

Submission  
No 113

**INQUIRY INTO LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY AND  
FUTURE OF THE TIMBER AND FOREST PRODUCTS  
INDUSTRY**

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date Received:** 26 May 2021

---

Partially  
Confidential

I live on the south coast of NSW an area badly affected by the Black Summer bushfires. Around us, all the national parks and forest lands burnt from well into Victoria to all the way to Sydney. The scale of devastation was horrendous.

The native animal population was decimated during the bushfires. I used to see wallabies, gliders, kangaroos, wombats, lyre birds, etc. regularly during walks in the local forest area and now there is barely a single kangaroo left. No birds, no marsupials, nothing.

Our community relies on tourism and that tourism relies on the scenic beauty of the area. The ability to go for a bushwalk or bike ride through the forest or to travel along the rivers, lakes, oceans.

1.8 million hectares of forest was destroyed and estimates of wildlife loss now top millions. Continuing to log native forests which is an uneconomical industry in any event is to sell off the birthright of all Australians for a few dollars.

FCNSW's revenue is set to decline \$100 million, or 25 per cent, from next financial year, with predicted losses of about \$15 million a year from 2022 to 2024. FCNSW is a government owned corporation, so the NSW Government is ultimately liable for keeping it afloat. This means taxpayers are subsidising the destruction of our native forests and paying to drive species to extinction. This is absurd.

It is also absurd that Australia is exporting wood chips such as is done from the port south of Eden. Australia should be shifting to a fully sustainable wood industry using plantations and all remaining forests should be immediately protected.

Jobs can be created by installing such infrastructure as bushwalking trails, mountain biking trails, various tourism jobs and activities which will bring tourists to communities that have previously relied on logging.