

SUSAN CROWE

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**Organisation:** N/A

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**Location:** New South Wales

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**Supporting materials uploaded:** N/A

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

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Logging in state native forests is not sustainable, old growth trees are removed, destroying the protections for younger trees, habitats for native animals, including threatened species like koala and greater gliders. Old growth trees and the benefits they create for humanity cannot be replaced by new plantations. What happens when old growth trees are all gone? You cannot replace a 100year old tree with a seedling and expect a forest ecosystem to continue to thrive. Removal of old trees & hollows will push already threatened native species to extinction. Use of heavy machinery & human activity increases the threat of bushfires in already precarious forests.

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

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Native forests and old growth trees are essential for humans to survive. They are essential for threatened species like the iconic koala(a tourism goldmine)to survive and continue to provide a balanced, healthy ecosystem. Australians are becoming more aware of the importance of healthy forests to their own health, well being and survival.

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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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Stop logging native forests to build houses. It is unnecessary as plantations can supply high quality and composite timber products required for construction.

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**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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Hardwood & softwood plantations already provide 91% of Aust log production. Planting hardwood plantations on already cleared land could supply future needs. Shifting to higher value plantations will better meet timber needs. Australian taxpayers should not be subsidising unsustainable native forest logging.

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**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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Protecting and restoring native forests will increase tourism, provide essential water resources, store carbon(climate protection), create jobs & provide recreational activities. The Forestry Corporation is financially unsustainable, existing only with government(taxpayer) support to yield less timber than managed plantations.

**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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We need healthy native forests to hold carbon, clean our waterways and provide habitat for threatened with extinction due to human intervention. Australia is already suffering from effects of climate change, future generations will suffer if we do not protect native forests, native species and try to make the most sensible long range decisions to meet climate change goals. When ancient trees are gone they cannot be replaced. Think of the future of this country, not just short term gains with long reaching effects.