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

The current deforestation in NSW of State Native Forests and those on private land is completely unsustainable. Once a forest is felled it does not regrow. Forests are the result of hundreds or thousands of years of biological succession. Once you open up the canopy, light, heat and wind enters. Humidity drops, rainfall patterns change. Weeds flourish. The soil's microbiome changes. The whole ecosystem changes.

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

Forests fight climate change. They absorb carbon and release oxygen. They cool the temperature. The water they release via transpiration increases humidity and influences rain patterns. They provide habitat for other flora and fauna - including threatened species. They are known to benefit human well being. They provide chemicals which can be used to treat diseases. First Nations people have valued and co-existed with forests for 60 000 years and have strong cultural heritage bonds which must not be dismissed.

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

Demand for timber products will continue and must be met by plantation timber. Timber plantations must be established in already deforested areas and not where any native forests still grow.

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

Softwood and hardwood plantations must be further developed to meet demand. New plantations must be developed on already deforested land. All native forests, be they State or private, must be protected if we are prevent the extinction of more plants and animals. We have the highest rate of mammal extinction in the world.

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

We must immediately stop logging native forests. They have more value living than their value as woodchips. They mitigate against climate change, providing oxygen and absorbing carbon dioxide. The mycelium they support are a great carbon sink. State Forests provide habitat for threatened and endangered flora and fauna. They contribute to human well-being and provide a source for chemicals that can treat diseases. The economic value of tourism in forests and wilderness areas is huge. Aboriginal forest management models could prevent the destruction of these forests caused by mismanagement.

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

Forests fight climate change. They absorb carbon dioxide (a greenhouse gas) and release oxygen. They store carbon. The huge network of mycelium they support is a huge carbon sink. They cool the temperature. The water they release via transpiration increases humidity and rain patterns. Forests which have been subject to logging burn more extensively and at higher temperatures than unlogged forests thereby increasing the risk of catastrophic fires. And of course the biodiversity benefits are great. We have wiped out most of our forests. What is left is often the only refuge of our threatened and endangered species of animals and plants.