

VANESSA CULLEN

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**Organisation:** N/A

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

In considering the sustainability of forestry operations in NSW, it is crucial to prioritize the preservation of koalas and other native wildlife by ending native forest logging. Native forests provide the only survival habitats for countless species, whose existence is threatened by ongoing habitat destruction caused by logging. Transitioning entirely to plantation-based forestry for timber supply, while preserving native forests for conservation and non-timber uses is a critical step towards protecting biodiversity, maintaining ecosystem health and ensuring the financial sustainability of eco-tourism and forest recreation.

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

To preserve the environmental and cultural values of forests, it is essential to prioritize the protection of native forests by ending native forest logging. These forests are the only critical homes to many threatened species, such as koalas, and also help preserve water quality and carbon sequestration. Native forests hold significant Aboriginal cultural heritage and historical value, of which too much has already been stolen. By transitioning to plantation-based forestry for timber supply and preserving native forests only for conservation, cultural protection, and non-timber uses, NSW can ensure long-term native ecological and cultural value is fully retained.