



We are now accepting email submissions. The form below must be filled out and attached in an email and sent to ifoa.remake@epa.nsw.gov.au If this form is not attached or incomplete the submission will be lodged as confidential and will not be published.

Make a submission – Contact Details

First Name*: Pamela

Last Name*: Reeves

Phone:

Mobile*: [REDACTED]

Email*: [REDACTED]

Postcode*: [REDACTED]

Country*: Australia

Stakeholder type (circle)*:

Community group	Local Government	Aboriginal group
Industry group	Other government	Forest user group
Environment group	Individual	Staff

Other, please specify:

Organisation name: Ryde Gladesville Climate Change Action Group

What is you preferred contact method (circle): Mobile, **Email** or phone?

Would you like to receive further information and updates on IFOA and forestry matters?

Can the EPA make your submission public* (circle)?

Yes No Yes, but anonymous

Have you previously engaged with the EPA on forestry issues? Can't recall



Make a submission – Form

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

Protection of forests, riparian areas, hollow-nesting sites, connectivity between felled areas that will enable animals to easily and safely travel from one tree to another. Protection of habitat for fauna and flora to maintain biodiversity is vital.

2. 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?

We think the permanent protection of current exclusion zones is important but should be expanded.

3. 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?

We are concerned that the proposal is for a greater volume of harvesting. Considering that the impact of the last 15 years has not been fully monitored, it is impossible to have any idea of the impact of the proposed new quantities of timber to be harvested. We would like to see this monitoring done now before any new harvesting commences.

In addition, the lack of data limits the ability to determine the optimum size of harvest and interval between harvesting. We believe the current suggestion of 10 years or less is totally inadequate.

We are also concerned that there seems to be no plan for continuous measuring and monitoring of the impacts of harvesting on fauna and flora species.

There is a need for clear regulatory arrangements that are enforceable, to avoid conflicts and negative outcomes because of different interpretations of what the rules mean, as has been seen in the past.

The narrowing of the width of protection on headwater streams from 10m to 5m is of concern. We feel this would unnecessarily damage the riparian environment, which the experts have acknowledged is a vital and productive part of the landscape.

The opening up of more area through harvesting will lead to further weed invasion and degradation of the area.



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

We have no view on this.

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

No, for a number of reasons.

There needs to be relevant experts to survey, review and update habitat models to ensure species and their habitats can be accurately identified. We don't believe an up-to-date study has been done of fauna and flora.

There seems to be no basis for the 20% landscape retention number and appears to us to be an inadequate way of protecting threatened species.

We don't believe sufficient safeguards will be in place to protect threatened species.

We don't believe koala habitats will be better protected under these proposals.

6. General comments

We are a community group of over 600 members who are greatly concerned about climate change and the need for immediate action. Associated with this is our concern about the destruction of habitat.

Our major concern with this proposal is that the volume of timber required to fulfil contracted quantities is more than the forests and environment can withstand. It is our understanding that the wood supply agreement signed in the past called for an unsustainable level of felling, hence the level of forest clearing we are currently seeing to fulfil that contract.

Past experience of intensive logging has resulted in a significant decrease in biodiversity, connectivity between significant forests where hollow trees, rocky areas and riparian areas are located. This has resulted in severe threats to populations of fauna including gliders, koalas, parrots and reptiles.

We feel the environmental laws in NSW are insufficient to protect our unique flora and fauna populations which are dwindling at an alarming rate. We do not believe the proposed changes in this review are in the best interests of protecting and supporting them.

At a time of climate change because of rising carbon emissions, we should not be felling timber in these important forests that are the best carbon capture system available to us and an irreplaceable habitat for plants and animals.



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