



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If this form is not attached or incomplete the submission will be lodged as confidential and will not be published.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*: Stephen

Last Name*: Gorrell

Phone: [REDACTED]

Mobile*: [REDACTED]

Email*: [REDACTED]

Postcode*: [REDACTED]

Country*: Australia

Stakeholder type (circle)*: Individual

What is your preferred contact method (circle): Email

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

Yes

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

Yes

Have you previously engaged with the EPA on forestry issues? No

Make a submission – Form

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

All sections – see below

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?

None – see below

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?

This submission to the proposed changes to the IFOA raises the following concerns:

Old Growth: The intention to log previously protected old growth will continue the degradation of natural areas for short term gain.

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Stream Buffers: The proposal to reduce buffers in headwater catchments will further put threatened species at risk.

Tree Retention: The proposal to reduce hollow-bearing tree retention requirements beggars belief. These are recognised as one of the key habitat sanctuary zones for both animals and birds. The aim should be to increase the proportion of hollow-bearing trees per hectare, not reduce them.

Threatened Species and Koalas: Pre-logging surveys and adequate protections for threatened species, including Koala habitat, is fundamental to reversing the rate of decimation of our native species. Again, it beggars belief that when the rate of extinction of Australian fauna is being recognized as being one of the worst in the world, and that habitat is recognized as fundamental to their survival, that this protection should be weakened.

Clear felling: Logging intensity and Logging volumes in the IFOA are at radically increased levels. Can this be justified only by inflated figures? Where is the genuine proof that these levels are required, and that they can be sustainable.

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)?

No specific views

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

No, it would be extremely regressive. These weakened environment protections are being put forward when the painful record of extinctions is now well known, all for short term gain. Even current harvesting practice is difficult to manage well due to ongoing reduction in Forestry Corporations staffing levels.

6. General comments

1. Based on the concerns listed in 3 above, it is requested to Cease planning to increase logging in areas currently protected as habitat for threatened species, koalas, old growth, buffer zones and rainforests