

#### **Public submission**

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

I believe that native forest logging is unsustainable. The ramping up of logging and the reduction of protection of old growth trees under the Coalition government has reduced habitat for native species and increases the prospect of extinctions.

As the native timber yield has reduced by 40% since 2010 this would seem to indicate that the industry is unsustainable especially after the mega fires of 2019-20.

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

Native forests support 150 threatened species in NSW and it seems obvious that if this logging is allowed to continue these species will become even more endangered.

Even relatively common species could enter the threatened category is the native forests are over exploited as they are now.

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

Timber exported as wood chips should be diverted where possible for uses in the above industries.

A lot of timber is also wasted in one time uses in pallets, framing and transportation.

This could and should be reused wherever possible to reduce demand for virgin timber whether native or plantation.

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

The amount of timber exported as wood chips should be drastically reduced to make up for the shortfall from native forests.

Private forestry should be continued if requested but should be overseen by ecologists as having equal input as timber harvesters.

# 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

The native forest hardwood division of State Forests runs at an enormous loss and is being continuously subsidised by NSW taxpayers.

Native forests are much more valuable being left as they are or in coordination with Aboriginal management and First Nation Ranger programs.



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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 would seem obvious that native forests are a valuable carbon sink and as logging them creates 3.6 million tonnes of carbon emissions per year it makes more sense to not log them and they are more resilient to climate change if left unlogged.