
PNF Submission from Peter Nielsen

1 message

P & M Nielsen [REDACTED]

Wed, Jan 30, 2019 at 6:39 PM

To: pnf.info@ils.nsw.gov.au

Cc: [REDACTED]

Submission for Public Native Forests.

Northern NSW Code of Practice & All Codes.

It is my opinion that Private Native Forestry has not been carried out in an ecologically sustainable way due to industry lobbying of political parties, ignorance or bias of some MPs, Ministers & advisors, & the opposition from some landholders.

There is a culture of refusal to use best practice & a denial of science based guidelines & relevant environmental research. There is a very worrying refusal to require pre-logging surveys & avoid interference of threatened species. There is failure to retain important old trees, hollow bearing trees, recruitment trees & feed trees. There is failure to even bother to identify ecosystems requiring protection. There is failure of responsible forest management, not responding to forest degradation requiring rehabilitation. There appears to be a culture of secrecy, a lack transparency which shows contempt for genuine community concerns & hides a serious failure to effectively regulate PNF operations. Of great concern is the inadequate protection of streams and riparian buffers.

The current NSW Government leaders need to overcome their myopic obsession that logging is the only possible use of native forests and begin valuing forests for all their many other important uses. I would like to see them promoting these non-logging values, while encouraging and facilitating conservation measures.

Carbon storage & sequestration so important to help us achieve our emissions reduction targets. The recent report from the IPCC makes it clear that we need to stop deforestation & commence large scale reforestation projects if we are to keep temperatures to 1.5c. It is estimated that forests store around one third of all carbon emissions. The lungs of the Earth, trees breathe in CO₂ & breathe out oxygen for us to breathe...how perfect is that? Forests attract rainfall, retain moisture, regulate stream flows, provide essential habitat for our flora and fauna (including the 2000+ threatened species in danger of becoming extinct if deforestation continues at this present rate). Forests give us recreational areas, our mental health & well-being, aesthetic & spiritual values, (the Japanese call it "forest bathing"). All these must be considered as part of any assessment of forests.

To ensure enthusiastic public support & participation, comprehensive training should be provided to landholders, the industry, workers & the general public, educating them about these values, ensuring participation. It is important to identify *all* opportunities for landholders, beyond forestry, such as conservation covenants, stewardship payments, funding for bush rehabilitation, funding for habitat protection etc

Many surveys undertaken show that logging of native forests has lost any social licence.

I would like to see the NSW Government look at payments to encourage & assist landowners to protect areas of high conservation value: Conservation grants & stewardship payments. Providing annual payments to landowners for the volumes of carbon stored in their forests would assist in achieving our carbon emissions reduction targets.

Yours faithfully

Peter Nielsen

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]