

Andrew Constance MP
Member for Bega
Minister for Transport and Infrastructure



cc: Elizabeth Walton, Corunna Forest and Nick Hopkins Friends of the Forest (Mogo)

Dear Minister,

This email follows my visit to your Bega office today, where I was pleased to meet your staff and left a briefing pack on the urgent requirement for an exclusion zone for the vulnerable Masked Owl listed for protection under the *Terms of the Threatened Species License for the South Coast Sub-region of the Southern Region* (attached).

After visiting your office I also discussed and dropped a copy of the same briefing pack into Mike Kelly's office, Bega District News (BDN) and the ABC SE radio office (cc'd). Please listen to ABC radio tomorrow morning.

During discussion one of the staff mentioned interest in the photo with coordinates -36.293956 150.111496. These coords can simply be pasted into Google Maps as well. I undertook to send this - please see the link in the email below to the NatureMapr website that shows the photo and that the record was confirmed.

Attached is a scan of some of the information I provided to your office. Also attached to the information I provided, were the two Corunna harvest maps from the harvest map (attached) and relevant pages from the Terms document relating to Owls indicating exclusion zones are required when a Masked Owl is found.

The logging must be stopped until EPA have time to visit and find the Owl nest or roost tree, apply the Owl protection measures and then Forestry reissue a new version of the harvest map with the exclusion zone for the Masked Owl that then needs to be checked by the community. As the requirement could be for 300 hectares the logging would not be able to be continued.

A desktop analysis from EPA and the usual meaningless Forestry assurances, that will attempt to brush off this finding of the Masked Owl, will be completely inadequate responses to this community citizen science initiative. The local community is very concerned, intelligent and well informed and will not be fobbed off by this approach.

I look forward to your response and your recognition and action in relation to the community's concerns. After all it is the community that you represent.

We are writing to your office rather than wait for EPA/Forestry response as we find from experience that Forestry are failing to comply with environmental requirements.

Yours sincerely

Joslyn van der Moolen
Community Liaison
Friends of the Forest (Mogo)