

NAME REDACTED

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**Location:** New South Wales

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

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The native forest industry in its current form is unsustainable in both environmental and financial terms. Environmentally the Forestry Corporation has proved unwilling or unable to follow rules designed to improve its sustainability, such as those designed to protect the habitat of the Greater Glider, and has demonstrated an intent to log the remaining forest as fast as possible before it is prevented from doing so. The expedited logging of forest designated as suitable for inclusion in the Great Koala National Park is an illustration of this.

In any case, any thought of sustainable logging of the remaining native forest would surely fail an assessment of the value of the forest product vs the value of native forest conservation on environmental and social grounds.

As to financial sustainability I have been appalled for many years at the continued expenditure of public money to finance loss making destruction of the remaining forests. Clearly this must stop

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

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Native forests provide essential environmental services necessary for or very existence. These include:

- Protection of healthy functioning ecosystems including those necessary for the survival of threatened species.
- A continued supply of fresh unpolluted water from catchments which provide a steady water supply and reduce rapid runoff during storm events.
- Storage of Carbon dioxide
- Public recreation
- Protection of First Nations culture and identity

In contrast, logging of these forests, which is now usually clear felling results in a waste land devoid of life and all the benefits outlined above, and it exacerbates many of our current problems by:

- Killing threatened species
- Increasing bush fire risk
- Releasing carbon dioxide

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

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Logging in native forests accounted for only 9% of the total log production in Australia in the year 2023. Clearly it would not be a large problem to cease native logging and replace the wood supply from plantation forestry.

This would be assisted by greater use of timber as saw logs rather than woodchips.

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

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I support replacement of all native forest logging by production from plantations.

**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**

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State Forests already do and have increased potential to provide a huge range of benefits to the environment and the community as outlined above. Logging these forests provides none of these benefits, and negates the possibility of providing them.

**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**

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The positive benefits of conserving native forests include storage of carbon, increased biodiversity, maintenance of catchment integrity and hence reduced flood impacts and absorption of greenhouse gases during forest regrowth.

In contrast, logging releases carbon, reduces biodiversity, causes erosion, increasing flood risk.

The conclusion is clear! Stop native forest logging.