

ONLINE SUBMISSION DETAILS

Date Received	27/03/2017
Organisation	Individual
Postcode	
Written submission provided or EV submission?	<p>Stronger enforcement, real penalties and better tools for accountability, that would also enable community groups to initiate action when breaches of the Act have taken place. How many times does VicForests get disciplined but no "real" fines or impacting damages.</p> <p>I feel the act is inadequate and does not have the inherent speed or flexibility to adapt to immediate changes to a specific environment.</p> <p>For example.</p> <p>The "system" can take too long to protect a specific area after a major event such as a bush fire.</p> <p>The Toolangi State Forest survived the 2009 and was surrounded by extensive fire and should have been valued greater immediately.</p> <p>This could have been a magnificent resource to populate surrounding forest with bio-diversity but instead has been extensively pillaged by industrial logging and then burnt systematically for regeneration with little change to the FFG act since that 2009 day.</p> <p>Having surveyed that forest privately and professionally extensively over the past 7 years I have noticed a dramatic decline of Greater Gliders, Yellow Belly Gliders and Feathertail Gliders with zero protection in that isolated forest to all those species.</p> <p>They maybe common in other areas of the State but to let their populations plummet primarily to logging of that forest is a disgrace.</p> <p>The surveying for these species by the Government has been minimal apart from ARI's efforts.</p> <p>In my opinion there needs to be a process in which to assess small ecologically important areas quickly after a major event.</p> <p>There should be no exemptions or special treatments for government departments and some industries particularly the logging industry to the act.</p> <p>Two other issues that may not be covered in this review but I consider worthy of mentioning and hopefully acted upon.</p> <p>First is the quality of VicForests TRP maps and KLM files available to the public are deliberately misleading and obscure and need to be fixed.</p> <p>Secondly the Bi-diversity mapping program from DELWP is very should I say "clunky" the last time I used it.</p>