

## Save Mt St Leonard Community Campaign – Update July 2012

Dear friends of Mt St Leonard, ...what are they doing to our mountain?



The image above, taken 18<sup>th</sup> July, shows the current extent of clearfelling on the flank of Mt St Leonard. The Leo's Foot coupe on the left has grown at an alarming rate in the few days following our community 'Lament for Leo' gathering last Sunday.



We expressed our concerns for the environment in poetry readings, songs, talks and walks to see the devastation first hand. There was no logging below the access track (visible above) last Sunday.

## Save Mt St Leonard Community Campaign – Update July 2012



Looking back toward the east from the Leo's Foot access track, 15<sup>th</sup> July. The last major stand of forest was still mostly intact on the low side of the track. It was alive with native birds, crowding in from their lost territories. Now most of it has gone.

It has been sickening each morning of this week to wake to the howl of chainsaws and the regular thumps of trees falling, audible from about 1.5 km on Myers Creek. More so, considering the terror of native animals killed or displaced by this process. Even if a humble bandicoot survives, it faces a deadly battle for new territory as adults defend habitat areas of 5-7 ha. The possums in falling trees, and the Sooty Owls that hunt over this area, are another story.

This form of forest ecosystem destruction is happening in many locations throughout the Central Highlands, at an unprecedented rate. MyEnvironment group is taking their case to the Appeals Court to stop such barbaric practices and focus the Government, its departments, agencies and the community, on the critical need to preserve all remaining habitat of endangered species of native fauna and respect the montane forests of the Central Highlands for their intrinsic values.

MyEnvironment is closing the gap on the financial sum needed to achieve their security for costs payment to enable the appeal, so please pass on this message and donate if you can at –

<http://www.myenvironment.net.au/index.php/me/Donate>

Please also write to news media, State and Federal politicians to emphasise your opposition to clearfelling our native forests.

Thank you for caring, and kind regards, to all,

Bernie Mace

Save Mt St Leonard Community Campaign 2012.

[savemountstleonard@gmail.com](mailto:savemountstleonard@gmail.com)

## **Suggested Contact list**

State Environment Minister Ryan Smith, [ryan.smith@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:ryan.smith@parliament.vic.gov.au)  
cc to Ted Baillieu, [ted.baillieu@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:ted.baillieu@parliament.vic.gov.au)  
and Peter Walsh DPI, [peter.walsh@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:peter.walsh@parliament.vic.gov.au)

Federal Minister for forests Joe Ludwig, [joe.ludwig@maff.gov.au](mailto:joe.ludwig@maff.gov.au)  
cc to Environment Minister Tony Burke [tony.burke.mp@environment.gov.au](mailto:tony.burke.mp@environment.gov.au)

Federal Opposition Leader Tony Abbot, [tony.abbott.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:tony.abbott.mp@aph.gov.au)  
Shadow Environment Minister Greg Hunt, [Greg.Hunt.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Greg.Hunt.MP@aph.gov.au)  
The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP [malcolm.turnbull.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:malcolm.turnbull.mp@aph.gov.au)

Greens Party Greg Barber - [greg.barber@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:greg.barber@parliament.vic.gov.au)

Rob Mitchell, Fed ALP member for McEwen Rob Mitchell <[rob.mitchell.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:rob.mitchell.mp@aph.gov.au)>

Cindy McLeish, State Lib member for Seymour [cindy.mcleish@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:cindy.mcleish@parliament.vic.gov.au)

### **News media:**

The Australian, [lloydg@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:lloydg@theaustralian.com.au)

The Age, [letters@theage.com.au](mailto:letters@theage.com.au)

Herald Sun, <http://www.heraldsun.com.au/opinion/letter>

Mountain Views, [edit.mvmail@yvnews.com.au](mailto:edit.mvmail@yvnews.com.au)

Mountain Monthly, [mmkinglake@bigpond.com](mailto:mmkinglake@bigpond.com)

Talking Toolangi, Joanne Priestley <[ozjoanne@hotmail.com](mailto:ozjoanne@hotmail.com)>