

Pesticide Use Policy

Background

Sustainable Timber Tasmania is responsible for land management and wood production in Tasmania's Permanent Timber Production Zone. Pesticides can play an important role in efficiently establishing and maintaining healthy and productive forests. However, if used inappropriately, pesticides can also cause significant environmental, social, and economic harm. Sustainable Timber Tasmania recognises that any use of pesticide must be undertaken with due consideration of the potential for both negative and positive outcomes.

Objective

This policy applies to all forest-based pesticide operations conducted by Sustainable Timber Tasmania. Under this policy, Sustainable Timber Tasmania will:

- **Minimise and strive to avoid** the need for pesticides by using integrated pest management approaches, adoption of appropriate silvicultural techniques, and by supporting research into more benign alternatives.
- **Use** pesticides only when alternative approaches to the management of recognised pests are unfeasible.
- **Restrict** pesticides used to only those approved for use by Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority, the Australian Forestry Standard and Forest Stewardship Council® processes.
- **Store, transport and dispose** of pesticide products in accordance with best practice and regulatory requirements.
- **Plan and implement** pesticide application operations to minimise adverse outcomes. This will include:
 - **Complying** with the *Forest Practices Code*, the *Code of Practice for Aerial Spraying*, the *Code of Practice for Ground Spraying*, and respective chemical label requirements;
 - **Conducting** risk assessments as appropriate to assist in developing appropriate operational prescriptions;
 - **Engaging** with stakeholders that may be affected by pesticide operations;
 - **Ensuring** personnel have the required licenses and training to safely conduct pesticide operations; and,
 - **Employing** application techniques that achieve operational objectives whilst minimising non-target effects.
- **Monitor** pesticide application operations, including the conducting of water sampling in waterways located near sensitive areas as appropriate.
- **Publicly report** on the pest management and pesticide usage program, including identified occurrences of adverse effects of pesticide use.



Steve Whiteley, Chief Executive Officer
May 2020