

**Submission
No 77**

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

Organisation: NSW Bird Atlassers

Date Received: 26 May 2021

I have been using State Forests for many years, both for research and for bush walking, photography and general enjoyment. and are used constantly by members of the Bird Atlassers. In the area where the writer lives portion of forestry lands are used for *Pinus radiata* plantations and the remaining state forest lands are now conservation reserves. This is a very important situation as they are not used for forestry production. In our area there are many many birds using these lands and we know they are to be conserved. Unfortunately there have been other forests that are being logged without any hope of retaining any conservation values, that are of much concern to the Bird Atlassers. Current practices are considered by many fire ecologists as conducive to more wild fires and the forest ecology in jeopardy. The Bird Atlassers would like State Forests to consider in any new research. Private native forests are integral to the survival of many vulnerable species and we provide input to their management as the opportunity arises.

The fires have had such devastating effects on the ecology of the forests and the habitat of the animals therein. We believe there needs to be new thinking for alternative management of these vulnerable forests. It is essential that they be allowed to recover sufficiently and monitoring of both growth and animal recovery be mandatory.