

SOUTH EAST FOREST RESCUE

S T O P P I N ' T H E C H O P P I N '

PO BOX 899, Moruya, NSW, 2537

seft@fastmail.fm

14/11/06

Mr. Ian Cranwell
Resource and Conservation Unit
Premiers Department

Dear Ian,

RE: BREACHES OF SOUTHERN IFOA, CLAUSE 31

On Friday 27/10/06 I obtained a copy of the clause 31 2005-06 annual report from Forests NSW Batemans Bay office. After assessing the document the following breaches were found.

31. Annual reports on logging operations

(1) From 1 July 2002, SFNSW is to progressively record the following information relating to logging operations in the Southern Region:

- (a) the quantity of each timber product harvested (as described in clause 5(2)) in the course of thinning;*
- (b) the quantity of each timber product harvested (as described in clause 5(2)) other than in the course of thinning;*
- (c) in the case of logging operations involving thinning, the total area subject to thinning;*
- (d) the total area selected for logging using AGS Light, the total area selected for logging using AGS Medium, the total area selected for logging using AGS Heavy, and the total area selected for logging using Single Tree Selection;*
- (e) where harvesting has been completed, the area that has been logged together with the total area of the relevant net harvestable areas; and*
- (f) the location of the relevant logging operations, by reference to State forest name and compartment number or other identifying particulars (in the case of Crown-timber lands other than State forests).*

BREACH 1

31(1)(a)

Forests NSW seem to have thinned 135ha but have not produced any HQL, clause 5(2)(a),(b) or any "timber other than HQL and timber for charcoal" 5(2)(g). Upon rechecking the 2004-05 annual report we find that this is also the case for that year. In 04-05 they thinned 236ha for no timber products.

BREACH 2

31(1)(b)

In relation to clause 5(2)(g) “Timber other than HQL and timber for charcoal”, again there is no volume listed. This is exactly the same as the previous annual report and is unacceptable.

BREACH 3

31(1)(e)

For the Tumut sub region they have given figures of 77ha for the logged area and 78ha for the NHA. To me this seems to relate to the 78ha selected for AGS. Forests NSW have neglected the 1085ha selected for STS in the region.

These breaches are the same as for the previous year. When I obtained the report I was served by Bruce McGee. I informed him that the report was incomplete and he said that he had looked at the IFOA just the other day and that it was complete. Obviously we have different IFOA's as when I pointed out that all the volume figures for 5(2)(g) were missing, he said they did not have to put them in.

Forests NSW seem to have either a total disregard for, or complete ignorance of their obligations under the IFOA. Which ever it is it cannot be allowed to continue.

We request that you immediately organise for,

- 1) a complete annual report for the years 2004-05 and 2005-06 to be forwarded to us,
- 2) a full investigation into these breaches and the strongest action possible taken in relation to these,
- 3) a full explanation into how this situation has been allowed to continue and what steps will be taken to rectify the situation for good,
- 4) an explanation for Bruce McGee's lack of knowledge or disregard for the IFOA and his obligations under this.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information. I thank you for your time and await your reply.

Regards,

Scott Daines.