

TOBIAS DALGEISH PARKER

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Location: New South Wales

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

Many of the submissions entered for the forestry panel demanding an end to forest and plantation logging show the lack of community understanding of forestry. Forestry is not deforestation.

Plantation forests are planted as a long term crop for timber production, under legislations that allows them to be harvested.

The majority of public owned forests are in the national parks and not used to produce timber. Forests that are available for harvest must be a forests before the harvest and a forest when the harvest is over. Not decimated.

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

The vales of the forest are surveyed and mapped prior to a harvest operation and reviewed after. Harvesting a forest is planned to maintain the important values and recover timber.

The access roads created or maintained are used for ongoing forest management.

The hysteria around forest decimation is due to misinformation and lack of general understanding of forests and forest management.

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

The demand for housing and planned increased building supported by government policy will increase the immediate demand for timber. Currently, the country imports timber to meet our needs.

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

More research and funding is needed if plantations are to support our timber needs. Product from pine plantations are already at capacity. Hardwood plantations to meet sawn timber needs require further research and time to grow.

Where are these plantations going to be grown where the land is affordable, viable, close to industry and not utilised for agriculture or housing?

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

State forests are already managed for the outcomes listed above. Taking timber production from the small percentage of the forest harvested yearly won't enhance these outcomes. The removal of harvesting endangers these forests as management for fire, weeds and feral animals won't be funded.

The submissions simply stating 'end all logging' shows a lack of consideration or understanding of forest systems.

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

Funding and research for hardwood plantations, investment in processing thinnings, public education on forest management and carbon storage in timber products.

If we don't manage our forests properly timber products will be imported from overseas at great carbon and environmental cost.

Substitutions for timber such as steel and concrete are not renewable and have a huge carbon cost