

NAME REDACTED

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

Current and future forestry operations in NSW are not sustainable. Native forest logging is not profitable and requires continuing financial support from the government using tax payers money. Australia leads the world in biodiversity destruction and species extinction which are irreversible. Logged and regenerating forests are greater fire risks and are unsuitable for the habitat of many native animals and plants.

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

Aboriginal people have lived successfully in Australia for 65000 years, largely because of their understanding of and respect for the land and its flora and fauna. This, as well as their spiritual connection to the land is destroyed in an instant by native forest logging. Would we consider destroying our own homes and places of worship for purely commercial reasons like this? The rate of destruction of koala and greater glider habitat is increasing and becoming critical. An immediate logging moratorium should be placed over core greater glider and koala habitat while the FIAP process is underway.

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

Of course there is an ongoing demand for timber products by our society, but this does not necessarily need the timber to be sourced from native forests. Properly managed timber plantations from previously logged forest, and replacement of timber with other modern building materials can eliminate the need for native forest timber.

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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**

Vast areas of native forests have already been logged, destroying the native flora and fauna for generations. There is, therefore, a vast opportunity for growing softwood and hardwood plantations which could more than provide the timber needed from the industry.

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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**

State Forest management claims to deliver a range of best practice economic and social outcomes but these have not measured up to independent assessment. Once destroyed by logging native forests never recover. Iconic species such as the Greater Glider and the Koala are being driven to extinction. Australia leads the world in the rate of extinction of native species, both animal and plant. Once destroyed, the regenerated forest does not provide the same habitat and is more prone to devastating fire. The best aboriginal forest management model does not include the clear logging and destruction as currently practiced. Communities dependent on native forest

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logging can be compensated and moved to other industries, or employment in harvesting plantation timber.

**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**

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The true value of native forests does not lie in the wood produced by logging, of which the benefits are temporary, but from their critical role in carbon storage, the water cycle, habitat for native species threatened with extinction, their reduction in fire risk, and the opportunities for recreation and spiritual connection.

If we are to survive on this planet, we have to stop destroying the very environment upon which our survival depends. This starts with ending native forest logging.