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

I support the continuation of the industry and the sustainable harvesting of logs from the State Forests. State forests are highly regulated and managed for timber and the environment with long term management and upkeep of the forest the ultimate goal, so the forests are viable for generations in the future.

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

Forestry and the forests are part of the community identity. Forest should be maintained for the conservation of plants and animals. Part of the upkeep is resetting the forest with selective or Australian group selection logging to create a patchwork of vigorous growth in the forest and multiage canopy for habitat.

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

I think the demand for timber has increased. The push for new houses will put further pressure on supply for native hard woods and commodity products like frames and chip board from pine plantations.

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

Plantations won't have the volume of timber needed to meet market demand. The type of timber for construction sourced from native forests like heavy load bearing beams or appearance and strength needing products like flooring can't be sourced from plantations of hard or soft wood. Private native forest can supply the type of wood for these applications, but the volume will be insufficient.

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

The State forests provide for the community the environmental outcomes of biodiversity, watershed protection, carbon sequestration and erosion control. Beyond that, access for timber, recreation (free recreation!), and access for other financial endeavors like bee keeping. These are values the community needs and wants. The first listed values are also provided by forests in the reserve system. The provision of the latter does not negate these other values.

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

As mentioned above, the State forests offer the environmental proportion of native forests, with the added values of timber free and varied recreation and a range of other economic ventures. Access to any markets for the creation on ACCU's or the like should be just as viable in a working forest as a reserved forest.