

BEVERLEY CROSSLEY

Submission ID: 205123

Organisation: N/A

Location: New South Wales

Supporting materials uploaded: N/A

Submission date: 10/13/2024 7:36:44 PM

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

Forestry Corporation estimates have consistently been shown to overestimate yields., which have decreased 40% since 2010.

Given this situation, one would reasonably expect that every effort would be made to protect what remained. Unfortunately, the reverse seems to be true, with protection of mature trees removed in 2018.

Mature trees provide more biomass and carbon storage. They are also necessary to provide the hollows that 174 species in NSW depend on for nesting sites. Mature trees are also a crucial food source for a variety of species.

Logging depletes forest functionality. It allows weeds and other invasive species to enter and thrive.

Healthy forests = healthy waterways, as unlogged native forest mitigate erosion and pollution of rivers and streams.

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

Unlogged native forests need to be seen as a national treasure rather than a resource to be squandered. Dollars and cents only represent a small part of their overall value.

The real value of unlogged native forests is much more complex. It includes their cultural and spiritual contribution to the wellbeing of the nation as a whole.

As a senior citizen of Australia, I have seen many things change. Grew up on a rural dairy farm for which many acres had been cleared. However, there were significant stands of timber, share trees considerable diversity, with an abundance of native species of all types.

Move ahead 85 years, and I am appalled and deeply saddened by what I see happening to nature in particular. We now see hungry koalas turning up at supermarkets. There are 269 threatened species in NSW. Native forest logging impacts 150 of these.

Strategies such as taxation and subsidies are a form of control. In a nutshell, we subsidise those things we wish to increase, and tax what we want to discourage. The Forestry Corporation subsidises native forest logging in NSW.

My partner and I have travelled extensively in Australia, and walking in native forests has been an important aspect of this. Now, constrained by age and increasing health conditions, we depend on local remnants and protected areas to provide mental health and spiritual 'fixes' to maintain our overall wellbeing.

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

Native forest logging only provided 9% of total log production in Australia in 2023. We simply don't need it.

Also, half the logs became wood-chips and were exported. What a waste of precious resources.

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

Soft wood products from plantations can provide all the options we need. We absolutely do not need to log native forests and should not continue to do so.

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

Science tells us we must act quickly and effectively if we are to avoid the worst effects of climate catastrophe. Logging native forests releases 3.6 million tons of carbon per year. Not logging native forests is equivalent to removing 840 thousand cars per year from our roads.

Native forests are much more valuable if they remain unlogged. They are more resilient to a changing climate and resistant to the catastrophic types of fires we are experiencing now.

First Nation Ranger programmes are very successful. They provide appropriate employment that benefits from First Nation knowledge and management models.

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

See the answer to point 5 above, as well as other broader part of the submission.