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**Organisation:** N/A

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**Location:** New South Wales

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**Topic 1. Sustainability of current and future forestry operations in NSW**

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The logging of native forests in NSW is not sustainable. The logging of native forests removes the older trees and the hollows in trees as well as other habitat for wildlife, for example, the Great Glider and Koala.

The current level of logging is not sustainable and results in the removal of protections for key habitat.

The continued logging will contribute greatly to the extinction of forest dependent wildlife. Also the 2019/20 fires have made this situation much more urgent and serious.

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**Topic 2. Environmental and cultural values of forests, including threatened species and Aboriginal cultural heritage values**

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Forests are vital refuges for many Australian threatened species that rely on mature, intact forests and provide important services for the environment and regional communities, such as:

Water quality and flow regulation for fishing and tourism.

Recreational values for locals and visitors.

Cultural and spiritual significance, especially for indigenous communities.

Habitat connectivity, supporting biodiversity and ecosystem health.

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**Topic 3. Demand for timber products, particularly as relates to NSW housing, construction, mining, transport and retail**

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Plantations can now supply high quality and composite timber products

Shifting to plantation timber reduces pressure on native forests and supports sustainable industry practices

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**Topic 4. The future of softwood and hardwood plantations and the continuation of Private Native Forestry in helping meet timber supply needs**

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Hardwood and softwood timber plantations already provide 91% of Australia's log production.

Investment in hardwood plantation on already cleared land would supply timber products into the future

Ending public forest subsidies would boost sustainable timber production on private lands.

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**Topic 5. The role of State Forests in maximising the delivery of a range of environmental, economic and social outcomes and options for diverse management, including Aboriginal forest management models**

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Protecting and restoring State Forests will increase the economic value through tourism, carbon storage, job creation and recreational opportunities.

Diverse forest management, particularly Aboriginal models, can enhance the cultural and social value of forests. Healthy native forests provide essential water resources.

**Topic 6. Opportunities to realise carbon and biodiversity benefits and support carbon and biodiversity markets, and mitigate and adapt to climate change risks, including the greenhouse gas emission impacts of different uses of forests and assessment of climate change risks to forests**

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Logging in native forests releases large amounts of carbon, contributing to climate change.

Therefore stopping logging in NSW native forests allows the forests to recover and importantly helps them store more carbon and support climate goals.

Healthy forests are essential for reducing the impacts of climate change like wildfires and drought.

By stopping logging, forests can play a large role in mitigating climate risks and supporting opportunities in carbon markets.