

Public submission

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Topic 1 Sustainability of current and future forestry operations in NSW

My name is Tyler Follett I have been employed on a Native Harvesting Crew since September 2019. I am the 5th generation of my family to work in these specific forests so the answer to the question of sustainability is, Yes! it's sustainable and with the continued improvements that I have witnessed myself, it will be sustainable long into my future. My peers that work in this industry have a passion and the drive to continue to act within the requirements to keep the industry sustainable.

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

During my time with this Forestry contact, I have operated an excavator on the dump processing and grading logs into their various grades to supply local sawmills for them to cut into various products.

Currently I operate a snigging machine, pulling felled logs through the forest to the dump site for processing and grading as mentioned above.

Our operation strictly adheres to the regulations of the CIFOA and part of my role is to construct drains to mitigate run off and degradation to the forest.

We are passionate about the forest and want to manage our operation so it can continue to be harvested in years to come. I feel with the prescriptions set out under the CIFOA we are successful in maintaining a sustainable future.

The most valuable mechanism that I have seen introduced during my time on our harvesting crew has been the iPad Map app, this allows operators maneuvering around the forest to see where they should be and what is marked for protection to ensure these significant aspects of the forest are not damaged.

There has also been continued emphasis placed on the Aboriginal cultural heritage and as I have aboriginal heritage myself, this is always welcome.

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

There is nothing more rewarding than seeing what becomes of a load of logs that I have been involved in supplying to a mill, Whether it be a pole holding up lines for our electricity network, or structural timber for the restoration of the Pyrmont bridge in Sydney, or the Chep pallets that transport our food and products, the timber split

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posts that our farmers line their property parameters with or seeing my grandmother sit and read in front of her toasty warm, wood fire.

This gives me a sense of pride that I have contributed to the economy while making a real difference in people's lives. I am 24 and there are many 24 year olds that don't understand or care about how this feels!

The demand for timber products is everywhere you look and it is a real honor to be part of the process in supplying it.

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

I believe our hardwood and softwood plantations are excellent but there doesn't seem to be enough land to expand on these and it would be very expensive to buy and establish that land

I believe PNF is also important to our industry as well.

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

Again, I cannot say enough about how valuable the Mapp app system is to my role. The layers upon layers of planning for so many significant environmental outcomes all loaded into a system that is literally in my sight attached to the inside of my machine allows me to see I am doing the right thing.

Economically this is the one, 100% renewable industry that Australia has at our fingertips to keep our economy on the right track. It would be economically and socially devastating if the 8900 people in our industry were to lose their jobs. Just think of what the Centrelink line would look like? There are many in this industry that have worked in it for 20 to 30 years.