

**Submission  
No 148**

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

**Name:** Mr Bunja Smith

**Date Received:** 28 May 2021

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## **SUBMISSION to The Inquiry into the long term sustainability and future of the timber and forest products industry**

### **ONE Traditional Voice in the wilderness:**

- As a 60 year old Aboriginal male, whose home town is Mogo, throughout my lifetime I have watched the continued colonial attitudes desecrate my Sacred Land.
- As a child, it was not uncommon to find Koalas in Mogo, Platapus in the creek, Cray Fish in the creek. But the white man looked for, and found, gold in my creek. Now he looks for the 'gold in my trees'. ALL for the sake of the 'almighty' dollar and to provide employment for a handful of people. My Mother, my Land – CONTINUES to be harvested in an UNSUSTAINABLE way.
- For millennia Aboriginal People farmed in unison With the Land – we were ONE. I call upon the State Government to learn from the LESSONS of its farming practices over the past 220 years and to EMBRACE Nature, employ regenerative farming, STOP THE LOGGING, and let me 'die in peace'.

Yours sincerely

Bunja Smith  
Walbanga Elder  
South Coast NSW