

**LETTER TO THE HON JOHN BARILARO, MP, AND THE HON DR MIKE KELLY AM
23.04.2019.**

The Hon John Barilaro, MP
Member for Monaro
Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade
Leader of The Nationals

The Hon Dr Mike Kelly AM, MP
Member for Eden-Monaro
Shadow Assistant Minister for Defence, Industry and Support

cc: Fiona Philips Country Labor for Gilmore, Carmel McCallum Greens for Gilmore and Corn Trail email list.

Dear John and Mike

RE: CORN TRAIL BLOCKED OVER EASTER FOR MOUNTAIN BIKES AND PACK HORSES

Just emailing you after my 16km walk on the Corn Trail on Easter Monday yesterday. Thought I'd share the public interest in last night's Don't Log the Corn Trail facebook post below that I put up before I had dinner at the Eureka Woodfired Pizza in Braidwood. By the time I finished my pasta, over 1,200 people had viewed it as the Braidwood Bugle had shared it - it now it has 3,708 views.

On Monday I walked it for the first time however was shocked by all the trees that had blown over the track that were next to the logging compartment. This became a safety issue as my fellow walker fell heavily twice, once while negotiating over many giant slippery stems of a treetop over the track, the second time over a freshly torn hole in the track of the tree that had uprooted. We also took 30 minutes longer and only just arrived before dark to drive home in thick fog. Being held up due to the trail being blocked in them a safety issue for Corn Trail user groups.

This high level of interest in the blocked Corn Trail story (938 engagements and 24 shares) shows that the local public that use recreational trails don't want them to be blocked by fallen trees from logging. Ipso facto logging should not happen next to recreational trails. The 50m of National Park between the Corn Trail and the logging compartment clearly is not enough of a buffer - the whole hillside should not have been logged. Despite logging currently continuing at the end of the compartment, despite John's election promise to stop the logging on Day 1 of Government, the next looming problem is the planned post harvest burn. The risk of this escaping to burn the Corn Trail and the surrounding Monga National Park and Buckenbowra Wilderness Area is of too high a consequence. This compartment should not be burnt.

I would be very interested in both your replies to the questions:

1. that logging should not occur next to recreational trails and
2. that compartment 517 should not be subject to a post harvest burn due to the risk of escape.

The interest in the environment is shown by yesterday's Kiama Independent [Pollies must tackle this issue](#) article on the recent Gilmore polling that indicated "88 per cent are 'concerned about environmental degradation' across Australia.

There are seven trees across the Corn Trail next to the logging compartment (Easter Monday walk). Due to the logging they are no longer protected by neighboring trees so these tall exposed trees were blown over in recent winds - what a mess. So forget mountain biking or pack horse riding till National Parks get through this. There should be no logging near significant recreational trails.



3,708
People Reached

938
Engagements

Boost Post

👍👍👍 Wendy Hardman, Bec Bigg and 35 others 17 Comments 24 Shares

Best regards

Community Liaison

Friends of the Forest is on [Facebook](#) [Twitter@FMogo](#) [Website](#)

Don't Log the Corn Trail is on [Facebook](#)

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~ Stop Logging Native Forests - Complete the Transition to Plantations ~

