

Public submission

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

I would like to see an end to native forest logging in NSW. On January 1 this year, both Victoria and Western Australia ended native forest logging in state forests. This makes current NSW native forest policy look backward.

I am informed that 91% of our timber already comes from plantations. If native forest logging is stopped, there is enough available plantation timber and new non-timber building products to cover the 9% currently coming from native forests.

Logging of native forests is assisting the extinction of species, such as greater gliders and koalas. These species need old forests, meaning native forest logging is an unsustainable industry. How can collateral displacement (or death) of our endangered native animals be acceptable? Logging public native forests is costing the taxpayer millions. In 2023 Forestry Corporation lost \$15 million on their hardwood operations. This adds insult to injury.

Native forests store carbon, clean our water and provide essential habitat for endangered species. With respect to native forest logging, it's time for NSW to catch up to Victoria and Western Australia.

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

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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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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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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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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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