



Kingfisher Justice

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[New Forest National Park is in grave danger – please help us protect Her](#)

[Dr Zac Cox has taken legal action to try to stop this awful deforestation in New Forest National Park and to prevent clear-felling Nationally.](#) He has been working relentlessly challenging the Forestry Commission throughout 2023.



The deforestation of the New Forest National Park began in 1999 and the government's devilish aim is to hack down approximately 4.5 square miles of trees within the New Forest National Park PERMANENTLY by 2029 – [that's an area roughly the size of the City of Winchester!](#)

The government intend to continue with this plan and to [PERMANENTLY hack down 8.5 square miles of trees within the New Forest – that's approximately the size of the City of Westminster in London!!](#) – and when we say PERMANENTLY what we mean is that there is to be no re-planting to compensate. This is DEFORESTATION and is being achieved by use of the most harmful method of tree management – CLEAR-FELLING – removal of groups of trees all at once - which causes total devastation and irreversible cumulative harm to Mother Earth and all the inhabitants of this magical planet.

To be clear that's 8.5 square miles of trees in the New Forest that they will [not](#) be re-planting.

And yet the government claim to be planting more trees to counter climate change !?!

At the High Court in London on the 19th of December 2023 Dr Cox's Judicial Review permission hearing took place but unfortunately his pleas fell on deaf ears.

Kingfisher Justice wanted to let you know that Zac Cox has lodged his Appeal on the 29th December at the Court of Appeal, against the High Court's decision to refuse him permission for a hearing.



Dr Cox: “I want to emphasise that I’m not against cutting trees down for timber when the timber is put to good use – wood is often the best building material- however I am not in favour of destructive exploitation of forests – clear felling is de facto very harmful to Nature. There are far less harmful ways to harvest Timber and that can be used. Clear-felling is banned in many other European Countries for good reason”

The New Forest is a particularly beautiful area and very special – so many protected species live there and the ancient trees are wonderful – this incredible National Park fills your heart with joy.

The government claim that the deforestation areas are non-native conifer plantations – but 19% of the trees are Scots Pines! Which are, of course native to England and Scotland !! furthermore, it’s not true that the Inclosures being clear-felled are just conifers. The government’s figures also show that 7% of the planned clear fell areas are deciduous trees. Photos demonstrate a whole mix of trees have been clear-felled.

BUT in any case, so-what if some are non-native! Don't we need more trees? Yes- is the simple answer!

They could instead easily convert the plantations into mixed forests of deciduous and pine trees. There is simply NO need to clear-fell these trees many of which are 50 to 100 years old and some even older!

Clear-felling ? Really !?!

You will be shocked to hear that the government choose to clear-fell trees throughout the country. That is no different to the abhorrent clear-felling that is happening in the Amazon rainforest – today there is NO excuse for clear-felling, **there are many less harmful methods of forest management** that the government could readily use instead.

Did you know that clear-felling increases the risk of landslides, wildfires and floods?

And did you know that clear felling destroys the soil making the land infertile and therefore more difficult to grow trees on?

Did you know that clear felling pollutes the water? And puts fish stocks at risk of pollution?

Did you know that clear felling harms air quality?

Please do share this to make this news public so that some pressure can be applied to the government to not only stop the deforestation and to actually stick to their promises (for once !!! and **to plant more trees** to increase the forest coverage of the UK which has pitifully low area of forests-at just 13% compared to Europe where the average is 33% forest.

Thank You so much for Your support and help with this project it really does mean the World to us.

May the Force be with You Always!

Wishing you a very Happy New Year 2024!

If you wish to donate to Kingfisher Justice to help us to raise awareness and keep our small team in a position to keep supporting fighting for Justice - thank you for donating at www.kingfisherjustice.co.uk



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