

## 5. Conclusion

The aims of this study were to assess the effectiveness of the CCP in fulfilling participant expectations and to recommend ways of improving the CCP to better meet these expectations. The following conclusions were drawn from the research findings.

- **the strengths and weaknesses of the CCP in fulfilling participant expectations**

The CCP strengths and weaknesses in meeting the evaluation criteria were revealed through qualitative and quantitative data. The summary of strengths and weaknesses discussed in the previous chapter suggests that the CCP was neither a full success nor a complete failure in meeting participant expectations. The CCP was unlikely to ever fulfil all participant expectations as neither the participants nor the study team entirely shared the same expectations or values.

Although the CCP did not satisfy all participants, the process was valuable to both the community and the agency. The CCP provided the community with far greater public participation opportunities than they are legally entitled to under current legislation. In addition, interest groups were able to select their own representatives, develop new and useful communication and support networks, improve their knowledge, identify threats, lobby support, and better focus their efforts. The accessibility of interaction between planners and participants, particularly in workshops and informal discussions, provided valuable feedback and acknowledgment, and encouraged mutual education in and sharing of community viewpoints and issues. The creation of an open forum ensured the accountability of all key participants and enabled interest groups to act as community watchdogs, bringing more pressure to bear on the study team than may have been previously possible.

The evaluation highlighted the strong interdependence of the EIA and CCP in satisfying public participation expectations, and revealed that the achievement of process and outcome expectations is not solely the responsibility of the program providers, but is dependent on the

collective performance and accountability of the agency, the community group, individual participants and the influence of external socio-political factors.

- **recommendations for improving the CCP to better meet participant expectations.**

The case study suggests that the Morisset CCP could have been significantly improved with greater effort in several key areas. Pre-planning of consultation objectives, strategies, performance measures and in the analysis of community input would have provided a stronger focus for the study team. Consensus on the role of the CCG, their involvement in the EIA decision-making process, and the selection of the most appropriate CCP may have clarified a shared understanding of CCP expectations. Greater program flexibility in catering for participant requests for more group discussion and sufficient timely data to develop informed opinions may have improved the CCG's ability and willingness to comment on key issues and alternative proposals. Greater participant guidance on how to consult the wider community, provide feedback to the study team and prepare written submissions would have better equipped the CCG for its role. Additional training in conflict resolution, mediation, negotiation and media liaison, coupled with a genuine belief in the value of community consultation, would also better prepare planning staff for their role. A detailed review of recommendations for improving forestry EIA community consultation programs is presented in chapter 6.

# 6. Recommendations

The following recommendations were derived from a number of sources including evaluation findings from this case study, valuable suggestions from the literature and from personal insight and experience. These recommendations offer an opportunity to expand on the research conclusions and provide useful tips for practitioners to improve future participation programs. These insights, however, remain specific to the Morisset CCP and caution should be taken when applying them to other situations.

### **Defining objectives and strategies**

- Agency planners and community participants must share a common understanding of the function, role and purpose of the CCG (Collins 1977). The CCG's role needs to be defined in terms of objectives, strategies, targets and measures. For example, if the CCG's role is to consult the wider community and provide feedback to the study team, then the CCG should be briefed on the purpose of the consultation (objective), how to consult the community (strategy), the amount of consultation and the issues and questions they should consult on (target), and the form of feedback required by the study team (measure). Not only will such an outline clearly define the role of the CCG, but it will also be measurable and accountable.
- A written plan is required at the very early stages of the EIA, clearly indicating the target audience, the purpose and objectives of the consultation, the means of achieving each of these purposes, and the means of measuring this achievement. Each meeting must have a clear purpose or function, and measurable achievements or milestones. With this information the study team will be better able to focus their efforts in achieving clear targets. Appendix 32 contains an example of a consultation plan for maximising public awareness.
- All key players must discuss and reach agreement on what constitutes a meaningful, worthwhile and successful CCP, and then design the CCP to suit participant needs. Boaden and Collins (1975) argue that different interest groups need different forms of consultation, but that the appropriate level of consultation should be determined by the community groups and not the planners. Gregersen, Draper and Elz (1989) advocate community appraisals,

including the use of existing data, to define multiple public needs, aspirations and motivations prior to designing strategies to reach each group. Only by becoming aware of participant needs, wants and desires will the study team be able to focus their efforts to maximum effect.

### **Maintaining planning flexibility**

- Adequate time and resources must be committed to the CCP if requested by the participants and planners must maintain flexibility to alter the CCP to suit community needs, and changing social and political influences during the process.
- The study team should modify the preferred proposal selection process and provide the CCG with information they request on alternatives under consideration. For example, the MCA method of selecting the preferred proposal did not work as intended; participants either did not understand it and struggled with the whole concept or they were suspicious of applying it without first knowing the agency's preferred proposal.
- Planners should allow adequate time to fully discuss issues and alternatives. Fagence (1977) advocates that, in order to encourage meaningful participation planners need to adopt an open time frame policy. Opportunities for discussion should be maximised, particularly informal discussion such as field trips and workshops. For example, one of the CCG meetings could be dedicated to discussing alternative proposals, allowing interest groups or individuals an opportunity to present their preferred option followed by a group discussion of its advantages and disadvantages, and likely environmental impacts.

### **Clarifying the involvement processes**

- SFNSW needs to carefully review how public input is processed. The method of analysing and utilising responses needs to be considered at the same time the overall CCP is designed. Having a better understanding of how input is processed will help clarify the form of input required from the community. Participants should be clearly briefed on how to write submissions and how their input will be processed and analysed in the decision-making process.

- The most powerful decision-maker, the approving authority (the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning), was not involved at the local level. Priscoli and Homenuck (1986) and Blahna and Yonts-Shepard (1989) maintain that for a consultation program to be effective it must bring key decision-makers into contact with the public. The current CCP only allows participant contact with the decision-makers who prepare the EIS (the study team), not the decision-makers who approve it (DUAP planners). DUAP should have more direct involvement in the CCP, or at least supply an active representative on the CCG beyond observer status.
- There is a need for all key players to agree on a code of conduct, detailing how members should treat each other, in addition to their responsibilities and their objectives. The CCG could even be given the power to suspend or expel its own members if they are not abiding by the agreed code of conduct. All CCG nominees should fully disclose their interests, background, qualifications as well as allegiances and affiliations to organisations and other nominees.
- The chairperson's position in the CCP is a very important one, encompassing elements of policing and facilitation. Where possible, the chairperson should be an independent facilitator working within guidelines agreed upon by both the agency and the CCG members. The chairperson must be experienced in meeting protocols and procedures, have considerable negotiation and conflict resolution skills, and be accepted as a fair and credible facilitator by all CCG members. Participants will have greater faith in the consensus process if they trust the referee.
- In addition to the minimum statutory requirements, planners should aim to keep the EIA in the public eye through the full range of print and electronic media. For the purposes of raising public awareness, soliciting participation, and keeping people informed of progress, an active media campaign is an essential part of a forestry CCP. To reduce the incidence of media wars, any media releases should be previewed, discussed and approved at CCG meetings.

## **Catering for participant needs**

- The CCG should be consulted on the type and form of data they require. All information provided in visual and verbal presentations should be supported with written summaries in simple language. Where possible, user friendly maps, diagrams, displays, pictures, tables, graphs and data sheets should be utilised. Complex reports and documents in particular should be provided at least one week prior to each meeting to enable members to digest them and prepare their questions, clarifications and responses.
- A record of all information disseminated should be available for quick reference during meetings. If requested, the study team should offer informal workshops for those who need additional information on specific issues. If the study team wants true information access, they must be prepared to supply all the necessary data required for participants to develop informed opinion. The importance of effective information dissemination cannot be overstressed, and should be given a high priority in any CCP.
- All major reports and data capture should be completed prior to forming the CCG, unless community input is essential for defining data needs. If there are delays in obtaining data, it is better to postpone the CCG meetings than to create unnecessary frustration and waste participant time.
- To provide acknowledgement and feedback, the study team should paraphrase comments and issues at the end of each meeting and in the meeting minutes, continually recapping participant input. This provides a check on whether the comments were recorded correctly and provides participants with the feedback and acknowledgement they seek. The study team can reassure participants of their influence on the process by taking every opportunity to clearly indicate where changes and influences have occurred throughout the CCP, and explain the reasons for adopting or rejecting community recommendations.
- Planners should be aware of community participation imbalances and take affirmative action to address this problem through targeted consultation strategies.

- Opportunities for interaction and discussion between planners and participants are highly valued by the community. Ongoing, easy and informal access to the study team must be maintained throughout the CCP in order to provide sufficient two-way communication and to meet the individual information needs of participants.

### **Improving professional standards**

- The agency must refrain from other activities which may undermine CCP credibility, such as carrying out forest management activities in contentious areas.
- Natural resource managers need to develop further skills in conflict resolution, mediation, negotiation, public speaking, print and electronic media liaison, and communication (Mortimer and Prosser 1991, Collins 1977 and USDA Forest Service 1990). Traditional forestry training does not prepare foresters for the complex social and political dynamics of modern forest management (Koch & Kennedy 1991, and Madden 1990) and, therefore, they require further training in the social sciences (Burch 1988).
- Planners must be firmly committed to the CCP and have a genuine belief in the value of community consultation. Manidis Roberts Consultants (1993) argue that training and sound participation techniques are not enough to ensure the success of CCPs; the 'corporate culture' must also fully embrace the need and worth of public participation in forest management.
- Planners must ensure that the EIA is conducted in a professional and accountable manner. No matter how well the CCP is designed and implemented it will not meet participant expectations if the EIA is substandard.
- Planners must ensure that their actions and dealings are professional and always above reproach, or they run the risk of fuelling suspicion and undermining their own credibility. Participants need to be assured that they will be treated fairly and equally and that the process is open and balanced.

## **Future research**

- Finally, ongoing evaluation should become a routine part of any CCP for three basic reasons. Firstly, there are immediate benefits to the study team in evaluating on the run: formative evaluation provides instant feedback and guidance assisting the study team to design and modify the CCP to suit changing participant needs. Secondly, an evaluation provides a pressure release for the participants, allowing them to vent their frustration. Boaden and Walker (1976) argue that surveys are in themselves a form of public participation, providing an additional source of valuable input. And lastly, every CCP has something to add to our overall knowledge of community consultation, and these lessons are worth passing on to other practitioners.



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## EIA Statutory and Policy Requirements

The following diagram illustrates the eight EIA phases adopted by SFNSW for the Morisset EIA. The shaded areas indicate the internal policy requirements of SFNSW Operational Circulars, while the unshaded areas indicate statutory requirements.

### Phase 1. Scoping and Project Management

- Seek the Director DUAP's requirements regarding;
  - the form of the statement; and
  - the availability of the statement for public comment (c85 EP&A Regulation 1994)
- Identify key issues
  - including factors to be taken into account when considering the likely impact of an activity on the environment as stated in c4A and c111.1 EP&A Act 1979, c82 EP&A Regulation 1994, section 92D NP&W Act 1974 ,and Director of Urban Affairs and Planning's requirements 1994
  - including factors listed in SFNSW Operational Circular No 93/6 and 94/06
  - seek advise on issues to be addressed and critical sources of information from the Director of NPWS
- Identify strategic elements and their resolution
- Prepare Strategic Issues Paper (SIP)
- Review of SIP by Head Office Strategic Overview Group (SOG)
- Scope extent of studies required
- Seek advise on survey methodologies from NPWS and DLWC
- Develop preliminary proposal
- Determine project management (form the EIA Study Team)
- Prepare consultant briefs

### Phase 2. Engage Consultants

- Issue briefs and call for tenders from consultants
- Form selection committee to assess tenders and conduct interviews
- Engage consultants
- Commence major studies

**Phase 3. EIS proposal and alternatives**

- Complete major studies
- Forward 2 copies of relevant consultant studies to Director NPWS
- Seek comments on consultant studies from
  - NPWS (fauna, flora and archaeology studies)
  - DLWC (soil study)
  - EPA (hydrological study)
  - SFNSW's own specialists (all studies)
- Identify and develop management alternatives
- Select preferred proposal

**Phase 4. EIS Drafting**

- Impact assessment of proposal
- Preparation of draft EIS
- Internal liaison (with Head Office & Research Div)
- External liaison (with NPWS, DLWC & EPA)

**Phase 5. Review of Draft EIS**

- Internal review (with Head Office staff and research specialists)
- Strategic overview (with Head Office EAB)
- External review (with NPWS, DLWC & EPA)
- Prepare a checklist of all statutory requirements and where each has been addressed in the EIS
- External legal audit (with external auditor)
- Submit to the SFNSW Board of Directors for approval to print

**Phase 6. Print and Exhibit EIS**

- Print EIS, supporting documents and information brochure
  - Brief the Minister on the EIS
  - Public exhibition commenced
- Public notice must be given that a copy of the EIS may be inspected at specified locations for a period of not less than 30 days from the date of notification in a local or statewide newspaper (c113.1 EP&AAct 1979, c87.2 EP&A Reg. 1994)
  - A 2 or 3 column wide notice must be published in at least 2 newspapers (one a daily statewide paper and one local paper which circulates at least once a week) on at least two occasions (c87.1EP&A Reg 1994)
  - The notice must have a standard title, a brief description of the proposal and locality, the proponent's name, information on the date, time and place that the EIS may be inspected, and a statement that any person may make a written representation to the determining authority before the close of the display period (c87.3 EP&A Reg 1994)
  - A copy of the EIS will be made available for simultaneously public inspection at the NSW Environment Centre, NSW Government Information Centre, relevant Council offices, DUAP office and the principal office of the proponent (c88 EP&A Reg 1994, c113.1 EP&A Act 1979) as well as the regional and district offices for simultaneous display (Dir. DUAP's requirements 1994)
  - Copies of the EIS must be made available for sale to the public for no more than \$25 per copy (c89.1 EP&A Reg 1994)
  - Anyone may inspect the EIS and make a written representation to the determining authority within the specified display period (c113.2 EP&A Act 1979)

**Phase 7. Post Exhibition**

- Collate public representations
- Forward copies of EIS and public submissions
  - Forward 8 copies of the EIS, 6 copies of all supporting documents, and large scale maps showing compartment boundaries and forest types to the Director DUAP (c86 EP&A Reg. 1994, Dir. DUAP's requirements 1994)
  - All written submissions received must be forwarded to the DUAP no less than 21 days before granting of approval (c113.3 EP&A Act 1979)
  - Any submissions made during the period of public exhibition must be forwarded to the DUAP within seven days of the close of the exhibition period, along with any additional submissions which SFNSW may care to make (Dir. DUAP's requirements 1994)
  - copies of the EIS must be forwarded to the Dir. of NPWS (c112.1D EP&A Act 1979)
- Also forward copies of all submissions to the Dir. of NPWS
- Review of public representations (including NPWS's submission )
- Liaise with NPWS, EPA & DLWC
- Forward SFNSW submission responses to the Dir. of DUAP
- Seek approval of the proposal activity from the Minister of UAP
  - The determining authority, if it is also the proponent, cannot carry out the proposed activity unless the Minister has approved of the activity (c115A EP&A Act 1979)
  - The Director of DUAP may examine the EIS, and any other representations, before preparing a report of the examination findings and any recommendations to the determining authority (c113.5 EP&A Act 1979). This report is also provided for the Minister's consideration (c115C EP&A Act 1979)
  - After forwarding this report to the determining authority, the Director will make public that report (c113.6 EP&A Act 1979)
- Determination of EIS by determining authority / proponent (SFNSW)
  - The determining authority must prepare a report of its examination of :
    - the EIS;
    - any written public representations about the proposed activity;
    - the effects of the proposal on the environment;
    - the proposals to mitigate adverse environmental effects; and
    - the findings and recommendations of the Director DUAP and the Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning, and any commission of inquiry (c91.3 EP&A Reg 1994)
  - The report must detail the determining authorities decision on the proposed activity (c91.4 EP&A Reg 1994)
  - This report must also be made public and copies sent to each relevant council (c91.5 EP&A Reg 1994)
- Forward 4 copies of determination report to NPWS



**Phase 8. Ministerial Consultation**

• Ministerial submission

- The Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning may at any time establish a Commission of Inquiry to publically investigate any matter related to the EIS or the Act. (c119 EP&A Act 1979)
- Any unresolved disputes between a determining authority and Director DUAP will be settled by the Premier. (c121 EP&A Act 1979)
- The Regulatory and Public Information Committee (RaPIC), comprising of representatives from NPWS, EPA, DLWC & SFNSW, continue to review and monitor all logging and roading proposals after the EIS determination (Part 3 c2b TI(IP) Act 1992)

Sources: SFNSW Operational Circulars No 93/9, 93/10, 94/06 and 94/10, SFNSW Morisset Forestry EIS Dec 1995, EP&A Act 1979, EP&A Reg 1994, TI(IP) Act 1992, NPW Act 1974, the DUAP's Manual for Environmental Impact Assessment, and the written requirements of the Director of Urban Affairs and Planning 19/1/1994.

Morrisset EIS Newspaper Advertisements

Issued 11th February 1993

**FORESTRY COMMISSION OF NSW  
MORISSET E.I.S.**

**Help Us To Sustain Your Forests**

The Forestry Commission is encouraging interested groups and individuals to become involved in planning of the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement over the State Forests and other Crown-timber lands of Morrisset District, which include the Watagan Mountains.

The Commission has managed these forests between Cessnock and Wyong since early this century. Current management is described in the Cessnock and Wyong Management Plans. It is proposed to continue management for fire protection, conservation of plants and animals, water catchment, protection of heritage values, education, recreation, research and controlled wood production.

The main aim of the E.I.S. is to assess this proposal. These State Forests are managed on behalf of the people of NSW. We are seeking comment and suggestions from groups or individuals to assist in deciding the issues that need to be addressed in the E.I.S. This is your chance to make a contribution.

After the E.I.S. is finished and put on public exhibition you will again have an opportunity to comment on management proposals and environmental impacts. The Minister for Planning will then decide whether to accept our proposal, or support a different course of action.

Further details and Management Plans can be obtained from the District Forester at Morrisset (phone 049/73 3733) or the Regional Planning Forester at Terang (phone 065/51 0074).

Written responses setting out the issues that should be addressed in the E.I.S. should be directed to:

**The District Forester  
PO Box 171, MORISSET 2264  
by Wednesday 31st March, 1993.**

Issued 18th January 1995


**Environmental Impact  
Statement For  
Morrisset Forestry District**

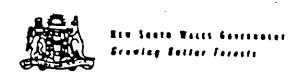
State Forests of NSW has recently engaged environmental consultants ERM Mitchell McCotter to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Fauna Impact Statement (FIS) for proposed forestry operations in the Morrisset Forestry District over the next 10 years. The study area includes State forests and Crown-timber lands in the Wyong and Cessnock Management Areas, south of the Hunter River and adjacent to the Central Coast between Sydney and Newcastle.


*Nominations Invited*

A Community Consultation Group (CCG) is being established to advise on matters relating to the preparation of the EIS and FIS. The CCG will have about 20 members, who will be chosen to represent the full range of interests in the community. It is expected to meet once a month, with the first meeting to be held in Morrisset on Wednesday 22 February 1995.

For further information and a nomination form, please contact Danielle Hopman or Caroline St.Clair at ERM Mitchell McCotter on (02) 906 1666 during business hours. Nominations close on 6 February, 1995.







## **Annotated summary of public participation evaluation literature**

A review of the literature on evaluating public participation in natural resource management revealed use of the following criteria.

### **Evaluation criteria**

- **Context / Setting**  
Evaluations often describe the case study setting, historical context, socio-political climate, administrative structure, as well as statutory and policy constraints on public participation programs. Examples : Burgar (1977); Graves and LaPage (1977); Hoole (1977); Langton (1979); Sarkissian (1986); Clark (1986); Sinclair (1977); Syme (1992); Syme and Eaton (1989); Vindasius (1975); Wilkinson and Barr (1993); Landre and Knuth (1993); Mitchel (1989); Dale (1977); Graves and LaPage (1977) and O’Riordan (1976).
- **Source of public participation initiation**  
Vindasius (1974) uses this criteria to distinguish between public participation programs which are agency driven and those which are community inspired.
- **Involvement of public in setting participation objectives.**  
Vindasius (1975) and Mitchel (1989) advocate that the public should have some say in setting the public participation objectives.
- **Time and resources expended**  
Many evaluators use cost efficiency as a means of assessing and comparing public participation programs. Often all direct and indirect costs are recorded throughout the public participation process. Examples include Cartwright (1977); Dale (1977); Farrell, Melin and Stacey (1974); Goldsmith and Saunders (1975); Hampton and Beale (1976); Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977); Sewell and Phillips (1979); Sewell (1977); Vindasius (1974); Mitchel (1989) and O’Riordan (1976).
- **Rationale or purpose of the public participation program**  
Cartwright (1977) and Wengert (1976) argue that the rationale behind the public participation program reveals much about the worth of a program.
- **Degree of participant skills and sophistication needed to participate**  
Sinclair (1977) uses this criteria to reflect the barriers to participation created through complex planning processes. Lafoy (1977) suggests that the level of participant understanding of processes involved is a good indication of program complexity.
- **How was input handled, processed and analysed**  
Several evaluators argue that the processing of community input is a critical factor in any public participation program. Examples include Hampton and Walker (1975);

Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977); Hoole (1977); D'Amore (1977); Stringer and Plumridge (1974); Blahna and Yonts-Shepard (1989) and Lafoy (1977).

- **Description of program processes, methods and techniques used**  
Examples include Burgar (1977); Cartwright (1977); Goldsmith and Saunders (1975); Clark (1986); Vindasius (1975); Wilkinson and Barr (1993); and Mitchel (1989).
- **Number, frequency, location and duration of meetings**  
Lewis (1977) and Hampton and Walker (1975) use these criteria as a measure of the input and effort gone into a public participation program.
- **Success of implementation of strategies and techniques**  
This is usually based on the agency's perspective. Examples include Farrell, Melin and Stacey (1974); Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977); Hoole (1977) and Lafoy (1977).
- **Changes in public attitudes or behaviours**  
Farrell, Melin and Stacey (1974); Vindasius (1975) and the Murray - Darling Basin Ministerial Council (1992) use this criteria to reflect the impact of the public participation program on the community.
- **Recruitment process and representativeness of participants to target population**  
This is one of the most commonly used evaluation criteria. Sociodemographic data and/or social attitude surveys are often used to compare the participants to the wider community. Examples include Collins (1977); Department of Primary Industries Qld. (1994); Ertel (1979); Farrell, Melin and Stacey (1974); Goldsmith and Saunders (1976); Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977); Sarkissian (1986); Sinclair (1977); Blahna and Yonts-Shepard (1989); Vindasius (1975); Wilkinson and Barr (1993); Mitchel (1989) and O'Riordan (1976). Farrell, Melin and Stacey (1974) also use the degree to which the public believes it was represented by the participants as a measure of recruitment success.
- **The decision-making process**  
Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977), Blahna and Yonts-Shepard (1989) and Sarkissian (1986) use degree of community involvement in the decision making process as a measure of effectiveness.
- **Interaction between decision-makers, planners and participants**  
The level of access, joint planning, frequency of contact, and general relationships between planners, participants and decision-makers is seen as a significant evaluation criteria by many evaluators. Examples include Collins (1977); Farrell, Melin and Stacey (1974); Goldsmith and Saunders (1976); Blahna and Yonts-Shepard (1989); Hampton and Walker (1975); Shalinsky (1977); Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977); Sinclair (1977); Lewis (1977) and O'Riordan (1976).
- **The kinds of participation objectives set for the process**  
Hoole (1977), Landre and Knuth (1993) and Langton (1979) evaluate participation programs on the basis of the objectives set by planners.

- **Equality of opportunity to participate**  
 Goldsmith and Saunders (1976) and Wilkinson and Barr (1993) raise this issue as an important factor in assessing public participation programs.
- **A balance of views obtained**  
 Department of Primary Industries Queensland (1994) consider a balance of views to be an objective for community involvement programs. The more balanced the views the better the result.
- **Attendance records**  
 Some evaluators use the number of participants at meetings as a reflection of public interest and a measure of planning effort. Examples include Hampton and Walker (1975); Lewis (1977); Shalinsky (1977); Vindasius (1975); Goldsmith and Saunders (1975) and Goldsmith and Saunders (1976).
- **Who was consulted**  
 The number and type of groups and organisations consulted is often used as an indication of program success. Examples include Hampton and Walker (1975); Stringer and Plumridge (1974); Langton (1979) and Mitchel (1989).
- **Agency response to community input**  
 The Department of Primary Industries Queensland (1994) uses the degree and extent of agency response to public input as a measure of community responsiveness.
- **Extent of community input**  
 The number of ideas and input events, such as the number of phone calls, letters, submissions (including total number of words) and face to face contacts has been used as indicators of community response and consultation success by many evaluators, including Farrell, Melin and Stacey (1974); USDA Forest Service (1990); Lafoy (1977); Hampton and Walker (1975); Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977); Hoole (1977); Stringer and Plumridge (1974); Syme and Eaton (1989); Goldsmith and Saunders (1976) and Vindasius (1974). Sewell and Phillips (1979) also use the percentage of the total population which participated as a measure of the degree of citizen involvement.
- **Terms of Reference**  
 The community's role in the participation process is used to assess worth by Cartwright (1977); Dale (1977); Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977) and Hoole (1977).
- **Amount of new ideas generated**  
 Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977) and Lafoy (1977) use the amount of new ideas and creative contributions arising from public participation programs as a measure of planning success.
- **Information exchange**  
 The form, accessibility and amount of information exchange between planners and participants are some of the most commonly used evaluation criteria in public participation. This includes the effectiveness of media coverage and the level of public awareness generation, the degree of two way flow of information, the distribution of

documents, freedom of information and availability of data, complexity and user friendliness of data, and accuracy and reliability of data. Examples include Collins (1977); D'Amore (1977); Department of Primary Industries Queensland (1994); Ertel (1979); USDA Forest Service (1990); Hamill (1977); Hodge and Hodge (1977); Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977); Sarkissian (1986); Sinclair (1977); Stone (1992); Stringer and Plumridge (1974); Landre and Knuth (1993); Lewis (1977); Margules Groome Poyry Pty Ltd (1994); Mitchel (1989); Murray - Darling Basin Ministerial Council (1992) and O'Riordan (1976).

- **Mutual Education**

Ayers (1972), Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977) and Sinclair (1977) consider the amount of mutual education of planners and participants alike as an important feature of public participation programs.

- **Type of participation model used**

Some evaluators use established models of participation (e.g. Arnstein 1969, Farrell, Melin and Stacey 1974, or Vindasius 1974) to classify community participation programs. Examples include Burgar (1977); Connor (1977); Clark (1986); Sewell and Phillips (1979); Stone (1992); Syme (1992) and Wilkinson and Barr (1993).

- **Individual participant or organisation objectives**

Wilkinson and Barr (1993) and Wolfe (1977) consider to fulfillment of individual participation objectives to be just as important as the fulfillment of agency objectives.

- **Favourable media coverage**

Goldsmith and Saunders (1975), Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977) and Hoole (1977) use the amount of favourable media coverage as a reflection of the success of the public participation process.

- **Level of power offered to participants**

Arnstein (1969), Cartwright (1977) and Farrell, Melin and Stacey (1974) classify community participation programs based on the level of participant empowerment or the degree of perceived control over decision-making.

- **Level of consensus reached**

Collins (1977) and Shalinsky (1977) refer to the areas of agreement and disagreement as a reflection of the level of participation obtained.

- **Improved future public response**

Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977) argue that public participation processes also have benefits for future involvement programs. A history of favourable experience encourages participants to continue providing input.

- **Community sense of ownership of the decision**

The Queensland Department of Primary Industries (1994) and the Murray - Darling Basin Ministerial Council (1992) measure the sense of ownership of the decision felt within a community as a reflection of its success.

- **Increase in participant communication skills**  
Farrell, Melin and Stacey (1974) suggest that an increase in participant communication skills is an important variable in a public participation process evaluation.
- **Equity between participants**  
Sewell and Phillips (1979) and Wilkinson and Barr (1993) consider equity in the opportunity to participate an important evaluation criterion.
- **Adherence to participation standards, guidelines and handbooks**  
The evaluation of a community involvement process in terms of common standards and guidelines is often used in an audit review style of evaluation. Examples include Bureau of Land Management (1983); Clark and Stankey (1976); Sarkissian, Perlcut and Ballard (1986); Blahna and Yonts-Shepard (1989); Institute for Participatory Planning (1981); Praxis (1988) and USDA Forest Service (1992).
- **Planner and/or participant satisfaction with the process**  
This is one of the most popular forms of evaluation for public participation programs. Evaluators often use the amount of complaints, challenges, criticism, approval or endorsement as a measure of success. Similarly, surveys measuring the degree of positive or negative attitudes towards the CCP are also common. Examples include Dale (1977); Department of Primary Industries Qld. (1994); Dixon (1992); Ertel (1979); Farrell, Melin and Stacey (1974); USDA Forest Service (1990); Goldsmith and Saunders (1975); Goldsmith and Saunders (1976); Graves and LaPage (1977); Hampton and Walker (1975); Hodge and Hodge (1977); Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977); Sarkissian (1986); Sewell and Phillips (1979); Sewell (1977); Stringer and Plumridge (1974); Wilkinson and Barr (1993); Wolfe (1977) and Lafoy (1977).
- **Level of planner and participant commitment to implementing the plan**  
USDA Forest Service (1990) use surveys and observational data determining the level of commitment to implementing a plan as an indication of the level of satisfaction with the planning outcome.
- **Meeting deadlines**  
Sewell (1977) uses the success in meeting planned deadlines as one indication of program success.
- **Litigation and confrontation prevention**  
Sadler (1977), Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977) and USDA Forest Service (1990) suggest that CCPs with minimal or no legal challenges reflect a successful program.
- **Public confidence in the agency**  
Most agency driven CCPs have an objective to increase their level of trust and credibility with public and improve their public relations. Examples include USDA Forest Service (1990); Graves and LaPage (1977); Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977); Lewis (1977); Hoole (1977); Sewell (1977) and Shalinsky (1977).

- **Planning flexibility**  
Shalinsky (1977) and Murray - Darling Basin Ministerial Council (1992) measure success in the planner's ability to adjust the CCP to suit the public, including sufficient time allocation to adjust for new alternatives.
- **Compliance with legislation**  
The USDA Forest Service (1990) uses this criteria to evaluate compliance with statutory regulations.
- **Participatory techniques used**  
Many evaluators refer to the types of methods and techniques used in the CCP as a reflection of their worth or value. Examples include Hampton and Walker (1975); Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977); Landre and Knuth (1993) and Langton (1979).
- **Participant impact on final design**  
Another commonly used evaluation criteria which measures the perceived participant influence on decision-making process through planner and participant perspectives. Examples include Collins (1977); Farrell, Melin and Stacey (1974); USDA Forest Service (1990); Chesterman and Stone (1992); Graves and LaPage (1977); Hodge and Hodge (1977); Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977); Sewell (1977); Sinclair (1977); Stone (1992); Stringer and Plumridge (1974); Wilkinson and Barr (1993) and Mitchel (1989). Farrell, Melin and Stacey (1974) and USDA Forest Service (1990) suggest the documentation of changes made to the proposal as another means of gauging participant impact.
- **Benefit / Cost analysis**  
Collins (1977) and Sadler (1977) argue the pros and cons of the CCP as a measure of success.
- **Achievement of explicit goals and objectives**  
Most CCP evaluations are audit reviews which assess accomplishments against a set of expected outcomes. Examples include Collins (1977); Department of Primary Industries Qld. (1994); Farrell, Melin and Stacey (1974); Hodge and Hodge (1977); Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977); Hoole (1977); Rosener (1979); Sadler (1977); Clark (1986); Sewell and Phillips (1979); Sewell (1977); Shalinsky (1977); Vindasius (1975); Wilkinson and Barr (1993); Lafoy (1977) and Mitchel (1989).
- **Level of community support for the process and outcome**  
Many evaluators use the level of public acceptance or opposition to the proposal as a measure of success. Examples include Collins (1977); Dixon (1992); Farrell, Melin and Stacey (1974); Homenuck, Durlak and Morgenstern (1977); Hoole (1977); Sewell (1977); Wilkinson and Barr (1993) and Murray - Darling Basin Ministerial Council (1992).
- **Better decisions were made**  
USDA Forest Service (1990) attempted to determine if better decisions were made as a result of the CCP.



## **Morisset Forestry Environmental Impact Assessment Community Participation Evaluation Questionnaire**

**Name :** \_\_\_\_\_

1. What issues related to the Morisset EIS are you primarily concerned about ?

  1 \_\_\_\_\_

  2 \_\_\_\_\_

  3 \_\_\_\_\_

2. What do you think is the role of the Community Consultation Group ?

  1 \_\_\_\_\_

  2 \_\_\_\_\_

  3 \_\_\_\_\_

3. What were your reasons for joining the Community Consultation Group?

  1 \_\_\_\_\_

  2 \_\_\_\_\_

  3 \_\_\_\_\_

  4 \_\_\_\_\_

4. As a member of the Community Consultation Group what do you hope to achieve ?

  1 \_\_\_\_\_

  2 \_\_\_\_\_

  3 \_\_\_\_\_

  4 \_\_\_\_\_





5. What information do you require to help you contribute more effectively ?

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

6. Since our first CCG meeting how much time have you spent discussing the EIS with;

- other CCG members. (Please estimate the No. of hours = .....)
- non CCG members (Please estimate the No. of hours = .....)

7. On a scale of 1 to 10 how would you rate the value of the second CCG meeting ?

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Waste of time very worthwhile

8. In your opinion what should the CCG do next ?

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

9. In terms of how the second Community Consultation Group meeting was structured or run, what worked well and what didn't work well ?

Worked well	Didn't work well



5. How would you describe the interactions between CCG members and State Forest planners/consultants?

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6. How would you describe the interactions among CCG members ?

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7. Since our second CCG meeting how much time have you spent discussing the EIS with

- other CCG members. (Please estimate the No. of hours = .....)
- non CCG members (Please estimate the No. of hours = .....)

8. In terms of how the third Community Consultation Group meeting was structured or run, what worked well and what didn't work well ?

Worked well	Didn't work well



5. Since our last CCG meeting (from 3rd May to 17th July) how much time have you spent discussing the EIS with ....

- other CCG members. (Please estimate the No. of hours = .....)
- non CCG members (Please estimate the No. of hours = .....)

6. In terms of how the 4th CCG meeting was structured or run, what worked well and what didn't work well ?

Worked well	Didn't work well

7. How would you rate your confidence in State Forests as environmentally responsible and competent forest managers ?

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10  
 no confidence complete confidence.

8. What questions should CCG members be asked in the next evaluation survey ?

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# 1st CCG Open Ended Questionnaire Responses

21 surveys issued. 19 received. Response rate of 90%.

## 1. What issues related to the Morisset EIS are you primarily concerned about ?

Participant No.	Comments
14	Long term viability of Timber Industry.
15	Conservation of biodiversity Water quality and quantity
8	Destruction of values of public forests by overcutting; and by exploitation for inappropriate volumes of low-value products. Exploitation of industry workers, and local community, with loss of future industry viability, absence of regional conservation reserve and public amenity, taxpayer financial loss for the profit of companies.
5	The on-going future of my business. Correct understanding of forest processes to the uninformed. Eventual working harmony of all groups involved.
9	Timber / Forestry
1	Ecologically sustainable development. Quality of the Env. Assessment Process Determination of issues of significance Impact prediction methods used Env. Management plans developed for this project. On-going auditing and reporting mechanisms.
21	Current & future logging of forests in the Morisset Forestry region. Management of the above such that the forests are not over-logged. Other uses allowed in the forest - I'm interested in seeking that a balance is achieved between interest groups.
12	ESD in the short and long term. Management practices and whether they are consistent with the achievement of other goals, such as scientific values, educational, TCM considerations.
3	Maximum ecotourism advantages. Maximum value added forestry product manufactured in Australia. The total ban on logging any genuinely primal forest and old growth areas - and the beautification of silvicultured areas wherever practicable.
16	State Forests being .....to the public That the timber resources are managed right. Flora & fauna are looked after.
13	Preservation of old growth forest & biodiversity Land management practices e.g. effective erosion control. The absence of completed research reports.

19	Conservation of rare and/or endangered flora & fauna. Past, present and future fire regimes in forest management practice/s. Pollution of water catchment zones and introduced pathogenicity through mechanical harvesting techniques and vehicular movements on the forest floor.
2	Recreational - Educational issues. Fire hazard management issues. Human impact issues (control)
20	Timber supply. Economic considerations. Social Impact Analysis.
6	Apiary husbandry & grazing of stock. The overall management of the forests so that all the various systems which depend on the forests for survival are sustained.
17	Conservation generally. Tourism.
11	Availability of forest to public. Protection of environment Sustainable forest industry.
10	Recreational use of the forest. Motor sport use of the forest.
18	The impact, if any, caring people have on government authority. The devastating impact of modern methods of harvesting on our forests. The welfare of the native flora and fauna. The appalling disregard and exclusion of the general public in the decision making process.

2. What do you think is the role of the Community Consultation Group ?

Participant No.	Comments
14	Input of ideas Balancing views of interest groups
15	To act as a conduit for information and communication between the community, State Forests Corporation and the consultants compiling the EIS. e.g. consultation with old local loggers/millers would help to compile the logging history map in conjunction with the written records.(Show them the draft).
8	To be fully informed, involved and consulted throughout the process. To express regional community values, that they affect preferred proposal, thereby limiting purely timber resource values. In fact, as a legal obligation, the role is token, not real public participation.
5	Putting forward one's individual concerns. Making sure their concerns are properly dealt with. Making sure EIS process is handled in an unbiased manner.
9	To give true community input into the EIS.
1	To observe and advise the project.

21	<p>To represent the wider community which has contact with the forests in the region.</p> <p>To examine scientific and socio-economic data and make it available to constituents.</p> <p>To register reactions and opinions on current &amp; future uses of the forests.</p>
12	<p>Provide community perspective to the various reports, studies and future management plans.</p> <p>Represent a variety of opinion and expertise that may not have been included in various consultant reports.</p>
3	<p>It facilitates the preemption of " Green" extreme positions.</p> <p>It gives the forestry some certainty and legal status for future operations.</p> <p>It assists the community to believe that through its input there is a certain ownership of ideas and that justice might have been done to nature.</p>
16	<p>To work together so that everyone puts forward their views.</p> <p>To come up with a workable plan that suits everyone and not one group.</p>
13	<p>To provide input of community knowledge.</p> <p>To provide input of community concerns</p> <p>To provide input of specialist knowledge.</p>
19	<p>To represent public opinion and concerns to ensure proper forestry management.</p> <p>To be aware of and discuss general forestry management and conflicts arising.</p> <p>To bring impartial evaluation to management proposals impacting on public usage.</p>
2	<p>To advise consultants of needs &amp; concerns of a range of forest users. By acting in an advisory capacity ensuring that a management plan is developed which will benefit the overall community both now and into the future.</p>
20	<p>Provide community input.</p> <p>Forum for discussing forest management issues.</p> <p>Forum for discussion between stakeholders.</p>
6	<p>To allow the community at large to present their views &amp; opinions on how it would like the forests to be managed.</p>
17	<p>Ensure full consideration in enviro issues. Community participation.</p>
11	<p>Consultation before action.</p>
10	<p>To assess the impact of the various studies and recommend any changes that the group perceives to maintain and enhance the area.</p>
18	<p>To advise consultants and forest personnel of people's concerns.</p> <p>To learn all views on the subject.</p> <p>To be a voice for those who nominated and elected us.</p>

3. What were your reasons for joining the Community Consultation Group?

Participant No.	Comments
14	Interest in Timber Industry Desire to promote the pluses of the Timber Industry.
15	The information compiled on and the overview of the district that I have been developing needs to be used and built on. I am concerned about remnant vegetation across all land tenures. The CCG is an opportunity to participate in the process of getting to environmentally sensitive land management.
8	To be better informed To present a perspective on optimal outcome. To be better prepared for possible necessary action.
5	To make sure there was a proper understanding of foliage picking. To liaise with other interested parties to make sure they understand. To offer my experience and knowledge in day to day forest activities. To ensure the EIS was given a working chance.
9	Forest Protection Society is based on rural communities.
1	Represent Wyong Shire (the biggest single land use in the shire is State Forestry). To gain information on the project and determine how it might contribute to cumulative env. impacts in the region.
21	Initially my personal reason was that I would learn about forestry in my own area and then be able to have an informed opinion. Then Wollombi Valley Landcare nominated me because of my membership of Landcare and knowledge of fire as a Deputy Captain and immediate past president of Laguna Brigade. I realised that since I had no personal bandwagon to push, perhaps I might be an unbiased community representative.
12	Member of Lake Macquarie Total Catchment Management Committee. Lecturer in Environmental Studies at Newcastle Uni. I live in the district and have used the forest for scientific and educational purposes.
3	To help in the objective and balanced overview of holding on to what we have left. To assist in obtaining a total management package giving something to everyone. To maximise a diverse recreative experience that preserves the identity, beauty, and uniqueness of the area.
16	Because myself and the other clubs I represent are interested in what happens to our forest.

13	<p>Concern about current logging practices.</p> <p>Concerns about clear-felling.</p> <p>Concerns about land-management processes.</p> <p>A wish to have some say in management to ensure a future timber industry for Australia.</p>
19	<p>I wished to become involved in the management and protection of State forests.</p> <p>To offer some 20 years experience in Wildlife research in Dept. of CALM (W.A.).</p> <p>Attempt to represent the views of "the man in the street", (voice in the wilderness).</p> <p>Attempt to influence general and controversial forest management practices so damaging to the environment and of deep public concern.</p>
2	<p>As active &amp; regular users of the forest to ensure our interests were considered.</p> <p>To in some way temper the strong single focus of groups I was sure would be represented on the CCG. i.e to stop the whole process being hijacked by extreme protagonists.</p>
20	<p>Provide industry input. Address any industry related issues raised.</p> <p>Improve knowledge of Morisset EIS process.</p> <p>Liaise with other industry people.</p>
6	<p>Interested community member concerned if the destruction of the forests is allowed by government regulations that it will have a disastrous effect on the environment, the fresh air which is required for the continued habitation of both human &amp; animal life forms.</p>
17	<p>An overall interest in enviro issues. Ensure Lake Macquarie City Council has input.</p>
11	<p>I enjoy using the forest &amp; seeing the forest &amp; live at the base of the Watagans.</p>
10	<p>To protect the interests of a minority group (Motor Sport) and to provide a balance with the extreme conservationists who may wish to close the forest to <u>all</u> users.</p>
18	<p>Nominated by two local groups.</p> <p>Personal interest in trees and all natural things.</p> <p>A hopefulness that some day the voice of the people will be heard then heeded.</p>

4. As a member of the Community Consultation Group what do you hope to achieve ?

Participant No.	Comments
14	<p>Balanced input into EIS</p> <p>Education of some non informed members.</p>

15	Active participation by the community in their catchment management. Group recognition of the interdependence of the remnant forests, endangered species, water issues, community well-being and the need to consider cumulative impacts.
8	See other answers.
5	I hope by the end of the EIS all parties involved see that what I do for a living has no detrimental effect on the environment . And a long term management program can be seen to be beneficial.
9	Gain a better understanding of the Morisset Area and contribute to the outcome of the EIS.
1	The EIS studies & presentation are undertaken in a logical, balanced, process oriented manner - so that both the lay community and technical experts are satisfied with the outcomes.
21	To represent the "constituents" of my "group" - community & towns. To make available data, as it comes to hand, to the community. To be better informed personally. I seriously doubt, however, that the CCG will a) reach consensus on many issues b) be taken notice of
12	Understanding of various community needs. Emphasise the importance of the S.F for catchment values (soil, water, fauna & flora). Due consideration for the "non- production" values of the forest, with a long-term view of population growth in the region.
3	Clearly identifiable walking trails that can be maintained with the possibility of a camping lodge on a user pay system. Develop policies that help to beautify the area. Enhance the funding base through value added products where possible.
16	A long term workable plan to see our forest looked after. To see the forests are managed properly so that the timber they produce is used not abused.
13	Some input into future management of forests. Raise awareness of alternatives to timber use in come areas. Raise awareness of the impacts of logging on slopes over 18°.
19	Bring sensible discussion and evaluation to a common acceptance by management. Ensure that public views are fully presented and taken note of in policy determination. That State Forestry recognise the need for public consultation in Forest management. State Forestry will attempt to lift its poor public image (currently reflected in media publications etc.) and take note of public concern on present forest management.

2	To see an honest and unbiased E.I.S which has addressed all areas purported to it. To ensure that the process of community consultation is not dominated by vocal sections of the community but all sections of the community allowed to have input which is valued.
20	Provide advise to consultants / SF NSW. Maintain objective approach by CCG. Dispel mistakes raised about forest industry & forest management.
6	To ensure that the government of the time listens to the people and to implement the options put forward.
17	Input in achieving the best balance of use of forest resources with emphasis on ecological conservation.
11	Question 1.
10	That the use of the forest at least remains the same for all users.
18	To find out what is behind the whole process. To learn from other group members. To see a more caring approach to harvesting our resources. To let the group know the concerns of those who nominated me.

5. Are you confident of achieving your objectives ? (Please explain your answer)

Participant No.	Comments
14	Yes, but to a limited degree as some people are very narrow minded as shown at first meeting.
15	No. An EIS and CCG are existing avenues for some public involvement in management of public land but the absence of any decision making power leads many people to consider it is a waste of time. Yes, if information is available in accessible forms.e.g. mapping at various scales, overlays either hardcopy or GIS. Need adequate level of detail as well as time for discussion and consideration.
8	I believe I will be better informed. I will express an alternative perspective. I will be better prepared for possible necessary action. I will have no influence whatsoever on the EIS
5	I am confident in the knowing that what I have done in forests for the last twelve years has been beneficial and not detrimental in any way to the environment.
9	After the first meeting, I'm not sure.
1	One lives in hope ! There is a perceived degree of "tokenism" about this process in the minds of portions of the community.

21	<p>The first 3, yes.</p> <p>No. 4, No. Because (a) there are widely divergent interests &amp; too many participants obviously have self-interest at heart.</p> <p>(b) At no stage was it explained just what influence we would have &amp; the time frame is ridiculous.</p>
12	<p>Partially - understanding will involve listening and discussion.</p> <p>Catchment values should already be enshrined in the DOP, SEMGLs and ameliorative measures of the EIS.</p> <p>I am not confident that the alternative "non-production" value will be given adequate consideration.</p>
3	<p>No. The time frame is virtually impossible.</p> <p>The value of this EIS as a cogent and unassailable document is significantly threatened by delays in ultimate reports. (I will however pray for a miracle). Four "paid" meetings is an indictment on the worth that is being placed on this study.</p>
16	<p>Yes. I think if everyone listens to each other and not just their own point of view as some people can only see one thing as a lot of people do.</p>
13	<p>No, however I am optimistic. I am concerned at the apparent limited knowledge amongst forestry staff concerning vegetation matters and erosion. I am also concerned at the unavailability of research reports.</p>
19	<p>Possibly. Having worked in Government, I am aware of the political implications arising from such an industry in conflict with public opinion. The question arises as to what, if any, notice will be taken of public submissions in the general overall determination of where forestry management is going ? Industry and jobs are all major determinants in this matter and will influence government. Frankly, I should like to think that the determinations of the C.C.G will receive consideration but I have doubt that this will be the case in areas of controversy. I live in optimism that the public does deserve a voice.</p>
2	<p>I am relatively confident its EIS &amp; FIS will be honest &amp; unbiased due to the very nature of that part of the process. I am not too sure however that the community consultation process will roll smoothly as indications on the first meeting were demonstrative of an adversarial situation developing.</p>
20	<p>Yes. Based on past experience with CCG's in NSW.</p>
6	<p>Undecided. Governments usually ignore the community and implement what they see should be achieved, usually with the dollar signs in sight and not for the good of the people or the environment.</p>
17	<p>No. The political nature of this topic &amp; powerful vested interests make any prediction difficult.</p>
11	<p>No. I wonder how much store is put in what we say.</p>
10	<p>Yes ! Providing the CCG does not want to make the area a total "Wilderness".</p>



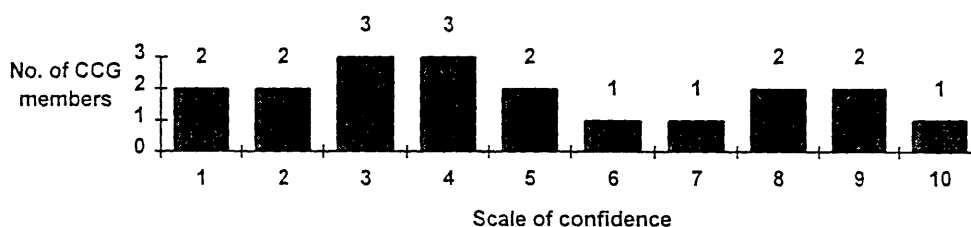
18	<p>No. I've worked with Pacific Power, local government etc, public response is guaged and cleverly sidelined.</p> <p>I'd thought at first our group would be organised so time would correspond with the balance of interests - the vocal are dominating. I can see the group's lack of confidence in achieving their personal priorities will eventually see the numbers reduced.</p> <p>All consultants and EIS compilers are paid by the developer and what they present is designed to suit their employers purposes.</p>
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6. How will you judge the success of the Community Consultation Group ?

Participant No.	Comments
14	By a review of its achievements.
15	<p>A successful process will be self-evident if there is active communication between CCG members and the wider community.</p> <p>A successful CCG would perhaps be reflected in shared perceptions and greater understandings being developed over time.</p> <p>A successful outcome would be an EIS that did not contain information that was incorrect according to local knowledge</p>
8	<p>In terms of some real, not token, public participation.</p> <p>In terms of sharing information and documents as they are looking towards the published EIS.</p> <p>In terms of modifying proposed activities to account for long-term public benefit.</p>
5	By the approach taken and the response given by the other parties involved, this will show their real concerns for this area, or whether they are just general lobbyists.
9	If a fair and honest assessment from the CCG is given to the EIS.
1	By the effect it has on the eventual outcomes of the project.
21	<p>For the first 3 above, it is up to me to be active locally.</p> <p>For 4 above, we'll see whether serious consensus can be reached on important issues and whether CCG recommendations are taken heed of.</p>
12	Ability to listen and reach consensus or at least to appreciate the alternatives.
3	<p>The reception it receives from the community.</p> <p>The criticism it will attract from local governments.</p> <p>The satisfaction that all parties express from being able to be allowed satisfactory input.</p> <p>The objective and supportive material used to back up the discussions.</p>
16	<p>By what plans the group come up with at the end .</p> <p>And by what the Government does.</p>



9	6	This is dependant on regions.
1	4	
21	4	
12	2	
3	2/3 - 7/8	2/3 if no extra time out/meetings 7/8 with extended time/meetings
16	8	
13	3	
19	3	
2	7/8	
20	9	
6	5	
17	4	
11	8/9	
10	10	
18	2	



8. In terms of how the Community Consultation Group meeting was structured or run, what worked well and what didn't work well ?

	What worked	What didn't work
16	In general all worked well	Some of the members there just went on about the same things for too long even though they were given an answer.
15	Issue group representative selection.	Selection was good organisationally but not necessarily representatively e.g. the Central coast Tourism Board rep was not elected. It also didn't work because of the tight planning time line and the concern of the CCG to be useful and not just perfunctory.
21	A reasonably strong, but not invasive chairmanship.	The process of selection of delegates; people simply coursed the pillars seeing which group had the least was to increase possibility of getting onto the group. Timing - Each delegate should have been given 30 seconds only Too many interjections and a couple of objectionists held sway.

8	20 Committee members successfully "elected". Minutes circulated after meeting were very competent.	Introduction to the Management Areas, the EIS, & context for both, & clarification of participation process. Pre-meeting advertising not appropriate to representativeness. Front-page advert in Maitland Mercury would appear to have been primarily responsible for unfortunate predominance on committee of gung-ho recreationists.
9	Presentation and overall picture	Agreement for subject of next meeting
14	Selection process and intro phase	Selection of topics. Advice on what discussion points were available to input into.
1	Method of Election of committee	
3	Exchange of views	Inability to provide contingencies for extra time frame. Selection of committee (in several sections). An independent chairman required ? The classification of ideas overlapped. e.g. "Tourism recreation" vs "community well being"
13	Selection of reps from each group.	Initial advertising was deficient. Some localities received no notification. Others such as Maitland had a huge front page editorial . The further the location from actual forest operations the larger the ad. The absence of available research reports. Essential the first meeting enabled participants to meet each other. Little else was achieved or proposed. There was minimal information available.
19	First meeting. Information on objectives Committee Selection of C.C.G	Chairman could have been better. Poor P.A. (none in fact).
2	Selection of CCG members	No procedural ground rules were determined Chairing of the meeting should perhaps have been stronger.
5	Control by Chairman. General format. Obvious good participation	Obvious overloading of Green movement in one shape or another.
12	Introduction	Election of group representatives. Final session of elected representative " confrontationist".
20	Outline of Process. Orderly meeting Opportunity to make comment.	Selection of reps on CCG i.e. No. of reps in each group. Selection of agenda items for next meeting - donated by Green alternatives.

6	The presentation of the reason for the formation of the committee. Too many people selected in the groups which were mostly represented. Introduction of committee members. Drinks made available for the assembly.	Chairman allowed one group to dominate and run overtime. Disproportionate selection in group representative No's. Selection of committee. No time for each person to state background knowledge or individual specific interests.
17	Generally well run given constraints of such a large group.	Structure or division of interest groups. e.g conservation should be isolated from tourism. Forestry industry rep appeared to be given disproportionate time to introduce self.
11	The break up of the various groups	Most of the conclusions are foregone.
10	Selection Process. Exchange of views.	No agenda items for next meeting due to time frame.
18	The social contacts were personally inspiring.	Written expressions not in existence. Timing - late starting - disorganised. Participants "in the dark" about their role because there was no prior notice of how the group would be structured. I have never seen sandwiches presented in such an untidy manner before.