

TAMMY SMALL

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

NSW Forestry operations have been subsidised for a very long time and still losing millions of dollars. I, with husband, have been a Private Native Forestry operator and don't believe that any industry group should be subsidised by government tax payers money to the extent that's occurring. In private business, if we weren't making a profit, we had to change how or what we did.

Why this subsidising continues is beyond logic. It makes no economical or ecological sense. End this by 2025 and instigate plantations to employ forestry workers.

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

With so many threatened species in NSW and Australia, we are a disgrace with some of the highest clearing rate of forestry in the world, especially when trees help to keep this country cool - where would you rather stand on a hot blustery 45 degree day? On a bare paddock or under a tree or even better under numerous trees? Aboriginals knew how to treat the land, sadly and disgracefully, the destruction caused since Europeans crossed this land has been in rapid decline. Things need to change by 2025. The change has been called for a very long time; its time for action now.

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

If the public Native Forests operations weren't subsidised so heavily and indiscriminately, Private Native Forestry operations might actually have a better chance of doing very well with maintainable operations that support the long term futures of them. Support these people with the education and financial support for long term goals.

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

Protection of old growth, protection of trees with hollows, protection of the next cohorts of trees, protection of trees, especially hardwoods that produce an abundance of flowers, seed, nectar were all considerations for our Private Native Forestry operation; these are essential to protect for long term benefits.

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

Any remaining intact State Forests with their rich biodiversity plays a far greater role than humans can ever replicate. To leave them flourish and try to implement replicate and regenerate previously harvested Forests including using Aboriginal perspectives, not the current destructive methods, will give Australia a future rich for all species.

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

It is obvious that better policies, better frameworks, better standards are required so that trees can be allowed to perform the functions they play, and be recognised for those, in the landscape; besides the capture and storage of carbon which isn't as obvious and observable. Surely, with all the technology available, all the scientists reports, we can do better than current practices. There are ways forward for ecological, social and economical benefits if the blindfolds are taken off and using a fresh starting point, addressing all 3 areas of considerations equitably. Start now!