

From: Lee Hannan
Sent: Thursday, 8 October 2009 2:14 PM
To: Undisclosed-Recipient:;
Subject: Fw: The timber worker

I am writing to you to stand up for for my husbands and my livelihood, as well a lot of other people connected to the redgum timber industries.

We work in the forests around Deniliquin and Mathoura, cutting firewood under the Forest NSW's regulations and legislation.

We can't understand why this should change if it has been working well for the past 150 years.

We don't want handouts from your government. We just want to continue doing our jobs the best we can and look after the redgum forests at the same time.

Your government needs to understand a few things and leave us to do our job, make a living in rural NSW and keep the forests in better health.

1/ We have to abide by all forestry rules if we work in the Forests of NSW. If we don't abide by them, we lose our licences.

2/ The forests are divided into compartments by the Forest NSW and we are given a compartment to cut in.

For that compartment, we are given a harvesting plan. On these plans (maps) all different things are marked including all the areas we are not allowed to cut near eg; aboriginal burial sites, canoe trees, cultural heritage sites, middens, Superb parrot nests. etc. We are given a new map every time we move compartments.

3/ We are required to do courses regularly on a number of different things to update our understandings of the regulations eg; OHS, first aid, how to identify all the things in number 2, on going forestry management, etc.

4/ We are visited regularly in the compartment, while working, by a Forests NSW officer, who does a harvest report, checking on our equipment and that we have been abiding all the rules, including staying away from marked areas, and that we are working in a safe and practical way for both our sake and the environments.

The point is that we CANNOT just go into any area of any forest, when ever and cut what ever we like, because it is all very regulated.

Not that any of us would want to do any damage to the environment anyway.

We all have the up most respect for the environment.

It's our way of life not just our livelihood, working in the bush.

You really need to consider the consequences of stopping us doing our jobs.

What will happen to our communities?

Not only are you putting a hell of a lot of genuine hard working people and their families out of work but do you really want another ASH WEDNESDAY or BLACK SATURDAY on your hands?

I look forward to a response from you on this matter.

Yours Sincerely Lee Hannan