

1 Purpose

Forest Monitoring and Improvement 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 two webinars. Webinar 1 “Data driven forest management” (21 October 2020) and Webinar 2 “Monitoring the outcomes of forestry in coastal state forests” (10 November 2020). The webinars provided an overview of the projects and other elements of the program. The panel also answered stakeholder questions.

Statistics for each webinar and feedback from participants can be found below.

2 Statistics Webinar 1 “Data driven forest management”

Participants and attendees:

- 75 people registered for the webinar and 53 attended (22 absentees).¹ Attendance rate 71%.
- Attendees represented the following organisations:
 - **Industry:** Pentarch, Boral, J Notaras & Sons Pty Ltd, JBR Bees, Institute of Foresters/ Australian Forest Growers, Jamax Forest Solutions, Forest Works, Bee Services, Climate Friendly, KLEAN
 - **Government agencies:** ABARES, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, FCNSW, Biodiversity Conservation Trust
 - **Universities:** University of Melbourne, University of Wollongong, Southern Cross University
 - **ENGO:** National Parks Association, Koala Conservation Australia, WWF-Australia, Nature Conservation Council NSW, EDO, Conservation Volunteers Australia, North Coast Environment Council, Celebrating Earth & Art, Nature.Net Pty Ltd, Great Eastern Ranges Initiative, Lismore Environment Centre, Coastwatchers Association, Canines for Wildlife.

¹ This number of attendees does not include any NRC staff or panellists.
Document No: D20/5116
Status: Final - for web

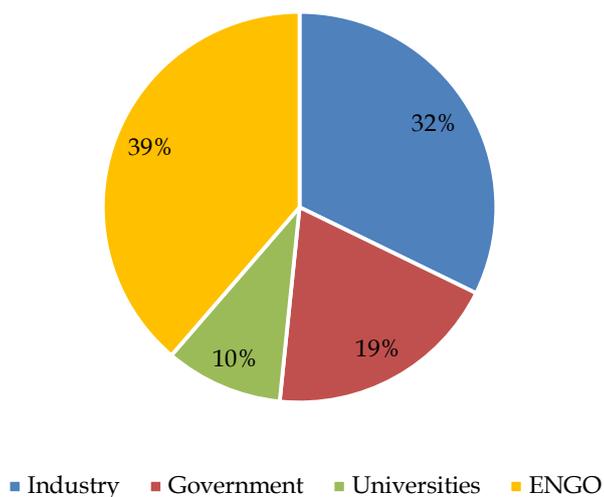


Figure 1. Organisational breakdown of attendees - Webinar 1 “Data driven forest management” - total number was 53.

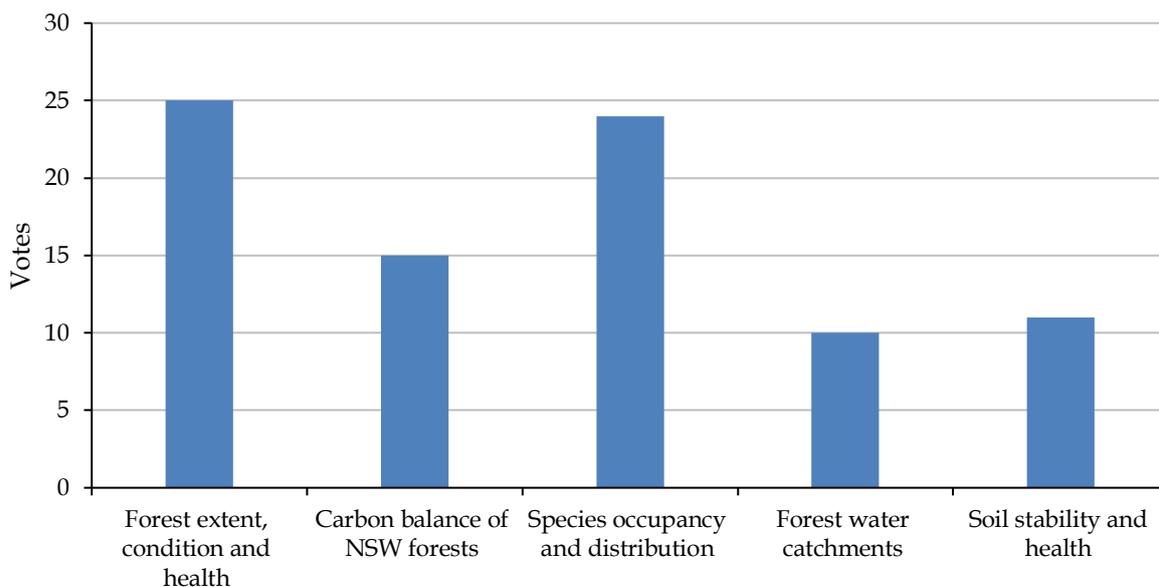
Q&A session:

- 14 questions were asked at registration
- 30 questions were asked at live Q&A session
- Webinar 1 “ Questions and Answers” is now available on NRC [website](#).

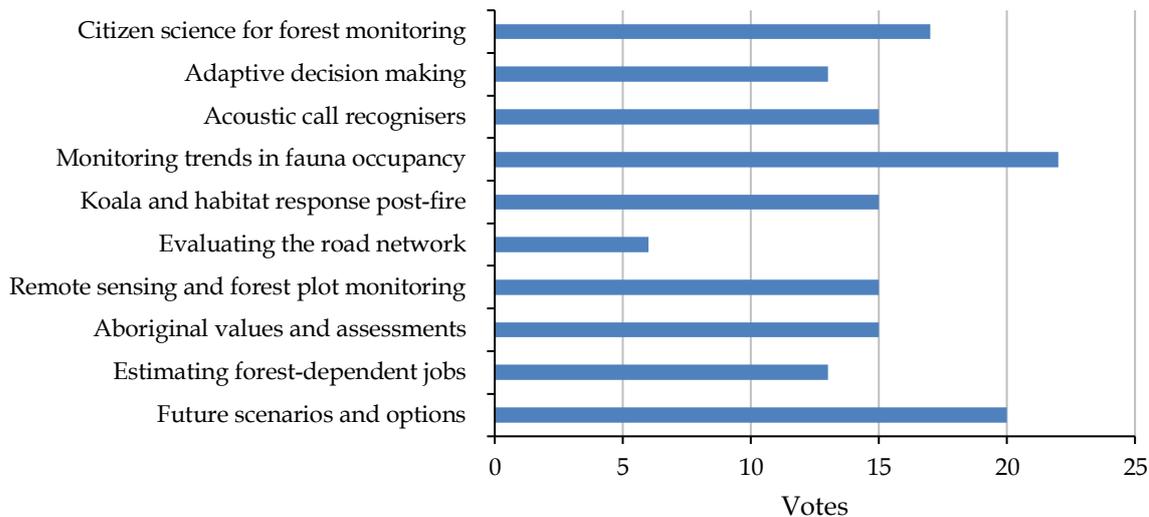
Poll results:

29 attendees participated in the Poll. Poll results:

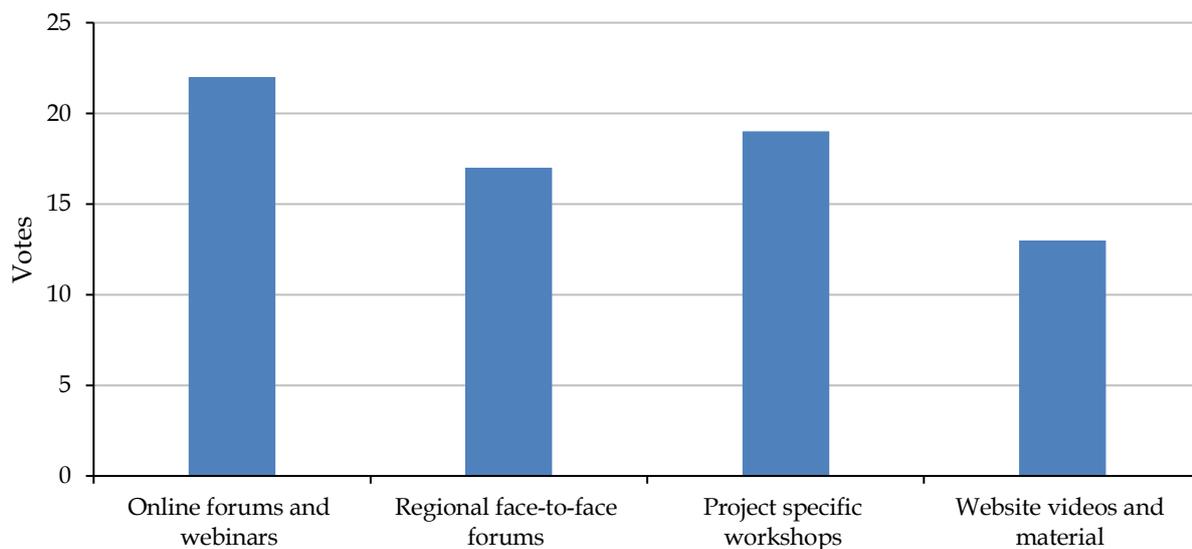
Question 1: What baseline and trends projects would you like more information on?



Question 2: What other topics would you like to know more about from today?



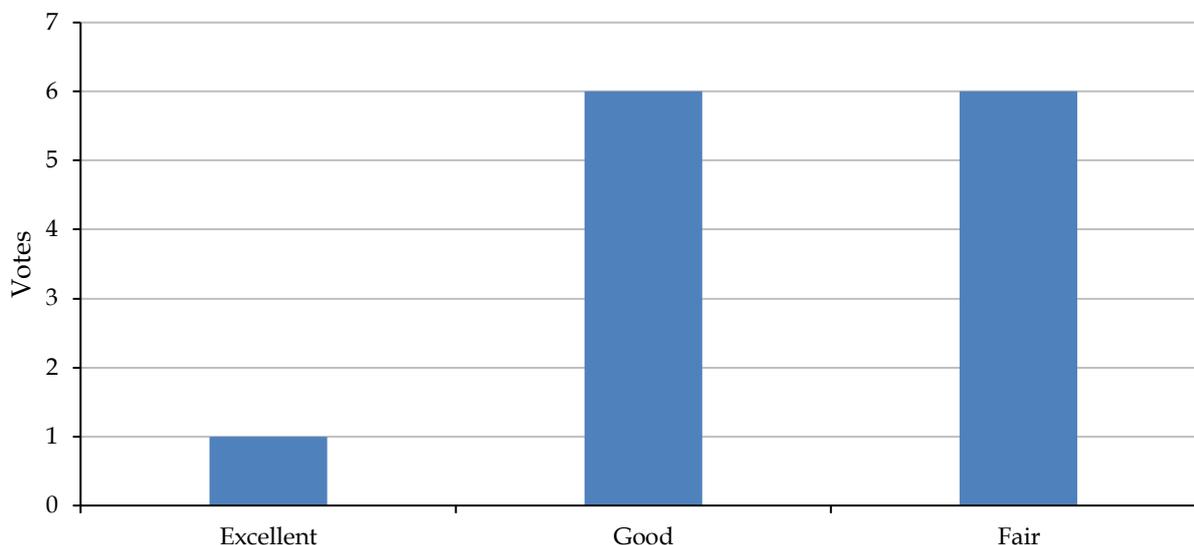
Question 3: How would you like us to engage with you in the future?



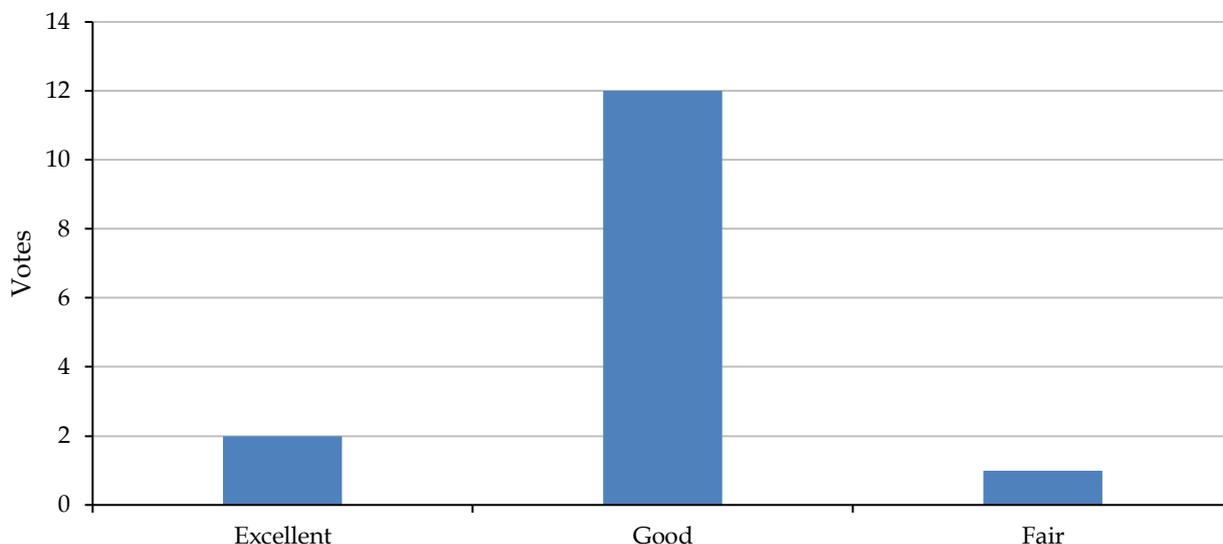
Post Webinar 1 Survey results:

14 people participated in the survey (26% of those attending). The survey analysis showed that people were satisfied with the webinar presenters and presentations.

Attendees rated **presentations** as:



Attendees rated **facilitation** as:



In providing survey feedback about what they liked about the webinar, several participants highlighted an appreciation for the communication of developments and progress of NRC projects. Participants also noted that the webinar was well presented and provided interesting, diverse and accessible information, as well as a good summary of the program. Others noted that it was good to see some detail on particular projects. The participants also appreciated that there was good interaction in the webinar, including through the questions and answers session. One survey response highlighted that the webinar provided an opportunity to connect with people and government bodies who care about the sustainability of forests, ecology and biodiversity.

The feedback on improvement of the future sessions included:

- take questions in advance and then answer them more thoughtfully - felt that the answers given were often just brushing-off or side-stepping the point
- much of the information was read out. Such information can be presented in writing either prior to or during the presentation, to enable the presentation to be more of a discussion
- bit more data
- would be useful going forward to have more focused content. The presentations covered a lot of ground which meant that detail was lacking. It would be good to drill down into some of those programs in more detail
- was very heavy on government speak. That's OK for some in the audience but doesn't engage all
- understand the time constraints but the ability for an actual two-way conversation would be good
- examples would have been useful
- it was only a very general overview and didn't really give any real information about forest monitoring and how it was being conducted. Are there planned to be more specific stakeholder inputs?

The additional comments from the attendees included:

- I am very pleased that this process is underway and that there can finally be some transparency and accountability in forest management. The public love our forests and we all benefit from the ecological services that they provide so the public has an entirely legitimate interest in these matters and has been treated with contempt for too long
- I would find ongoing and additional similar sessions useful and informative
- Is the purpose of the forum just to present information, or is it intended to open topics for discussion to improve processes?
- Would have liked more question and answer sessions
- Thanks for the opportunity. It helps enormously in understanding the issues and program for my engagement in other committees and community organisations which have forest interests.

3 Statistics Webinar 2 “Monitoring the outcomes of forestry in coastal state forests”

Participants and attendees:

- 33 people registered for the webinar and 21 attended (12 absentees).² Attendance rate 64%.
- Attendees represented the following organisations:
 - **Industry:** South East Timber Association, Jamax Forest Solutions, Koppers Wood Products Pty Ltd, NSW Apiarist Association, CJ&PA FITZSIMONS
 - **Government agencies:** EPA, FCNSW

² This number of attendees does not include any NRC staff or panelists.
Document No: D20/5116
Status: Final

- **Universities:** ANU
- **ENGO:** Birdlife Australia, Nature Conservation Council NSW, EDO, Gulaga Protection Group, Nambucca Valley Conservation Association, South East Region Conservation Alliance (SERCA), FSC ANZ, Nature Conservation Council NSW, Celebrating Earth & Art, Nature.Net Pty Ltd, The Coastwatchers Association Inc.

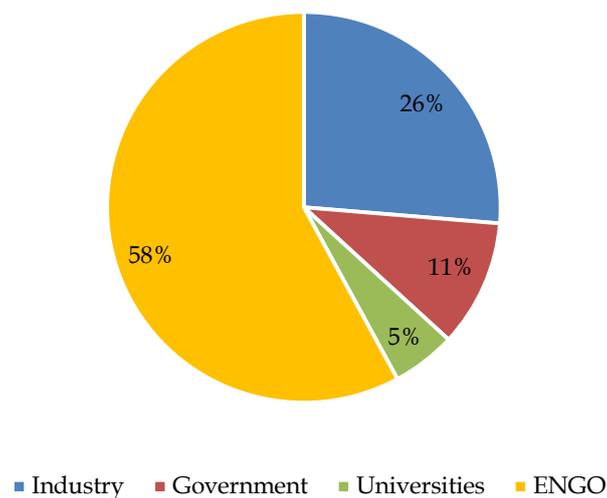


Figure 2. Organisational breakdown of attendees - Webinar 2 “Monitoring the outcomes of forestry in coastal state forests” - total number of participants was 21.

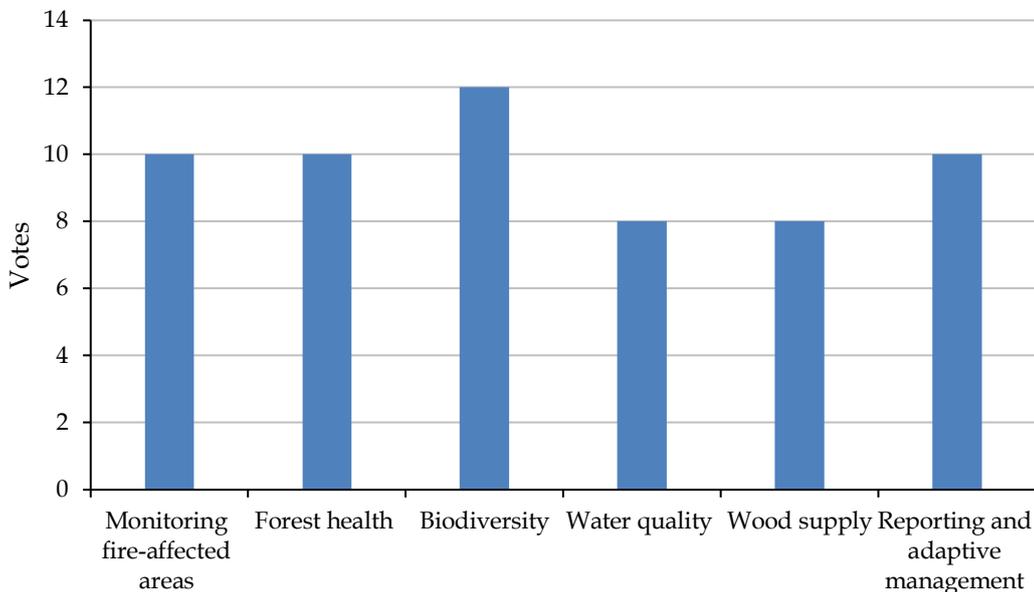
Q&A session:

- 12 questions were asked at registration
- 20 questions were asked at live Q&A session
- Webinar 2 “Questions and Answers” will be soon available on NRC [website](#).

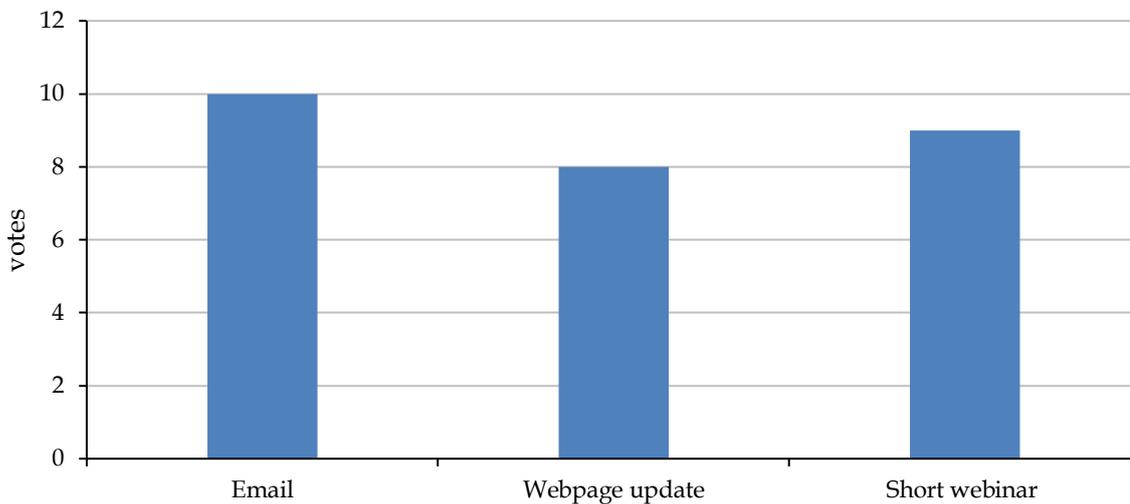
Poll results

13 attendees participated in Poll. Poll results:

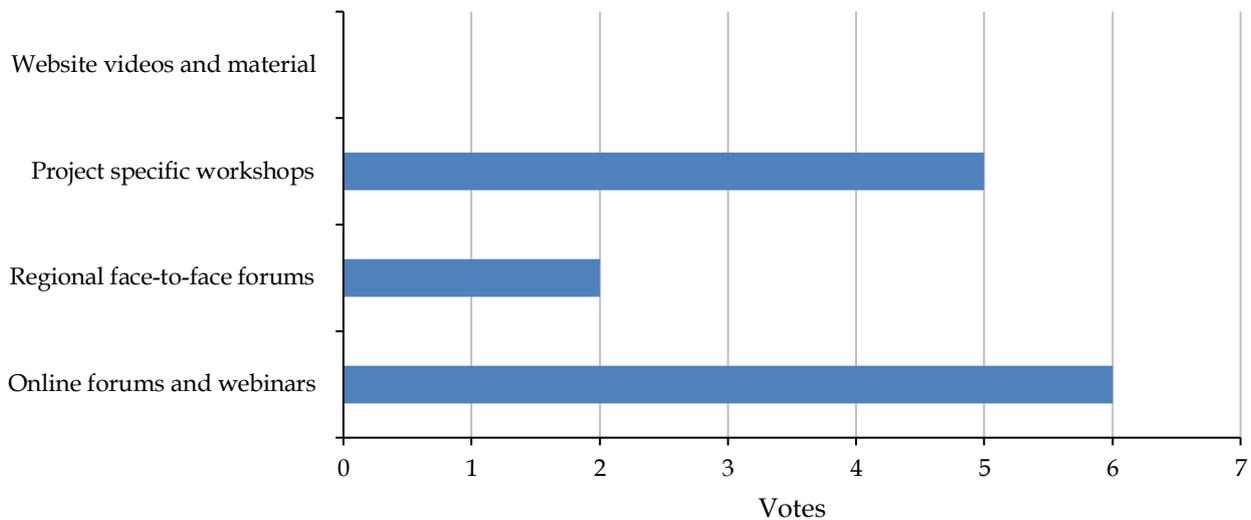
Question 1: What monitoring component would you like more information on?



Question 2: How would you like to be updated on progress of the program outside of annual forums?



Question 3: How would you like us to engage with you in future annual forums?



Post Webinar 2 Survey results

2 attendees participated in the post webinar survey. They have rated the presentation and facilitation as good (1) and fair (1).

Survey respondents reported that what they liked the most about the session was that it provided a good background on the program, the responses to questions asked, and that the webinar provided a way to find out a little about what's going on with the monitoring program.

The feedback on improvement of the future sessions included:

- longer Q&A or ability to chat
- it tried to cover so much that the conveying of meaningful understanding was compromised so follow up sessions on each of the 5 areas would be good.

The additional comments from the attendees included:

- I hope we have a series next year - some that are tailored to stakeholder interest areas e.g. one on biodiversity monitoring data?
- It was very one way. People who submitted questions in writing should have been able to speak to them then respond to the answer given.