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Biodiversity Planning and Policy Team
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate
ACT Government
e: epsddcomms@act.gov.au

Dear Biodiversity Planning and Policy Team

Draft Action Plan to Prevent the Loss of Mature Native Trees in the Territory

Forestry Australia is the professional body representing over 1000 members who are forest scientists, professionals and managers operating in all aspects of forest and natural resource management, across Australia and internationally. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Draft Action Plan.

Forestry Australia strongly supports the objectives of the Action Plan. We note that the most severe threats are to mature or recruitment trees in the urban and agricultural areas, and endorse the actions directed at conserving and sustaining those trees. We suggest they be prioritised.

We also note the significance of fire regimes in the dynamics of the ACT's forests and woodlands, and thus on mature tree presence and longevity; and the potential impacts of climate change on fire regimes and other ecological processes. We support the actions directed at investigating these issues. Members of Forestry Australia have particular expertise in these topic areas, and would be pleased to engage with this work as it proceeds.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Kanowski".

Peter Kanowski

Co-Chair, Forestry Australia, ACT & Region