

Public submission

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

Native harvesting of state forests is sustainable. The area that is harvested each year is less than a percent of the total forest on sate land. The best, most important forests are located in national parks and not harvested.

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

The best and most important forests are managed for conservation in the national parks. The remaining 12 % are multi use forests that are still managed for biodiversity and environmental protection but also other outcomes such as recreation and timber harvest. Equestrian and bike events that attract tourists and allow enjoyment of the forest but have a greater impact on the forest because of the number of people are allowable in state forest, but not national park.

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

Housing, construction, mining, transport and retail are all consumers of timber products. Timber is renewable and marketed as such. Society is moving away from plastics and mined resources. Timber and cellulose products are the way forward.

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

Timber and cellulose products are the way forward. Cellulose products can come from plantations, as can laminated and composite products.

Sawn products like house framing are already well established from pine. Products like large strong and durable sawn timbers are serviced by native forest timbers. Most timbers that are expected to last for a long time in service, ie flooring are commonly native timber products. The demand for these timbers is constant

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

The demand for native forest timbers is constant. Timbers from the private resource is already at capacity and dependent on the needs and wants of a private land holder. The supply of timber from native forests can and is managed alongside environmental and social outcomes.

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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

The supply of timber from native forests can and is managed alongside environmental and social outcomes. This is not recognized in the anti-forestry submissions I have reviewed. The idea that because of these submissions sustainable forestry is closed, and the alternatives offered such as steel and cement are used instead would be the poorest outcome. Any opportunity to achieve any of the above-mentioned opportunities would be lost and further adversely impacted