

# Public submission

NAME REDACTED

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**Organisation:** *N/A*

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**Location:** *Australian Capital Territory*

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**Supporting materials uploaded:** *Attached overleaf*

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Submission date: 10/13/2024 11:39:15 AM

## Submission to the Independent Forestry Panel Secretariat

End Native Forest Logging in NSW

Dear Independent Forestry Panel Secretariat,

I am writing to express my strong support for ending native forest logging in NSW and transitioning to a sustainable future based on plantations.

1. **Support for Ending Native Forest Logging:** I fully support the immediate cessation of native forest logging in NSW. This destructive practice is neither sustainable nor beneficial to the broader public and environment. A transition to sustainable plantation forestry offers a viable alternative that protects our natural ecosystems while providing timber resources.
2. **Impact on Wildlife and Biodiversity:** Native forest logging is leading to the decline and potential extinction of iconic species such as the Greater Glider and Koala. The loss of habitat from logging threatens these species, which play critical roles in the ecosystem. This is not consistent with responsible, sustainable forestry practices, and we must protect these vulnerable species from further harm.
3. **Economic and Environmental Costs:** Logging native forests is a loss-making enterprise that costs taxpayers millions of dollars each year. This financial burden is further compounded by the irreversible environmental damage caused by logging operations. The long-term consequences of deforestation—such as reduced biodiversity, increased carbon emissions, and impaired water quality—are far too great to justify continuing this outdated industry.
4. **Forests as Essential Ecosystems:** Healthy forests provide critical environmental services, including carbon storage, water filtration, wildlife habitat, and fire management. They are also spaces for recreation, spiritual connection, and cultural heritage. Native forest logging compromises all these values, diminishing the benefits forests offer to the community and future generations.

I have personally seen firsthand the damage caused by logging to the beautiful native forests in the Fiji Islands. The destruction of these ecosystems results in loss of biodiversity, degradation of soil quality, and an overall destabilization of the natural environment. I sincerely hope that the NSW government will learn from such examples and take decisive steps to protect its native forests for future generations.

Countries like New Zealand, Sweden, Finland, and certain regions in Australia and Canada showcase how sustainable plantation-based forestry can successfully balance economic needs with environmental preservation. Shifting to plantation forestry in NSW would help protect native ecosystems while ensuring a sustainable future for the timber industry and the broader community. In conclusion, it is vital that we transition away from native forest logging toward a sustainable, plantation-based forestry industry. This change is not only necessary for the protection of our environment and wildlife but also for the future of our economy and society.

I urge the Forestry Industry Action Panel to take decisive action and recommend the immediate end of native forest logging in NSW.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Sincerely,

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