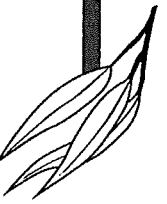


TABLED PAPER - Q2021 C719

The value and use of WA's native forests, now and into the future



WESTERN AUSTRALIA NATIVE FOREST SURVEY 2021 SNAPSHOT




EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Our State's native forests are an important natural asset, highly valued by all Western Australians.

With the ever increasing impacts of climate change on our native forests, and given the high level of community interest in their use, the McGowan Government committed to hearing from Western Australians ahead of the development of the next Forest Management Plan.

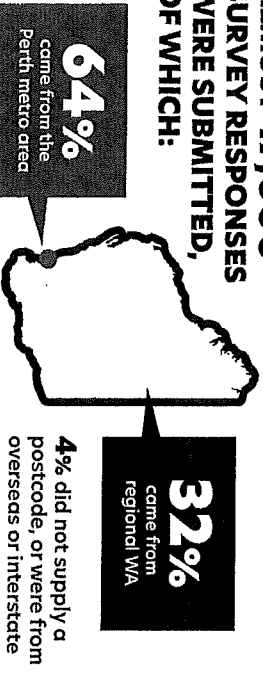
As a first step, Minister for Environment and Climate Action, Amber-Jade Sanderson, commissioned the Western Australian Biodiversity Science Institute to conduct a survey on the value and use of native forests now and into the future.

Almost 17,000 responses were received from people and businesses across all regions of WA.

The responses overwhelmingly showed that people care about protecting WA's unique South-West native forests. Respondents also felt that our native forests are important for biodiversity and their role in carbon capture and storage.

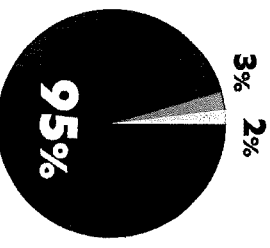
This preliminary survey does not replace the formal consultation that occurs during the drafting of the next Forest Management Plan.

**ALMOST 17,000
SURVEY RESPONSES
WERE SUBMITTED,
OF WHICH:**



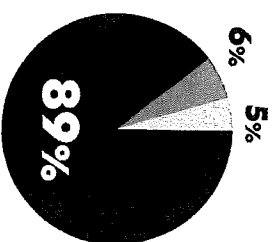
FINDING 1

95% of all respondents either agree or strongly agree with the statement "More areas of native forest should be protected"



FINDING 2

89% of all respondents either agree or strongly agree with the statement "Fewer areas of native forest should be available for timber harvesting"



“

They should be managed for biodiversity protection, recreation, sustainable eco-tourism and climate mitigation.

Survey respondent



WHAT RESPONDENTS SAID:

“No native forest harvesting should occur”

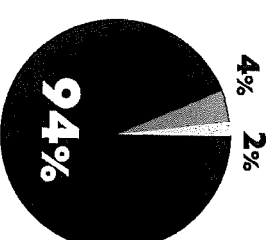
73% agree or strongly agree

15% unsure or neutral

12% disagree or strongly disagree

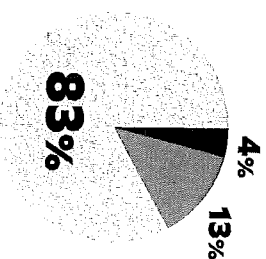
FINDING 3

94% of all respondents either agree or strongly agree with the statement “Climate change presents a threat to Western Australian South-West native forests”



FINDING 4

83% of all respondents either disagree or strongly disagree with the statement “Harvesting of native forests should continue at current levels”



“

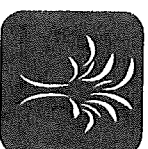
We need a huge fundamental shift. We need to change the short-term thinking and make plans for the next 100 years.

Survey respondent

MOST IMPORTANT ATTRIBUTES:



Threatened species and communities



Old growth forest areas



Biodiversity