

SEE WHAT WE STAND TO LOSE PERMANENTLY FROM THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT AND OUR BIODIVERSITY BY THE IMMINENT DEVELOPMENT OF A SHORT TERM SAND MINE ON THE ILLAWARRA COAST OF NSW....



*(Above and Below)* The proposed Boral Limited sand mine, with a life of only two years, is only 160 metres from this pristine reach of the Minnamurra River which is, in turn, only metres upstream of the river's equally pristine estuary, a few kilometres north of Kiama on the Illawarra coast of NSW.



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(Above) Part of the canopy of the rare and protected Bangalay Sand Forest at the proposed Dunmore Lakes Stage 5B sand mining site. The forest is legislatively protected but the NSW government has overridden its own legislation to approve the Stage 5B sand mine.

(Below) Mighty for 400 years, to be destroyed in minutes; the base of one of the many protected Bangalays (*Eucalyptus botryoides*) among the Commonwealth-protected endangered ecological community of SE Littoral Rainforest to be cut and cleared to make way for the temporary sand mine.



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(Above) This magnificent 100 to 400-year-old Bangalay, and its surrounding Commonwealth-protected endangered ecological community regrowth of Southeast Littoral Rainforest, of which it is part, will all be cut and cleared to make way for the proposed temporary sand mine with a life of only two years.

(Below) On the left of this fence, and overhanging it and extending into areas on the right of the fence in parts, as in this photo, is one of the finest stands remaining of SE Littoral Rainforest, the endangered ecological community protected under the Commonwealth's *EPBC Act*. The proposed sand mine's extraction dredge pond will come within a metre of the fence, destroying forest on the right and the overhanging forest.



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(Above) Three or four young Bangalays among rare and protected SE Littoral Rainforest regrowth on the proposed sand mining area. As can be seen, this area, once cleared for agriculture, has, if left alone, wonderful regrowth potential for the development of more of this rare and endangered ecosystem.. But the forest pictured will be cut and cleared for the new, short-term sand mine. (Below) This is part of the rare and disappearing Bangalay Sand Forest that will be completely razed to make way for the proposed Dunmore Lakes Stage 5B sand mine. On present plans, scores of the 100-year-old to 400-year-old Bangalay trees and their countless number of protected animal and bird habitat niches are due to be cut and cleared in 2022 despite NSW and Commonwealth legislative protection.



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(Above) A graphic view of the Bangalay Sand Forest/SE Littoral Rainforest ecosystem in the sand mine site area. The grand old fallen Bangalay in the foreground, like the other living Bangalays in the photo, offers irreplaceable habitat in its centuries-old multiple hollows for countless protected birds and animals such as the endangered Greater gliders, other gliders and possums. It is all to be razed for the temporary sand mine and turned into a private lake after mining.

(Below) A union in nature; part of the complex ecosystem that Boral Limited's proposed Dunmore Lakes Stage 5B sand mine will soon completely cut and clear.



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(Below) “Let’s Dance”! A Strangler Fig tree in the ‘arms’ of a centuries old Bangalay in the rare and protected endangered ecosystem of Bangalay Sand Forest and Southeast Littoral Rainforest, soon to disappear, to be completely cut and cleared, without Commonwealth and/or State government intervention. The area will become a Boral sand mine dredge pit with a life of only two years.



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*(Below)* Another ancient Bangalay under early 'attack' from the overtures of a Strangler Fig in the wonderful ecosystem under threat of destruction from Boral Limited's proposed Stage 5B Dunmore Lakes sand mine, just north of Kiama on the Illawarra coast of NSW.



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*(Below)* A magnificent white-bellied Sea Eagle photographed in the second half of 2022 in a Bangalay tree in the Bangalay Sand Forest/SE Littoral Rainforest on which she relies for nesting and shelter. With partners, she has been a fairly familiar site in the north Kiama/Minnamurra, NSW, area for a number of years. However, her days may well be numbered. Her roosting and nesting area has been recently observed to be within the area that is about to disappear, to be completely cut and cleared, to make way for a temporary Boral Limited sand mine approved in late 2020 by the NSW government. *(Photo: Simon R.)*

