MARCH AND PROTEST

CONCERNED YOUTH OF BALLARAT

&
COMMUNITIES OF ENFIELD/ROSS CREEK FORESTS

Protest about
Regional Forest Agreement Process
selling the youth's rights over our forests for the next Twenty Years

Communities around Enfield/ Ross Creek Forests
protesting over future plans to run these forests as plantations.
Regardless of the other values.

March from Ballarat Library
to
Department of Natural Resources & Environment
Glasshouse. Ballarat
Mair St Entrance

March: 10:45 am
DNRE Protest: 11:00 am

Performing Artists of Ballarat to do
Performance at 11:10 am

Media Releases and Spokespeople available

Mobile: [redacted]

Contacts: Luke Wilson. Concerned Youth of Ballarat
Tim Anderson Wombat Forest Society
Loris Duclos Wombat Forest Society
Spokesperson for Enfield Community.

Great Visual and Photo opportunities

Media Release

9th July 1999

Ballarat youth oppose logging in local forests

Concerned Youth of Ballarat

Contact: Luke Wilson.

The forests around Ballarat are important to many local youth who utilise these forests for recreational pursuits such as horse-riding, bush-walking, camping, fishing or just getting away from the hustle and bustle of every day life.

"We are concerned that the native forest of this region are ear-marked for intensive plantation style management where the native forests will be clearfelled, possibly genetically selected, fertilised and logged at shorter intervals by few men using large machines." said Luke Wilson, Spokesperson.

"Most of the trees harvested will end up as woodchips."

Although considered by forest managers to be of low conservation value, the remnant native forests are the closest natural experience available to the youth of Ballarat.

Harvesting the forest at a rate faster than it grows amounts to stealing from future generations. Today's youth and their children will not have the same opportunities as the current generation. There will be more people and less resource for the future.

"The current government and today's forest managers from Department of Natural Resources & Environment must understand their mistakes will become the problems of the future. The youth do not want today's problems solved by creating bigger problems in the future." added Luke

We the '*Concerned Youth of Ballarat*' don't believe that this is good enough. We demand that today's decision makers think about what you will leave us and our children.

Wombat Forest Society inc.

Wild & Wonderful Wood & Water Work & Wildlife

ASN: A0029445N

PO Box 428, Daylesford. 3460.

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Media Release

9 July 1999.

Contact: Tim Anderson
President.
Wombat Forest Society
[redacted]
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The Wombat Forest Society is today supporting the ***'Concerned Youth of Ballarat'*** and the communities around the Enfield/Ross Creek areas, in their protests about future plans for the fragile forests of the Ballarat region.

"The Regional Forest Agreement process is about to commence in the West of Victoria. This Agreement will sign away the rights of the next generation with regards to the region's forests." said Tim Anderson. Wombat Forest Society .

"The WFS is concerned that the RFA process will not give the young in the region a fair voice in the process. The RFA will sign away their democratic right to have a say about the management and utilisation of the forests for twenty years." Mr Anderson added.

The other insidious side of the RFA's will be the green light for "intensification" in the management in the Enfield/Ross Creek, Wombat, Cobaws and Pyrannes Forests. This intensification will see our forests turned into virtual monocultural plantations.

"The agenda for these forests is to fertilise, intensify regrowth and perhaps even the application of genetically engineered species, in order to force these precious forests into nothing more than man-made plantations." said Tim.

"Have the people in the region been asked if they are happy to see these forests change from natural, diverse and beautiful forests that supply many opportunities, resources and experiences, into nothing more than tree farms for the woodchippers."

The Wombat Forest Society will stand by the young people of Ballarat and the communities around the Enfield Forest, to reject such proposals.

The WFS also ask for a clear process for all the young people of Western Victorian to have their rightful say in the RFA process. Unless this can be delivered, we in the West must consider whether we wish to allow the RFA process to take place.