

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 9 April 2014 6:45 PM
To: _ALL-EPA-Forestry-IFOARemake
Subject: Save Our Native Forests

Dear Sir/Madam

I am against the proposed changes to forestry approvals that regulate logging operations in our state forests. I believe this will lead to large areas of state forest being clear felled for high intensity logging, given the past history.

I am alarmed by the changes proposed in the NSW Government discussion paper on the remake of the Coastal Integrated Forestry Operation Approvals.

Taken together, the proposed changes represent a substantial reduction in environmental protection and a serious threat to our native forests and wildlife.

The government's stated commitment to maintaining timber supply from our public native forests at current levels is incompatible with the long term protection of their environmental values. Current timber supply commitments are known to be unsustainable – failure to address this issue will result in severe impacts on biological diversity and forest health.

The proposal to remove limits on logging intensity opens the way for widespread clear felling of our native forests. Removing the requirement to conduct pre-logging surveys for threatened species and habitat features will place those species at increased risk.

Removing the longstanding prohibition on logging on steeply sloping land will increase soil erosion and water pollution, promote weed invasion and threaten landscape scale wildlife corridors. Furthermore, the discussion paper does not adequately address important threats to forest health, including invasive weeds and forest dieback.

I am strongly opposed to the proposed changes, and call on the NSW Government to abandon this ill-considered plan to weaken protection for our native forests and wildlife.

Yours sincerely,