

DIANE CLUER

Submission ID: 201633

Organisation: N/A

Location: New South Wales

Supporting materials uploaded: Attached overleaf

Submission date: 9/30/2024 4:39:54 PM

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

well, its plainly unsustainable, in economic terms, yield is declining, harvest regularly overestimated, biomass and carbon storage is reduced, at least 147 species rely on hollows etc for their survival, the health and quality of waterways is reduced and fire threat and intensity increased. For What??...see section 3

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

Environmental: healthy and particularly mature forests clean the air, generate rainfall, and cool the landscape. They are critical for pollinators and play a key role in pollination across the landscape, both inside and outside of forests AND 150 threatened species in NSW are directly impacted by logging native forests

Healthy and unlogged forests are critical to the whole environment and both First Nations and non-First Nations culture and identity:

People have ongoing connection to native forests and forest landscapes they provide recreation and improved health outcomes to locals and visitors alike and are a source of community pride and connection to place

Native forests in NSW hold significant cultural and spiritual value for First Nations people.

Native forest logging compromises many ecosystems and habitats throughout NSW where we already have 269 nationally listed threatened species.

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

I think that forestry has had about 150 years to get a sustainable timber production system up and running but they've failed, they have chosen to extract the resource rather than create a circular, sustainable system that doesn't rely on destruction of priceless, irreplaceable, natural ecosystems. The people I have worked with in forestry have been knowledgeable and understanding of the ecosystems they worked in so can only assume it is the bureaucracy and political control that has encouraged the non-sustainable, destructive model.

Some facts: Half of the logs taken from native forests in 2023 were turned into woodchip and exported - 87% of hardwood plantation logs were exported as wood chips!! Sawn and treated softwood logs and composite timber products made from softwoods can substitute for all current uses for native forest and plantation hardwoods, hardwood sourced from native forests or plantations are no longer necessary for any of the uses identified in this section. The market and demand for native forests is declining rapidly and should be encouraged.

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

Plantations already provide 91% of Australia's log production but subsidising the logging of public native forests by the Forestry Corporation is non-competitive and distorts the market away from the more profitable softwood plantation industry, so stop it.

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

Native forests that are not logged have benefits to the entire ECOLOGY and ECONOMY of NSW; from water quality in reservoirs, to greater tourism industry opportunities, and carbon storage and abatement and create healthy productive ecosystems the whole planet benefits from. The people of NSW should not be paying millions of dollars to destroy the biodiversity of our own state and critical habitat for threatened species, the native forest hardwood division of the Forestry Corporation operates at a loss that runs into tens of millions of dollars, how is that sensible on either scale, economic or environmental? And who better than the First Nations Rangers to manage and restore the natural and critical function of forests in the landscape?

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

As Native forest logging in NSW is estimated to release 3.6 million tonnes of carbon every year and ENDING NATIVE FOREST LOGGING would be the equivalent to removing 840 thousand cars from the roads per year ending such practices is immediately effective. Ending native forest logging will also allow previously logged forests to regain lost carbon and make a significant contribution to meeting our emissions targets and put an end to the increased fire risks created by logging because forests that have not been logged are more resilient to the changing climate and catastrophic fires that are occurring as a consequence and logging creates greater fire dangers - see attached photo from ourimbah state forest logging aftermath attached (if I can).







Source: OCR Resident Marlene G, Dec 2020*

**name changed for the FB version of this report*

Koala near OSF at Ourimbah Creek Rd