

# Public submission

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**Organisation:** *N/A*

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**Location:** *Australian Capital Territory*

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**Supporting materials uploaded:** *Attached overleaf*

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I'd like to make the following points for your consideration in my submission on the Sustainability of Forestry Operations consultation.

1. Logging in NSW native forests is unsustainable:

It Removes mature trees from native forests eliminates critical habitats, such as hollows, which are essential for wildlife like koalas and the Greater Glider.

Current logging levels are unsustainable and diminish protections for crucial habitats.

Continued logging poses a significant threat to forest-dependent wildlife, pushing them towards extinction.

The urgency of this issue has already intensified following the 2019/20 fires.

2. On the grounds of Environmental and Cultural Significance of Forests, Including Threatened Species and Aboriginal Heritage

Forests serve as vital sanctuaries for numerous threatened species that depend on mature, undisturbed ecosystems.

Forests provide essential services to the environment and local communities, including:

Regulation of water quality and flow, which supports fishing, tourism, and overall ecosystem health.

Recreational opportunities for both residents and visitors.

Cultural and spiritual importance, especially for Indigenous communities.

Habitat connectivity, which supports biodiversity and ecosystem resilience.

### 3. Timber Product Demand in NSW (Housing, Construction, Mining, Transport, Retail)

Logging public native forests is no longer necessary for housing and construction.

Plantation forests can meet the demand for high-quality and composite timber products.

Transitioning to plantation-sourced timber alleviates pressure on native forests, promoting sustainable industry practices.

### 4. Future of Softwood and Hardwood Plantations and the Role of Private Native Forestry in Timber Supply

Hardwood and softwood plantations already account for 91% of Australia's log production.

Investing in hardwood plantations on previously cleared land ensures a future timber supply.

Shifting towards high-value plantations can more effectively meet timber needs.

Phasing out public forest subsidies can enhance sustainable timber production on private lands.

## 5. Role of State Forests in Delivering Environmental, Economic, and Social Benefits and Exploring Diverse Management Options

Healthy native forests provide essential water resources.

Protecting and restoring State Forests can boost economic value through tourism, carbon storage, job creation, and recreational activities.

The Forestry Corporation currently relies on government support and produces less timber compared to managed plantations, indicating financial unsustainability.

Incorporating diverse management models, including Aboriginal forest management, can enhance the cultural and social significance of forests.

## 6. Opportunities for Carbon and Biodiversity Benefits and Climate Change Mitigation

Logging native forests releases significant carbon, exacerbating climate change.

Halting logging allows forests to recover, increasing carbon storage and contributing to climate goals.

Healthy forests play a crucial role in mitigating climate impacts, such as wildfires and droughts.

Ceasing logging can enhance forests' capacity to support carbon markets and mitigate climate change.