

WENDY ROYSTON

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**Organisation:** N/A

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**Location:** New South Wales

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**Supporting materials uploaded:** N/A

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

Current forestry operations in New South Wales are unsustainable for two reasons: 1. Threatened species live in these habitats, and therefore the habitats should be preserved. The habitats and cells are often threatened as well.

2. New South Wales, and that is spending money, taxpayers money on cutting down these trees, however, the return is not equal through the output, making it completely unsustainable.

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

This entire country, New South Wales was once inhabited throughout by Aboriginal people. There are so many cultural sites throughout the state, and many of them are only known and understood by a few people because of the complex cultural practices of Aboriginal people.

Before entering any forest, it is important to find the traditional owners and holders of this knowledge so as to understand the country's cultural heritage values. It is not the job of Aboriginal people to find out who might be cutting what forest when and then strive to save it. It is the job of those who intend to cut the forest to seek them out and understand the area they are going into. Many of the threatened species are integral to aboriginal cultural heritage practices, and this must be taken into account as well.

Given the fact that climate change is upon us, and that we have a highly industrialised society, it is of the utmost importance that we preserve as much of the forest as possible as forests provide us with oxygen, and also places for people to rejuvenate themselves from the stresses of the modern world. Many studies have shown that this is necessary for healthy human society, and those who avail themselves of forests, place less of a burden on the health care system.

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

Humans are very inventive. It is possible to manufacture anything, especially with 3-D printing now being available. With a concerted education program highlighting the value of forests, the demand for timber products could be very much reduced and 3D printers could be employed to make so many of the products that are now made from timber.

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

There is a large amount of land in New South Wales with marginal farming land on it. The owners of these properties could be employed to plant out plantations which could be used to meet timber supply needs.

**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**

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If state forests were indeed seen as delivering a range of environmental and social outcomes and options for diverse management, including Aboriginal forest management models, that would be a welcome change, instead of viewing them as timber, ready to be felled and sold. It would also save the costs now being spent on destructive forestry practices.

**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**

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As mentioned above, forests need to be reserved for their environmental values