

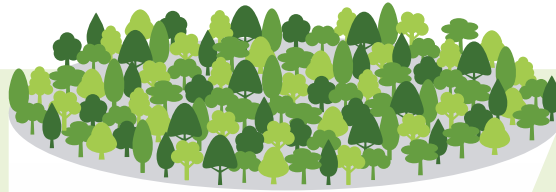
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONS: A NEW MULTI SCALE APPROACH TO FOREST MANAGEMENT

The multi-scale approach in the proposed Coastal IFOA delivers a comprehensive threatened species protection model for the coastal timber production forests of NSW. It provides important habitat resources at the site, local and broad landscape scales. Stronger protections are applied as you work down the scales.

This multi-scale approach also ensures the maintenance of multi-aged forest across the landscape and the retention of undisturbed habitat. This will provide areas of refuge, as well as connectivity and dispersal opportunities for native species.

COASTAL IFOA SCALE

- Includes all public coastal forests in NSW and consists of over 5.2 million hectares.
- Across this area of public forests is a patchwork of State Forests and forest protected in National Parks and State Flora Reserves.
- State Forests make up around 30% of the public forests in the Coastal IFOA area. Native timber production forests cover around 16% of this area.



Environmental protections include:

- An established network of protected public land conserving important habitat and ecosystems across coastal NSW.
- The broad landscape-based habitat protection network includes National parks, Flora Reserves and special management zones.
- Annual timber volume caps are also set to ensure a long term ecologically sustainable supply of timber.
- Reporting requirements apply and monitoring to evaluate and ensure environmental outcomes are being achieved.

MANAGEMENT ZONE SCALE

- A defined geographic region with an average size of 50,000 hectares.
- Multiple timber production forests occur within each management area.
- These areas will be fixed and mapped at the commencement of the proposed IFOA.
- On average 50% of the management zone of state forests is protected.



Environmental protections include:

- Annual limits on the amount of harvesting in each management area to distribute harvesting across the landscape.
- A maximum of 10% of a management area can be harvested per year.
 - If the management area is zoned for intensive harvesting, then a maximum of only 5% of that management area can be intensively harvested per year.

LOCAL LANDSCAPE AREA SCALE

- A defined area of timber production forests no larger than 1500 hectares.
- On average there are four local landscape areas in each State Forest.
- These areas will be mapped out progressively over time.
- An average of 38% is protected before the new wildlife habitat clump requirements are considered. This will increase to an average of 41%.



Environmental protections include:

- A minimum of 5% of the harvest area to be permanently protected as a wildlife habitat clump to maintain habitat diversity and connectivity.
- Rainforest, high conservation value old growth, habitat corridors and owl habitat will continue to be protected.
 - Threatened ecological communities have been mapped and will be excluded from harvesting.
- Streams are more accurately mapped and exclusion zones apply to provide landscape connectivity and protect waterways.
 - Distributes intensive harvesting across the landscape and over a minimum 21 year period.
- Improved koala mapping to retain koala browse trees to support movement between areas and food resources.

SITE

- A site is the area where harvesting is taking place. Sites vary in size from about 45 to 250 hectares.
- There are many sites, called coupes or compartments, within each local landscape area.
- An average of 41% of State Forests at a site scale will be protected, increasing to 45% with added tree retention clumps.



Environmental protections include:

- Areas will be permanently protected to provide short term refuge, maintain forest structure, and protect important habitat features.
- Additional areas no less than 5 – 8% of the harvest area will be permanently set aside as new tree retention clumps.
- Hollow-bearing trees, nest and roost trees and giant trees will be permanently protected to provide ongoing shelter and food resources.
- Some target surveys will be retained for unique species of plants and animals that require protection.
 - Sites will now be measured, mapped and monitored with mobile and desktop devices.

If you use our coastal forests or the timber they supply, it's time to have your say on tomorrow's forests...today at engage.environment.nsw.gov.au/forests

