

#### **Public submission**

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

Current Practices: Evaluate the sustainability of existing forestry operations, focusing on logging practices, reforestation efforts, and the use of sustainable technologies.

Improvements:

Short-term (1-5 years): Implement stricter regulations on logging practices, increase funding for sustainable forestry research.

Medium-term (5-15 years): Develop and adopt advanced technologies for monitoring forest health and logging activities.

Long-term (15-30 years): Achieve a balance between timber production and forest conservation through continuous innovation and policy adjustments.

Implications: Enhanced forest health, increased biodiversity, and a more resilient forestry industry.

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

Current Practices: Assess the impact of forestry operations on threatened species and Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Improvements:

Short-term: Strengthen protections for threatened species and integrate Aboriginal cultural heritage considerations into forestry management plans.

Medium-term: Collaborate with Aboriginal communities to develop culturally sensitive management practices.

Long-term: Establish permanent conservation areas to protect critical habitats and cultural sites. Implications: Preservation of biodiversity and cultural heritage, fostering stronger community relationships.

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

Current Practices: Analyze the demand for timber in various sectors such as housing, construction, mining, transport, and retail.

Improvements:

Short-term: Promote the use of certified sustainable timber products.

Medium-term: Encourage the development of alternative materials to reduce reliance on timber.

Long-term: Implement policies to balance timber demand with sustainable supply.

Implications: Sustainable timber supply, reduced environmental impact, and a diversified materials market.

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

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Current Practices: Review the role of softwood and hardwood plantations and Private Native Forestry in meeting timber supply needs.

Improvements:

Short-term: Increase incentives for private landowners to engage in sustainable forestry practices.

Medium-term: Expand softwood and hardwood plantations through government and private sector collaboration.

Long-term: Ensure plantations are managed sustainably to meet future timber demands. Implications: Stable timber supply, economic growth, and enhanced forest management practices.

## 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

Current Practices: Evaluate the role of State Forests in delivering environmental, economic, and social outcomes.

Improvements:

Short-term: Enhance community engagement and transparency in forest management decisions. Medium-term: Develop diverse management models, including Aboriginal forest management. Long-term: Maximize the multifunctional use of State Forests for recreation, conservation, and timber production.

Implications: Balanced forest use, improved community relations, and sustainable economic benefits.

# 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

Current Practices: Assess the potential for forests to contribute to carbon sequestration and biodiversity conservation.

Improvements:

Short-term: Implement carbon offset programs and biodiversity credits.

Medium-term: Develop markets for carbon and biodiversity benefits.

Long-term: Integrate climate change adaptation strategies into forest management.

Implications: Mitigation of climate change impacts, enhanced biodiversity, and new economic

opportunities.