

Public submission

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

With every mature tree in native forests removed we face reduced carbon storage, and also play with natures balance and processes. We are removing food sources and hollowed trees- so necessary for our native wildlife. Logging also impacts negatively on fire intensity; erosion, and water pollution. These are all major impacts, and combined provide major problems for forest sustainability.

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

Native forests impact both rainfall and clean air in our environment. Pollinators are affected when trees are felled with ongoing impacts. I know that native forest areas are of great significance to our Indigenous citizens, but all of us utilise forests for recreation and spiritual recharge. We are woefully treating our threatened species by removing native forests, knowing that we are not replacing safe and thriving forest environments for them.

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

Demand for native forests wood is declining. We have other options which can replace native forest and plantation hardwoods.

Given the high environmental value of native forest trees, it is also upsetting that such a large amount of harvested trees are actually exported as woodchips.

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

By removing native forest timber from te market, there will be less market distortion putting the spotlight on the profitable softwood plantation industry.

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

Public native forests have more value economically when left to function without felling. We have an industry that is not economically viable, with several options to improve and diversify options elsewhere to fulfil market requirements.

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

Forests that have not been logged are more resilient to climate change impacts, including fire. Plus logging in such a forest reduces its stored carbon by more than half.