Wood Utilisation Plan (Commercial Firewood)





Gippsland - 2013/14 to 2015/16

This Wood Utilisation Plan (WUP) – (Commercial Firewood) applies to the three Gippsland Forest Management Areas (FMA) for the period 2013/14 to 2015/16.

The Wood Utilisation Plan may not be in its final form. It may be amended from time to time. DEPI maintains a record of amendments to the WUP. If you wish to inspect any amendments, contact the relevant DEPI office to arrange a suitable viewing time.

The Wood Utilisation Plan (Commercial Firewood) is based on complying with sustainable firewood supply limits within identified Firewood Supplied Areas.

The location and boundaries of coupes shown on the attached maps are only approximate and indicative. The precise boundary of any coupe will be identified on site by DEPI before harvesting begins, in accordance with the *Code of Practice for Timber Production 2007*.

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The WUP is a 3 year works plan for, commercial firewood production.

Higher value forest produce including poles, posts and small sawlogs may be a bi-product of the commercial firewood harvesting operations.

DEPI has prepared this WUP in accordance with relevant legislation and Government policy, including the relevant *Forest Management Plans*, *Regional Forest Agreements* and the *Code of Practice for Timber Production 2007*.

Supply of Products

For the period of this WUP DEPI plans to provide an annual supply of up to: 35,000 m3 / annum. Some additional forest produce may result from salvage operation types not identified in this WUP.

Works Plan

The WUP consists of a schedule and maps. The schedule lists work sites (coupes) available for harvesting in each FMA, while the maps show the coupe locations.

Information provided on the schedules

*Address* - unique numeric identifiers that help administer the coupe or work site. Each address comprises codes that relate to the coupe or work site location.

*Works period –* the anticipated range of financial years when works may occur on the site.

*Coupe area* - the maximum area of the site measured in hectares, including streamside buffers and filters, and areas specifically excluded from disturbance.

Operation Type

The type of works planned at each site, distinguishing between commercial timber production, domestic firewood production, regeneration and other operation types.

Silvicultural Systems

Silvicultural systems are techniques used in management of forests to promote regeneration and/ or maintain forest structure.

DEPI uses a number of silvicultural systems. Forest condition and biological characteristics are considered in determining an appropriate silvicultural system. The main silvicultural systems to be used are follows:

**Single Tree Selection (STS)**

An uneven aged silvicultural system involving the felling of scattered individual trees across the site. Single Tree Selection operations generally occur at 10 to 15 year intervals on a site. Regeneration is largely from lignotubers and coppice.

**Group Selection System (GSS)**

An even aged silvicultural system which removes small groups of trees dependant on age and forest structure.

**Thinning from Below (THB)**

Removing the smaller and poorly formed trees from a stand and allowing the larger better formed trees to increase their growth, and accelerate hollow development.

Forest Type

**Foothill Mixed Species**

Forests generally to 30 m featuring *E. muelleriana* (Yellow Stringybark*) E. globoidea* (White Stringybark) *E. macrorhyncha* (Red Styringybark)*, E. consideniana* (Yertchuk), *E. seiberi,* (Silvertop Ash), *E.cypellocarpa*, (Mountain Grey Gum), *E. ployanthemos* (Red Box), *E. melliodora* (Yellow Box) and *E. tricarpa* (Red Ironbark) and *E. dives* (Broad Leaved Peppermint).

**Coastal Mixed Species**

Forest generally to 20 – 30 m, generally featuring*, E. macrorhyncha* (Red Stringybark), E. baxteri (Brown Stringybark), *E. globoidea* (White Stringybark *E. seiberi* (Silvertop Ash), *E. viminalis* (Coastal Manna Gum), *E. botryoides* (Southerm Mahogany). A Banksia and Acacia understory is often prominent.

Growth stage

Growth stages describe the characteristics of a forest canopy at different times in the life cycle of a eucalypt forest. Unstocked and uneven-aged forests are also identified where they exist. The predominant growth stage for coupes on this WUP is:

**Regrowth**

A forest stand or individual tree (generally between 1 and 60 years after regeneration) in which the crowns have a narrow conical form and where trees are actively growing.

**Mature**

A forest stand and/or individual trees (generally between 60 and 150 years after regeneration) where the height and crown development has effectively ceased but significant crown decline is not evident.

**Uneven-aged**

A forest stand with trees of three or more distinct age classes, either mixed or in small groups.

Environmental and Cultural (Site) Values

This plan addresses the environmental and cultural requirements of relevant legislation, the *Code of Practice for Timber Production 2007*, *Forest Management Plans* and DEPI procedures.

Environmental and cultural values assessed during the development of this plan include:

* biodiversity;
* forest age class and structure;
* Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal cultural heritage values;
* soils;
* water quality and quantity; and
* amenity and landscape sensitivity.

The relevant *Forest Management Plan(s)* provides details of the relevant values for this plan. The schedule lists values identified through desktop and preliminary field checks.

DEPI, in consultation with specialists, determines management prescriptions for these values in accordance with legislation, the relevant *Forest Management Plan(s)* and the *Code of Practice for Timber Production 2007*.

Field assessment and consultation will continue throughout the operational planning process for the sites listed in this plan.

Maps

Each operation listed on a schedule is mapped and labelled with a unique address. The maps show:

* Forest Management Zoning;
* Coupe location, silviculture system and harvest year;
* Location of commercial firewood harvesting operations; and
* Location of major access roads.

Consultation

All WUPs go through two consultation stages. The first is with other interested government agencies followed by a public consultation period. DEPI will consider the views of specialists, stakeholders and the public.

Plan availability

This WUP is a public document and can be downloaded from the DEPI website at [www.depi.vic.gov.au](http://www.depi.vic.gov.au).

To view maps click on the DEPI Forest Explorer <http://nremap-sc.nre.vic.gov.au/MapShare.v2/imf.jsp?site=forestexplorer>, and under Map Layers click on Wood Utilisation Plans.

The plan and maps can also be viewed at the following location:

 DEPI, 171-173 Nicholson St, ORBOST, VIC, 3888.

 DEPI, 574 Main St, BAIRNSDALE, VIC, 3875.

Please call the DEPI Customer Service Centre on 136 186 for all enquiries.

| **Address** | **Name** | **District** | **Works Period** | **Coupe Area (ha)** | **Operation Type** | **Silvicultural System** | **Forest Type** | **Growth Stage** | **Site Values** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Central Gippsland FMA*** |
| 548-506-001 | Stoney Road | Heyfield | 2014-15 | 47.8 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Uneven Aged | Beverleys Road to be buffered; Fire Management Zone 1 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); burn scheduled 2014; long-term mosaic plots to be protected; Lowland Herb-rich Forest; Powerful Owl record in vicinity; Southern Toadlet;  |
| 548-506-002 | Swamp Gully East | Heyfield | 2015-16 | 64.1 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Uneven Aged | Beverleys Road to be buffered; Fire Management Zone 1 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); burn scheduled 2014; long-term mosaic plots to be protected; Lowland Herb-rich Forest; Powerful Owl record in vicinity; Southern Toadlet;  |
| 548-506-004 | Swamp Gully West | Heyfield | 2015-16 | 83.0 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Uneven Aged | Beverleys Road to be buffered; Fire Management Zone 1 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); burn scheduled 2014; long-term mosaic plots to be protected; Lowland Herb-rich Forest; Powerful Owl record in vicinity; Southern Toadlet;  |
| 548-506-003 | California Creek | Heyfield | 2015-16 | 51.1 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Uneven Aged | Beverleys Road to be buffered; Fire Management Zone 1 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); burn scheduled 2014; long-term mosaic plots to be protected; Lowland Herb-rich Forest; Powerful Owl record in vicinity; Southern Toadlet;  |
| 548-506-005 | Beverleys Road East | Heyfield | 2013-14 | 39.0 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Uneven Aged | Beverleys Road to be buffered; Fire Management Zone 1 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); burn scheduled 2014; long-term mosaic plots to be protected; Lowland Herb-rich Forest; Powerful Owl record in vicinity; Southern Toadlet;  |
| 548-507-002 | Beverleys Road North | Heyfield | 2014-15 | 90.0 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Uneven Aged | Beverleys Road to be buffered; Fire Management Zone 1 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); burn scheduled 2014; long-term mosaic plots to be protected; Lowland Herb-rich Forest; Powerful Owl record in vicinity; Southern Toadlet;  |
| 548-507-001 | Beverleys Road West | Heyfield | 2013-14 | 71.6 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Uneven Aged | Beverleys Road to be buffered; Fire Management Zone 1 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); burn scheduled 2014; long-term mosaic plots to be protected; Lowland Herb-rich Forest; Powerful Owl record in vicinity; Southern Toadlet;  |
| 452-999-002 | Middle Road | Yarram | 2013-14 | 110.3 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Phytophthora control required; adjacent SPZ; Oldgrowth values; Spot-tailed Quoll and Powerful Owl habitat; Plains Grassy Forest; *Thelymitra circumsepta;* Growling Grass Frog; Landscape Values; Historic Site; Recreation Sites; Apiary values. |
| 452-999-001 | Kees Road | Yarram | 2014-15 | 74.1 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Phytophthora control required; adjacent SPZ; Oldgrowth values; Spot-tailed Quoll and Powerful Owl habitat; Plains Grassy Forest; *Thelymitra circumsepta;* Growling Grass Frog; Landscape Values; Historic Site; Recreation Sites; Apiary values. |
| ***Tambo FMA*** |
| 740-506-001 | Old Man Hill Road | Bairnsdale | 2013-14 | 51.1 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Traffic Management Plan; Dry Valley Forest. |
| 740-507-001 | Paddys Creek Road | Bairnsdale | 2015-16 | 75.0 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Coupe boundary modified to exclude regeneration; Traffic Management Plan; Dry Valley Forest; burn scheduled 2015-16.  |
| 739-512-001 | Nicholson Creek Road | Bairnsdale | 2015-16 | 66.5 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Apiary values; Traffic Management Plan; Fire Management Zone 2 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); burn scheduled 2013-14. |
| 740-503-001 | Freemans Track | Bairnsdale | 2013-14 | 51.6 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Traffic Management Plan; Fire Management Zone 2 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions). |
| 743-501-001 | Railtrail | Bairnsdale | 2013-14 | 40.6 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | East Gippsland Rail Trail; visual amenity; Dry Valley Forest; *Leucopogon* *juniperinus*; adjacent SPZ; Powerful Owl site; cultural heritage values. |
| 742-514-001 | Deadhorse Firebreak | Bairnsdale | 2013-14 | 19.7 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Traffic Management Plan. |
| ***East Gippsland FMA*** |
| 827-514-001 | Breakneck Ck | Orbost | 2013-14 | 69.5 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Apiary values; landscape values; Fire Management Zones 1 and 2 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); recreational values; burn scheduled 2015-16. |
| 827-512-001 | Ross Track East | Orbost | 2014-15 | 109.6 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Fire Management Zones 1 and 2 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); recreational values; landscape values; burn scheduled 2015-16. |
| 827-512-002 | Ross Track West | Orbost | 2014-15 | 28.2 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Fire Management Zones 1 and 2 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); recreational values; landscape values; burn scheduled 2015-16. |
| 825-519-001 | Yalmy Road | Orbost | 2015-16 | 82.2 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Fire Management Zone 1 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); landscape values, eucalypt plantation trials; historic values; burn scheduled 2013-14. |
| 825-519-002 | Wehner Track | Orbost | 2015-16 | 113.0 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Fire Management Zone 1 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); landscape values, eucalypt plantation trials; historic values; burn scheduled 2013-14. |
| 823-510-001 | Patellis Crossing 1 | Orbost | 2013-14 | 11.8 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Apiary values; landscape values; Fire Management Zones 1 and 2 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); historical values; Limestone Box Forest; forest health values. |
| 823-510-002 | Patellis Crossing 2 | Orbost | 2013-14 | 114.9 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Apiary values; landscape values; Fire Management Zones 1 and 2 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); historical values; Limestone Box Forest; forest health values. |
| 823-510-003 | Waygara Road 1 | Orbost | 2013-14 | 106.6 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Apiary values; landscape values; Fire Management Zones 1 and 2 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); historical values; Limestone Box Forest; forest health values. |
| 823-510-004 | Waygara Road 2 | Orbost | 2013-14 | 104.9 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Apiary values; landscape values; Fire Management Zones 1 and 2 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); historical values; Limestone Box Forest; forest health values. |
| 823-510-005 | Wombat Creek | Orbost | 2014-15 | 98.0 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Landscape values; Limestone Box Forest; Warm Temperate Rainforest; forest health values. |
| 823-510-006 | WSM Road South | Orbost | 2014-15 | 124.2 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Landscape values; Limestone Box Forest; Warm Temperate Rainforest; forest health values. |
| 823-510-007 | WSM Road North | Orbost | 2014-15 | 97.5 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Landscape values; Limestone Box Forest; Warm Temperate Rainforest; forest health values. |
| 823-510-008 | Painted Line | Orbost | 2015-16 | 109.1 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Landscape values; Old growth Banksia Woodland; forest health values. |
| 823-510-009 | Kilby Track North | Orbost | 2015-16 | 75.3 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Landscape values; Old growth Banksia Woodland; forest health values. |
| 823-510-010 | Kilby Track South | Orbost | 2015-16 | 52.8 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Landscape values; Old growth Banksia Woodland; forest health values. |
| 826-501-012 | Hartland | Orbost | 2013-14 | 46.9 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Regrowth |  |
| 835-504-999 | Manorina Salvage | Orbost | 2013-14 | 9.6 | Salvage Commercial Firewood | CLF | Foothill Mixed Species | Regrowth | Masked Owl, Long-footed Potoroo and Southern Brown Bandicoot values. |
| 849-506-001 | Maramingo Creek | Cann River | 2014-15 | 50.6 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Coastal Mixed Species | Mature | Landscape values; Glossy Black Cockatoo; *Allocasuarina littoralis*; burn scheduled 2013-14. |
| 849-506-004 | Highway Firewood | Cann River | 2013-14 | 34.7 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Coastal Mixed Species | Mature | Landscape values; *Allocasuarina littoralis*; burn scheduled 2013-14. |
| 849-506-003 | Pig Crossing Firewood | Cann River | 2013-14 | 52.7 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Coastal Mixed Species | Mature | SPZ adjacent; landscape values; *Allocasuarina littoralis*; burn scheduled 2013-14. |
| 803-504-001 | Kennys West | Nowa Nowa | 2015-16 | 110.4 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Traffic Management Plan. |
| 803-504-004 | Kennys East | Nowa Nowa | 2015-16 | 10.7 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Traffic Management Plan. |
| 803-504-002 | Reformatory East | Nowa Nowa | 2015-16 | 105.7 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Traffic Management Plan; Fire Management Zone 1 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); old growth values; burn scheduled 2015-16. |
| 803-504-003 | Reformatory West | Nowa Nowa | 2015-16 | 61.8 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Traffic Management Plan; Fire Management Zone 1 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); old growth values; burn scheduled 2015-16. |
| 806-504-001 | Upper Kennys | Nowa Nowa | 2014-15 | 76.4 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Traffic Management Plan; Blackthorn Scrub; burn scheduled 2014-15. |
| 806-502-001 | Mollys Plain 2 | Nowa Nowa | 2013-14 | 51.3 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Traffic Management Plan; Fire Management Zone 2 (refer to statewide commercial timber harvesting prescriptions); old growth values. |
| 803-501-001 | Old Buchan Road | Nowa Nowa | 2015-16 | 21.6 | Commercial Firewood | THB | Foothill Mixed Species | Mature | Traffic Management Plan; Sooty Owl; burn scheduled 2014-15. |