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

The logging of old growth forests in NSW is not sustainable environmentally or financially. This industry costs taxpayer's money, while squandering precious habitat for native species, such as the endangered koala and Greater Glider, as well as carbon storage. Humans are reliant on clean air, water and carbon storage to survive - our ancient forests do this for free! And have been doing so for countless millennia. Ending native forest logging (ie: logging of old growth forests) is long overdue. Australia is one of the few places left on earth with ancient forests - it's time we valued them for the roles they perform, the future they enable. Existing plantations already supply over 90% of timber and forest needs - there's no excuse for logging old growth forests, where only 2% of the forest ends up in long-term wood products, while the remainder ends up in landfill or burnt on the forest floor. See reference: <https://theconversation.com/logged-native-forests-mostly-end-up-in-landfill-not-in-buildings-and-furniture-115054>

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

Already over 50% of NSW forests and woodlands are gone - we can't meet our zero extinction or climate goals unless we protect them immediately. The logging of forests is driving the koala to extinction and is an International shame for Australia. Additionally, Aboriginal cultural heritage values are ignored in favour of the tax-payer funding a small number of regional workers whose MPs are too lazy to offer alternative forms of sustainable employment.
<https://theconversation.com/more-than-half-of-nsws-forests-and-woodlands-are-gone-as-ongoing-logging-increases-extinction-risks-study-shows-235416>

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

Over 90% of our timber products come from existing plantations, and most of the forest logged is wasted. So old growth logging isn't viable, especially given the other values the forest performs, such as promoting the water cycles we need for drinking water, or carbon storage that we need to help mitigate the impact of climate change. There is insufficient recycling of timber and other construction products or investment into viable and more sustainable industries such as hemp.

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

Wood supply should be limited to existing plantations - not public owned forests or the felling of woodlands on private land with no oversight.

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 are crucial as habitat, in water supply and carbon storage. the small number of people employed in the loss-making, tax-payer funded industry of native forest logging could be redirected in forest restoration and associated sustainable activities (though not fire control.) See report:

https://www.blueprintinstitute.org.au/branching_out_exploring_alternate_land_use_options_for_the_native_forests_of_nsw

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

While it is possible to monetise carbon storage in state forests, it's worth keeping in mind that we are reliant on forests storing carbon for our own survival. So, given this, it's of secondary interest compared to the survival of the planet and that of all species. Native forest logging should be stopped now - waiting to do so under the guise of implementing a carbon trading scheme etc is both absurd and reckless.