

# Public submission

FELICITY CROMBACH

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**Organisation:** *N/A*

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**Location:** *Victoria*

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**Supporting materials uploaded:** *Attached overleaf*

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## **Sustainability of current and future forestry operations in NSW**

The Forestry Corporation has overestimated the amount of harvestable timber which has led to the decline of our native forests. The industry is not sustainable and it is leading to the decline of wild life in our forests. Native forest logging increases fire threat and intensity, erosion and water way pollution, also weeds and invasive species are thriving.

## **Environmental and cultural values of forests, including threatened species and Aboriginal cultural heritage values**

The native forests of NSW, as in other states, hold cultural and spiritual value for First Nations people. They are also important to others of us who find solace and peace in our forests. The forests create rainfall, cool the landscape and clean the air. They are critical for pollinators, not only within the forest but for the surrounding countryside. The landscape scale significance of native forests means that logging compromises ecosystems and habitats throughout NSW.

## **Demand for timber products, particularly as it relates to NSW housing, construction, mining, transport and retail**

To cut down old growth forests for wood chips is a travesty and should be banned. The need for power poles made from native forests is fast declining, as are the other uses of hardwood. There are alternatives which should be used because native animals must have their hardwood.

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

Plantations are taking over the need for log production and these logs can be used for saw and veneer logs: no timber should be exported for wood chips. Plantation timber is profitable and should not be made to compete with government subsidised publicly owned native forests. There is nothing stopping hardwood from being grown on private property

## **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**

Greater use of First Nations rangers should be implemented to manage forests as they have greater knowledge to restore the natural and critical function of forests, which, leads to greater economic value. The impact of our native forests impacts the living conditions for many towns, from water quality in reservoirs, to greater tourism opportunities, and carbon storage and abatement. Also, keeping native forests intact means that native flora and fauna will abound.

## **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**

Stored carbon is being released due to logging and climate change is increasing the risks for forest health. By not logging the forests are more resilient to the catastrophic fires that are occurring.