

**Submission  
No 72**

**INQUIRY INTO LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY AND  
FUTURE OF THE TIMBER AND FOREST PRODUCTS  
INDUSTRY**

**Name:** Mr Michael Jones

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Re Native Forest Logging:

I am an environmental scientist and have been campaigning to save the forests of north east NSW for decades.

Over time i have seen wildlife species which were once common become listed on the NSW threatened species list of the Biodiversity Conservation Act. This has largely been due to the destruction of forest habitat through unsustainable logging.

Heavy logging has had a huge impact on aquatic environments following erosion after logging operations. Logging has resulted in pest and weeds becoming established in native forest areas.

Logging next to patches of rainforest has caused endangered ecological communities to retreat.

In terms of economics, logging our native forests doesn't make any sense at all. Using our forests for ecotourism would bring in millions of dollars a year as has been shown by a study undertaken by academics at Newcastle University. The Australian Institute has looked at the economics of logging in detail and has shown that over a 7 year period the logging of native forests cost the public 79 million dollars.

Over the years i have found staff at Forestry Corporation secretive and at times dishonest. They generally show a complete lack of regard for biodiversity conservation.

regards

Michael Jones BSc.Dip.Nat.Res