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

Native forestry in NSW is highly regulated, to sustain economic and environmental interests. There is a need and demand for hardwood to grow each year in Australia and I believe a local product by far beats the imported products which is an unsustainable approach to rely on imported timber which produces more carbon emissions to get the timber here.

Native forest in NSW is selectively logged, which is the practice of removing certain trees while preserving the balance of the woodland. That allows the forest to regrow naturally and its biodiverse, natural habitats to stay in place and thrive and waterway protection. Other examples include allowing young trees time to mature and the planting of trees to expand forestlands. Forestry Corporation of NSW has managed State Forests sustainably for the past 100 years the link to this information is listed below

<https://www.forestrycorporation.com.au/sustainability>

Many of my past generations have worked in the timber industry and sustainably supplied ongoing timber supplies to Australians to build homes (many of those protestors out there should take a step back and look at what their homes are built out of, good old timber I would assume) and many other products that rely on the State Forests timber source for the past decade.

The links below outline Timber volumes & modelling, the market dynamics in the Timber industry: Forestry Corporation - Timber volumes and modelling & DPI website - 2018 NSW Regional Forest Agreement Review and Renewal). (3. Market Dynamics in the Timber Industry – Parliament of Australia (aph.gov.au)).

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

Sustainable forest management and the survival of threatened species depend on flexible, active practices, which aren't possible in the National Park model.

NSW forests are home to many threatened species, including koalas, thanks to current management practices.

Native Forestry in NSW is closely regulated by Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals (IFOAs) to protect the environment, including water quality, soil health, and endangered species of which the industry already follow these existing regulations.

Selective harvesting is carefully planned and monitored to limit short-term impacts on threatened species, and efforts are made to protect important habitats like riparian zones, rainforests, and old-growth forests.

Studies by independent researchers and National Parks suggest that koala populations in State Forests are like those in National Parks. Some even indicate there might be more koalas in State Forests because of the availability of young eucalypt leaves which they prefer to the older eucalypt trees.

Sustainable forest management and the survival of threatened species depend on flexible, active practices, which aren't possible in the National Park model.

Aboriginal cultural heritage is increasingly valued, with efforts to support Aboriginal forest management models.

There are some older mills that should be mentioned that are still in operation, especially regarding their heritage significance.

The Forestry industry uses a system called Forest Management Zones (FMZ) to protect sensitive areas and tailor management practices to the environmental needs of each zone. This system is more flexible than the land use rules for National Parks and can lead to better long-term outcomes for threatened species, particularly those affected by disturbances. These threatened species which require disturbance as part of their life cycle are often better managed within State Forest and their ecology team to ensure the protection of these species and exclusions when harvesting.

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

Limiting the timber in native forestry operations would heavily impact the availability of hardwood timber, essential for infrastructure, transport and mining.

Good quality hardwood from North Coast NSW State Forests are vital for:

- Utility poles
- Marine piles
- High-quality housing and restorations and many more products

We use products made from wood every day with an ever-increasing shortage due to the harvesting impacts that Forestry Corporation are dealing with daily.

A report from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry suggests that the amount of hardwood logs from current sources will likely be more than what is needed by 2050.

NSW and Australia's population has grown significantly in the last 45 years, increasing the demand for hardwood products.

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

If native forests are protected and harvesting is limited, essential products like poles, piles, and girders would either become unavailable

or their supply would be greatly reduced. These products are valuable and are mainly used for structural purposes, including utility service poles, pole frame homes, foundation supports for wharves, boardwalks and buildings (piles) and support beams in bridges (girders).

While some plantations areas are replanted after harvesting a small portion is changed to other land uses leading to a decline in the total plantation areas.

The Forestry industry needs to span out across different areas this in turn will support businesses and our communities while allowing forest areas to recover and regenerate.

AT THE END OF THE DAY NO TIMBER NO SUPPLY :(

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

There are many social activities that State Forests offer like free camping and you can take your animals with you which everyone loves, bee keeping, cattle grazing (which can be beneficial in fires),

trail bike riding, horse riding and 4WD of which none of the above are allowed in National Parkes. So much of our beautiful bush is already locked up from the public don't go locking up more. Keep the timber industry going to help support jobs in regional areas and support those who have been in the timber industry for most of their life. Aboriginal forest management practices can protect cultural heritage and help with sustainable forest use.

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

Relying too much on imported timber should be avoided if Australia wants to reduce its carbon footprint and avoid price hikes as global competition for timber grows and supplies shrink. Forests and wood products help fight climate change by storing carbon, and this is recognized in carbon markets, but we need to give it more attention to get the most out of these benefits. Locally produced and sold products have a much lower carbon footprint compared to those imported from other countries. It's important that timber production forests are spread across the state to keep this carbon footprint low.