

Susan Thomson

From: Anthony Tavella on behalf of DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox
Sent: Monday, 12 October 2020 9:33 AM
To: DPE PS Biodiversity Mailbox
Subject: FW: Webform submission from: Draft Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: noreply@feedback.planningportal.nsw.gov.au <noreply@feedback.planningportal.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 9 October 2020 5:24 PM
To: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <eplanning.exhibitions@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Webform submission from: Draft Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan

Submitted on Fri, 09/10/2020 - 17:24
Submitted by: Anonymous
Submitted values are:
Submission Type: I am submitting on behalf of my organisation
First Name: Sue
Last Name: Gay
Name Withheld: No
Email: [REDACTED]
Suburb/Town & Postcode: Appin
Submission file: [webform_submission:values:submission_file]
Submission: Forgot to attach to my submission that I have just submitted. Thank you & sorry for any inconvenience.

URL: <https://pp.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/draftplans/exhibition/draft-cumberland-plain-conservation-plan>

Sarah Ng

From: Anthony Tavella on behalf of DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox
Sent: Monday, 12 October 2020 9:38 AM
To: DPE PS Biodiversity Mailbox
Subject: FW: Webform submission from: Draft Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

From: noreply@feedback.planningportal.nsw.gov.au <noreply@feedback.planningportal.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 9 October 2020 4:53 PM
To: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <eplanning.exhibitions@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Webform submission from: Draft Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan

Submitted on Fri, 09/10/2020 - 16:53

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type: I am submitting on behalf of my organisation

First Name: Sue

Last Name: Gay

Name Withheld: No

Email: [REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode: Appin

Submission file: [webform_submission:values:submission_file]

Submission: Submission in objection to Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan 2020 (CPCP or The Plan) for Save Mount Gilead Inc 9/10/2020 The Draft Cumberland Conservation Plan area is shown in an attachment to this submission and marked Figure 2. The Plan is being developed to assist strategic biodiversity certification from state and federal governments of the targeted land shown in the attachment. If approved some 10,000 hectares of urban capable land that is presently rural will be converted to development land without the need for any additional environmental impact assessment. Not only will this area of natural Cumberland plain environment be lost but also there will be an imminent impact, with the possibility of extinction, on 8 ecological communities, 25 flora species and 24 fauna species. This is unacceptable. Generally, The Plan does not address the adverse affect it will have on: - The already poor air quality of the Sydney Basin which is caused largely by the unique landforms that trap air pollutants, and which has been known since the 1980's to cause respiratory and other illnesses. - The water quality and flooding in the major Nepean-Hawkesbury and Georges rivers. - The temperature in western Sydney which is already at least 5degrees hotter in summer than the east and frequently a danger to people and wildlife - The scenic views and colonial heritage landscapes that attract tourist to these outer Sydney regions. - Sydney's food security because of lost rural farms. - The only Chlamydia-free and expanding koala population in NSW that needs safe corridors for dispersal to new habitats. More specifically this is a plan to approve clearing. It will remove the majority of the remaining Cumberland Plain vegetation with 10-13% of the entire critically endangered ecosystem of Cumberland Plain Woodland disappearing in one go. The Camden/Wilton area accounts for about 33% of what will be lost while the Penrith development and M9 orbital takes out another huge chunk of Cumberland Plains Woodland. The Luddenham area also takes out a very large area of this Woodland. The affect on endangered species is unknown. Overall about 60% of bio-diversity will be lost. Two aboriginal burial grounds will be lost and the impact on aboriginal sites has not been assessed. The impact on the koalas will be significant with decisions to be made, such as do we let them move west where habitat is better for Koalas? New conservation areas are needed to address the loss of existing habitat but how will new restoration of habitat be conducted? The Plan is proposing a discretionary approach where the developments are locked in but the off-sets and budgets are not. There is only \$87million offered for off-sets which is inadequate. Also there is a proposal of relabelling existing government reserves as off-sets which should NOT happen as nothing additional is being preserved. Also, this cuts the price of off-sets and will make it very difficult to get new, suitable land for reserves. Only rubbish land will end up as off-sets. Also, The Plan proposes to take 3 of the 4 reserves in the area and isolate them for the future. This will be a disaster as vital corridor losses will be immense. In fact there are key changes being made to corridors with, for example, the Northern Cumberland Plains properties not being able to get funding for making corridors. Without interconnectivity the fauna habitats and ecological communities will become completely isolated, suffer greater edge effects, lose bio-diversity and become more exposed to events such as bushfires, exotic weed invasion and domestic animal attacks. Of real concern is what will be delivered under this plan. For example there are 3 parks that are legally required to be gazetted, but they are not being gazetted. Riparian areas spread connectivity but how many of these will be left to survive? Most of the vegetation at South Creek will go, including bush care and rehabilitation sites. It appears that if land is within the Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan area it has an option for conservation. If it is not on this Plan then there is no option for conservation (as with the Northern Cumberland Plains of Sydney). Indeed, this Plan even appears to be ignoring the complaints raised by the old Department of Planning (DPIE). Looking at the Mount Gilead area, this Plan does not facilitate the free movement of koalas and other wildlife between Georges and Nepean Rivers. Both the Legislative Inquiry into NSW Koalas and the Chief Scientist in his Report Advice on the protection of the Campbelltown Koala population recommend corridor widths of over

400metres and the Chief Scientist thought there should be 6 corridors between these rivers. There is only going to be one, at Ouzedale creek which will need rehabilitation and revegetation. Also the Legislative Enquiry was of the opinion that the Stage One development at Mount Gilead/Figtree Hill should not proceed. The Plan allows for roads, such as the Spring Farm Parkway and a rapid transport corridor, to cut through areas at Gilead that have been set aside for environmental conservation, although the actual routes are not yet finalised. The Plan acknowledges that conservation land will only be put in place gradually and there is no commitment to how much land will eventually be protected. On Mount Gilead alone, for example, stands of up to 200 year old, critically endangered, Shale Sandstone Transition Forest ironbarks are to be reduced in size, making survival of the remaining trees more precarious. In the end, there might be very little of the Cumberland Plain left to conserve. Kind regards Sue Gay Save Mt. Gilead [REDACTED]

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