



## Media Release

11 January 2017

### DESTRUCTIVE MINING PLANS FOR THE COPELAND TOPS

Groundswell Gloucester has lodged a strong objection to an application for a Mining Exploration Licence over the beautiful Copeland Tops State Conservation Area. An application has been lodged by Mr Murray MacKay for the right to explore for minerals in this area which contains many threatened and endangered plants and animals.

The application is known as Exploration Licence Application No 5408.

Groundswell spokesperson John Watts has slammed this proposal and says:

*“The Copeland Tops is a beautiful and historic area of bushland which is of historical significance to both the Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal communities. Mr MacKay has made an application to explore for minerals over almost the entire area. The Copeland Tops State Conservation Area contains many important plants and animals and is a vital part of Gloucester’s growing tourist industry. To allow mining exploration has the potential to destroy this beautiful and important asset. The government should immediately reject this application and convert the area into a National Park.”*

The National Parks and Wildlife Service has recently released an excellent draft Management Plan for the Copeland Tops and the objectives of the plan are completely incompatible with mining exploration.

Groundswell calls on the community to tell the government that this ill-conceived proposal should be knocked on the head. Objections should be sent to Minister Anthony Roberts on-line or to:

The Division of Resources and Energy  
PO Box K348  
Haymarket NSW 1240

**Further information:**

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