Public submission

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

It is beyond comprehension that the government feels it appropriate to provide subsidies for this dying industry when it is causing so much anguish to people around Australia & the world. Our species are slow to breed and the destruction of their habitat only exacerbates their struggle for survival.

Removing mature trees which provide us with carbon storage, wildlife habitat and important forest areas is incomprehensible. So many species rely on these forests for their very survival - there is no saving them if their habitat is lost. Replanting just doesn't replicate the loss of biodiversity and the food supply that is necessary for these species to survive.

Native forest logging is not sustainable - and everyone knows this. Native forest logging must stop. It leads to increased soil erosion, pollution and the spread of weeds and pathogens which further put at risk our precious native species, both flora and fauna.

The disregard shown to our natural environment needs to stop. Australia is home to so many unique species and we must preserve their slow-growing environments while we still have time to save some of the endangered species these forests house.

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

We need these native forests which have evolved over many years and which supply us with clean air, which generate rain and moderate our climate, and provide essential wildlife habitat. These forests also often hold significant cultural and spiritual value for our First Nations people but also for our local communities.

There is an extinction crisis with so many species on the brink. The ecosystems and habitats these forests provide must be protected. To do otherwise is risking our own very futures.

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

I think it's absolutely disgusting that more than half the logs taken from native forests become wood chips. How utterly short sighted. This industry is no longer necessary, plantations must be the only source of logs going forward. Our precious native forests must now be protected.

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

We should, as a nation, stop sending so many of our native forest wood overseas. Plantations can provide almost all that we need and subsidising this industry is ensuring it is non-competitive in the global market. Use the plantations and leave the native forests for the critters that it supports.

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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

Protecting native forests now will ensure our future is protected. Our entire ecosystems flourish and we need the biodiversity they support. It is often critical habitat for threatened species - in the long run Australia will benefit most from protecting our unique species and their environments - these places are increasingly disappearing and we are yet to understand their true economic value to our nation.

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

We know that we are at risk of more frequent and severe extreme weather events. Protecting our native forests ensures we are more able to resilient to these changes. Protecting what is left of our native forests is an easy decision - call time on this industry. It is better if we move on and support our communities preserve these special places not decimate them. The evidence is clear. Stop native forest logging now before it is too late.