

NAME REDACTED

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**Location:** New South Wales

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

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It seems clear that the continual logging of our native bushland is creating a major crisis in terms of habitat destruction, and the possible extinction of many of Australia's most precious and unique species. Whilst there is a need for some forestry logging, it is the illegal logging that is destroying the areas where our animals need to live and flourish.

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

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Our landscape and environment are unique; nowhere in the world are many of our animals and plants, so crucial to the balance of nature that if one species becomes extinct, there is a change in the balance of the natural environment. Yet we continue to allow what seems to be unrestricted habitat destruction of not only bushland but areas of immense importance to Indigenous heritage sites that are so important to their understanding of life before and during colonisation of the country. There must be some safeguard and protection in place to protect cultural sites and also our many threatened species.

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

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Timber has for centuries been the traditional product in housing, construction and many other industries but with the creation and development of other products, surely it is time to move away from timber as the staple product in building and construction. There must be a concerted move to reduce the felling of our forests and create a more pristine and untouched environment where animals and fauna can flourish.

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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**

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Statistics suggest that much of the timber harvested from plantations is the most satisfactory and feasible method of maintaining enough timber from softwood sources to cater for the building and construction industries and at the same time, preserve and protect the environment. The first step is to stop the illegal logging of native forests and impose stricter penalties on those that defy our laws and regulations. A balance between sustainable timber operations and the preservation of wildlife and native forests must be implemented before there are more catastrophic animal extinctions.

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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**

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Our State Forests are precious in so many ways. They provide a habitat and home to our unique wildlife. They are also a source of enjoyment and relaxation for so many people. Places where humans and creatures can happily co-exist. It is absolutely essential that these forests are not

## Public submission

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further eroded and reduced by wilful and rampant logging. Our State Forests have be preserved so that future generations get to see, enjoy and love what we have experienced.