

GERALDINE BROOKS

Submission ID: 200127

Organisation: N/A

Location: New South Wales

Supporting materials uploaded: N/A

Submission date: 9/23/2024 11:55:00 PM

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

Native forest logging is by definition unsustainable. We cannot replace these intricate, biodiverse forests with their plethora of diverse habitat. It needs to stop immediately. Since protections were removed in 2018 logging has intensified in an unconscionable rush to log unsustainably in advance of the promised Great Koala National Park. Further, the industry is lawless and even violent as proven by recent cases of violent harassment of conservationists. Plantation forestry is also managed for little benefit since almost 90 per cent of the timber is exported as woodchips.

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

150 threatened species rely on the hollows of mature native forests for nesting. Aboriginal communities rely on native forests for cultural and spiritual nourishment. All Australians deserve to be able to partake of the proven mental and physical health benefits of forests, directly through bushwalking and indirectly through the irreplaceable role of forests in climate and clean air.

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

The Forestry Commission runs at a loss, which harms NSW taxpayers. Its production represents a mere nine percent of the Australian timber industry. Half the logged timber is exported as woodchips. And for this, we lose an irreplaceable resource, endanger our priceless, internationally famous wildlife species and enable what has become a violent criminal element who feel they can intimidate and injure conservationists with impunity.

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

Our forests are an invaluable resource as they are, unlogged, conserved in perpetuity as a globally rare and precious resource.