

GARTH WIMBUSH

Submission ID: 202863

Organisation: N/A

Location: New South Wales

Supporting materials uploaded: N/A

Submission date: 10/6/2024 3:21:03 PM

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

The future of forestry in NSW must prioritize sustainable practices that not only protect our natural resources but also ensure the viability of the timber industry for generations to come. It is crucial to transition away from logging public native forests and focus on sustainable plantation-based solutions that can meet both environmental and economic needs.

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

Our forests are rich in biodiversity, housing numerous threatened species, including the iconic Koala and Greater Glider. Additionally, these lands hold significant cultural heritage for Aboriginal communities, who have long cared for and maintained these ecosystems. Protecting these values should be paramount in any forestry policy.

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

As we look toward the future, the demand for timber products will only increase, particularly in housing, construction, mining, transport, and retail sectors. However, it is vital to recognize that the majority of timber used in construction comes from sustainable sources like softwood plantations, which make up 95% of the industry's timber supply. Shifting our focus to these sustainable sources will ensure we meet demand without compromising our native forests.

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

Investing in the development of both softwood and hardwood plantations, along with the continuation of Private Native Forestry, will be essential in meeting our timber supply needs. These practices can provide a reliable source of timber while allowing us to preserve our native forests.

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

State Forests must be managed in a way that maximizes a range of environmental, economic, and social outcomes. This includes exploring diverse management models that integrate Aboriginal forest management principles. Such approaches can enhance biodiversity and cultural heritage while supporting local economies.

Public submission

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

There is a significant opportunity to realize both carbon and biodiversity benefits through responsible forest management. Supporting carbon and biodiversity markets can mitigate climate change risks while maximizing the ecological integrity of our forests. Understanding the greenhouse gas emission impacts of various forest uses and assessing climate change risks will be crucial in our strategies moving forward.