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**Responded At:** Jul 13, 2018 11:36:38 am

**Last Seen:** Jul 13, 2018 11:36:38 am

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- Q1. **First name** [REDACTED]
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- Q3. **Phone** not answered
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- Q5. **Email** [REDACTED]
- Q6. **Postcode** [REDACTED]
- Q7. **Country** not answered
- Q8. **Stakeholder type** Individual
- Q9. **Stakeholder type - Other**  
not answered
- Q10. **Stakeholder type - Staff**  
not answered
- Q11. **Organisation name** not answered
- Q12. **What is your preferred method of contact?** Email
- Q13. **Would you like to receive further information and updates on IFOA and forestry matters?** Yes
- Q14. **Can the EPA make your submission public?** Yes, but anonymous
- Q15. **Have you previously engaged with the EPA on forestry issues?** Yes

**Q16. What parts of the draft Coastal IFOA are most important to you? Why?**

I am not commenting on the document in parts, because the overall approach so seriously compromises sustainable forestry and social outcomes that a fresh approach is recommended.

**Q17. What parts of the draft Coastal IFOA do you think have a positive outcome on the management of environmental values or the production of sustainable timber? Why?**

I am not commenting on the document in parts, because the overall approach so seriously compromises sustainable forestry and social outcomes that a fresh approach is recommended.

**Q18. What parts of the draft Coastal IFOA do you think have a negative outcome on the management of environmental values or the production of sustainable timber? Why?**

I am not commenting on the document in parts, because the overall approach so seriously compromises sustainable forestry and social outcomes that a fresh approach is recommended.

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**Q19. What are your views on the effectiveness of the combination of permanent environmental protections at the regional, landscape and operational scales (multi-scale protection)?**

Integrating protection needs to be coordinated at a Federal level and accountable to a local level with transparency and public access. Existing methods and surveys are inadequate since many elements are detectable only over long time periods and/or specific seasonal conditions. Sound monitoring, and DNA/molecular techniques should be introduced to detect organisms not easily sighted or captured for monitoring.

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**Q20. In your opinion, would the draft Coastal IFOA be effective in managing environmental values and a sustainable timber industry? Why?**

The overall approach so seriously compromises sustainable forestry and social outcomes that a fresh approach is recommended. I recommend abandoning this draft IFOA, and instead use the end of the Regional Forest Agreements to expand the NSW forest estate into more private land, and transform native forest logging on public land into multi-use forest management including positive alternatives like National Park Association's Great Koala National Park and Forests For All proposals.

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**Q21. General comments**

See attached one-page submission. thank you for extending the submission period and opening the debate widely.

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**Q22. Attach your supporting documents (Document 1)**

[Redacted]

**Q23. Attach your supporting documents (Document 2)**

not answered

**Q24. Attach your supporting documents (Document 3)**

not answered

## Comments on draft Coastal IFOA – in short, NSW needs a better future than this offers

Our family have been active forestgrowers managing & harvesting native regrowth and planting native timbers for 20 years and recently moved from the Upper Hunter area to the coastal area.

We are very concerned that the approaches proposed will further damage the local and overseas market for native timber products, reduce environmental protections and damage the sustainability of forestry in public forests.

Alternatively, there is the opportunity to boost growth and sustain communities by expanding ecologically sound native forestry onto private lands while managing existing public lands for social, environmental and timber production.

Native forest product markets are greatly dominated by public forest operations. Currently state forests are becoming heavily infested with lantana, other weeds and feral animals while public facilities like picnic areas for recreation are being reduced. Combined with changing forests from diverse mixed species into Blackbutt monocultures, this is alienating the public and losing community support so native forestry (public and private) is losing its local and international social license to continue.

Introducing so-called “intensive harvesting” in our region has no scientific forestry merit. It will degrade diverse, resilient native mixed forests into genetically uniform blackbutt pseudo-plantations. These will have less diverse small mammals, soil fungi and microbes (critical at holding coastal soils together), and be at higher risk of disease, fire and causing erosion and pollution in our sensitive waterways. See for example the book “Trees, Truffles, and Beasts: How Forests Function” by Maser, Claridge and Trappe <https://www.amazon.com/Trees-Truffles-Beasts-Forests-Function/dp/081354226X>

The new IFOA ignores widespread declines in wildlife which prompted the Australian Senate to call an inquiry into threatened species. Overlogging has reduced sawlog resources throughout coastal NSW, according to people in the industry itself. The number of jobs and mills has collapsed and logging now accounts for about 0.03% of primary industries employment. This will get worse as climate change and forest dieback make future timber resources increasingly uncertain, as highlighted in the Natural Resources Commission report but ignored in the IFOA.

Destroying what is left of the ecological values of state forests and logging protected areas to meet wood supply is not the action of a responsible Government. One of the recommendations in Ewan Waller’s report into the RFA consultation was that the Government conduct a review of the logging industry considering climate change, conservation, socio-economic issues and support for the logging industry.

Attempts to expand forestry onto private land during the previous RFA were disastrous in NSW because they planted only a few tree species for markets that were unstable, and provided no forest management.

These former joint-venture properties are now ideal opportunities to intervene with thinning and enrichment planting to develop diverse hardwood and specialty timber supplies for the future. Other private farmland could be converted to forestry where erosion is occurring due to soil types and lack of vegetation.

I recommend abandoning this draft IFOA, and instead use the end of the Regional Forest Agreements to expand the NSW forest estate into more private land, and transform native forest logging on public land into multi-use forest management including positive alternatives like National Park Association’s [Great Koala National Park](#) and [Forests For All](#) proposals.