

# colong bulletin

No. 256 | September 2014

## A Century of Walking the Wild

BY WYN JONES

**T**HE lungs of Sydney are the ring of National Parks and Conservation Reserves that surround Australia's largest city. This green belt of extraordinary natural beauty and diversity

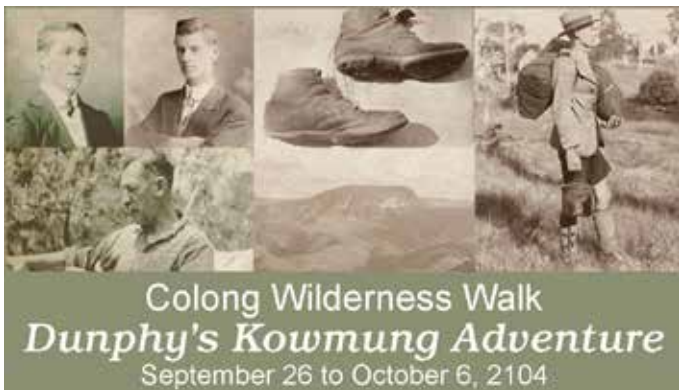
is unrivalled anywhere in the world and it is surely no accident that more than 4.5 million people have it to enjoy and cherish.

In the Spring of 1914 two young men quietly boarded a steam train from Sydney Central Railway for the Blue

Mountains. Far from the hubbub and noise and slaughter of WW1 they set out on a 21 day walk from Katoomba to Picton through the wild, unmapped country, and with the unique style of bushwalking.

Myles Dunphy had been walking for some years and had just perfected, with his companion Bert Gallop an efficient means of carrying the equipment required for extended walks in the Australian bush. The main item was the Dungal swag a name derived from their surnames. This ingenious early pack served them well and the many others that followed in their footsteps as bushwalking became a way of recreation for city dwellers. The Blue Mountains provided a major destination for this activity, as it has been for the less strenuous form of track walking enjoyed by millions of tourists and visitors to the area over the last 120 years.

For the 26 year old, visionary Myles Dunphy this walk was to give him insight for a much greater plan. Dunphy was a highly skilled map maker and a gifted draughtsman and calligrapher. He made copious notes and drawings on his walks and drew many of the first walking maps of the Blue Mountains and elsewhere in NSW, and as he walked across the Blue Mountains that spring of 1914 a Grand Idea blossomed



*Join five young Adventure Teams who will retrace Myles Dunphy and Bert Gallop's historic 1914 journey.*

This event is in multiple parts with a range of short walks, overnight camps, campfires, celebrations and wilderness adventures on offer. Everyone can be involved. Everyone can be involved.

To find out more, visit the Colong website [www.colongwilderness.org.au](http://www.colongwilderness.org.au) and follow the links or Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/DunphysAdventure>

Numbers are limited: please apply early to avoid disappointment

The walk showcases how the voluntary efforts of early bushwalking clubs led to the protection of the Blue Mountains wilderness.

This Wilderness legacy will be presented to the World Parks Congress in November.

Also available: iron on, woven badges – only \$10.00, to order contact Keith on 9261 2400 or email [foundation@colongwilderness.org.au](mailto:foundation@colongwilderness.org.au)



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**General Meetings will be held at our office on Level 2, Fortuna House, 332 Pitt Street, at the new time of 5.00pm on Tuesday October 14<sup>th</sup>, November 11<sup>th</sup> and December 9<sup>th</sup> 2014. Members and visitors welcome.**

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# Feral horses starving in Kosciuszko NP

THE NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS) is reviewing its 2008 Wild Horse (sic) Management Plan for Kosciuszko National Park and a new draft feral horse management plan will be released for comment mid-2015.



*Starving foal in Kosciuszko N.P. Photo: F. MsCrossin.*

Please get involved with this process by posting support for effective and humane control of feral horses on the NPWS blog at [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/protectsnowies](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/protectsnowies). Oppose any suggestions of a managed herd of feral horses. The NPWS needs your

support because Deputy Premier and leader of the NSW National Party, Andrew Stoner, is the patron of Save the Brumbies, an organisation that wants managed herds of

feral horses in national parks. Current mustering and passive trapping methods are ineffective. Horse populations in Kosciuszko National Park are swelling towards the ecological carrying capacity of the natural environment. As the number of horses grow, so does the aggression of stallions that now menace park visitors they see as intruders into their territory.

Park visitors love the Snowy Mountains but have had their enjoyment diminished. They can no longer drink from mountain streams badly

polluted by feral horses. Visitors are disgusted by the damage feral horses have caused. It is no longer safe to sleep in a tent and even drive to your favourite camp as you may collide with a horse, injuring you and the horse.

The Colong Foundation hopes you will speak up, as Kosciuszko National Park needs your help. Aerial shooting of horses is more humane than slow starvation and properly protects native plants and animals, as well as the visitors who come in our national parks to enjoy them.

**A Century of Walking the Wild** continued from p.1 in his mind.

Dunphy realised that the vast spaces of the Blue Mountains deserved recognition for their natural values so he drew up a plan for their conservation. This took the shape of a maps showing

areas proposed for reservation as National Parks, but more importantly he lobbied people with the power to enable his plan to be realised in the law of the land.

His 1914 walk saw him and Gallop travel from Katoomba to Jenolan Caves via the Cocks River and the well known Six Foot Track. Passing many farms

on the way it must have seemed almost civilised in contrast with what followed. After Jenolan Caves they headed into the rugged and wild landscape of the Kowmung River arriving at the mining village of Yerranderie, and thence across the Wollondilly River through the sandstone escarpment of Burragorang to Picton. It took them 21 days during which they saw much of the country which is now the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

Dunphy blazed the trail for others to follow in the conservation movement.

This year small groups of walkers are walking this same route 100 years after Dunphy and Gallop. It will be a celebration of their great inspiration and an event worth commemorating. It is the perfect time for those who now appreciate this great natural landscape to remember the conservation pioneers who gave so much for so little

personal gain and the millions who now benefit.

You may never walk Dunphy's routes or the wild country he saw as one great natural wild place, but when you look west from Sydney and see the blue of the rugged hills on the skyline, remember you are reaping a great gift from nature. And when you look over the deep gorges and far blue horizons from Echo Point, Wentworth Falls or Govett's Leap you are looking at a vision fulfilled.

Dunphy kicked the ball and it was picked up by those who followed, those who walked the wild places and fought for their conservation. This is our heritage.

Let us not forget the 100 years of effort started by Myles Dunphy, continued by his son Milo and to the present day by many others. This great Natural Wonder, the Blue Mountains World Heritage Area needs you and it needs our eternal vigilance.

*Myles Dunphy and his white japara tent, circa 1915.*



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ISSN 1325-3336 • Printed by Westonprint, Kiama

# Environmental Policies for the NSW Election March 2015

IN August, NSW environment groups released their policy platform for the state election, challenging political parties to bring their policies more in line with public opinion on the environment. Kevin Evans, executive officer of the National Parks Association explained that the plan is not an economy and job destroying vision, but one that could create a new economy, supported by effective policies to produce thousands of sustainable jobs. It was also a vision that confronted our generation's stark choice - take urgent action to reduce carbon pollution; retain the benefits of natural systems or face unprecedented changes to our way of life.

Jeff Angel, long-term director of the Total Environment Centre laid out the possible way ahead where parties can:

- restore the balance so that economic, social and environmental values operate on a level playing field;
- end the moratorium on new marine parks and restore sanctuary protection;
- ensure forest protection and not log conservation reserves;
- reject moves to repeal land clearing laws; and
- pass a container deposit law.

The platform ranges over 25 policies and Jeff explained the urgent need to:

- expand the conservation reserve system in NSW, as

there is still a lot to do;

- bring coal seam gas and mining under control so that water catchments, prime agricultural lands and natural values are protected, observing that we don't need to mine everywhere; and

- establish a planning system based on Environmentally Sustainable Development that is corruption-proof, and employs best practice development and genuine community participation.

Kate Smolski executive officer of the Nature Conservation Council noted that "There have been some positive steps, including the establishment of an expanded Nattai Wilderness area (Gov. Gaz. 17/4/14), and elevation of the Dharawal and Berowra reserves to National Park status."

She implored that "For the sake of healthy communities and a sustainable environment it is not too late to turn the tide. The Baird government has a critical leadership role to play in a diverse economy with innovation and investment in our environment. The recent plan to increase resource efficiency in government buildings and increased penalties for pollution incidents indicates some attention is being given to environmental policy."

Kate argued that "We are at a time when we need stronger, not weaker environment laws. The environment that sustains

our social and economic way of life is under threat. We are seeing a decline in biodiversity, decreased air quality and the very real threat of climate change.

"All parties must pledge to scrap the hated state planning policy on mining, which puts economic interests ahead of communities, restore third-party merit appeal rights, and rule out coal and gas development in drinking water catchments, agricultural land, and sensitive environmental areas."

"Rural communities are facing large open-cut coal mines a few hundred metres from their homes and the prospect of invasive gas fields in their villages and farms. We continue to see an expansion of coal mining in Sydney's drinking water catchment special areas".

## Key policy asks include:

- National Parks and Wilderness—establish a Gardens of Stone state conservation area, improved protection for water supply catchments and rejection of the proposal to raise Warragamba Dam wall, as well as enforcement of a horse riding ban in declared wilderness areas.

- Marine Conservation – the creation of a Sydney Harbour Marine Park, enforcement of the ban on fishing in sanctuary zones and net trawling in marine parks, protection of

critical habitat for the highly endangered Grey Nurse Shark.

- Forests – reinstate the ban on burning native forests for electricity and logging in conservation areas, as well initiate a phase out of native forest logging (see *The demise of the native forest sector*).

- Rivers and wetlands – dump the proposed Needles Gap dam on the Belubula River and ban coal seam gas exploration and extraction where it threatens groundwater systems.

- Planning – make the planning system corruption proof and ensure the environment and the community are not overridden by economic interests and restore third-party appeal rights.

- Waste and Pollution – introduce a state-based container deposit scheme with 10 cent refunds for containers and pursue rogue construction waste and used tyre operators.

Jeff Angel explained that these policies are our challenge to political parties: "We know we have the community's backing and we are determined to prosecute the case up to and beyond the 2015 election."

The full policy document is available at the Nature Conservation Council website, go to [www.nature.org.au](http://www.nature.org.au) and follow the links. The launch was the first of a series of events that will raise public awareness on the environment over the coming months.



# The demise of the native forest sector

BY KEITH MUIR

FOR two decades conservationists have said that Australia's native forest sector is a dying industry. Over that time, politicians have attempted to deliver jobs, profits and conservation outcomes from our public forests. All the while economic tensions from globalisation have pushed prices for wood products down. Log production and woodchip exports have fallen rapidly due to overseas competition. The result is that native forest industry is now in a worse shape than rainforest logging was at the end of the 1970s.

According to economist Ross Gittins, the industry uses the environment as a convenient whipping-boy to draw attention away from its long-term structural decline – and probable demise (SMH 31/8/20013). And when you have the general manager of South East Fibre Exports (Eden's woodchip company), Peter Mitchell, saying of their parent company, the paper giant Nippon, that "They can buy cheaper, better quality chips somewhere else; if they

don't it drags their business down" (SMH, 9/8/2014) you know the industry is in trouble.

Plantation woodchip production has increased 350 per cent in a decade to 5.5 million cubic metres, while in the last five years woodchips from native forests have fallen from 10 million cubic metres to 3.8 million cubic metres.

Native timber supply is also in decline, as the last of the old growth is logged, and this has led to proposals to boost timber log supply, including cessation of pre-logging wildlife surveys and a trial of cable logging on the North Coast. These plans may snatch the last of the big trees, no matter what the environmental cost, but are not a solution. The problem is that the industry has over-cut native forests because it just can't deliver the economic returns demanded by capital in a sustainable manner. Native forests containing a mix of timbers can't compete on price and quality with plantations. Native forest logging operators perform poorly in the market and just can't compete without government subsidy.

As Mr Gittins observed, the native forest industry



Woodchips from native forests are now worth less, and to prop up the woodchip market, the NSW Government has approved burning forests for electricity generation.

sees a solution in blaming conservationists. The industry seeks Government handouts, cut backs in environmental protection and, where they can get away with it, conversion of native forests into plantations through clear felling.

Due to the collapse in the price of native woodchips, the industry that destroys ten

trees to access one sawlog now wants to burn native forests to generate electricity. This is the end game, for if woodchips from native forests are now worth less, then using taxpayer funded 'green energy' subsidies to burn forests for electricity will cost the earth in a currency that all politicians care most about, votes!

## National Parks on Trial

THE NSW Government under Premier Barry O'Farrell and now Premier Mike Baird has put national parks on trial, several times in fact.

### Hunting trial

A year has passed since the Game Council was abolished. Hunting of feral animals now occurs in twelve national parks under National Parks and Wildlife Service supervision. Hunting also occurs in 358 state forests, including Newnes and Ben Bullen State Forests.

Shooting in parks is subject to a three year trial. In July 2016, the Natural Resources Commission will report on this trial and may find in favour of

hunting in parks. Depending on the political complexion of Parliament after the March 2015 state election, hunting could then be allowed in up to 75 parks as previously announced under the Government's deal with the Shooters and Fishers Party. Only constant pressure will stop hunting in national parks.

### Riverina grazing trial

When a three year trial on grazing in the River Red Gum national parks commenced on November, 2012, former Environment Minister, Robyn Parker said she wanted to improve the contribution parks and reserves make to rural and

regional areas. Grazing benefits a few graziers but causes significant environmental damage to the River Red Gum parks.

Cattle are attracted to the two most sensitive ecosystems, wetlands and sandhills, causing environmental degradation. Grazing does not reduce fire hazards associated with Silver Wattle and Brush Cherry, as these plants are unpalatable. The remaining ground cover is generally sparse and doesn't represent a fire risk. This trial is about assisting the political prospects of the National Party by allowing graziers to make money from fattening stock in national parks.



### Riverina logging and firewood harvesting trials

A trial logging of small trees in 396 hectares of the River Red Gum national parks is currently pending approval from Federal Environment Minister Greg Hunt. Initial

continued on p. 5

# Defending the Pilliga's Conservation Reserves

BY KEITH MUIR

THE NSW Government's increased attack on our parks is starkly revealed in a draft report released by the Natural Resources Commission in June that recommends logging and grazing of four state conservation areas in the Pilliga scrub, north of Coonabarabran.

These recommendations are not about conservation but to do with Gunnedah Timbers allegedly having only weeks of cypress trees left to supply its sawmill (Namoi Valley Independent, 22/5/2014). This motivation is behind the Commission's belief that the health of White Cypress woodlands in Pilliga's conservation reserves are best maintained through the broadscale use of chainsaws and heavy logging equipment, cattle and fence lines.

The Commission's draft report portrays White Cypress pine thickets as environmentally damaging to the health of Pilliga's woodlands. The Commission believes that these thickets must be broken up to maintain ecological diversity. Any Cypress thicket larger than a hectare with more than 11 per cent canopy cover should be thinned (read logged), and cypress thickets removed from a total of 57,000 hectares of reserves.

Dr Haydn Washington, who has 40 years experience

as a plant ecologist, rejects the Commission's recommendations. He explains that dense stands are a natural characteristic of White Cypress that has evolved in this habitat. Single species stands are a normal part of our natural heritage. Blue Gums, Ash forests, Coachwood rainforests and Snow Gums are other examples of single species stands.

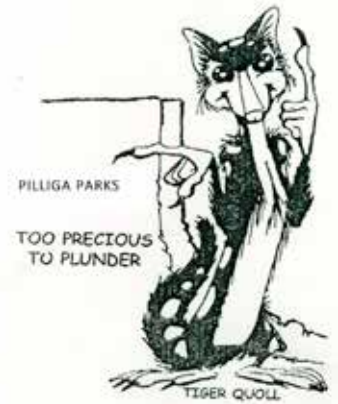
The Commission has obtained a legal opinion that conservation reserves can only be logged for a positive environmental outcome. This seems to be a further motivation for portraying cypress thickets as bad for nature conservation. Haydn is not a lone voice of protest. Other scientists find that areas of dense White Cypress provide conditions vital for the survival of several native plant and animal species, and that thinning this habitat is not associated with any ecological benefit (Thompson and Eldridge, 2005).

According to Karl Beckert, Forest and Wildlife Campaigner for the Nature Conservation Council of NSW, the Pilliga is one of Australia's 15 national biodiversity hotspots with its State Conservation Areas containing a high proportion of the largest threatened population of Barking Owls in NSW, the Pilliga Mouse, the Black-striped Wallaby, Koala, and a range of woodland birds and microchiropteran bats.

Some of these species, such

as the Black-striped wallaby and Koala, use dense stands of White Cypress to shelter from heat. Fragmentation of larger, dense stands of white cypress through logging and grazing will remove the cooler microclimates created by the stands and refuges used by small birds and mammals. In addition to this site specific ecological damage, there are the more general environmental impacts of logging which are well documented. Logging machinery causes soil compaction and erosion. It permits ingress for pest species, including foxes, prickly pear and box thorn, as well as plant pathogens.

The (hopefully) fatal political flaw in the proposed scheme to log and graze conservation reserves is the requirement for significant taxpayer funding. Rachel Walmsley, Policy Director of the Environmental Defenders Office has noted that the Commission attempted to address the high public cost of logging with alternative plans. Park managers could ensure a 'cost-neutral outcome' by logging the bigger cypress trees. 'This could provide the necessary commercial incentive to engage a party for thinning services...'. Such logging would not be primarily for a conservation purposes, so is illegal under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974*. Further, there are not enough big trees in the conservation reserves to cover expenses, so Gunnedah



Timbers, the beneficiary of this duplicitous scheme will not be saved anyway.

The *Herald's* environment editor, Peter Hannam, reported that "Total program costs are estimated to vary between \$320 per hectare for moderate levels of thinning and \$575 per hectare for heavy loads of thinning," adding that 30 to 40 per cent of the costs could be recouped through the sale of sawlogs and other products (SMH, 4/8/2014).

The NSW Government's scheme to log Pilliga's conservation reserves is pinned between the horns of a dilemma. It is illegal, has no environmental benefit and will cost the taxpayer too much money. Trying to recover some of the tax dollars only makes the proposed logging scheme worse. The Natural Resources Commission will have to outdo Harry Houdini to escape from this situation with even a scrap of credibility.

Reference: W.A. Thompson and D.J. Eldridge, 2005 *White Cypress Pine (C. glaucophylla): a review of its roles in landscape and ecological processes in eastern Australia*

## National Parks on Trial continued from p.4

logging has started on nine hectares of parkland. This trial is a new proposal and so is an unfortunate precedent.

The logging areas are also proposed to be available for firewood collection, an activity already permitted in Murray Valley and Murrumbidgee Valley national parks. This is another precedent - each

household in the Riverina can collect six tonnes of firewood a year from national parks, removing important habitat.

State forests in the Riverina provide 17,533 tonnes of red gum residues (i.e. firewood) a year and there is additional firewood from logging small trees. Tens of thousands of hectares of state forest are available for domestic firewood collection. There is also an extensive Red Gum industry

on private land providing firewood.

When the 107,000 hectare river red gum reserve system was created in May 2010, more than \$50 million of financial assistance was allocated to support timber industry restructuring. The National Party and the Shooters and Fishers Party push for logging national parks also throws away this investment in nature conservation.

River Red Gum forests self-thin over time, as they have done for millennia. Logging these forests is unlikely to reduce tree dieback, as it is controlled by flooding. Denying water to the internationally significant wetlands in these red gum national parks is not resolved by logging.

## Pillaging the Pilliga

See Defending the Pilliga's Conservation Reserves (above).

# University research reveals extent of damage to World Heritage River

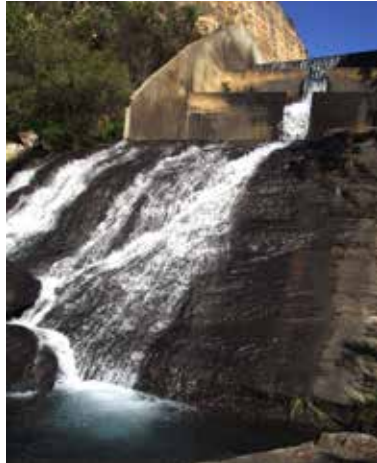
BY KEITH MUIR

RECENTLY published peer reviewed research by University of Western Sydney researcher Nakia Belmer and others<sup>1</sup> confirmed that disposal of wastewater from Clarence Colliery into the headwaters of the Wollangambe River, a high conservation value waterway, has caused water pollution and ecological degradation. Below the mine, macroinvertebrate richness has decreased by 65% and abundance by 90%. Electrical conductivity was found to be eleven times higher below the mine than above it and the concentration of zinc below the mine was ten times greater than the recommended ANZECC guidelines for aquatic ecosystems. Nickel more than double the recommended guideline was reported. The mine discharge also increased water temperature in the Wollangambe River by more than 2.5° C.

The researchers believe that the data clearly points to a need to review both the operation of the mine and the enabling regulatory system that does not adequately consider the impacts of the mine on the downstream National Park and World Heritage listed waterways.

The researchers claim that the NSW EPA is failing to protect the Wollangambe River's water quality and aquatic ecosystems from degradation associated with coal mine wastewater through Environmental Protection Licence 726. Electrical conductivity and nickel are not included in the licence and as the licence states that 'only pollutants listed on the EPL can be discharged', Clarence Colliery is polluting illegally.

Despite continuing contamination, both the NSW and Commonwealth Governments continue to provide approvals to expand and modify the mine's operations.



Everyday Clarence Colliery discharges 18 megalitres of polluted water into the pristine Wollangambe River. Photo: K. Muir

## Clarence Colliery's shocking pollution impacts

Water management at Clarence Colliery is yet another major controversy in the Gardens of Stone region. Few who journey down Wollangambe Canyon realise it is polluted but it has been 15 years since Centennial Coal admitted that this colliery was unable to meet the water quality discharge standard for 'Protected Waters'. The mine now pumps around 18 megalitres/day of toxic saline effluent into the otherwise pristine Wollangambe River, one of the few designated wild rivers in NSW.

Canyoners can be forgiven for assuming that the mine effluent is benign. Since 1985, up to 30 per cent of daily effluent production has been transferred to a storage dam on Farmers Creek, part of Lithgow's water supply. These transfers still do not flow through a properly engineered system but rather a deep trench and have eroded a nationally endangered upland swamp.

Incredibly the Farmers Creek drinking water supply was 'Specially Protected' under the Clean Waters Regulation 1972 and so should have been safe from any source of pollution. Yet the mine effluent discharged to the creek is contaminated with

nickel. Centennial Coal has known about this since CSIRO undertook water and sediment studies in 1996.

Aware of its water quality problems, in March 1999 the company proposed a new water management scheme for the colliery noting that pollution of the Wollangambe River 'is not an option that is acceptable to Centennial, the Department of Land and Water Conservation, Lithgow City Council or the Environmental Protection Authority.' A company report stated that 'if the current system is allowed to continue indefinitely, the discharge of such water into the Wollangambe would be considered a breach of the *Clean Waters Act, 1970*, rendering the mine liable to prosecution.'

Initially Centennial Coal proposed a new management system that would divert the effluent to the Coxs River catchment. This was to have provided water for Lithgow's power plants that turn tens of megalitres a day into water vapour. On the way to these plants the mine effluent would dilute sewage levels in the lower parts of Farmers Creek. On World Heritage Day in 2001 the Colong Foundation celebrated the decision to restore the Wollangambe River to its pristine state by diverting mine pollution. It was a celebration that proved to be naïve and too soon, as Delta Electricity did not want the water.

A water transfer augmentation scheme was then proposed to send more mine effluent to Lithgow's drinking water supply. The Colong Foundation opposed the additional transfer on public health grounds and Environment Minister Bob Debus ruled it out in November 2001. Finally, in 2005, an environmental assessment for the transfer scheme went ahead but the project then stalled for a number of years as debate continued over who

would receive, and pay for, the transferred water.

Meanwhile the EPA freed by the repeal of the *Clean Waters Regulation* in May 2006, weakened waste discharge standards for the Clarence mine in 2007 and again in 2010. This was done because a water treatment plant upgrade in 2004 did not perform to expectations, yet even then the effluent exceeded its Environmental Protection Licence for the Wollangambe River. It is perhaps for this reason that the company again turned to the diversion of its effluent.

In 2012 the Federal Government offered \$4 million to build the transfer scheme, and at this point the Colong Foundation wrote to Minister Tony Burke warning him that he had a duty of care to ensure that these transfers were compliant with Australian drinking water standards, particularly in relation to nickel. We pointed out that the Environmental Health Team of the Sydney West Area Health Service had detected the 18 nickel exceedances in Lithgow's drinking water between 2002–2005 and suggested this was linked to the colliery's effluent.

Shortly afterwards a 700mm diameter transfer pipeline was installed joining the colliery's water treatment plan to Farmers Creek water supply, but it did not last long. The October 2013 Marangaroo wildfire reduced the above ground polyurethane pipe to a line of plastic goo welded onto the sandstone. The 1999 promise to clean up Clarence Colliery's pollution entering the World Heritage Area remains unfulfilled.

### Reference:

Belmer, N., Tippler, C., Davies, P. J. & Wright, I. A. (2014). *Impact of a coal mine waste discharge water quality and aquatic ecosystems in the Blue Mountains World Heritage area*, in Vietz, G; Rutherford, I.D, and Hughes, R. (editors), *Proceedings of the 7th Australian Stream Management Conference*. Townsville, Queensland, Pages 385-391.

**SUPPORT THE COLONG FOUNDATION!**

To: The Treasurer, Colong Foundation for Wilderness Ltd., Level 2, 332 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
 The enclosed remittance or advice covers the item(s) indicated by a tick. (One cheque payable to the Colong Foundation is sufficient to cover subscription and donation.)

- Membership application (\$30) to 31 December 2014  
 (NB Membership application covers Bulletin subscription)
- Colong Bulletin Subscription (\$15) to 31 December 2014 (non members only)
- Membership renewal to 31 December 2014 (\$30)       Life Membership (\$550)
- Tax deductible donation of \$ \_\_\_\_ to the Colong Wilderness Fund
- PLUS \$ \_\_\_\_ being for publications as indicated on the reverse side of this form.

NAME (Mr, Ms, Mrs, Miss) .....  
 ADDRESS .....  
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SIGNED ..... AMOUNT .....  
**Payment by credit card.** Mastercard  Visa  Expiry date \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_  
 Card # \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment by EFT procedure.** Account name: The Colong Foundation for Wilderness Ltd.  
 Bank: Westpac Mortdale, BSB: 032 268 Account number: 11 7302

Please add your full name in the Reference Field so that we may trace your contribution and also inform the Colong Foundation by email immediately after you have made a payment. Email foundation@colongwilderness.org.au with your name and address details, so we can mail to you an official tax deductible receipt. We also need notification so as to track all contributions to those who have provided them for our accounting purposes.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION** Why not join or invite a friend to join?

Yes, I wish to become a member of the Colong Foundation for Wilderness Ltd. I subscribe to the Foundation's aim of preserving Australia's wilderness remnants. I accept the liability provided in the Colong Foundation's Articles of Association to guarantee \$20 should it be needed in the event of the winding up of the Foundation. Signed .....

Bulletin back page, 03/14

**A BEQUEST**

**Please remember us in your Will.**  
 The Law Society of NSW recommends the following wording... "I bequeath the sum of \$... to the Colong Foundation for Wilderness Ltd. for its general purposes and declare that the receipt of the treasurer for the time being of the Colong Foundation for Wilderness Ltd. shall be complete discharge to my executors in respect of any sum paid to the Colong Foundation for Wilderness Ltd."



**ABOUT THE COLONG FOUNDATION**

The Colong Foundation, the successor to Myles Dunphy's National Parks and Primitive Areas Council, is Australia's longest-serving community advocate for wilderness. Its proposal for a Wilderness Act was accepted in 1987. To supplement this legislation, our Red Index, audits NSW wilderness areas, identifies threats and formulates site specific protection remedies. There are now 2,100,000 ha of protected wilderness in NSW. However, many beautiful and environmentally highly significant wilderness areas are not protected, such as the Pilliga and Goonoo on the north west slopes, the Deua Valley on the South Coast and the Tabletop and Main Range in the Snowy Mountains.  
 The Colong Foundation for Wilderness has had a long and successful history. From its foundation in 1968 until 1975 it was the fighting force that prevented limestone mining and the destruction of native forest for pine plantations in the southern Blue Mountains. The Foundation not only played a leading role in realising Myles Dunphy's plan for a Greater Blue Mountains National Park, it pushed for its World Heritage listing, as well as the reservation of a Border Ranges National Park and Kakadu National Park. It has initiated successful campaigns for the protection of over a million hectares of wilderness in NSW. The realisation of Myles Dunphy's vision of a comprehensive system of national parks with protected wilderness areas remains the primary objective of the Colong Foundation.  
 Now, more than ever, the Foundation needs your support. Well financed and powerful rural interests, miners, loggers, resort developers, as well as four wheel drive enthusiasts, horse riders and others, have greatly increased the threats facing Australia's wild places. Only with your help, through continued membership and donations, can the Foundation continue its campaigns for the preservation of the natural environment and effective nature-based national park management, and by concentrating on wilderness, these rare areas can be kept safe from development and misuse.

# THE COLONG FOUNDATION

SENDER: THE COLONG FOUNDATION FOR  
WILDERNESS  
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