EUROBODALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

PUBLIC FORUM

All members of the community who have registered have been advised that they have a **maximum of five minutes** to put their case.

Ordinary Meeting of Council on 25 September 2018

Name	Subject/Comments
Public Forum – 10.00am	
Lei Parker	NOM18/013 Webcast of Public Access Session
Peter Bernard	NOM18/013 Webcast of Public Access Session
	NOM18/014 Logging in Corunna State Forest
John Ramsey	NOM18/014 Logging Corunna State Forest
Peter Cormick	NOM18/014 Logging in Corunna State Forest
Joslyn Van Der Moolen	NOM18/014 Logging in Corunna State Forest
Lynne Freeman	NOM18/014 Logging in Corunna State Forest

NOM18/013 WEBCAST OF PUBLIC ACCESS SESSION E00.4623

Lei Parker, Editor of *The Beagle*, an on-line Eurobodalla newspaper

I present in favour of the motion THAT the 'public access' presentations, that are held prior to the council meetings, be live streamed and recorded in the same manner as the 'public forum' presentations.

I concur with Councillor McGinlay for Council to be as transparent as is possible within legal boundaries.

To that end, I too believe it is incumbent on Council and Councillors to respect and record all views, as expressed from members of the community, at Council meetings.

I too acknowledge that Council are not obliged to even have a 'public access' session prior to the official Council meeting however I also believe that this is a valid and valuable way for members of our community to express their views on matters beyond the agenda of the day, and for Councillors to gain information, and insights that may influence their decisions or perspectives.

I too would like, therefore, for such presentations by anyone on any issue to Council in the public access arena be formally noted and be, not only live-streamed, but placed in video stream archives.

I suggest to Council that such an addition will be viewed by the community as a positive gesture that show evidence of Council's intention to pursue openness and transparency.

Such an action can only assist in Council being seen to engage further with its community.

Council might feel that they do a pretty good job already.

Council already Live Streams their Council meetings.... but how do they promote the fact that the meetings are on and are live streamed and archived for later viewing?

Council advises its community via its weekly Notice Board.

That Noticeboard is published in the local paper under an advertising contract with Fairfax. Up until a year ago the only way to see the Council Noticeboard was to buy the paper. Under pressure Council agreed to actually publish the Noticeboard on its own website where the community could read it for free.

The Beagle publishes the Noticeboard each week though it is NOT provided for publication by Council and instead sourced under Fair Dealing.

Live Streaming is a means of improving Community Engagement, Inclusion and Communication.

The Beagle has extensive analytics of page reads, website visits and social media engagement. Each measure the effectiveness and interest of the reader and tracks performance.

How does Council measure the success of its community engagement?

Council also has analytics.

These will be used to determine if the time and resource to Live Stream Public Access and archive it is worth the effort. Council staff will no doubt make reference to their known analytics from the analytics of its Public Forum sessions.

How many viewers watch Public Forum Live Streaming? How many visit the archives?

If the numbers are poor it begs the question of whether promotion of Council Meetings are at fault?

Councillors might be interested to know that this meeting is not promoted in the current Council e-mail newsletter.

Councillors might like to ask "How many people receive the e-newsletter, how many open it and how many click on the articles for more information?"

All of those analytics of performance are available if you ask.

Council advise that everything is available to find on the Council website; from policy to draft plans, from pecuniary interest statements, job vacancies and media releases.

Councillors, how many visits does the Council website have and how many of those visitors look at Council agendas, policies, media releases or Council's Noticeboard. All of those numbers are available if you ask for them. These numbers reflect the effectiveness of community engagement.

Council also has Facebook. The page has 6,680 likes. The insights into posts, reach and engagement are available if requested. This week there were 3 posts with 108 engagements being likes or comments. The Beagle this week reached 32,000 with 6,800 engagements – a typical week with only 3500 followers.

The Bay Post states that it has an Average Issue Readership – Print of 1200 (Publishers statement May 2018. Readership based on circulation – calculated at 3.3 readers per copy)

http://www.acmadcentre.com.au/brands/bay-postmoruya-examiner/

The Beagle has a raft of analytical tools it uses to measure its readership.

I am happy to advise Councillors that the reports of Council meetings covered by *The Beagle* are very well read which indicates that the community do wish to be included and informed in local politics.

I am also happy to report that video extracts from Council meetings, republished under Fair Dealing, are equally popular and generate considerable community interest.

Councillors might find it of interest that every media release issued by Council has been published in *The Beagle* over the last 18 months – over 1000 of them.

They are available to be read, for FREE, and are published to convey the business and activities of Council hoping that a more informed, engaged, community makes for a better community.

The Beagle has captured, in text, and published many of the Public Access presentations occasionally value-adding to them with vox video pieces.

It does this because the vast majority of the community do not hear otherwise of the Public Access sessions, nor do they know to read the presentations that are scanned and stored to be fund five levels deep inside of Council's vast website.

By publishing them for the wider community to read it gives voice to the issue and allows the community to have its own say in a public forum outside of the control of Council.

Councillors, how many people visit the Public Access Session - non agenda items page and read the presentations? Those figures are also known and you should ask?

In a digital era I believe that Live Streaming of Public Access might be a step forward to improve engagement?

I look forward to your debate.

Peter Berndred Public Form

WEBCASTOFPUBLIC ACCESS SESSION NOM18/013 26SEPTEMBER.

MADAM MAYOR . THIS IS A VERY BOLD MOTION AND ONE INTENDED TO GUARANTEE THAT COUNCILLORS ELECTED TO REPRESENT THE COMMUNITY CAN ENSURE THAT THE VOICE OF THE NON ELECTED PEOPLE CAN BE HEARD . IT WILL ENSURE THAT ALL RATE PAYING CITIZENS OF THIS SHIRE HAVE ACCCESS TO THE LATEST MEANS OF TECHNOLOGY TO /ASSESS THOSE ELECTED OF THEIR THOUGHTS AND CONCERNS .

IF APPROVEDTODAY THE WIDER COMMUNITY WILL ALSO HAVE ACCESS TO THE THOUGHTS AND CONCERNS OF THEIR FELLOW CITIZENS . IT WILL STIMULATE DEBATE AND ABOVE ALL RE- INFORM ELECTED PERSONS OF THEIR RESPOSIBILITIES TO THOSE THAT HAVE ELECTED THEM TO OFFICE .. IT WILL ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY AND COUNCILLOR DEBATE AND WIDEN THE FIELDS OF INFORMATION BEFORE COUNCILLORS MAKE MANY DECISIONS ON INFORMATION SUPPLIED TO THEM BY THE BUREAUCRATIC SYSTEM . IN SOME CASES THIS INFORMATION HAS SUBSEQUENTLY FOUND TO BE NOT RESEARCHED TO THE EXTENT THAT IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN .

THOSE ELECTED AND BURUEUCRATS ,RESPONSIBLE FOR COUNCIL REPORTING ,SHOULD NOT BE AFRAID OF WIDENING THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL BY BROADCASTING IT TO THE GREATEST NUMBER OF PEOPLE ..

A HIGH PERCENTAGE OF NON -RESIDENT RATEPAYERS ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND COUNCIL MEETING . IF THEY CAN ACCESS INFORMATION OF THIS FROM THE BATTLEFRONT, AS PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR McGINLAY', VIA LIVE STREAMINING OR OTHER VIDEO PROCESSES THEY WILL BE FAR BETTER INFORMED

IT IS PLEASING TO ME AND I AM SURE TO MANY OTHERS THAT THE MAJORITY OF NEWLY ELECTED COUNCILORS ARE ATTEMPTING TO CHANGE A LONG STANDINING BUREAUCRATICALLY CONTROLLED SYSTEM REINFORCED BY "THE OLD GUARD ..IT SHOULD NOT BE THEIR WAY OR THE HIGHWAY"-GOD LOVE THEM "!.!IN THE EYES OF MANY THIS IS NOT KEEPING ABREAST WITH CURRENT EXPECTATIONS WITH REGARDS TO PUBLIC ACCOUNABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES . COUNCILLORS YOU HAVE A DUTY TO 40% OF NON RESIDENT RATEPAYERS AND VAST MAJORITY OF LOCALS THAT ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE COUNCIL MEETINGS TO HAVE ACCESS TO ALL CITIZEN COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS. SOME COUNCILLORS REACTION AND INDIFFERENCE TO BECOME INVOLVED BY THE ASKING OF QUESTIONS IS FAR FROM BEING SATISFACTORY .

PETER BENARD 25TH SEPTEMBER

Addendum I-ifI am permitted to finish

Patrick I have addressed this council on the same issue that you have raised and I don't expect that others in this council will have the "guts "to support your proposal ie to live -stream the ordinary "Joe Potts "who may be concerned and wishes to raises an issue or issues in public forum ...

Some may find it difficult to get their message across . However we all should have the democratic right to attempt to present our message across for others to consider -whether it be right or wrong ..Local government is the closest form of government to the people and this is the forum for people to express their concerns -.rightly or wrongly (Not the best use of English) language) . One has to expect a hard time and you can only try to do your best and endeavour to make sure it comes from your heart . Don't expect to be loved . Expect to be hated and if that occurs you will find comfort that you have got the message across. I have been described of using words so described in debate as " having so drastic but how could we hit the poor little spastic' or described by my commanding officer that "I was the second worst soldier in his 25 years of service "".he then went on to say "I could not even do that right .-You could not be the worst . "I back chattered him and asked him " who was the worse " and he said "Your mate Keith Latter ".For the the back chatting " I lost another weekends leave and could not go to the brothels ... "That was hard to take " 'Patrick Keep With It "for you may well know they cant do that to you .

Peter Bernard

LOGGING IN CORUNNA STATE FOREST NOM18/014

I AM AT A LOSS, WHICH IS NOT A UNUSUAL CONCLUSION WITH THIS REPORT. . NEVERLESS THE COUNCIL DEFERRED THE MOTION BY CLR MAYNE UNTIL AFTER A MEETING WITH THE FORESTRY CORPORATION OF NSW. THIS MEETING WAS APPARENTLY HELD ON THE 18TH SEPTEMBER AS INDICATED IN THIS REPORT . THE REPORT DOES NOT INDICATE WHAT HAPPENED AT THAT MEETING -IF ANYTHING . WHAT WAS DISCUSSED AND WHAT DOES THE COUNCIL OR FORESTRY DEPARTMENT NEED TO DO ?. .ARE THEY GOING TO INCREASE THE BUFFER ZONE TO 50 METRES OR NOT ALONG BOTH SIDES OF THE THE PRINCES HIGHWAY //?. DOES IT MEAN THAT TREES WILL BE CLEARED OR NOT .. TO ME TREES KILL AND BUFFERS KILL ! ARE WE KEEPING THE TREES OR BUFFERS .WHEN IS BUFFER A TREE ? OR WHEN IS A TREE A BUFFER ? I HAVE A FEELING I AM THE "BUFFER "! AND I DONT MND ADMIITING IT AFTER TRYING TO MAKE SENSE OF THIS REPORT .

PETER BERNARD 25 TH SEPTEMBER

Peter Bernard - other iten.

water flow issues with road drainage	
trees felled within protection zone	
incorrect marking up drainage lines and filter strips	
culvert pipe blockage	
repeated instances of administration errors, for example incorrect or incomplete planning documents	
incorrect or insufficient drainage structures including drainage feature crossings and road drainage structures	
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machinery entering filter strips	
insufficient maintenance of exis	
(b) Non-compliance with TSL conditions include:	
failure to protect exclusion zones	
lack of or inadequate marking of exclusion zones and habitat features	
incomplete or insufficient pre-logging and pre-roading surveys for threatened species	
failure to protect retained habitat and recruitment trees	
inadequate selection of habitat and recruitment trees.	
failure to protect riparian habitat	
failure to exclude forestry operations from old growth forest	
incomplete or insufficient recording of Threatened Species Licence breaches	
failure to protect wetlands	
failure to exclude forestry operations from rainforest areas	
damage to recruitment and habitat trees	
failure to prepare sufficient pre-logging and pre-roading reports	
no/insufficient submission of TSL non-compliances	
harvesting machinery entering area of rainforest	
insufficient retention of Riparian Habitat Protection Zones	
insufficient implementation of exclusion zones for streams and ridge and headwater habitat	
on zone	
(c) Warning letters may include reference to numerous non-compliance of licence conditions or clauses in legislation from one audit.	
(e) 21 planned audits and 29 investigations	
This table has been compiled from EPA Annual Reports published here:	
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John Ramsey,

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PUBLIC FORUM, 25 SEPTEMBER 2018 - PETER CORMICK AGENDA ITEM NOM18/013 WEBCAST OF PUBLIC ACCESS SESSION

Five months ago, when I was last in this chamber, I advocated for the webcasting of what is known as the Public Access session, which, for those who don't know, takes place in the half hour prior to the meeting commencing, providing members of the community with the opportunity to make presentations and ask questions of council, on council-related matters that are not listed on the meeting agenda.

I am here again, to take advantage of Councillor McGinlay's much appreciated Notice of Motion to have the Public Access session webcast. In putting this motion forward he will be providing councillors with their first opportunity to vote in favour of enabling this webcasting to take place.

Because the Public Access sessions are currently not webcast, those people within the community who follow council affairs, who are at home waiting to watch the webcast of the meeting itself - which commences at 10 am - would have no idea whether, or in fact if, there are other members of our community who, at the same time, are addressing council, during the half hour leading up to the meeting. Yet, with the simple flick of a switch those presentations would immediately become available for all to see and hear. Then, as the meeting commences, the webcasting would continue, uninterrupted, including the first agenda item of Public Forum. Such an arrangement makes perfect sense. The present arrangement makes no sense.

Both the Public Access and Public Forum sessions provide the community with a <u>unique</u> opportunity to meet and engage, first hand, with their representatives, in their collective form – as the governing body.

Clearly, the presentations by community members during these sessions, and the involvement of councillors, to whatever extent that might be, is very much a matter of <u>public interest</u> - and should as a matter of course be given the widest possible coverage. What possible argument could there be to do otherwise?

For those of you who are disinclined or completely opposed to allowing the webcasting that Councillor McGinlay will be putting to you a little later, I ask you to please, genuinely, reflect on why you are here, as our representatives; and to reflect on the oath you took on assuming office and the obligations imposed on you by the Local Government Act. You all have a <u>clearly defined obligation to facilitate engagement with the community and to be</u> <u>proactive in so doing</u>.

Council's Community Engagement Framework is an impressive document – in what it aspires to achieve. The charter under which it operates recognises that engagement is a two-way street, requiring of council that it will be "transparent, proactive, available,

genuine and consistent". And it asks of the community to be "informed, to ask questions, get involved". What better forum for all of these goals to realised, together, than in this forum, in this chamber, where the community and its representatives actually share the same physical space and have an opportunity to interact. And why on earth should such an engagement not be shared shire-wide?

After all, on its website, council advises that "We provide on-demand video and audio of Council meetings through this internet-based live streaming service ... [which] allows you greater access to Council proceedings, decisions and debate and <u>eliminates the geographic</u> <u>barriers that prevent some people from attending our meetings</u>."

There is simply no sensible reason for public access not to be webcast.

Please, let us not hear "Council is not required to even provide a public forum, let alone webcast it." Any councillor who takes that position, or finds public presentations a nuisance, really doesn't get it, and should not be here in this chamber.

So, finally, those of you who are genuine about engaging with your community, please vote in support of Councillor McGinlay's motion when it comes up. Those of you who decide not to support it, please, as a courtesy, give your reasons, publically.

Joslyn Van Der moolen

Friends of the Forest (Mogo)



Meaningless Visual Protection Zone – Mogo Facts as Opposed to Forestry Assurances

Dear Mayor, Councillors, council staff and members of the Eurobodalla community, here and also watching on webcast. My name is Jos, and I am here representing the community group, Friends of the Forest (Mogo). I am also Secretary of the Coastwatchers Association who I have been with for three years.

By way of introduction I have six years' experience working for an Independent State MP, have worked as the ACT Landcare Officer, and am currently completing a Masters in Environmental Science which has included forestry studies.

- Reviocasly, living in the Adelaide Hills I was

For the last 24 years, I have been Secretary of the Mylor Parklands Bushcare Group that manages 22 hectares of stringybark forest, surrounding this Adelaide Hills town. Our achievements include saving 5 hectares of forest from development, for which our group, received a local government Australia Day award. I also received an Australia Day award for working with Council on behalf of the community on roadside reserve management.

I am addressing the Motion, to support the Corunna community request for a 50 metres exclusion zone on either side of the Princes Highway, so this area in Corunna State Forest is not logged. This request from the Corunna Forest Protection Group, on behalf of the local community, follows the presentation of a petition, with over 4,000 signatures to Andrew Constance, to stop the logging of Corunna Forest. While the logging continues, Anthony Mayne's motion requests that the existing so called visual protection zone, either side of the Princes Highway, be replaced with exclusion zones.

I am here, as the spotted gum forests directly behind Mogo tourist village that are currently being logged, have an extensive visual protection zone.

I now refer to my hand out of two harvest maps for the hills of Mogo Tourist Village and Corunna Forest. I am going to demonstrate how the visual protection zone, is in fact a harvest area and in Mogo's case heavily logged.

I'll start with the Mogo Harvest plan map and the photo of the visual protection zone encompassing the valley behind the Gold Rush Colony, Mogo. You can see quite clearly that this is a burnt out,cleared area that has been heavily logged.

In this, the green hatched area correlates to the harvest plan that states *a visual protection* zone exists ... throughout the <u>entire half of compartment 145</u>. For areas visible from a landscape level, ... ensure an even canopy where <u>no holes are created</u> (Table 7).

Locals, naively thought, that this whole valley would be selectively logged, however as you can see, this visual protection zone has had whole swathes cleared. Our Friends group contacted Forestry, copying in the EPA, and the written reply was that concerns about holes in the canopy only apply, if you can see the holes when you drive by!

So as always, the devil is in the detail.

Next refer to the Corunna Forest harvest map which also has a green hatched area, in this case, on either side of the Princes Highway. This area is marked on the legend as Harvest Area Medium and referred to in the harvest plan as a visual protection zone. So how can a harvest area be a visual protection zone.

At the Forestry briefing Councillors received last week, I understand Forestry gave assurances that the first 15 to 20 metres are not going to be logged and beyond that, the remaining 50 to 60 metres will be logged in a sustainable way.

If this all seems too complicated we can just refer to the Friday 14 September ABC SE News in which Lee Blessington from Forestry stated only "the first strip of trees" will be left on either side of the Princes Highway at Corunna.

Councillors you are representing the interests of the community and tourism, not the interests of the logging industry. I appeal to you to support your community and support their request for a 50 metre exclusion zone either side of the Princes Highway. They are protesting outside Andrew Constance's office on Friday morning, so your decision today will be viewed with great interest.

As the hardwood division of Forestry operates at a loss¹, implementing this exclusion zone will actually save the NSW Government, taxpayer's money.

We have recently taken decision makers, to the area in this photograph, including Councillor Pat McGinlay, both labor candidates Fiona Phillips for Gilmore, and Leanne Atkinson for Bega, as well as the Wilderness Society NSW Campaign Manager. Friends of the Forest (Mogo) is happy to take councillors to see the logged area behind the Gold Rush Colony so they can see the heavy logging for themselves.

Community Liaison

Friends of the Forest (NSW)

Like the Friends of the Forest (Mogo) on Facebook

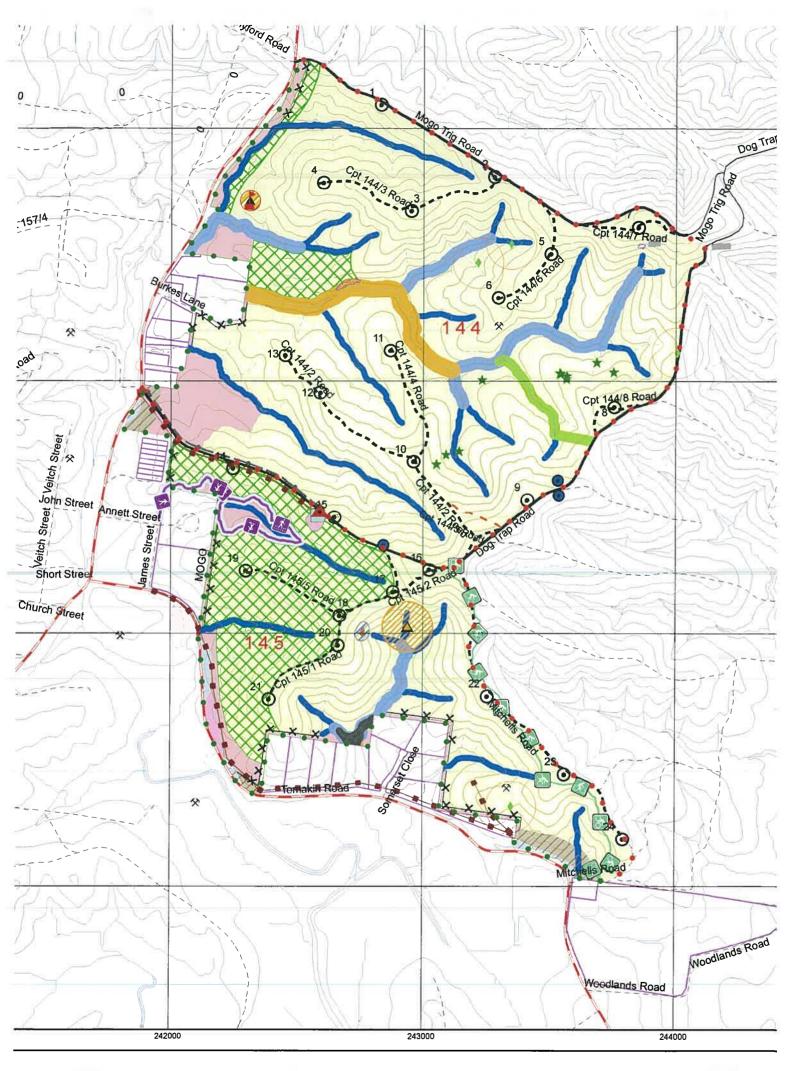
friendsoftheforestnsw@gmail.com

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Twitter: @FMogo

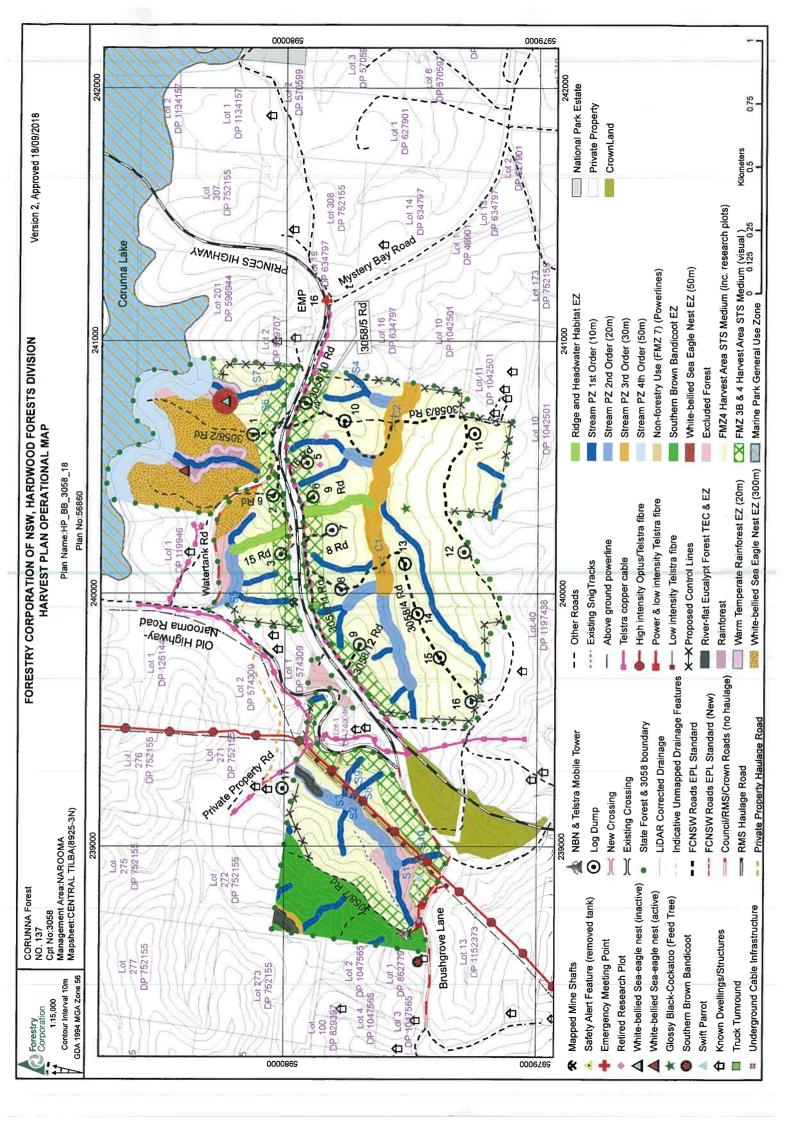
¹ The Money Doesn't Grow on Trees report by the Australia Institute has the report's bi-line - *Native* forest logging by the Forestry Corporation of NSW generated losses of \$79m over the last seven years

⁻ discontinuing the practice could deliver significant benefits to the state of NSW.



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Stream F





24th September 2018

Eurobodalla Shire Council

Vulcan St

27

Moruya NSW 2537

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to complain about the logging around Mogo Village close to residents. The contractors have cut trees down that Forestry Corp NSW indicated would be protected under their own rules. Prior to the logging I went on a walk with Forestry staff and was advised trees this large would not be cut as they were too big and were not harvestable and that trees over 30cm in diameter did not fit the machinery. This staff member was very helpful and was instrumental in preserving untouched, a few hectares at my immediate boundary that I, and others walk every day on "our" bush track.

Lynne Freeman Public Forum

There is a severe disconnect with those who make the rules and the actual work done on site. These trees were in fact cut down, a small section of trunk removed with most of the tree left behind. I am not against selective logging but am horrified to see 150 year old trees, of which so few remain cut down. Is it to be like whaling and other "industries" where the end result is extinction of plant and animal species – a process where Australia is a shameful world leader?

Two trees were cut down that I presumed safe. These were huge when I moved here 30 years ago. Most of the tree was left on the ground, so I ask why cut them down? I am reminded of the loss every day as I saw them from my home. Trees this big and old h_{aye} hollows. Of concern to me is the huge amount of wastage – surely there is a fire wood harvest option other than the present situation where ten's of thousands of tonnes of tree heads etc are burned while still green and left smouldering for weeks, even now after permits are required to light fire.

Also two other trees marked as "Habitat" (H) and "Retention" (R) have been pushed over and left on the ground. The size of the: 2 huge trees would indicate they are over 150yld. They are worth more left in their role as a carbon sink than what the 10% taken would be as sawn logs or woodchip. On the ABC Gardening Australia program, it was said old trees are now measured in a \$\$ value, so possibly \$40,000 each, destroyed to gain \$1,000. This makes no sense.

These trees were left standing when the area was logged several times between 1957-1996. Why are these old trees being taken now when they were not cut previously? Obviously selective logging no longer applies as previous logging was nothing like this. Today logging has moved to a clear fell mentality despite all the science showing the foolishness of this usage of the forest. I have been told selective logging was not possible with the big machines, is this true or just an excuse NOT to – (all speed and least amount of care) - for the maximum short term dollars?

The huge heavy machinery is used to drive over and crush everything. Every wattle, every casuarina, every burrawang, every banksia, even 25 cm thick tall straight timber pushed over and crushed. I personally saw these trees being pushed over as rubbish. This is despite the harvest plan stating

under the heading Significant Food Resources – "mark for retention, all glider sap feed trees, stands of forest oak (casuarina) and forest oak food trees...The crew should avoid damaging flowering or fruiting banksias or grass trees". In most areas there is no attempt at leaving any undisturbed understory as a refuge or food resource for animals, birds or insects or plant species needing such areas like ground orchids and nectar feeding birds.

All the earth has been turned over with remaining tree root zones damaged and with minimal erosion control. On the hillside all the sediment will wash into the creek. Two trees were also taken near the creek inside the 10metre buffer zone. The remaining trees will be subjected to increased wind and drying out and possibly being blown over in the next storm. I know when this is burnt the regrowth will be a thick impenetrable fire hazard like it is on Buckenbowra Road where a forest but not THE forest has regenerated. This logging operation is a complete travesty.

I would like to see an immediate suspension of logging until it can be demonstrated that the contractors and the **"On site forestry staff"** responsible for adhering to the implementation of the actual **"Forest Plan"** do so, AND are held to account if NOT doing so. Presently the pattern seem to be of Forestry appeasing, with false assurances, people viewed as "troublemakers" at the sites of their immediate logging operations and then it's business as usual once the "fuss" has died down i.e.: Environmental Vandalism. God knows what has occurred in areas where they have not been under any scrutiny, clearly self-regulation isn't working and "on the ground" staff can do whatever they want with impunity.

My spotted gum cottage with iron bark piers was milled by people I knew, who never treated the bush with such disrespect that this now "industrial" logging shows.

Perhaps a name change is in order from "Forestry Corp NSW" to "Logging Corp NSW" as this seems to be their priority, not stewardship of the bush.

I await a response to these urgent issues

Regards

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Lynne Freeman

Mogo Resident (30+ years)