

Feedback to the Environmental Protection Agency on past logging for woodchips in our public native forests.

9th February 2018

To Whom It May Concern

We are two retired professionals who regularly make a car trip along the coast from Barragga Bay near Bermagui to the Victorian state border.

We would like to register our complete dismay at the extensive logging -we presume- for woodchips that we witness along the roadside of the Great Southern Forests. This of course does not reference the other major areas of devastation of our native forest for woodchipping that we cannot see from the road but we know from others do exist.

We understand that less than 10% of logs are milled for sawlogs and more than 90% of native trees are logged for the chipmill which eventually finds its way to Asia. This is tragic when we understand that existing mature plantations could provide our domestic and export timber needs.

This logging has a devastating effect on our threatened species, killing forest animals and destroying key forest habitats. In areas near us, the severe decline in numbers of the koala and glossy black cockatoo has been noted and reported on by many. This is a tragedy for our unique environment and affects our thriving tourism industry. We note that there is critical missing data in the NSW EPA Report on population size for these animals and others. We question the validity of any Report that does not include this kind of data.

The inadequate discussion in the Report of the effect of climate change on our social, economic and environmental context is also unacceptable. If over 90% of Eden and Southern logs go to woodchips then Australia is unnecessarily emitting between 1.2 to 1.5 tonnes of additional carbon emissions per year.

The value of our flora and fauna, the foregone carbon emissions and tourism is much greater than the timber sold to Asia for questionable purposes. The preservation of our forests and Indigenous heritage legitimately justifies the redeployment on some 400 forestry jobs across Australia.

Regards

██████████
██████████
██████████

██████████

██████████
██████████
██████████