

NAME REDACTED

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

Logging in native forests is not sustainable as it removes the older trees, which lessens the availability of hollows and other habitat for wildlife. Therefore continued logging will contribute greatly to the extinction of forest dependent wildlife.

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

Forests provide important functions for the environment and regional communities, such as:

- Vital refuge for many threatened species that rely on mature, intact trees.
- Habitat connectivity “ supporting biodiversity and ecosystem health.
- Water quality and flow regulation “ important for water quality, fishing and tourism.
- Recreational areas for locals and visitors.
- Cultural and spiritual significance, especially for indigenous communities.

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

There is no need to log public native forests to build houses, as plantations can supply high quality and composite timber products

Shifting to plantation timber and supporting sustainable industry practices will reduce pressure on native forests.

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

Hardwood and softwood plantations already provide 91% of Australia’s log production.

Investment in hardwood plantations on already cleared land would supply timber products into the future.

Shifting to higher-value plantations can better meet timber needs.

Ending public forest subsidies would boost sustainable timber production on private lands.

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

Healthy native forests provide essential water resources.

Protecting and restoring State Forests will increase their economic value through tourism, carbon storage, job creation and recreational opportunities.

Diverse forest management, particularly Aboriginal models, can enhance the cultural and social value of forests.

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

Logging in native forests releases large amounts of carbon, contributing to climate change.

Stopping logging allows forests to recover, helping them store more carbon and support crucial climate goals.

Healthy forests are essential for reducing the impacts of climate change like wildfires and drought.