

# Public submission

ZOE LEGGE

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**Organisation:** *N/A*

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**Location:** *New South Wales*

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**Supporting materials uploaded:** *Attached overleaf*

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Dear Forestry Industry Action Panel,

I'm writing to implore you to put an end to native forest logging. It seems criminal to be destroying our forests, environment and wildlife in a time when climate change catastrophes and species extinction is increasing.

If a concern for our environment doesn't lead to the government to end the logging in our native forests surely the fact that the forestry corporation relies on government funding as it is financially unsustainable and yields less timber than managed plantations is reason enough.

Globally Australia is one of the world's hotspots for deforestation. In fact according to the World Wide Fund for Nature Australia is the only developed country in world to appear on the list of the 24 'deforestation fronts'.

To be singled out as a country that has so little respect for its natural forest is both appalling and frightening. Australia also has a highest rate of mammal extinction ( the Nature Conservancy Australia ). The Invasive Species Council name land clearing and habitat destruction as two of the leading causes is this increasing extinction rate.

The logging of native forests is not sustainable and with increasing incidences of large fires, such as in 2019/20 that tore through these forests, make the need to protect what remains more urgent. Old growth forests can not just be replaced, older trees provide hollows and habitats for important Australian wildlife such as koalas and the Spotted -Tail Quoll. These and many other mammals are endangered species - logging, land clearing and fires are primary causes for their journey towards extinction.

An end to the logging of native forests is paramount is the quest to halt the rate of native animal extinction in Australia . 'Ongoing logging increases extinction, studies have shown ' (Ward, M, Lindenmayer, D. Watson, J. August 2024 ) . This paper has found that at least 150 species in NSW alone is considered to be in risk of extinction and the ongoing logging affects the habitat of these species.

World wide many countries have understood the major impact unscathed forests have on biodiversity and climate change. They successfully rely on plantations for their wood supply. Hardwood and softwood plantations provide almost 91% of Australia's log production.

Native forest logging has been found over and over again to be a large financial burden to the the Australian population who pay to keep the the Forestry Corporation afloat. The Forestry Corporation of NSW has run at a loss of \$30 million over 2022/2023. (Frontier Economics report - climate change and Sustainability . [www.frontier-economics.com.au](http://www.frontier-economics.com.au) ).

Future water security looks like it will be jeopardised as logging in forests reduces streamflow - this is a concern, among many others found by by a group of 14 scientists from 6 Australian universities that published yet another report warning that ongoing logging will lead to extinction.

Another report subtitled 'Why do Forests Matter by EOS Data Analytics state that trees have an ability to trap and accumulate greenhouse gases, saving the world from over heating. Yet every year 4.8 billion tons of carbon dioxide are released into the atmosphere as a result of deforestation. ( <https://independentaustralia.net/environment/environment-display/scientists-warn-logging-will-lead-to-extinction,18357> ).

The costs are too high from every angle to keep logging native forests. Please find a model of forest care that protects our environment.

Yours sincerely  
Zoe Legge