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

Native forest logging is unsustainable. Native means original forest once removed there are no longer original forests.

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

Mature and unlogged native forests are critical for pollinators and play a key role in pollination across the landscape, both inside and outside of forests. Removing mature trees that take many years to produce flowers and/or fruit that bees, bats, and other insects and animals feed on spreads over to our food chain. Logged forests no longer produce this vital food source.

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

Hardwood logs taken from plantations made up 8.5 million cubic metres, and just 8% of these logs were sawed and veneer logs. 87% of hardwood plantation logs were exported as wood chips. Other products are now being produced that can be used for building such as products produced from plastic wood, heap, and bamboo which is as strong as hardwood and longer lasting.

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

Plantations already provide 91% of Australia's log production
A higher proportion of harvested logs from plantations should be prioritised as saw and veneer logs, rather than exporting them as wood chips

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 a much higher economic value when they are allowed to function naturally and without logging. Economically it has been proven that forest kept in a natural state brings in tourists and employ First Nations people to help protect and manage native forests. An example of this is in our main tourist areas such as the South West of Tasmania, Uluru, Kimberleys.

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

Native forest logging in NSW is estimated to release 3.6 million tonnes of carbon every year. Ending native forest logging will allow previously logged forests to regain lost carbon and make a significant contribution to meeting our emissions targets