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

Removing older trees with their associated developed hollows removes habitat for many species including owls, sulphur crested cockatoos, greater glider etc

Current logging practices contribute to putting stress on ecosystems. I have seen the swathes of destruction left behind by Forestry Corporation vehicles as they access tall timbers in the State and National owned native forests. Add to this the stress of the latest bushfires, and STILL the logging continued!

According to Forestry Corporation ' We manage a million hectares [of the 13m ha or 60%] of high value [in timber] forests permanently set aside for conservation, partner with Aboriginal communities to manage and protect cultural heritage, provide community facilities such as free visitor areas and roads, control pests and weedsâ€¦'

Forestry Corporation

<https://www.forestrycorporation.com.au> â€¦ about â€¦ infor...

However ' The NSW Forestry Corporation has today been convicted and sentenced in the NSW Land and Environment Court for offences relating to native forest logging in 2020, and has been fined \$360,000. The breaches were as a result of the Forestry Corporation failing to accurately map two known Environmentally Significant Areas in the Yambulla State Forest and actual harm caused to 53 eucalyptus trees, and potential harm to 3 threatened bird species in the area.'

[https://greens.org.au/nsw/news/media-release/nsw-forestry-corporation-fined-360-thousand-logging-](https://greens.org.au/nsw/news/media-release/nsw-forestry-corporation-fined-360-thousand-logging-breaches#:~:text=The%20NSW%20Forestry%20Corporation%20has,Environment%20Protection%20Authority%20(EPA).)

[breaches#:~:text=The%20NSW%20Forestry%20Corporation%20has,Environment%20Protection%20Authority%20\(EPA\).](https://greens.org.au/nsw/news/media-release/nsw-forestry-corporation-fined-360-thousand-logging-breaches#:~:text=The%20NSW%20Forestry%20Corporation%20has,Environment%20Protection%20Authority%20(EPA).)

There is a distinct lack of accountability (including logging in the proposed Great Koala National Park) and only lip-service in the way native forests are managed currently. This is not sustainable.

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

Habitat connectivity means populations of species are not isolated. If one population comes under threat from bushfires, floods or stress then they have somewhere to migrate to and in the aftermath can repopulate the area creating a healthy ecosystem. However if the aftermath takes a hundred years to re-establish then species could become extinct, especially if they are isolated.

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

Shifting to plantation timber supports sustainable industry practice. A shift towards higher-value hardwood plantations could supply high quality and composite timber for our construction and furniture industries. However farmers would need support through expert advice on silviculture to achieve maximum output and hence income for their investment.

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

The Forestry Corporation is currently financially unsustainable and relying on State Government support. Ending public forest subsidies would boost sustainable timber production on private land as there would be demand.

Private Native Forestry (PNF) constitute 8.85 million hectares, or 40 per cent of New South Wales' total native forest estate (22.3m ha). PNF involves the selective harvesting of timber on private land.' 'While not all private native forests are suitable for timber production, the farming community has responsibility for managing the vast majority of this state's native timber resources.' 'Few farmers today have the necessary expertise to manage their forests sustainably on a commercial basis. Currently, farmers seeking to achieve both forestry and biodiversity conservation outcomes are unable to access the support they need.'

<https://timbernsw.com.au/private-native-forestry/#SigPNF>

While the PNF could help meet the timber demand it also needs to meet the great responsibility of stewardship. Legislation and support services have to be revisited.

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

I think using Aboriginal forest management techniques would be informative.

In these days of built up cities with apartment blocks and duplexes that take up the whole block necessitating the knockdown of trees it would be beneficial to our mental health to be able to have access to uncompromised native forests and to see real koalas etc not just the cartoons on television

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

All of the above would be affected in a positive beneficial way. Biodiversity, less monoculture builds resilience into an ecosystem. I know plantations are a monoculture but property after property of grass is even more so.