Public submission

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Organisation:	N/A		
Location:	New South Wales		
Supporting materials uploaded:	N/A		

Submission date: 10/11/2024 4:55:55 PM

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

Current forestry operations are unsustainable damaging fragile ecologies and threatened populations (e.g. the current Bulga State forest operation threatens both Koalas and greater Gliders known to dwell in the area currently being felled.

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

Forests are worth much more, both locally and globally, left untouched sequestering carbon, intercepting water, providing a home for fauna and focus for future tourism.

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

Timber products are best supplied from planned plantations of suitable species

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

As above timber is best supplied from planned plantations while Native Forestry is worth far more left intact.

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

My experience of SF operations here on the Mid-North coast shows them to be inept at forestry stewardship and narrowly motivated by a drive to optimise timber product profits at the expense of all other outcomes and options. As an RFS firefighter I also see current SF practices contributing to fire risk.

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

These many opportunities are precisely the benefits currently being rapidly eroded by SF's blinkered economistic perspective eroding, in the process, future tourism prospects