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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have lived in this region a short time and yet, I've grown very fond of the Blue Mountains Forests. The beauty and biodiversity of this range has been a joy and a treasure to behold when I am able to get out of the city. As someone who has grown up around beautiful forests, it baffles me why folks are in such a hurry to cut them down, especially as wildfires increase in frequency and intensity as we experience longer and more severe droughts.

I strongly oppose any management plan, regulation, or legislation that threatens these forests and their inhabitants. Mature trees should not be cut down for use by humans, roads should be kept out of forests (roads increase human activity in the area and as a result increase the risk of wildfires), and there are plenty of managed forests that are logged at present.

The forests in this area should be protected and preserved also for the Indigenous folks who have been here since time immemorial. They have the knowledge and the relationship with these lands. They should have access to traditional foods, medicines, hunting and fishing grounds, and sacred spaces that are put at risk from increased logging and development of these lands.

Look beyond what is considered to be profit and resources; this land and those that live upon it and visit it are so much more than that. Decisions like this should take significant time and attention and take into account all of the lives that it impacts, as it took infinitely longer to grow and diversify. To destroy this environment will have lasting consequences reaching far into future generations. What legacy will be the result of decisions made in the present moment and who will be remembered for them?