

NAME REDACTED

Submission ID: 204829

---

**Organisation:** N/A

---

**Location:** New South Wales

---

**Supporting materials uploaded:** N/A

Submission date: 10/13/2024 1:26:07 PM

---

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

Sustainability is a weasel word widely abused especially - but not just - by corporate pr hacks. The conflation of plantations with native forests obscures key differences between these different land use categories. At the lowest level sustainability can reference the annual removal of forest products less than their incremental growth during that period. But the diversity and age composition of species is also important. Importantly it takes more than 100 years for hollows essential for the survival of more than 100 species of hollow dependent forest dwelling fauna. So commercial logging operations will continue to adversely impact these animals until they are functionally extinct in native forests slated for "production". As the machinery gets bigger and the trees get smaller financial incentives drive logging to extract as much as possible as quickly as possible with dire consequences for remaining native forests and the crucial environmental services provided by intact native forests. It is difficult to exactly calculate the damage to fragile soils by logging done with heavy machinery like bulldozers, sniggers, loaders and mechanical harvesters and the consequent capacity of forest subsoils to retain and regulate water flows without sedimentation. The real adverse environmental impacts of logging are not captured by indicators which nevertheless show yields falling substantially.

---

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

Plantations supply nearly all timber for housing and construction. Pine grows quicker, is lighter, easier to transport, cut and secure. Most native forest is grown for high volume low value products like export woodchips. The small amount of hardwood sawlogs used for high value speciality products could be supplied by hardwood plantations or from boutique specialist recovery operations. Industrial logging of native forests is an anachronism. It is bound to finish sooner or later the only question is how much damage it is allowed to do before it finally - and not before time - finishes. Industry prefers the uniformity and consistency of plantation timber. The only reason that native forest has kept going is that its logging plunders what nature has planted for free and the adverse environmental consequences do not have to be paid for by the industry that processes them nor by the consumers of those products.

---

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

Plantations are the future. There may be a role for boutique, small scale high value products from private native forests but not for industrial logging.

**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**

---

Trading offsets is a bit like a fat man paying a thin man to lose weight for him. Very dodgy. Undisturbed Native Forests are vast stores of and sinks for carbon. We don't want paying forest owners to not cut them down to play out as an invitation to them to threaten to log native forests. Or to encourage unfinancial intensive nf logging so as to be eligible for higher "compensation" payouts to stop logging.