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Submission ID: 204901

Organisation: N/A

Location: New South Wales

Supporting materials uploaded: N/A

Submission date: 10/13/2024 2:59:14 PM

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

- Logging in native forests is not sustainable:
- Logging native forests removes the older trees, removing hollows and other habitat for forest wildlife, such as the Koala, birds, and the Great Glider.
- Current levels of logging are not sustainable and result in the removal of protections for key habitat.
- Continued logging will likely contribute greatly to the extinction of forest dependent wildlife.
- The 2019/2020 fires have made this situation much more urgent and serious.
- Logging native forests as well as environmentally unsustainable is financially unsustainable.
- The hardwood native forest timber industry ran at a loss of \$9m in 2021-2022 - a figure that stretches to some \$80m if fire and flood recovery expenses are included. The sum of government subsidies to the industry is estimated to be \$441 per hectare per year. The costs incurred by native forest logging such as building accessways, environmental law compliance and haulage are not being recovered in revenue and are added costs paid by the taxpayer. A declining industry that costs too much money to keep going and destroys nature in the process.

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

- Forests are vital refuges for many threatened species that rely on mature, intact forests.
- Forests provide important services for the environment and regional communities, such as:
 - Water quality and flow regulation, important for water quality, fishing and tourism.
 - Recreational values for locals and visitors.
 - Cultural and spiritual significance, especially for indigenous communities.
 - Habitat connectivity, supporting biodiversity and ecosystem health.

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

- There is no longer any need to log public native forests to build houses.
- Plantations can supply our high quality and composite timber products.
- Shifting to 100% plantation timber reduces pressure on native forests, supporting sustainable industry practices.

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

- Hardwood and softwood plantations already provide 91% of Australia's log production.
- Investment in hardwood plantation on already cleared land would supply timber products into the future.
- Shifting to higher-value plantations can better meet our future timber needs.

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- Ending public forest subsidies would boost sustainable timber production on private lands and save taxpayer money.

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

- Healthy native forests provide essential water resources.
- Protecting and restoring State Forests will increase the economic value through tourism, carbon storage, job creation and recreational opportunities.
- The Forestry Corporation is currently financially unsustainable, relying on government support and yielding less timber compared to managed plantations that generate their own profits.
- Diverse forest management, particularly Aboriginal models, can enhance the cultural and social value of forests.

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

- Logging in native forests releases large amounts of carbon, contributing to climate change.
 - Stopping logging allows forests to recover, helping them store more carbon and support climate goals at state and federal levels.
 - Healthy forests are essential for reducing the impacts of climate change like wildfires and drought. Thereby this protects communities and our wildlife by decreasing these threats, and also saves money for the state government.
 - By stopping logging, forests can play a large role in mitigating climate risks.
- Of heightened concern is that Forestry Corp NSW is aggressively logging within the boundaries of the Great Koala National Park. Forestry Corporation's harvest plan lists over 18,800 hectares of forest for logging now and into 2025. Forests within the boundaries of the Great Koala National Park are being logged four times faster than the rest of the state by NSW Forestry Corporation. This is wrong. I am very upset that this increased logging activity is destroying the best habitat in NSW for our koalas and denying them a fighting chance to overcome the real threat of extinction. I cannot understand why the government and the forestry minister are allowing this organisation to act in such a callous way and decimate koala habitat. The government needs to address this urgent situation quickly.
- The NSW government is strongly urged to create the Great Koala National Park without delay and-
- Immediately suspend logging operations within the boundaries of the proposed Great Koala National Park.
 - Protect the full 315,000 hectares of the proposed Great Koala National Park.
 - Invest in the plantation industry to ensure NSW sources all its timber from sustainable plantations and to create good, sustainable jobs.
 - Cease all native forest logging in all NSW to protect other endangered wildlife like the Greater Glider, Regent Honeyeater, Quoll. Transition completely to 100% plantation industry only.