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

Timber harvesting in native forests is sustainable. The industry relies on native forest timber from both public and private forests. The same rules for harvesting in private and public forests apply, so why is this enquiry looking for opinions on the viability of the public estate and still looking to support the industry through private resource?

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

The values of the forest are not ruined by harvesting. If this was truly the case there would be large areas of non-regenerating forest within the state owned forests , both in and outside the reserve system , as evidence of periodic harvesting over more than the last century. The very idea that state forests, that are managed for timber , amongst other values- are fit to be placed in the reserve system without major rehabilitation - or even fire protection- evidences this fact.

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

The demand for timber will not be slowed by the reduction in harvestable area if the forests are locked. Timber demand did not slow after the RFA's in the 1990s. The need for timber will be substituted with timber from overseas -at an unknown environmental and carbon cost. Or, worse with non-renewable mined products , at a known huge environmental and carbon cost.

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

Plantation materials are already at their current capacity in the market representing capacity for the volume available and capacity for the products they are capable of replacing , plantation timber is cheaper to harvest and potentially mill than native forest timbers, but they cost more to grow.

Private native forest products are also at capacity for the volume that can supply. The supply is not steady because it is at the will of the forest owner. Closing native forest harvesting will close reputable harvesters and people will be more reluctant to harvest if the only choice for a contractor is unknown to them. Also, close public native forest sighting environmental vandalism (untrue) and landholders wont harvest as they won't want to be implicated as environmental destroyers (untrue), especially new, uneducated, inexperienced land holders.

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

State forests are already filling this role. State forests are multi-use forests. This section implies that state forests aren't managed for anything but timber harvesting. Anyone who has had any part of a harvest knows the mapping, monitoring, pre planning and information collection and sharing that goes with a harvest.

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

State forests can fill any of the markets that are designed for the reserve estate. Better still modelling can have a lower fire risk for managed state forest than that of forests in the reserve system.