

Public submission

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

Timber is a sustainable industry but it needs to be more valued. I have 680 acres of timbered land and am surrounded by privately owned land that the owners are allowing private logging companies to log for income. The time between each harvest appears to be shorter and the trees felled are smaller and smaller.

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

I'd like to see forests be managed to encourage biodiversity and wildlife to exist within the forests and for people to integrate with sensitivity and input from indigenous knowledge.

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

I love timber and I love forests. I have a Lucus mill and harvest windfalls and salvage from developments for various reasons, for example, solar energy, fire buffers around structures, roads, dams, gardens, and other developments.

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

In my experience, all ridges have a steep side and a gradual sloping side. I would like to see all steep sides be retained as native wildlife corridors. Sustainable forests of soft and hardwoods should be grown on the larger, gradual slopes in accordance with the topography. Remaining native forests, especially old-growth forests, should be preserved and be off-limits to logging enterprises.

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

The actions of the NSW Forestry Corporation hide behind a corridor of unharvested trees along the roads while they clear fell broad acres of native forest as they have recently done in the Candole State forests, east of Graton. They contravene logging legislation all the time with little consequence.

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

I am the custodian of and manage 680 acres, which enables biodiversity to flourish, refuges for wildlife, and culturally sensitive land care to occur sustainably for future generations while addressing the negative impacts of climate change. I am feeling forced to sell this valuable land,

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which may then be exploited for timber harvesting and forest clearing for cattle or other commercial development. My choice to be a responsible custodian is sadly proving financially unsustainable. This work needs to be recognised equitably.