wood and water, and to provide fish and vegetables for our repast; with these articles she supplied us abundantly, and though we seldom returned to camp till sunset, she generally had the fish and yams roasted, the tea made, and a sufficient supply of wood and water for the night, and being of a merry disposition, was usually found on our arrival singing some aboriginal song, and beating time on two of her husband's boomerangs, as she sat at the same time watching the pots. ...

Davy and Billy taking each a double-barrelled gun, a dirk-knife, and a tomahawk, started first to kill game on the road, in order to have a supply of meat for dinner and supper, as we did not take any with us. Polly followed next with her load. Having passed over ten miles of a very rough country, about mid-day we halted to get some dinner on a beautiful little streamlet, covered over with a canopy of the choicest creepers which dipped in festoons into the rushing waters

below. The rivulet wandered down the Durrigan valley, its murmurs blending with the cooing of doves, the screeching of parrots, the croaking of frogs, and the shrill cry of the cicada. This was one of nature's wildest bowers. Here Polly cast off her load (knowing it to be a mid-day camping ground), and commenced kindling a fire in her own way, disdaining any help. Billy and Davy soon came up, and set to work picking three brush turkeys (*Tallagalla Isthami*), which they had shot on the way, and preparing them for the spit. I employed myself unpacking the horses, and giving them water at the brook, having first to cut a road through the vines with my tomahawk. The horses having drank, looked on at us, there being no grass or anything that they could eat. On turning round to see if the fire was in good order for roasting, I found Polly (the gin) had got a large carpet snake, about nine feet long, coiled up, and in process of roasting on a small fire she had made for herself. This snake she had killed on the road, and had packed it away in her dilly bag, without saying a word to any one, considering it her own private property. She had taken several large lumps of fat out of the inside of the reptile, and had laid them aside for the purpose of beautifying her delicate person.

This operation she performed after dinner, heating the fat on the embers, and mixing it up in her hands with some powdered charcoal, and a little saliva; with this composition she polished herself all over from head to foot having first divested herself of her garments, - these consisted merely of a short kilt, made of the tails of opossum and squirrels which formed a neat fringe, reaching about half way to the knee, and when the polishing (which was equal to any of Day and Martin's best) was finished, she looked quite charming. But to return to the dinner. Polly went to work at the snake, and dispatched several coils of it together with a lump of "damper" and a quart of tea, which satisfied her, she then began at her polish, which being completed she smoked her pipe and fell asleep. Billy and Davy having put away a turkey each, together with damper and tea, smoked their pipes and went to sleep also. It took me much longer to prepare and dispatch my dinner, being rather more particular in my arrangements, having to go to the stream to wash my turkey after having picked and drawn it, an operation considered by the blacks a wilful waste of the savoury parts of any game. The aborigines never make use of water for culinary purposes of any kind, nor do they employ it in their toilet, but prefer instead the aforesaid mixture of charcoal and grease. ...

I start the packhorse first, he knows the track and gives me no trouble, but does his best to get over the rugged road, knowing that plenty of grass is before him at the next camping ground. The road being very rocky and precipitous, renders it impossible to go faster than a walk. About half an hour after leaving camp, I overtake the gin, having a "spell" half way up a steep ridge. Here I was also obliged to take a "spell" and let the horses get their wind. After a few minutes we make another start, and in about half an hour reach the top of the ridge, which was pretty high. Through a glade in the brush, we saw at a distance "Bald Hill", where our next camp was to be. This spot was an old camping ground of mine (called by the blacks "Byangully") and replete with every comfort a bush camp in Australia can afford, that of grass, water, and game, in abundance of the best kind. It was a small prairie on a bald hill, surrounded by a dense brush twenty miles distant from the open country we had left behind. ...

Davy and Billy were in great glee ... having shot plenty of game, we had a good supper. The bag consisted of two brush turkeys, two paddimelons (*haucosarcia*), and five pigeons, out of these I selected two wonga wonga pigeons (*leucosarcia picata*) for my portion, and the remainder was appropriated to the men's night's feeding. ...

Morning came and with it a beautiful day, for the sun shone on the Bald Hill with all its glory, and the horses were feeding within sight of the camp, close to a little spring of water, that gushed out of a small basin in the side of the hill. Breakfast being over we again prepared for the road, having only ten miles to do this day, but it was a severe ten miles, the ranges being steeper than the day before.

We expected to reach our camping ground on the top of the Tanning Mountain by mid-day, but did not do so till past 2 p.m. The mountain had a table-top covered with fine grass, and studded over with a

beautiful species of palm-tree called by the aborigines "Tanning", its sides were covered with a dense brush, containing cedars and pines of gigantic size. What a lovely spot, all Nature seemed to be indulging in repose. The birds and animals seemed to know no danger, and looked on as with curiosity more than with fear, and knew not that we were their most dangerous enemies. The pigeons and turkeys would sit to be shot at in the trees, and appeared only to wonder when their feathered companions fell from the deadly effects of our weapons of war. No doubt it was a great cruelty to intrude on their privacy and shoot them down as we did; but we killed no more than sufficient for our wants. This was one of the grandest spots for a naturalist, or an artist, I ever met with, for it was surrounded with Nature's charms - all in their primitive beauty, where the woodman's axe had not yet penetrated, so that the trees and foliage were in their full dress. Many splendid views of the surrounding country presented themselves. Ten miles to the north-east could be seen (through the blue mist) Mount Warning (the mariner's beacon at sea), with its cone-like head reaching to the clouds. Twenty miles to the north-west "Mount Lindsey" stood out in bold relief, on "Macpherson's Range", looking like some old ruined castle, being the stockman's guide to the pass, over the range leading to Queensland, and from twenty to forty miles to the southward, and extending seventy miles from east to west, could be traced (the garden of New South Wales) the valley of the Richmond River, which cannot be surpassed for beauty of scenery, and richness of land and pasture.

Here we formed our permanent camp for our attack on the "Calwin" or Menura Alberti close to a little torrent of water which ran down a rocky ravine on the west side of the mountain, and lost itself in the dense jungle below. Having hobbled and belled the horses, and stopped up the track by which we came up, to prevent them from straying homeward, we dispatched Billy for a supply of game, and spent the remainder of the day in completing our camp arrangements.

Davy made for himself a bark gunyah, as it had the appearance of rain we built a bark shed over our kitchen fire. By the time we had completed our camp "fixings" Billy returned with a supply of game, consisting of three brush turkeys, a paddimelon, and two pigeons, being an ample supply for supper and the morrow's breakfast.

Before sunset we rejoiced to hear the cry of the three Menuras in different directions, which proved to us that we were in the right spot for the destruction of these most beautiful and curious birds. But to obtain their eggs and nest was the principal inducement to me for taking so much trouble, and it was only after nearly two months' hunting that I was rewarded by finding them. Day after day passed away, and we could only discover two old nests and another being built. The male bird belonging to the latter we shot, not being aware at the time of the nest being close by. After having been out nearly six weeks, I began to despair of ever finding the eggs, but about a week before my excursion must terminate (having business to attend to in Sydney) having been out all day and returning to camp with Davy hungry and wet through, Davy suddenly cried out and invited my attention to a hen of the Menura, flying off from her nest. Davy made a rush to get up to it, but fell back, being in too great a hurry. The difficulty was now to reach the nest, it being situated on a ledge of a projecting rock, thirty feet above us, but Davy taking it coolly, managed with great skill, to get up within twelve feet of it, he then directed me to cut him a pole fifteen feet long, which I did, and handed it up to him. The foot of this he stationed on the ledge he was standing upon, and having placed the other end against the rock where the nest was, in less than a minute he was up to the nest, and, to our great delight, pulled out an egg. I directed him to replace it and come down, as I wanted to find out whether any more would be laid, and we then returned to camp much rejoiced in our day's work. Having shot plenty of game, we had a good supper.

Davy received a new blanket, a pound of tobacco, and a bottle of grog, (which was the reward promised to whoever discovered the egg first) and was in high glee all the evening. On the third day after the discovery we returned to the nest. The hen was on it, and I shot her as she flew off. Davy ascended as before. There was still only one egg, which he lowered down in a small bag (making use of his

opossum string belt which he wore round his waist) to let it down. A short time afterwards the dog found and treed the male bird which Davy shot.

On blowing the egg, I found it had been sat on about a week. The old bird I stuffed, together with many other varieties of beautiful brush birds, which I forwarded to England along with the egg. We remained a few days longer at the camp, in order to complete my collection of other birds, and then returned to Durrigan, from which place, shortly afterwards, I left for Sydney. I made the blacks a present of all the stores that were left, which amounted to a considerable quantity of flour, tea, sugar, tobacco, pumpkins, and old clothes, and ordered a new gown to be made for Polly, Davy's gin; this she wore on the day of my leaving, making in some measure a better appearance than in her native polish of snake's fat and charcoal.

The following is a short summary of the result of my investigations into the habits of the *Menura Alberti*: This bird has been found hitherto only on the Richmond and Tweed rivers, in the dense brushes which clothe the mountains of those districts. It is most remarkable that although similar mountains and brushes exist on the rivers both to the north and to the south of the Richmond and Tweed, this *Menura* is not to be found in them.

The range of the species appears to be limited to a patch of country not wider than 80 by 60 miles, for though I have not been able to prove the fact myself, yet I fancy the information which I have obtained is pretty correct, coming as it does from sawyers and blacks who are frequently travelling from one river to another.

The habits of *Menura Alberti* are very similar to *M. Superba*, as described by Mr. Gould, having seen and watched both of these birds on their playgrounds. I find the *M. Alberti* far superior in its powers of mocking, and imitating the cries and songs of others of the feathered race, to the *M. Superba*; and its own peculiar cry or song is different being of a much louder and fuller tone. I once listened to one of these birds that had taken up its quarters within 200 yards of the sawyer's homestead. He imitated the crowing of the cocks, the cackling of the hens, and the barking and howling of the dogs; and even the painful screeching of sharpening or filing the saw. I shot them in the act of crowing. I have heard some persons say that the *Menura* is polygamous, but I never saw more than a pair together. The cock bird commences to sing at the first dawn of day. Each of them appears to have its walk or boundary, never infringing on another's ground. I have heard them day after day in the same spot, seldom nearer than a quarter of a mile from each other. Whilst singing they spread their tails over their heads like a peacock, and prop their wings to the ground, at the same time scratching and pecking up the earth. They sing in the morning and evening, and more so in winter than any other season. The young male birds do not sing till they get their full tails. This I fancy takes place the fourth year, having shot them in full feather, with the tail in four different stages, the two centre curved feathers being the last to make their appearance. They live principally on insects, and partake largely of sand, which accounts for their preferring sandy localities. Their flesh is not eatable, being dark, dry and tough. They breed in mid-winter, commencing to build their nests in May, laying in June, and having young in July. The nest is generally placed on the side of some steep rock, where there is sufficient room to form a lodgement, so that no animals or vermin can approach it. It is constructed of small sticks, interwoven with moss, and fibres of roots. The inside is lined with the skeleton leaf of a parasitical tree-fern, which resembles horsehair. The nest is covered over, having the entrance on the side. Only one egg is laid, of a very dark colour, appearing as if it had been blotched over with ink. The young bird for the first month is covered with a white down, and remains in the nest about six weeks before it takes its departure. It is four years before it arrives at maturity, when the tail is in full form. The native name for the bird is "Calwin".

# PADDY'S FLAT NATIONAL PARK

A PROPOSAL OF THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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## 2. Description of the Area

### 2.1 CLIMATOLOGY

The Paddy's Flat area has a sub-tropical climate. The normally high temperatures at this latitude (28.7 degrees south) are modified by the altitude which varies between 200 metres and 1,000 metres.

#### Rainfall

The average annual rainfall for the area is 1,402 mm (about 55") which approaches the minimum supporting tropical rainforest vegetation. The rainfall is spread unevenly over the year with a pronounced summer maximum. Higher than average falls occur in December and last until March. The annual distribution of rainfall and the number of rain days occurring each month, are shown in Figure 1.

#### Temperature

Temperatures in the area show the normal gradual variation from season to season. Maximum daily temperatures are highest for the month of December (26.4 degrees C) falling to the lowest maximum in July (15.7 degrees C). Daily minimum temperatures reach the lowest figure (6.7 degrees C) in July, rising to 16.8 degrees C in January. The annual variation in temperatures and the number of sunshine hours for each month are shown in Figure 2. The season from August to November shows the highest consistent sunshine for the year.

#### Winds

For the Richmond-Tweed region in general (includes east of the Clarence River) the winds occurring have the following features:

- (1) In the mornings, particularly in the cooler months of the year, local winds, the direction and speed of which are markedly dependent on the topography of each site, are noticeable.
- (2) Winds blow most frequently from the north-east to the south-east in the period from November to April, and from north-west to south-west in the months June, July and August.
- (3) Winds are strongest on the coast and decrease inland. Wind speeds are greater in the afternoon than in the morning.

### 2.2 GEOLOGY

The geology of the Paddy's Flat area can be evaluated in terms of the following depositions:

- (1) Late Carboniferous sediments
- (2) Permian volcanics
- (3) Triassic volcanics
- (4) Late Triassic and Jurassic sediments
- (5) Tertiary basalts

The major portion of the area is overlain with Late Carbon-

iferous sediments named the Emu Creek Formation. This formation reaches a thickness of 2,400 metres and is composed of interbedded mudstone and lithic sandstone together with beds of conglomerate, some andesitic tuff and agglomerate.

The Permian Drake Volcanics occur in the south-western portion of the area and make an unconformable contact with the Emu Creek Formation. The volcanic outcrop is the northernmost tip of a longitudinal belt composed of a sequence of andesite, dacite, rhyolite and trachytes, with some derived breccia and tuffaceous material.

Volcanic rocks form the Triassic outcrop on the south-eastern (Clarence River), northern and southern perimeters of the area. These small plutonic occurrences are composed of either granite or adamellite differentiates, and are associated with the Volcanic Facies (Browne et al 1968) of the Clarence-Moreton and Maryborough Basins.

The eastern and north-eastern portion of the area contains fine and coarse sediments and conglomerates from the Late Triassic and Jurassic periods. This material was laid down under fluvial conditions active in the Clarence-Moreton Basin, and is widespread in north-eastern New South Wales.

During the Tertiary period, basalt flows and sills overlaid the Jurassic sediments. These flows are known as the Main Range Volcanics, and outcrop on the eastern margin of the area, continuing in a northerly direction from the Paddy's Flat area. Yabba State Forest largely corresponds to this outcrop.

### 2.3 PHYSIOGRAPHY

The proposed area thus forming part of the Upper Clarence River Valley, is an area of mostly undulating terrain, the steeper areas being confined to the headwaters of the tributaries draining into the main stream of the Clarence River.

The boundaries of the proposed park have been set to include an undivided catchment, the proposed boundaries co-inciding with local watersheds to the east and west of the main stream. (Fig. 3).

The pattern of drainage is uniform (Map A) and, overall, is developed in a main channel flow towards the south-east, the terrain of the basin area being higher and more dissected in the north and west.

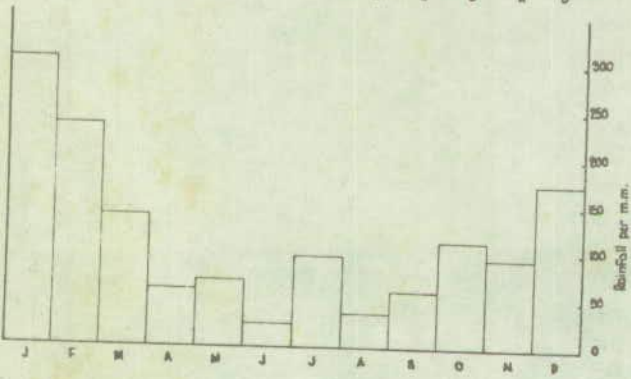
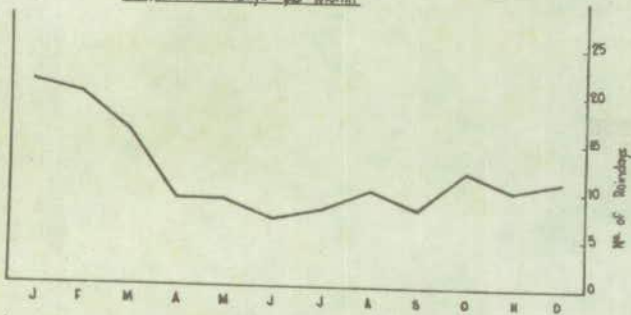
The proposed area can be separated into four physiographic units which generally correspond to the four major rock types.

#### Unit 1 - Steep, Dissected Terrain

The mapped unit (unit 1 - figure 3) is centred around the junction of the Clarence River and Tooloom Creek and extends over the relatively weak and less resistant mudstones and siltstones. The terrain is hilly and steep and for the most part strongly dissected by streams. The mean maximum height is 543 metres with a local relief reaching 400

Figure 1

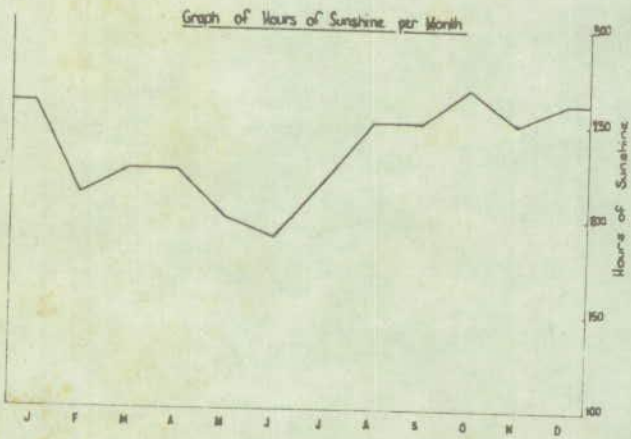
Graph of Raindays per Month



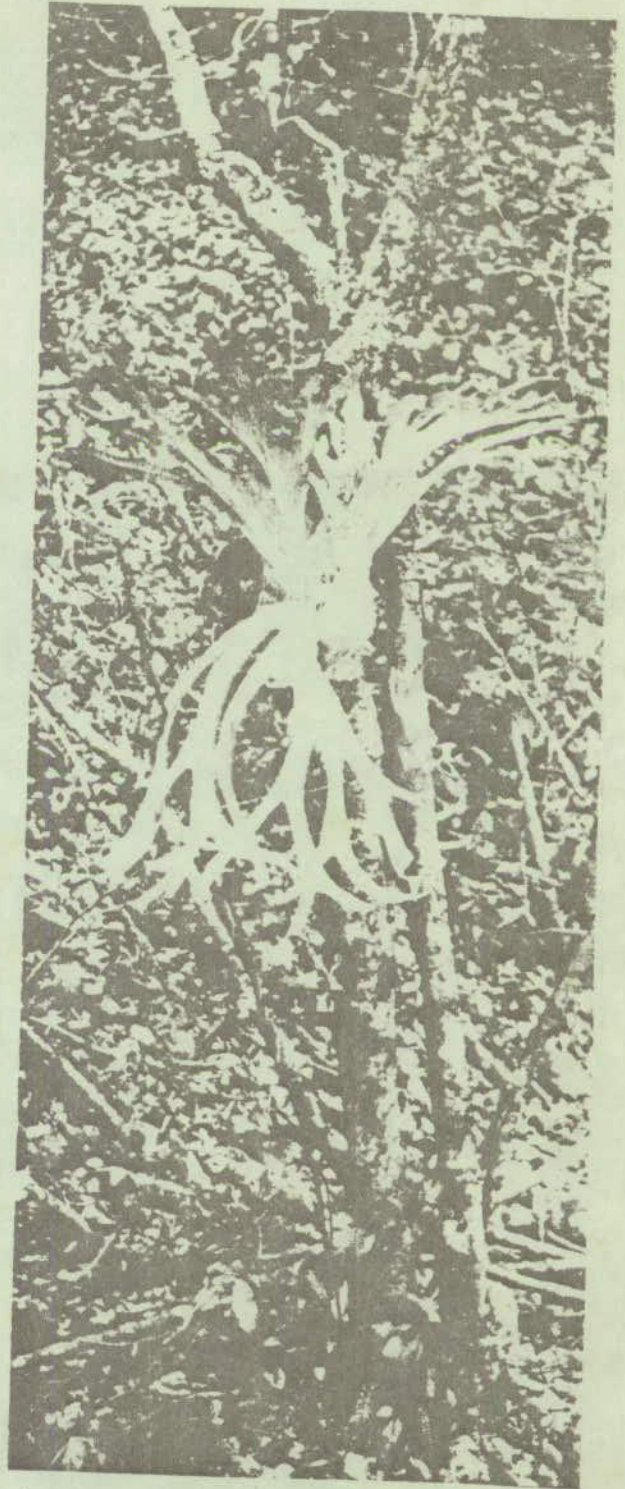
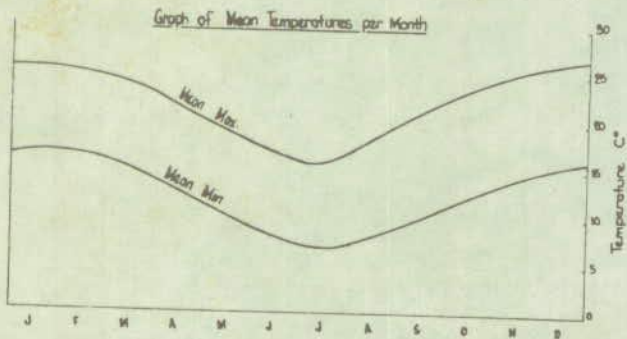
Graph of Rainfall per Month

Figure 2

Graph of Hours of Sunshine per Month



Graph of Mean Temperatures per Month



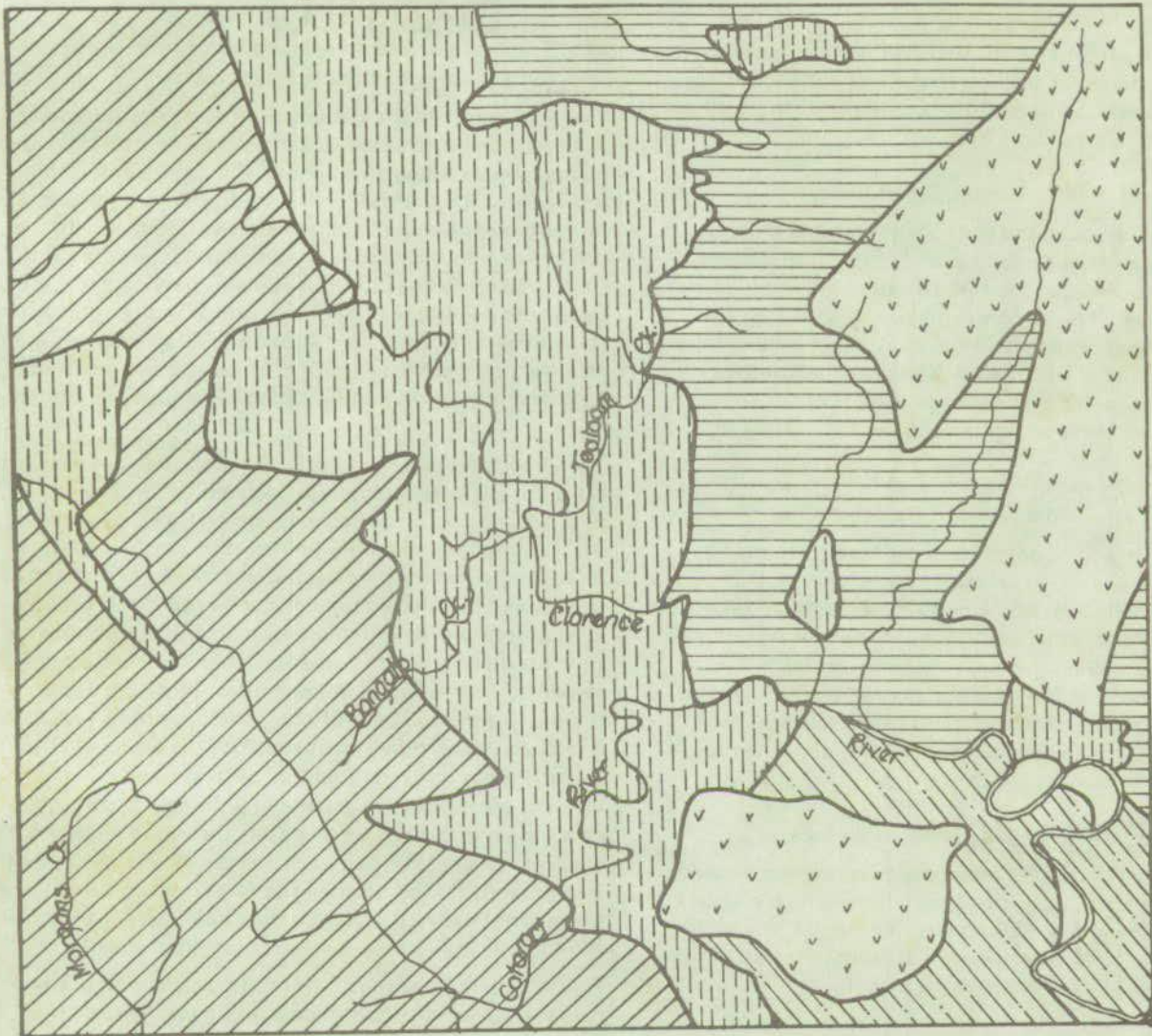
A staghorn occurring in dry rainforest.



*Aerial view of the core of the proposal, junction of Tooloom Creek and the Clarence River. North at top. Photo courtesy Dept. of Lands NSW.*









Figure 3 Physiography of the Proposed Area



Physiographic Unit

Nature

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
|  | 1 | Steep sided hills, high relief, entrenched reticulate drainage                     |
|  | 2 | Hills with mild gradients, high relief, broad valleys, radial drainage             |
|  | 3 | Hills with rounded or flat tops, low local relief, rectangular drainage            |
|  | 4 | Plateau basalt, low local relief, drainage irregular                               |
|  |   | Low hills to undulating terrain, low local relief, narrow valleys, radial drainage |
|  |   | River Flats  |

metres. Streams from a reticulated type of drainage pattern with the tributaries of the Clarence River entrenched in steep sided valleys. Stream frequencies are high and their courses are often erratic.

#### Unit II – Hilly Terrain, Broad Valleys

Unit 2 lies to the south and west of the area and is controlled by the high volcanic (granitic) material that forms a catchment for Morgan's Creek, Wheatley Creek and Upper Bangalow Creek. The terrain is hilly with mild gradients and broad valleys. The mean maximum height is 850 metres with a local relief of 520 metres. The drainage forms a pronounced radial pattern. The streams differ to the Clarence tributaries by having straighter courses without being entrenched.

#### Unit III – Low Relief, Hilly Terrain

The mapped unit lying adjacent to the eastern boundary, contrasts with the first two described. The extent of the region is controlled by sedimentary material that is largely composed of feldspathic sandstone. The terrain is hilly with mild gradients ending in gently rounded to flat hill tops. The mean maximum height is 450 metres, with a low local relief of 130 metres. Drainage along broad valleys is markedly rectangular with many smaller creeks joining the south flowing streams at right angles.

#### Unit IV – Undulating Plateau Surface

The terrain type occupies and extends across the eastern boundary. Tertiary basalt flows have formed high plateaux with a mean height of 650 metres, but with a low local relief of 150 metres. Streams are markedly fewer, straighter and without a definite drainage pattern.

## 2.4 SOILS

Soil site investigations were carried out on a semi-random basis only in areas where information on the soil character was unavailable. The work of McGarity (M.Sc. thesis, 1967, unpublished) provided a useful reference for soil types occurring on the same parent material but lying to the east and immediately adjacent to the area under investigation.

The soils occurring in the proposed area can be separated into three distinct types, which are:

- (1) Krasnozems
- (2) Chocolate Soil
- (3) Yellow and Red Amphipodzols

The Krasnozem soils are most easily detected but have a limited distribution. This soil type occurs only on the eastern boundary and is closely associated with the basalt that outcrops there.

The soil is composed of a red-brown to red clay loam surface of medium crumb structure overlying a deep generally friable red or red-brown clay. Large amounts of organic matter on the surface, decreasing with depth, is character-

istic. The soil is arid throughout and of low base status, with kaolinite the dominating clay mineral.

The red colour and the stable structure of Krasnozems are due to uncombined sesquioxides (especially iron and aluminium) accumulating throughout the soil profile. The accumulative process is known as ferralisation, the sesquioxides neither being illuviated, (as with podzolised soils), nor brought to the surface by capillary action, (as with lateritic soils). Corbett (1969) explains how parent material along with high rainfall are the limiting factors in the formation of Krasnozems. The Alphadale Clay loam soils, identified by McGarity (1967), in association with basalt outcrops in the proposed park area fall within the category of a Krasnozem soil.

The Chocolate soil occurring in the proposed area similarly has a limited extent closely associated with Krasnozem soils, but may occur sporadically on related parent materials. Covering less than 5% of the area, it is likely to be found in a catenary relationship with Krasnozems or on steep slopes in hilly terrain. Chocolate soils are characterised by little profile differentiation and movement of constituents up or down the profile. Upper horizons are grey in colour, sometimes black grading down into light and dark brown. A good example of this soil supporting tall open forests was located five miles north of the Clarence River crossing. Four horizons could be distinguished, mainly on the basis of colour change from grey to light brown, then dark brown with some yellow. Clay increased slightly down the profile from silty clay loam to silty clay in the B2 horizon (35cm). The controlling site factors were found to be the mudstone parent material, the moderately high rainfall and the free drainage on a steep slope (25 degrees).

The genesis of these soils is not fully understood but the possibility that they are the normal zonal soil for this region cannot be ruled out. This would relegate the Krasnozem soils anomalous and so relict in occurrence. However, their association with steep slopes and consequently shallower profiles prompts this factor to be considered a controlling one in their formation. It is likely that substantial slope wash is removing material as well as reducing infiltration and consequently leaching is less severe than in Krasnozem soils.

Yellow and Red Amphipodzols and associated types occupy the major portion of the area except where granite outcrops (e.g. Morgan's Creek, where true podzolics occur). As the name Amphipodzols implies, recognisable podzolic characters are not well developed, especially the bleached A2 horizon. These soils occur in association with shales and sandstones of the Jurassic Group, collectively known as the Marbung Sandstone. They are characterised by a deep profile of moderate horizon differentiation. Upper horizons can have a range of colours between grey and brown with texture ranging between sandy loam and loam. Lower horizons have increased colour hue and brightness with either red or yellow dominating, in a more clayey but hard and

massive structure. Where Palaeozoic rocks crop out (Emu Creek Formation) the stronger yellows and reds may not develop. These soils are widespread in the north-east of New South Wales and are probably controlled by moderately high rainfall with a parent material that is partly siliceous in nature.

## 2.5 FLORA

### Introduction

The outstanding feature in the Paddy's Flat area, from the point of view of flora, is the forest character that is apparent everywhere. Several major forest types are present and contrast strongly with the river bank communities found along the Clarence River.

Perhaps the most attractive and unique feature is the dry rainforest occurring as it does in isolated pockets over much of the area. The location of these pockets is carefully controlled by environmental factors.

Dominated by Hoop Pine, this rainforest type is confined to the north-east region of New South Wales. It is, therefore poorly represented in existing National Parks.

### Low Closed Forest – Dry Rainforest

The dry rainforest community in its broadest sense may be defined as: "embracing a number of associations, some of which bear little relationship to each other. They are, however, all dominated by species with clear affinity to rainforest flora. There is a closed canopy which is comparatively low, often less than 15 metres. Taller emergents may be present. The different associations occur in a wide range of conditions." (Forestry Research Note 17). Of the six dry rainforest types recognised, only one, the Hoop Pine (*Araucaria cunninghamii*) variety, occurs at Paddy's Flat.

The dense understory of this type is dominated by species belonging to the Euphorbiaceae and Sapindaceae families. Above the understory there is a scattered emergent storey reaching up to 40 metres in height and dominated by Hoop Pine, Yellow Tulip (*Drypetes australasica*) and Native Olive (*Olea paniculata*).

The pockets of dry rainforest have a limited distribution and occur only in steep-sided gullies and slopes, most of which have a southerly aspect. The chocolate soils associated with steep slopes and the southern aspect ensure a better moisture availability. Figures 4a and 4b show the site occurrence of dry rainforest and other forest types. It can be seen that the extent of each forest type is determined by aspect and slope.

In many of the more accessible pockets the original dry rainforest has been replaced by a forest of lower stature (25 metres) and with a viney scrub component dominated by lantana. Along with Hoop Pine, other dominants include Brush Box (*Tristania conferta*) and Chinaman's Cedar (*Toona sinensis*). Linked to this development is the gradual invasion of eucalypt forest by dry rainforest. Due to its

high regenerative capacity this invasion is initiated by Hoop Pine. Evidence of this invasion can be seen in the photograph below which shows a juvenile about 1½ metres high established in a eucalypt forest.

One well developed area of dry rainforest, located to the west of the proposal, has its upper storey dominated by Hoop Pine, Chinaman's Cedar and Scrub Wilga (*Geijera latifolia*). The lower tree layer is characterised by Orange-bark (*Maytenus bilocularis*), Cascarilla Bark (*Croton insularis*), Orange Kamala (*Mallotus philippensis*) and Native Coffee (*Canthium odoratum*). Of special interest is the presence of the small tree Northern White Lilly Pilly (*Acronychia laevis*) which is only known in New South Wales at Rivertree and Boonoo Boonoo Falls.



"The gradual invasion of Eucalypt forest by dry rainforest beginning with Hoop Pine."

### Tall Open Forest

This forest type occupies a significant proportion (14%) of the total forest area. The most common league present is the Grey Gum (*Eucalyptus propinqua*) – Grey Ironbark (*E. decepta*) type. This league can be divided into two types, the localities of which are largely controlled by the availability of excess moisture.

The first type contains the two species listed and may be

associated with Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus saligna*), Brush Box (*Tristania conferta*), Tallowwood (*E. microcorys*) and some Hoop Pine. The tallest trees reach a height of approximately 40 metres. The association has a restricted occurrence, being confined generally to the wetter areas, shaded slopes and broad gullies.

The second type covers a wider area than the first. Associated with the Grey Gum - Grey Ironbark species are Red Mahogany (*Eucalyptus resinifera*), White Mahogany (*E. acmenoides*), Red Bloodwood (*E. gummifera*) and Yellow Stringybark (*E. muellerana*). This forest reaches a height of approximately 35 metres. A scattered understorey is dominated by Forest Oak (*Casuarina torulosa*) and *Acacia irrorata*. A thick ground cover of long grass and small shrubs is found on the forest floor. A vegetation transect of this community provided the profile diagram shown in Figure 5.

#### Open Forest

Open forest with a height of approximately 30 metres and comprising a large number of eucalypt species has the widest distribution in the proposed area. It comprises about 78% of the total forest area.

The dominant species association being Grey Gum and Grey Ironbark associated with White Mahogany, Yellow Stringybark, Grey Box (*Eucalyptus hemiphloia*), Blue Leaved Ironbark (*E. fibrosa*), Grey Gum (*E. punctata*), Rough-bark Apple (*Angophora floribunda*), Broad-leaved Apple (*A. subvelutina*) and some Spotted Gum (*E. maculata*).

A sparse understorey of Forest Oak is typical of most sites. The forest floor is often bare of any plant life with the exception of a sparse cover of short grass. On the steeper, rocky slopes, Grass Trees (*Xanthorrhoea sp.*) of low stature appeared and in places were conspicuous. Figure 6 shows a profile diagram of a vegetation transect through a typical open forest. This forest type occupies the drier more exposed sites, typically the north-facing slopes, and corresponds to soils with a light and sandy texture belonging to the amphipodzol group described earlier.

#### Tall Woodland - Forest Red Gum

This forest type covers less than 2% of the total forest area. "It occurs as a tall woodland, ranging in height from 15 to over 45 metres and is typically found on alluvial flat heavy soils subject to waterlogging. However, it is also found on basaltic soils at higher elevations and even on steep country if the soil is heavy and moisture ample. It is found occupying suitable flats along many streams." (Soil Conservation Service - Technical Manual).

The Forest Red Gum (*Eucalyptus tereticornis*) was clearly found to be the dominant species. In the Paddy's Flat area it was observed mainly on flats that adjoin creeks where they flow into the Clarence River. The three other species seen to be associated with it were Grey Gum, Grey Box and Sydney Blue Gum.

### Cross-Sections Showing Vegetation Change

Figure 4(a).

Cross Section at 68 2565 N

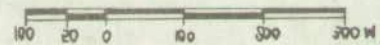
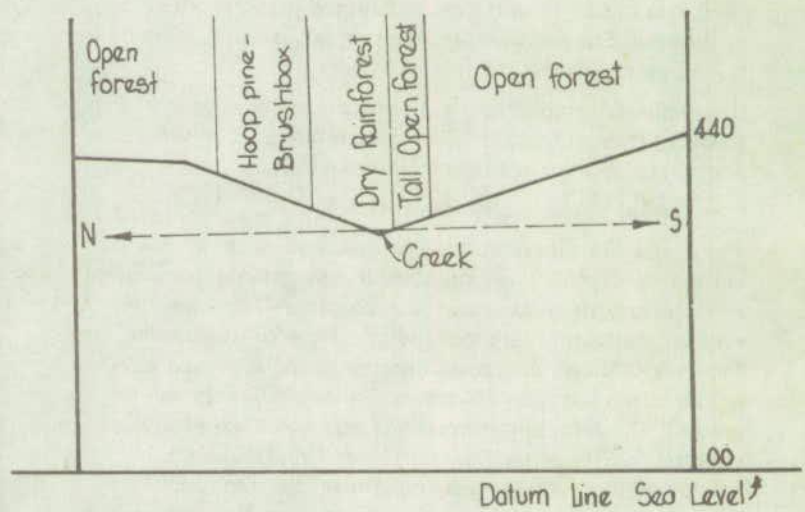
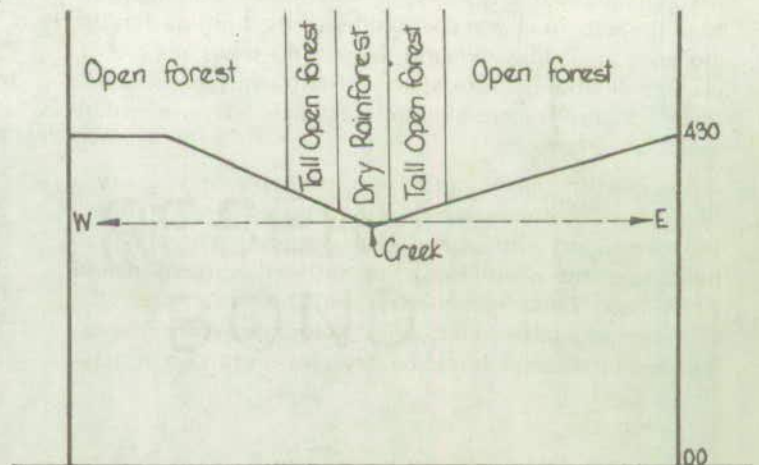


Figure 4 (b)

Cross Section at 68 2560 N



## River Flat Communities

The narrow community along the alluvial flats of the Clarence River consists mainly of River Oak (*Casuarina cunninghamiana*), Swamp Turpentine (*Tristania suaveolens*) and Silky Oak (*Grevillea robusta*) with an understorey of Weeping Bottlebrush (*Callistemon viminalis*) and Thin-fruit Tea-

tree (*Leptospermum brachyandrum*).

A considerable proportion of this community has been cleared for grazing but there is a significant representation of it still in existence.

Away from the immediate river flats near the creeks this community often adjoins the Forest Red Gum community.

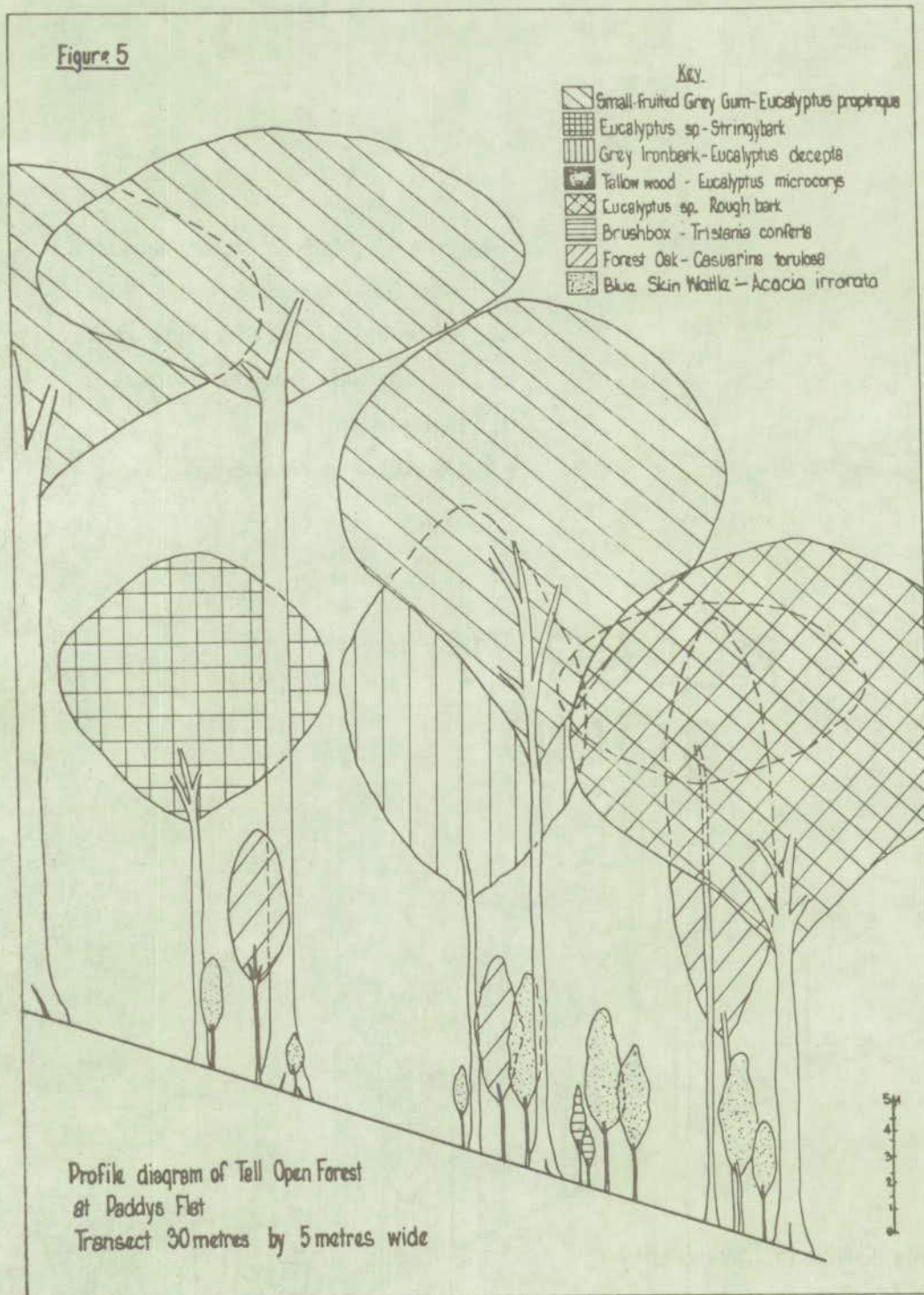
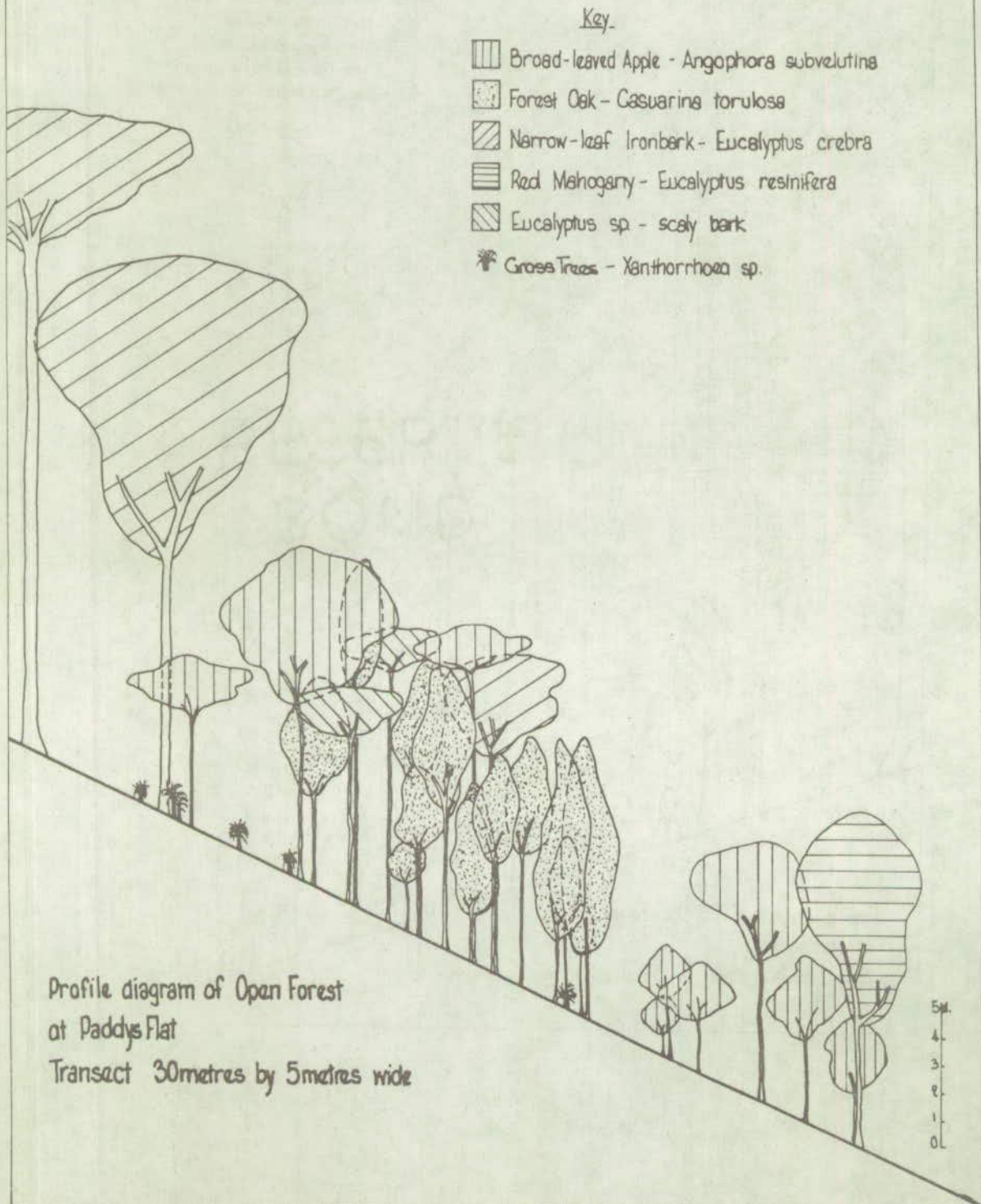


Figure 6



## 2.6 FAUNA

The proposed Paddy's Flat National Park is located in the far north-eastern N.S.W. region, a region of considerable interest as it represents an area of faunal overlap penetrated both by Australia's temperate (Bassian) and tropical (Torr-esian) faunas. The region also provides habitat for inland species of birds which occasionally extend their distribution over the Great Dividing Range. This richness of fauna is a result of climate and terrain which have produced a diversity of habitats available for colonisation and evolution of species.

"The richness of the mammal fauna in both species and numbers in the area surveyed (Upper Richmond and Clarence Rivers) is remarkable; it is the richest in species ever reported from any area of comparable size in Australia." (Calaby, 1966.)

The proposed Park embraces a variety of habitats, including dry rainforest, eucalypt forest and woodland, rocky cliffs, rivers and creeks. These habitats support a rich and diverse fauna, making the proposed area ideal for the representative conservation of the mammal fauna of the Upper Richmond and Clarence Rivers region.

The proposed area supports a number of species which have a fairly restricted distribution in N.S.W., including the Rufous Rat-kangaroo (*Aepyrymnus rufescens*), Scrub Wallaby (*Macropus dorsalis*) and Rock Wallaby (*Petrogale penicillata*). (Frith, 1975.) There are several colonies of the latter species occupying the steep gravelly banks at the confluence of the Clarence River and Tooloom Creek.

The Platypus (*Ornithorhynchus anatinus*) is found in the Upper Clarence system and is legally gazetted 'rare fauna'. "The greatest number seen in any one place was five along 300 yards of Yabbra Creek, which flows into the Clarence at Paddy's Flat." (Calaby, 1966.)

The wet eucalypt forest and woodlands within the proposed Park have a dense undergrowth of both bladed and tussocky grasses. This ground cover provides ideal habitat for species of ground-living small marsupials, particularly the families Dasyiuridae and Peramelidae. The dense forest undergrowth also favours certain macropod species, including the Scrub Wallaby (*Macropus dorsalis*), the Swamp Wallaby (*Wallabia bicolor*) and the rare Potoroo (*Potorous tridactylus*). Research indicates that these species require climax woodland and forest communities, unaltered by either grazing or clearing.

The habitat of the Koala (*Phascolarctos cinerius*) is tall woodland, especially that dominated by *Eucalyptus tereticornis*, *E. saligna* and *Tristania conferta*. This tall woodland community occurs within the proposed Park on the heavy soils of the alluvial river flats and the basaltic soils of higher elevations. The Park could prove to be a valuable habitat for this protected marsupial.

The coastal rivers of N.S.W., including the Upper Clarence, may provide valuable drought and summer refuges for birds

bred in the Murray-Darling region. The river habitats of the Upper Clarence support important communities of water-birds such as the Black Duck (*Anas superciliosa*), the Black Swan (*Cygnus atratus*), the Grey Teal (*A. gibberifrons*), and the Wood Duck (*Chenonetta jubata*).

Certain species of birds may have their northern or southern limit of distribution in the far north-eastern NSW region. The Eastern Rosella (*Platycercus eximius*), White-browed Scrub-wren (*Sericornis frontalis frontalis*) and Yellow-throated Scrub-wren (*Sericornis lathami*) are examples of temperate avifauna which have their northern limit of distribution lying between the Clarence River and the N.S.W./Queensland border. Similarly, the following species do not occur further south than this area: Northern Yellow Robin (*Eopsaltria chrysorrhoea*), Black-breasted Quail (*Turnix melanogaster*).

The river bank communities dominated by *Casuarina cunninghamii* attract such birds as the Brown Honey-eater (*Lichmera indistincta*).

"Rare species at Paddy's Flat would include Plum-headed Finch, Grey Goshawk, Black-breasted Quail, Spotted Quail-thrush and Crested Hawk". (Bird Observers Club, 1975.)

The Grey Goshawk (*Accipiter novaehollandiae*) and Crested Hawk (*Aviceda subcristata*) are found in the forests and scrubland of the proposed park, whereas the Spotted Quail-thrush (*Cinclosoma punctatum*) occurs on the stony ridges and hillsides. The Black-breasted Quail (*Turnix melanogaster*) occurs in the dry rainforest, while the fringing vegetation along rivers and creeks provides habitat for the Plum-headed Finch (*Aidemosyne modesta*).

The populations of certain macropod species increase when grazing becomes available on cleared grasslands. The presence of scattered cleared areas in the proposed Park has resulted in the success of macropods such as the Red-necked Wallaby (*Macropus rufogriseus*), the Wallaroo (*M. robustus*) and the Whiptail Wallaby (*M. parryi*). The provision of limited cleared and grassed recreational areas within the proposed Park will benefit these species while preventing overpopulation by restricting the cleared area available.

The dry rainforest within the proposed area provides habitat for the Red-necked Pademelon (*Thylogale thetis*), the Brush-tailed Possum (*Trichosurus vulpecula*), Ringtail Possum (*Pseudocheirus peregrinus*), the Brindled Bandicoot (*Isodon macrourus*) and other species.

Significant communities of the Scrub Wallaby and the Rufous Rat-Kangaroo occur in the rainforest gullies of the proposed park. (McCann, 1975). These species are relatively uncommon elsewhere in New South Wales.

The research done by Calaby (1966) indicates that the Upper Richmond and Clarence Rivers district is rich in fauna, yet this area has no major faunal reserve. The proposed National Park is eminently suitable as a reserve for the protection of fauna and habitat. The size (28,328 ha) of the proposed Park is sufficient to ensure the continued existence of viable macropod populations, while the diversity of habitat largely guarantees the continued success of the multitude of faunal species present in the proposed area. Faunal lists for the proposed park are shown in Appendix A.

## 2.7 HISTORY AND HUMAN SETTLEMENT

The proposed Paddy's Flat National Park and surrounding regions have a history of European settlement extending back over 120 years. Prior to this settlement, the area is believed to have supported considerable populations of aborigines.

By 1852 the Clarence River district had been proclaimed a squatting district and stations had been established along the river from the tablelands to the coast. The main products from the district were cedar, wool and beef.

In the early 1850's gold was found near the township of Drake and at Tooloom Falls, and later at other sites on the Clarence and its tributaries. The gold mined was generally alluvial, with some reef mining. Gold mining continued in the area for 30 years. The population of the area was greatly increased by the discovery of gold, with a considerable influx of both Chinese and Europeans. By 1876 there were 192 mines being worked in the Lunatic Division of the northern gold fields, including the Tooloom Goldfields. These mines produced gold to a value of 8,122 pounds in 1876.

A road was constructed between Ipswich in Queensland and the diggings at Tooloom, continuing to the Lower Clarence. Gold was generally taken by packhorse, under police escort, along this road to Ipswich. The old gold road is still in use today and forms the only road through the proposed Paddy's Flat National Park.

By 1877, gold production had fallen off in the Lunatic Division. However, in this year there was a further rush to a site called Paddy's Gully. This appears to have been the last significant find for a number of years. In 1881 the Mining Registrar for the Lunatic Division stated "*Some prospecting is still being done in the locality. I have no doubt that there are still some rich deposits of the precious metal awaiting discovery.*"

By 1903, the only mining activity in the area was that of prospectors and fossickers mining the old worked-out gullies. One such prospector was Mr. Payne, whose family now lives in the old miners' hotel north of the Tooloom Creek crossing.

In the early 20th century, considerable attention was given to the basaltic formation extending north-east from Pretty Gully to Tooloom. A syndicate was formed to test the area,

but the results showed that mining on a commercial scale was not feasible. During the early 1970's fossickers and weekend prospectors found small quantities of gold in Pretty Gully and surrounding areas.

The Forestry Commission began logging operations in the area in about 1920, with Red Cedar (*Toona australis*) and Hoop Pine (*Araucaria cunninghamii*) the most sought-after of the rainforest species. Eucalypt forest communities were also logged commercially. These logging activities, and the clearing associated with agriculture, encouraged the invasion of *Lantana camara* into rainforest. This invasion is evident today in some areas.

The proposed Paddy's Flat National Park encompasses an area of historical significance. "*The Tooloom Goldfields was once of great importance . . . in the first rush for alluvial gold in the northern district, Tooloom proved to be one of the richest fields*". (Mining Registrar, 1876-1917).

A legacy of the mining days remains in the numerous old tunnels that still exist at Upper Tooloom and Paddy's Flat. From the history of the area arises a factor of recreational value to visitors — fossicking in natural bushland, along one of Australia's important rivers.





## 6. References and Acknowledgments

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The Association is also grateful for the assistance given by Miss Lyn Stephenson of the Geological Survey, the advice given by Mr Humphreys, who first suggested this area to our North Coast Branch and Mr Floyd for his willing assistance in investigating the area and in compiling flora lists.

# Appendix A

## MAMMALS OBSERVED OR EXPECTED TO OCCUR IN THE PROPOSED PADDYS FLAT NATIONAL PARK (Calaby 1966, Frith 1973, Ride 1970)

### INDEX TO ESTIMATED RELATIVE ABUNDANCE OF SPECIES

VC = Very Common                      NC = Not Common  
C = Common                              R = Rare

#### ORDER MONOTREMATA

##### Tachyglossidae

Tachyglossus aculeatus (Echidna)                      C      all communities

##### Ornithorynchidae

Ornithorynchus anatinus (Platypus)                      C      rivers, creeks, larger tributaries

#### ORDER MARSUPIALIA

##### Dasyuridae — marsupial mice, native cats

Phascogale tapoatafa (Tuan)                      NC      grassy or rocky woodland and forest

Antechinus flavipes (Mardo)                      NC      woodland, drier forest, along creeks

Antechinus stuartii (Brown Antechinus)                      NC      rainforest, wet sclerophyll forest

Antechinus maculatus (Pigmy Antechinus)                      R      forest with bladed grass undergrowth

Sminthopsis murina (Common Dunnart)                      VC      woodland and forest, wet fringes of rainforest, Xanthorrhoea spp.

Sminthopsis leucopus (White-footed Dunnart)                      NC      sclerophyll forest

Dasyurus maculatus (Tiger Cat)                      C      sclerophyll forest, rainforest

##### Peramelidae — Bandicoots

Perameles nasuta (Long-nosed Bandicoot)                      NC      rainforest and woodland with grassy undergrowth

Isoodon macrourus (Brindled Bandicoot)                      C      woodland and forest with dense undergrowth

Isoodon obesulus (Brown Bandicoot)                      NC      woodland and forest with good undergrowth

##### Phascolarctidae

Phascolarctos cinereus (Koala)                      NC      tall woodland and dry sclerophyll forest esp. that with Eucalyptus tereticornis, E. saligna, Brush box

##### Macropodidae — rat-kangaroos, wallabies, kangaroos

Aepyprymnus rufescens (Rufous Rat-Kangaroo)                      C      sclerophyll forest and woodland with dense grass

Thylogale thetis (Red-necked Pademelon)                      NC      rainforest, lantana edges, wet gullies with dense shrubby ground cover

Thylogale stigmatica (Red-legged Pademelon)                      NC      as above

Petrogale penicillata (Rock Wallaby)                      C      cliffs or steep slopes vegetated with woodland or grasses

Macropus giganteus (Great Grey Kangaroo)                      C      open eucalypt forest and woodland, esp. sub-climax communities

Macropus robustus (Wallaroo)                      C      grassed stony slopes and hill-tops, flat-topped ridges between creek and forest

Macropus rufogreus (Red-necked Wallaby)                      VC      woodland and forest edge and clearings

Macropus dorsalis (Scrub Wallaby)                      NC      rainforest, lantana thickets, wet gullies with shrubby ground stratum, climax communities

Macropus parryi (Whiptail Wallaby)                      VC      dry grassy eucalypt woodlands generally on slopes and hilltops

Wallabia bicolor (Swamp Wallaby)                      R      long dense grass in wetter woodland and gullies, climax communities

Phalangeridae — possums, cuscuses and gliders

Trichosurus vulpecula (Brush-tailed Possum)                      C      eucalypt woodland and drier forests, rainforest edges

Trichosurus caninus (Short-eared Possum)                      C      rainforests and wet gullies with dense tree cover

Petaurus norfolcensis (Squirrel Glider)                      NC      River oak communities, sclerophyll forest and woodland

Acrobates pygmaeus (Pigmy Glider)                      NC      eucalypt forest and woodland

Petaurus breviceps (Sugar Glider)                      NC      eucalypt forest and woodland

Schoinobates volans (Greater Glider)                      VC      tall eucalypt woodland and rainforest edges

Pseudocheirus peregrinus (Common Ringtail)                      C      dense vegetation in rainforests and wetter gullies and forests

ORDER RODENTIA

Muridae — rats and mice

Rattus fuscipes (Bush-rat)                      C      rainforest, wet gullies, shrubby vegetation on creek banks

Rattus lutreolus (Eastern Swamp-rat)                      C      long grass along creek banks and wet gullies in woodland

Melomys cervinipes (Mosaic-tailed Rat)                      R      woodland, rainforest, tall grasses

Hydromys chrysogaster (Water Rat)                      R      freshwater rivers and creeks

ORDER CHIROPTERA

Pteropodidae — fruit bats

Pteropus poliocephalus (Grey-headed Flying Fox)                      VC      rainforest, sclerophyll forest and woodland

Pteropus scapulatus (Red Flying Fox)                      NC      rainforest, sclerophyll forest and woodland, esp. that with E.paniculata

Pteropus alecto (Black Flying Fox)                      R      rainforest, sclerophyll forest and woodland

Rhinolophidae — horseshoe bats

Rhinolophus megaphyllus (Eastern Horseshoe Bat)                      NC      mines, caves, tunnels

Vespertilionidae — typical bats

Miniopterys schreibersii (Bent-wing Bat)                      R      mine tunnels, caves

Miniopterys australis (Little Bent-wing Bat)                      R      mine tunnels, caves

Chalinocobus gouldii (Gould's Wattle Bat)                      NC      tree hollows

Eptesicus pumilus (Little Bat)                      VC      tree hollows, small windblown caves in sandstone cliffs

Nycticeius rueppellii (Greater Broad-nosed Bat)                      C      eucalypt tree hollows

INTRODUCED SPECIES

ORDER LAGOMORPHA

Hare                      NC      clearings

Rabbit                      NC      cleared foothills and thinned native forests

# Appendix B

## BIRDS OF THE PROPOSED PADDY'S FLAT NATIONAL PARK

SPECIES LIST BASED ON SIGHTINGS BY RESEARCH  
TEAM AND BY LOCAL AMATEUR ORNITHOLOGIST,  
MR MILTON TRUDGEON OF GOONELLEBAH

### 1. Non-Passerines

#### PODICIPEDIFORMES

##### Podicipedidae

*Podiceps novaehollandiae* (Australian Little Grebe)

#### PELECANIFORMES

##### Pelecanidae

*Pelecanus conspicillatus* (Australian Pelican)

##### Anhingidae

*Anhinga rufa* (Darter)

*Phalacrocorax sulcirostris* (Little Black Cormorant)

*Phalacrocorax melanoleucos* (Little Pied Cormorant)

#### CICONIIFORMES

##### Ardeidae

*Ardea pacifica* (White-necked Heron)

*Ardea novaehollandiae* (White-faced Heron)

*Egretta alba* (White Egret)

*Egretta garzetta* (Little Egret)

*Egretta intermedia* (Plumed Egret)

*Nycticorax caledonicus* (Nankeen Night Heron)

*Dupetor flavicollis* (Black Bittern)

##### Ciconiidae

*Xenorhynchus asiaticus* (Jabiru)

##### Threskiornithidae

*Threskiornis molucca* (White Ibis)

*Threskiornis spinicollis* (Straw-necked Ibis)

*Platalea regia* (Royal Spoonbill)

*Platalea flavipes* (Yellow-billed Spoonbill)

#### ANSERIFORMES

##### Anatidae

*Cygnus atratus* (Black Swan)

*Anas superciliosa* (Black Duck)

*Anas gibberifrons* (Grey Teal)

*Aythya australis* (White-eyed Duck)

*Chenonetta jubata* (Wood Duck)

#### FALCONIFORMES

##### Accipitridae

*Aviceda subcristata* (Crested Hawk)

*Haliastur sphenurus* (Whistling Kite)

*Accipiter novaehollandiae* (Grey Goshawk)

*Accipiter fasciatus* (Brown Goshawk)

*Accipiter cirrocephalus* (Collared Sparrowhawk)

*Aquila audax* (Wedge-tailed Eagle)

##### Falconidae

*Falco longipennis* (Little Falcon)

*Falco cenchroides* (Nankeen Kestrel)

#### GALLIFORMES

##### Megapodiidae

*Alectura lathamii* (Brush Turkey)

#### GRUIFORMES

##### Turnicidae

*Turnix melanogaster* (Black-breasted Quail)

##### Rallidae

*Gallinula tenebrosa* (Dusky Moorhen)

*Porphyrio porphyrio* (Swamphen)

#### CHARADRIIFORMES

##### Scolopacidae

*Tringa hypoleucos* (Common Sandpiper)

#### COLUMBIFORMES

##### Columbidae

*Macropygia amboinensis* (Brown Pigeon)

*Geopelia humeralis* (Bar-shouldered Dove)

*Geopelia striata* (Peaceful Dove)

*Ocyphaps lophotes* (Crested Pigeon)

*Leucosarcia melanoleuca* (Wonga Pigeon)

#### PSITTACIFORMES

##### Psittacidae

*Trichoglossus haematodus* (Rainbow Lorikeet)

*Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus* (Scaly-breasted Lorikeet)

*Calyptorhynchus funereus funereus* (Yellow-tailed Cockatoo)

*Calyptorhynchus magnificus* (Red-tailed Cockatoo)

*Cacatua galerita* (Sulphur-crested Cockatoo)

*Alisterus scapularis* (King Parrot)

*Platycercus elegans* (Crimson Rosella)

*Platycercus eximius* (Eastern Rosella)

#### CUCULIFORMES

##### Cuculidae

*Cuculus pallidus* (Pallid Cuckoo)

*Cacomantis variolosus* (Brush Cuckoo)

*Cacomantis pyrrhophanus* (Fan-tailed Cuckoo)

*Chrysococcyx lucidus plagosus* (Golden Bronze Cuckoo)

*Eudynamis scolopacea* (Koel)

*Scythrops novaehollandiae* (Channel-billed Cuckoo)

#### STRIGIFORMES

##### Tytonidae

*Tyto alba* (Barn Owl)

##### Strigidae

*Ninox novaeseelandiae* (Boobook Owl)

## CAPRIMULGIFORMES

### Caprimulgidae

*Podargus strigoides* (Tawny Frogmouth)

### Aegothelidae

*Aegotheles cristatus* (Owlet Nightjar)

### Caprimulgidae

*Eurostopus mystacalis* (White-throated Nightjar)

## APODIFORMES

### Apodidae

*Hirundapus caudacutus* (Spine-tailed Swift)

## CORACIIFORMES

### Alcedinidae

*Alcyon azurea* (Azure Kingfisher)

*Dacelo gigas* (Laughing Kookaburra)

*Halcyon macleayi* (Forest Kingfisher)

*Halcyon sancta* (Sacred Kingfisher)

### Coraciidae

*Eurystomus orientalis* (Dollar Bird)

## 2. Passerines

## PASSERIFORMES

### Pittidae

*Pitta versicolor* (Noisy Pitta)

### Menuridae

*Menura superba* (Superb Lyrebird)

### Hirundinidae

*Cheramoeca leucosterna* (White-backed Swallow)

*Hirundo neoxena* (Welcome Swallow)

*Petrochelidon nigricans* (Tree Martin)

*Petrochelidon ariel* (Fairy Martin)

### Grallinidae

*Grallina cyanoleuca* (Magpie-lark)

### Campephagidae

*Pteropodocys maxima* (Ground Cuckoo-shrike)

*Coracina novaehollandiae* (Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike)

*Coracina papuensis* (Little Cuckoo-shrike)

*Coracina tenuirostris* (Cicada-bird)

*Lalage sueurii* (White-winged Triller)

*Lalage leucomela* (Varied Triller)

### Timaliidae

*Cinclosoma punctatum* (Spotted Quail-thrush)

*Pomatostomus temporalis* (Grey-crowned Babbler)

*Psophodes olivaceus* (Eastern Whipbird)

### Maluridae

*Malurus cyaneus* (Superb Blue Wren)

*Malurus lamberti* (Variegated Wren)

*Malurus melanocephalus* (Red-backed Wren)

### Sylviidae

*Cisticola exilis* (Golden-headed Cisticola)

*Cinchorhamphus mathewsi* (Rufous Songlark)

### Acanthizidae

*Gerygone olivacea* (White-throated Warbler)

*Gerygone mouki* (Brown Warbler)

*Acanthiza nana* (Little Thornbill)

*Smicronis brevirostris* (Weebill)

*Acanthiza pusilla* (Brown Thornbill)

*Acanthiza chrysorrhoa* (Yellow-tailed Thornbill)

*Acanthiza reguloides* (Buff-tailed Thornbill)

*Sericornis frontalis frontalis* (White-browed Scrub-wren)

*Sericornis magnirostris* (Large-billed Scrub-wren)

*Sericornis lathamii* (Yellow-throated Scrub-wren)

*Chthonicola sagittata* (Speckled Warbler)

### Muscicapidae

*Microeca leucophaea* (Brown Flycatcher)

*Petroica multicolor* (Scarlet Robin)

*Petroica cucullata* (Hooded Robin)

*Petroica rosea* (Rose Robin)

*Eopsaltria chrysorrhoa* (Northern Yellow Robin)

*Rhipidura fuliginosa* (Grey Fantail)

*Rhipidura rufifrons* (Rufous Fantail)

*Rhipidura leucophrys* (Willie Wagtail)

### Monarchidae

*Myiagra rubecula* (Leaden Flycatcher)

*Myiagra cyanoleuca* (Satin Flycatcher)

*Myiagra inquieta* (Restless Flycatcher)

*Monarcha melanopsis* (Black-faced Flycatcher)

### Pachycephalidae

*Pachycephala rufiventris* (Rufous Whistler)

*Pachycephala pectoralis* (Golden Whistler)

*Colluricincla harmonica* (Grey Shrike-thrush)

*Falcunculus frontatus* (Eastern Shrike-tit)

### Sittidae

*Neositta leucocephala* (White-headed Sittella)

### Climacteridae

*Climacteris leucophaea* (White-throated Tree-creeper)

*Pardalotus punctatus* (Spotted Pardalote)

*Pardalotus melanocephalus* (Black-headed Pardalote)

### Zosteropidae

*Zosterops lateralis* (Grey-breasted Silvereye)

### Meliphagidae

*Lichmera indistincta* (Brown Honeyeater)

*Myzomela sanguinolenta* (Scarlet Honeyeater)

*Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris* (Eastern Spinebill)

*Meliphaga lewinii* (Lewin Honeyeater)

*Meliphaga leucotis* (White-eared Honeyeater)

*Meliphaga malanops* (Yellow-tufted Honeyeater)

*Meliphaga chrysops* (Yellow-faced Honeyeater)

*Meliphaga fusca* (Fuscous Honeyeater)

*Meliphaga penicillata* (White-plumed Honeyeater)

*Melithreptus lunatus* (White-naped Honeyeater)

*Melithreptus gularis* (Black-chinned Honeyeater)

Entomyzon cyanotis (Blue-faced Honeyeater)  
 Philemon corniculatus (Noisy Friar-bird)  
 Manorina melanocephala (Noisy Miner)  
 Anthochaera chrysoptera (Little Wattle-bird)

**Spermestidae**

Aegintha temporalis (Red-browed Finch)  
 Stizoptera bichenovii (Double-bar Finch)  
 Aidemosyne modesta (Plum-headed Finch)

**Sturnidae**

Sturnus vulgaris (English Starling)

**Oriolidae**

Oriolus sagittatus (Olive-backed Oriole)  
 Sphecotheres vieilloti (Southern Figbird)

**Dicruridae**

Dicrurus bracteatus (Spangled Drongo)

**Artamidae**

Artamus leucorhynchus (White-breasted Wood-swallow)  
 Artamus superciliosus (White-browed Wood-swallow)  
 Artamus cyanopterus (Dusky Wood-swallow)

**Cracticidae**

Cracticus nigrogularis (Pied Butcher-bird)  
 Cracticus torquatus (Grey Butcher-bird)  
 Gymnorhina tibicen (Black-backed Magpie)  
 Strepera graculina (Pied Currawong)

**Ptilonorhynchidae**

Sericulus chrysocephalus (Regent Bower-bird)  
 Ptilinorhynchus violaceus (Satin Bower-bird)

**Corvidae**

Corvus orru (Australian Crow)

## Appendix C

### FLORA LIST — SOUTH OF RIVERTREE, October, 1975

#### ESTIMATED RELATIVE ABUNDANCE OF SPECIES

Rare = R  
 Occasional = O  
 Common = C  
 Very Common = VC

#### A. Rainforest On Upper Slopes

##### 1. TREES AND SHRUBS

Araucariaceae	Araucaria cunninghamii	Hoop Pine	VC
Ulmaceae	Aphananthe philippinensis	Native Elm	O
Moraceae	Ficus rubiginosa	Rusty Fig	O
	Streblus brunoniana	Whalebone Tree	O
Urticaceae	Dendrocnide excelsa	Giant Stinging Tree	R
	Dendrocnide photinophylla	Shiny-leaved Stinging Tree	O
Proteaceae	Grevillea robusta	Silky Oak	O
Lauraceae	Cryptocarya bidwillii	Yellow Laurel	O
Capparidaceae	Capparis arborea	Native Pomegranate	O
Pittosporaceae	Citriobatus multiflorus	Orange Thorn	C
	Pittosporum undulatum	Sweet Pittosporum	R
Papilionaceae	Erythrina vespertilio	Bat's Wing	
		Coral Tree	R
Rutaceae	Acronychia laevis	Northern White Lilly Pilly	C
	Flindersia australis	Teak	O
	Geijera latifolia	Scrub Wilga	C
Meliaceae	Melia azederach var. australasica	White Cedar	O
Euphorbiaceae	Baloghia lucida	Brush Bloodwood	C
	Bridelia exaltata	Scrub Ironbark	R
	Claoxylon australe	Brittlewood	O
	Cleistanthus cunninghamii	Cleistanthus	O
	Coelobogyne ilicifolia	Native Holly	C
	Croton insularis	Cascarilla Bark	VC
	Drypetes australasica	Yellow Tulip	C
	Mallotus philippensis	Orange Kamala	VC
Anacardiaceae	Euroschinus falcatus	Chinaman's Cedar	VC
Celastraceae	Maytenus bilocularis	Orangebark	VC
Sapindaceae	Alectryon subdentatus	Holly-leaved Birds-eye	O
	Elattostachys xylocarpa	Short-leaf Beetroot	C
	Harpullia hillii	Oblong-leaved Tulip	O
Rhamnaceae	Alphitonia excelsa	Red Ash	O
Elaeocarpaceae	Elaeocarpus obovatus	Blueberry Ash	O
Malvaceae	Hibiscus heterophyllus	Native Rosella	VC

Sterculiaceae	Brachychiton discolor	Lace Bark Tree	O
Flacourtiaceae	Scolopia brownii	Flintwood	O
Myrtaceae	Austromyrtus bidwillii	Python Tree	O
	Rhodamnia trinervia	Scrub Turpentine	O
	Tristania conferta	Brush Box	C
Araliaceae	Polyscias elegans	Celery Wood	C
Ebenaceae	Diospyros australis	Yellow Persimmon	C
	Diospyros pentamera	Grey Persimmon	R
Oleaceae	Notelaea longifolia	Large Mock Olive	O
Apocynaceae	Alstonia constricta	Quinine Bush	R
Verbenaceae	Clerodendron tomentosum	Hairy Clerodendron	O
Rubiaceae	Canthium odoratum	Native Coffee	VC
	Psychotria simmondsiana	Small Psychotria	VC

## 2. VINES

Dioscoreaceae	Dioscorea transversa	Yam	R
Celastraceae	Celastrus subspicatus	Staff Climber	O
Vitaceae	Cayratia clematidea	Slender Grape	O
	Tetragymna nitens	Shiny-leaved Grape	VC

## 3. EPIPHYTES

Aspleniaceae	Asplenium falcatum	Sickle Spleenwort	R
Polypodiaceae	Dictydia brownii	Strap-fern	R
	Platynerium bifurcatum	Elk Horn Fern	R
	Platynerium grande	Stag Horn Fern	C
Orchidaceae	Dendrobium gracilicaule	Spotted Orchid	O
	Dendrobium linguiforme	Tongue Orchid	R
	Dendrobium speciosum	Rock Lily	VC
	Plectorrhiza tridentata	Tangle Orchid	VC
	Rhinorrhiza divitiflora	Raspy-root Orchid	R

## B. Eucalypt Forest on Ridge

Casuarinaceae	Casuarina littoralis	Black She-oak	C
Santalaceae	Exocarpos cupressiformis	Native Cherry	C
Sterculiaceae	Brachychiton populneus	Kurrajong	O
Myrtaceae	Angophora floribunda	Rough-barked Apple	C
	Angophora subvelutina	Broad-leaved Apple	C
	Eucalyptus albens	White Box	VC
	Eucalyptus crebra	Narrow-leaved Ironbark	O
	Eucalyptus tereticornis	Forest Red Gum	O
	Tristania conferta	Brush Box	O

## FLORA LIST, WEST OF SOUTH YABRA STATE FOREST

### 1. TREES AND SHRUBS

			E of Main Road	W of Main Road
Araucariaceae	Araucaria cunninghamii	Hoop Pine	C	C
Ulmaceae	Aphananthe philippinensis	Native Elm	O	R
Moraceae	Ficus coronata	Creek Sandpaper Fig	-	C
	Ficus watkinsiana	Strangler Fig	-	O
Urticaceae	Streblus brunonianus	Whalebone Tree	O	R
	Dendrocnide excelsa	Giant Stinging Tree	O	-
	Dendrocnide photinophylla	Shining-leaved Stinging Tree	-	R

Proteaceae	Grevillea robusta	Silky Oak	-	R
Monimiaceae	Daphnandra apatela	Socket Wood	O	-
Lauraceae	Endiandra muelleri	Green-leaved Rose Walnut	C	O
	Litsea leefeana	Brown Bolly Gum	O	R
	Neolitsea dealbata	White Bolly Gum	C	O
Pittosporaceae	Pittosporum revolutum	Yellow Pittosporum	-	O
	Pittosporum undulatum	Sweet Pittosporum	-	R
Mimosaceae	Abarema sapindoides	Snow-wood	O	-
Rutaceae	Euodia micrococca	Hairy-leaved Doughwood	R	-
	Flindersia australia	Teak	R	-
	Flindersia schottiana	Bumpy Ash	O	-
Meliaceae	Didymocheton rufum	Hairy Rosewood	O	R
	Toona australia	Red Cedar	R	R
Euphorbiaceae	Baloghia lucida	Brush Bloodwood	VC	C
	Briedelia exaltata	Scrub Ironbark	R	-
	Claoxylon australe	Brittlewood	-	R
	Cleistanthus cunninghamii	Cleistanthus	C	O
	Drypetes australasica	Yellow Tulip	O	C

Anacardiaceae	Mallotus philippensis	Kamala	C	C
	Euroschinus falcatus	Chinaman's Cedar	C	C
Icacinaeae	Citronella moorei	Soapy Box	C	O
Sapindaceae	Alectryon subcinereus	Wild Quince	-	VC
	Alectryon subdentatus	Holly-leaved Birds-eye	-	O
	Alectryon tomentosus	Hairy Birds-eye	-	O
	Cupaniopsis parvifolius	Small-leaved Tuckeroo	R	-
	Elattostachys xylocarpa	Short-leaf Beetroot	O	O

	Guioa semiglauca	Guioa	C	O
	Harpullia pendula	Tulipwood	R	-
	Jagera pseudorhus	Foam Bark Tree	O	-
Malvaceae	Hibiscus heterophyllus	Native Rosella	C	O
Sterculiaceae	Brachychiton acerifolium	Flame Tree	R	-
	Brachychiton discolor	Lace Bark Tree	-	O
Flacourtiaceae	Scolopia brownii	Flintwood	-	O
Murtaceae	Austromyrtus bidwillii	Python Tree	-	R
	Rhodamnia trinervia	Scrub Turpentine	C	O
	Syzygium coolminianum	Blue Cherry	O	O
	Syzygium paniculatum	Brush Cherry	C	O
Araliaceae	Polyscias elegans	Celery Wood	C	O
Ebenaceae	Diospyros australis	Yellow Persimmon	C	O
	Diospyros pentamera	Grey Persimmon	O	O
Oleaceae	Notelaea longifolia	Mock Olive	O	O
	Olea paniculata	Native Olive	-	VC

Verbenaceae	Gmelina leichhardtii	White Beech	-	R
Rubiaceae	Hodgkinsonia ovatiflora	Golden Ash	C	O

COMMENT ON THE ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
OF PROPOSED ROADING, AND LOGGING, BELLINGER RIVER STATE FOREST  
No. 651, Logging Area No.1

The above assessment is claimed by its authors to "set out, in an objective, factual and concise manner, the proposals for logging of the area, a description of the local environment and an indication of the effects of the proposed operations on the environment". (Forward to the Report).

However, these claims are not realised within the report. Criticism can be made of

- i) the lack of specific detail relating to the proposal and its effects;
- ii) the complete absence of any information relating to the methodology used in the collection of data for the description of the local environment;
- iii) the failure to objectively evaluate the impact of the proposed operation on the natural character of the forest, and on competing uses.

The areas of criticism can now be examined in greater detail.

1. Lack of Detailed Information on the Proposal and its Effects

While a general statement is made concerning the preferred ridge top location of major roads (Para 3.2, Para 5.1.2) the proportion of total road length not to be formed in the manner is not stated. It can be assumed that in other than ridge-top locations, an area much greater than the formation width of the road would need to be cleared to accommodate batter, or would become buried by fill.

Further to information regarding the construction of roads, details of the areas affected by the roading operation are essential to any discussion of the effects of roading.

The effect of roading through rainforest stands is discussed in only a superficial manner. Significant adverse affects can be expected from the opening up of rainforest areas by roading operations, particularly where the rainforest occupies small and scattered sites. The possible deterioration in quality of these areas should be subjected to more detailed examination, as should alternative locations to roads such as Karumba road, which passes through seven rainforest communities.

The proposal for logging is justified in the report on the basis of sustained overcutting of hardwood forests, both locally and elsewhere on the North Coast. (Para.2), and the discussion of the various options may be considered with this in mind. Environmental criteria appear to have little part to play in the determination of the various options (other than option 6).

The logging of this area can only be seen as a continuation of the over-commitment of the Forestry Commission to supplying local mills. Management options designed to conserve the forest resource over the longer period are not discussed, and the decision not to log the rainforest area merely reflects the lack of local demand for brushwoods. A further justification of the logging proposal would appear to be the recreational use of the area. (Paras 3.6, and 5.4.1.2). No discussion is included of the need for the type of recreational development suggested, or of the effects of this type of recreational use following logging. In view of the <sup>Provision of</sup> recreational facilities of the type described elsewhere, the further provision of such facilities should not be used as justification for logging, and should also be the subject of critical examination with regard to effects on the forest ecosystem.

## 2. Inadequate Description of Local Environment

Rather than providing a factual data base against which the impact of the proposals can be assessed, the Report illustrates the lack of data available for the area. Further to this, unpublished reports related to the area (for example, the work of Warner<sup>1</sup> on the topography, geology and hydrology of the region are not mentioned or drawn upon, for information.

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1. Warner, R.F. Some Aspects of the Geomorphological Evolution of the Bellinger Valleys, N.S.W. Unpub. Ph.D. Thesis, Dept. of Geography, U.N.E., Armidale, 1967.



Quantification of data is virtually absent from the section on Hydrology (Para. 4 1.1.4), yet some of the more severe impacts of roading and logging relate to hydrology, and the potential for accelerated soil erosion from logging and roading sites. Results of research from high rainfall areas elsewhere in Australia are not referred to in this section.<sup>1</sup>

Discussion of the Biological Environment (Para. 4.1.3) is also superficial, lacking in description of methodology employed, and without reference to independent scientific research in the area. The only scientific reference in the whole of the report is that of Specht (1974), referring to the conservation status of the Hardwood alliance typical of the "Black Scrub". This reference is now somewhat dated in that the forest type has been subject to widespread intensive logging on the North Coast since its publication. Further, the actual area of these forest types reserved from logging on the North Coast is not disclosed in the Report.

In summary, the information presented in the Report on the environmental characteristics of the area provides an inadequate data base against which the effects of proposed logging, and also resolution of the conflict, can be examined. The omission of information on the methods of data collection makes this an even more severe problem in that the reliability of the information presented cannot be assessed.

It is not surprising, in view of the inadequacy of the base data, that the discussion of effects of the proposal is largely superficial. The effect on vegetation communities as interacting communities is overlooked, and the problem of weed invasion (especially introduced weed species) along roadways, is virtually dismissed in sections 5.1.3 and 5.2.4. The effects upon fauna are also superficially discussed, without reference to scientific studies on this subject.

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1. For example, the work of Douglas, and of Gilmour in North Queensland.

3. Assessment of Impact. (Section 6)

While some attempt (albeit inadequate) is made within the report to provide an environmental description of the area of conflict, the assessment of impact of the proposed roading and logging could barely be considered as such.

The methodology of environmental impact assessment has been the subject of considerable advance in the past decade, yet this is not reflected in the report.

The "Assessment of Impact" presents the viewpoints of the author(s) of the Report; it does not objectively and quantitatively assess the impact of the proposal on the natural condition of the area, nor on alternative uses. No attempt has been made of assessment toward the application of <sup>a</sup> matrix method (such as that developed by the State Pollution Control Commission) which presents an accepted standard for impact assessment.

CONCLUSION:

This Report prepared by the Forestry Commission fails to measure up to the standard set out in the Forward.

It contains inadequate environmental descriptions, lacks any statement of methodology by which the thoroughness of the description can be evaluated, and it fails to assess the impact of the proposal upon alternative conditions and uses of the forest, as is the accepted procedure.

It cannot, therefore, be used as the basis for justification of the proposal.

In view of these extreme shortcomings, it is recommended that the Forestry Commission be requested to thoroughly reassess, using commonly accepted procedures, the impact of this proposal, and that the Commission use the services of independent organisations in the collection of data relating to the environmental characteristics of the area, and on the anticipated effect of the proposal.

It is further recommended that, once completed, the report be submitted to the State Pollution Control Commission for evaluation, and for review of public comment.



National Parks Association of NSW

State Council  
399 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
Telephone (02) 233 3618

December 6, 1979.

Mr. Max Burke,  
Director,  
The Australian Heritage Commission,  
P.O. Box 1567,  
CANBERRA CITY. ACT. 2601.

Dear Mr. Burke,

Re: Decision of your Commission not to enter Beardy River National Park Proposal  
in the Register of the National Estate.

---

The National Parks Association of NSW (State Council) gives notice of its objection to the Australian Heritage Commission's decision not to enter the Association's national park proposal known as "Beardy River" in the Register of the National Estate.

The grounds for objection are briefly as follows:

1. The Australian Heritage Commission failed to properly evaluate the values of the area - of the two consultants' reports commissioned, only one had been received at the time the decision was taken.
2. The Australian Heritage Commission failed to act on the recommendation of one of its consultants which called for the entering on the Register of the National Estate of approximately 40% of the nominated area, including Beardy River gorge and the Binghi Wilderness Area.
3. The Australian Heritage Commission failed to consult with the NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service and to examine the Service's own national park proposal for the area known as "Binghi". The National Parks & Wildlife Service's Binghi National Park Proposal has a boundary very close to that nominated for entering in the Register of the National Estate by the National Parks Association.
4. The Australian Heritage Commission failed to confine its consideration to legitimate criteria - the Commission appears to have been influenced by powerful political pressure threatening the legislative basis of its activities. This is evidenced in representations from the former Minister for Primary Industry, Mr. Sinclair, who indicated that the Australian Heritage Commission's Act <sup>might</sup> have to be amended if the Beardy River area was entered in the Register of the National Estate.

2.

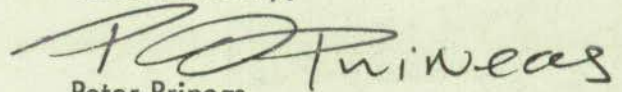
5. The Australian Heritage Commission failed to consult with the National Parks Association, the nominating organisation, before taking its decision. The Association was not given the opportunity to rebut accusations of inaccuracy or worse contained in submissions to the Australian Heritage Commission, e.g. the submission from the Deepwater/Emmaville Sub-Branch of the L.G.P.A.
6. The Australian Heritage Commission failed to exclude intimidation and threats of violence as factors influencing its decision.

The Association proposes to prepare a submission in support of the objection. This submission will expand upon the grounds of objection mentioned above and any further grounds which might become apparent after investigation.

Would you please advise the latest date of acceptance of such a submission.

I intend to visit the Commission's offices in Canberra on Monday, December 10, to view the objections to NPA's nomination of this area. Michael O'Brien of your staff has indicated that he will be attending the office on that date and that the relevant file can be made available.

Yours faithfully,



Peter Prineas  
Executive Secretary.



Morton Kaveney,  
Hon. Sec., Far North Coast Branch, NPA,  
Emerson Road,  
Rosebank,  
via LISMORE. 2480.

National Parks Association of NSW

State Council  
399 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
Telephone (02) 233 3618  
December 6, 1979.

Dear Secretary,

I draw your attention to the enclosed letter of objection to the Australian Heritage Commission which has notified publicly its decision not to enter in the Register of the National Estate an area in the north of NSW known as the Beardy River National Park Proposal, supported by our Association. This national park proposal incorporates the Binghi Wilderness Area as identified in the Study "Wilderness in Australia" (UNE 1976).

You will note from the letter of objection that one of the consultants retained by the Australian Heritage Commission (Stephens, Griffith University, Queensland) recommended that the Binghi Wilderness Area and the Beardy River gorge at least be entered on the Register, yet the Commission has failed to take this action. The second consultant (Williams, University of New England) had not supplied his report at the time the Australian Heritage Commission took its decision.

Our Association requests your support. We ask you to write a letter of objection in similar terms to our own, to the Australian Heritage Commission. Letters should be addressed to the Director, Australian Heritage Commission, P.O. Box 1567, Canberra City, ACT, 2601. Objections should reach the Director not later than December 20, 1979.

Our Association will be preparing a written submission expanding on the grounds of objection in our letter, and copies of this will be forwarded as soon as it is available. The Australian Heritage Commission does not meet again until February, and it is hoped to circulate copies of NPA's submission before then to enable more substantial objections to be made by all interested organisations.

Action in support of the Beardy River nomination is important not simply because of any values the area might possess but because of the significance of the intervention by the former Minister for Primary Industry, Mr. Sinclair, MP, who in his representations to the Australian Heritage Commission on the Beardy River nomination, intimated that the Commission's legislation might have to be amended if it went ahead and registered the area. This raises the question of the independence of the Australian Heritage Commission and its ability to objectively evaluate future nominations for the entering of places on the Register of the National Estate.

Please forward to me copies of any letters of objection sent to the Australian Heritage Commission.

Yours sincerely,

*P. Prineas*

Peter Prineas  
Executive Secretary.

Encl.

NPA  
FNC Branch.

SUBMISSION FROM:

THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OF NSW

TO:

THE AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

OBJECTING TO A DECISION NOT TO ENTER BEARDY RIVER  
AREA IN THE REGISTER OF THE NATIONAL ESTATE

PREPARED BY PETER PRINEAS, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

DECEMBER, 1979

The National Parks Association of NSW is the nominator of a national park proposal known as "Beardy River" for entering in the Register of the National Estate.

The Australian Heritage Commission notified its intention to enter the area in the Register of the National Estate, and received objections. Australian Heritage Commissioner Vincent Serventy and Staff Officer Michael O'Brien visited Emmaville and heard objections to the Heritage Commission's intention. Messrs. Serventy and O'Brien inspected parts of the nominated area on the ground and had the benefit of an aerial inspection also.

Subsequently, on November 20, 1979, there appeared a notice in the Sydney Morning Herald to the effect that the Australian Heritage Commission had decided not to enter the Beardy River area in the Register of the National Estate.

Under the terms of the Australian Heritage Commission Act, 1975, Section 23(3), interested persons have a right to make written objection to the Australian Heritage Commission's decision. Accordingly, objection was lodged by the National Parks Association of NSW by letter dated December 6, 1979, which reached the Australian Heritage Commission on December 10, 1979. This submission expands upon the grounds for objection stated in the Association's letter of December 6.

Ground 1 "The Australian Heritage Commission failed to properly evaluate the values of the area - of the two consultants' reports commissioned, only one had been received at the time the decision was taken."

The Commission engaged two consultants, Peter R. Stevens, Senior Lecturer, School of Australian Environmental Studies, Griffith University, Queensland, and John Williams, Senior Lecturer, Botany Department, University of New England. Due to illness, Mr. Williams has not yet submitted his report to the Commission. Nevertheless, the Commission went ahead and notified its decision not to enter the nominated area on the Register. The botanical features of the nominated area are one of its primary values, having been noted as early as 1908 by R.H. Cambage. Surely it would have been appropriate for the Heritage Commission to defer action until such time as Mr. Williams' report was made available to it.

The National Parks Association objects to the undue haste evident in the Commission's decision; it is obvious that the decision not to enter the nominated area on the Register cannot be sustained on the basis of lack of heritage values.

Ground 2 "The Australian Heritage Commission failed to act on the recommendation of one of its consultants which called for the entering on the Register of the National Estate of approximately 40% of the nominated area, including Beardy River gorge and the Binghi Wilderness Area."

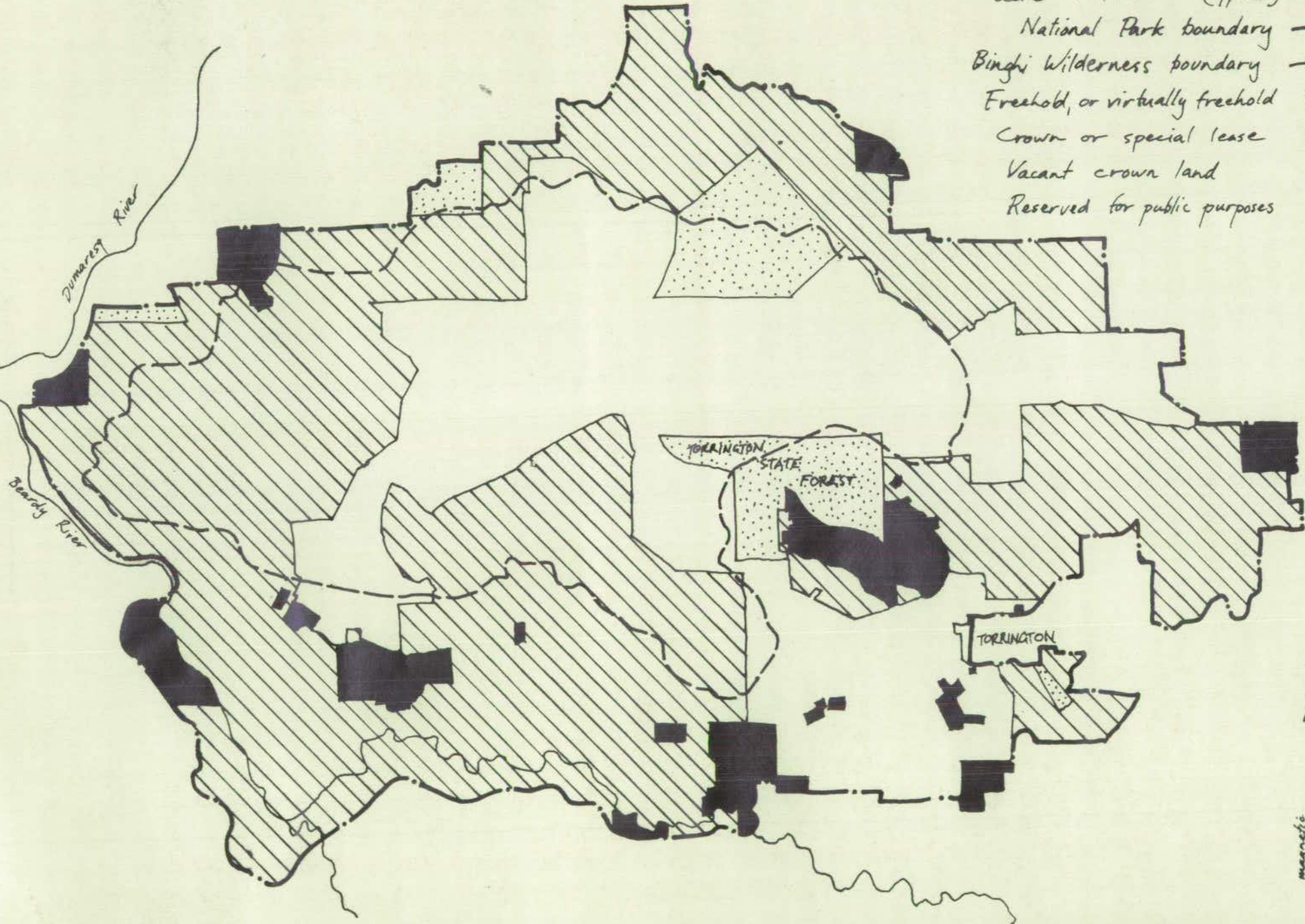
Peter R. Stevens, in his report to the Commission entitled "Re-assessment of a Place proposed for the Register. Beardy River" states that two areas "might have sufficient aesthetic, scientific and social significance to warrant registration". These are broadly (1) the Wilderness Area shown on Map A of the National Parks Association document "Beardy River National Park", but extending to the proposed northern boundary of the proposed national park; and (2) the Beardy River gorge.

# BEARDY RIVER NATIONAL PARK PROPOSAL — TENURE.

KEY:

Scale 1:175000 (approx.)

- National Park boundary ———
- Binghi Wilderness boundary - - - - -
- Freehold, or virtually freehold [solid black box]
- Crown or special lease [diagonal hatching]
- Vacant crown land [white box]
- Reserved for public purposes [dotted box]



magnetic north



Mr D.A. Johnstone,  
~~XXXX~~Director,  
National Parks and Wildlife Service,  
G.P.O. Box 2626,  
SYDNEY, 2000.

Dear Mr Johnstone,

The matter of a Marine Nature Reserve in the vicinity of Julian Rocks, Byron Bay, was discussed at a recent meeting of this Branch of the National Parks Association. While this Branch has not been actively involved in the campaign to have such a Reserve established in the area, we support such a move.

It would appear to us that there have been considerable delays in getting this Reserve established. We would therefore welcome any information that you could supply regarding progress in the establishment of the Reserve.

Yours sincerely,

Mr D. Francois,  
Director,  
State Fisheries,

Dear Mr Francois,

The matter of a Marine Reserve in the vicinity of Julian Rocks, Byron Bay etc. (as for letter above).

The Shire Clerk,  
Byron Shire Council

Dear Sir,

This Branch of the National Parks Association is seeking information regarding the management policies and activities of your Council in the Booyong Recreation Reserve, and the area known as "Johnstons Scrub".

These areas, which together comprise 33 ha., are small remnants of the subtropical rainforest which once extended between Lismore, Byron Bay, Mullumbimby and Ballina, and was known as the "Big Scrub". Today only small remnants, such as those listed above, remain. These remnants occupy only 304 ha., or 0.4% of the former area of the Big Scrub, once the largest stand of subtropical rainforest in New South Wales.

Specific information sought includes:

- any statutory controls on the use of these areas;
- any leases (for e.g. grazing leases) operating;
- the management policy of the Council regarding these areas; and
- activities or developments (current or proposed) with respect to these areas.

Your assistance in this matter

Yours sincerely

Mr B.C. Stevens,  
~~PO Box 23A~~  
~~THE Town Clerk,~~  
Lismore City Council,  
P.O. Box 23A  
Lismore 2480

Dear Mr Stevens,

This Branch of the National Parks Association is seeking information regarding the management policies, and activities of your Council in the Boatharbour Recreation Reserve (Lions Park), Wilson Park Recreation Reserve, and Rotary Park.

These areas are small remnants of the subtropical rainforest which once extended between Lismore, Mullumbimby, Byron Bay and Ballina, and was known as the "Big Scrub". Today only small remnants, such as those listed above, remain. These remnants (excluding Rotary Park) occupy only 304 ha., or 0.4% of the former area of the Big Scrub, once the largest area of subtropical rainforest in New South Wales.

Specific information sought includes:

- any statutory controls on the use of these areas;
- any leases (e.g. grazing leases or permissive occupancy leases) operating;
- the management policy of the Council regarding the use of these areas; and
- activities or developments (current and proposed) with regard to these areas.

Yours sincerely



FAR NORTH COAST  
BRANCH

The Shire Clerk,  
Shire of Ballina,  
Ballina NSW.

Dear Sir,

This Branch of the National Parks Association of NSW is particularly concerned at the use of beaches by four-wheeled drive vehicles and the consequent destruction of that fragile system.

we would appreciate information on your Shire's policy on such vehicular use, what beaches have been approved for four-wheeled drive vehicles use and the policing of such policy.

Yours faithfully,



FAR NORTH COAST  
BRANCH

The Shire Clerk,  
Shire of Byron,  
Byron Bay, N S W.

Dear Sir,

This Branch of the National Parks Association of N.S.W. has been particularly concerned at the use of beaches by four-wheeled drive vehicles and the consequent destruction of this fragile system. It was, therefore, pleased at the announcement by the Shire re such use of beaches and its obvious awareness of the problem.

We would appreciate information on the particular areas approved for vehicular use and also on the methods to be used to police the Regulations.

Yours fiathfully,

Secretary.



National Parks Association of NSW

State Council  
399 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
Telephone (02) 233 3618

August 21, 1980.

To all Branches

*For North Coast Branch.*

Dear Secretary,

Attached is a copy of State Council's submission to the Federal Government for renewal and increase of the Association's annual Administrative Assistance Grant. The appendices referred to are not included with this copy.

As usual our submission is optimistic, and with Mr. Moriarty's organisation strongly bidding for funds this year, we may be hard put to maintain our present level of assistance.

I thought it would be useful if the various branches of the Association made representations independently to the Minister for Science and Environment in support of the State Council's submission.

Letters should be addressed to:

The Hon. David Thompson  
Minister for Science and Environment  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA. ACT. 2600.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Prineas  
Executive Secretary.

Encl.



National Parks Association of NSW

State Council  
399 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
Telephone (02) 233 3618  
August 21, 1980.

The Secretary,  
Department of Science and Environment,  
P.O. Box 449,  
WODEN. ACT. 2606.

Attention : Mr. J. Rhodes

Dear Sir,

Application for Administrative Assistance Grant, 1980-81

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation, after conducting public hearings, recommended that the Federal Government should:

".... review its priorities and examine the possibility of increasing the funding of voluntary conservation organisations to a level sufficient to ensure their continued effectiveness...."

Federal Government Administrative Assistance Grants to our Association commenced in 1973-74 when a sum of \$7,000 was paid following a recommendation by the National Estate Inquiry. In subsequent years the grant has been increased to a maximum of \$9,000 and then reduced to the present level of about \$8,500. In terms of actual purchasing power, therefore, our grant from the Federal Government has been reduced to not much more than half of its original level.

Despite this diminishing assistance from the Commonwealth, our Association has been able to improve the amount, quality and scope of its work. This has been achieved by :

1. Approximately doubling the membership since 1973-74 to the current level of 5,000, with corresponding increased income from membership fees.
2. Increasing country branches of the Association from 4 to 10.
3. Increasing income from advertising, donations and sales.
4. Attracting an annual grant of \$7,500 from the NSW Government.
5. Increasing the level of membership fees by about 140% since 1973-74.
6. Continuing to rely on volunteer labour for a substantial part of the work of the Association.

The State Council of our Association presently retains three paid officers under contracts of one or two years' duration. They are :

1. Executive Secretary and Editor
2. Assistant Secretary (3 days per week)
3. Assistant Secretary (2 days per week)

Shortage of funds does inhibit, the Association in the performance of its duties. Office premises and facilities are poor and limit our ability to utilise both paid staff and volunteer workers. The work load of the Association is increasing and could become a burden on the paid staff, which will in turn affect our ability to make use of our volunteers. The Association's need for a full-time Research Officer with expertise in the Biological/Earth Sciences is apparent with our increasing involvement in complex and lengthy environmental inquiries and our increasing obligations to respond to National Park Draft Management Plans and land use initiatives in conflict with our own proposals for reservation.

In the words of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation, the non government organisations :

"...contribute to reasoned public debate, to public education and an increasing public awareness of environmental issues, and play an important role through their input to Government inquiries."

In Australia, our Association is one of the largest organisations performing such a role, but the level of assistance from the Federal Government fails to reflect this situation.

Rather than describe at length the work of the Association in this submission, we have appended to it a number of documents which should convey the information more effectively. They are as follows :

1. Annual Report and Financial Statement of State Council for 1978-79. Note that the 11 branches of NPA all have incomes and expenditures in addition to that of State Council. Their financial statements and reports are presented at branch annual general meetings and are not covered by the State Council Annual Report.
2. Copies of "The National Parks Journal" for April/May 1979, April 1980 and June 1980. Published bi-monthly.
3. Copies of the "National Parks Bulletin" for March, June and July 1980. Published bi-monthly and alternating with the Journal.
4. Brochure and Membership Application Form.
5. Bushwalking Program. This is one of four programs issued each year. It is entirely organised and run by volunteers.
6. Constitution of the National Parks Association.

The Association can make good use of a larger grant from the Federal Government than is presently being received. We believe the Administrative Support Grant should be increased to \$14,000 for the 1980-81 year, simply to regain the value of the original grant of \$7,000 given in 1973-74. In addition, we believe the

Dept. of Science and Environment.

3.

August 21, 1980.

large membership of the Association, its widely distributed branches, and its increasing involvement in Government land use decisions, justify a further grant of \$18,000 to enable the appointment of a full-time Research Officer with expertise in the Biological/Earth Sciences. This amount is intended to cover salary and also to contribute to the support costs of the position.

A total amount of \$32,000 is sought by the Association for the 1980-81 financial year.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. R. Mason  
President.





78/441.

Premier of New South Wales

24 JUN 1980

Dear Mr. Mason,

Thank you for letting me know your views about Washpool State Forest.

As you may be aware, this matter has now been considered by the Government.

The company concerned has not been given approval to log in Washpool State Forest. Instead, it will be allowed to selectively log small areas of Ewingar and Billilimbra State Forests.

Additionally, the Government has requested that the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement on Washpool State Forest be expedited.

Yours sincerely,

Premier.

Mr. T.G. Mason,  
President,  
Far North Coast Branch,  
National Parks Association  
of New South Wales,  
1 Lismore Heights,  
LISMORE. 2480.

National Parks Association of N.S.W.  
N.P.A.  
N.S.W.

FAR NORTH COAST  
BRANCH

49 Cathcart Street,  
LISMORE, 2480.

21st August, 1980.

Brian James,  
Hon. Secretary,  
Sydney Branch NPA,  
399 Pitt Street,  
SYDNEY 2000.

*File Copy*

Dear Brian,

Following the discussion at last State Council re funding by Sydney Branch of specific projects undertaken by Country Branches, this matter was further discussed among various Branch representatives at the Rainforest Meeting at Papinbarra. The North Coast Branches proposed a media campaign on the rainforest issue, to be conducted with the assistance of Keith Bashford, a former advertising copywriter, and now engaged in consultant work in the Lismore district. Keith is currently involved with the Health Commission's Healthy Lifestyle Campaign, and is also working for a P.E.C. project. He provided much of the expertise behind the Terania media campaign.

At the suggestion of Rick Nelson, I have attached a copy of the proposal for a media campaign which dovetails with actions already in train with respect to the rainforest campaign. This proposal would be implemented by the Far North Coast Branch, if put into action, with Keith acting in a consulting capacity. As explained in the proposal, at least some of the cost could be expected to be recouped through donations and memberships.

On behalf of the Far North Coast Branch, I ask that you place this proposal before Sydney Branch at its next meeting, for consideration. The next meeting of our Branch is on Thursday, August 28, and I would be grateful if you could let me know of the outcome in time for the meeting.

c.c. Rick Nelson,  
Mid-North Coast Branch  
(Paul Scobie)  
Joan Staples (NCCC)  
Clarence Valley Branch  
(Celia Smith)  
Keith Bashford  
Peter Prineas

Best wishes,

PRESIDENT

Keith Bashford  
Terania Creek Road  
The Channon NSW 2480.  
(066) 886312.

August 19, 1980.

MEDIA PROPOSAL FOR THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION.

Since the meeting over the weekend, some more information has come forward which suggests some worthwhile amendments to the ideas we discussed.

I have spoken to Tony McGillick from the National Trust's advertising agency and he has explained that the duration and intensity of their advertising campaign is very much in the hands of Channel 9, and the hands of Kerry Packer are not always totally co-operative. The time they are providing is free but they are unwilling to be specific as to quantity. The spots will almost certainly appear in off-peak times, and the duration is in their hands. It seems that the 2SM promotion will have greater effect. I have spoken to Jenny Kendall about the mid-October concert. The concert is not specifically for rainforest, but ~~is~~ an all-inclusive Conservation Celebration. Rainforest may well emerge as the major issue.

This all suggests the need to switch some of our resources into the public domain so that the issue initiative remains with us, and that we retain some definite control over public communications.

Newspaper advertising costs a lot of money. On the other hand the reason there is so much of it is that it makes a lot of money for the advertisers. The campaign I propose will call for donations and membership of NPA, it will be at least partly self-funding and may even be profitable.

The dynamics of advertising are such that the larger the investment, the more certain the return. Nevertheless this campaign should be considered as an investment into an experimental area, rather than an overhead expense.

## PRESS CAMPAIGN

Since the National Trust campaign is based on emotion I believe that our campaign should balance this by being businesslike and rational. One of the credibility problems of the conservation movement is that it is associated with emotion, radicalism, 'soft headedness'. These are perceived as weaknesses by some of the people we need to persuade if we are to win our case.

In fact there are sound, rational, 'business' reasons why the rainforest should be saved. This argument will appeal to an audience which has not been widely reached by the conservation movement - the business community. Support from this section of the community will add credibility and stature to our efforts. Even the fact that we are appealing our case in this way will benefit us. Furthermore this is the last direction the timber industry will expect us to come from. It is part of isolating them.

The ad can also offer membership of the NPA and ask for financial support. Our experience with TNFAG suggests that income thus generated will recover 30-120% of our investment.

1 x 30cm x 5 columns Sydney Morning Herald	1725
1 x 30 cm x 5 columns National Times	990
Writing and production	250
Typesetting, artwork	<u>400</u>
	<u>3,365</u>

If these ads are successful it would be worth considering placing an ad in the Australian Financial Review. (\$1,005)

## PRESS KIT

The press kit will be needed first and will provide the information base for the campaign. Twelve kits should be made up initially. This will be sufficient for the primary television stations and newspapers. As the campaign extends to politicians and the peripheral media additional kits can be made up for approximately \$6 each, plus photographs.

### Contents of press kit

NPWS 'Rainforest'	24
NPWS Policy statement on Rainforests	
SPCC " " " "	
<del>SPCC</del> Forestry " " "	40
Reprints of Ecois, Ecology and others	50

### Position papers, including research, writing

Rainforest overall	120
Economic/employment	120
Alternative values / tourism	120
Specific rainforests to be saved	120
Posters	12
Photographs and maps	100
	<hr/>
	706
	<hr/>

The position papers will be very basically typeset and photocopied. If larger numbers are required these can be printed for approx 2.5 cents per single sided sheet.

AUDIO VISUAL

We can introduce the AV with a videotape of the Terania film or the Nationwide report on rainforests.

This would be followed by a 10-15 minute AV which would be a graphic representation of the arguments presented in the position papers. It would include slides, graphs, maps and a synchronised sound and tranference to videotape.

Videotape of Terania film	250
Writing and production	500
Graphs and maps	500
Slides	300
Soundtrack	200
Transfer to videotape	<u>200</u>
	1,950.

The costs of the last four items are approximate only. In any case they would be charged to NPA at cost.

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Total campaign

Press	3365
Press kit	706
Audio visual	<u>1950</u>
TOTAL	\$6021

For Apple Coast Branch



National Parks Association of NSW

State Council  
399 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
Telephone (02)2333618

Dear Branch Secretary,

There is a concentrated campaign by Grafton sawmillers to intimidate the members of NPA's Clarence Valley Branch.

Constant references are made by sawmill spokesmen to local NPA members as "transients" who are not true members of the Grafton community.

In the Grafton 'Daily Examiner' on July 16, the general manager of Duncan's Sawmill, South Grafton, Mr. Tim Evans, urged local people to treat NPA members "with the contempt they deserve".

Mr. Evans said that only if the NPA disavowed its aim of preserving the Washpool forests in a national park "should the community tolerate its continued existence". Members of NPA in Grafton and local officers of the N.P. & W.S. have been banned by local sawmills from receiving timber supplies (no doubt a cruel blow!).

Understandably, the members of the new NPA branch are feeling somewhat vulnerable and isolated. It is a bit much for people quite new to the conservation scene to cope with a full scale conservation wrangle on the scale of Washpool.

My purpose in writing to you is to ask your branch of NPA to voice its support for the Clarence Valley branch. This could best be done by writing to:

The Editor,  
The Daily Examiner,  
GRAFTON. NSW. 2400

responding to the arrogant and authoritarian statements of Mr. Evans and his colleagues.

One local sawmill proprietor had a conversation with branch President, Celia Smith, at a public meeting in Grafton while holding an axe over his shoulder. During State Council's recent meeting in Grafton, local sawmillers threatened to disrupt proceedings. The next day a mob broke up the NPA inspection of the Washpool forest.

These and other incidents point to a mood of potential violence in Grafton, which is being exploited and fed by the sensational reporting of the 'Daily Examiner'. Therefore, don't take an aggressive tone in letters to the local press - a calm and reasonable censuring of the intolerant and threatening attitudes of local timber industry spokesmen is what is needed.

Yours faithfully,

Peter Prineas,  
Executive Secretary

THE SOCIAL VALUES OF RAINFOREST

Paper presented at Rainforest Seminar conducted  
by the National Parks Association, Grafton,  
N.S.W., 20 September, 1980.

P.M. den Exter  
Northern Rivers College of  
Advanced Education  
P.O. Box 157  
LISMORE



## THE SOCIAL VALUES OF RAINFOREST

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The term "social values" is a broad term applied to the values or benefits of a particular resource to society as whole. Unfortunately from the viewpoint of the conservationist (and for that matter, society at large) social values are difficult to identify and measure in economic terms (the language of decision makers, allocating resources) in spite of considerable research in the field of research management. These difficulties arise from external economic factors, the intangible nature and the collective characteristics of environmental qualities.

Thus in any resource conflict, such as the present conflict concerning the future use and management of the rainforests of New South Wales, economic values which can directly benefit individuals, or sectional interests within society, and which can be expressed in the most universally understood units of measurement - the currency of the nation - tend to eclipse the less easily definable and measurable social values of that resource.

### 2. CONFLICTING VALUES

The value which we as individuals, or collectively as a community place upon a resource such as rainforests are not absolute, but rather reflect the cultural traditions and beliefs which society instils. A resource can be evaluated from a number of positions, which can be arranged along a continuum from the: monetary  $\longrightarrow$  value as use (utilitarian)  $\longrightarrow$  intrinsic worth  $\longrightarrow$  symbolic value.

We can apply these types of values to any object or resource, for example a house -

monetary:	real estate value
value as use:	shelter for which rent can be assessed
intrinsic worth:	charm, or aesthetic quality of the style of house
symbolic value:	the house as the home, or "castle" of its occupants

or a tree -

monetary:	its sawlog value (assessed by stumpage appraisal if in a State Forest)
value as use:	shade, production of nectar, fruits or as a soil improver or home for wildlife
intrinsic worth:	as an object of beauty
symbolic value:	symbolising nature, freedom

When we consider the house example, it is quite apparent that the monetary value it can attract on the real estate market reflects at least in part the other values listed; that is all values are complimentary. If we consider the tree, however, it is clear that there is some conflict between the types of values. If we convert the tree to cash, by felling and milling, we have destroyed other values dependent upon that tree's continued existence.

The situation becomes even more complex when we apply this approach to a rainforest, which is far more than a collection of trees, or standing sawlogs, but a complete ecosystem with interdependent plant and animal life forms.

Alternative values and uses become even more conflicting than is the case with a single tree, largely because the choices available are greatly increased, as is demonstrated in the following table.

Table 1: Conflicts Between Uses and Conditions of Rainforest

Condition or Use	Other Potentially Limiting Uses	Site of Special Scientific Interest	Genetic Pool	Wilderness	Nature Reserve	Water Catchment	Timber Extraction	Woodchip	Clearfelling	Land Use Change Monitoring	Picnics	Hiking	Fishing	Trail Bike Riding	Motor Rallies
Site of Special Scientific Interest						X	X	X	X	O		O	X	X	
Genetic Pool						X	X	X	X	O		X	X	X	
Wilderness						X	X	X	X	O		X	X	X	
Nature Reserve						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Water Catchment						X	X	X	X	O		O	X	X	
Timber Extraction	X	X	X	X	O			O							
Woodchip	X	X	X	X	X			O							
Clearfelling	X	X	X	X	X	O	O			O	O	O			
Land Use Change Monitoring	X	X	X	X	X										
Picnics	O	O	O	X	O			O						X	X
Hiking	O	O		X				O						X	X
Fishing	O	X	X	X	O		O	O						O	O
Trail Bike Riding	X	X	X	X	X					O	O	O			
Motor Rallies	X	X	X	X	X					O	O	O			

O Major limitations to full development or enjoyment of use  
 X Incompatible conditions or uses

(Source: Douglas, I. (1976) "Value of the Rainforest", Habitat Vol. 4, No. 3, p. 9).

Australia's rainforests have a sad history of exploitation in the first instance for the productive land which they occupied (the resource sought being land, not timber) and recently for timber. While today approximately 40% of formerly rainforested lands retain some rainforest cover, only 2.6% of the original rainforested area is reserved outside State Forests. (Table 2)

Table 2: Rainforested Area, N.S.W.

	AREA (000 H.A.)	REMARKS
TOTAL ORIGINAL FOREST AREA	40,000	
FOREST AREA REMAINING	16,000	40% OF ORIGINAL FOREST AREA
ORIGINAL RAINFORESTED AREA	800	LESS THAN 1% OF AREA OF N.S.W.
RAINFOREST REMAINING	300	APPROX. 40% OF ORIGINAL AREA UNDER RAINFOREST
AREA OF RAINFOREST RESERVED OUTSIDE STATE FORESTS	21	2.6% OF ORIGINAL RAINFORESTED AREA

The monetary value of much of N.S.W. rainforests has thus come to be measured by the value of the timber quota attached to them (for example, the \$3/4 million dollars paid to Standard Sawmilling for relinquishing the few years of brushwood quota remaining in Wiangarie State Forest as part of the Border Ranges "solution"). Thus rainforests rightfully owned by the people of N.S.W. have become a marketable commodity within the sawmilling industry.

Value-as-use of rainforest can also be measured in terms of the royalties payable for the timber removed (value to the State), the net profit received by the mill for the sale of timber products (value to private enterprise) or, as is now more commonly the case the so-called "value to the community" measured only by the number of workers employed, or the value of their payroll.

Non-wood production uses of the rainforest, for example, the protection of headwater catchments of our flood-prone coastal rivers, or the non-vehicle based forms of recreation, do not contribute directly to private income, and are therefore dismissed with no real thought as to their value to society as a whole.

Catchment protection benefits those inhabiting the flood plains, while recreation provides an essential escape from the increasing pressures of urban living in the most urbanised nation of the world. These benefits are real, but they are difficult to measure. They are not seen to be important in the amassing of private wealth, so they are dismissed.

When the even less tangible intrinsic and symbolic values of rainforest are then taken into account, it is no surprise that these are viewed with both scepticism and scorn by those who seek to exploit rainforest.

The intrinsic value relates in part to the aesthetic qualities of the forest - a very subjective value dependant upon the observer. It is indeed "beauty in the eyes of the beholder" and may not be seen at all by some. But this is not, in my view, the only or the most important intrinsic value. As Charles Birch, Challis Professor of Biology, University of Sydney succinctly states: "Living organisms are not only means but ends. In addition to their instrumental value to humans and other living organisms they have an intrinsic worth. This is the life ethic thesis."<sup>1</sup> This view receives very little recognition from the Forestry Commission. "From a Forestry viewpoint, probably the most cogent argument is based on a priori reasoning, maintaining that the preservation of the existing diversity of wildlife is necessary to ensure ecological stability in the large areas under forest cover." Wildlife which benefit timber production are discussed in favourable terms in comparison with animals that "drain the products of photosynthesis", or "which hamper regeneration or plantation establishment."<sup>2</sup>

As is the case with a house, or an individual tree, rainforest also attracts symbolic value which may be of a spiritual kind, the forest assuming the qualities of a temple for some who visit or serving to link man with his evolutionary past, or even symbolic of the nation as a whole, as a homeland.

Recent advances in our knowledge of the evolution of Australian rainforests is of particular interest here, as these suggest that rainforests have evolved in Australia, rather than entering as late arrivals from the south (Antarctic elements) and the north (Indo-Malayan elements). If residence period is of any significance, then it now seems that our rainforests are more Australian than the eucalypt which has evolved from rainforest species relatively recently.

Thus our rainforests can indeed become a national symbol as is the case already with nature fauna such as the kangaroo and the koala.

Symbols such as these provide a useful social function, that of providing a bond between man and the land in which he lives.

### 3. THE PERCEPTION OF VALUES

While it is possible today to ascribe to rainforests intrinsic and symbolic values, these values received no recognition from our early settlers. To them the rainforest was both a haven for vengeful Aborigines, and a barrier to conversion of the land to productive use. The forest cover was seen in negative terms as waste (a word with strong Biblical tradition) until it could be put to the axe and the plough. This attitude of the early settlers is reflected in the words of early explorers, who found the forests that impeded their progress as "dark and monotonous" (Sturt) and "a weary prospect" (Oxley).

---

1 Birch, C. 1980 "Six Theses for Conservation" Habitat Vol. 8, No. 4 P. 30.

2 Forestry Commission of N.S.W. n.d. Comments on Wildlife Policy.

Today our perception of the forest has changed to some extent, although the traditional view of the early settlers lingers on in conservative rural communities. This change is evidenced, for example, in studies in the Moreton Region of Southern Queensland of the attractiveness of different vegetation types and their suitability for recreation, one of which marked rainforest at the highest level (Table 2).

Table 3: Suitability Assessment: Flora.

FLORA GROUP	FLORA AMENITY
Tall closed-forests (rain forest)	Amenity 1
<i>Araucaria</i> closed-forests (hoop pine scrub)	Amenity 2
Closed-forests (scrub, softwood scrub)	Amenity 2
Low closed-forests (softwood scrub)	Amenity 5
Eucalypt tall open-forests (wet sclerophyll forests)	Amenity 3
Eucalypt open-forests	Amenity 4
Brigalow, softwood open-forest	Amenity 5
<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i> forests (wallum)	Amenity 3
Heaths, scrubs, shrublands (wallum)	Amenity 3
Shrubs or tall shrubland	Amenity 3
Sedgelands	Amenity 5
Strand Vegetation	Amenity 6
Mangroves and associated vegetation	Amenity 6

Source: Queensland Co-ordinator General's Department, Moreton Region Outdoor Recreation, Brisbane, 1973.

Another study of the same region by the (then) National Urban and Regional Development Authority in 1973 commented on the rainforests of the Moreton Region as follows: "The preservation of the remaining areas of this group for recreational, aesthetic and scientific purposes is more important than any other group".<sup>3</sup>

3 Quoted in: Washington, G. 1976 "Tourism and Recreation: potential conflicts arising from recreational use" in The Border Ranges - A Land Use Conflict in Regional Perspective (Ed. R. Monroe N.C. Stevens) P. 50.

These changes in attitudes towards rainforests have resulted in greater public perception of values other than the monetary and utilitarian, and are reflected in visitation rates to rainforest areas in Southern Queensland and Northern New South Wales.

Table 4: Visitation to Rainforest Reserves  
South-east Queensland and Northern New South Wales

RESERVE	VISITATION RATE, 1979
Lamington N.P.	130,000*
Natural Arch	200,000
Mt. Warning N.P.	18,000
Victoria Park N. R.	8,000
Stotts Is. N.R.	10,000
Dorrigo N.P.	80,000
New England N.P.	40,000
(* compare with 15,000 visitors in 1953/4)	

Source: N.S.W. National Parks and Wildlife Service.

4. ECONOMIC BENEFIT OF TOURISM

The economic benefit from the recreational use of rainforests is more difficult to assess than the sawlog value of these forests because of the dispersed nature of the tourist industry, made up largely of small business men, and the fact that rainforests are but one of a combination of attractions for tourists to a particular area.

Tourist spending on the North Coast of New South Wales (currently estimated by the Department of Tourism at \$45m) is nevertheless a major source of direct income, and indirectly responsible for the employment of many people outside of the tourist industry. An indication of the magnitude of this flow on can be gauged from the U.S.A. National Park Service which reports that "the multiplier effect of the tourist dollar resulted in the fact that just twenty four visitors per day to a national park community is the equivalent of bringing to that community an industrial payroll of \$150,000".<sup>4</sup>

4. Quoted in Scobie, P. 1980 "The Forbes River Rainforest"  
National Parks Journal Vol. 24 No. 4 P. 12

During 1979, a total of 2.4 million tourists visited the North Coast Region, making it the second most popular tourist destination in the State after Sydney with 3.7 million.<sup>5</sup>

Consideration must also be given to the increasing number of tourists originating from within the North Coast Region, which on 1976 census figures, has a population growth rate 2.86% compared with a statewide growth of 1%.

#### 5. CONCLUSION

The monetary and productive values of rainforests as a source of wood products can be easily determined, as can with somewhat greater difficulty the recreational value of these forests, based on visitation rates and tourist expenditure. However, because these values can be assessed and compared, they should not form the sole basis for deciding the future of untouched rainforest areas. The issue is far more complex than simply logging Vs tourism. Uses of the rainforest including catchment protection, scientific research, education, wildlife preservation, and the conservation of gene pools provide benefits to society as a whole, but not to any particular sectional interest. The values of rainforest leading to these uses are "unpriced values" that cannot be traded in the marketplace. These values do not have alternatives of any kind and if they are to be met at all they must be met from existing rainforests. Given this situation, it is becoming increasingly difficult to justify the exploitation of rainforests for other, incompatible uses for which alternatives do exist, as for example general purpose wood production.

---

5 N.S.W. Department of Tourism, 1979, Domestic Tourist Monitor.



NEW SOUTH WALES  
MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

Mr M Kaveney  
Hon Secretary  
Far North Coast Branch  
National Parks Association of NSW  
Emerson Road  
ROSEBANK via LISMORE NSW 2480

Please quote 701000

- 5 SEP 1979

Dear Mr Kaveney

I refer to your letter of 27 July 1979 and earlier letters signed by your former secretary, Mr P den Exter and president, Mr R L Andrews, concerning logging proposals in the Terania Creek Basin.

I can assure you that my letter dated 9 July 1979, was signed before Cabinet's meeting at Murwillumbah. The method of processing correspondence in my office is such that letters are not dated until immediately before they are posted. For this reason, it is not unusual for some little delay to occur between the time I sign a letter and when it is dated.

The decision to proceed with logging in the Terania Creek State Forest was made by the Minister for Conservation, the Hon A R L Gordon. Accordingly, I have referred your letters to Mr Gordon for consideration.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Landa'.

PAUL LANDA  
Minister for Planning and Environment





The NSW GOVERNMENT IS TO DECIDE ON A RAINFOREST POLICY, SOON  
SEND A RAINFOREST POSTCARD BY OCTOBER 9 to save our rainforests  
( more postcards on request)

Postcards to:

- (1) Your local Labor State Parliamentary Representative,  
Parliament House, Sydney 2000
- (2) The Premier, Hon. N.Wran
- (3) The Minister for Conservation, Hon. A.L.Gordon
- (4) The Minister for Agriculture, Hon. Don Day  
(voters in Casino electorate only)
- (5) The Minister for Planning and Environment  
Hon. Paul Landa
- (6) Federal M P for Richmond, Rt. Hon. J.D.Anthony

Ideas for messages:

- \* Rainforest is only 1% of the total forest area of N.S.W. so it should not be a great problem to stop logging it.
- \* Mills based on rainforest species will have to close down within 10 years anyway so why not close them now while some patches of rainforest still exist and provide jobs by reafforestation.
- \* N.S.W. FOREstry Commission claims for regeneration of rainforest are unsubstantiated. A 50 year logging cycle in rainforest <sup>means</sup> the cutting of undersize trees the second time round and an impoverished forest.
- \* Recreational experience in an unlogged, mature rainforest is superb with a clear floor and upward vistas through a three tier canopy for 100 feet. After logging there are great gashes in the canopy, a number of dead and dying trees and a new basement of weeds such as inkberries, crofton weed and lantana.
- \* Increasing annual deficits of N.S.W. Forestry Commission must be brought under control (\$30 - \$35 million estimated in 1979 - 80). Such funds should be spent on reafforestation with indigenous species to put the sawmilling industry on a long term footing. And now rainforest logging should stop - at once!
- \* The Forestry Commission will destroy the remaining rainforests if it is not brought under control. Half the rainforest in the Coffs Harbour Forestry District is being clear felled. The last large area of N.S.W. rainforest - Washpool - is under attack now. The largest Forestry Flora Reserve in the State - Grady's Creek rainforest - will be logged too unless an unequivocal moratorium is placed on rainforest logging now.
- \* It's incredible that marvellous rainforest joinery and cabinet timbers are largely employed in 'rubbish' uses: internal laminates of plywood, internal carcasing for building frames, laminated structural beams. Stop the waste! Stop logging rainforests!
- \* We must preserve the whole of the surviving mosaic of rainforests or we will lose important species of wildlife such as fruit eating pigeons and the Albert Lyre Bird.

.....  
The NSW Government has saved Terania Creek in order to carry out an independant environmental impact statement and has instructed a Cabinet sub-committee to prepare a policy statement on rainforests in the next few weeks.  
.....



Development Co-ordinating Branch

Enquiries: Ms. P. Egan

Telephone: 270.4892

77/2284

STATE OFFICE BLOCK, MACQUARIE STREET, SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2000

Premier's Department

- 7 AUG 1979

Dear Mr. Kaveney,

The Premier has asked me to acknowledge receipt of Mr. den Exter's letter and attachments of 27th July, 1979 on behalf of the Far North Coast Branch of the National Parks Association of N.S.W., concerning the question of logging in Terania Creek Basin.

Mr. Wran wishes me to say that the Association's views as expressed in its representations to the Minister for Planning and Environment, have been noted and will receive due consideration.

Yours faithfully,

P. Egan,  
for Secretary.

Mr. M. Kaveney,  
Honorary Secretary,  
National Parks Association  
of N.S.W.,  
Far North Coast Branch,  
Emerson Road,  
ROSEBANK. via LISMORE. 2480.

# Tour prelude to sand mining?

Conservationists fear the "meet the combatants" tour last week by the Minister for Mineral Resources, Mr. Ron Mulock, may be a prelude to a government go-ahead for sand mining in national parks on the North Coast and throughout NSW.

During an inspection of Jerusalem Creek, in the northern rivers area, Mr. Mulock was questioned by an ABC TV journalist on the Government's intentions as regards mining in national parks.

In the interview, Mr. Mulock said although there still was a ban on mining, he found the restorations he had viewed satisfactory.

He said it could be that the government would approve mining on land intended for inclusion in a national park, allow it to be restored and then have it declared a park.

Mr. Mulock admitted that while he felt the restoration was sufficient, the "purist" conservationists would claim it is not.

A leading figure in the miners' push for permits to mine in some parks was interviewed along with the Minister.

He stated that the valuable minerals would occur only once, but "we can grow trees anytime".

Mr. Mulock probably wishes he never undertook

the controversial trip north to see restoration first hand and at the same time hear the views of the two "sides"—the miners and the conservationists.

The Minister clashed with conservationists on each of the three days he spent inspecting selected sites of current or past mining operations in North Coast parks and reserves.

On Wednesday, the Minister heatedly rebuked the Australian Conservation Foundation's Mr. Alan Catford for persistently seeking a reassurance from Mr. Mulock that the ban on mining in parks and land proposed would be maintained.

The exchange between Mr. Catford and the minister came in an impromptu interview between the minister and the "News" during a brief lunch-break in the tour at Port Macquarie.

Mining company and government representatives in the party accompanying the Minister stood in embarrassed silence during his blast at the Sydney conservationist, in which Mr. Mulock threatened to call off the inspection tour and warned of a "gloves off" confrontation.

## "Trapped"

The day before, Mr. Mulock—who only recently switched from the housing portfolio—was "trapped" before TV cameras at Casino by the con-

servationists ask what was the point of Wednesday's exercise.

## Concerned

"We are concerned at the minister's attitude to restoration, as he seems to accept the miner's contention that they satisfactorily restore an area.

"However, we differ with him on what constitutes 'satisfactory' restoration."

Miss Lee called on people concerned about the government's possible policy reversal on mining in parks to complain in writing to the minister and the State Minister for Planning and Environment, Mr. Paul Landa.

She said the crux of the conservationists' argument is that there is no proof restoration has returned or can return a mined area to its former state.

Therefore, mining should be banned in national parks—the last vestiges of Australia untouched by man.

"The big point of contention is the effect of mining on the total environment.

"The miners claim that their restoration is satisfactory is very much open to question.

"We feel the government would be pre-empting this scientific evidence if mining proceeded without proof that areas already mined have really been restored.

## Sites chosen

All of the North Coast sites chosen in the three-day tour were among those submitted by the mining and conservation factions who accompanied Mr. Mulock.

However, the conservationists selected sites on the Far

adequacies of post-mining restoration.

As a result, the six sites—ranging between Limeburners Nature Reserve, north of Port Macquarie, to Crowdy Bay National Park, south of Laurieton—inspected by the ministerial party were those chosen by the mining interests.

"Unfortunately, some of the Mid-North Coast's worst damaged areas were not listed," Miss Lee said.

"And a prime example would be North Haven, which was mined for a second time about five years ago.

"The actual damage from mining was severe. Before it had a varying topography, with features such as native trees, like Banksias, water holes and plenty of animals.

She said the miners' activities flattened the beach's dunal area between Grants' Head and the North Haven clubhouse, destroying native trees, plants and fauna and leaving only stunted vegetation.

At Limeburners Nature Reserve, the party inspected a portion near the reserve's western edge, off Maria Creek Road.

It contains two seams of mineable sand containing rutile and Miss Lee believes that although the mining company involved has no development approval, considerable pressure is being placed on the government to give its consent.

Although not on his itinerary, the minister agreed to look over Christmas Bells Plains, which is not within a national park and where mining is to proceed.

Council has opposed this mining proposal, but the State Planning Environment Commission has overruled its objection.

A number of mining proposals have been allowed along the beachfront dunes, taking in an area previously mined, plus a new area untouched previously.

The final inspections by the party on the Mid-North Coast on Wednesday were at three lease sites, beginning at the northern end of Crowdy Bay National Park, and extending almost to the southern tip.

Miss Lee said the three sites were close to a portion of land nominated by scientists and set aside in the early 70's as having a unique environmental makeup.

The scientific team made a survey of the coastal strip of NSW and nominated it among several areas never to be mined.

The area of land is within Crowdy Bay Park and borders leases the miners would like to work, Miss Lee said.

Miss Lee said that several years ago controversy had surrounded the mining of land between Crowdy Bay and Diamond Head.

"A lot of publicity was given to this spot at the time it was mined and the mining company gave special attention to it," Miss Lee said.

"Previously, little money and effort was put into restoration on a continuing basis.

"Obviously, Wednesday's

visit was orchestrated so that the minister would see the very best example of restoration in the area.

"However, whether or not the restoration is adequate must be judged in the long term.

"It is not possible to say if the exact nature of the forest will return as it was.

## No studies

"There have been no adequate botanical surveys and studies of the effect mining has on birds and animals.

"The miners admit this. "There is no proof that restoration is satisfactory in the long term.

"Yet the government seems intent on allowing miners to go into areas absolutely set aside for national parks.

"Our parks are being degraded as areas where nature can be seen in its original state.

"The government is making a sham of the word 'national' by not leaving the areas it has set aside in their natural state.

"In overseas countries, national parks are inviolate," Miss Lee said.

"Australia must come into line with this line of thinking."

"The natural assets we have here along our coastline are unique in the world.

"Our national parks represent the remnants of Australia in its natural state."

Miss Lee said the local conservationists had little time to

prepare for the eleventh hour visit by the ministerial party.

"We didn't have long at all to organise ourselves.

"I only had enough time to get to see two of the (five) sites again beforehand.

"The delay in the mail and the phone dispute complicated the issue."

Miss Lee said the conservationists not only were ill-armed they were 'outnumbered'.

"All the government representatives who accompanied the minister all seemed to be pro-mining and development in national parks."

Miss Lee said two important factors the government has lost sight of are that the national parks will become increasingly important to tourism and that the revenue created by sand mining largely leaves Australia.

She said the parks were a tremendous resource for an area such as the North Coast, which is so dependant on tourism.

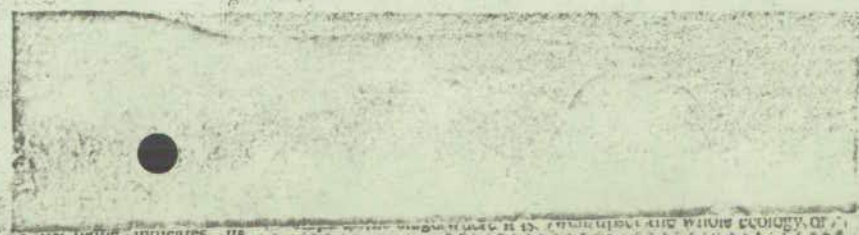
"Mining will take away that valuable resource as it should be left," Miss Lee said.

"We would like to see the tourist industry recognise that national parks are one of the important resources.

"In the long term tourism will generate more permanent jobs and bring more money to a wider range of people in this area than mineral sands mining, which is mostly sending its profits overseas."



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North Lower North Coast  
known leader of the State con-  
servationalists' movement.

The clash angered the  
minister, who had travelled with  
Mr. Dunphy for the 24 hours  
before the interview, in which  
the Wran government's policy  
on mining in national parks was  
spotlighted.

Mr. Dunphy alleged he had  
read the contents of a letter  
from a mining company to the  
government saying the com-  
pany would like to begin  
operating leases it holds in a na-  
tional park by 1982.

On Thursday, the minister  
faced the ire of conservationists  
at Wallis Lakes, an area they  
claim has been ruined by min-  
ing.

Miss Isobel Lee, of North  
Haven, one of the local conser-  
vationists who accompanied the  
minister on his stint of the Mid-  
North Coast parks on Wednes-  
day, said she was shocked and  
disgusted by the whole exercise.

Miss Lee is fearful a reversal  
of the government's sand min-  
ing policy is imminent.

"It looks to me as if the  
government is going back on its  
decision on mining in national  
parks or proposed extensions to  
parks," Miss Lee said.

"All along the minister  
was inclined to agree with the  
miners' claim that  
restoration was complete  
and adequate.

"The State Government gave  
an undertaking in 1978 that  
when existing operations were  
complete no further sand min-  
ing would be allowed within na-  
tional parks or proposed exten-  
sions.

If this undertaking is suppos-  
ed to still stand, then conserva-

North Lower North Coast  
as ones which showed up the in-  
Port Macquarie Municipal

# Bells the victim

Many people in Port Macquarie  
were not aware of the steady reduc-  
tion\* in the numbers of Christmas  
Bells in and around the municipality  
caused by sand mining and develop-  
ment, according to Miss Isobel Lee,  
an active member of North Coast  
Conservation groups.

She said that pressure from mining  
interests was being placed on the govern-  
ment to approve further mining development  
of the best-known of the beautiful flower's  
local sanctuaries, Christmas Bell Plain, just  
south of Port Macquarie.

The mining company which holds the lease on the  
area was refused the approval of the municipal council to  
again mine the sand for minerals.

Port Macquarie already has lost vast areas of its  
Christmas Bell," Miss Lee said.

"A lot has been lost in clearing for developments like  
the sewerage works, the aerodrome, the rifle range and  
extensive areas in the Maria River region.

"In the Christmas Bells areas around the Maria River,  
a lot of flowers are lost each year through picking and burn-  
ing on leasehold or freehold properties.

"They are being rapidly diminished in the Christmas  
Bells plain area and this new lease will only involve more  
destruction."

The conservationists convinced the Minister to inspect  
the plains area, only a few hundred metres south of the  
Port Macquarie golf course, because of the newest con-  
troversy surrounding it.

## Application granted

Despite a recommendation by the Port Macquarie  
Municipal Council not to allow mining, an application by  
Queensland firm, Mineral Deposits Ltd., has been granted  
by the Minister for Planning and Environment, Mr. Landa.

In reply to the council's recommendation, the Minister  
wrote saying he believed the application should be  
approved.

At a meeting last month the council resolved to issue  
its approval.

The mining application is for a strip of land, directly  
south of the trees at the northern edge of the plain and run-  
ning through to the track leading to the council's old sand  
quarry.

Originally it was for an area of 33 ha, but the  
Minister's approval was for an area of 3.1 hectares.

Town planner, Mr. Paul Scully said the application  
was for a corner of dunal land at the eastern extremity of  
the vegetated sea.

Although no starting date is known, the operation  
must begin within two years or approval will lapse.



Miss Lee and the acres of boneseed weed which is strangling the native  
flora between North Haven and, to the north, Grants Head, along with  
most other beachfront areas along the Mid North Coast.

# Foreshore plant strangles growth

**Boneseed Weed. It's that pleasant-  
looking plant you've seen — and probably  
admired — along our foreshores.**

It has an appealing  
little yellow flower and  
looks lush and hardy.

But, it's hardiness has made it  
conservationists' number one  
enemy.

Boneseed weed is slowly  
strangling the remaining native  
flora along beach front land, ac-  
cording to nurseryman, Ald  
Keith Branch.

Ald Branch said this week  
that the boneseed weed is now  
threatening to repeat the pro-  
cess inland.

"I know it has been found to  
be growing as far west as  
Bourke, Ald Branch said.

"For some time now local  
farmers have been telling me  
how worried they are about the  
plant," the municipal council  
alderman said.

"One of them, Ern Cunn-  
ing is really concerned  
because the boneseed is right  
through his land and its tak-  
ing hold on most of the rural  
land in the municipality.

seeds are extremely tough.

"They can withstand almost  
anything, waiting for the right  
conditions before springing up.  
This makes them almost im-  
possible to eradicate.

Animals, such as cows, will  
not eat it, Ald Branch said.

Boneseed has its strongest  
hold on the beach front land  
mined for minerals.

Introduced from its native  
South Africa, it was ideal for  
restoration of the mined land  
because it thrives in the pure  
sand left after the mining opera-  
tion.

Ald Branch said one of the  
most frightening aspects of the  
boneseed phenomena is the  
plant's growth.

"From what I have seen of  
the plant's growth locally it  
seems to have two stages," Ald  
Branch said.

"It is a bush in its juvenile  
stage and later springs up  
develops to the stage where it is

The alderman said he express-  
ed his concern to the area's  
parliamentarians, but had little  
reaction to his concern.

"The only way NSW is going  
to be able to deal with it is to  
declare it a noxious weed. That's  
the first step.

"I believe it has been declared  
a noxious weed in certain other  
States."

However, while the  
miners used it extensively, it  
may have been introduced by  
the State Government for  
use in beachfront projects,  
such as the building of  
breakwalls.

Regardless of where the  
blame for its introduction lies,  
the weed is gradually, insidious-  
ly, strangling the native flora  
along our beach front land.

"It is and will be an enormous  
problem," Ald Branch said.

"Boneseed is overtaking  
everything — its even beating  
the lantana back and taking its  
place.

"It has the capacity to entire-  
ly engulf the native flora and  
fauna of the district and could  
well upset the whole ecology of



MINISTER FOR TRADE AND RESOURCES  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE  
CANBERRA 2600

- 6 AUG 1979

Dear Dr den Exter,

Thank you for your letter of 30 April 1979 informing me of the Far North Coast Branch's resolution of 26 April.

I understand that in response to your letter to the Prime Minister, my colleagues the Ministers for Home Affairs and Science and the Environment have written to you on the various matters referred to in the resolution. Their letters set out most explicitly the Government's firm position on these matters.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D. Anthony', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

(J.D. ANTHONY)

Dr P.M. den Exter  
Hon. Secretary  
National Parks Association of NSW  
49 Cathcart Street  
LISMORE NSW 2480



NEW SOUTH WALES

MINISTER FOR CONSERVATION  
AND  
MINISTER FOR WATER RESOURCES

SYDNEY

Dr. P. M. den Exter,  
Hon. Secretary, Far North Coast Branch,  
National Parks Association of N.S.W.,  
49 Cathcart Street,  
LISMORE, 2480.

24 APR 1979

Dear Dr. den Exter,

I refer to your letter of 2nd April, not received at my office till the 10th April and subsequently delayed in consideration by the Easter period, concerning the environmental assessment of the proposal for roading and logging in the Black Scrub area of Bellinger River State Forest.

Firstly I must point out that the report on this assessment has been placed on public display in several centres, and that a copy was made available to the North Coast Environment Centre at Bellingen for retention by the Centre. I must admit that it was my understanding, and that of my advisers, that this Centre acts as a clearing house for information of interest to organisations such as yours on the North Coast. Copies were not prepared for general sale to the public, but, if you should so desire, a photocopy of the document and its annexures could be produced at a charge of \$20.

Whilst I regret that you were not able to examine a copy of the report, I do not believe that I should make an exception of you or your Branch in asking the Forestry Commission to send you a copy at this stage. The copies are costly to produce and they are already available for public consideration in the area immediately adjacent to the proposed operations.

Environmental assessments undertaken by the Forestry Commission follow the Principles and Procedures for Environmental Impact Assessment, published by the State Pollution Control Commission.

The State Pollution Control Commission has received a copy of the Black Scrub study and will be making comments upon it. These comments, and those of all other respondents through the Forestry Commission, will be taken into account in my determination whether to proceed with this proposal, and/or what variations from the original proposal, or additional constraints, should apply.

Yours faithfully,

*A.R.L. Gordon*

A.R.L. GORDON,  
Minister for Conservation  
and Water Resources.

not rec.  
until after  
Easter

National Parks Association of NSW



FAR NORTH COAST  
BRANCH

49 Cathcart Street,  
LISMORE, 2480.

27th July, 1979.

The Hon. N. Wran,  
Premier of New South Wales,  
Parliament House,  
Macquarie Street,  
SYDNEY, 2000.

Dear Mr Wran,

Please find enclosed a copy of a letter from this Branch to the Minister for Planning and Environment, together with attachments, relating to the Terania Basin logging proposal.

We draw your particular attention to the resolution states in the second last paragraph of the letter.

Yours sincerely,

Peter den Exter  
HON. SECRETARY (retiring)

Please refer future correspondence to:

M. Kaveney,  
Hon. Secretary,  
National Parks Association of N.S.W.,  
Far North Coast Branch,  
Emerson Road,  
ROSEBANK via LISMORE, 2480

BRANCH  
*copy*

49 Cathcart Street,  
LISMORE, 2480.

27th July, 1979.

The Hon. Paul Landa,  
Minister for Planning and Environment,  
Parliament House,  
Macquarie Street,  
SYDNEY, 2000.

Ref. 701000

Dear Mr Landa,

The proposed logging of the Terania Basin and correspondence between yourself and this Branch were again the subject of discussion by this Branch of the National Parks Association at its General Meeting last night.

Particular concern was expressed by members at reports from your office that logging is to proceed in the Terania Basin, and that the letter dated 9 July was posted the day before the Murwillumbah Cabinet meeting at which a "final decision" was supposedly made. This letter is clearly signed by you, and dated 9 July. As you were present at the Cabinet meeting on the morning of 9 July, and the letter was posted on that date, we can only assume that it was signed by you and posted after the Cabinet meeting. It would seem rather futile to post it beforehand if a decision that would alter the nature of the situation was imminent. The conclusion of the meeting was that the matter had been handled in such a manner as to mislead this Branch on this issue.

Also, concern was expressed at the apparent ease of access to information from your office given to representatives of the sawmilling industry and the media with respect to this matter while local conservationists were repeatedly "put off". Attempts to clarify the situation by telephone with members of your staff on 25 July were unsuccessful. However, both the media, and Mr Nicholas of the Associated Country Sawmillers were given the information that we also sought (refer to attached news item from the Northern Star, 26 July).

This concern is reinforced by a report in today's Daily News (attached) which suggests that the sawmilling industry has access to details of our correspondence with you.

Arising out of this concern, and the nature of verbal advice given by you on the day of the Cabinet meeting at Murwillumbah, a resolution was passed at last night's meeting of this Branch that reads: " That this Branch of the National Parks Association



convey its lack of confidence in Mr Landa over the handling of his portfolio as Minister for the Environment with respect to the Terania Basin issue."

• It is with regret that I pass the resolution on to you.

Yours sincerely,

Peter den Exter,  
(HON. SECRETARY) (retiring)

Please refer future correspondence to:

M. Kaveney,  
Hon. Secretary,  
National Parks Association of N.S.W.,  
Far North Coast Branch,  
Emerson Road,  
ROSEBANK via LISMORE, 2480.

cc to The Hon. N. Wran, Premier.

# REPRIEVE FOR TERANIA CREEK DISCOUNTED

By a Staff Reporter

Spokesmen for two State Cabinet ministers contacted in Sydney yesterday ruled out any possibility of a last minute halt to selective logging of the controversial Terania Creek basin.

The two spokesmen were senior officers on the staffs of the Minister for Conservation, Mr. Gordon, and the Minister for Environment, Mr. Landa.

Mr. Gordon and Mr. Landa hold portfolios which have been closely linked to the continuing conflict between, the Forestry Commission, sawmillers and conservationists over logging of Terania Creek.

The offices of the two ministers were contacted yesterday to clarify confusion arising from a letter signed by Mr. Landa, which has been circulated throughout the Far North Coast this week.

The letter suggests that the recent decision to proceed with the logging could be in doubt.

A copy of Mr. Landa's letter to Dr. Peter den Exter, of Lismore, the secretary of the Far North Coast branch of the National Parks Association of New South Wales, was apparently forwarded to the Terania Basin Committee.

The chairman of the committee said in a statement accompanying copies of the letter being circulated throughout the region that Mr. Landa's comments conflicted with Mr. Gordon's announcement on June 27 that the logging would proceed.

## 'Views considered'

Mr. Landa said in his letter that 'the proposed logging raises a number of complex issues which have required detailed examination by several Government authorities'.

The Minister said: Consultations also are taking place between the Premier, the Minister for Conservation and myself and you may be assured that your views, and those of many others who have written, will be fully considered before any final decision is made".

Mr. Landa also said that a request for an environmental impact assessment of the Forestry Commission's logging proposal had been noted.

The letter to Mr. den Exter was dated July 9, 1979, the day before the country Cabinet meeting at Murwillumbah where logging of the basin was given the final go-ahead.

The spokesmen for the ministers contacted yesterday said that the Landa letter had been written and posted to Mr. den Exter before the Murwillumbah Cabinet meeting.

Mr. Landa's private secretary said that for this reason the inference which could be drawn from its contents were

'not something that you could hang your hat on'.

"There was a period of review on the Terania Creek question when Mr. Landa raised the issue with the Premier and Mr. Gordon, and I believe it was discussed again at the Murwillumbah Cabinet meeting", he said.

He said there may have been further consultation on the issue since the logging was approved at Murwillumbah, but he was not aware of any.

## Will proceed

The Minister for Conservation, Mr. Gordon, was not available for comment yesterday.

But his Press secretary, Mr. Ken Weedon, said that so far he was concerned the logging would proceed as planned.

Mr. Weedon said that Mr. Gordon had issued a statement on June 27 announcing that logging in the basin had been approved.

He said that the Minister had made no further statements or comments which would in any way alter the earlier decision.

"So far as we are concerned the logging will go ahead, and this is the latest position", Mr. Weedon said.

He said his information about the letter being circulated by the conservationists was that it had been written before the Cabinet meeting in Murwillumbah.

The environmental advisor to the Associated Country Sawmillers of New South Wales, Mr. Ian Nicholas, said in Sydney yesterday there was no doubt in his mind that the logging of Terania Creek would proceed.

Mr. Nicholas said he had received confirmation of this yesterday after contacting offices of Mr. Landa and Mr. Gordon.

He said that a spokesman for Mr. Landa had indicated that the decision to log the basin had been made, and that remained the position.

Mr. Nicholas said that the letter from Mr. Landa being circulated by the environmentalists was obviously a 'furfy'.

He said it was clearly dated July 9, the day before the Cabinet meeting where final approval for the logging was given.

The Casino district forester for the Forestry Commission, Mr. John Bruce, said on Monday that the logging of Terania Creek would start within two weeks.

Mr. Bruce said that recent wet weather had delayed the start to logging.

# TERANIA LOGGING 'NOW CERTAIN'

**The Whian Whian State Forest will be harvested as proposed by the State Government, according to sawmillers.**

**Mr John MacGregor-Skinner, of Standard Sawmilling Co., says the industry has been given a clear mandate from the Government to harvest, under environmental guidelines, the Terania Creek section of the Whian Whian State Forest.**

This has been confirmed by the Government as recently as yesterday, Mr MacGregor-Skinner says.

There can be no question of a Government change-of-attitude.

The decision was announced by

the Minister for Conservation in June and was confirmed by him at the meeting of Cabinet on July 9.

The decision was made after over two years of discussion and public debate, consultation with the Lismore City Council on the suitability of roads for logging, a full enquiry by the State Pollution Control Commission and an investigation by the State Ombudsman.

Mr MacGregor-Skinner says claims that a letter from the Minister for Planning and Environment, Mr Landa, contained references to prevent the harvesting of the hardwood forests of Whian Whian State Forest, were misleading.

"I understand the Minister replied to an April letter from the Far North Coast branch of the National Parks Association and that this reply was not received by the branch until recently," he said.

Mr MacGregor-Skinner said: "We join with the leaders of the Terania Native Action Group in imploring their supporters to refrain from illegal or dangerous acts whether peaceful or otherwise which could create any risk of accident during logging operations.

"Our safety record is excellent and we want to keep it that way."

*Daily News*

*27/7/79*



FAR NORTH COAST  
BRANCH

49 Cathcart Street,  
LISMORE, 2480.

17th July, 1979.

The Hon. P. Landa,  
Minister for Planning and Environment,  
Parliament House,  
Macquarie Street,  
SYDNEY, 2000,

Dear Mr Landa,

I am writing to express our thanks for your attention to our letters relating to the proposed logging of the Terania Basin, and for discussing the matter during your recent visit.

We have today received a verbal communication from the Murwillumbah Sub-District Forester that they have the "green light" to commence the logging operation, and in the light of your letter of July 9 this causes us some concern, as we have not yet had a definitive reply on this matter.

We would therefore be most grateful if you could inform us of the outcome of the consultations between yourself, the Premier and the Minister for Conservation and Water Resources before any final action is taken.

Yours sincerely,

Peter den Exter,  
(HON. SECRETARY).



NEW SOUTH WALES  
MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

Dr P M den Exter  
Honorary Secretary  
National Parks Association of NSW  
Far North Coast Branch  
49 Cathcart Street  
LISMORE NSW 2480

Please quote 701000

- 9 JUL 1979

Dear Dr den Exter

I am writing to acknowledge your letter regarding the proposed logging in the Terania Creek Basin. Your request that an environmental impact assessment be made of the Forestry Commission's proposal has been noted.

I regret that I have not been in touch with you earlier but the proposed logging raises a number of complex issues which have required detailed examination by several government authorities. Consultations are also taking place between the Premier, the Minister for Conservation and Water Resources and myself and you may be assured that your views, and those of the many others who have written, will be fully considered before any final decision is made.

Thank you for writing to me on this most important matter.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Paul Landa'.

PAUL LANDA  
Minister for Planning and Environment



FAR NORTH COAST  
BRANCH

29th June, 1979

The Hon. P. D. Landa,  
Minister for Planning & Environment,  
Parliament House,  
Macquarie Street,  
Sydney. N.S.W. 2000

Dear Mr. Landa,

Your attention is again drawn to the request made by this Branch, dated April 2, 1979 with regard to an environmental impact assessment of the proposal to log the Terania Basin.

This Branch is aware of the statement made by the Minister for Conservation, of June 27 that the logging is to proceed, on the grounds that the "employment of hundreds of men" shall not be in jeopardy.

The sawlog resource of the area will maintain the industry for a period of 3 months continuous supply only, and is therefore of passing interest only to the industry.

We also wish to point out that this issue has been the most controversial of any conservation issue locally, and has received constant comment in the local Letters to the Editor columns, editorials and news over the past 3 months. The conservation values of the unlogged 400 ha. of the Basin have been previously outlined by others and require no further elaboration here.

The great delay in responding to our request is a matter of major concern to this Branch. The involvement of the State Pollution Control Commission to date in this issue has not been a significant one, and we draw your attention here to the findings of the investigation made by the Ombudsman's office.

It is the feeling of members of this Branch that local conservation matters do not appear to be of interest to your Government, and that political expediency over-rides the right of public involvement in decisions relating to conservation matters.

The impact of preserving this small area upon employment in the industry could be readily determined by a S.P.C.C. assessment of the proposal. This Branch does not accept the exaggerated and hysterical outcry of the timber industry, uncritically echoed by the Minister for Conservation, that "hundreds of jobs are at risk". (May we point out here that the total employment of Standard Sawmillers Pty. Ltd. stands at 125 according to a verbal communication from Mr. Colin Withey of that company.)

It is becoming increasingly difficult for us to believe the commitment made to conservation matters by your Government upon being elected to office.

However, we remain hopeful that you will consider the merits of our case and involve the State Pollution Control Commission in an assessment of the Forestry Commission proposal.

Yours sincerely,

**FORESTRY  
COMMISSION  
OF N.S.W.**



Forestry House,  
93-95 Clarence Street,  
Sydney

Postal address: Box 2667, G.P.O. Sydney 2001  
Telegrams: Newforests, Sydney  
Telephone 2 0236 Ext.  
In your reply please quote 10909

5th September, 1979.

Mr. Morton Kaveney,  
Hon. Secretary,  
Far North Coast Branch,  
National Parks Association of N.S.W.,  
Emerson Road,  
ROSEBANK, VIA LISMORE, 2480.

Dear Mr. Kaveney,

I wish to acknowledge your letter of 30th July, concerning an item that appeared on an A.B.C. news item referring to the Commission's environmental policy, and also to apologise for the delay in replying.

The item that appeared on the A.B.C. was derived from the answers to some questions addressed to one of our officers, and related specifically to the environmental assessment that had been carried out by the Commission with respect to proposals for roading and logging in a section of Bellinger River State Forest. In the course of the conversation, which was rather freely adapted in its treatment on the news service, the Commission officer explained that the Forestry Commission and the State Pollution Control Commission had recently been holding talks on the subject of environmental impact assessment, and that as a result of this it was expected that the Forestry Commission would be preparing impact statements for about five projects over the next two years, on projects mutually agreed by the two Commissions.

The matter is currently being considered by the relevant Ministers and it is expected that a media release on the subject will be issued by the Ministers in due course. In view of the Ministerial involvement it is considered inappropriate to answer your inquiry in any more detail at this stage, and indeed this reply has been delayed in the hope that the media release might have appeared before now.

Yours faithfully,

*A. R. Cocks*

A. R. COCKS  
Secretary

GOVERNMENT



FAR NORTH COAST  
BRANCH

Eureka Road,  
Rosebank N.S.W. 2480  
18 October 1979.

The Director,  
National Parks and Wildlife Service,  
Box N.189  
Grosvenor Street P.C.  
Sydney 2000.

Dear Mr Johnstone,

Your reply to our request of 19 July has been received, and is most welcome. However, the matter of misleading statements being publicly made with regard to the conservation status of rainforests remains of concern to this Branch.

As a result of some statements it is widely believed locally that any one area of rainforest is interchangeable with another for nature conservation purposes; e.g. Murray Scrub is interchangeable with Grady's Creek Flora Reserve. The major thrust of your reply, that the remaining rainforest in N.S.W. is represented by scattered "islands" of rainforest, which cannot as a general rule be substituted for one another, is not generally understood by the public. Thus there exists a strong need for public dissemination of the type of information presented in your reply if the public are to become more aware of the need to preserve irreplaceable remnants of our rainforest.

To this end, this Branch would like to see the Service present to the public a number of newspaper articles which would clarify many of the misconceptions about rainforest that are being actively presented in the North Coast Region.

This Branch regards this matter as being of some urgency in view of the current debate on the future management of rainforests in New South Wales.

Yours sincerely,

Morton Kaveney,  
Secretary.





# National Parks and Wildlife Service



189-193 Kent Street,  
Sydney

P.O. Box N189, Grosvenor  
Street, Sydney, N.S.W. 2000

Telegrams: Napawi, Sydney  
Telex: AA 26034

Our reference:      **DAJ:LAB**

Your reference:

311 OCT 1979

Telephone: 237 6500  
Extension: **6818**

Mr. M. Kaveney,  
Secretary,  
National Parks Association  
of N.S.W.,  
Far North Coast Branch,  
Eureka Road,  
ROSEBANK. N.S.W. 2480.

Dear Mr. Kaveney,

Thank you for your letter of 18th October, 1979 suggesting that the Service publish newspaper articles on rainforests to clear up misconceptions in the public mind.

You will appreciate that, as the Government is presently considering a report on rainforests prepared by the Forestry Commission, the matter of the future use of rainforests has become the subject of the determination of Government policy.

The point you have made about the need for greater public awareness is noted. Could I suggest that your Branch might be able to draw the attention of the public to the Service publication "Rainforests" which is available for purchase at the offices of the Service at Grafton, Alstonville and Taree .

In regard to your specific request, I am considering ways in which the Service itself might act to improve public awareness and knowledge.

Yours sincerely,

D.A. JOHNSTONE,  
DIRECTOR.

TERANIA BASIN COMMITTEE of the  
National Parks Association of N.S.W., Far North Coast Branch,  
Richmond Valley Naturalists Club,  
Terania Native Forest Action Group,  
Northern Rivers Environmental Action Group

Morton Kaveney (Chairman,  
Terania Basin Committee)  
Emerson Road, Rosebank, 2480 Ph. 88-2167

Peter den Exter,  
49 Cathcart Street,  
Lismore. 2480 Ph. 21-2057 (H)  
21-2267 (W)

Michael Murphy,  
Terania Creek Road,  
The Channon, 2480 Ph. 886-285

Jasper Kent,  
Rosebank, 2480

Parliament House,  
Macquarie Street,  
Sydney. N.S.W. 2000

Dear

RE: TERANIA BASIN LOGGING PROPOSAL

This committee comprising representatives of a number of Far North Coast conservation societies, is deeply concerned over the arbitrary decision to proceed with the logging of the Terania Basin (Whian Whian and Goonimbar State Forests).

In spite of the considerable local support as indicated by a recently conducted public opinion poll, (over 4000 signatures on petitions, numerous letters of support and over 1000 people inspecting the Basin this year), the high conservation values of the area, the social, economic and psychological impact of the proposed logging upon residents of the Terania Valley, and the criticism of the past involvement of the State Pollution Control Commission in this issue by the Ombudsman's investigator, the Minister for Conservation has announced that logging is to proceed. This announcement appears to uncritically accept the exaggerated claims of sawmilling industry spokesmen that the jobs of all Standard Sawmill employees are at risk.

This claim is critically examined in the attached report, which is included for your consideration. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this report and the issue generally with members of Cabinet at the forthcoming Cabinet visit to Murwillumbah on July 9.

We are bitterly disappointed with Mr Gordon's decision, which implicitly rejects an Environmental Impact Assessment of the proposal by the State Pollution Control Commission, particularly in view of your Government's earlier initiatives on conservation matters, and of its stated concern for public involvement in Government decision-making.

Accordingly, we have requested that a three man deputation from this committee be allowed to discuss this issue with members of Cabinet on July 9. Should you also wish to inspect the area, arrangements can be made for an inspection on Tuesday, July 10.

In view of the limited time before Cabinet meets, we request urgent consideration of our proposal, and await your reply.

Yours sincerely,

(Peter den Exter) for the  
TERANIA BASIN COMMITTEE.

## TERANIA BASIN COMMITTEE

### A PROPOSED SOLUTION TO THE TERANIA BASIN CONFLICT

#### Introduction

The current conflict as to whether to proceed with the logging of Terania Basin (Whian Whian and Goonimbar State Forests) has reached the point where the views of the industry and of the local conservation groups, and their respective supporters; have become polarised in the extreme.

The conservation viewpoint is that the area should not be logged until a comprehensive environmental (including long and short term social and economic) impact assessment is conducted into the proposal. <sup>1.</sup> On the other hand the sawmilling industry has suggested that denial of the sawlog resource of the Basin would mean the closure of Standard Sawmills, and the loss of employment of 125 workers, in 6 to 12 months time. This assertion appears now to have been uncritically accepted by the Minister for Conservation, Mr. Lin Gordon, and used to justify proceeding with the logging operation. <sup>2.</sup>

This statement, and others from industry spokesmen that removal of the Terania Basin resource would jeopardise the present sustained yield management of the forests of the area, <sup>3.</sup> require critical examination.

#### The Sawlog Resource, Murwillumbah Forestry Sub-district

For management purposes, the Murwillumbah Forestry Sub-district is broken up into two units: The Murwillumbah Working Circle and the Mullumbimby Working Circle. Details of the sawlog resource within these units are given below.

Table 1 : Sawlog Resource,  
Murwillumbah Forestry Sub-district <sup>4.</sup>

	<u>Total Annual Yield (m<sup>3</sup>)</u>	<u>Yield Life</u>
Mullumbimby W.C.	7000	Indefinite
Murwillumbah W.C.	9970	7-8 yrs.

In addition some private timber is still available, although no information is available as to the security of supply from private sources.

#### Sawlog Supply, Standard Sawmilling Pty. Ltd.

The company intending to log Terania Basin, Standard Sawmilling Pty. Ltd. currently holds the following quotas within the Murwillumbah Sub-district. <sup>5.</sup>

Mullumbimby W.C.	5500 m <sup>3</sup>
Murwillumbah W.C.	5770 "
<u>Total</u>	<u>11270 m<sup>3</sup></u>

The company formerly held additional quotas in the Kyogle Sub-district, totalling 9610 m<sup>3</sup>, <sup>6.</sup> but these have been forfeited to reduce the level of brushwood cut in Kyogle S.D., and extend the mill life of Munro & Lever Pty. Ltd. of Grevillia for a lump sum payment of \$750,000. <sup>8.</sup>

It was intended that Standards use this compensation to permit it to draw supplies from alternative sources (in this case, brushwoods from Samoa).

The volume of timber imported from this source is not known, but this point will be re-examined in the following section.

In addition to these sources, Standards also utilise timber from private lands, the latest figure available indicating that some 2000 m<sup>3</sup> <sup>9.</sup> are being derived from this source.

Thus, from these figures, it would appear that Standards have available to them currently some 13,000 m<sup>3</sup> of timber from State Forests and private sources, in addition to timber imported from overseas using the \$750,000 compensation for loss of the Kyogle S.D. quotas.

### Sawlog Utilisation, Standard Sawmills

Information on the actual rate of sawlog utilisation is sketchy, but from industry sources it would appear that Standards are currently milling some 12,000 m<sup>3</sup> 10. and that the mill can continue at this level of production without loss of employment.

Given that the mill is receiving the full 11,270 m<sup>3</sup> for its quota allocation, and that a further 2,000 m<sup>3</sup> is being obtained from private sources, it would seem that the company is not intending to further utilise its overseas sources of supply, for which it received the \$750,000 compensation.

Further it would seem that the company has access to greater local supplies than are necessary to maintain the present workforce if private sources are taken into consideration.

### The Proposed Solution

In view of the situation outlined above, it can be argued that withdrawal of the Terania Basin allocation need not involve a scaling down of operations by Standards in the immediate future, provided that no more than 1000 m<sup>3</sup> are removed from the total supply in any one year.

It is therefore suggested that the quota allocation from the Mullumbimby working circle be reduced by 1000 m<sup>3</sup> to 4,500 m<sup>3</sup> for a period of six years, this volume of timber representing the total volume intended to be removed from the Terania Basin at this time. At the end of the six year period, the quota allocation from the Mullumbimby W.C. can be increased again to its current level, although at this time it would seem that there will need to be a review of the industry as the Murwillumbah Working Circle ends its current economic lifespan.

From the above analysis it can be seen that removal of the Terania Basin allocation, spread over a time period of six years, need not result in undue hardship to Standards or lead to the standing down of employees.

Indeed, it can be argued that Standards have still part of the \$750,000 compensation which it appears is not being used for the purpose intended to ensure continued supply from other than local sources.

However, it is also clear that in the longer term (beyond 7-8 years) the company will face severe difficulties as its supply from the Murwillumbah Working Circle runs out.

This problem also requires urgent attention now if it is not to escalate, and cause further confrontation between the industry and community groups in the future. To this end, an intensive program of reforestation, involving the resources of the industry and the Commission, and privately owned degraded farmland is supported, and will continue to be supported.

### Footnotes

1. Statement issued by the Terania Basin Committee published in the Murwillumbah Daily News, 25.6.79.
2. Press announcement 27.6.79 in Lismore Northern Star, and Daily News.
3. Statement by K. Jordan of Associated Country Sawmillers of N.S.W. in the Lismore Northern Star, 29.6.79.
4. Information supplied by District Forester 29.6.79.
5. As above.
6. Forestry Commission of N.S.W. Border Ranges Background Paper Appendix 11, Sept. 1977.
7. State Pollution Control Commission Border Ranges Environmental Review, P8, April 1978.

8. District Forester, Casino 29.6.79.
9. The volume of timber received from Standards from private sources was 1924 m<sup>3</sup> in 1977/78 (District Forester, Casino 29.6.79)
10. "The sawlogs to be removed from the Terania Creek hardwood forests will entail a three to six-months logging operation. This material will maintain the operation of the Standard Sawmilling Company for a period of six months or so." (Associated Country Sawmillers of N.S.W., Notes on Terania Creek n.d.)

THE TERANIA BASIN COMMITTEE of the  
National Parks Association of New South Wales, Far North Coast Branch,  
Richmond Valley Naturalists Club,  
Terania Native Forest Action Group, and the  
Northern Rivers Environmental Action Group.

Morton Kaveney, (Chairman),  
Emerson Road, ROSEBANK 2480,  
Phone (066) 88-2167

3rd July, 1979

Dear Minister,

re TERANIA BASIN LOGGING PROPOSAL

Further to our letter of June 29, I wish to point out a typing error in the second table on page one of the attached report.

The table reads:	MULLUMBIMBY W.C.	5550 m <sup>3</sup>
	MURWILLUMBAH W.C.	11270 m <sup>3</sup>
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>11270 m<sup>3</sup></u>

This should be altered to:

	MULLUMBIMBY W.C.	5500 m <sup>3</sup>
	MURWILLUMBAH W.C.	5770 m <sup>3</sup>
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>11270 m<sup>3</sup></u>

Also, we enclose a copy of a press item that has just been drawn to our attention, and which causes us considerable concern, as it suggests that the Minister's decision could reflect a strong prejudice toward what he terms the "alternative society". The position of the conservation societies involved in this dispute is spelled out clearly in the attached press statement made by this Committee and published in the Murwillumbah Daily News on June 25, and also in the report sent to you on June 29.

We trust that you will give these matters your deepest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

(Peter den Exter) for the  
TERANIA BASIN COMMITTEE  
Phone (066) 21-2267 (W)  
(066) 21-2057 (H)

esday June 5, 1979.

## Lin Gordon Reports.....



## Murrumbidgee Irrigator - Leeton

pollution in Pitt Street in the city.

It is rumored that Mr Meers is aspiring to Parliament in New South Wales.

If his aspirations are realised he will have to toughen up before he participates in Parliamentary debates.

\*\*\*  
I recently went for a tour of inspection of Terania State Forest at the invitation of Lismore City Council.

There has been a dispute over whether this area should be selectively logged or not.

I was met by several members of the 'alternative society' who are adamant

that the forest be left alone.

Many of these people are ex-city dwellers who bought up dairy farms at rock bottom prices after the farmers had been economically forced to leave their land.

Many of them do not work and seem to want to keep everyone away from their settlement.

They certainly will not accept any compromise on the logging question and completely ignore the fact that about 100 men could lose their jobs if the sawmill is forced to cease operation.

The sawmill has already lost timber reserves with the dedication of the Border Ranges National Park,

and further curtailment of reserves could mean a complete shutdown.

This situation cannot be overlooked in an area which offers no alternative industry for employment.

Terania Basin Committee believes a final decision on the future of the rain forest area is imminent.

# 'Many groups oppose logging in basin'

The following statement was made yesterday by Morton Kabeney on behalf of the committee:

Critics of the campaign to halt the logging of the Terania Basin appear to have lost sight of a number of significant facts related to the current debate.

They have created the impression that the campaign is being carried out by a "counter culture group" bent on preserving the forest for themselves.

The reality is that four local conservation groups supported by many local residents and conservation organisations at regional and State level have been actively involved.

The area has since 1976 been proposed as a native reserve by the NSW National Parks Association because of its high natural conservation values.

The current conflict certainly cannot be legitimately described as the alternate society attempting to preserve the area for themselves against the wishes of the rest of society.

While the current

debate revolves around the logging of the veteran brushbox stands that surround the virgin rain forest remaining in the basin, the adjacent rain forest cannot be isolated from the effect of logging.

Further there has been no firm commitment that the rain forest is not to be logged.

The present position is as it was in July last year when Minister responsible, Mr Lyn Gordon stated: "Only logging of the rain forest type within the basin would be deferred for the present".

The rain forest could therefore be logged at any time at the discretion of the Minister.

The basic issue too has become very clouded in the thrust and parry of the public debate.

The basic principle that we are concerned with is that all of the values of the forest be considered in arriving at a decision and that the public have a right to participate in the decision as to how this public resource can best be utilised.

To this end we have been campaigning for an environmental impact assessment of the logging proposal by the State Pollution Control Commission.

Such an assessment would consider not only environmental but also social and economic factors, but has been rejected by the Forestry Commission on grounds of cost.

Yet the cost to the Commission and the sawmilling industry of justifying the logging operation would probably equal the cost of such a study.

It is also significant to note that the campaign against logging the basin has cost nearly as much as the Forestry Commission has estimated it would gain from the operation.

The Commission would do more for its public image by allowing an environmental impact study and by encouraging interest

from sawmillers and conservationists in the crisis now facing the timber industry — providing more forests for the future.

For the past decade the sawmilling industry has been surviving on borrowed time.

They have been borrowing from the future in that our State forests have been logged at a rate faster than they can recover.

More serious than this the industry has not been paying back for what has been borrowed.

The need for reforestation was clearly spelled out in the report from the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly upon the timber industry presented to State Premier in 1967.

This report stated that "In view of the fact that the present brush wood and ply wood mills have a limited life and as no effort is being made to reforest the cut-over forest

your committee recommends that hoop pine should be included in the Commission's future conifer planning program".

It concluded that "the period 1975-1990 must be the closure of hundreds of saw mills and the finish of the timber industry in many country centres".

In spite of these clear findings of the Select Committee the industry has yet to commence re-forestation on a meaningful scale.

The problems of the sawmilling industry stem not from conservation conflicts such as that over the Terania Basin but from the continued overcutting of timber contained within our State forests.

When considered against this background and the history of some of the mills, the industry's concern for the jobs of its employees appears to us to lack sincerity.

Standard Sawmills have in the past had no qualms about buying viable mills and scrapping them with no regard for

the livelihood of those affected so that they could increase their own timber quotas.

Five mills, three in the Mullumbimby district and two in the Kyogle district, have met this fate since 1967.

It is ironic that against this background Standard's have been paid almost \$1mil. so that their Wiangarie State Forest quota could be allocated to the Munro and Lever Mill in Grevillia to improve its viability.

If the sawmilling industry had a genuine concern for employment it would have long ago commenced reforestation to ensure a perpetual supply of timber to the mill.

Logging of Terania Basin will do virtually nothing in the long run to maintain timber supplies to a dying industry and would involve the destruction of other equally important values of the forest.

We are definitely not opposed to foresters and sawmillers or their activities in general.

We are quite aware that the community requires timber and that we are part of that community.

However we are also aware that forests have other values equally

important over the longer term and we are worried that the shortage of timber is being allowed to override these other values.

The logging of Terania Basin is being justified by the industry on the grounds that part of the area has been logged in the past.

Community awareness of alternative values of natural forests have improved a lot since then and certainly the fact that logging has taken place in the past does not mean that logging was the best use of the area even then.

We must not follow blindly misguided actions of the past.

Those last pieces of unlogged forest such as the Terania Basin can do much more for the North Coast in their undisturbed state than they can providing saw logs to a dying industry.

We owe it to the future as well as the past.

The Terania Basin Committee is comprised of representatives of Far North Coast Branch of National Parks Association, NSW, Richmond Valley Naturalists Club, Terania Native Forest Action Group and Northern Rivers Environmental Action Group.

## Logging on agenda





## THE OMBUDSMAN

14TH FLOOR 175 PITT STREET, SYDNEY 2000

TELEPHONE: 233-5122

K SMITHERS. cbe  
OMBUDSMAN

K/9408

22nd June, 1979

Dear Mr. Henry,

I refer to the Ombudsman's previous correspondence with you concerning the complaint received from Mr. Michael Murphy, as Secretary of the Terania Native Forest Action Group, regarding the Forestry Commission's proposals for the logging of a State Forest at the head of Terania Creek.

I especially want to thank you and your staff for the co-operation and assistance provided to me and my Officers during the investigation.

Essentially, the complaint made to me was that the Forestry Commission had acted contrary to the State Pollution Control Commission's Environmental Standard E1-4 "Principles and Procedures for Environmental Impact Assessment in New South Wales", particularly paragraph 4.2.3 thereof, in that the Forestry Commission did not carry out or cause to be carried out an Environmental Impact Study on the proposal. Paragraph 4.2.3 provides as follows :-

"Where the determining authority is also the developer and the proposal is one which has special significance or has generated significant public controversy, that authority must refer the matter to the State Pollution Control Commission for consideration before it proceeds."

The relevant facts relating to this, as elicited in my investigation, are as follows :-

1. In March, 1975, The Forester, Murwillumbah, indicated to residents making representations, inter alia, that the Terania Creek Basin would be logged but most likely not within two years.
2. On 29th May, 1975, the then Minister wrote to a resident making representations, inter alia, that the area was being programmed for logging within a few years.
3. Consistently and up to the present time, large numbers of residents and other interested persons have objected and protested over the proposal.
4. Representations made to the Premier were referred by him to the Minister for Planning and Environment on 16th February, 1977, and the Minister indicated to the Premier by letter of 14th March, 1977, that he had asked the State Pollution Control Commission for a report on the matter and "that the Commission has concluded that there is insufficient evidence before it to justify its intervention in regard to the proposed logging operations ....." Later on 10th August, 1977, the Forestry Commission was provided with a copy of a letter from the Minister for Planning and Environment to a Mr. G. Allardice which stated that the State Pollution Control Commission "was satisfied that there were insufficient grounds to justify its intervention in the operations and I concurred in this conclusion." On 19th December, 1977, the Minister for Planning and Environment wrote to The Premier and said, inter alia, "I asked the State

Pollution Control Commission for a report on this matter and the Commission concluded that there was insufficient evidence before it to justify its intervention in regard to the proposed logging operations in the Terania Creek area. I concurred with this conclusion and advised you accordingly." It may be noted that the Minister proceeded then to spell out certain reservations on the proposal. A copy of this letter was received by the Forestry Commission.

5. It is important to note that there is no evidence available to me to suggest that the Forestry Commission ever referred the proposal to the State Pollution Control Commission for consideration as required by the Environmental Standard E1-4.
6. It is equally important to note that from an examination of the State Pollution Control Commission's files, I have found no written record of the State Pollution Control Commission's review mentioned by the Minister for Planning and Environment in the above referred to correspondence. So far as I have been able to ascertain from inquiries, no documents exist relating to such review and from information gleaned by my Investigation Officer, it appears the review consisted of informal discussions of Officers of the State Pollution Control Commission between themselves and also with Officers of the Forestry Commission. No inspections appear to then have been carried out by the State Pollution Control Commission. (However, it should be noted that at this stage I am not investigating the conduct of the State Pollution Control Commission).
7. To date no Environmental Impact Study has been carried out.

In considering whether or not the conduct of the Forestry Commission has been wrong within the definition provided in the Ombudsman Act, I must have regard to the fact that through representations made to the Minister for Planning and Environment the proposal was considered by the State Pollution Control Commission in order to decide whether or not the Commission should intervene in the proposal. Whilst the Forestry Commission, in not referring the proposal to the State Pollution Control Commission under paragraph 4.2.3 of the Standard, could be seen to be acting wrongly, nevertheless, the fact that via a different route the Commission did examine the proposal appears to make such a finding of wrong conduct by me somewhat superfluous and/or pointless. Having been acquainted with the State Pollution Control Commission's conclusion, it was not unreasonable for the Forestry Commission at that time to assume that an Environmental Impact Study was not required.

In these circumstances I propose to conclude my investigation.

However, before doing so I would make certain further comments :-

- (a) It is discernable, after an exhaustive examination of the Forestry Commission's files and other material gathered in the investigation, that some of your Officers have expressed viewpoints and attitudes towards some of the objectors which display unnecessary bias and prejudice. It is unfortunate that their objectivity may have been clouded by their personal views. Also, on some occasions some Officers appear to have adopted an unnecessary adversary position in relation to the objectors. I regard this as most unfortunate.
- (b) It appears to me that there may be some occasions that Officers of the Forestry Commission lose sight of the objects set out in Section 8A of the Forestry Act, 1916, as amended. As I understand it, the role is a dual one - on the one hand the Commission has the object of conserving and utilising timber on Crown lands to the best advantage of the State; and to provide adequate supplies of timber for milling. On the other hand the objects laid down by the Act stress the conservation, preservation and enhancement of the quality of the environment.

(c) I think it necessary to explain the role of the Ombudsman in such an investigation as this. It is not the function of the Ombudsman to determine the merits of a particular decision or proposal in such circumstances as have arisen here but rather to ensure that correct and proper administrative procedures have been followed in the making of the decision or proposal, and, that all relevant and pertinent issues have been properly taken into account by the public authority. I mention this especially because I do not wish my findings in this investigation to be seen as providing any support for any particular point of view. In other words I am not placing my imprimatur on any subsequent decision by the Forestry Commission or Minister.

I have supplied a copy of this letter to your Minister, the Premier and to the complainants.

Yours faithfully,

Paul Stein,  
Deputy Ombudsman.

Mr. J.L. Henry,  
Commissioner for Forests,  
Forestry Commission of  
New South Wales,  
93-95 Clarence Street,  
SYDNEY. 2000.

6/7/79

TERANIA BASIN COMMITTEE MEDIA RELEASE

THE TERANIA BASIN COMMITTEE HAS SHARPLY CRITICISED THE ORGANISATION OF LAST NIGHT'S PUBLIC MEETING, HELD IN MURWILLUMBAM TO DISCUSS THE LOGGING OF THE TERANIA BASIN.

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, MR MORTON KAVENEY, SAID LAST NIGHT THAT THE OUTCOME OF THE MEETING COULD NOT BE AN INFORMED ONE. "THERE HAS BEEN NO INVITATION FOR A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMMITTEE, OR ANY OF ITS MEMBER GROUPS, TO PUT THE CASE AGAINST THE LOGGING OF THE BASIN" HE SAID.

MR. KAVENEY ALSO CRITICISED RECENT STATEMENTS BY INDUSTRY SPOKESMAN, MR KEITH JORDAN AS REFLECTING A TOTAL IGNORANCE OF THE FACTS INVOLVED.

"MR JORDAN CANNOT ACCEPT THAT THE WEIGHT OF COMMUNITY OPINION IS BEHIND US. SAWMILLERS, THE FORESTRY COMMISSION AND EVEN THE MINISTER, MR GORDON, HAVE ATTEMPTED TO LABEL THE TERANIA BASIN ISSUE AS AN "ALTERNATIVE SOCIETY" PLOT.

HOWEVER, IT IS NOW WELL KNOWN IN THE COMMUNITY THAT MANY PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE, AND MANY OF LONG STANDING IN THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING EX-TIMBERMEN, ARE DETERMINED THAT THE FOREST ECOSYSTEM OF TERANIA BASIN SHOULD NOT BE THREATENED FURTHER.

MR KAVENEY SAID THAT, ON FORESTRY COMMISSION FIGURES, STANDARD SAWMILLS WILL HAVE CUT OUT THE MURWILLUMBAM AREA IN 7 TO 8 YEARS. AT THAT STAGE, THE MILL WOULD NO LONGER BE VIABLE AS IT WILL HAVE LOST OVER HALF ITS SUPPLY FROM STATE FORESTS. "THIS IS THE REAL PROBLEM FACING THE TIMBER INDUSTRY" HE SAID.

MR. KAVENEY APPEALED TO THOSE OPPOSING THE LOGGING OF THE BASIN TO IGNORE THE INFLAMMATORY AND PREJUDICED STATEMENTS MADE BY SAWMILLING INDUSTRY SPOKESMEN. HE SAID "WE ARE AWARE THAT FEELING IS RUNNING VERY HIGH AT THE MOMENT BUT APPEAL TO ALL SUPPORTERS NOT TO BECOME INVOLVED IN ACTIVE CONFLICT WITH THE INDUSTRY. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS OUR CASE THROUGH RATIONAL DISCUSSION, WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AS INDICATED BY LETTERS, DONATIONS, AND THE PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY."

MR. KAVENEY REJECTED CLAIMS BY MR. MURRAY STONE OF THE TWEED ACTION GROUP THAT A DEMONSTRATION WOULD BE HELD AT THE MURWILLUMBAH CIVIC CENTRE DURING THE CABINET MEETING ON MONDAY. "OUR SUPPORTERS HAVE MORE PRODUCTIVE AND IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO WITH THEIR TIME" HE SAID.

THE TERANIA BASIN COMMITTEE of the

National Parks Association of N.S.W., Far North Coast Branch,  
Richmond Valley Naturalists Club,  
Terania Native Forest Action Group,  
Northern Rivers Environmental Action Group.

Morton Kaveney (CHAIRMAN),  
Emerson Road, Rosebank 2480,  
Phone 88-2167

Peter den Exter,  
49 Cathcart Street,  
Lismore 2480, Ph. 21-2057 (H)  
21-2267 (W)

Michael Murphy,  
Terania Creek Road,  
The Channon 2480, Ph. 88-6285

Jasper Kent,  
Rosebank via Lismore, 2480.

The Hon. Neville Wran,  
Premier of N.S.W.,  
Parliament House,  
Macquarie Street,  
SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2000

Dear Mr Wran,

Re: TERANIA BASIN LOGGING PROPOSAL

This committee, comprising representatives of the above Far North Coast conservation societies, is deeply concerned over the arbitrary decision to proceed with the logging of the Terania Basin (Whian Whian and Goonimbar State Forests), as indicated from last week's press announcement by the Minister for Conservation.

In spite of considerable local support (as indicated by a recently conducted public opinion poll; over 4,000 signatures on petitions; numerous letters of support and over 1,000 people inspecting the Basin this year); the high conservation values of the area; the social, economic and psychological impact of the proposed logging upon residents of the Terania Valley; requests from a wide spectrum of groups and organisations for an assessment of the impact of logging by the State Pollution Control Commission; and the criticism of the past involvement of the S.P.C.C. in this issue by the Ombudsman's investigator, the Minister for Conservation has announced that logging is to proceed. This announcement appears to uncritically accept the exaggerated claims by the timber industry that all jobs at Standard Sawmilling Pty Ltd., Murwillumbah are at risk.

This claim is critically examined in the attached report, which is included for your consideration. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this report, and the issue generally, with members of Cabinet at the forthcoming Cabinet visit to Murwillumbah on July 9.

We are bitterly disappointed with Mr Gordon's announcement, which implicitly rejects an Environmental Impact Assessment of the proposal by the State Pollution Control Commission, particularly in view of your Government's earlier initiatives on conservation matters, and of its stated concern for public involvement in Government decision-making.

Accordingly, we request that a three man deputation from this committee be allowed to discuss the issue with members of Cabinet on July 9. Should you wish to inspect the area, arrangements can be made for an inspection on Tuesday, July 10.

In view of the limited time before Cabinet meets, we request urgent consideration of the proposal, and of our request, and await your reply.

Yours sincerely,

(Peter den Exter) for the  
TERANIA BASIN COMMITTEE.

MEDIA RELEASE

REVERSAL OF TOWER DECISION OPPOSED

Attempts by the Lower Clarence County Council to have the rejection of the siting of a water tower in Angourie National Park reversed have been severely criticised by the Far North Coast Branch of the National Parks Association.

Secretary of the Branch, Mr Morton Kaveney, said that public utilities such as water towers, pipelines and power lines were totally incompatible with the concept of National Parks. "The Minister's decision to refuse permission to build the tower within the Park was made with this in mind, and is in the best interest of the people of New South Wales. This Branch is of the opinion that the additional cost of an alternative site has been grossly over-estimated in the hope that a precedent could be set in the location of a public utility inside a National Park. Such a precedent may suit the narrow interests of the instrumentalities involved, but would be contrary to the broad public interest. The loss of amenity of the Park should a water tower be built in it has not been considered at all by the Department of Public Works or the Lower Clarence County Council. Additional costs of the Park site, including road construction, rental of site, and restoration of disturbed areas also appear to have been ignored".

Mr Kaveney said that it was the view of the Far North Coast Branch of the National Parks Association that alternative sites had not been seriously considered, and that when all factors were taken into account, a site nearer to the areas to be serviced could prove more suitable on cost alone. "This Branch will also place its views before the Premier, and the local member, Mr Day, that the Minister's decision be upheld"

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For further information contact:

Peter den Exter,  
(Publicity Officer) Phone (066) 21 2057

or

Morton Kaveney  
(Hon. Secretary) Phone (066) 88 2167  
Emerson Road,  
ROSEBANK, 2480.

ANGOURIE RESERVOIR:

# Council appealing direct to Premier

**LOWER Clarence County Council will prepare a strong case in support of a reservoir for the Angourie water supply scheme on the edge of the Angourie National Park.**

The submission will be presented direct to the Premier, Mr Neville Wran, with the request that he make a decision to permit the council to proceed with the reservoir on that site.

It will be pointed out that the site was chosen as the best and most viable several years ago, before the Angourie National Park was gazetted and the park established without any reference to the county council.

The submission will be presented to the Premier through Mr Don Day, Member for Casino, with a request that the Premier meet a deputation from the county council comprising the chairman Cr Brian Filewood, deputy chairman Cr Frank Clark, county clerk Mr P. L. Purcell and Mr Day, who is a former chairman of the county council.

A minute was presented to council by the chairman following a letter from the Minister for Planning and Environment, Mr Paul Landa.

The Minister said careful consideration had been given to the reservoir site to service the Angourie water supply scheme and as a back-up reservoir for Yamba.

The site in the National Park disadvantaged seriously the environmental aspects and was most undesirable, with severe visual impact on the coastline. Approval could not be given, the Minister stated.

The Department of Public Works, Lismore, the construction authority for the scheme for the county council, forwarded a letter from the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

The letter stated that approval could not be given for the construction of a water reservoir within the Angourie National Park. A viable alternative site did exist which was considered by the Service to be only marginally more costly than the Park site.

The site, which was known as the Lake Site, could be preferable from an urban planning viewpoint and was certainly more desirable on environmental and nature conservation grounds.

Cr Filewood reported that following Mr Landa's letter, he instructed the consulting engineer, Mr C. Jenkins, to institute investigations to establish accurately—

● RL of the site for a reservoir outside the Angourie National Park.

● Details of the cost of the selected site in the park and the best site outside the park.

He passed on a copy of the letter from Mr Landa to the Department of Public Works.

The letter was received by the chairman on June 26, and on June 30, he discussed the Minister's refusal for the use of the preferred site with Mr Day.

Mr Day said he had talked to the Minister for Public Works, Mr Jack Ferguson, about the matter and they agreed that council would have to accept the decision unless it could prove there was no other site available at a reasonable cost — that was at only marginally more cost than the park site.

On July 3, Cr Filewood, Cr J. Harvey, Mr Jenkins and Mr Les Bagus and Mr Pat Maguire from the Department of Public Works, inspected various sites at Angourie and instructions were issued to arrange necessary survey work on a ridge adjacent to the lake.

The reservoir site investigation report by the Department of Public Works dated July, 1979, was tabled at the council meeting.

The departmental report gives a record of the negotiations and has been forwarded to the various authorities.

The report draws the conclusion that unless a very heavy additional rate burden was placed on the residents of the Angourie-Yamba Lakes area, the only viable site is the knoll situated within the Angourie National Park.

The chairman said the lake site was too low and not suitable for council's purposes.

It certainly was not "marginally more expensive."

The department, he said, completed its comprehensive report by July 27.

"The Department of Public Works is our constructing authority, and their investigations and expertise as a water supply constructing authority are certainly more accurate than the National Parks and Wildlife Service," he commented.

The knoll, which was selected before the proclamation of the national park, and which has been recognised as the most viable site for some years, was chosen long before the proclamation of the national park.

The delays occasioned by the National Park and Wildlife Service had already caused serious escalation of costs, Cr Filewood said.

The lake site would cost the scheme \$690,000 which is 36 per cent to 37 per cent per tenement more costly to the landowners and residents than the original site estimated at \$418,000.

"The original site is 11 metres high, the lake site would be 24 metres. The two sites are only 2.3 km apart and I believe the visual impact on the coastline of a structure of 24 metres would be considerably greater than the park site," Cr Filewood said.

Cr Bev Simpson pointed out that the locality sketches presented with the National Park and Wildlife Service showed the park site reservoir to be below the line of the coastal range, but the lake site projected well on to the horizon.

"I believe in national parks," she said. "I like to think that people can go into places of natural beauty. But there is little beauty in this particular area."

Cr John Harvey agreed. "Having had the opportunity of seeing the sites

during the inspection, I cannot understand the decision. The park site is virtually just inside the park boundary. It is hard to appreciate their reasons.

Cr Frank Clark: The whole crux of the matter is the increase of costs to the individual consumer.



# ARDSHIP PICTED

g with the subject of  
e screened on Sun-  
pm in the Grafton

## EVANGELIST HERE TODAY

THE Rev. Dan Armstrong, who is conducting the Christian Life — Be In It Mission at Maclean this weekend will be in Grafton for a lunch time meeting today.

All members of the community are invited to share in the meeting which will be held in the Prince Street Uniting Church

# MEMORIAL CREATED



A memorial to the late Lady Olave Baden Powell has been presented by the Clarence River Trefoil Guild to the South Grafton Girl Guides. It is a new rose named the Olave Baden Powell in memory of the World Chief Guide. Pictured is the president of the Guild, Mrs Jean Carle, planting the rose held by the South Grafton District Commissioner, Mrs Noreen Jones, in the grounds of the South Grafton Girl Guide Hall.

## trict Church services

Home League, South, 4 pm Youth Activities; Thursday 10.30 am Home League Pound Street. — Capt. Lionel Parker.

Sunday 8.45 am SS, Maclean; 10.15 am Service, Maclean; 1.45 pm SS, Iluka; 6 pm Service, Maclean; Thursday 1.45 pm Home League, Maclean. — A. Cowling, CSM.

### Catholic

St Mary's, Grafton, Saturday 7 pm, Sunday 7 am, 8.30 am, 10 am, 7 pm; Copmanhurst 9 am. — Fr F. M. Mulcahy.

Saturday, Coffs Harbour 7 pm; Sunday Coffs Harbour 7 am and 9 am, Sawtell 7.30 am, Woolgoolga 9 am, Coramba 8 am. — Fr A. Casey.

Saturday, Iluka 4.30 pm, Harwood 6 pm; Sunday, Harwood 8 am and 6 pm, Yamba 8 am. No Mass in



## News from the CHURCHES

11 am; Calliope (J. Kearns' home), Rev Stan Gray; Maclean 7 pm, Mr R. Stanmore.

### Free Presbyterian

Grafton Friday 7 pm (Youth Fellowship), Services 11 am, 6 pm, 10 am (SS); Tuesday, 7.30 pm PM and BS. — Rev D. R. Nibbs.

Maclean Friday 7 pm Cadets, Sunday 10.15 am SS, 11 am, 6 pm, Wednesday 7.30 pm Combined PM, Thursday 10 am YM. — Rev A. R. Beaton.

### Seventh Day Adventist

South Grafton, Saturday 9.30 am Sabbath School, 11 am Divine Service, 2.15 pm Youth and Junior Meetings, Wednesday 10 am Prayer and Study Meeting.

Maclean, Saturday, 9.45 am Sabbath School, 11 am Divine Service, 2 pm Youth and Junior Meeting; Tuesday, 7.30 pm, Prayer Meeting. — Pastor H. Dickins.

### Anglican

Christ Church Cathedral, Grafton, Friday 7.30 pm MP, 5.15 pm HC, 5.45 pm EP; Saturday 7.30 am MP, 8 am HC, 5.45 pm EP; Sunday 7 am and 9.30 am HC, 9.20 am

EP; Tuesday 7 am HC, 7.30 am MP, 5.45 pm EP; Wednesday 7.30 am MP, 10 am HC, 5.45 pm EP; Thursday 7 am HC, 7.30 am MP, 5.45 pm EP; St Mark's 8 am HC, 9.30 am SS; Baryulgil 9 am HC; Copmanhurst 9 am SS, 11 am HC. — Rev Bruce A. Schultz.

St Matthew's, South Grafton, Saturday, St Matthew's 7 pm HC; Sunday St Matthew's 7 am HC, 9 am HC and SS; Ulmarra 10.30 am HC; Tucabia 6.00 pm HC; Wednesday, St Matthew's 10 am HC. — Rev B. M. Osborne.

Yamba 7.30 am HC; Maclean 9 am HC and SS; Chatsworth 10.30 am HC; Lawrence 7 pm ES. — Rev R. MacFarlane.

### Uniting

Bent Street 8 am, Mr. A. Chappell; Westlawn 8 am Lord's Supper; Prince Street 9.30 am, "Coping With Worry"; Ulmarra 11 am, Mr B. Smith; Coutts Crossing 11 am; Prince Street 7.30 pm. — Rev N. Mansfield.

Maclean Parish: Christian Life Mission with Rev Dan

# Water supply talks 'most valuable'

**DISCUSSIONS** by the special committee of delegates from the Lower Clarence County Council and officers of the Department of Public Works on the augmentation of the Lower Clarence Water Supply have been most valuable.

This was reported to yesterday's meeting of the Lower Clarence County Council in Maclean by the Chairman, Cr Brian Filewood.

He said there had been close liaison between departmental and council representatives.

Cr Filewood said the augmentation of the supply would have to dovetail in with the whole of the valley investigation on water requirements.

The next meeting would be in Maclean during September and hopefully by the end of 1979 there would be an interim report prepared on the augmentation. Programming was for a final report in September, 1980 and construction may begin by

January or February in 1982.

Cr Filewood said it appeared there would be five stages depending upon available funds and the urgency of any apparent weaknesses showing in the scheme, such as had already been experienced in the Alipou Creek, Junction Hill and the Wombah-Illuka areas.

Council's consultant Mr Col Jenkins would be given the brief for population projections and analysis of the existing system and preparation of base maps.

Cr Filewood said the position was most satisfactory.

It was reported by council's overseer Mr John Cookson, that work would start tomorrow on the improvement of supply to the Junction Hill area.

Regarding the reticulation to Angourie the consulting engineer Mr Jenkins said the drawings and draft specifications had been checked by the Department of Public Works and amendments made.

The reservoir site was still the subject of negotiations with the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Cr Filewood reported on a meeting with officers of the service on May 1.

He said the site was about half a mile from the border of the national park area and very close to the original site, chosen before the national park was mooted.

He said "In accordance with council's resolution a very strongly worded letter has been forwarded to the Member For Casino, Mr Day, for representations to the Minister, Mr Landa.

"As we told the national park officers, un-

less we are granted use of the site, which is both the most efficient from the point of view of supply to Angourie and the Lakes Estate, as well as a feedback to Yamba and the most economical, then the water supply will not be able to go ahead.

"The Government, has approved underground coal mining in the newly gazetted national park at Woolambi and the reservoir would cause less problems than the buildings associated with mining. Further sand mining has also been approved to be re-opened in Yuragir," Cr Filewood said.

He assured council that the matter would be pursued strongly.

Pipes had been placed on the problem site at Alipou Creek and it was pointed out to council that as the eroded pipes were being replaced and connected to the system, there would be periods of 24 hours when supply to that area and areas along Woolgoolga Road would be cut.

*efficiency depends on height of tower.*

*Each*

*Daily Examiner,  
Grafton.*

*7.6.79*

## Angouru Water Tower:

1. ~~Water~~ The villages of Angouru + Yamba Latus are small coastal resort settlements situated 5 kilometres south of Yamba. Neither village is provided with a reticulated water supply.
2. The Deputy Premier + Minister for Public Works has offered a subsidy to the local water supply authority, the Lower Clarence County Council, for provision of a water supply.
3. P.W.D. will be the constructing Authority.
4. to service the higher areas on Angouru Point, and to provide a minimum head of 12 metres at each house, a reservoir with a top height of 55 metres is necessary.

5. The most desirable reservoir

location is the tinnal (R.L. 44 metres) situated inside the Angkor National Park.

This is significantly higher than any other available site.

Negotiations are currently proceeding with DPWS. for use of this site.

6. Cost estimates for the Reservoir only are:

National Park	—	\$135,000.
Angkor village.	—	\$140,000.
Crown Land	—	\$200,000

7. cost of total project is ~~various~~.

~~various~~ \$410,000. (if built in park).

~~8. Costing of proposal in park~~  
~~is provided for~~

8. P.W.D + lower clanna county Council are determined to see the reservoir constructed in the Park.

9. It is believed that P.W.D. views this as a test case, and a chance to establish its authority to move into National Parks for the construction of public utilities.

10: Once ~~one~~ one authority is given permission to construct works in a park, others demand the same facility. Even though each individual proposal may be worthy + minimal in impact, the overall cumulative effect seriously degrades park values.

11. The ~~possibility~~ <sup>possibility</sup> of building the tower in Angkor itself has not been contemplated, as it would disturb the "amenity" of the village. It is O.K. to disturb the amenity of the park.

12. Each development within a

National Park is looked at individually by the Service.

Just because sub-surface mining of coal is being permitted in ~~Wollambi~~ Wollambi does not mean that every development proposal in every national park should automatically proceed.

13. The coal mining does not affect the visual amenity of the park as will the tower at Angourie. The Angourie tower will be a very permanent structure. It will be 11 metres high on a conspicuous hill with low heathy vegetation.

14. It is quite possible from an engineering point of view to construct

the tower on either the hill at Angouru or the hill on crown

land to the north. This tower would

be just as "efficient" as a tower in the national Park. — It will

cost more. P.W.D estimates that

extra cost at \$55,000 (if built

in Angouru). You can be sure this

differential is loaded to make the

park look most economical. By

the time various costs incurred in building

in the park are taken into account

this differential will be much less. —

These costs include things such as:

- annual rental. (say \$1000/year).
- construction of a gravelled road.
- environmental restoration.

15. people to see.

PWD.

Ken Parr,  
District Engineer,  
186 Moleworth St.  
ph. 212 467.

Lower Clarence County Council.

Councillor Brian Filewood  
old ferry rd,  
Iluka.  
ph 466 147.

or  
Len Purcell,  
County Clerk.  
Maclean Shire Council.  
ph. 452 266.

16. Newspaper for letters.

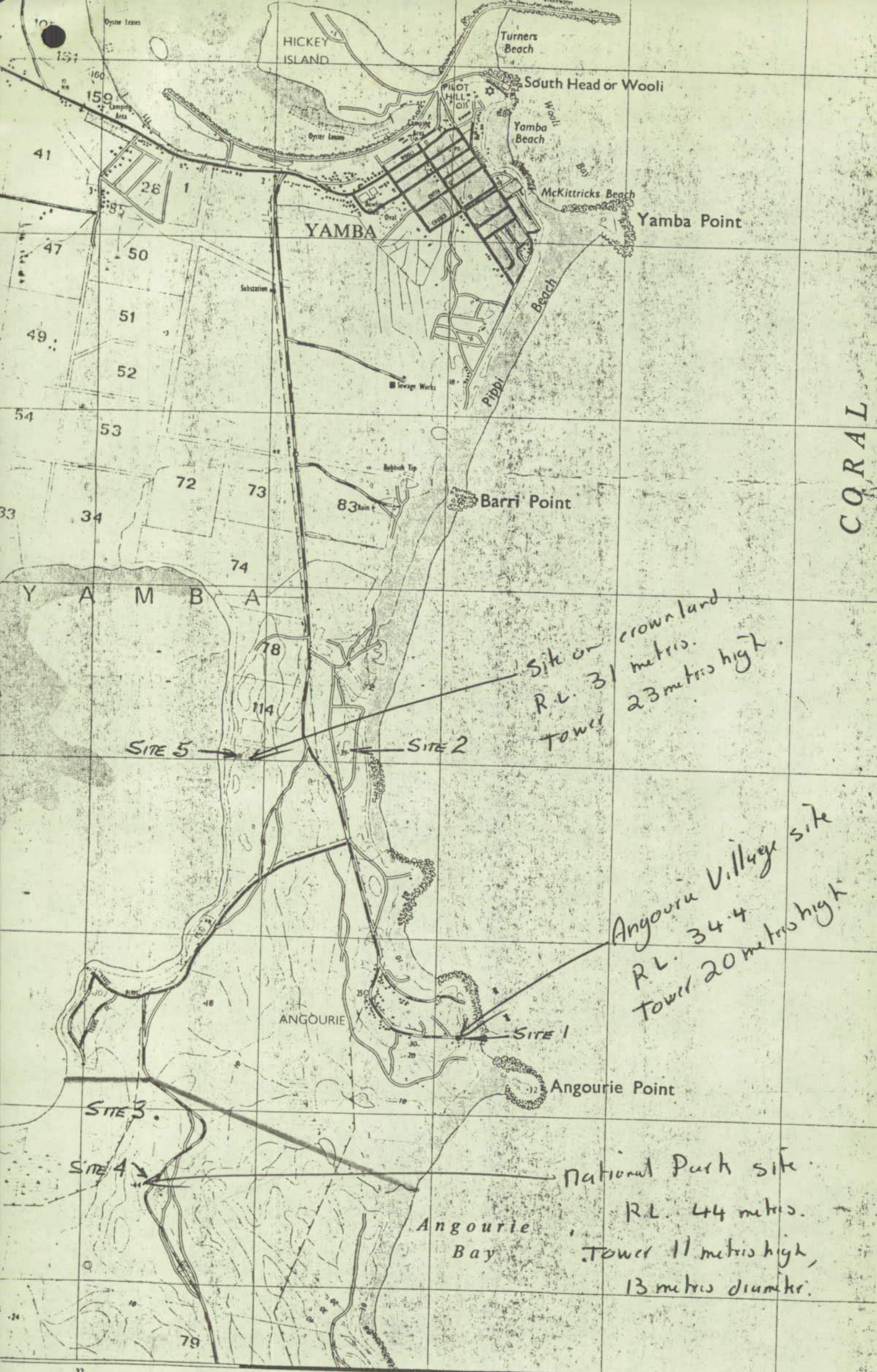
The Daily Examiner,  
22 King St,  
Gratton.

Editor. 422 129.

17. people to lobby.

1. Mr Landa.
2. Neville Wran.
3. Don Day.





CORAL

SITE 5

SITE 2

Site on crown land  
R.L. 31 metres.  
Tower 23 metres high

SITE 3

SITE 4

SITE 1

Angourie Village site  
R.L. 34.4  
Tower 20 metres high

National Park site  
R.L. 44 metres.  
Tower 11 metres high,  
13 metres diameter.

HICKEY ISLAND

Turners Beach

South Head or Wooli

Yamba Beach

McKittricks Beach

Yamba Point

YAMBA

Wooli Beach  
Pipipi Beach

Seage Works

Hubbuck Tip

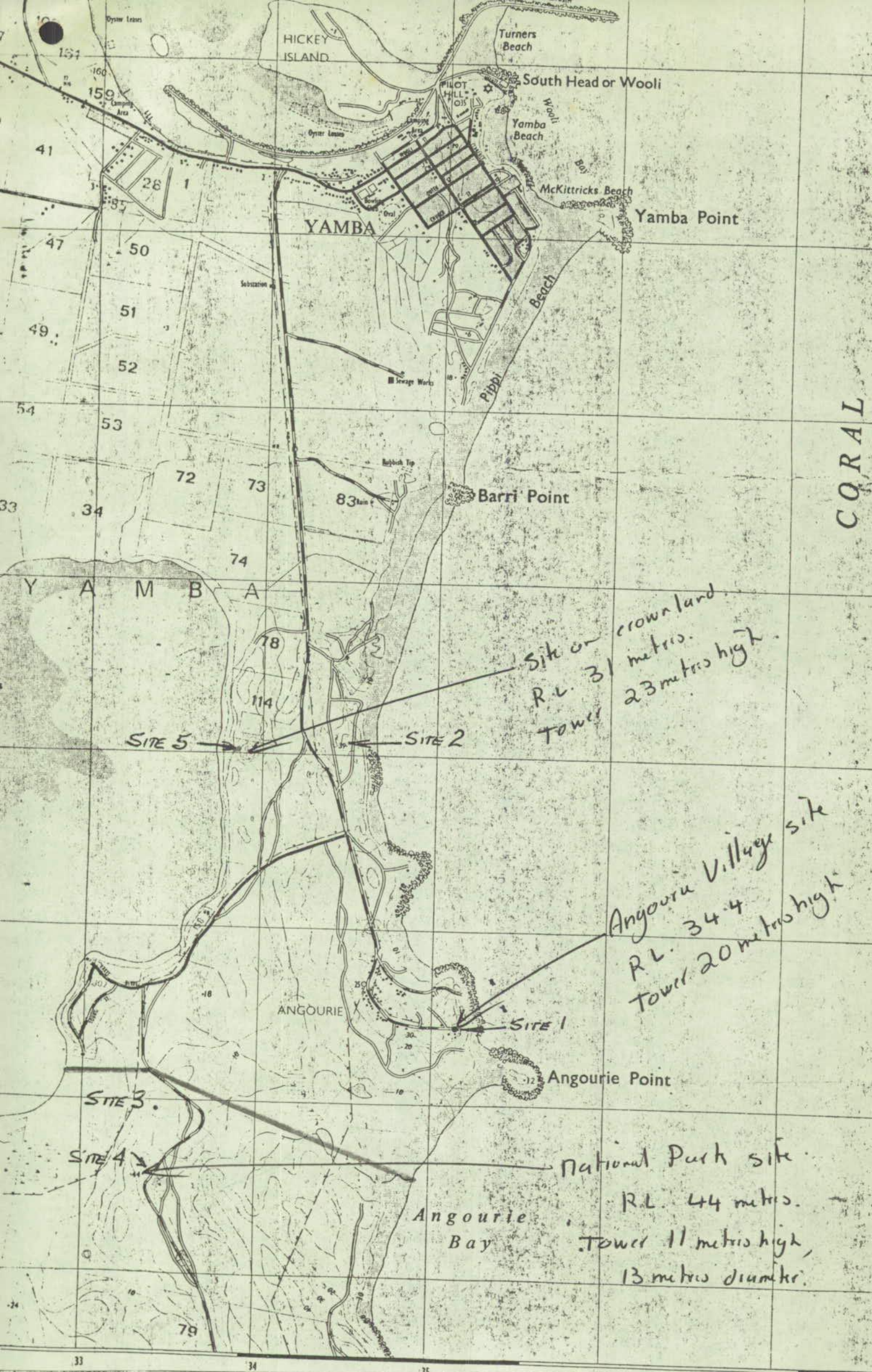
Barri Point

Y A M B A

ANGOURIE

Angourie Point

Angourie Bay



CORAL

SITE 5

SITE 2

Site on crown land  
R.L. 31 metres.  
Tower 23 metres high.

Angourie Village site  
R.L. 34.4  
Tower 20 metres high

SITE 1

National Park site  
R.L. 44 metres.  
Tower 11 metres high,  
13 metres diameter.

SITE 3

SITE 4

ANGOURIE

Angourie Point

Angourie Bay

YAMBA

Barri Point

Yamba Point

HICKEY ISLAND

Turners Beach

South Head or Wooli

Yamba Beach

McKittricks Beach

Pipipi Beach

Seage Works

Rubbish Tip

151  
160  
159  
41  
28  
1

47  
50  
51  
49  
52

54  
53

72  
73  
33  
34

74  
78  
114

18  
30  
20

79



NEW SOUTH WALES  
MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

Mr. M. Kaveney,  
Richmond Valley Naturalists' Club,  
Box 630, P.O.,  
LISMORE. 2480

27 JUL 1979

Dear Mr. Kaveney,

Reference is made to your recent letter concerning the proposal to construct a water tower in the Angourie National Park as part of the water reticulation scheme for the village of Angourie.

An application was received by the National Parks and Wildlife Service from the Department of Public Works for the construction of a water tower on Angourie National Park, but was rejected on environmental grounds.

All applications for developments on national parks are considered individually on relative merits and are only approved where the project is in the public interest, and no viable alternative site exists.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul Landa".

PAUL LANDA  
Minister for Planning  
and Environment

MEDIA RELEASE

REVERSAL OF TOWER DECISION OPPOSED

Attempts by the Lower Clarence County Council to have the rejection of the siting of a water tower in Angourie National Park reversed have been severely criticised by the Far North Coast Branch of the National Parks Association.

Secretary of the Branch, Mr Morton Kaveney, said that public utilities such as water towers, pipelines and power lines were totally incompatible with the concept of National Parks. "The Minister's decision to refuse permission to build the tower within the Park was made with this in mind, and is in the best interest of the people of New South Wales. This Branch is of the opinion that the additional cost of an alternative site has been grossly over-estimated in the hope that a precedent could be set in the location of a public utility inside a National Park. Such a precedent may suit the narrow interests of the instrumentalities involved, but would be contrary to the broad public interest. The loss of amenity of the Park should a water tower be built in it has not been considered at all by the Department of Public Works or the Lower Clarence County Council. Additional costs of the Park site, including road construction, rental of site, and restoration of disturbed areas also appear to have been ignored".

Mr Kaveney said that it was the view of the Far North Coast Branch of the National Parks Association that alternative sites had not been seriously considered, and that when all factors were taken into account, a site nearer to the areas to be serviced could prove more suitable on cost alone. "This Branch will also place its views before the Premier, and the local member, Mr Day, that the Minister's decision be upheld"

---

For further information contact:

Peter den Exter,  
(Publicity Officer) Phone (066) 21 2057

or

Morton Kaveney  
(Hon. Secretary) Phone (066) 88 2167  
Emerson Road,  
ROSEBANK, 2480.

At the last Meeting of this Club concern was expressed at a recent Grafton newspaper report (Daily Express 7/6/79) concerning a proposal to construct a water tower in the Angouise National Park as part of a water reticulation scheme to the village of Angouise. This Club wishes to express its opposition to such a proposal because of its detrimental impact on the Park and because there are alternative sites, available outside the Park → — both in and to the north of the village.

While recognising that these alternative sites would require higher towers, because of height differences between the sites, and a consequent increase in costs in erecting the towers, this was regarded as being preferable to despoiling a National Park. These higher costs would be justified on the grounds of avoiding the degradation of the visual 'naturalness' of the area, highly desirable in any National Park, and also avoiding the disturbance to the environment which would result from such a construction. It was also considered that this extra costs, for a higher tower, would be offset, to some extent, by reduced costs in relation to rent, track maintenance, restoration works and less piping system.

This Club fears that if this proposal is approved then in a few years, depending on popu growth in this rapidly developing area, the Scheme will need to be enlarged leading to still further des reduction in the Park's value as a natural area.

We also object to the Lower Clarence County Council, as reported in the quoted Newspaper item using

approved schemes in other National Parks, for example  
coal mining in Wollemi National Park and sand mining  
in Yuragis, as support for ~~the~~ its proposal. Any proposal  
in relation to a National Park should be considered  
on its merits and in relation to the particular National  
Park. Using other schemes as <sup>support</sup> precedents ignores  
particular or specific problems and the in depth  
consideration of alternatives.

# Water supply talks 'most valuable'

**DISCUSSIONS** by the special committee of delegates from the Lower Clarence County Council and officers of the Department of Public Works on the augmentation of the Lower Clarence Water Supply have been most valuable.

This was reported to yesterday's meeting of the Lower Clarence County Council in Maclean by the Chairman, Cr Brian Filewood.

He said there had been close liaison between departmental and council representatives.

Cr Filewood said the augmentation of the supply would have to dovetail in with the whole of the valley investigation on water requirements.

The next meeting would be in Maclean during September and hopefully by the end of 1979 there would be an interim report prepared on the augmentation. Programming was for a final report in September, 1980 and construction may begin by

January or February in 1982.

Cr Filewood said it appeared there would be five stages depending upon available funds and the urgency of any apparent weaknesses showing in the scheme, such as had already been experienced in the Alipou Creek, Junction Hill and the Wombah-Iuka areas.

Council's consultant Mr Col Jenkins would be given the brief for population projections and analysis of the existing system and preparation of base maps.

Cr Filewood said the position was most satisfactory.

It was reported by council's overseer Mr John Cookson, that work would start tomorrow on the improvement of supply to the Junction Hill area.

Regarding the reticulation to Angourie the consulting engineer Mr Jenkins said the drawings and draft specifications had been checked by the Department of Public Works and amendments made.

The reservoir site was still the subject of negotiations with the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Cr Filewood reported on a meeting with officers of the service on May 1.

He said the site was about half a mile from the border of the national park area and very close to the original site, chosen before the national park was mooted.

He said "In accordance with council's resolution a very strongly worded letter has been forwarded to the Member For Casino, Mr Day, for representations to the Minister, Mr Landa.

"As we told the national park officers, un-

less we are granted use of the site, which is both the most efficient from the point of view of supply to Angourie and the Lakes Estate, as well as a feedback to Yamba and the most economical, then the water supply will not be able to go ahead.

"The Government, has approved underground coal mining in the newly gazetted national park at Woolambi and the reservoir would cause less problems than the buildings associated with mining. Further sand mining has also been approved to be re-opened in Yuragir," Cr Filewood said.

He assured council that the matter would be pursued strongly.

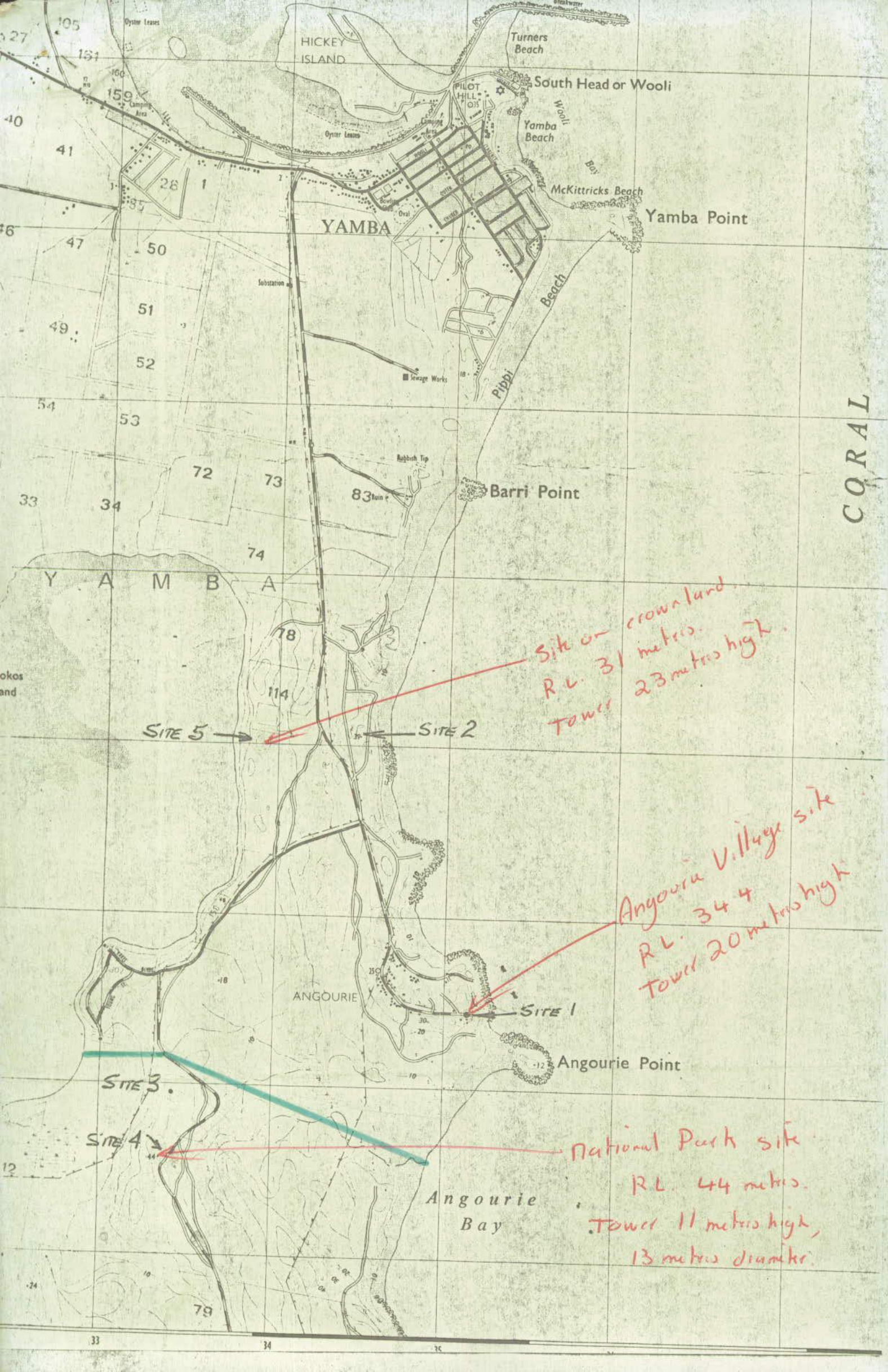
Pipes had been placed on the problem site at Alipou Creek and it was pointed out to council that as the eroded pipes were being replaced and connected to the system, there would be periods of 24 hours when supply to that area and areas along Woolgoolga Road would be cut.

*efficiency depends on height of tower.*

*Each*

*Daily Examiner,  
Grafton.*

*7 6 79*



CORAL

SITE 5 →

← SITE 2

Site on crown land.  
R.L. 31 metres.  
Tower 23 metres high.

Angourie Village site  
R.L. 34.4  
Tower 20 metres high

← SITE 1

National Park site  
R.L. 44 metres.  
Tower 11 metres high,  
13 metres diameter.

SITE 3

← SITE 4



## Angouru Water Tower:

1. ~~Water~~ The villages of Angouru + Yamba Lakes are small coastal resort settlements situated 5 kilometres south of Yamba. Neither village is provided with a reticulated water supply.
2. The Deputy Premier + Minister for Public Works has offered a subsidy to the local water supply authority, the Lower Clarence County Council, for provision of a water supply.
3. P.W.D. will be the constructing Authority.
4. To service the higher areas on Angouru Point, and to provide a minimum head of 12 metres at each house, a reservoir with a top height of 55 metres is necessary.

Spacial

5. The most desirable reservoir location is the Anoll (R.L. 44 metres) situated inside the Angouria National Park.

This is significantly higher than any other available site.

Negotiations are currently proceeding with DP+WS. for use of this site.

6. Cost estimates for the Reservoir only are:

National Park	—	\$135,000.
Angouria village.	—	\$140,000.
Crown Land	—	\$200,000

7. Cost of total project is ~~XXXXXX~~.

~~XXX~~ \$410,000. (if built in park).

~~8. Costing of proposal in park makes no provision for~~

8. P.W.D + Lower Clarence County Council are determined to see the reservoir constructed in the Park.

9. It is believed that P.W.D. views this as a test case, and a chance to establish its authority to move into National Parks for the construction of public utilities.

10: Once one authority is given permission to construct works in a park, others demand the same facility. Even though each individual proposal may be worthy + minimal in impact, the overall cumulative effect seriously degrades park values.

11. The ~~possibility~~ <sup>possibility</sup> of building the tower in Angkor itself has not been contemplated, as it would disturb the "amenity" of the village. It is O.K. to disturb the amenity of the park.

12. Each development within a national park is looked at individually by the service. Just because sub-surface mining of coal is being permitted in ~~wollambi~~ wollambi does not mean that every development proposal in every national park should automatically proceed.

13. The coal mining does not affect the visual amenity of the park as will the tower at Angourie. The Angourie tower will be a very permanent structure. It will be 11 metres high on a conspicuous hill with low heathy vegetation.

14. It is quite possible from an engineering point of view to construct the tower on either the hill at Angourü or the hill on crown land to the north. This tower would be just as "efficient" as a tower in the national Park. — It will cost more. P.W.D estimates that extra cost at \$55,000 (if built in Angourü). You can be sure this differential is loaded to make the park look most economical. By the time various costs incurred in building in the park are taken into account this differential will be much less. —

These costs include things such as:

- annual rental. (say \$1000/year).
- construction of a gravelled road.
- environmental restoration.

15. people to see.

PWD.

Ken Parr,  
District Engineer,  
186 Moleworth St.  
ph. 212 467.

Lower Clarence County Council.

Councillor Brian Filewood  
old ferry rd,  
Iluka.  
ph 466 147.

or  
Len Purcell,  
County Clerk.  
Maclean Shire Council.  
ph. 452 266.

16. Newspaper for letters.

The Daily Examiner,  
22 King St,  
Gratton.

Editor. 422 129.

17. people to lobby.

1. Mr Landa.
2. Neville Wran.
3. Don Day.



FAR NORTH COAST  
BRANCH

Emerson Road,  
ROSEBANK, via  
LISMORE, 2480

The Director,  
National Parks and Wildlife Service,  
Box N.189, Post Office,  
Grosvenor Street,  
SYDNEY, 2000.

Dear Sir,

GIBRALTAR RANGE NATIONAL PARK, DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

The attached comments relating to the Draft Plan of Management for the Gibraltar Range National Park are forwarded in response to the request by the Minister for Planning and Environment for comment, publicised in early August.

The comments have been prepared by members of this Branch of the National Parks Association who have read the Draft Plan of Management, and who have first hand experience of the Gibraltar Range National Park.

Yours sincerely,

Morton Kaveney,  
HON. SECRETARY.



## COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT, GIBRALTAR RANGE NATIONAL PARK

### INTRODUCTION:

The Draft Plan of Management for the Gibraltar Range National Park has been carefully read, and a number of specific points relating to management decisions identified for comment. The numbering system for the comments that follow refers to the system used in the Draft Plan of Management.

### COMMENT ON PART B PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

#### Basis of Management

The adoption of assumption that only a moderate rate of economic recovery can be expected in the first years of the period of the plan is not supported, as this may severely limit the scheme of operations to the basic maintenance and protection outlined even if the economic climate should improve.

Options for management under more buoyant economic conditions should also be outlined so that the Service would not be restricted in its management capacities through a lack of forward planning. Particular attention should be given to the rehabilitation of modified areas within the park.

It is felt that considerable attention should also be given to the extension of interpretation services to Park visitors (ref. to comments on Section 2.5 also).

#### Management Practices

##### 1.2 Fire

Fire occurs as a natural element within all but rainforest ecosystems. Fuel reduction burning by prescribed fire runs counter to the natural role of fire in the Australian landscape.

While it is accepted that wild fires are regarded with the greatest of dread, their role in maintaining and changing vegetation patterns needs to be recognised. Prescribed burning may either unintentionally modify the natural processes of change resulting from wild fires, or may lead to a managed system in which change does not occur.

Prescribed burning as a management tool is therefore not supported, except adjacent to roadways and development areas that require fire protection. Here, public safety and the protection of property require consideration in any decision regarding the use of fire.

### 1.3 Mining

It is considered that, as mining poses a potential threat to natural and cultural resources within the park, the Service should vigorously oppose attempts to permit mining within the park. A statement indicating this opposition should be included within the Plan of Management, consistent with the aims of the National Parks and Wildlife Act.

Extractive operations by the Service, as indicated by the Plan of Management are similarly considered unacceptable within the Park boundaries as such operations are in direct conflict with Park values. Consideration must therefore be given to management options that forego developments requiring such extractive operations.

## 2. Management of Visitor Use

### 2.3.1 Provision of facilities in areas of high visitor concentration.

The concept of locating facilities such as camping areas on Park boundaries is supported. In keeping with this philosophy any further development of existing facilities should be restricted to reducing the impact of such facilities upon the surrounding area.

Removal of the administrative complex, and a gradual phasing out of Mulligan's Hut, are therefore considered desirable.

### 2.5 Interpretation

The development of a programme of interpretation is regarded as being of high priority, and should have precedence over the upgrading of existing facilities within the Park, or the development of new ones. Education of the public to park values should be a prime consideration of the Plan of Management. Emphasis should be given to the preservation of the park, and to public education regarding the need for preservation, rather than to the development of structural facilities which will, by their very presence, increase pressure from uninformed sections of the public for further such developments.

## 3. Zoning

Parts of the Gibraltar Range National Park falls within areas identified by Helman et al., (Wilderness in Australia) as wilderness. However, the Plan of Management does not zone the areas thus identified as wilderness, and this is considered to be a major shortcoming of the Plan of Management.

Provision should be made in the Plan of Management for separate Wilderness Zones, distinct from the Natural and Development Zones.

Further, such zones should be declared as Wilderness, in accordance with Section 59 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act, as stated in Para. 59(1), Part IV, Division 3 - Wilderness areas (reference Page iv of Plan of Management).

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## OFFICE MEMORANDUM

FILE No.

1

Name

G. B. RANGESNI

15743/78-L

Date

PIV DIUS :

This is against the 'wilderness concept' unless the huts & scientific equipment is short term and fully demountable. Sometimes "scientific study" can destroy the whole feel of an area (something which will be gone in the future.)

1.2 :

Fire protection needs specialist attention and not merely management whim. The policy that no fires should be allowed in certain areas is unrealistic, but what is natural?

1.3 :

Mining should be actively opposed before and after Act of parliament. Mining is simply not compatible with N.Parks and sloppy statements like this give totally the wrong idea to the public.

Also the NPWS itself must come under public scrutiny on its own development/extraction activities. The 'specialist staff' concept is tacky and incestuous.

1.4 :

A paid bushman with a .243 rifle + scope will probably be more effective than all the colourful and erudite reports in the world. Action is needed on the pigs & cats now, not 3 yrs time when the problem is far larger due to breeding & damage.

1.11 :

If 'management tracks' are "small roads" they should be re-vegetated and reduced to tracks. The use of vehicles for management should be discouraged where at all possible, most rangers have a perfectly good pair of legs. Signposts & barriers can be constructed out of local materials perhaps, to cut down cartage.

## OFFICE MEMORANDUM

FILE No.

2.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

13743/754L

Date


2.3.1. "live in" areas are not compatible with a N. Park atmosphere. What is done, is done and areas such as Mulligans Hut & the V/T. Centre will never be virgin again. Why not leave them with modifications and stop the waste of money over re-location? Areas outside the park would be ideal, and those inside should be strictly policed by a permit system so they are not over-used.

2.5 : Interpretation — excellent! More of this is needed rather than how & more prestigious accommodation. If limited funds are available (and this is not certain given public awareness & political pressures in the future) the park should be preserved and the public educated as a priority.

General Comment:

I have very mixed feelings over the NPWS idea of National Parks. Being Bount employees they tend to fit in with other of their ilk, and really they should be fighting on all levels to keep the integrity of the park and push to extend it.

A more thorough change-over of staff could allow a better approach to be given, and discourage empire-building by a few persons who are intimate with the Queen, and tend to impose their idea of what the Gib. N.P. should be —

 31/8/75.



The Secretary,  
Far North Coast Branch, NPA,  
c/- 49 Cathcart Street,  
LISMORE. NSW. 2480.

National Parks Association of NSW

State Council  
399 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
Telephone (02) 233 3618

September 13, 1979.

Dear Secretary,

I draw your attention to the Gibraltar Range National Park Draft Plan of Management recently issued by the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Although in general the provisions of this draft plan are quite acceptable to the NPA, in one aspect at least the Association finds grounds for expressing concern. I refer to the proposal in the draft plan to provide only two zones within the park, namely, a natural zone and a development zone. The draft plan does not provide for a wilderness zone, but merely recognises wilderness as part of the natural zone. Wilderness within the park is to be identified on the zoning map as part of the natural zone and is to be managed as wilderness in accordance with Sections 59-61 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974.

The zoning provisions in respect of wilderness in the Gibraltar Range National Park Draft Management Plan are a significant departure from the previous approach of the National Parks and Wildlife Service, as evidenced in the Kosciusko National Park Plan of Management adopted in 1974. In the Kosciusko plan, wilderness is given a separate zoning and an explicit definition.

Although Section 59 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act provides that the Director of National Parks and Wildlife may declare an area in a national park a wilderness area, no such declaration has ever been made, even in respect of the Kosciusko National Park wilderness zones.


The Gibraltar Range National Park Draft Management Plan seems to suggest a weakening in the National Parks and Wildlife Service for the concept of wilderness, and should not be accepted by organisations interested in the preservation of wilderness areas in NSW.

It is hoped that your organisation will agree with this view and make an appropriate submission to the National Parks and Wildlife Service calling for -

- (1) the provision of separate wilderness zones in the Gibraltar Range National Park distinct from natural and development zones;
- (2) the declaration of lands within such wilderness zones as wildernesses by the Director of National Parks and Wildlife, in accordance with Section 59 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act.

Submissions should be made to the Director, National Parks & Wildlife Service, 189-193 Kent Street, Sydney, not later than September 28, 1979.

Yours faithfully,

  
Peter Prineas, Executive Secretary.

# INVITED TO COMMENT ON PARK

Minister for Planning and Environment, Mr Paul Landa, yesterday invited members of the public to examine and comment on the draft plan of management for Gibraltar Range National Park.

Mr Landa said the draft plan of management had been prepared by the National Parks and Wildlife Service with assistance from the Gibraltar Range National Park advisory committee — a citizen body which advises the service on the management of the park.

The draft plan is on public display from July 30 to September 28 at Grafton, Glen Innes and at a number of locations in Sydney.

Mr Landa said the Government had prepared a free booklet which explains the draft plan of management for the park.

Visual displays which highlight the features of the plan have been set up at the Glen Innes Town Hall, the service's regional office at Grafton, and the Government Information Centre in Hunter Street, Sydney.

"At Gibraltar Range National Park, the service

is working towards preserving the natural environment and at the same time providing facilities and opportunities for visitors to explore its deep gorges, spectacular waterfalls and unusual rock formations," Mr Landa said.

The park can be reached by the Gwder Highway between Grafton and Glen Innes.

"In the latter half of the plan's 10 year term it is

proposed that the existing administration centre at Dandahra Creek will be removed and a new visitor centre will be built several kilometres further west in the Boundary Creek area," Mr Landa said.

Mr Landa said copies of the detailed draft plan of management are available for perusal and written comment on the plan should reach the director of national parks and wildlife by September 28.



# Service has big plans for Gibraltar Range

**THE National Parks and Wildlife Service proposes to develop a major accommodation site in the Gibraltar Range National Park for use by caravanners and campers.**

The proposal is part of the service's draft management plan for the national park. If adopted it will have a long-term influence on the park's future.

Detailed and simplified copies of the draft management plan are available to the public from the service's Grafton office, in the State Office Block.

A visual display also is being held in the office until September 28.

Similar displays are being staged in Glen Innes, and Sydney.

The Minister for Planning and Environment, Mr Paul Landa, has invited public comment on the plan.

Mr Landa said it had been prepared by the National Parks and Wildlife Service with assistance from the park's advisory committee — a citizen body which advises the service on the management of the park.

"At Gibraltar Range National Park, the service is working towards preserving the natural environment and at the same time providing facilities for visitors to explore its deep gorges, spectacular waterfalls and unusual rock formations.

"In the latter half of the plan's 10-year term it is proposed that the existing administration centre at Dandahra Creek will be removed and a new visitors' centre built, several kilometres west in the Boundary Creek area," he said.

The proposed accommodation area would be built on the western boundary of the park near the Gwydir Highway in the headwaters of Boundary Creek.

The service considers extensions of existing accommodation facilities at Mulligan's Hut would be impracticable.

However, parking areas, picnic sites and space for car camping would be provided around the hut.

Other picnic areas, along with roads through the park, would be upgraded.

Construction of additional roads would be subject to assessment of their impact on the environment.

The plan mentions the removal of the park's administration centre at Dandahra Creek but does not give any suggestion of the centre being rebuilt in another place.

The Government's trend towards leaving other natural reserves — several on the north coast — unmanned by permanent rangers could indicate that the new Gibraltar may be without its friendly Smokey the Bear.

The plan states: Changes in district administration and intended changes in the provision of visitors' facilities within the park, obviate the need for the Service's administrative complex at Dandahra Creek.

Consideration will be given, towards the end of the term of this plan, to the removal of this administrative complex and revegetation of the site.

Despite the fact the new plan opens its arms to the tourist fraternity, it would allow the banning of "primitive camping" from areas considered endangered from excessive use and the possible introduction of a camping permit system to police this.

The "primitive camper" would most often be a bushwalker.

Planned developments would encourage many people to visit the park.

But the service also aims to conserve and protect the natural environment together with Aboriginal cultural remains.

It's a tall order, especially if no permanent ranger is stationed in the park.

Gibraltar Range National Park is a natural area of approximately 17,273 hectares situated on the northern edge of the New England Tableland, 72 kilometres west of Grafton.

The park's diverse flora and fauna is in response to widely variable geology, climate and soil types.

Vegetation types range from subtropical and warm temperate rainforest through eucalypt forests and woodland, to heaths and swamps.

Fauna of special interest includes the parma

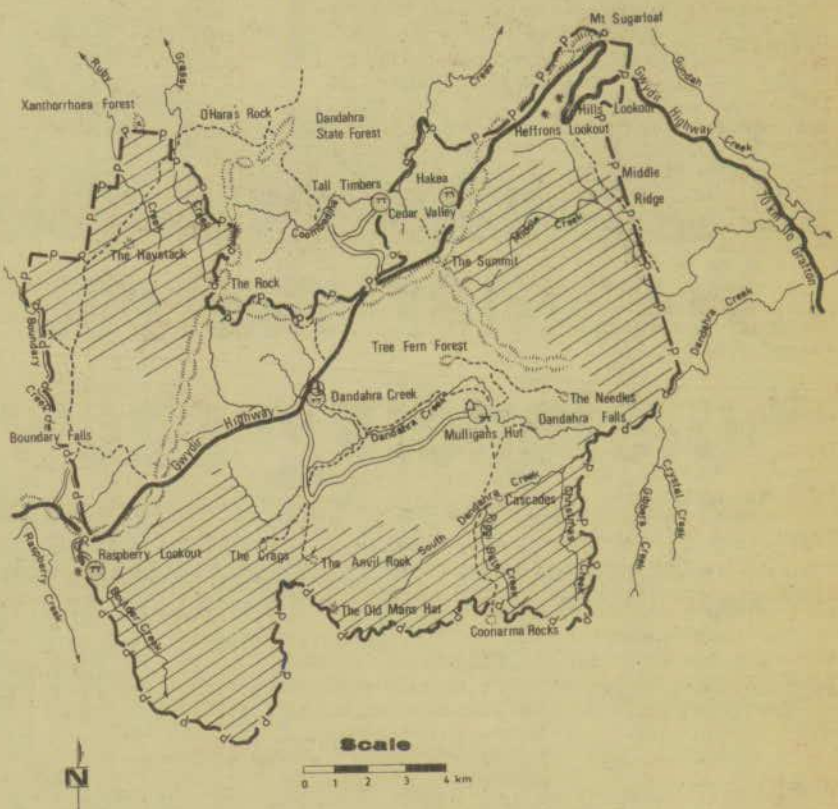
wallaby, marsupial mouse, rufous rat-kangaroo, native tiger cat and rufous scrub-bird.

The park encompasses parts of the former tribal areas of the Bundjalung,

Jukambol and Bandai Aboriginal tribes.

A field day to supplement the Park displays will be held by the service at the national park on Sunday, August 19.

On that day interested people can stroll along walking trails with service officers who will point out interesting features and informally discuss the park's proposed management.



A map of the Park boundaries detailing management proposals:

LEGEND: Park Boundary — P —, Camping Area (C), Lookout \*, Information Area (i); Zoning — Natural, Unshaded Area; Wilderness, Shaded Area; Development (D).  
Gwydir Highway ———, Other Roads ———, Walking Track - - - - -, Picnic Area (P).



## Weather marred outstanding show

**BUT for the wet Friday night and Saturday, the 1979 Grafton Show would have been the most successful for many years, president Mr D. G. Comerford told the annual meeting of the Clarence Pastoral and Agricultural Society.**

"I was most surprised at the crowd that turned out on the Saturday night to witness the events in the ring," he said.

Mr Comerford pointed out that the Minister for Lands and Services, Mr W. F. Crabtree at the official opening, announcing a grant of \$4000 for ring lighting said the show was a project that benefited the whole district.

Mr Comerford said financial support from the

was the first year the stud beef cattle show was held on the Saturday and not withstanding the weather it was a tremendous success.

The fat cattle show was also a great success after being cancelled in 1978 because of the depressed market.

Comprehensive reports were presented from the section committee.

Mr H. R. Lee, chief steward of the dairy cattle

said Miss Anne Mead's interests with the Grafton Pony Club would enhance her chances at zone judging.

Mr H. Caldwell reported a record number, 350, in the dog section and Mrs L. Payne said the poor weather conditions did not stop a large number of people visiting the bird room.

Mr B. M. Badgery said it was most unfortunate that exhibitors of stud cat-

Miss Grafton Showgirl, Miss Anne Mead, received tickets for her prize tour, from Mr Ray Collins (left) on behalf of Collins Bus Company, and Mr Denny Comerford, president of the Clarence Pastoral and Agricultural Society.

# Cheer boo fo

**CANBERRA.** — Companies were... raw materials were... at the expense of Minerals and Energy yesterday.

He was commenting on the 185 per cent profit rise by the Nippon Steel Corporation and 100 per cent by Nippon Kokan.

Japan, he said, was buying Australian coking coal at about half the price in real terms that it was paying two years ago.

"Earlier this year Australian coking coal producers had to accept a dramatic cut in price when the Government's price guideline policy broke down under Japanese pressure," Mr Keating said.

He said there was also "a mindless barrage of attacks" on the policy by Western Australian

## WIDE TALK NEW OIL DEAL

**CANBERRA.** — Department of Trade officers are discussing with 11 Middle Eastern the possibility of Government-to-Government oil deals as Acting Prime Minister, Mr Doug Anthony

Similar discussions will be held in Venezuela, Mexico and Indonesia, he said.

Mr Anthony described critics of Government-to-Government oil deals as "defeatists".

He said that for some weeks an officer of his Department and an officer of the Department of National Development had, on his instructions, been visiting all the oil producing Middle Eastern nations.

Prime Minister, Mr Malcolm Fraser, had similar discussions in Nigeria on his way to the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Lusaka.

Mr Anthony said the Government would consider the matter further after it received final reports from the investigating officers.

Countries such as Japan, France, Italy, Canada, Spain and Greece were buying oil direct.

"I believe Australia has got to seriously consider doing the same thing.

"Inevitably we will have to face up to the transition

from oil to other fuels but in the meantime we have to do everything we can to make the oil that is available last as long as possible.

"I don't think it is sufficient to leave the nation's oil security entirely to the oil companies

**40**

# INVITED TO COMMENT ON PARK

Minister for Planning and Environment, Mr Paul Landa, yesterday invited members of the public to examine and comment on the draft plan of management for Gibraltar Range National Park.

Mr Landa said the draft plan of management had been prepared by the National Parks and Wildlife Service with assistance from the Gibraltar Range National Park advisory committee — a citizen body which advises the service on the management of the park.

The draft plan is on public display from July 30 to September 28 at Grafton, Glen Innes and at a number of locations in Sydney.

Mr Landa said the Government had prepared a free booklet which explains the draft plan of management for the park.

Visual displays which highlight the features of the plan have been set up at the Glen Innes Town Hall, the service's regional office at Grafton, and the Government Information Centre in Hunter Street, Sydney.

"At Gibraltar Range National Park, the service

is working towards preserving the natural environment and at the same time providing facilities and opportunities for visitors to explore its deep gorges, spectacular waterfalls and unusual rock formations," Mr Landa said.

The park can be reached by the Gwder Highway between Grafton and Glen Innes.

"In the latter half of the plan's 10 year term it is

proposed that the existing administration centre at Dandahra Creek will be removed and a new visitor centre will be built several kilometres further west in the Boundary Creek area," Mr Landa said.

Mr Landa said copies of the detailed draft plan of management are available for perusal and written comment on the plan should reach the director of national parks and wildlife by September 28.

# Service has big plans for Gibraltar Range

**THE National Parks and Wildlife Service proposes to develop a major accommodation site in the Gibraltar Range National Park for use by caravanners and campers.**

The proposal is part of the service's draft management plan for the national park. If adopted it will have a long-term influence on the park's future.

Detailed and simplified copies of the draft management plan are available to the public from the service's Grafton office, in the State Office Block.

A visual display also is being held in the office until September 28.

Similar displays are being staged in Glen Innes, and Sydney.

The Minister for Planning and Environment, Mr Paul Landa, has invited public comment on the plan.

Mr Landa said it had been prepared by the National Parks and Wildlife Service with assistance from the park's advisory committee — a citizen body which advises the service on the management of the park.

"At Gibraltar Range National Park, the service is working towards preserving the natural environment and at the same time providing facilities for visitors to explore its deep gorges, spectacular waterfalls and unusual rock formations.

"In the latter half of the plan's 10-year term it is proposed that the existing administration centre at Dandahra Creek will be removed and a new visitors' centre built, several kilometres west in the Boundary Creek area," he said.

The proposed accommodation area would be built on the western boundary of the park near the Gwydir Highway in the headwaters of Boundary Creek.

The service considers extensions of existing accommodation facilities at Mulligan's Hut would be impracticable.

However, parking areas, picnic sites and space for car camping would be provided around the hut.

Other picnic areas, along with roads through the park, would be upgraded.

Construction of additional roads would be subject to assessment of their impact on the environment.

The plan mentions the removal of the park's administration centre at Dandahra Creek but does not give any suggestion of the centre being rebuilt in another place.

The Government's trend towards leaving other natural reserves — several on the north coast — unmanned by permanent rangers could indicate that the new Gibraltar may be without its friendly Smokey the Bear.

The plan states: Changes in district administration and intended changes in the provision of visitors' facilities within the park, obviate the need for the Service's administrative complex at Dandahra Creek.

Consideration will be given, towards the end of the term of this plan, to the removal of this administrative complex and revegetation of the site.

Despite the fact the new plan opens its arms to the tourist fraternity, it would allow the banning of "primitive camping" from areas considered endangered from excessive use and the possible introduction of a camping permit system to police this.

The "primitive camper" would most often be a bushwalker.

Planned developments would encourage many people to visit the park.

But the service also aims to conserve and protect the natural environment together with Aboriginal cultural remains.

It's a tall order, especially if no permanent ranger is stationed in the park.

Gibraltar Range National Park is a natural area of approximately 17,273 hectares situated on the northern edge of the New England Tableland, 72 kilometres west of Grafton.

The park's diverse flora and fauna is in response to widely variable geology, climate and soil types.

Vegetation types range from subtropical and warm temperate rainforest through eucalypt forests and woodland, to heaths

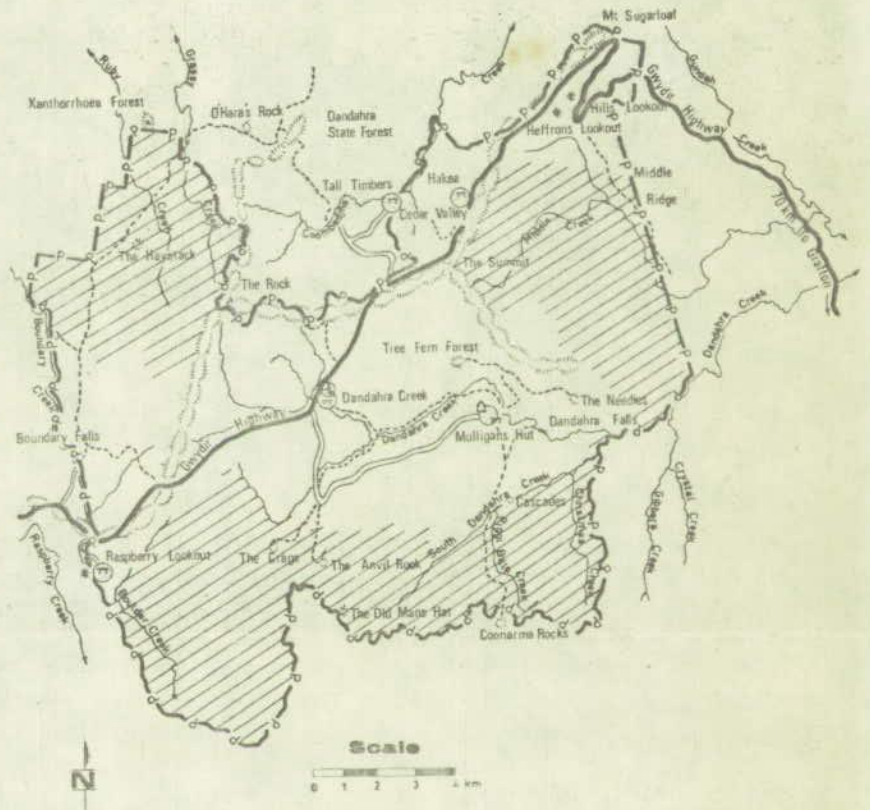
wallaby, marsupial mouse, rufous rat-kangaroo, native tiger cat and rufous scrub-bird.

The park encompasses parts of the former tribal areas of the Bundjalung,

Jukambol and Bandai Aboriginal tribes.

A field day to supplement the Park displays will be held by the service at the national park on Sunday, August 19.

On that day interested people can stroll along walking trails with service officers who will point out interesting features and informally discuss the park's proposed management.



A map of the Park boundaries detailing management proposals:

LEGEND: Park Boundary — P —, Camping Area (C), Lookout \*, Information Area (i); Zoning — Natural, Unshaded Area; Wilderness, Shaded Area; Development (D).  
Gwydir Highway —, Other Roads —, Walking Track - - - - -, Picnic Area (P).

North Star Tuesday  
24/7/79

## Information gathered on Emmaville

TENTERFIELD. — Commissioners of the Australian Heritage Commission held interviews with 200 people in Emmaville during a fact-finding mission.

Mr. V. Serventy said that the purpose of the interviews was to gather information on which to base a decision to list the Beardy Rivers-Binghi area in the National Estate or to alter the boundaries.

He said the interviews had been an education and he hoped that they had served a two way purpose.

"There were many misconceptions about the National Estate listing which in effect is a roll of honour for Australian places and as such must receive a high criteria in order to be listed," he said.

The facts and information gathered by Mr. Serventy and his assistant, Mr. M. O'Brien, will be collated and presented to the next meeting of the Australian Heritage Commission due to be held in September. No decision will be made before that date.

Mr. Serventy said the week in Emmaville had been hectic with interviews carrying on to 9.30 each night.

The commissioners visited mining operations within the proposed area.

The Australian Heritage Commission's listing on National Estate of the Beardy Rivers area would be a supporting move for the area to become a national park, according to landholders.

Adding to the landholders' concern is the fact that the national parks now are administered by the Department of Planning and Environment whose Minister, Mr. Landa, has

shown himself to be sympathetic to conservation causes.

Landholders in the 58,700 hectare Beardy Rivers-Binghi National Park proposal view the activities of the National Parks and Wildlife Service with some apprehension.

They say they are not opposed to conservation and are active in conservation within their farming and grazing practices.

Landholders are critical of what they call the secretive and unjust methods employed by the service in acquiring land.

They conceded that much of the blame for land acquisition methods and the constant demand for more parks, lay not with the National Parks and Wildlife Service but with a strong city-based conservation lobby.

5.11.1979.

Mr. Morton Kaveney,  
Hon. Secretary,  
Far North Coast Branch, NPA,  
*Louisa Rd,  
Rosebank  
via Brisbane 2480*

Dear Morton,

Washpool Wilderness Area

Could you please write to Gordon  
and Landa in similar terms to the  
attached copies.

Yours sincerely,

*Peter.*

Peter Prineas  
Executive Secretary.

*Received 12.11.79.*

*Letters Whittas*

Copies to: Far North Coast Branch, NPA  
Armidale Branch, NPA  
Colong Committee.

The Hon. D.P. Landa, M.L.C.,  
Minister for Planning and  
Environment,  
Parliament House,  
Macquarie Street,  
SYDNEY. 2000.

5th November, 1979.

Dear Mr. Landa,

Re: Washpool Wilderness Area

Our Association has been advised by the State Pollution Control Commission that road construction by the Forestry Commission in the Washpool State Forest along the alignment of the Lionsville fire trail, was to be suspended pending the preparation of an Environmental Impact Study by the Forestry Commission.

The road construction, which is proceeding in a northerly direction, affects the south-eastern section of the Washpool Wilderness Area as identified in the study "Wilderness in Australia" published by the University of New England in 1976.

Recent reports reaching the Association suggest that in fact machinery is still being operated in the area, and that operations associated with road construction are still continuing.

We have asked the Minister for Conservation and Water Resources, Mr. Gordon, as a matter of urgency, to take steps to suspend such operations completely pending the preparation of the Environmental Impact Study and a proper assessment of the situation and decision by the Government as to the future status of the Washpool State Forest.

It may be that the construction operations which are reported to be continuing are limited to consolidation of the section of new roadway already cleared by the construction team; however, the Association strongly objects to any further work on the road as this will clearly prejudice the wilderness preservation proposal supported by the Association. It is likely that the expenditure of funds will be used as an argument in support of continued roading and logging in the area.

We would be grateful if you would give your support to the representations which we have made to Mr. Gordon.

Yours faithfully,

Peter Prineas  
Executive Secretary.

Copies to: Far North Coast Branch, NPA  
Armidale Branch, NPA  
Colong Committee.

Phone: 233 3618

The Hon. A.R.L. Gordon, M.P.,  
Minister for Conservation and  
Water Resources,  
Parliament House,  
Macquarie Street,  
SYDNEY. 2000.

State Council,  
399 Pitt Street,

SYDNEY. 2000.

5th November, 1979.

Dear Mr. Gordon,

Re: Washpool Wilderness Area

Our Association has been advised by the State Pollution Control Commission that road construction by the Forestry Commission in the Washpool State Forest along the alignment of the Lionsville fire trail, was to be suspended pending the preparation of an Environmental Impact Study by the Forestry Commission.

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Recent reports reaching the Association suggest that in fact machinery is still being operated in the area, and that operations associated with road construction are still continuing.

The Association asks that, as a matter of urgency, you take steps to suspend such operations completely pending the preparation of the Environmental Impact Study and a proper assessment of the situation and decision by the Government as to the future status of the Washpool State Forest.

It may be that the construction operations which are reported to be continuing are limited to consolidation of the section of new roadway already cleared by the construction team; however, the Association strongly objects to any further work on the road as this will clearly prejudice the wilderness preservation proposal supported by the Association. It is likely that the expenditure of funds will be used as an argument in support of continued roading and logging in the area.

We hope you will appreciate our Association's concern in this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Peter Prineas  
Executive Secretary.





THE NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (*New South Wales*)

*Incorporated by Act of Parliament*

OBSERVATORY HILL SYDNEY 2000 Telephone 27 5374

5/NP

26th September, 1979.

National Parks Association of N.S.W.  
(Far North Coast Branch)  
C/- G.S. Morton  
257 High Street,  
LISMORE HEIGHTS. 2480

Dear Mr. Morton,

I am pleased to advise that I have been appointed to represent conservation bodies on the Coastal Council of N.S.W., formed under the Coastal Protection Act, 1979.

I would be happy to make representations on your behalf to this Council on any matter pertaining to conservation in the coastal zone.

If you require such representations please refer any material you wish to be considered by the Council to Brian Guilfoyle, care of the above address.

Yours faithfully,

Brian Guilfoyle *BW*  
Assistant Director.

BRIAN HONTO  
AUSTRALIA

G. S. Moxton  
National Parks Assn of NSW  
(Far North Coast Branch)  
257 High Street  
Wiscombe Heights 2480.

C.E. S.  
Macquarie Univ  
North Ryde 2113.

Dear Mr. Moxton,

I am extremely grateful for the return of your Branches "Group" and 2 "Memberships" Questionnaires — they were very thoroughly completed and I am aware of the effort and thought that must have gone into the task — it is much appreciated!

Your Group has already made this significant contribution to the study so it is with some hesitation I ask if the final "Membership" questionnaire could be returned if at all possible — it would certainly be regarded as an added bonus!

Best Wishes

Jeanevyn Canev-Rand  
8.7.79.



AND GLADYS TECHÉ

# MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY

NORTH RYDE NEW SOUTH WALES 2113 AUSTRALIA

TELEPHONE: 888 8000 EXTN:

TELEGRAPHS & TELEX: MACQUNI AA22377

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE:

Centre for Environmental Studies

G.S. Morton  
National Parks Assn of NSW  
(Far North Coast Branch)  
257 High Street  
LISMORE HEIGHTS 2480

Dear Mr Morton,

The Public <sup>Participation</sup> ~~Relation~~ study period has been extended for those who have not yet had an opportunity to complete their questionnaire, in order to ensure that the final analysis contains a truly representative set of opinions.

I would be most grateful if you could return your response to the survey at your earliest convenience.

I am extremely pleased by the interest shown in this study and hope that you will contact me if you require further information or copies of the questionnaire.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Carew-Reid  
Coordinator  
Public Participation Project

8.7.79.



FAR NORTH COAST  
BRANCH

Emerson Road, ROSEBANK via  
LISMORE, 2480.

30th July, 1979.

The Secretary,  
Forestry Commission of New South Wales,  
Box 2667 G.P.O.,  
SYDNEY, 2001.

Dear Sir,

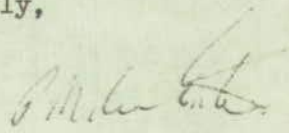
I am writing on behalf of this Branch of the National Parks Association to seek further details of the Forestry Commission's recently announced policy regarding Environmental Impact Assessment of new logging proposals (ref. A.B.C. News item, Thursday, July 26).

Specific details requested are:

1. The complete text of the statement to the A.B.C. News, and any further details of the policy statement;
2. The criteria to be applied to determine areas subject to this policy, and specifically, (i) whether notice is to be taken of requests from the public for the policy to be applied, and (ii) whether new logging proposals will be advertised in order to assess public interest in each proposal.
3. The role of the State Pollution Control Commission as envisaged in the Forestry Commission's policy, particularly with reference to assessment of public comment on each Environmental Impact Assessment Report, and subsequent review of the Report.
4. Information as to which current logging proposals (if any) are subject to this new policy. With reference to this point, it is understood that there are currently six proposals for which Environmental Impact Assessments have been requested (Terania Basin; L.A. No 2 Bellinger River State Forest; Mumbulla State Forest; Mount Boss State Forest; Mount Werong State Forest and Newnes State Forest), while the Commission has initiated an Environmental Impact Assessment in only one of these (Bellinger River State Forest).

Your prompt attention to this request would be greatly appreciated, and we await your reply.

Yours sincerely,

 for  
Morton Kaveney  
(HON. SECRETARY)



NEW SOUTH WALES  
MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

Mr Morton Kaveney  
Secretary  
National Parks Association of  
New South Wales  
For North Coast Branch  
Eureka Road  
ROSEBANK NSW 2480

Please quote 704352

- 5 DEC 1979

Dear Mr Kaveney

I refer to your recent letter concerning the Mann and Washpool Wilderness Areas.

I am pleased to advise that the Government is presently considering the status of these areas, including the long term question of their future uses. I will ensure that your proposals are taken into account during the further consideration of this matter.

In respect of the Washpool area, the Forestry Commission is preparing an environmental impact statement and in accordance with normal arrangements, when an adequate statement has been completed, it will be placed on public display and public comment invited. Any submission your Association might wish to make at that time will be most welcome.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Paul Landa'.

PAUL LANDA  
Minister for Planning and Environment

Received 12.11.79.



National Parks Association of NSW

State Council  
399 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
Telephone (02) 233 3618  
9th November, 1979.

The Hon. Neville K. Wran, M.P.,  
Premier of New South Wales,  
Parliament House,  
Macquarie Street,  
SYDNEY. 2000.

Dear Mr. Wran,

I draw your attention to the attached copy of new regulations under the Forestry Act, 1916, which were gazetted on 7th September 1979.

Apparently, these regulations were rushed into force to control protesters against logging at Terania Creek. Our Association believes that the regulations could have serious consequences for citizens of NSW interested in the recreational value of State Forests, and for community organisations scrutinising State Forest management.

Under the regulations, a person authorised by the Forestry Commission will have the power to deny access to State Forests to the public. It can be expected that Forestry Commission officers will be empowered to order people out of areas of State Forests which are appropriately signposted, and failure to obey such an order will attract liability to a fine of up to \$500.

Even in cases where there are no signposts prohibiting entry, members of the public may be risking a \$500 fine if within a State Forest, Timber Reserve or Flora Reserve, they "cause annoyance or inconvenience" and fail to leave when directed to do so by an authorised person such as a Forestry Commission officer or a Police Constable.

These new regulations will enable the Forestry Commission to prevent members of our Association from examining controversial operations within State Forests, and exclude them from areas in which logging and roading activities are being conducted.

We believe that these new regulations under the Forestry Act reduce significantly our civil liberties and are an example of the increasingly desparate and isolated stance of the Forestry Commission's senior management.

Accordingly, we ask that the NSW Government withdraw these new regulations at the earliest opportunity.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. R. Mason  
President.

Encl.



FAR NORTH COAST  
BRANCH

Eureka Road,  
Rosebank N.S.W. 2480.  
19 October 1979.

The Director,  
Australian Conservation Foundation,  
672B Glenferrie Rd.  
HAWTHORN VIC 3122.

Dear Dr. Mosley,

Thank you for your support on behalf of the Foundation for the Terania Creek protest.

The Far North Coast Branch of the National Parks Association of New South Wales wishes to set up a defence fund in relation to the Terania Creek issue.

We therefore apply for the Foundation's agreement to a tax deductible grant account with the Foundation from which payments will be made on a monthly basis to this Branch.

We are opening a separate account at the Lismore Branch of the Bank of New South Wales.

Copies of the last annual accounts of this Branch and our Constitution are attached.

As this is an urgent matter, we would appreciate your early reply.

Yours sincerely,

*Morton Kaveney*  
Morton Kaveney,  
Secretary.

8th January, 1980

Morton Kaveney,  
Hon. Secretary,  
National Parks Association of N.S.W.,  
Far North Coast Branch,  
Emerson Road,  
ROSEBANK, 2480.

Dear Morton,

As your society is probably aware, the preliminary hearing of the Inquiry into the Proposed Logging of Terania Creek was held in Sydney on December 21. The main purpose of this hearing was to clarify procedural matters regarding the conduct of the Inquiry, and the standing of participants. The most significant of these are:

1. Justice Isaacs favours joint submissions being placed before the Inquiry, but will allow contributors to such submissions to be represented individually at hearings;
2. Two categories of standing exist for groups or individuals represented at the hearings of the Inquiry :- Full Parties, which will present submissions, and participate in cross-examination procedures, and Part Parties, who will be able to present submissions, but do not wish to participate in cross-examination. The greatest weighting will be given to material presented by Full Parties, and the least weighting to parties not attending hearings, but presenting written submissions only;
3. Hearings will be held in Lismore on dates yet to be determined (This Council will request that such hearings be held on weekends to allow maximum participation from local interested parties);
4. There will be two site inspections of the Terania Creek Basin, the first to be organised by pro-logging parties, with a maximum of five members of those parties being present, together with a similar number of observers from anti-logging groups, and the second inspection to be conducted by anti-logging parties, under similar conditions.

It is the intention of this Council to appear before the Inquiry as a Full Party, and to present a submission jointly on behalf of all member groups of the Council, and other local conservation groups that would wish to be represented in this manner.

...../2



The wishes of your organisation are sought with regard to this proposal. Your reply, together with any material you consider relevant to the Inquiry (including comment on the Forestry Commission Statement) should reach me preferably by the end of January. This would permit the compilation of a draft submission by the date of the next meeting of the Council, to be held in Coffs Harbour on February 16, where it can be considered for adoption.

Copies of the F.C. Statement are available for inspection in North Coast libraries, or may be obtained from the Secretary to the Inquiry, P.O. Box R303, Royal Exchange, N.S.W. 2000. *Copy enclosed*

Please address all replies to the Council regarding this matter to my home address: 49 Cathcart Street,  
LISMORE 2480 (Phone 066 -212057)

Yours sincerely,



Peter den Exter,  
PRESIDENT, N.C.C.C.

P.S. N.P.A. State Council will also be making a submission, but all other major conservation groups will be presenting a joint submission, co-ordinated by Elizabeth Glenister of the Nature Conservation Council.  
Specifically, any comment on the bird list, which appears to contain a number of species not common to forest habitats.