

NAME REDACTED

Submission ID: 203692

---

Organisation: N/A

---

Location: New South Wales

---

Supporting materials uploaded: N/A

---

Submission date: 10/10/2024 9:31:58 AM

---

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

---

After the devastating bushfires of 2019-20, logging the remaining native forests and exporting it as woodchips is unsustainable in anybody's book. How much is enough? Where is the line?

In particular, the promised but not delivered Great Koala National Park which is currently being actively & intensively logged, destroying koala habitat along with the habitat for many species, fauna and flora both known and unknown.

This behaviour is also politically unsustainable, as millions of people remember the promise and passionately wish to see their elected government follow through on its environmental undertakings in an honest way. There is huge frustration with our elected governments renegeing on their environmental promises in favour of short-term vested interests while extinctions climb and the climate gets more dangerous every year.

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

---

The forests of eastern Australia are rightly considered to be a global biodiversity hotspot, that is essential to preserve for the whole world, not just this small area small group of people and small point in time.

This quote is from visitor to the site of the (promised but currently being intensively logged) Great Koala National Park

'Minds were blown': These scientists were stunned at what's happening on the NSW North Coast (Sydney Morning Herald, Sept 2023)

Professor Helge Bruelheide, professor of botany at the University of Helle in Germany

"It's incredible walking through the forest and seeing a different tree every 5 meters. It is unique in the world. And it is also ancient, what we have seen remnants of a vegetation that is long gone on Earth. Australia is a bit of an ark conserving this fantastic biodiversity.

"I mean, I knew that from the books but touching it and seeing these wonderful trees is something different. We were completely shocked that this was being logged for paper pulp and timber. Particularly this type of forest, we really couldn't understand that."

Intensive logging also damages or destroys the hydrology of the area, increasing fire risk and with costly knock on effects to surrounding areas.

Threatened species include, ironically, koalas

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

---

Where the majority of biomass removed in native forest logging goes to woodchips, it can be considered disingenous to imply it's to fulfill the need for timber.

Having said that, timber is a very useful product and can be grown in plantations, including native plantations.

---

An ongoing (regenerative) mixed native ecosystem plantation (starting with existing cleared land) designed so that selected trees can be harvested with minimal disturbance to their surrounding ecosystem say 1:20-50, 1:100 years or even longer for some species would be worth trying. Such a forest would also attract interest worldwide.

---

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

---

I have no problems with plantations as long as existing native forests are not removed to make room for them.

An ongoing (regenerative) mixed native ecosystem plantation (starting with existing cleared land) designed so that selected trees can be harvested with minimal disturbance to their surrounding ecosystem say 1:20-50, 1:100 years or even longer for some species would be worth trying.

But the investment period is longer than our economics can handle, which is why there's a case for the government to get involved.

---

#### **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**

---

Yes that would be nice.

Burnoffs should take place mid-winter not late spring or even in summer, as I've sometimes seen. An ongoing (regenerative) mixed native ecosystem plantation (starting with existing cleared land) designed so that selected trees can be harvested with minimal disturbance to their surrounding ecosystem say 1:20-50, 1:100 years or even longer for some species would be worth trying.

---

#### **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**

---

I'm a bit confused by pairing carbon and biodiversity as if the only risk we need to address is climate. There are multiple global environmental emergencies, and biodiversity should be recognised as a major risk in its own right. In other words, even if carbon pollution was solved overnight, we would still have the effects of habitat loss to contend with, including the devastation of pesticides on ecosystems, not to mention endemic plastic pollution, especially in the oceans.

Anyway, as this is a carbon-market-centred question - it appears to me that, if you want to sequester carbon, your best bet is to grow new trees, not cut down old ones - which have already mostly stopped adding biomass & are therefore old carbon sinks, not new ones.

The question also implies some sort of biodiversity market, so I'll cut and paste part of my answer to an earlier question: The forests of eastern Australia are rightly considered to be a global biodiversity hotspot, essential to preserve for the whole world, not just this small area small group of people and small point in time.

This quote is from a visitor to the site of the (promised but currently being intensively logged) Great Koala National Park

'Minds were blown': These scientists were stunned at what's happening on the NSW North Coast (Sydney Morning Herald, Sept 2023)

Professor Helge Bruehlheide, professor of botany at the University of Helle in Germany

"It's incredible walking through the forest and seeing a different tree every 5 meters. It is unique in the world. And it is also ancient, what we have seen remnants of a vegetation that is long gone on Earth. Australia is a bit of an ark conserving this fantastic biodiversity.

## Public submission

---

“I mean, I knew that from the books but touching it and seeing these wonderful trees is something different. We were completely shocked that this was being logged for paper pulp and timber. Particularly this type of forest, we really couldn't understand that.”

Unique forests attract tourists, educators, researchers. And will do so for as long as human civilisation continues. That's got to be worth money to somebody