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

Dear Forestry Industry Action Panel, This is a submission to your inquiry into the sustainability of current and future forestry operations in NSW.

I work in the recreational health sector and have also visited numerous state forests in NSW Over the last 30 years. I am concerned at the reducing biodiversity in state forests, and also what appears to be indiscriminate and non sustainable logging practices which are slowly destroying the forests,

I hope the panel will recommend that native forest logging be brought to an end in NSW.

The arguments for this are numerous and include:

- 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.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I look forward to hearing from you in regard to this submission and the outcomes of the review.

Sincerely