

DONNA MARIA MANNING

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

The forestry industry is unsustainable and must be contained and minimised. It is outrageous that mature trees are no longer protected. It will take hundreds of years to replace these trees. Native forest logging is contributing to dangerous fire threat. It is causing erosion to the land and pollution of rivers and streams. It is assisting the penetration of weeds and other invasive species.

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

Healthy mature forests, generate rainfall, cool the landscape and clean the air. Therefore logging native forests compromises many ecosystems and habitats throughout NSW particularly impacting the 150 threatened species in NSW which are directly impacted by logging native forests. Nat

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

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. This is an unconscionable waste of hardwood. Softwood logs and composite timber products made from softwoods can substitute for all current uses for native forest and plantation hardwoods.

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
A higher proportion of harvested logs from plantations should be prioritised as saw and veneer logs, rather than exporting them as wood chips
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
Native hardwood products should only be selectively harvested on private land and under strict conditions

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 benefit the entire ecology and economy of NSW
Native state forests cover an area of 2 million hectares in NSW and impact on a diverse set of living conditions for many towns, from water quality in reservoirs, to greater tourism industry opportunities, and carbon storage and abatement
The native forest hardwood division of the Forestry Corporation operates at a loss that runs into tens of millions of dollars, at the expense of the NSW public.

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

Public native forests have a much higher economic value when they are allowed to function naturally and without logging

First Nations Ranger Programs have been hugely successful at managing the recovery and health of native forests. Programs like the Githabul Rangers have shown how First Nations knowledge and management can 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

Native forest logging in NSW is estimated to release 3.6 million tonnes of carbon every year and reduces the amount of stored carbon by more than half of the original value.

Continued logging in native forests is exacerbating the risk of catastrophic climate change in Australia while unlogged forests are more resilient to the changing climate and catastrophic fires that are occurring as a consequence. Ending native forest logging will allow previously logged forests to regain lost carbon and make a significant contribution to meeting our emissions targets