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

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Sir/Madam, = I have worked in Timber industry or the bush a lot of my life. I worked in Borals mill, Allen Taylors, at Coffs Harbour. When the NSW. gov. decided to convert some old growth Forestry to National National Park. Boral told the workers they would loose their jobs if they didn't go to street protests. They paid for the bus and and their days wages. The workers believed what they were told even though most of the bigger trees had already been cut down within 80 K [This was a Canadian saw mill the was used to cut larger logs.] Things went quite for a while and then then the national parks were gazetted. I heard the little bush mill log quality had dropped, they only got the rubbish logs. Boral got all the best logs and a bigger quota than can be supplied in the long term. A few years later the Mill was closed. We have now reached the stage where a lot of the conservation measure are being dropped, such as logging up to creek banks and no prosecutions if possible. The timber supply is much like the Darling river water supply flog it all to the big boys. Many years ago an old farmer from Hickeys creek in the kempsey valley said when he was 11 years old, forestry logged for the first time around their dairy farm. A visitor said you'll have a bad fire in a couple of years and they did. He had never seen a big fire in his 11 year. Old growth on flat land are much less fire prone but they need at least a 100 years to get near that. To cut down good quality aged forest in the long term will create more fires and cause mass extinction of our wildlife. With the present weather condition this seems to me the hight of stupidity Most of our native forest should be preserved from forestry.

Your Sincerely Charlie England