

Public submission

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Supporting materials uploaded: *Attached overleaf*

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Your submission

1. Sustainability of current and future forestry operations in NSW

Native forestry operations in NSW are unsustainable. Clearly, the removal of, and damage to swathes of habitat is ecologically unsustainable. Replacement of old trees is not possible within the current nor proposed forestry regime. It is quite well established that many of our fauna are dependent on hollows and habitat elements that are only available in old trees. Many species have large home ranges, requiring large areas of undisturbed, mature forest habitat. The black cockatoos, for example, are communal species that require numerous large hollows within proximity to each other.

The rules designed to protect habitat during logging operations are not adequate and have been breached numerous times. There is damage being done that cannot be undone.

We are screaming head-long into climate and biodiversity crises and we just can't afford to tolerate further exploitation and destruction of the forest.

Even when we broaden "sustainability" to consider social and economic outcomes, it is plainly obvious that native forestry's "social licence" has long since expired and economically, I'm pretty sure others will highlight the public subsidisation of forestry extraction. Another thing about forestry operations in NSW that is unsustainable is the amount of time and effort that good people have invested over the years trying to curb the devastation caused by overexploitation of our public resource. It is well past time to stop logging native forests. Just stop it. Now.

I could go on and invest a whole lot of time citing from a growing body of evidence on the disastrous impacts of native forestry operations on flora, fauna, water quality, fire behaviour, etc. but *that* would be unsustainable. Please refer to the submission I made to the Parliamentary Inquiry thirty five years ago.

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

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

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We know that almost all the timber used for construction is sourced from plantations. For a long time, the exploitation of forests has been driven by the woodchip industry. What is it now? The export of whole logs? Put a stop to it.

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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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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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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