

NAME REDACTED

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

I have 160 hectares of land which was heavily logged about 15-20 years ago before I and my wife took ownership. Whilst we have an agreement to log we have elected not to. We have blackbutt, tallwood, spotted gum and 11 other eucalypts and a number of endangered plant species. We have about one kilometre of river frontage with a strip of rainforest. The regrowth of trees and the increase in wildlife over the last decade is profound. This has only been achieved by the cessation of logging.

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

Values are immense. As well as the rainforest we have a section of wetlands with a number of endangered plants and on the higher country the timber regrowth. We have a bit of a weed problem which we are endeavouring to control. Endangered species including the black (glossy) cockatoo feed on the swamp oak as does the flying foxes. The extent of this diversity would not exist if the property was logged.

The same applies to native forests with not only the cutting of trees but the disruption and disturbance it causes

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

Industry needs to rely on plantation timber and the emphasis needs to be directed in establishing those projects. The Clarence Valley was known as a go to place for red cedar in the 19th /20th century. One would be hard to find one now.

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

This is the way to go. Private Native Forestry can be done selectively and is a personal decision by the landowner, who can do this in a sustainable way. Native forest is a public asset and needs to be restored at all costs. Some trees are hundreds of years old. Please leave these assets alone so the next generations can enjoy

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

State Forest Authority I assume is a Statutory Body which has a Statutory duty of care to maintain environmental economic and social outcomes to the public. This includes the diverse management of Aboriginal forest management. The stewardship provided by Aboriginal people is well documented.

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

The opportunities to realise these benefits and to reduce greenhouse gases is to not disturb the forests. The less disruption the better the biodiversity benefits. With no disruption there is no erosion, things remain as they are with no residues finding its way to the waterways. Removing or disturbing a forest which has taken centuries to establish is an enormous loss of culture ,biodiversity and an assault on our natural environmental asset.