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

I do not think that logging in native forests is not sustainable. When native forests are logged it is indiscriminate everything is destroyed including the older trees, removing hollows and other habitat for forest wildlife, such as the koala and the Great Glider. The current levels of logging are unsustainable. We must prevent removal of protections for key habitat. If things continue as they are currently, it is almost certain that it will contribute greatly to the extinction of forest dependent wildlife. This was made all the worse by the catastrophic conflagration of 2019-20 which made this situation even more urgent and serious.

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

Native forests are vital for threatened species as many rely on mature, intact forests. However it is not just fauna who benefit from the environment. Regional communities benefit also as forests provide water, the quality and flow of which is extremely important. There are also recreational opportunities for locals and tourists. We must also acknowledge the cultural and spiritual significance, especially for indigenous communities. Habitat which supports biodiversity and ecosystem health is extremely important.

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

There isn't any need to continue to log public native forests to build houses, there are plantations which are able to supply high quality and composite timber products. We need to use plantation timber as this reduces pressure on native forests, supporting sustainable industry practices.

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. So investment in hardwood plantation on already cleared land would supply timber products for the future. We need to end public forest subsidies which 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

When we have healthy native forests they provide essential water resources, and by protecting and restoring State Forests we will increase the economic value through tourism, carbon storage, job creation and recreational opportunities. Surely this is a win win situation? The Forestry Corporation is currently financially unsustainable, relying on government support and yielding less

timber compared to managed plantations. If diverse forest management is used, particularly Aboriginal models, it 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

When logging in native forests, large amounts of carbon are released contributing to climate change. If we stop logging it allows forests to recover, helping them store more carbon and support climate goals. Healthy forests are essential for reducing the impacts of climate change like wildfires and drought. By stopping logging, forests can play a large role in mitigating climate risks and supporting opportunities in carbon markets.