

NAME REDACTED

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

The current forestry operations are not sustainable even now. They are subsidised by government and the value of what we are losing is being ignored over the dollar figure for what little is gained for wood chips and other products of this industry. We must understand that our native forests are irreplaceable - they support entire ecosystems and this cannot be replanted and grown elsewhere.

The true value of our native forests is in their critical role in carbon storage, the water cycle, in providing critical wildlife habitat, reducing bushfire risks, in providing recreational spaces and areas for spiritual connection. We all found this out during the Covid pandemic - we need our natural areas.

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

Trees with mature hollows take decades to form, and the native fauna that they support include many species on the brink of extinction. Species such as the koala and the Greater Glider are slow to breed with specific diets not easily found elsewhere. These animals live in specific forests which can provide the right food sources.

Native forest logging is not factoring into the equation the value of what is being lost - in terms of biodiversity loss, areas of historical and cultural value which provide habitat for threatened and native species.

Australia has one of the highest extinction rates globally and this must end. This disregard for our native flora and fauna needs to be reconsidered so the intrinsic value of these areas is fully appreciated.

Most areas being removed have not even been adequately surveyed so we know what is being lost.

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

Timber from plantations is all that is needed. The loss of our native forest canopy needs to end. Furthermore, other materials are replacing natural timber in the construction industry as technological improvements occur.

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

We must support more plantations to ensure the future of softwood and hardwood supplies can be met without further destruction of native forests.

Public submission

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

Our State Forests should be managed with more consideration for the important role they play in providing access to natural areas.

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

Preservation of our native forests can be supported by the opportunities they provide to mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change.