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**Organisation:** N/A

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**Location:** Northern Territory

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**Supporting materials uploaded:** N/A

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

Logging practices disproportionately harm native animals (Great Glider, etc.) through the logging of older trees and therefore established animal hollows.

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

Logging practices disproportionately harm native animals (Greater Gliders, etc.) through the logging of older trees and therefore established animal nesting sites.

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

NSW can supply its timber needs through plantations, which can also showcase NSW's commitment to sustainable practices.

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

As the vast majority of timber needs are now met through plantations, the opportunity exists to expand plantations on already-cleared land and change to higher-value timber, boosting job opportunities and increasing revenue.

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**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**

Preserving and improving NSW State Forests presents opportunities for tourism, carbon abatement and employment.

Over the October 2024 long weekend, I enjoyed cycling through the forests around the Colo River and have met other cyclotourists on these now-established off-road cycling routes.

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**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**

Healthy and intact forests are home to diverse native species.

Over the October 2024 long weekend, when camping at the Upper Colo Reserve I enjoyed the early morning birdsong of many species, a number of which I was unfamiliar with.

This experience contrasted to cycling through Dharug National Park in the year after the 2019/20 fires. A silent ride through an expanse of forest empty of native Australian birds.