

**Submission  
No 388**

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

**Name:** Ms Meredith Stanton

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Submission to Management of public land in New South Wales (Inquiry)

Our national parks and reserve systems must be protected from logging, hunting, tourist developments and inappropriate recreational uses i.e, 4WD and horse riding.

Our native forests (both state & private) are being over-logged to meet corporate supply for 20 year timber contracts, which should ethically be re-negotiated to allow our native forests time to regrow. The current shorter harvest cycles are degrading catchments, destroying wildlife habitat and removing vital hollow bearing habitat trees across all land tenures.

Our iconic koala has yet to be given any real protection from logging and IFOA regulation and threatened species conservation license (TSCL) conditions now need to reflect the dire state of koala declines. Penalties for failing to protect koalas need to be strengthened.

Logging also threatens the CAR reserve system, with Forests NSW failing to prepare management plans for large contiguous reserves before harvesting starts. These protected areas need restoration and weed control, but are being degraded by poor forest management by NSW forests.

Any efforts to unlock our parks and reserve systems for resource exploitation should be rejected, because biodiversity protection is increasingly important as climate change threatens our wildlife and natural ecosystems.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.