

**Submission
No 137**

**INQUIRY INTO MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Mrs Jo-Ann Wade

Date received: 31/07/2012

31 July 2012

The Director
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5
Parliament House
Macquarie St
Sydney NSW 2000

Inquiry into the Management of Public Land in New South Wales - Impact of closing Badja Forest/Cascades/Tuross Falls road

Having regard to the terms of reference of the Inquiry, if the Badja forestry road is consumed into Wadbilliga National Park and the forestry road is closed, the impact on our private use of land in the riparian corridor will be loss of access to our property and restriction on the use of the road by NPWS and RFS, and members of the public who visit the public area called the Cascades and Tuross Falls.

In particular:

- No access to farm gate (NPWS approved) on Cascades/Tuross Falls road would mean the use of an alternate route through neighbour's paddocks with unserviced creek crossings and swampy land. Our farm produce is grown in the winter months and we require access out with our produce.
- Fire fighting access will be restricted. Currently RFS can get to Tuross River through our property/fire break. Falls road also provides an alternate fire escape from our property.
- NPWS vermin control access will be restricted. Currently wild dogs are being monitored in the area, also wild pig sightings indicate these numbers are growing. We have also come across NPWS researchers undertaking native animal studies in the forest who also use the forestry roads.
- The Cascades camping ground has been closed since early December 2011 due to hazardous trees. The public will be denied a now limited opportunity to view the Tuross Falls wilderness area via the family car.
- The area around the Tuross Falls was notified on 7 July 1894 as 'for public recreation' (Parish map of Guinea, County of Dampier). People have been coming to the Cascades and Tuross Falls for a long time and it is part of family tradition.
- Bee keepers will be unable to set hives in the eucalyptus forest to gather nectar.

For your consideration.

John and Jo-Ann Wade