
From: [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Friday, 24 August 2012 5:44 PM
To: EHPP Landscapes & Ecosystems Section Mailbox
Subject: Native Vegetation Regulation Review,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
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Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Date: 23 August 2012 10:46:39 PM AEST
To: nativevegetation@environmnet.nsw.gov.au
Subject: Native Vegetation Regulation Review,

Native Vegetation Regulation
Review,

Environment Protection Authority

PO Box A290

Sydney South NSW 1232

**Comments on the Draft Native Forestry Code of Practice for
Southern NSW .**

Dear Environment and Protection Authority,

I thank you for this chance to make a comment .

I am personally aware of issues surrounding private native forest
logging because of approvals for commercial firewood logging in the
Mount Rae forest.

It is very hard to understand how the OEHS feel that approvals for the purpose of such a scale of firewood logging is appropriate in this forest which is known to contain both Commonwealth listed threatened orchids and many NSW listed threatened wildlife species such as the Powerful and Barking owls, the Gang Gang Cockatoo, Scarlet and Flame Robins, the Varied Sittella, Squirrel glider and Eastern Bentwing and Broadnosed Bats.

Surrounding areas have been substantially cleared for agriculture and the remaining forested lands need protection, not logging. The biodiversity they contain helps rural areas through pollination of crops and plants, reducing wind speeds and moderating climate, protecting against weed invasion after the disturbance of groundcover, helping maintain healthy catchments preventing sedimentation of streams and erosion, and encourage insectivorous birds, bats and gliders.

I have been made aware that numerous surveys of this forest have also revealed nearly 250 other species of fauna and flora. How logging can then be approved next door to these lands without the requirement of any on ground surveys is difficult to understand. I would request that the final draft of this law include the need for independent ecological surveys.

The approvals in Mount Rae forest are for commercial level firewood. Setting a precedent that can see wildlife homes go up chimneys is something not to be encouraged in any upcoming Private Native Forestry Act. Please take action to remove this loophole before the last remnants of the Southern Highlands and Tablelands are also logged for firewood. It is disturbing that a forestry network who supports the firewood clearing has said they wish to use the current act to log vast areas to supply the Canberra and Sydney firewood markets.

Streamlining the plans of non resident property owners and firewood merchants to cut down trees on properties that apply is at odds with the same government departments originally opposing these plans under other legislation and informing residents of the need to protect. Encouraging residents efforts to take out conservation agreements to protect biodiversity values, maintain lands as wildlife refuges and plant tree and wildlife corridors to link this remnant with extensive landscape plantings focussing on this forest. It is unfortunate that Private Native forestry approvals now act contrary to past advice, ignore locals and local councils and undermine the efforts of those who have always displayed genuine efforts on behalf of this forest's wildlife. Future legislation should encourage the input of local knowledge.

Once again I thank you for the opportunity to add my opinions on the Southern Code of Practice for PNF and hope that future legislation will provide better protections for our wildlife, deliver clean air and

increased protection for our streams, waterways and riparian areas than currently exists in the final draft.

Regards,

[Redacted signature block]

I request Name & Address be withheld from Public View