

**Name:** David Sweeting

**Postcode:** 2075

**About you:** Landholder

**Name of your business or organisation:** David and Eniko Sweeting

**1. What improvements should the NSW Government consider making to the existing Private Native Forestry Codes of Practice?:**

**Please indicate which code/s you are referring to:** Northern NSW Code of Practice, Southern NSW Code of Practice

**2. Do you have any suggestions to ensure the Private Native Forestry regulatory settings are efficient, enforceable and effective?:**

**3. How can the NSW Government improve the authorisation and approval system for Private Native Forestry?:**

As the owners of both a native forest and an exotic pine forest we have noticed that it has been significantly easier to manage the pine forest. If the Government wants to maximise properly managed private native forests in the state and not have them diverted to other uses, it needs to make the management of the PNF less complex and similar to that of the exotic forests. In our registered pine forest, we were allowed to harvest the trees when the markets were available and thin when required and can replant and harvest without further permissions. Private Native Forests should be allowed to be registered under the plantation and reforestation act so that continuous harvesting and thinning of regrowth can be properly planned and executed. Both native and exotic forest should be treated with the same rules, to maximise the value. Regrowth of a mixed eucalyptus forest should be treated equally to planting seedlings of a mono culture (which are usually exotic and sometimes from another part of Australia). Mixed native forests do not only have diversity of trees but also native animals, which supports a healthy forest. Regrowth PNF should be treated equally to plantations so landowners can get all the same rights for long term

management of their forest. This includes allowing hazard reduction burns when the conditions are suitable to reduce destructive wild fires.

**4. What training and advice services would assist landholders, industry and the community?:**

**5. Do you have any other comments or feedback relevant to Private Native Forestry that you would like to share with us?:**