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

Species that are going extinct or whose populations are diminishing only goes to prove that current forestry operations must cease now. That goes for trees, shrubs, grasses, birds mammals, insects, reptiles, everything. Dead trees should be left standing. Forestry is just absolutely plain UNSUSTAINABLE.

The native forest logging industry is not sustainable because areas that are logged and then regenerated are more flammable, thereby contributing significantly to fire risks.

We've lived through this exactly in 2019 / 2020. To the west of our place - the nearby forest - the Whian Whian State Forest - burned rapidly. The nearby National Park - The Nightcap NP burned more slowly, if at all. The differences were stark.

I know the area well, having lived nearby for over 30 years and spent extensive periods walking the bush and forest there. When I traversed them after the fires - the reasons were obvious. The Whian Whian state forest was much more open and drier to begin with - I'd had a permit to take some logs myself back in the early 90's - to use for poles for a shed. The Whian Whian had been obliterated. The significant replantings turned to ash.

The Nightcap on the other hand had / has dense understory shrubs, etc...and was constantly moist. The larger trees there had a greater capacity to defend themselves from that fire. The section I inspected remained difficult to move through....

Think about it like this. Try and imagine what forests looked like before Europeans turned up. That's what the future should look like.

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

Native forests have significant values, values for threatened species and species in general. In case you haven't noticed - species are going extinct. I'm an avid bird watcher. The diminishing bird populations around the forests where we live are scary and sad. Looking for birds brings you an awareness of bigger losses - for example - insects. Losing trees to forestry, we lose species that depend on trees for nectar, insects and tree hollows.

I reckon - and no-one seems to be prepared to mention it, that the Coxens Fig Parrots have gone extinct. I've been searching for them for over 30 years with nothing positive to report. The forests that they depended on have been cut down - cleared.

Similarly, the Aboriginal cultural heritage values that have been recorded in the forests where we live were damaged in those 2019 fires. AND that's only the recorded heritage values. I'm certain that there's a whole lot more that were destroyed by those fires that were aided and abetted by the State Forest logging there.

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

In case you haven't noticed, less timber is actually required to build a house these days. Steel framing is becoming more common and has greater stability than timber.

When the last time you saw large timber constructions?? It's all steel and tilt-up concrete panels these days.

I can't imagine what timber could be used for in mining. Transport?? what do you mean??...wooden cars??

The pittance earned by Native Forest Logging in no way compensates for the damage inflicted.

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

Correct. At the last native forest logging protest I went to there was a counter protest by forestry workers. Interestingly afterwards I had a conversation with a couple of them. They worked on Private Forestry plantations. They mistakenly thought that the protests had something to do with their work. It wasn't until I spoke with them to explain we were protesting against Native Forest Logging in State Forests that they finally understood what was going on. They'd been misled by their union the MFSEU..

I'm hopeful that more plantations can be grown on ALREADY degraded private land - not STATE FORESTS THAT ARE PRESENTLY BEING DESTROYED.

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 Forests seems to be a rogue organisation. The vested interest in cutting down trees is TOO GREAT. When I was younger, I'd see trees that had been cut down being trucked away. Some of those trees were enormous. These days those big trees have been killed off...and the timber on logging truck is much smaller in size. Somebody is making money out of this unethical behaviour. Forget about economics. Economics is part of the problem. Cutting down trees to then produce woodchips couldn't possibly be economically viable. Somebody is lying...and is incapable of using a calculator. And the government departments that oversee this whole thing must have something seriously wrong within them.

Healthy Old forests provide health benefits to people. The absolute wonder of large old trees is life affirming... Mental Health problems?? - visit an old forest...if you can find one. Cut down forests are tragic...and an excellent example of how stupid a species we are...

There is no such thing as an Aboriginal Forest Management Model. If what you are referring to is traditional burning practices - that was essentially to aid in food sourcing...nothing to do with logging.

If State Forests want something to do to justify their existence, I can think of only one thing - planting more trees an already degraded land. All existing State Forests should become National Parks NOW. with an absolute end to forestry within them.

The money wasted by the State Government in propping up State Forests should be used to acquire private lands for forest rehabilitation. PLANT MORE TREES.....

The remaining biodiversity cannot wait.

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

In my opinion - attaching anything economic - ie 'markets' to forests is just plain WRONG THINKING. .

Forests and the biodiversity that remains in them need protecting from stupidity. Stupidity belongs to humans.

Public submission

Apparently Trees mitigate greenhouse gas emissions. This is a good thing. All forest in this case should remain standing and be expanded.