

David Shoebridge MLC Media release 4 December 2018

State Heritage protection to save iconic Corn Trail

An urgent application for State Heritage protection for the Corn Trail has today been lodged by Greens NSW MP David Shoebridge to protect it from Forestry Corporation logging.

The trail is an important heritage item and a key tourism drawcard for the area and it set to be damaged by the logging of old growth forest in Buckenbowra State Forest.

Greens MP David Shoebridge will walk the trail on Tuesday 11 November to examine the impact on the trail so far, and gather further photographic evidence of the importance of the trail and the impact of logging to date. All welcome.

Greens MP and Heritage Spokesperson David Shoebridge said:

"The Corn Trail is of extraordinary importance to the region and to the history of our country as a whole, it is completely indefensible to allow logging to damage it.

"Thousands of years ago the Aboriginal Yuin Nation created the track and used it as a seasonal route connecting the coast and inland. The track was later appropriated and used by early settlers to facilitate trade.

"Every year thousands of people visit the area to learn the history of the walk and to enjoy the opportunity to get out into the bush.

"The Corn Trail walking track is a historic trail for hikers and horse riders to traverse a wide variety of landscapes and follow in the footsteps of the past.

"This historic trail travels from high mountain ridges to deep rainforest-filled valleys. It crosses the Mongarlowe and Buckenbowra Rivers, wander through warm temperate rainforest and walk through eucalypt forests. It has an important vidsual connection with other significant Aboriginal sites including Mount Budawang and the sandstone peaks of Pigeon House and Castle Mountain further north.

"Native forest logging is an industry which destroy animal habitat, costs the taxpayer hundreds of dollars per hectare, and now looks set to damage the Corn Trail irrevocably.

"We are calling on the NSW Government to step in and immediately halt logging while the application for State Heritage listing is being considered," Mr Shoebridge said

Media contact: David Shoebridge 0408 113 952