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

The present situation of forestry timber extraction in my area which is between Kempsey and Coffs Harbour and to the west Dorrigo and New England National Park is an environmental and ecological disaster in the making. Tax payers of NSW are asked to pay for the fines imposed on Forestry Corps bad practices in the local areas where they have not complied/ or been fined during harvesting of the local Native Forests. Recently reading David Lindenmeyers's book the Forest Wars every State in Australia that harvests Native Forests loses a minimum of \$50Mil, so unproductive is it that Victoria and West Australia have ceased all harvesting. Only 40% of a tree actually leaves the forest and after saw-logs are produced and milled 25% is usable milled hardwood, otherwise it is woodchips. The remaining 60% of a tree is left in the forest as burnable fuel which, with the young regrowth it then is a risk of becoming a very hot bushfire event. Where as an intact forest would likely have a much cooler fire.

I'm a regular walker in the Mid North Coast in the above area just described. Last week was viewing the recent Tuckers Knob harvested areas outside Bellingen, some was harvested one year ago and just recently also, there is not one tree left that could be considered a habitat tree for a Greater Glider at site. Areas of only bare soil showing drying in the hot sun. Many places one can walk and see thin sticks of timber where large sized trees were or had been. Here was once a tree forest regenerating, now it will again await one hundred years before its time to be home for Greater Gliders. Habitat destruction must be a foresters biggest concern, taught as it's their obligation and understanding, as a national park ranger would think and act.

After the Gladstone State Forest was last harvested more than 15years ago heavy rains culminated when at least numerous landslides on the dirt road between Bowraville and Bellingen. The road was closed for months and to this day can only be traversed as single track where the landslides were repaired. Flash flooding events happen after mass harvesting, dirtying the rivers after logging takes place. It would not be as bad if selective tree harvesting was done instead of this industrial practiced model that is currently used.

These forest harvesting activities currently are destroying the integrity of the natural environment which is supposedly to become the Great Koala National Park (GKNP), that the present NSW State Government has promoted. The Koala's are losing their feed areas and lives during timber extraction. Bollanolla forest area near Bowraville and Nambucca is gazetted for Native Timber Harvesting in the coming weeks, the only area that has never before been harvested. The last untouched piece of forest here remaining where intact homes for Greater Gliders are found, in the middle of the proposed GKNP. Losses of up to 80% of Greater Gliders have possibly been lost during the 2019 bush fires, they can only glide up to 100metres after climbing tall trees. Forestry will leave a Den tree of Greater Gliders a 50metre exclusion zone, when they are known to glide up to 100metres. So the rulings allow that the greater gliders must walk to their next tree 50metres to glide again after having to find another tree to climb. These are the most beautiful Marsupial animals, rivaling the Koala in fact, only seen if they are coming out of their den in early evenings to graze on leaves. The time frame which Forestry Corp uses says is sufficient time

researching for these animals in habitat. Privately other researchers say they aren't always correct in their assessments.

Population in this mid north coastal area is growing quickly, people are attracted to this rare and wonderful place of wildlife, beauty, rarity and lifestyle. Land is at a premium because of wetlands, rivers and topography, forests are highly regarded for is tourism still one of natures wonderlands which should be kept in a loving way for future generations to enjoy.

There is no sustainable future for forestry the way things currently operate in this area. Old Natural native forests should stop being harvested, be allowed to regenerate. Much more money can be made from tourism, presently it's estimated Forest Corp NSW loses \$15 per/ton of native forest hardwood timber logged. To stop logging in this area more carbon will sequester. Timber workers move over to plantation projects or retrain their known skills to mining, civil, industrial engineering projects.

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

There are many threaten species in this mid north coastal area, whether birds marsupials, vertebrates, frogs, insects or rare plants. There was a recent instance where at the Pine Creek forest harvesting site area, a large rare frog was photographed showing on Facebook prior to harvesting. The harvesting was carried out and completed, after the Coffs Harbour News showed a photo of a completely bare treeless area afterwards. The aboriginal heritage struggles to be heard whenever there is a clash in ways of thinking on development. There are many supporters to push their developments, we need to live together in a supportive way all giving ground for thoughtful well founded planning. There is no 2nd earth and we must strive to protect the one we have. Planting as many trees as we will need, the shade in a hotter world will be very important, all animals and humans live well under the shade of a tree. Farm animals enjoy shade trees and so increase their production. The same is for our ever diminishing natural wildlife that live in and adjacent our beautiful old ancient forests. Spending some time in the New England National Park at Long Point where the ancient Beech forest still remain, varieties of mosses, part remnant of the ancient continent of Gondwana. When up there from the lookout much of the proposed Great Koala National Park and beyond out to sea can be seen. Forestry harvesting in the present way is a travesty as many new medicines, science and other knowledge yet unknown may well be part of our future if cared for.

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

Most housing is now built with softwoods, not hardwoods. Steel framing is also very successful with lower risk of termite damage and the frames are 100% recyclable.

More softwood plantations should be proposed in all States with those State governments realizing quantities that will be future to requirements. This is where workers and machines can renew their employment away from Native Forest Harvesting to forest planting, forest creation management. Further development in hardwood plantations away from original old remaining Native forests. Old native forests left alone to regenerate, used more towards environmental protection and tourism.

Only 3% of NSW's original rainforest remains in our state.

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

Future softwood and hardwood plantations are going to be much needed if we keep building as we are at present. Private plantations in hardwood are equally viable, it is the same type of investment that superannuation requires where early investment grows.

Equally so there is the great prospect for now just beginning with 3D printed houses, using a heavy 3D machine and the products used for construction can be much researched, eg mud, waste products, new composites could be non flammable? In 1900 you would chop down a tree and build a house, much has changed in the last 120 years, now our thinking is well placed to consider sustainable designs for the next 120 years. Some timber plantations could have plans to grow on timber, left as needed insurance, if more be needed later.

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

Aboriginals were never foresters in any economic sense. Their way of living had social outcomes. Culturally diverse management was most important in that tribal beliefs, where adherence was required to be observed. So as to reassure that their future remains in a supportive way. It would be good if Aboriginal forest management was discussed?

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

When in a temperature of 46 degrees you really can wonder how anything can live. Seeing gum trees establish themselves in such temperatures on reflection is going to be a very difficult ask. Now we should be planting, planting and planting the world is at such an inflection point. The so called Natural Gas (Methane) we currently are extracting at such a great rate could likely be a much worse problem we are creating than CO2 has ever been realized. No government tests are photographed in this country for these escaping gases within Australia. That industry only 15 years old may well be a greater climate risk to us all. Since this Methane extraction has started is when our world weather has been making some much bigger weather events.

Making money, or making polluting businesses pay for their pollution is a logical approach. To challenge, climate change when the planet is losing forests at the present rate would be a bonus, biodiversity markets can only be a small benefit overall, as half of the world might not commit. Importantly the correct areas should be chosen not to take also productive food lands.