

**Submission
No 276**

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

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General Purpose Standing
Committee No. 5
Legislative Council
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

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SUBMISSION TO
GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 5

PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT INQUIRY

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Public Land Management Inquiry.

We draw to the Committee's attention our strong beliefs that:

There is no real ongoing public recognition or promotion by Governments of the conservation outcomes achieved in land use. - for example 90% of public forests in NSW and Victoria are unavailable for timber harvesting.

Twelve years after the Regional Forest Agreement processes where are the reports that confirm the ongoing conservation values in the reserves. What have we learned in the interim. Why do the RFA reviews contain no public information on conservation outcomes and effective or non-effective management outcomes ?????

Further survey is needed to monitor the effect of fire and feral management on biodiversity values? Why has the much touted forest eco-tourism concept been such a failure, for example, virtually no investment and no tourists in the NSW South East Forests. Almost total emphasis on State Forest biodiversity when the much larger reserve system is meant to be an effective offset to production forestry in State Forests.

Selective reporting by Government Departments can influence Public perceptions unreasonably. For example, Koala research reporting in the south east of NSW. Reports such as 1995 DECC report showing 21 of 22 records in National Park, yet no promotion of that outcome.

How have we effectively built on all the work and expenditure within the RFAs ?? Despite the vast knowledge - misinformation is rife.

Why are land managers such as Forest NSW not allowed to more fully inform the public on their issues.

What happened to natural values following the big fires of 2003 and 2007 in the Alpine and Sub-Alpine Parks system ?? There must be ongoing monitoring of biodiversity in parks and reserves to ensure management procedures are maintaining biodiversity.

National Parks and Reserves are still being expanded. Unfortunately it seems that there is a lot of land locked up but not enough care taken of the asset. Feral animals, noxious weeds and fire risk need to be properly managed.

Thanking you for your consideration

Yours faithfully

Noel Hall
President
South East NSW Branch
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