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

Although obtaining sustainable sources of timber is required it is no longer environmentally (or economically) viable to continue to fell old growth native forests.

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

Where to begin? There can be no price put on maintaining the health of ecosystems which so many threatened species, as well as ourselves rely on for life. It's time the white settler narrative of 'this is ours to consume' took on a more long term perspective focused on preserving what is left. 'We' have done more than enough damage to places of significant Aboriginal heritage without needlessly destroying pristine forests for the production of wood chips.

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

Pine plantations and sustainable timber sources can and should continue to be a key resource for Australia's construction industry. There's no reason that the quantity of responsibly produced timber shouldn't continue to grow.

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

The best time to plant a tree was 10 years ago. The second best time to plant one is now.

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

When it comes to managing forests responsibly, a lot could be learned from the tried and tested methods of caring for country used by Aboriginals for centuries.

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

I'm not a scientist, but if you were to ask one whether continuing to clear native forests as we begin to see the effects of an as yet unimaginable climate crisis I'm pretty sure they'd say that wasn't a great idea.