

DEBORAH WILLIS

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

I have carried out PNF since 2008 on my property, involving one logging harvest and one pole harvest under single tree selection and under the PNF Code of Practice. I now have 16 years of timber growth and sustainability added to my PNF timber stand. I will not log again for as long as possible to ensure my next harvest will be sustainable both economically and environmentally.

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

Under the Codes of Practice for PNF, threatened species and cultural heritage values are regulated and preserved.

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

PNF hardwood is the only timber suitable for poles both for export and domestic markets, hardwearing floorboards and girders for construction. Consumers not wanting to buy imported timber from unsustainable forests favor and invest in our sustainable grown hardwoods.

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

Plantations are fire hazards as they are monocultures, require a greater carbon footprint in maintenance and water requirements. Many plantations are grown on unsuitable land and soils, poor species selection and are susceptible to financial risk. PNF grow naturally in soils that sustain their species and rate of growth. Both native plants and animals thrive well in natural hardwood forests that are managed to lessen wildfires and preserve threatened species.

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

Forestry NSW has sustainably harvested logs for decades and the fact they still are, indicates they are harvested sustainably. Many pictures of cleared forests in Australia are used by activists to scaremonger people into false beliefs when actually a small area is clear felled for reseeded. In a few years those cleared areas have regrowth.

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

A tree only absorbs carbon when growing. At maturity they store carbon. Any milled timber still has that carbon stored within it, a renewable material. The only way to increase carbon is to grow young trees. Both PNF and plantations do this however PNF has the upper hand as described

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above. The number and volume of timber is greater now than 42 years ago when I first bought my property, and timber has been harvested here since Govt Soldier Settlement Blocks after WW1. Many maps are incorrect and require ground truthing before activists and media sensationalize forestry. I do not believe in locking up forests for carbon markets, I believe in maintaining forests and harvesting sustainably to increase carbon storage. From a fire risk point of view and invasive pests breeding in unmanaged forests causing economic and environmental disaster.