

# Stakeholder Q&A summary

## Webinar 2: Monitoring the outcomes of forestry in coastal state forests

The program has committed to host annual stakeholder forums. This is an opportunity for people to learn more about the program, ask questions and provide feedback.

The Commission hosted a webinar in November 2020 with a panel of members from the NSW Forest Steering Committee.

This paper:

- Responds to questions not answered in the webinar
- Lists questions answered in the recorded webinar.

The webinar is available on the Commission's website.

**Table 1: Summary of stakeholder feedback and responses**

Question	Response
1 How many participants have been on this call today?	Eighteen (18) attendees.
2 What happens when the special operating conditions put in place by the EPA after the fires are ignored by NSW Forestry Corporation and the contractors?	<p>This question is beyond the scope of the coastal IFOA monitoring program.</p> <p>The EPA issues additional site-specific environmental conditions under the coastal IFOA. FCNSW must comply with conditions. The EPA inspect sites for compliance. More information at <a href="https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/native-forestry/bushfire-affected-forestry-operations/inspections-of-burnt-forestry-operations">https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/native-forestry/bushfire-affected-forestry-operations/inspections-of-burnt-forestry-operations</a></p> <p>The most up-to-date information can be found at: <a href="https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/native-forestry/bushfire-affected-forestry-operations/update-september-2020">https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/native-forestry/bushfire-affected-forestry-operations/update-september-2020</a></p>

Question	Response
3 As many threatened and other species require regular disturbance when will current Coastal IFOA rules be modified to allow for active management using fire and other mechanisms in "protected" areas of state forest?	This question is beyond the scope of the coastal IFOA monitoring program.  The program will generate information and evidence on the effectiveness of the coastal IFOA.  The Coastal IFOA conditions and protocols can only be amended or modified by relevant Ministers or agencies.
4 What is the NRC doing to ensure there is a cost-effective balance between fire mitigation and emergency response programs?	This question is beyond the scope of the coastal IFOA monitoring program.
5 What analysis has been done of the work of Professor David Lindenmayer on the impacts of salvage logging on eucalypt forests post bushfires?	The EPA has asked the Commission to oversee monitoring of the long-term impacts and recovery of areas subject to site specific operating conditions on state forests as part of the broader coastal IFOA monitoring program.
6 Given the acknowledgement of traditional owners, what steps is the NRC taking to restore traditional land and fire management practices to a portion of the parks and reserves and state forest land base?	This question is beyond the scope of the coastal IFOA monitoring program.
7 Does the NRC have any input into the EPA development of site-specific harvest conditions?	No.  The EPA has asked the Commission to oversee monitoring of the long-term impacts and recovery of areas subject to site specific operating conditions on state forests as part of the broader coastal IFOA monitoring program.
8 What is the NRC position in relation to the EPA inability to approve sufficient harvest areas to allow for employment of all harvest contractors previously engaged in harvest and firefighting operations in NSW State Forests?	This question is beyond the scope of the coastal IFOA monitoring program.
9 Given parks and reserves in NSW currently occupy 80 percent of the available NSW public land why are the social and economic costs of the failure of the parks service to deliver environmental protection being fully passed to harvesting contractors and hardwood processing plant employees?	This question is beyond the scope of the coastal IFOA monitoring program.

Question	Response
10 Does the NRC consider the cost benefit analysis of whether it makes financial sense to even harvest native forest in the South Coast region of NSW where almost all the timber goes to low value product?	This question is beyond the scope of the coastal IFOA monitoring program.
11 When will FCNSW use their infrared drones and results published and recovery factored in for wildlife to repopulate 13 million of burnt areas over next 100 years? re fires and logging pushing many species further to extinction with oz in top ten in the world for extinctions..	This question is beyond the scope of the coastal IFOA monitoring program.
12 Will wood supply monitoring factor in exports of native and plantation forest product re whole logs and wood chips and industry demand to retain Australian plantation product for local demand?	<p>The coastal IFOA monitoring program is designed to establish a scientifically valid wood supply baseline to track and evaluate the effectiveness or impacts of the coastal IFOA approval on the maintenance of wood supply.</p> <p>Wood supply monitoring will focus on ongoing review of the long-term sustainable yield and the implications of CIFOA conditions on yield in each CIFOA sub-region rather than where wood products are used.</p>
13 Southern brown bandicoot sittings gained 200 ha exclusion zone pre cifo - what protection will the post fire sbb sighting trigger?	Southern Brown Bandicoot conditions were amended in 2006 and the species has been managed under a species management plan (SMP) since 2007 and will continue to be under the CIFOA. The Bandicoot SMP requires protection of preferred habitat (Yertchuk and Swamp Gum) which is triggered by indicative maps and field verification rather than detection of individuals. Under the SMP ongoing predator management and monitoring surveys are also conducted.

Question	Response
<p>14 Is 12 months a realistic period for requiring Site Specific Approvals when it can take 12 months or more to determine whether a burnt tree has survived a bushfire?</p>	<p>This question is beyond the scope of the monitoring program.</p> <p>The EPA issues additional site-specific conditions under the coastal IFOA.</p> <p>The EPA has asked the Commission to oversee monitoring of the long-term impacts and recovery of areas subject to site specific operating conditions on state forests.</p> <p>More information at <a href="https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/native-forestry/bushfire-affected-forestry-operations/inspections-of-burnt-forestry-operations">https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/native-forestry/bushfire-affected-forestry-operations/inspections-of-burnt-forestry-operations</a></p> <p>The most up-to-date information can be found at: <a href="https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/native-forestry/bushfire-affected-forestry-operations/update-september-2020">https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/native-forestry/bushfire-affected-forestry-operations/update-september-2020</a></p>
<p>15 How were habitat impacts considered post bushfire on state forests?</p>	<p>The EPA issues additional site-specific environmental conditions under the coastal IFOA to management potential impacts on habitat. FCNSW must comply with conditions. The EPA inspect sites for compliance. More information at <a href="https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/native-forestry/bushfire-affected-forestry-operations/inspections-of-burnt-forestry-operations">https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/native-forestry/bushfire-affected-forestry-operations/inspections-of-burnt-forestry-operations</a></p> <p>The most up-to-date information can be found at: <a href="https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/native-forestry/bushfire-affected-forestry-operations/update-september-2020">https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/native-forestry/bushfire-affected-forestry-operations/update-september-2020</a></p>
<p>16 Are we recording MALE KOALA Mating Calls to confirm their presence in Southern Forests?</p>	<p>Fauna occupancy monitoring will occur in southern forests under the coastal IFOA monitoring program using song meters, cameras and audio moths.</p>

## Questions answered in webinar

Question	
1	Thanks, Liam for that presentation. These reviews will need to distinguish between the effects of IFOA activities and the effects of the 2019-2020 bushfires. Would you care to expand on how this will be done??
2	What input will the information from monitoring so far have on reviewing the CIOFA (scheduled for 2023) to reflect the current state of the forest estate and account for the significant losses in available habitat that occurred following the 2019/20?
3	I couldn't find a species-specific monitoring plan for Swift Parrots. Given they are critically endangered and have lost >30% feeding habitat in South Coast KBAs in the summer fires alone, is there a plan to make a plan? I'm also concerned occupancy won't be sensitive enough for a nomadic species like this that responds to variation in flowering e.g. some habitat will be more important in times of drought and we may not have records for a few years etc - we need to be monitoring habitat availability.
4	Are the old growth Flora Reserves across NSW State Forests being used as the baseline against which to measure non-timber values? And second question: Clear explanations of monitoring projects against the ESFM indicators and targets?
5	How is consistency being managed on fauna counts in forests? For example, what plants are in flower will dictate the presence of different species
6	What is meant by a landscape in the work on forest monitoring?

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