

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 4 - INDUSTRY LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY AND FUTURE OF THE TIMBER AND FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY

Virtual hearing via videoconference on Wednesday, 29 September 2021. The Committee met at 9:30 am

POST HEARING RESPONSES

James Felton-Taylor - Australian Sustainable Timbers

Page 15 – Mr Justin Field

Response to the potential for FSC to allow logging in Core Koala habitat

In the first instance a FSC operation has to comply with local/state/national laws & regulations.

The proposed FSC operation would also need to describe how they are addressing threatened species obligations (over and above legal obligations) and have a detailed Forest Management Plan (Which is audited annually by a independent certifying body). FSC auditors are required to assess any operations against the FSC Australian standards/policies and procedures. A crucial part of this process is the **stakeholder engagement process**, where any groups with concerns can raise issues with the auditors. The FSC certification process requires the potential forest managers to proactively engage with conservation groups as part of this process. This process must be documented and show that active and open engagement with all stakeholders has been conducted.

It is difficult to give a direct answer to this question as we are currently operating under 2 different versions of this policy SEPP Koala habitat Protection 2020 & 2021

(<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/-/media/Files/DPE/Factsheets-and-faqs/Policy-and-legislation/Frequently-Asked-Question--State-Environmental-Planning-Policy-Koala-Habitat-Protection-2021.pdf?la=en>), and the Private Native Forestry Code of practice is under review.

Page 16 – The Chair

Response to Educational Packages

- **Master Tree Growers** (Short Courses) run by Australian Agroforestry Foundation

https://agroforestry.org.au/Main.asp?_MTG

- **Private Native Forestry training** - TAFE NSW Riverina Institute

(not sure this is still available, was funded through NSW State Government 2010, very good course, practical with good educators/trainers)

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/pnf/Brochure%20-%20Course%20in%20Private%20Native%20Forestry%20-%20July%20Dec%2010%20V2.pdf>

TEXT Resources

- **Silvicultural guidelines – Private Native Forestry Code of Practice**

Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water

ISBN 978 1 74232 575 0

2009 revised 2010

- **Ecology and Silviculture of eucalyptus forests**
Florence, R.G. 2004
CSIRO
ISBN 9780643100893