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

Native forest logging is unsustainable. The amount of timber left un used on bthe ground is wasteful and ultimately a potential fire hazard.

Estimations by the Forestry Corporation of the amount of harvestable timber are consistently over estimated.

The yield from public native forests has declined by 40% since 2010

Protections for mature trees were removed in 2018 and logging was intensified to try and get more wood from native forests. There appears to be no guide line for logging contractors in erosion control, gully protection (i have seen logs pushed into creek beds) or even how to recognise existing wild life in trees eg koalas.

Logging of native forests reduces biomass and carbon storage, and removing mature trees takes away valuable food sources and hollow bearing trees.

174 species in NSW rely on hollows for dens and nests, logging reduces the number of hollows that will be created in native forests.

Native forest logging increases fire threat and intensity, erosion and water way pollution, and the penetration of weeds and other invasive species.

Native forest logging reduces the function and health of waterways, including streams and rivers.

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

Healthy and unlogged forests are critical to the whole environment and both First Nations and non-First Nations culture and identity.

Forests, particularly healthy mature forests, generate rainfall, cool the landscape and clean the air.

150 threatened species in NSW are directly impacted by logging native forests

Mature and unlogged native forests are critical for pollinators and play a key role in pollination across the landscape, both inside and outside of forests.

Native forests provide recreation and improved health outcomes to locals and visitors alike and are a source of community pride and connection to place.

Native forests in NSW hold significant cultural and spiritual value for First Nations people.

First Nations people and communities have ongoing connection to native forests and forest landscapes are an integral part of cultural practice and knowledge.

There are 269 nationally listed threatened species in NSW and the landscape scale significance of native forests means that native forest logging compromises many ecosystems and habitats throughout NSW

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

Logging in native forests accounted for only 9% of the total log production in Australia in the year 2023. Native forest logging contributes only 2.4 million of the total 25 million cubic metres for that year.

Half of the logs taken from native forests in 2023 were turned into woodchip and exported. This is far from a sustainably business activity.

Hardwood logs taken from plantations made up 8.5 million cubic metres, and just 8% of these logs were saw and veneer logs. 87% of hardwood plantation logs were exported as wood chips.

Hardwood sourced from native forests or plantations are no longer necessary for any of the uses identified in this section. Housing often uses treated pine or steel frames.

Other industries are using more recycled materials that are hard wearing long lasting and light weight. eg Enviro tread products.

Railways do not use iron bark timber sleepers these have been replaced by other materials

Sawn and treated softwood logs and composite timber products made from softwoods can substitute for all current uses for native forest and plantation hardwoods

The market and demand for native forests is declining rapidly, the recent example of Essential Energy moving away from power poles harvested from native forests is just one example

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

Plantations already provide 91% of Australia's log production. Even though in NSW South East Forests plantations were once thriving wet sclerophyll tall opld growth forest, logged and replaced with Pine plantations.

The future of planting plantations should be on marginal already cleared farm land.

A higher proportion of harvested logs from plantations should be prioritised as saw and veneer logs, rather than exporting them as wood chips.

Subsidising the logging of public native forests by the Forestry Corporation is non-competitive and distorts the market away from the more profitable softwood plantation industry.

Timber substitutes should be explored so our forests can grow into the future

A functioning eco system in an intact forest is economically worth more than a logged out lifeless forest.

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

Native forests that are not logged have real and tangible benefits to the entire ecology and economy of NSW in tourism and research.

Because State forests are open to the public for many activities they are widely used. This is an opportunity for education, research, health, biodiversity to expand.

State Forests are home to some of the most beautiful places in Australia and should never be logged but could be used as a touristic place which would be sustainable.

Native state forests cover an area of 2 million hectares in NSW and impact on a diverse set of living conditions for many towns, from water quality in reservoirs, to greater tourism industry opportunities, and carbon storage and abatement

The native forest hardwood division of the Forestry Corporation operates at a loss that runs into tens of millions of dollars, at the expense of the NSW public. It also additionally receives tens of millions of dollars in regular equity injections.

The people of NSW should not be paying millions of dollars to destroy the biodiversity of our own state and critical habitat for threatened species

Public native forests have a much higher economic value when they are allowed to function naturally and without logging

First Nations Ranger Programs have been hugely successful at managing the recovery and health of native forests.

Programs like the Githabul Rangers have shown how First Nations knowledge and management can restore the natural and critical function of forests in the landscape.

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

Native forest logging in NSW is estimated to release 3.6 million tonnes of carbon every year

Ending native forest logging would be the equivalent to removing 840 thousand cars from the roads per year

Logging in a native forest reduces the amount of stored carbon by more than half of the original value

Ending native forest logging will allow previously logged forests to regain lost carbon and make a significant contribution to meeting our emissions targets

Climate change is driving increased risks for forest health and continued logging in native forests is exacerbating that risk

Forests that have not been logged are more resilient to the changing climate and catastrophic fires that are occurring as a consequence