

**LETTER TO JAMIE SHAW FROM FORESTS NSW SOUTHERN MANAGER - DANIEL TUAN, 11 Apr 2012**

Dear Jo and Jamie,

As you are aware proposed timber harvesting in Tanja SF was postponed from late 2011 until autumn 2012 for operational reasons. I would like to provide you an update of planning status prior to harvesting proceeding in Tanja SF from April 2012.

As you are aware, Cpt 2108 in the Mogareeka area was removed from the 2011 harvesting schedule due to a range of community, ecological and recreational considerations. In reviewing the 2012 schedule, Forests NSW has decided that Cpt 2108 will remain temporarily suspended from harvesting plans.

Cpts 2102 and 2104 are however scheduled for harvesting so Forests NSW can meet legal wood supply commitments to the NSW south coast timber industry. The harvesting plan is its final stages of preparation and once approved, I will arrange for it to be distributed to yourselves as well as being made broadly publicly available. It will contain operational details on how harvesting and environmental values will be managed under the Eden IFOA.

I am also aware that concerns have been raised about the fire management implications of the proposed harvesting. On average only approximately 1.5 per cent of the native forest area managed by Forests NSW is harvested each year, so logging is an infrequent event in the life of the forest and relatively unimportant compared to prescribed burning regimes. Forests NSW, in common with other forest managers, academic institutions and CSIRO has conducted several studies into the impacts of prescribed burning on bushfire risk. These studies show that prescribed burning is critical to minimising fire risk as commissions of inquiry into bushfires have consistently found.

Forests NSW Southern Region conducts prescribed hazard reduction burning at low intensities over approximately 15,000 hectares of State forests annually. These annual programs include regrowth forests arising from previous harvesting and wildfire events. I acknowledge that the regrowth arising from past harvest events in Tanja SF has not been fuel reduced through low intensity burning. As soon as conditions allow following harvesting, hazard reduction burning will be scheduled for this area targeting both the logging slash from this harvest event as well as the regrowth from past harvesting. Forests NSW staff are currently planning for this burn. If you would like any additional information please contact myself, Kevin Petty Planning Manager ([kevinp@sf.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kevinp@sf.nsw.gov.au)) or Marty Linehan Operations Manager ([martinl@sf.nsw.gov.au](mailto:martinl@sf.nsw.gov.au)).

Kind Regards,

***Daniel Tuan***

Regional Manager, Southern Forests NSW

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