

Public submission

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

In my view, it's long overdue for forestry operations to cease in any area except a plantation. The timber being felled is getting smaller and smaller, and often the operations run at a loss. There are alternatives to using timber for such things are telegraph poles and fences. Using native forest timber for wood-chipping is a travesty.

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

Forests are far more important as the environment for fauna and flora species than for a less-than-profitable forestry industry. By logging some areas near national parks, the land brides for species are being destroyed. Koalas and gliders are already threatened. Aboriginal cultural heritage should be respected.

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

Housing - use steel framing. Construction - there are alternatives, or use plantation timber. Mining - use alternatives - composite recycled materials. Transport - the drivers employed in the timber industry can get jobs in other industries. (these disruptions happen in most industries over time, and people have to retrain or find another job that suits their skills.) Retail? Sell the alternatives to native forest wood.

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

Yes, these can all be delivered without logging.

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

If you're talking carbon offset schemes here, they have been almost totally discredited. Planting trees as an offset represents a scam, unless the company claiming the offset is obliged to look after the trees (esp water) until they are well established.