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

- The current and future forestry operations in NSW are not sustainable.
- I fully support an end to native forest logging and a future based on sustainable plantations.
- Logging of native forests is leading to the extinction of species, such as the Greater Glider and Koala and so cannot be described as sustainable. An urgent and immediate halt to logging should be placed over core Greater Glider and koala habitat now.
- Logging public native forests is costing the taxpayer millions and leading to permanent damage to our forests, therefore it is neither financially nor environmentally sustainable.
- Plantation forests already provide 90% of NSW timber production and logging jobs. Whereas taking timber from native forests is heavily subsidised. Transitioning the last 10% to expand plantation forestry would also absorb workers into this industry so as to end completely state logging of all our native forests.
- Native forest logging in NSW is not a sustainable industry when in the last two years it cost \$29 million more to cut down native forests than was made by selling the wood. And in the process, we have created a biodiversity crisis for our native wildlife. Plus, taxpayers are footing the bill. A ludicrous situation!
- Analysis by conservative think tank the Blueprint Institute found ending native forest logging in 2023,24 and funding transition packages for workers will deliver taxpayers a net profit of \$45 million- an economic gain and we address the climate and biodiversity crisis.
- There is much wastage by NSW Forestry Corp in the logging industry. Only 8% of native forests that are logged become sawn timber , the rest is pulped and turned into cardboard and woodchips exported to overseas markets. This shows the unsustainability and waste of the industry.
- Continued native forest logging will make bushfires worse, by drying out forests and leaving dead debris on the ground. This shows that this industry is unsustainable increasing natural disasters that will affect communities and wildlife that will require future state government funding to recover.
- The obvious solution to address these problems is to invest in more into the plantation industry to ensure NSW sources all its timber from sustainable plantations and to create good, sustainable jobs.

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

- An immediate end to native forest logging in NSW would protect more than a million hectares of native forests, wilderness areas and core endangered species habitat. Therefore. logging of our public native forests should and must end.
- Proponents of the native forest logging industry will be arguing to maintain intensive logging for years to come. If they succeed, the result will set the endangered greater glider and koala on an accelerated course for extinction along with many other animals in NSW. More government funding will then be required to initiate recovery plans to save species. The obvious solution now

as a matter of urgency is to simply stop logging native forests to protect their habitat and leave their forests alone to recover, regenerate and thrive.

-The true value of our native forests does not come from wood production, but from their critical role in carbon storage, the water cycle, providing critical habitat, reducing fire risk, recreation and spiritual connection.

- We need healthy forests for holding carbon, cleaning our water, providing habitat, improving fire management, providing recreation, and spiritual connection. Logging native forests damages all these values.

- Over 11,000 hectares of Greater Glider refugia is currently being logged or is scheduled for logging in the near future. Four key examples of this targeting are Tallaganda, Badja, Styx River and Tuggolo State Forests. Community surveys over the last 12 months have found a total of 571 Greater Gliders and 154 den trees using on-ground spotlighting and thermal drone surveys. These surveys are ongoing and indicate that there are high densities of Greater Gliders within these areas. But if logging continues, many of these Greater Gliders will be killed.

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

-There is no longer any need to log public native forests to build houses.

-Plantations can supply our high quality and composite timber products.

-The transition to a plantation-based industry is nearly complete, with around 90% of Australia's timber needs already being met by current plantations.

-The remaining 10% can easily be satisfied by stopping the export of unprocessed plantation wood and improving the domestic management of existing plantations.

-Shifting to plantation timber reduces pressure on native forests, supporting sustainable industry practices.

-Products from NSW logging operations are mostly woodchips for export and other low value products, such as pallets and tomato stakes. I am strongly opposed to the destruction of wildlife habitat to make exported woodchip.

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

-Hardwood and softwood plantations already provide 91% of Australia's log production.

-Investment in hardwood plantation on already cleared land would supply timber products into the future.

-Shifting to higher-value plantations can better meet timber needs.

-Improve the domestic management of existing plantations.

-Ending public native forest subsidies would boost sustainable timber production on private lands.

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.

-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 (Bellingen for example), 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.

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- 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. The true value of our native forests does not come from wood production, but from their critical role in carbon storage, the water cycle, providing critical habitat, reducing fire risk, recreation and spiritual connection.
 - 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

- Logging in native forests releases large amounts of carbon, contributing to climate change.
- Stopping logging allows forests to recover, helping them store more carbon and support climate goals.
- Healthy forests are essential for reducing the impacts of climate change like wildfires and drought.
- By stopping logging, forests can play a large role in mitigating climate risks and supporting opportunities in carbon markets.
- Native forests are priceless, their value is not measured by accountants and profit-greedy exploiters but by the life they sustain. Do not attach carbon offsets to an end of native forest logging and instead recognise the role of native forests in mitigating the biodiversity and climate crises.

Conclusion

I wholeheartedly support the call for an immediate end to native forest logging in NSW and a future industry based on sustainable plantations. NSW's forests need urgent protection. Native forest logging is driving the endangered koala and greater glider to extinction. An immediate logging moratorium should be placed over core greater glider and koala habitat while the FIAP process is underway.

It's time for a sustainable future - one that prioritises conservation, climate action, and community well-being over the destruction of our forests. We must shift the forestry industry towards a model that protects our environment and our future through a sustainable 100% plantation forestry investment.

Forests in the boundaries of the Great Koala National Park are being logged four times faster than the rest of the state by NSW Forestry Corporation. This is an environmental, social, economic and political failure. The promise of a GKNP that this government has failed to fulfill coupled with the state sanctioned destruction of it is beyond belief.

The NSW community feels betrayed. The harm industrial logging is causing koalas, greater gliders, glossy black cockatoos and other forest dependent threatened species is shameful. Our trees act as carbon capturers, and act as a solution to climate change. Clearing our forests makes them more susceptible to bushfire. Our waterways also get more polluted causing more destruction, whilst this costs the public millions of dollars.

The Great Koala National Park is irreplaceable. It seems like this is the intent of NSW Forestry Corp to completely destroy this area and ruin any chance of koalas recovering in the wild.

Our forests are worth so much more standing, and Forestry Corp NSW is responsible for native forest destruction, species decline, increased negative climate change impacts, and increased natural disasters that affect communities and wildlife further as the flow-on effects. NSW Forestry

Corp's agenda is to log as much as they can and as quick and also slow down the progress of creating the GKNP.

The Great Koala National Park must be established now. NSW is one of the last states in Australia to ban native forest logging, why can't we do the same as Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia and the ACT? Forestry Corporation's harvest plan lists over 18,800 hectares of forest within the proposed Great Koala National Park at risk from logging now. The decision to ban logging within koala hubs left over 90% of the park open to logging. This is unacceptable and a betrayal of the promise to create the GKNP.

The Independent Forestry Panel (IFP) are 'assessing the sustainability of current and future forestry operations' through the submission process. It's clear that this is NOT a sustainable industry. The cost to our environment will be so high that it will never recover and will set the endangered Greater Glider and Koala on an accelerated course for extinction. It also is NOT a good business decision to continue to use taxpayer money to support an industry that is already declining, when plantation forests are already established and have proven to be a successful model. We have a climate and biodiversity crisis in NSW that can be addressed to slow down these negative impacts of both with one single action. And that is an immediate end to native forest logging in NSW that would protect more than a million hectares of native forests and core endangered species' habitat and keep our old growth forests and native forests standing intact to remain as what they do best to capture carbon, mitigate natural disasters, provide habitat and feed to wildlife, keep our waterways and air clean and be there for us the people to enjoy. Without nature we do not have a future. I need nature to ground me, to put life's stresses and challenges in context. Nature gives me the coping capacity and resilience and peace that we all need to function properly in this busy world. Please end native forest logging in NSW now for us all to benefit. Native forests belong to the people not to destructive industries that have had their way for too long now!