

NAME REDACTED

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

I live in [REDACTED] which is a small village near Lismore NSW. We all know how badly Lismore has affected by both bushfires and floods in the last few years. I believe this is more to do with climate change than any other factor. By continued forestry operations, such as there are now, I don't think will help our climate and, therefore in turn ourselves. This of course is not to forget our beautiful wildlife which are enormously affected by consistent logging.

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

I am very lucky to live in an area where the major town (Lismore NSW) is surrounded by beautiful forests; however there is certainly not much forest area left now. It has been logged continually since white settlement. I remember supporting the campaign in 1979 that was held at Terania Creek (also near Lismore). The logging that was being carried out now was on old growth forests. Thankfully we managed to stop the logging then and the area became renowned as a tourist attraction - it is certainly a beautiful area to visit. We are also lucky here to have Indigenous people who know very well how to work with the land, their country. If logging continues at its present rate there will be no more country to look after.

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

I understand the need for timber products; however I do think that the environment, Indigenous culture and climate change should all be considered before logging is allowed to be carried out. I think we need to grow more forests to cover the demand for timber products, with timber that is fit for that purpose, rather than taking it from environmentally threatened forests.

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

I believe this is true though of course, as I stated in my previous answer, I believe that more could be done about extra plantations.

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 Forests should be working with all participants, especially environmentalists whose opinions seem to be often overlooked when State Forests are planning logging. Listening to, and working with scientists who understand the need to act on what is best for the climate and the planet is essential.

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

This certainly needs further support and research.