

PERSONAL LETTER to:

The Prime Minister; Member for Eden Monaro; Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities;
The Premier of NSW; Minister for the Environment and the Minister for Heritage. Bronte Somerset 06.06.2011

RE NOTICE FROM FORESTSNSW RE IMMINENT LOGGING OF BERMAGUI STATE FORESTS

Dear Prime Minister:

I bring to your notice a matter of extreme environmental concern.

Attached is a letter from Forests NSW which was sent to the Bermagui residents who will be affected by imminent logging (possibly July 2011) in Bermagui State Forest.

If you access this website http://www.serca.org.au/latest_news/bermi.html, you will see a map which shows how close the logging compartments are to our residential lots. The site also shows a grove of now threatened spotted gum trees and a picture taken at the last post-logging burn at Bermagui.

1. This logging will create residential disturbance because of the building of fire-breaks, the actual logging process and post logging burn operations.
2. This logging will threaten the beauty of the area. The 'cathedral of trees' as it is commonly known among the residents is a source of pride to us and provides a beautiful natural welcome to the growing village of Bermagui on this beautiful part of the coast.
3. This logging will threaten the destruction of what is left of a remnant koala colony. You will note, from their letter, that FNSW has asked for residents to pass information on to them of their knowledge of local koalas. I have heard from long term residents that for the past 40 years or so, FNSW destroys koalas if they find out about their existence. So their request for further information sounds ominous at least. Even the local member wonders where all the koalas have gone (ABC 04.2010).
4. These compartments were logged only about 2 years ago. They are already degraded and I fear that further logging could render them permanently incapable of recovery.

Please, as a matter of extreme urgency, prohibit further logging in any of the beautiful natural forests in this area.

Yours sincerely

Bronte Somerset