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

Logging of Native Forest and Old Growth Forest is unsustainable. The way we price timber and wood chips does not reflect the value of these forests as intact ecosystems that perform all kind of environmental services in themselves. If wood chips are sold for as little as 60c per tonne this indicates that there have to be huge subsidies in place for Forestry to continue its destruction of our forests. This 'Harvesting' cannot continue at current rates without devastating impact on the environment. I don't want my tax dollars subsidising these logging operations (Forestry Corporation (NSW)) which destroy Old Growth Forests and which are not even profitable!

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

Old Growth Forests around NSW are home to many Australian Native Animals including the endangered Greater Glider, iconic birds, parrots, cockatoos and iconic Koalas which are threatened and nearing endangered in the Eastern States. Our Native Forests and native animals have suffered so much during the 2019/20 Black Summer Fires. The Greater Gliders, Possums, Parrots and Yellow Tailed Black Cockatoos and various other birds need the old tree hollows for nesting and these can take hundreds of years to form in old trees.

We need to acknowledge the incredible value of intact ecosystems - to acknowledge standing forests - their value in drawing carbon from the atmosphere and biodiversity services of cleaning the air and water and building soil. If we truly valued our native forests and our native animals we would put an immediate ban on logging in Old Growth Forests. Now is the time to ban logging to protect the critically low population of the Endangered Greater Glider who's homes (dens in large key trees) in the Talaganda Forest have recently been destroyed by Forestry Corporation (NSW) undertaking logging. The biggest thing we can do to stop the decline in our native animals is to end logging of native forests now and protect their habitat.

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

Demand for timber can be met from current plantation timbers and interstate plantation timbers and we can save the small amount of native forest we have for its environmental benefits and habitat for our key endangered and threatened species which have no where to go if you cut down their trees. Native Forest should no longer be seen as a resources to be used up and cut down - it is far more valuable for its environmental services provided as intact ecosystems and habitat for native animals.

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

No native forests should be part of meeting timber supply needs - we need to protect native forests. Timber supply needs should only be met through existing Plantations and perhaps looking at species of trees grown in these 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

There are large number of opportunities when you see the forest for what it provides us already and you value these services - such as storing carbon efficiently, cleaning water and soil and habitat value it provides for our native animals and improved biodiversity. Aboriginal forest management models can be used to restore the forests and the ecosystems and improve biodiversity.

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

There are large number of opportunities when you see the forest for what it provides us already and you value these services - such as storing carbon efficiently, cleaning water and soil and habitat value it provides for our native animals and improved biodiversity. We need to mitigate climate change by protecting our native forests which are far more resilient to bushfires as intact ecosystems than if they are plantation monoculture tinderboxes.