Public submission

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

It is totally unsustainable to log Native forests.

As someone who has experienced severe bushfire threats in 2019/2020, I am very concerned that native forest logging increases fire threat and intensity, erosion and water way pollution, and the penetration of weeds and other invasive species.

Native forest logging Can also impact the function and health of waterways, including streams and rivers

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

As someone who has experienced severe bushfire threats in 2019/2020, I am concerned that Native forest logging increases fire threat and intensity, erosion and water way pollution, and the penetration of weeds and other invasive species.

Cultural values of Indigenous Australians are informed by the land, which includes of course native forests. Logging these areas of cultural significance do further damage to the relationship between indigenous Australians and country.

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

Australians do not want to lose forests for building and willingly pay for the materials needed if they reduce native logging.

Half of the logs taken from native forests in 2023 were turned into woodchip and exported.

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

Harvested logs should not be exported for poor value wood chips. Native forestry is not contributing in any signifiant way to meet timber supply.

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 offer multiple pathways of income for local people, including tourism, carbon storage and abatement. So important in regional Australia.

The native forest hardwood division of the Forestry Corporation operates at a loss that runs into tens of millions of dollars, at the expense of the NSW public. It also additionally receives tens of millions of dollars in regular equity injections

The people of NSW should not be paying millions of dollars to destroy the biodiversity of our own state and critical habitat for threatened species

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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

I survived the 2019/2020 bushfires and believe that managing forests is key in reducing risk in the future. Forests that have not been logged are more resilient to the changing climate and catastrophic fires that are occurring as a consequence