

Forest Practices Plans



Key points

- Sustainable Timber Tasmania operates within the forest practices system, which is overseen by an independent statutory body, the Forest Practices Authority.
- Forest Practices Plans detail how natural and cultural values will be managed and protected during forestry operations.
- Sustainable Timber Tasmania employs Forest Practices Officers, who are trained and authorised by the Forest Practices Authority, to prepare and certify Forest Practices Plans.



The forest practices system

Sustainable Timber Tasmania operates within the forest practices system, which is a co-regulatory approach overseen by an independent statutory body, the Forest Practices Authority.

The Forest Practices Code is one of the foundations of the forest practices system. It contains guidelines and standards for protecting natural and cultural values during forestry operations, such as timber harvesting and road construction.

The Forest Practices Code is enforceable by law, and penalties apply for any breaches.

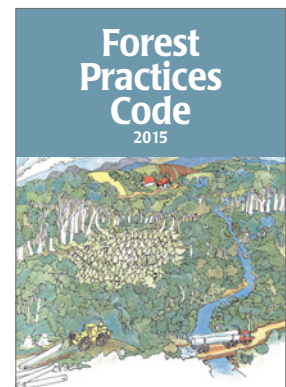
What is a Forest Practices Plan?

A Forest Practices Plan is a document that has been prepared and certified by an authorised forest practices officer. It must comply with the Forest Practices Code.

It contains instructions for protecting special values, such as soils, geomorphology, visual landscapes, water, biodiversity, threatened plants and animals and cultural heritage. It also contains a map showing reserves, roads, harvesting boundaries and log landing areas.

A Forest Practices Plan involves developing special values evaluations and can take months, or years to finalise. The planning process typically involves site surveying, consultation with experts and consultation with potentially affected stakeholders.

A Forest Practices Plan (FPP), when completed, is a legally enforceable document that the harvesting contractor is required to follow.



What are forestry operations?

Forestry operations that require an FPP include:

- Native forest harvesting and reforestation;
- Plantation harvesting and establishment;
- Clearing forests for other purposes; and
- Road and quarry construction.

Sustainable Timber Tasmania's role in forest practices planning

The forest practices system is based on a co-regulatory approach, involving self-regulation by the industry with independent monitoring and enforcement carried out by the Forest Practices Authority. This means that appropriately qualified staff or consultants - known as Forest Practices Officers - are authorised to prepare Forest Practices Plans for forestry companies.

Forest Practices Officers are career foresters who have undergone additional training and received authorisation from the Forest Practices Authority. Sustainable Timber Tasmania employs Forest Practices Officers across the State.

Before a forest operation starts, a Forest Practices Officer will provide a contractor with an on-site briefing to ensure the works will be conducted in accordance with the Forest Practices Plan. Further monitoring takes place during the operation to ensure compliance with the Plan.

All non-compliances are investigated and any serious problems are reported to the Forest Practices Authority, which has the power to prosecute and issue fines for breaches of a Forest Practices Plan.

Availability of Forest Practices Plans

Sustainable Timber Tasmania's current Forest Practices Plans are available upon request.

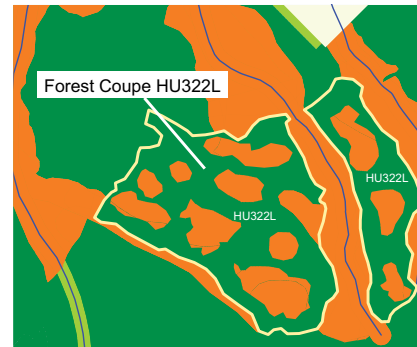
More information on Forest Practices Plans

www.fpa.tas.gov.au/forest_practices_system

www.fpa.tas.gov.au/forest_practices_system/elements_of_the_forest_practices_system#ele4

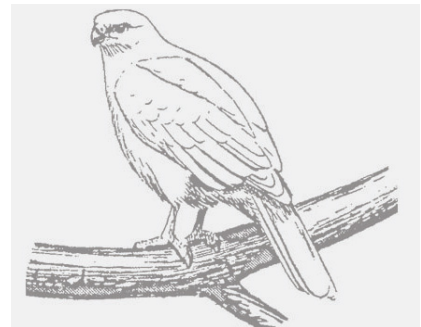
www.fpa.tas.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/58119/FPP_leaflet_for_landowners_and_FPP_applicants.pdf

www.fpa.tas.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/58117/FPA_forest_practices_system_leaflet_original.pdf



LEGEND

- Provisional Coupe Boundary
- Private land neighbouring Permanent Timber Production Zone land
- Native forest areas retained for biodiversity conservation, includes CAR reserves.
- Areas of Permanent Timber Production Zone land managed for wood production
- Additional areas set-aside from wood production,



The Forest Practices System provides specific management guidelines for over 250 species of priority fauna and flora. Images source - FPA Threatened fauna manual for production forests in Tasmania.