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

Logging of our native forests is not sustainable. This logging removes old growth, very mature trees which have vital hollows and food sources for our wildlife.

Many of these animals and birds are either on the Critically Endangered / Endangered / Threatened / Vulnerable Lists. For example the Greater Glider ; Yellow-bellied Possum ; Glossy Black Cockatoo ; Gang Gang Cockatoo ; Koala.

Native forests are even more in need of protection from logging following the devastating 2019/20 bush fires.

Continued logging will contribute significantly to the extinction of forest-dependent wildlife.

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

Native forests are of immense environmental value, not only to our precious wildlife, but to humans. This includes water quality ; water catchment areas ; recreational values, for example fishing, bush walking, education , scientific research, tourism both domestic and international. Native forests are very important areas for our Indigenous communities for cultural and spiritual reasons.

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

Plantation timber can supply our need for high quality and quality timber products - for building of houses and other uses.

There is no need to log public native forests for these products.

Moving to only logging plantation timber reduces pressure on our native forests thus 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

91% of Australia's log production is already provided by hardwood and softwood plantation timber.

Using already cleared land for hardwood plantations would provide sustainable timber for the future.

Ending public forest subsidies would boost sustainable timber production on private land.

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

Currently The Forestry Corporation is financially unsustainable, and relies on Government / tax payers support.

Protecting and restoring State Forests will certainly increase economic value through tourism, carbon storage, job creation and recreation.

Very importantly, healthy, mature forests provide essential water resources - something Australia needs to constantly focus on.

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

Large amounts of carbon is released by logging native forests - which contributes to climate change.

If logging is stopped and forests are allowed to recover, then more carbon is stored.

Stopping logging can play a major role in mitigating climate risks and supporting opportunities in carbon markets.