

JANET FAIRLIE-CUNINGHAME

Submission ID: 202523

Organisation: N/A

Location: New South Wales

Supporting materials uploaded: N/A

Submission date: 10/4/2024 10:52:09 AM

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

I believe that the primary aim of NSW Forestry Commission should be to ensure that each type of forest ecotype is Conserved for long term sustainability and connectivity with other forests across the state and ecologically link with forests in other states. This is not so at present and needs much revision. Cutting and clearing large areas would appear to be the primary aim at present

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

The NSW State Forests should be model forests to demonstrate how important it is to actively conserve native threatened species and threatened ecosystems. They need to become highly recognisable and viable entities for demonstrating Aboriginal cultural values and practises. This is especially so with the rapid and threatening changes for all human and flora and flora ecosystems viability during the present Climate Changes and Global Warming. This does not mean that harvesting timber is prohibited; but that is undertaken with new principles of harvesting reflecting all the above.

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

Demands for timber need to be reversed. The rate of timber harvesting must be governed not by demand but by the ecology and welfare of the forest. This is the reverse of what has been customary for the NSW Forestry Commission. Existing NSW Forests must not be plundered. New and existing Forest plantations should be the market suppliers which are strictly governed by controls and climate changes.

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

Softwood and hardwood plantations must become the present and future main source of supply.

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

I strongly support Aboriginal forest management and the use of Cultural practices that have withstood the test of eons of time. On a world scale NSW forest flora and fauna rate as potential World Heritage status because of their diversity and the fact that they are broadly evidence of pre- industrialisation of modern extractive forestry, values, methodology and practice. As such they are beyond price and extremely valuable.

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

I strongly support a complete revision of NSW Forest values and potential role for forests in becoming a most important factor in realising the enormous benefits and rewards from a conservation ecology; demonstrating the vital importance of being used as carbon sinks. The retention of our NSW Forests diverse and varied ecology and diverse systems have the potential to become very valuable greenhouse gas emission sinks.

There is at present a huge challenge to decision makers to foresee these values and to make on-going scientific assessments of these very different uses of forests for their innate values; and to encourage the various political persuasions involved in decision making to realise these alternatives for the benefit of all.