



conservation and biodiversity in our forests as the main concern. The State Government can do this by ensuring that when forests have been damaged through natural processes such as fire and flood, these affected forests are quarantined from forestry and wood-collecting until they have recovered from these natural disasters.

To ensure that forestry has a future, forestry must be taken out of the natural forests and turned over to plantation forestry. In order for this to happen the State Government must derive funds from forestry bodies (whether through specific levies, taxes etc) and start the process of developing forests on already altered landscapes to allow our native forests and their native plants and animals to recover from the damage inflicted by forestry and wood-collection in the last 20 years.

In summary, the Regional Forests Agreements have not been successful in protecting the native forests and their biodiversity, nor have they been successful as an instrument to ensure compliance of foresters and wood-collectors. The lax supervision by the State Government of foresters and wood-collectors must be addressed by applying stricter supervision and controls of foresters and wood-collectors and by applying penalties on those who act outside State sanctioned wood-extraction activities.

