

Coastwatchers - Forest Working Group

8 October 2021 AGM Annual Report

Community capacity building

A big year for direct engagement with the Nature Conservation Council (NCC) NSW with their [Forests Worth More Standing](#) - End Native Forest Logging work on the South Coast and citizen science zooms with NCC NSW and NCC ACT. Has included supporting the Brooman State Forest Conservation Group campaign, and citizen science work with the National Parks Association Milton branch and Eurobodalla locals. Some of the work overlaps with [Friends of the Forest \(Mogo\)](#).

- Cpt 146 Mogo State Forest Campaign 2021
 - 10 July and 17 July Forest embassy banner highway roadside mornings to harness post conference enthusiasm
 - 11 July Leafleted all Mogo residents and businesses a trifold colour pamphlet designed by CW FWG and paid for by NCC
 - Established leaflet distribution points at the bike shops in both Batemans Bay and Moruya plus 2 shops in Mogo
- 22 May 2021 co-hosted NCC Save Swift Parrots rally at Forestry Corporation 1pm over 100 people attended (supplied drone photo for About Regional article)
- 22 May 2021 Forest Citizen Science Workshop at the Nature Conservation Council Regional Conference co hosted by Coastwatchers, SHASA and SERCA.
- 27 April 2021 South Coast Forest Update to the ACT Conservation Council zoom - 42 people
- 18 Jan 2021 and March How to Survey a Forest Zoom zoo training with Nature Conservation Council supporters
- 17 October 2020 worked with Brooman State Forest Conservation Group on the Big Canopy Campout for residents and supporters including logging tours on Sunday.

Citizen Science Initiatives

- Working with NCC Website on our Citizen Science digital toolbox for surveying state forest to trigger environmental protections. See [Breachwatch website](#). Flora and Field guides to come.
- 13 July 2021 iNaturalist webinar - then engaged expertise to set up three State Forest [Inaturalist](#) projects Mogo State Forest - Compartment 146 Flora and Fauna Monitoring, Shallow Crossing State Forest Flora and Fauna Monitoring, Currowan State Forest Fauna and Flora Monitoring.
- 13 July 2021 email followup to EPA 5 March 2021 EPA Meeting Ulladulla to discuss Cit Science App - continued negotiations.

- 3 and 4 March 2021 supported ACF environmental investigation of Greater Gliders in Shallow Crossing Compartments 208,209, 210 and 211. Two nights spotlighting with ecologist and infrared drone surveying (also met ACF on Monday 25 Jan on site). See [Searching for Greater Gliders: This is what extinction looks like](#) article on the work.
- Ongoing support for the University of Wollongong Spotted Tailed Quoll survey in Monga National Park and Buckenbowra State Forest. We requested the survey and attend survey days before and after the fires, helping to re-bait camera traps.

Community Forest Tours

- Fridays for Forests citizen's science tour of Mogo State Forest 1km east of Mogo Village 2 July 6 August 3 September
- 30 May Tour Cpt 180 Mogo State Forest
- 23 May - 32 people for NCC regional conference field trip Cpt 180 Mogo State Forest
- 9 May Compartment 180 Mogo State Forest
- 7 May Guide NCC film crew into Compartment 180 Mogo State Forest
- 18 April Forest Tour Compartment 180 Mogo State Forest

Liaison with National Parks Association Milton

- 16 May went out with NPA Milton Env Committee to undertake forest surveys to trigger environmental protection
- 31 March 2021 Guest Speaker for NPA Milton March meeting on Citizen Science in State Forests to Trigger Environmental protection
- 6 March attend NPA meeting with branch and Gary Dunnett CEO
- Dec 2020 toured with NPA Milton on Forest Discovery Tour of Brooman and Shallow Crossing State Forests

Policy Work

- 6 Oct 2021 zoom with EDO on saving unburnt state forest by inserting bushfire rules permanently into [Coastal Integrated Forestry Operations Approval](#) (CIFOA) Protocols and Conditions following WWF/EDO Defending the Unburnt seminar.
- 21 Sep 2021 Launch of [Zero SE website](#) a local carbon reduction initiative with partners Bushfire Survivors for Climate Change, SHASA, 350 Eurobodalla, Coastwatchers, Repower Monaro and Climate Action Monaro and Cansign. CW FWG helped draft the [Forests: Worth More Standing](#) solution factsheet with the team. Based on the Frances Perkins and Andrew Macintosh [Logging or Carbon Credits](#) finding that \$1.7 m tonnes of carbon emissions would be avoided every year if logging of 400,000 hectares in our southern forestry region stopped. The Coastwatchers contribution was to create a council breakdown of carbon emissions saved if logging were stopped. This factsheet compares shire emissions with hectares of state forest to demonstrate [Bega](#) and [Eurobodalla](#), would have all emissions from transport, electricity, gas, waste and agriculture negated. There are also [Shoalhaven](#) and [Snowy Monaro](#) fact sheets.
- 13 July 2021 Zoom Meeting re ACT Greens - Firewood from our forests Working with

Canberra Forest Alliance and SERCA

- 13 July 2021 Filled in Survey for Senator Janet Rice re National Forest Strategy.
- 8 May 2021 attended Climate Solutions 4 Eurobodalla Forum - Forest Table and inputted into Climate Solutions for the Environment Forest Questions.

EPA and Stakeholders

- Researched and reported potential Too Steep To Log breaches in Currowan State Forest compartments 502/503.
- Researched and reported multiple breaches in Mogo State Forest in active logging compartment 180.
- 17 July 2021 letter to the Project Manager of DirtArt advising logging will occur over mountain bike trails in Mogo

Submissions

- 26 Sep 2021 Coastwatchers submission against [Biomass Fueling Redbank Power Station](#) to Singleton Council.
- 14 Sep 2021 Coastwatchers second submission re Eden woodchip mill. [Development Application \(10-2020-81-1\) for a Timber Optimisation Hub, by South East Fibre Exports Pty Ltd / Allied Natural Wood Exports](#) (ANWE, now Allied Natural Wood Enterprises), originally approved on 04/09/2020. The DA seeks approval for additional native forest wood processing facilities at the Eden woodchip mill. That approval was declared invalid by the Land and Environment Court so was reconsidered by Council on 14 September 2021.
- 27 Aug 2021 '[Logging must go' - national push to protect public native forests](#) Canberra Times Coastwatchers signatory to the call to end Native Forest Logging.
- 28 May 2021 (4 Jun ext) [Parliamentary Inquiry into the future of the forestry industry](#).
- 19 May 2021 [Draft Private Native Forestry \(PNF\) Codes of Practice NSW](#)

Journalist/Politician Tours/EPA Meetings

- 24 Feb 2021 Forest Tour Chris Gambian NCC CEO and staff with representative from Brooman State Forest Conservation Group.
- 9 Feb 2021 David Shoebridge and staff on tour of 11 compartments planned to be logged north of Batemans Bay with representative from Brooman State Forest Conservation Group to look at South Brooman, Shallow Crossing as well as the Berry Farm (re lack of bushfire subsidies). Met Shoalhaven Greens council candidates.
- 8 January 2021 Guided SBS reporter Nicola Gage + cameraman into South Brooman SF leading to Al Jazeera online news clip 28 Jan 2021 [Forest fires, logging create big crisis in Australia](#) (6,373 views).
- October 2020 guided [Peter Hannam + photographer](#) (SMH) into North and South Brooman SFs

Key Meetings

- NPA State Council 4 Sep (quarterly) and AGM and Annual Conference
- NPA Milton Conservation Group Meetings
- NCC 6 Nov 2021 AGM and Annual conference and 13 Jan 2021 Meringo Dairy meeting
- 26 July NEFA National Forest Summit
- 14 July NCC Forest Working Group Monthly Zoom
- North East Forest Alliance (NEFA) occasional zoom meetings
- Zero South East meetings from May inc 20 June Compelling Messages Workshop
- Occasional SERCA Meetings - two Coastwatchers Reps
- 21 Nov 2021 Our Future Shoalhaven
- Canberra Forest Alliance zooms

CAMPAIGNS

Mogo State Forest

See [Trailforks](#) for Maulbrooks Road mountain bike trails through state forest

Compartment 146 [Contains Mitchells and Kona mountain bike tracks](#)

East of Mogo tourist village. Swift Parrot Records. Expected start date October 2021.

Compartment 146 Harvest plan (to come soon as due to start October 2021)

- [Save Mogo's Forests Community Flyer](#)
- [Inaturalist State Forest project](#): *Mogo State Forest – Compartment 146 flora and fauna monitoring.*
- 12 July 2021 [Mogo locals worry about the impact of logging on mountain bike tourism](#)
About Regional
- Fri 9 July 2021 [Mountain biking mecca not wood chips](#) Michelle Hamrosi
- 1 June 2021 [Conservationists call for new logging policies, fearing for critically endangered swift parrot](#) ABC News
- 31 May 2021 [South Coast residents rolling up their sleeves and creating hope for a brighter future](#) Protesters demand an end to native forest logging outside the Forestry Corporation of NSW office in Batemans Bay
- 24 May 2021 [The NSW Nature Conservation Council's Regional Environment Conference](#) Moruya Mail Fb
- 18 May 2021 Moruya Mail [fb post](#) Forestry Corporation must investigate breaches of post-fire logging standards in Mogo State Forest
- 25 Mar 2021 [Forestry Corporation schedules logging in burnt Mogo State Forest](#) (with map of logging over MTB track) The Beagle
- 8 May 2021 [Swift parrot sightings in the ACT prompt calls for greater protections](#) Canberra Weekly

Compartment 180 contains [Baby Bear and AST mountain bike tracks](#).

- [Harvest Plan](#) being logged 2021 (now completed Oct 4th - inspection by CW pending)

- 23 May 2021 [WIN TV News Clip 1 m Ironbark over 1 metre wide cut down - Win FB](#) (FCNSW voluntary protection to save trees over 1m when logging without bushfire in defiance of the EPA). Filmed and sent to Win by Nature Conservation Council media team.

Shallow Crossing State Forest

- [Inaturalist State Forest project](#): *Shallow Crossing State Forest flora and fauna monitoring*
- [Compartment 212 Harvest plan v 3](#)
- [Map v 2](#) more protected forest than more recent [Map v 3](#) used for logging
- 14 Aug 2021 [Angry South Coast residents still waiting to see report into impacts of post-bushfire logging](#) ABC Illawarra
- 31 July 2021 [Logging of Compartment 212 Shallow Crossing Commences](#) Justin Field FB
- 24 May 2021 [Searching for Greater Gliders: This is what extinction looks like](#) ACF Habitat
- 17 Feb 2021 [Logging to resume in bushfire-affected forests on NSW south coast despite environmental warning](#) EPA warns Forestry Corporation of NSW it could face regulatory action after accusing it of walking away from negotiations The Guardian.

Currowan State Forest

- [Inaturalist project](#): *Currowan State Forest fauna and flora monitoring*
- [Compartments 502/502 harvest plan with map v1](#) 21 August 2021 (active Sep 2021)
- Letters to EPA about planned logging over 30 degrees as too steep to log.

Forest Working Group

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Coastwatchers aims to protect the local environment and preserve the integrity of the ecological systems of the South Coast of NSW and opposes the unnecessary destruction and degradation of natural systems, unbalanced development and pollution and threats to the survival of plant and animal species and communities.