



**Harriett Swift**  
**Greens Candidate for Bega**

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**20 March 2011**

## **Constance challenged on Logging National Parks**

The Greens candidate for the Bega electorate, Harriett Swift has accused the Liberal member, Andrew Constance of positioning himself to support logging National Parks.

“On at least 2 occasions during this election campaign, Mr Constance has failed to take the opportunity to clarify his position on this,” Ms Swift said.

Ms Swift said that the first conversation she had ever had with Mr Constance he had asked a group of conservationists how they would react to logging National Parks.

At meet-the-candidates forums in Moruya and now Eden, Mr Constance has failed to clarify his intentions when this matter has been raised.

“With the Shooters Party a strong possibility of holding the balance of power in the Upper House, there is a real danger that logging in National Parks could happen.”

“It is a formal, written plank of the Shooters Party election policy to log National Parks,” Ms Swift said.

“As well, there is at least one National Party member on the north coast\* who also wants to log National Parks.

“Mr Constance’s glossy 5-point plan says not a single thing at all about the natural environment.

“Since 2003 when Andrew Constance became Member for Bega, 88,000 hectares of forest in his electorate have been logged and ForestsNSW has lost approximately \$40 million on south east woodchipping.

“He has not spoken a word in opposition to this.”

“He has stood by and watched the koala population crash from several hundred to less than 50,” Ms Swift said.

I am calling on him now, before the election, to state unequivocally that the Coalition will preserve National Parks in perpetuity, for future generations of humans and for the diverse wildlife that depend on them for survival.”

“It is bad enough that Mr Constance is prepared to flog off our State Forests for as little as \$6 a tonne as woodchips which make a multi million dollar loss for NSW taxpayers, but to be eying off National Parks as well is totally unforgivable,” Ms Swift said.

\* Cansdell and NEFA at loggerheads

<http://www.echonews.com.au/story/2011/02/03/cansdell-and-nefa-at-loggerheads/>

**Contact: Media contact person – Harriett Swift 0414908997**

media release



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**media release**

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