

NAME REDACTED

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**Location:** New South Wales

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

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I have been a resident on the South Coast for over 40 years. During this time I have witnessed the destruction of our Native forests. I have seen the country response, it has become drier and more fire prone. The mess left behind after logging, often makes travelling through country near impossible. I am a horse rider and have seen this issue first hand. How do you control fires in this situation? The only way is to wait for them to emerge from a coup and fight from a trail/road. Not a good scenario, with the fire feeding on the discarded trees.

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

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Monocultures have taken over and native species can no longer exist in many of these logged forest. As a First Nation person, I have been heartbroken by the way Forestry knowingly has destroyed Indigenous artefacts and bulldozed sacred sites. I believe the motto was bury it, burn it or simply remove it! Having also worked in Flora and Fauna surveys for Forestry, I know first hand that, if a discovery was inconvenient that it simply was not documented.

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

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I believe that the situation we are finding ourselves in, is due largely to decades of good hardwood timber being chipped to satisfy overseas interests. Our Forests have been mismanaged for too long.

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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**

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We need to be smarter. Stop exporting our timber, increase softwood plantations on private lands. Build smaller houses, decrease our footprint size.

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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**

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State Forests Corp. is owned by the people for the people. Our forests are not a infinite resource to be squandered by poor management practises.

State Forest Corp. should be responsible for weed management and feral animal control. They should also be responsible for the protection of catchment areas and waterway protection. They should never take more than country is able to give and even then any logging should be done only after flora/fauna and Indigenous surveys have been undertaken and respected.

**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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Climate change is here!, we need to adapt if we are to survive as a species. We must protect what we have and support Country in returning to a healthy state. Our native forest are our greatest asset. Country is dying, Country is crying and we have not listened. We must protect Mother earth, for without her we are nothing.