

SILVICULTURE SPECIFICATION 3/89

TREEMARKING IN JARRAH FOREST AFFECTED BY Phytophthora cinnamomi IN THE CENTRAL AND NORTHERN FOREST REGIONS

This specification supersedes Silviculture Specification 2/87.

The silvicultural objectives and system described in "Treemarking and Silviculture in Jarrah Forest" (1987) and Specification 7/89, are not appropriate in northern jarrah forest affected by jarrah dieback.

This specification applies to those jarrah forest areas infected by *P. cinnamomi* in areas to be logged. It is applicable to stands with dieback impact ranging from low to high. For the time being Specifications 7/89 may still be applied to dieback affected southern jarrah forest except for areas requiring regeneration where specification 4/89 is more appropriate.

1. OBJECTIVE

Regardless of their structure, these stands should be treated with conservative optimism with the objective of:

- Minimising the effect of logging on the site and the possible escalation of disease impact.
- By retaining crop trees, maintain the productive potential of the forest should the disease remain at a low impact.
- Maintaining a forest ecosystem of resistant species should the disease escalate to a high impact or where it has already reached that level of impact.

2. TREES TO RETAIN

- 2.1. Mark for retention a basal area of 15m²/ha of healthy trees with good crown development if they are available. Aim for uniform distribution.
- 2.2. Preference for retention should be given to trees of crop tree standard with an emphasis on jarrah in low hazard sites and blackbutt or marri in moderate or high hazard sites.
- 2.3. Regeneration over 10m in height should be included in the basal area count.
- 2.4. Retain any healthy jarrah which have survived for a long period in high impact sites.
- 2.5. Habitat trees and logs (see Specification 5/89).

3. PROTECTION OF EXISTING REGENERATION

- 3.1. Stands which contain <5m²/ha of retained trees but with adequate sapling regeneration (>500spha) are to be protected from potential damaging agencies. Prescribed burning and logging may only be undertaken if regeneration will not be damaged.
- 3.2. Stands which contain <5m²/ha of retained trees with adequate lignotuber stocking do not require special protection until lignotubers begin to grow dynamically, then treat as for 3.1. However, wherever possible minimise site disturbance and the risk of increasing disease impact.
- 3.3 Management of regeneration in dieback-affected forest is dealt with in Specification 4/89.

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