

Letter to Mike Kelly and Andrew Constance. Environmental Destruction by Logging. Lois Katz. 13.01.2013

As we survey the damage that the recent bushfires have caused, the falsehood that cutting down native trees will reduce bushfire risk has been soundly reputed. The new regrowth after logging is much dryer than mature trees. Adding to the danger is that while the massive mechanical harvesters are ripping up the trees they are also destroying the forest's understory and its moisture retaining plants.

Remember, catastrophic fire danger is a new label. Fire fighters are reporting that the bush fires that they are now faced with are in a new category and are much more dangerous than what they had ever seen before. Yet, the New South Wales State Government continues to allow the logging of our native forests.

The NSW taxpayers subsidise the native forest logging industry to the tune of \$16 million dollars a year to keep this ailing industry going. Why aren't we using that money to train people in new jobs that have a future and save what native forests we have left for the remaining native animals to live in and for our children to enjoy?

Sincerely,

Lois Katz