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

Do not destroy any more old growth forests. These are vital for wildlife habitat and carbon sinks. Use some of the areas where forests have already been logged to grow timber for construction etc. OLD GROWTH CANNOT BE REPLACED.

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

(1)We are already reading about parrots flooding into cities in Argentina, eating power cables etc. (Parrots overwhelm Argentinian towns with screeching ,poo and power outages. The Guardian 1 oct 2024) . (2)As humans disturb wildlife then disease spreads. (3)Aboriginal heritage relies and is based on relation to Country and wildlife. (4)People heal in nature. (5) Tasmania is an example of State sponsored driving of an endangered animal (swift parrot) towards extinction. OLD GROWTH CANNOT BE REPLACED

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

(1) The construction industry is possibly one of the top polluters and waste-causing industries in the world. MUCH tougher regulation is needed. Local Govts could supply brown-site land for warehouses where left-over materials and reclaimed materials could be sold discounted to the public. Construction firms should be obligated to deposit leftover materials at these centres and could get a tax break if they do, and a fine if they don't. (2) Construction firms should account for every metre of wood they use. (3) There should be a lot more control over demolition of old building just because people want something 'grander and more showy' (4) The way we build is broken. Govt should encourage more efficient use of wood in construction e.g Semi-detached homes; terraced homes ; try getting a developer to pland whole estates as is the model in some other countries- this also can result in more visually pleasing developments. Living can also be denser making utilities easier to supply.

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

(1)Plantations need to continue but not at the expense of destroying old growth forest. Logging of old growth areas MUST STOP. Grow timber on land that is not old growth but is an area that has conditions suitable to grow timber trees the FASTEST, hence more frequent yields. (2)More research into botany and producing faster growing trees.

**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**

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There is not nearly enough oversight of State Forestry. State Forestry should be plantations. There should be another body to care for old growth. Tax payer money seems to be being used very inefficiently . This topic is too big to answer here.

**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**

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I believe (from my own experience) that Planting new trees to replace old growth is the wrong thing to do . It is a carbon cost. Old trees hold valuable seed banks. Young trees need huge effort and cost to survive. Old trees are priceless to the State, Country and Planet. By whichever metric you go, the old trees are infinitely more valuable for carbon sequestration and biodiversity. I have attempted to regenerate 500 acres at Laguna NSW for the past 30 years and have learned how valuable an old growth 'mother' tree is- for seeds and for wildlife homes/biodiversity. Come and see! OLD GROWTH CANNOT BE REPLACED!