

ROBERT GREENWOOD

Submission ID: 202115

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**Organisation:** N/A

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**Location:** New South Wales

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**Supporting materials uploaded:** N/A

Submission date: 10/2/2024 2:49:08 PM

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

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Conservation Science and Practice 2024 estimates 29 million or 54% of NSW forest and woodlands has been destroyed since colonization. NSW was described as a global hot spot for deforestation. Enough is enough.

Strategically there should be no more logging or deforestation of native forests.

The logging - timber industry has had decades to develop a sustainable industry on the 54% of existing cleared land. Industry failure is not a reason to destroy more.

Our native forest and woodlands need to be valued using a sustainability model that looks at their present and future whole of life value and not a one off short term commercial value.

We need to add to it not take away one skerrick more.

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

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The commercial interests of logging and timber industry have had their days.

The impact of lack of strategic government and industry policies and practices have led NSW environment to such an appalling state with over clearing causing so many threatened and endangered species and land degradation with its flow on consequences .

It impacts the whole biodiversity of the state.

Opportunities to address the following at risk areas should not be missed by this review.

- Biodiversity
- Action on Climate
- Greenhouse gas emissions and carbon capture
- Indigenous connection to land
- Tourism and nature based economy
- Future of following generations
- Impacts of land clearing on bushfire

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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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As stated 54% of the state best land has been cleared for forestry, agriculture, farming and mining. Ample time has been available for government and industry to ensure that that primed cleared land has been well managed and sustainable business practices are in place.

Our remaining forest and woodlands are not 'the gift that keeps on giving'.

They are finite - they have been abused - they are under threat like never before

They require courageous stewardship and policy reform now.

NSW housing has alternatives products that are being adopted now such as steel.

Planation timbers are and need to increase and continue to address the market. Hardwood is playing less of a role with alternatives to hardwood especially in flooring with composite flooring now becoming the norm.

The latitude afforded construction, mining and timber industry is a 20th Century model.

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We need to NSW leadership to be sustainable 21 State for our strong environmental, social and economic future.

#### **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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The notion since colonization that private land can be used however people like has to be challenged. We are all temporary custodians of land it it needs to be considered in the broader sense of it sustainability for everyone and everything.

Land needs to be valued and formally categorized for its long-term use. It then has to be used and managed to achieve the highest value whether food production, environmental protection,, grazing mining or forestry.

Existing cleared appropriate land needs to be set aside for timber plantations needs. No existing forests should be considered.

Opportunities to increase existing native forests should also be a priority and part of this review. This requires cutting edge strategies and policy decisions.

It works in many other countries which can illustrate how good sustainable land management works.

It's about the benefit of the whole for the many.

NSW needs to get with a modern script and stop fiddling around the edges.

Everyone knows we have one of the most abysmal record in the country for land clearing and degradation.

It's nothing to be proud of but not too late to address.

No time like the present with his review.

#### **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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It a no brainer.

It needs a strategic approach and good leadership.

As indicated 54% of the states best land has been handed over for private interests at the expense of a healthy environment and society and all that goes with it. NSW abysmal record needs to redressed asap. NSW needs to go from laggard to leader. Value our most precious resources with the long highest and best value using a sustainability model.

#### **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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Its our moral obligation now and for the future to urgently address these issue. Again a no brainer!

Primary school kids no the answer to these questions. It's almost embarrassing that we even need to address this issue in a submission to government in 2024.

If we don't know the answer to this world climate crisis and NSW environmental challenges by now then pity help us.

We need to secure the forests and woodland and urgently look at opportunities to rehabilitate or create more urgently.

Hopefully this enquiry will help contribute to a better future.