

Environmental groups outline their vision for a sustainable, prosperous Eden-Monaro

A coalition of environmental groups has identified forest conservation, bushfire recovery and action on climate change as three of the top issues that candidates in the Eden-Monaro by-election need to address.

In the final three weeks of the campaign, Eden-Monaro Environment Alliance has released plans for tackling the three issues in ways that will also boost the local economy and aid the post-fire, post-COVID recovery.

"These policies are good for nature and they are good for people - it is a win-win," **Nature Conservation Council Chief Executive Chris Gambian said.**

"We urge all candidates to support these policies because they will help get the region back on track after the fires and get us on the road to an ecologically sustainable recovery."

Action on climate change

1. Power Eden-Monaro with 100% clean energy by 2030

Make Eden-Monaro Develop an Energy Transition Plan to power Eden-Monaro using 100% clean energy by 2030.

2. Massively boost energy efficiency

Subsidies and programs to improve the energy efficiency of Eden-Monaro homes and workplaces, including free support for vulnerable and low-income households.

3. Electrify the government car fleet

Replace all government and council fleets in Eden-Monaro with electric vehicles by 2025.

4. Enact a federal Climate Act

The Act must set interim targets for emissions reduction and renewables uptake.

Bushfire recovery

1. Establish a community advisory group to guide the recovery

A community-based advisory group needs to drive priorities for local evidence-informed recovery and bushfire preparedness.

2. Prepare communities for the next major event

Provide grants to property owners to enhance bushfire preparedness and resilience.

3. Invest in ecological restoration and conservation

Invest in ecological restoration and conservation, including weed and feral pest control; infrastructure repairs; habitat restoration; Indigenous rangers training and employment; private-land conservation; coastal habitat restoration; plastics and marine debris clean-up.

Protecting our forests

1. End native forest logging

An immediate halt to native forest logging, suspension of the Eden and Southern Region Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) and a full environmental audit of the ecological impact of the 2019-20 fires.

2. Transition regional forestry to a 100% plantation-based industry

Develop a Plantation Forestry Industry Plan for 100% plantation-based forestry, and a government-supported transition for all workers, including trucking companies and mills.

3. Rule out burning forests for power

No forest harvesting for briquettes in the electorate and a prohibition on the extraction of forest biomass for energy production

The full text of the platform is in the [attached document](#).

Media spokespeople

NSW Nature Conservation Council | Chris Gambian, Chief Executive | via James Tremain on 0419 272 254

Bushfire Survivors for Climate Action | Jack Egan | 0428 237 051

350 Eurobodalla | Allan Rees | 0417 400 892

South East Region Conservation Alliance | Harriett Swift | 0414 908 997

The Eden-Monaro Environment Alliance members

NSW National Parks Association NSW Nature Conservation Council South Coast Health and Sustainability Alliance	350 Canberra 350 Eurobodalla Bushfire Survivors for Climate Action Climate Action Monaro
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South East Region Conservation Alliance
(SERCA)

Coastwatchers
Nature Coast Marine Group