

I think the main barrier to climate change adaptation is the exclusion of all land use under the carbon tax and only selectively using farming as an offset rather than just counting and classifying land as it outputs carbon. If this were so native forests would be worth more intact than logged. This would be a huge boost to the amount of land available for the adaptation to climate change of Australia's fauna. The effects of climate change on different habitats throughout Australia remain unknown. Currently many Australian native animals are already under stress with habitat loss, change of water allocations in natural environments, increased traffic in suitable habitat and prescribed mosaic burning in suitable habitat to protect property. Without increased opportunity to diverge from their current habitats to more suitable and possibly changing habitats how will they survive? If the threats of increased drought and more severe weather are correct, without somewhere else to go how will they survive? The commission has the opportunity to resolve several problems at once by ending logging in old growth forests, a fantastic carbon sink, recommending that all state forests become national parks so that national estate lands with higher nutrient soils are available to our much cherished fauna in a time of possibly dramatic change, and only allowing logging in plantations. This would allow a real and proper price to be placed on wood rather than a subsidised cheap government price selling off our amazing natural heritage for almost nothing.