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

It has been shown repeatedly that Australia has one of the highest rates of biodiversity loss of any nation. Most of this is due to ongoing habitat loss. Nearly all the other states recognise this and have acted to either ban or severely limit native forest logging. NSW is profoundly recalcitrant in this manner. Future forestry options must be restricted to plantation forests which maintain appropriate levels of sustainability.

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

The increasing damage from climate change will only be exacerbated by the logging of native forests. Further, the unique heritage of Australia's natural world is being lost, with many native species brought to the brink of extinction, or extinct due to the loss of habitat. That our precious natural heritage is not valued for the unique wonder that it is, is a blight on our nation and a disgrace to our governments. The complete disregard of Aboriginal cultural values and their ongoing despoliation in the name of easy profit when alternatives to native forest logging is extraordinary in this era of awareness and understanding of their inherent value.

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

Nearly all products can, and should be, obtained from plantation forests.

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

Private native forestry should be ended as soon as possible. It should be ended now. That so many forestry coups are logged illegally and without government oversight is unfathomable.