

Public submission

NAME REDACTED

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Dear Forestry Industry Action Panel,

My name is [REDACTED] and I enjoy hiking and spending time in nature. I am deeply saddened by the destruction of our native forests for commercial purposes. I feel the logging industry in NSW is not economically viable nor is it in any way sustainable. I would like my grandchildren and their descendants to be able to enjoy the native habitat of NSW. I feel if the native forests are not protected now they will be gone forever and then it will be too late!

Forests are important for removing carbon dioxide and storing it. They are an important habitat for our native wildlife – some of whom are endangered. After the 2019/2020 fires it is particularly important to ban logging of native forests as that natural disaster caused widespread devastation that will take years to recover from. The forests can not recover if we continue logging them.

Our forests are also important for tourism – people want to see native animals in their natural habitat. Native forests are a huge draw card and a sustainable draw card if we act now.

There is more to be gained from banning logging in our native forests through carbon storage, tourism (which in itself creates employment) and recreational activities like camping and hiking as well as bird watching and school educational activities like bush tucker courses.

A more indigenous model of forest management would help keep our forests and wildlife sustainable as well as allowing people the chance to see the forests through an Aboriginal lens which would again be great for tourism.

As Hardwood and softwood plantations already account for 91% of Australian log production I feel that banning native forest logging shouldn't be an issue for industry. As logging releases large amounts of carbon contributing to climate change, I feel our native forests should be exempt from logging and only plantations should be logged. As a taxpayer I feel that the NSW government should not be subsidising the native forest logging division of Forestry Corporation NSW. Native forest logging is not economically viable and a near decade of government subsidy does not pass the pub test in my opinion.

I seriously hope this review will result in a ban on native forest logging. Thank you for considering my submission.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]