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

Native forest logging is unsustainable at current rates, and is contributing to the alarming rise in the number of threatened species in NSW (currently 269), especially the removal of large trees that provide nesting hollows.

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

Mature native forests provide us with clean air and water, generating rainfall, slowing down the runoff which prevents erosion and pollution of our waterways.

Native forests are required to meet the increasing need for healthy recreation and to treat mental health issues.

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

The vast majority of timber products are currently supplied by softwood plantations.

Most of the hardwood plantation logs harvested are being exported as wood chips, a truly deplorable and unfathomable situation.

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

Hardwood plantation logs should not be used for wood chips, as these can be sourced from softwood forests.

Private native forest logging should be strictly controlled to ensure sustainability and that the logs are used for furniture and other value added products.

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

The NSW Forestry Corporation has continually run at a loss in the millions of dollars.

Native forests are much more valuable standing, providing tourism opportunities for regional NSW, as well as clean air and water and carbon storage.

Mature native forests also help to sustain fauna and flora biodiversity, and to mitigate the severity and spread of bushfires.

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

Millions of tons of carbon dioxide are released into our already overloaded atmosphere by logging. The latest IPCC report (the 6th) clearly indicates that we must urgently reduce forest

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destruction and plant more trees, if we are going to have any chance of keeping global temperature increase below 2 degrees celsius.