

Submission
No 19

**INQUIRY INTO PROVISIONS OF THE FORESTRY
LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2018**

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

It is with great sadness that I have read the proposed amendments and the apparent belief that 'Active forest management with sustainable harvesting can deliver benefits for the economy, for the community and for the environment'. Sustainable harvesting is mentioned numerous times in the second reading speech, but nowhere is any mention made of renewing, increasing or replacing those native trees which are harvested. Sustainability implies that what you take will be replaced, enhanced, and made better. The community and environmental benefits are mentioned, but not elaborated on - what exactly are they? However, the dollars available to those willing to take large quantities of native trees from their lands are stressed to the maximum. A good old political 'hit them in the hip pocket' speech I am afraid. As a wildlife carer, I struggle to provide orphaned and injured animals with suitable foliage to get them through to release. I have personally planted hundreds of trees on my property to assist, but still this is a tiny drop in the ocean, as is similar work undertaken by my colleagues. Many of our native animals are losing habitat rapidly. The amendments to the legislation will only speed this sense of homelessness for our birds, mammals and reptiles. I know this government has no concern for our native wildlife nor do they much care if the existing forest environment is reduced to suburban garden like proportions across the state, but surely someone must have some integrity and realise that if you enable people to log large areas of native forests without any need to replant, restore and retain vital trees, the only kangaroo you will have left in this State will be the one on the Qantas plane tail. And while you are at legislative change, maybe you might need to amend the State fauna emblem from a platypus to a domestic cat, and the floral emblem to an imported azalea bush. They are so pretty, but sooooo toxic. But really, do you care a bit? No, I do not think so. Sadly, only money counts. But maybe you might remember that votes do too. A bit emotional you think? A left wing loony? No, I am a tertiary educated person who simply would like to enhance and expand our native forests, not decimate them. And I vote.