

My letters to Editors:

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No time for feral apostrophes

The Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs) are in the news.

Apart from the irritant that they may be renewed to the detriment of our natural native forests and the economy, the abbreviation “RFA’s”, when not used adjectivally, adds to the pain.

The guilty include The Guardian, The Victorian Association of Forest Industries, Coffs Harbour Advocate, Narangba Timbers, Wikipedia, and The Wilderness Society, to name a few.

The RFA’s what? I ask.

The RFAs don’t need renewing, nor do they always need an apostrophe.

Letters I have sent to SMH, The Australian, The Age, The Daily Telegraph, Narooma News, BDN, etc.

Response to Melinda Pavey 05.02.2018

Drawing lines on maps will not help koalas, Melinda Pavey 05.02.2018. In 2016 a line was drawn on a map creating the Murrah Flora Reserve in southeast NSW to protect an isolated colony of koalas threatened by logging of their home range. Safeguarding the State's remaining natural native forests will give optimal protection to all threatened species. Time to draw the line under native forest logging and focus on jobs in restorative forest management and plantations.

High Expectations 23.12.2017

Dear Editor, It took 20 years for 7 Government departments to compile the report, is 5-10 years late, 384 pages long, has 150,000 words, 263 references (38 have no date, 16 were published in the 1900s, 63% are more than 5 years old as at 1 Jan 2018), 88 Tables, 12 Figures, 5 Maps, 3 pages of Acronyms, 13 Appendices, funding is mentioned 54 times, profit mentioned once. The State Govt.'s expectations of public’s capacity to evaluate and draw conclusions is outrageously complimentary.

Quit while we are behind! Logging halted in Vic. SMH 24 Nov 2017.

Dear Editor, We’ve survived without exporting koala pelts; we’ve survived without killing whales. Time to stop the decades-long environmental vandalism driven by the native forest logging sector in southeast NSW for woodchips which has contributed to the demise of native species and forest health at an historic loss to taxpayers. Bright futures lie in jobs native forest restoration for wildlife protection and tourism. We need to save our forests for climate mitigation and carbon sequestration.

Forest Carbon 07.12.2017

Dear Editor, Welcome to our world Minister Frydenberg! By implementing a price on carbon, of say \$10 per tonne, 400,000ha of public forests in southeast NSW would earn \$20M per annum for jobs in forest restoration, wildlife protection and eco-tourism. Ending loss-making (\$79M over 7 years) native forest logging would save water, topsoil and threatened iconic

species, the value of which would be incalculable. Plantations supply domestic needs. Exporting koala pelts and whaling: consign logging of our forests to history too.

Finally Solving Forest Conflict—Forest Management for Carbon 23.11.2017

Dear Editor, Conflict in our native forests seems intractable and completely entrenched, yet a viable solution is sitting right under the NSW Government's nose—the natural capital asset of carbon. The National Parks Association's plan for the Great Southern Forest would reserve over 400,000 ha of public native forest for carbon storage instead of destructive uneconomical logging for woodchips. Carbon credits could earn \$20 million per annum from these forests which would mean jobs in forest restoration, wildlife protection, fire preparedness and eco-tourism; a sensible option for the future of our native forests.

Slow steps towards inevitable change. Ross Gittins, SMH 7 Sept 2016.

Dear Editor, Given that forests sequester carbon and logging emits it, the governments have an imminent opportunity to quickstep into economic and environmental benefit by bringing the curtain down on woodchipping. 'Greenie evangelists' heed ANU's scientific and economic research which finds that, say, for the 400,000 ha of public native forests in southeast NSW, even at a mere \$13 per tonne of carbon emissions, the region could earn \$20 million per year via an emissions trading scheme. At the region's median wage of \$38,000, carbon credits could create about 500 jobs in forest restoration, wildlife protection and sought after nature-based tourism. Change can happen quickly.

Beware of polkadot landscapes 02.03.2016

Dear Editor, Creation of the new Floral Reserves in south east NSW shows that the government has the power to protect native forests. A more visionary approach would be to emulate New Zealand and stop all native forest logging. This would prevent the isolating impact implicit in reserves. Climate responsive jobs could be created in ecotourism, forest restoration, wildlife and habitat protection using carbon benefits. A polka dot landscape is undesirable for wildlife and for maximum carbon sequestration.

Dear Editor, 03.09.2016

Yesterday I received a reply dated 14.06.2011 (postmarked 30.08.2015) to a letter I sent to Premier, Barry Farrell on 07.06.2011, expressing concern about imminent logging in Bermagui State Forest close to residents. Logging native forests for woodchips is as behind the times and dysfunctional as this administrative capacity. Future economies and jobs lie in carbon and tourism, not destruction of wildlife habitat.

Dear Editor, 08.05.2015

The talk we hear about burning native forest timber to meet renewable energy targets sends shudders down the collective spines of conservationists who support protection of the habitats of koalas, yellow bellied gliders, sooty owls, wombats and all the other creatures and endangered species whose habitats are being bandied around in government circles. We, the people who love native forests and all they contain, have fought for their protection for generations. Those politicians who treat these beautiful forest environments as a commodity, insult all those who value our nation's natural and cultural heritage. Keep our remnant native forests out of renewable energy targets.