

NAME REDACTED

Submission ID: 205316

---

**Organisation:** N/A

---

**Location:** New South Wales

---

**Supporting materials uploaded:** N/A

Submission date: 10/13/2024 11:47:37 PM

---

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

Native forest logging is unsustainable - particularly economically and ecologically, it impacts the water cycle, and is contributing to rapidly developing change.

Forestry Corporation's estimations of the amount of harvestable timber are consistently over-estimated. In fact, the yield from public native forests has decreased 40% since 2010 yet continues to devastate our ever-decreasing ecologically viable forest habitats.

Following the irresponsible removal of protections for mature trees within native forests in 2018, logging intensified to extract even more wood from native forests. This continuous logging continues to reduce biomass and carbon storage, and removing mature trees is also removing valuable food sources and habitat, including trees with hollows for nesting and shelter for 174 species in NSW. It also increases fire threat and intensity, erosion and waterway pollution, and the penetration of weeds and other invasive species.

Removing mature trees negatively impacts the forest structure making stands more vulnerable and removing the habitat specifically provided by them.

---

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

First Nations people and communities have ongoing connection to native forests and forest landscapes are an integral part of cultural practice and knowledge. Native forests provide recreation and improved health outcomes to locals and visitors alike and are a source of community pride and connection to place

Healthy mature forests generate rainfall, cool the landscape and clean the air.

Ecologically, 269 nationally listed threatened species are in NSW and 150 threatened species including koalas here are directly impacted by logging native forests. The significant landscape scale of native forests means that the logging compromises many ecosystems and habitats throughout NSW. Mature and unlogged native forests are critical for pollinators and play a key role in pollination across the landscape, both inside and outside of forests

---

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

The market and demand for native forests is declining rapidly, the recent example of Essential Energy moving away from power poles harvested from native forests. Logging in native forests accounted for only 9% of the total log production in Australia in 2023. Native forest logging contributes only 2.4 million of the total 25 million cubic metres for that year

Hardwood sourced from native forests or plantations are no longer necessary for any of the uses identified in this section. Hardwood logs taken from plantations made up 8.5 million cubic metres, and just 8% of these logs were saw and veneer logs. 87% of hardwood plantation logs were exported as wood chips

---

Sawn and treated softwood logs and composite timber products made from softwoods can substitute for all current uses for native forest and plantation hardwoods

---

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

---

A higher proportion of harvested logs from plantations should be prioritised as saw and veneer logs, rather than exporting them as wood chips

Subsidising the logging of public native forests by the Forestry Corporation is non-competitive and distorts the market away from the more profitable softwood plantation industry

High-end and luxury native hardwood products should only be selectively harvested on private land and under strict conditions

---

**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**

---

Native forests that are not logged have real and tangible benefits to the entire ecology and economy of NSW

Native state forests cover an area of 2 million hectares in NSW and impact on a diverse set of living conditions for many towns, from water quality in reservoirs, to greater tourism industry opportunities, and carbon storage and abatement

The native forest hardwood division of the Forestry Corporation operates at a loss that runs into tens of millions of dollars, at the expense of the NSW public. It also additionally receives tens of millions of dollars in regular equity injections

The people of NSW should not be paying millions of dollars to destroy the biodiversity of our own state and critical habitat for threatened species

Public native forests have a much higher economic value when they are allowed to function naturally and without logging

First Nations Ranger Programs have been hugely successful at managing the recovery and health of native forests. Programs like the Githabul Rangers have shown how First Nations knowledge and management can restore the natural and critical function of forests in the landscape

---

**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**

---

Native forest logging in NSW is estimated to release 3.6 million tonnes of carbon every year and reduces the amount of stored carbon by more than half of the original value

Ending native forest logging would be the equivalent to removing 840 thousand cars from the roads per year and will allow previously logged forests to regain lost carbon and make a significant contribution to meeting our emissions targets

Climate change is driving increased risks for forest health and continued logging in native forests is exacerbating that risk

Forests that have not been logged are more resilient to the changing climate and catastrophic fires that are occurring as a consequence