

BRADLEY SKINNER

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Location: New South Wales

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

I support the continued sustainable harvest of state forests under the current code and act. I think the requirements of the code, and the rate of harvest are ample to ensure the continued use of the forest for timber indefinitely.

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

The code and act ensure active management and regeneration of the forest. Unlike national parks that mostly go unmanaged. The chances of maintaining the wanted values in the managed forest are better than the unmanaged; especially when there is fire.

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

The demand for wood has increased and will continue to do so with the demand for houses.

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

New houses will use up all of the soft wood supply available for framing and other nonappearance or composite products like chip board or laminate. Those products are different to the hardwood that is used in a house like floors, beams and stairs. Hardwood plantations aren't at the size or age that we can get these products from them yet.

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

State forests need to be managed for timber because we need the product, it doesn't physically grow anywhere else. The forests are able to provide other values at the same time because of their size and the monitoring by government agencies, the anti-forestry groups and the forest industry itself.

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

Managing our forest well is common sense the resource is viable and sustainable. The opportunity to change the dialogue around forest management is the biggest opportunity to provide great environmental and timber outcomes. If there are still calls to 'end old growth logging' when old growth hasn't been logged for decades, then there is a great opportunity to prove information to cause change for the better, or at least calm the crowd.