

Public submission

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Supporting materials uploaded: *Attached overleaf*

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To Whom it may concern

Hello, I grew up enjoying many urban areas of forest which have since been used for housing. These areas were a deep, meaningful, and refreshing connection to all that is special in the creation around us. I am also deeply concerned about the continued loss of life in our flora and fauna, which maintains our biodiversity, and resilience in the face of climate change.

I would ask that we end all native forest logging in NSW. Nature is going to be under more stress than ever with extreme heat, bush fires, and other weather events. Also, if we stop logging, what is left will have time to recover and become more resilient.

If I may, other points of note in regards to logging in NSW are;

- Native forest logging is a loss-making industry that is costing the taxpayer millions of dollars every year. There are far better ways to spend public money.
- Native forest logging is driving species like the koala and greater glider to extinction by destroying their habitat. These forest-dependent wildlife need intact and healthy forests to thrive and survive.
- Native forest logging causes more destructive bushfires. Older forests are more resistant to bushfire, and for forests to grow old we have to stop logging them.
- Traditional Owners continue to raise concerns about how logging destroys First Nations cultural heritage. This is an important opportunity for government to manage forests in ways that recognise Traditional Owner rights and aspirations.
- Protected forests provide greater benefit to more people, and we need NSW's forests to be managed for the benefit of the community, not just a handful of vested interests.

Thanks for receiving my submission, I am genuinely concerned for the future (and it would be so great to have recovering populations of Koalas, Bandicoots etc in areas accessible to our urban areas).

Your sincerely

Dr Mel Crane