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

I am 16 and have been brought up to tell the truth!

I have been listening to my mother read out the submissions against the native timber industry and it has made me so angry and disappointed. So, I feel I needed to write this myself. My whole existence has been paid for with money from the timber industry.

I have seen the way my father currently harvests the forest. He has a harvesting contract with FCNSW.

I listen to him talk about the forest and how he loves it. I have seen how he has cut the trees, and I have seen them loaded onto the log truck.

I have seen the harvest plans colour coded to show the large part of the forest that is protected. The waterways are protected. I have seen the iPad that tracks where my dad's machine is in the forest and he is only allowed in the yellow part which is the harvesting zone. He has explained what the different colours mean.

I have seen the paint on the trees that are marked to stay. GB-Glossy Black, L- Large tree, H- Habitat tree, R- Recruitment tree, RH Recruitment Habitat, K-for koala feed tree, a ring marked around the tree for it to stay for a feed tree or a certain species and there are more than that.

I see the lies some politicians and others put on Facebook.

I see the protestors stopping the logging crews and the stalking comments they make on my family on social media.

Here is the truth:

They don't cut down the old growth.

They don't kill koalas or any other animal.

They don't cut down hollowed trees.

They are NOT criminals.

They don't clear fall the Native Forests.

I see the forest when the harvesting is finished. They leave trees to grow and regrow.

I wish every politician would come and see what my father does and how he cares for the bush and have a look at how the machines are tracked on the iPad that he uses with the map on it.

There are more rules in the job than there are to drive a car on the roads.

My Great- Great Grandfather, My Great grandfather and My Grandfather and my uncles all worked in the timber industry in the past and My father, My mother, My brother and my brother in-law work in the timber industry today. There is no need to end the Native timber industry because it's being looked after with very strict rules. So, it is sustainable.

Thank you for reading my submission.