

CYNTHIA BROOK

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

On any measure native forestry logging practices are unsustainable. The logging industry is subsidised by the taxpayer and the incidences of breaches of their own guidelines means they have lost credibility in managing what precious resource is left. The future has to be managed plantations and what's left of our native forests preserved in the national estate for future generations.

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

Native forests are home to a declining population of both koalas and gliders and all the other species that depend on that ecosystem. The views of First Nations Peoples need to be heard in managing natural areas and protection provided to cultural sites.

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

The history of native forest logging is high volume extraction and low value end products. Well managed plantations are needed to supply the industries that depend on a timber resource and innovation that can determine the best end use supported.

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

Private native forestry has to be regulated so that there's not the same loss of habitat as seen in our native forests. The ideal solution is well managed plantations on appropriate land.

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

Forest ecologists should be managing forests so that the other stakeholders that depend on a healthy forest can benefit from that resource.

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

Intact native forests are carbon sinks and can mitigate some of the effects of climate change. Forests help cool the environment and are an integral part of the weather cycle helping create precipitation. Human existence depends on addressing climate change and protecting what's left of our native forests is part of that urgency.