

NAME REDACTED

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**Organisation:** N/A

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**Location:** New South Wales

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

Native forest logging is occurring in areas of high conservation value for threatened species. Logging not only significantly reduces critical habitat for species, it also changes the composition of forests that make them unsuitable for leaf-feeding specialist animals like the Koala and Southern Greater Glider. Logging native forests makes them more fire prone. Logging native forests is not sustainable - it can only continue to operate depending on major subsidies from government, and that is an increasing burden on taxpayers.

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

Native forests have significant environmental values for native wildlife including threatened species. The biodiversity and the ecological function they support and contribute to sustain the health of our communities and the planet in many ways. They hold substantial cultural heritage values for First Nations peoples who have a very respectful and ancient connection to the land including the forests, trees and wildlife.

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

The industry can source its demands for products from plantations rather than using these highly valuable and precious forests and trees to produce low value products ie woodchips, paper pulp etc. Consumers nowadays demand that timber is not sourced from the habitats of threatened species and a marked preference is towards timbers from sustainable plantations. Plantation timbers can meet the demands of consumer and industry well into the future.

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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**

The plantation industry is far more profitable, employs far more people, generates fewer emissions, and is significantly less fire-prone. Plantations produce wood crops faster and, as a result, are less likely to be lost to wildfire.

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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**

Native forests have significant values for the environment, threatened species and cultural heritage for First Nations peoples. The best ways to maintain those values and not degrade them is by not logging them.

**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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Intact native forests store significantly more carbon than logged and regenerated native forests. The best way to maintain the biodiversity values of native forests is to stop logging them. Intact forests are less prone to fire risk.