



Respondent No: 256

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Responded At: Jul 02, 2018 18:46:07 pm

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IP Address: n/a

Q1. First name	Mark
Q2. Last name	Merritt
Q3. Phone	not answered
Q4. Mobile	██████████
Q5. Email	not answered
Q6. Postcode	████
Q7. Country	Australia
Q8. Stakeholder type	Other
Q9. Stakeholder type - Other	Hunter, bushwalker, tour guide, rural company director, father.
Q10. Stakeholder type - Staff	not answered
Q11. Organisation name	not answered
Q12. What is your preferred method of contact?	Phone
Q13. Would you like to receive further information and updates on IFOA and forestry matters?	Yes
Q14. Can the EPA make your submission public?	Yes
Q15. Have you previously engaged with the EPA on forestry issues?	No

Q16. What parts of the draft Coastal IFOA are most important to you? Why?

The management of our forests is a concern for all Australians. The rumour is that the NSW government is about to unleash Forestry Corporation of NSW (FCNSW) to clear-fell even more vast areas of native forests. It concerns me because our forests are now a "crop" owned by FCNSW, they are the last remaining islands of biodiversity and clean water on the continent.

Q17. What parts of the draft Coastal IFOA do you think have a positive outcome on the management of environmental values or the production of sustainable timber? Why?

From what I hear and based on what I have seen over the past forty years of living on the North Coast of NSW, there is very little to be happy with in the new guidelines or the proven behaviours of FCNSW.

Q18. What parts of the draft Coastal IFOA do you think have a negative outcome on the management of environmental values or the production of sustainable timber? Why?

The idea that we could clear-fell our native forests, destroy ecosystems that have taken millions of years to grow, just to make paper, some boards and firewood, seems to me to be a really stupid thing to do. I challenge the assumption that these practices are sustainable. I believe these ideas belong to thought processes developed hundreds of years ago and have no place in the present, let alone the future.

Q19. What are your views on the effectiveness of the combination of permanent environmental protections at the regional, landscape and operational scales (multi-scale protection)?

The smug attitudes of those men and women who apply these plans says much about their attitudes to ordinary Australians. The ordinary Australians who have repeatedly and consistently called for more sensitive and community involved processes related to hardwood harvesting throughout the regional areas of NSW.

Q20. In your opinion, would the draft Coastal IFOA be effective in managing environmental values and a sustainable timber industry? Why?

No. I reckon the present attitudes, methods and practices of FCNSW is toxic to the wellbeing of our state, and requires a Royal Commission to clean-out the dead wood from an essential public service. The inefficiencies, waste and pollution to air and water caused by FCNSW needs to be seen to be believed. If regular, ordinary Australians living in the cities could really understand the heavy-handed, brutal and uncaring methods of FCNSW, they would be shocked and angered. Too bad for the FCNSW workers, their bosses are living in the past, wrongly believing that "might is right".

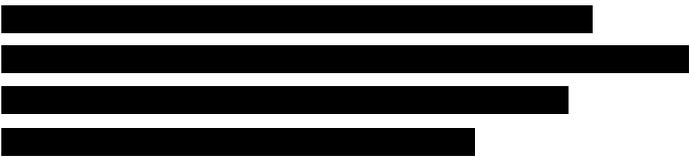
Q21. General comments

We on Earth live as part of the only known Habitat in the Universe. Without Local, National and International Rights of Nature Legislation, corporate-law and corporations could kill us all. Page 1 of 2 Rights of Nature Legislation must be put into place if future generations of all living things are to flourish. The protection of natural Life supporting systems through Local, National and International Rights of Nature Legislation will protect people, human cultures, and communities from the fiscal fiasco, the run-away train of over-industrialised forestry, mining and consumerism. I say there is no separation or division to the integrity of Life and The Habitat. The Habitat on Earth is the one place known of, anywhere in the entire universe to support Life. Conversely, the combined mass of Life on Earth creates and maintains The Habitat. Joined by gravity, soil, water, air and temperature, Life and The Habitat are the one and only living singularity that can keep people alive. The very aggressive and mainly extractive nature of human activity over the past one thousand years, and the fiscal-fiasco we call "The Global Economy" has resulted in massive industrial alterations to The Habitat, and, is directly responsible for the collapse of many ecosystems and the extinction of many bird, mammal, fish and plant species. And let's not forget to mention the smaller members of our biota, the bugs, insects and microbes that are surely getting crushed out of existence through the proliferation and industrial production of new drugs and evermore toxic chemicals and plastics. Our rapid growth and industrial expansion has even altered the thermal dynamics and chemical processes of our atmosphere, soils and oceans. Now that banks and other corporations have created financial systems that run and rely wholly and entirely on money, there are growing disconnections developing between economies, people, our own ecosystem and The Habitat. This situation needs special attention because the children in lower primary school today are likely to be the people who will make or break Earth's already extremely challenged life support systems. These young people must be allowed to maintain and strengthen connections with nature and the natural ecosystems on Earth. And, be protected against corporate seizures, through National and International Rights of Nature Legislation. Every time we change or alter the Habitat to support big business and a thing paradoxically called progress, we permanently alter natural systems that

have taken hundreds or thousands, even millions of years to develop. Once altered it is nearly impossible to predict what will happen with these systems and their connecting systems through future geologic timeframes. As “business as usual” heads into an ever-shortening future, new ways of thinking and new priorities must be encouraged. We must all work hard to protect the Habitat from obviously destructive enterprise like the land clearing, clear-fell and over-logging of our remaining native forests, while we transition to sustainable values, reconnected ecosystems, low energy technologies and lifestyles, to a viable new carbon sensitive global economy. Fear, one of the driving mechanisms of human conquest and the industrial consumer economy, will need to be diminished substantially around the planet, if new values and a sustainable life’s ethic is to be realized and adopted. So, don’t be afraid of companies, or the people who are so clearly headed down the dead-end street. Be calm and know that it is only new humane values and changed behaviors that will provide a future for us all. Now is a time for all peoples to learn about each other and to love all the life that exists here on our Earth. A new confidence and fearless sense of humane good-will needs to be cultured on a personal level and promoted through community, social-media and mass-media. To survive from today, the near future will need to be a wonderful grab-bag of attempts at redeveloping out-dated extractive systems of industry and agriculture. Adaptations and modification to wasteful and destructive industries will be welcomed by a vast majority of people. Grand attempts at restoring Earth’s life support systems to some sort of balance could and would likely employ many millions around the planet. Unlike those polluting and degrading industries and behaviors that have determined our paths over the past one-thousand years. We on Earth live as part of the only known Habitat in the Universe. Without Local, National and International Rights of Nature Legislation, corporate-law and corporations could kill us all. Page 2 of 2 Good News Mankind’s present technologies, knowledge and awareness can be seen very clearly as our own good luck, because collectively people can accomplish big things very quickly, especially when understood, and seen in geologic time scales. By using our man-power, best technologies and ideas, people can make the big actions of redeveloping and restoring natural systems in relatively quick geologic time. The damage to ecosystems caused over the past one-thousand years can be addressed and compensated for within just a few generations, or one lifetime. But only, if we are able to recognize the true situation on Earth and engage industrial forces and fiscal energies to rebuilding and rebalancing ecosystems within The Habitat or Biosphere. We could all be employed at doing things we approve of and enjoy, while at the same time addressing and dealing with global warming and the futility of short-term extractive and polluting mass-consumerism. I ask you, the reader, to consider very carefully the legacy your own profession, decisions, daily rigmarole and habits will leave for the future generations of your own family. Assuming that in the future the money we use today will eventually become worthless. As it almost certainly will. There must be a change coming, a change in values, a change in attitudes, a change in lifestyles and peoples’ habits. A change in the way we think about money, Life, and the future. – Mark Merritt, July 2, 2018 P.S. I say, people do not spoil the Earth, it is corporations and corporate driven fiscal demands that do. Corporate law must be re-written to sustain and protect people, culture and our Habitat. We need to replace the corporate profit priority with a priority to protect people, cultures and our Earths’ Habitat first, through the writing and implementing of Local, National and International Rights of Nature Legislation, in shire councils, state legislatures’ and federal constitutional law. Not only in Australia, but around the planet. Please help us. We on Earth live as part of the only known Habitat in the Universe. Without Local, National and International Rights of Nature Legislation, corporate-law and corporations could kill us all. Page 2 of 2 Some Good News Mankind’s present technologies, knowledge and awareness can be seen very clearly as our own good luck, because collectively people can accomplish big things very quickly, especially when understood, and seen in geologic time scales. By using our man-power, best technologies and ideas, people can make the big actions of redeveloping and restoring natural systems in relatively quick geologic time. 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Q22. **Attach your supporting documents (Document 1)**



Q23. **Attach your supporting documents (Document 2)**

not answered

Q24. **Attach your supporting documents (Document 3)**

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