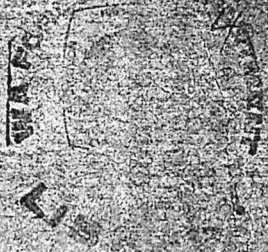


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CODE OF REGROWTH LOGGING PRACTICE
FOR ALL LOGGING OPERATIONS IN
FORESTS DEPARTMENT OF W.A. REGROWTH
AREAS



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"CODE OF REGROWTH LOGGING PRACTICE"

FOR ALL LOGGING OPERATIONS IN

FORESTS DEPARTMENT OF W.A. REGROWTH AREAS



INTRODUCTION

The logging rules and instructions contained in this Code of Regrowth Logging Practice apply to all Regrowth logging operations carried out in State Forest, whether on behalf of a private purchaser or under a logging contract to the Forests Department.

These instructions may be amended from time to time and such amendments will come into force from the date of each amendment.

Breaches of this Code will be regarded as breaches of the appropriate Contract.

CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS

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SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS

2 - GENERAL

3 - FELLING TRIMMING CROSSCUTTING

4 - EXTRACTION

5 - LOADING AND HAULING

6 - FIRE PRECAUTIONS

DEFINITIONS

In this Code of Regrowth ^{Forests} Logging Practice unless the context otherwise requires :

- 1.1 The interpretations are those applying in the Forests Act and the Timber Industry Regulation Act.
- 1.2 "Contract" means an arrangement in writing or evidenced in writing between the Forests Department and another party under which some logging operation is to be carried out by that other party.
- 1.3 "Contractor" means any person or company being a party to a Contract with the Forests Department to log or deliver, for, or on behalf of, the Forests Department and includes any servants, agents, employees, or sub contractors of a Contractor.
- 1.4 "Regrowth Areas" means any area of land under the ownership, management or control of the Conservator of Forests on which trees of the genus "Eucalyptus" have been regenerated either naturally or artificially and are now growing, and includes fire breaks, roads and tracks, and natural or planted forest adjacent to the regrowth boundary.
- 1.5 "Hauling" means the loading on vehicles and cartage of forest produce from the loading points in or near the regrowth to the nominated delivery point.

GENERAL

- 2.1 The Instructions contained in this Code shall be observed by all persons carrying out any regrowth logging operation. In the event of any such person breaching this Code, such a breach may be regarded as grounds for a Forest Officer raising objection to the continued employment of that person in the forest. (Forests Act Reg. No. 15).
- 2.2 Any contractor engaged in the cutting and/or removal of forest produce shall be in possession of a current Timber Workers Registration Certificate.
- 2.3 A contractor shall observe all Acts of the State of Western Australia, and in particular, the Bush Fires Act, 1954, the Forests Act, 1918-1976, the Inspection of Machinery Act, 1921, the Machinery Safety Act, 1974, the Road Traffic Act, 1926, and the Workers Compensation Act, 1912 including all amendments to those Acts for the time being in force and any Act passed in substitution or in lieu thereof and all Regulations for the time being in force thereunder as well as this Code of Regrowth Logging Practice.
- 2.4 Any power or function to be exercised by a Forest Officer under this Code may be exercised by any officer of the Forests Department duly authorised by the Conservator.
- 2.5 A contractor shall exercise strict supervision and control over the operations of all workers employed by him with a view to :
- 2.5.1 Preventing any breach of the Forests Act and Regulations and this Code of Practice.
- 2.5.2 Avoiding damage to other standing timber during felling extraction and hauling operations.
- 2.6 After the commencement of a Contract the contractor shall advise a Forest Officer by notice in writing, within 48 hours of such event, the name and address of any employee who is engaged or who for any reason ceases to be employed by the contractor.
- 2.7 The Forests Department reserves the right to limit or otherwise control the hours of work and days of work of all personnel working in the Forest. A contractor will take due note of any instruction from a Forest Officer in this regard and such instruction will be deemed to apply until revoked and will apply equally to a contractor and any of his employees.

- 2.8 A contractor, in carrying out all operations in pursuance of his contract shall follow and use only such paths, tracks and roads in the Regrowth areas as may be indicated to him by a Forest Officer and all persons authorised by him to use any paths, tracks and roads at any time.
- 2.9 A contractor must ensure that all roads and tracks are left open at the cessation of work each day, or if required, during the day, to allow access for fire control and administrative purposes.
- 2.10 All operations carried out by, or on behalf of, a contractor in Regrowth areas shall be carried out as directed by a Forest Officer. A contractor shall be liable to pay the Forests Department full compensation for any damage or waste of timber resulting from his failure to comply with such directions.
- 2.11 A contractor is expected to have his work area in a tidy and workmanlike condition at all times but particularly when leaving the area. If a subsequent clean up is required the work will be done at the contractor's expense.
- 2.12 A contractor shall dispose of all litter, food scraps, refuse, unserviceable equipment or machinery, or other debris resulting from his operations in the Regrowth areas at such place and in such manner and time as a Forest Officer shall direct.
- 2.13 A contractor shall comply with the requirements for safety as laid down by a Forest Officer from time to time.
- 2.14 Safety helmets shall be worn in the Regrowth areas at all times by all persons engaged in logging (T.I.R. Reg. 56). Similarly all personnel are to wear adequate footwear whilst in these areas.
- 2.15 A contractor shall at the request of a Forest Officer make himself or his nominated senior field representative available to participate in the investigation of accidents involving himself, his employees, his vehicles or his equipment.
- 2.16 The Conservator reserves the right to prohibit the use of vehicles or equipment which in his opinion are not suited to the task or are considered unsafe.

2.17 A contractor must provide a First Aid Kit of a type size and specification acceptable to a T.I.R. Inspector. The container for this kit must be adequate for the protection of the contents and it must be located for easy access by all employees.

2.18 A contractor shall take any special measures prescribed by the Conservator for the protection of water purity in water courses in or adjacent to Regrowth areas.

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SECTION 3

FELLING, TRIMMING, CROSSCUTTING, ETC.

- 3.1 All felling shall be carried out in such place, order, time and manner as a Forest Officer shall from time to time direct.
- 3.2 All fallers employed by the contractor will hold a current fallers licence under the provisions of the Forest Act Reg. 16 and strictly adhere to the provisions contained in Reg. 18 with regard to branding stumps and logs.
- 3.3 A contractor shall from time to time as required by the Conservator, confine his operations to certain defined coupes. Such defined coupes shall be cut out to the satisfaction of a Forest Officer before a further coupe is made available for cutting.
- 3.4 A contractor shall fell and utilise only such trees as have been marked or indicated for the purpose by a Forest Officer.
- 3.5 Marking of Trees for Felling
- (a) Trees to be felled will be marked or otherwise indicated by Forests Department staff. Only such indicated trees are to be felled.
- (b) In the event of a contractor wishing to cut unmarked trees to assist his operations, e.g., widening vehicle tracks, extending landings, he shall refer the matter to a Forest Officer and such trees will not be cut until marked by that Officer.
- 3.6 All trees so marked or indicated must be felled and utilised to the satisfaction of a Forest Officer with the minimum of waste.
- 3.7 Unless otherwise directed, all trees are to be felled with a stump height of not more than 150 mm, relative to the general soil level on the uphill side of the stump.
- 3.8 All felling, trimming and crosscutting shall be carried out to ensure maximum log utilisation to current log specifications. Where in the opinion of a Forest Officer log preparation results in excessive waste a contractor shall be liable for payment for such waste at rates determined by the Conservator.

- 3.9** A contractor shall be liable for damages at rates determined by the Conservator for any wood contained in any trees felled by him in breach of Instruction 3.5. Such trees shall remain the property of the Department.
- 3.10** A contractor shall be liable to pay the Department for all wood not cut in accordance with Instruction 3.6 or 3.7 at rates determined by the Conservator.
- 3.11** Trees which have been scarfed or part-scarfed shall not be left standing. If this becomes necessary, for example because of a mechanical breakdown, the senior contractors representative on the site and/or a Forest Officer must be informed.
- 3.12** All felling, trimming and crosscutting shall be carried out with minimum of damage to standing trees. Where standing trees are damaged by him a contractor shall be liable for such damage at rates determined by the Conservator. Damaged trees shall remain the property of the Department.
- 3.13** "Hangups" shall be dislodged and cut-off tops shall not be left leaning against standing trees. The tops and branches of all trees felled shall be dispersed to the satisfaction of a Forest Officer. All tops, slash and other debris shall be cleared from roads, firebreaks, creeks, landings and logging tracks as directed by a Forest Officer.
- 3.14** All culverts and road drains shall be kept clear of soil, slash or other debris likely to obstruct the flow of water. Damage caused to roads by a failure to carry out this Instruction will be regarded as damage covered by Instruction 2.10.
- 3.15** Any new chainsaw purchased for use in a regrowth thinning operation shall meet the minimum safety requirements as laid down by the Conservator of Forests from time to time.
- 3.16** The Conservator will prohibit the use of any new chainsaw which does not comply with para 3.15 of this Code.

EXTRACTION

- 4.1 All extraction shall be carried out in such place, order, time and manner as a Forest Officer shall from time to time approve.
- 4.2 A Forest Officer may determine the priority of extraction of produce from time to time. A contractor shall comply with the Forest Officer's expressed priority of extraction. This priority may be expressed in type of log, point of removal and deadline for delivery or all three together.
- 4.3 If a contractor requires to construct tracks within the Regrowth areas to facilitate extraction, the location of such tracks shall be approved by a Forest Officer before construction and all tracks shall be constructed to the satisfaction of the Forest Officer and at the contractor's expense.
- 4.4 All extraction is to be carried out with a minimum of damage to standing trees. Where standing trees are damaged by him the contractor shall be liable for such damage at rates determined by the Conservator. Such damaged trees shall remain the property of the Department.
- 4.5 All culverts and road drains shall be kept clear of soil, slash and other debris likely to obstruct the flow of water. Damage caused to roads by a failure to carry out this Instruction will be regarded as damaged covered by Instruction 2.10.
- 4.6 Extraction of logs and timber shall be carried out in a manner and by such methods and equipment as shall result in a minimum of soil disturbance.
- 4.7 A Forest Officer may at his discretion prohibit all extraction or particular methods of extraction or particular items of equipment used for same at such times and places as in his opinion are causing, or are likely to cause, excessive soil disturbance.
- 4.8 A contractor shall not carry on extraction at such times or places, or by methods or equipment which a Forest Officer has prohibited until such prohibition has been revoked by a Forest Officer.

SECTION 5

4.9 Concentrated extraction along creeks or other drainage lines shall not be carried out unless specifically approved by a Forest Officer.

4.10

A contractor shall make good, to the satisfaction of a Forest Officer, all soil disturbance caused by the contractor which the Forest Officer shall require him to make good.

4.11

A Forest Officer and/or an Inspector under the T.I.R. Act may require a contractor to provide and install suitable signs on Forests Department and/or public roads to warn road users of the presence of falling and extraction operations.

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SECTION 5

LOADING AND HAULING

- 5.1 All loading and hauling shall be carried out in such place, order, time and manner as a Forest Officer shall from time to time approve.
- 5.2 A Forest Officer may determine the priority of loading and removal of produce from time to time. A contractor shall comply with the Forest Officer's expressed priority of loading. This priority may be expressed in type of log, point of removal and deadline of delivery or all three together.
- 5.3 Access to the loading points within State Forest or land owned or managed or controlled by the Conservator of Forests may be restricted by a Forest Officer at any time by
- (a) Nomination of the route to be followed;
 - (b) nomination of hours of any day during which work may be carried on;
 - (c) nomination of the days of the week during which work may be carried on;
 - (d) suspension of deliveries because of road conditions.
- 5.4 A contractor shall at his own expense maintain Departmental roads used by him for hauling to the satisfaction of a Forest Officer.
- 5.5 A contractor shall observe any instruction and comply with any procedures laid down to restrict the spread of the disease known as Jarrah Dieback within State Forest. This will apply particularly to the movement of logging equipment and road haulage equipment and the carting of road materials such as gravel.
- 5.6 Loading and hauling of logs and timber shall be carried out with a minimum of damage to standing trees. Where standing trees are damaged by him a contractor shall be liable for such damage at rates determined by the Conservator. Such damaged trees shall remain the property of the Department.
- 5.7 Loading and hauling of logs and timber shall be carried out in a manner and by such methods and equipment as shall result in a minimum of soil disturbance.

- 5.8 A Forest Officer may at his discretion prohibit all loading and hauling or particular methods of loading and hauling or particular items of equipment used for same at such times and places as in his opinion are causing or likely to cause excessive soil disturbance.
- 5.9 A contractor shall not carry on loading and hauling at such times or places, or by methods or equipment which a Forest Officer has prohibited until such prohibition has been revoked by the Forest Officer.
- 5.10 A contractor shall make good, to the satisfaction of a Forest Officer, all soil disturbance caused by the contractor which the Forest Officer shall require him to make good.
- 5.11 All culverts and road drains shall be kept clear of soil, slash or other debris likely to obstruct the flow of water. Damage caused to roads by a failure to carry out this Instruction will be regarded as damage cover by Instruction 2.10.
- 5.12 To minimise damage to forest roads and to promote safety in operation log trucks will not be loaded in excess of their licenced capacity.
- 5.13 Truck drivers are responsible for the safe loading of their trucks in regard to overloading, overwidth and height, overlength and load security and are responsible for the loss of a load or part thereof.
- 5.14 No truck is to leave the loading area until the load has been checked by the driver.
- 5.15 Where logs are being carted each bay of logs will be secured by two binder chains. The quality of the chains hook coupling links and toggles is to be equal to or better than 5mm "Hercalloy" high tensile chain.
- 5.16 Protruding limbs, loose bark and trailing debris of any kind on trucks loading karri are not permitted and must be removed before leaving the loading point or immediately when noticed "en route".
- 5.17 Driver must stop and check the safety of the load at least once while travelling to their destination.

- 5.18 The loss of any log or logs during hauling must be reported immediately to a Forest Officer. Logs must be recovered promptly by the contractor and any cost incurred in the recovery is the responsibility of the contractor.
- 5.19 If quick release stanchions are fitted to a truck these shall not be released for unloading until the unloading supervisor gives his permission.
- 5.20 Speed limits as laid down by the Road Traffic Authority will apply on both public and Departmental roads. The Forests Department reserves the right to introduce lower speed limits on any or all Departmental roads in the interests of greater safety of operation or to lessen the damage to the road. All speed limits must be adhered to.
- 5.21 Where drivers come under notice of the Forests Department for speeding on Departmental roads or are persistent offenders in this regard the provisions of Para. 2.1 of this Code may be invoked.
- 5.22 A Forest Officer and/or Inspector under the T.I.R. Act may require a contractor to provide and install suitable signs on Forests Department roads to warn road users of the presence of log hauling trucks.
- 5.23 The Forests Department reserves the right to decide whether any vehicle is in a fit condition for the job it is doing bearing in mind road conditions, grades, load carried etc. etc. Contractors will on request by a Forest Officer make their vehicles available to the Department for inspection.
- 5.24 If after inspection a Forest Officer decides that in his opinion a vehicle's mechanical condition renders it unfit for the job the contractor will be required to repair that vehicle to the satisfaction of the Forest Officer, before it can be used further for the contractual work.
- 5.25 Engine exhaust pipe systems must be installed so that they do not blow down onto the roadway. (Exhausting above the cabin is the best position).

5.26 On dusty roads drivers are to keep a suitable distance apart to allow other traffic and road repair crews better visibility.

5.27 Standard double sided reflective warning triangles shall be carried by all haulage vehicles and shall be displayed, if a vehicle breaks down, as follows :-

(a) one triangle 100-150 metres in front of the vehicle and 1.5 metres out from the road edge on the same side as the vehicle.

(b) as for (a) but to the rear of the vehicle.

(c) one triangle alongside the mid point of the vehicle on the side nearest the centre of the road.

5.28 When carting takes place on W.A.C.A.P. private roads, the Road User Regulations in force will be strictly adhered to.

SECTION 6

FIRE PRECAUTIONS

- 6.1 Particular attention must be paid to the sections of the Forests Act and the Bush Fires Act and to Regulations made under those Acts for the purposes of controlling fires.
- 6.2 No fires are to be lit in a Regrowth area without the express permission of a Forest Officer.
- 6.3 A contractor or any person employed by him shall take all necessary precautions to prevent the occurrence or spread of fire in the Regrowth area and shall be liable to the Conservator for damage caused within the said area or on any State Forest, Timber Reserve or Crown land by any fire on, or extending from, the said area unless the contractor can prove to the satisfaction of the Conservator that such fire or fires without any act or omission on the part of the contractor originated outside the said area and/or arose through some cause beyond his control.
- 6.4 A contractor and all his employees shall co-operate with officers of the Forests Department in preventing and suppressing bush fires and shall when called upon by a Forest Officer act under his instructions in fire fighting or preventing outbreaks of fire.
- 6.5 A contractor shall not use, or operate, or permit the use or operation of, any chainsaw or other internal combustion engine in any Regrowth area unless the engine is fitted with an exhaust system of a type and design approved by the Conservator. The exhaust system will be inspected regularly to ensure that the efficiency is maintained.
- 6.6 To obtain approval a chainsaw system will:
- 6.6.1 Include a muffler large enough to allow gas expansion and cooling before final emission.
- 6.6.2 Be of such metal and design as to allow rapid heat dissipation before final emission of gases.
- 6.6.3 Be of such solid construction as to reduce noise, and be without vibrating parts where these add to noise levels.
- 6.6.4 Be dismantable for inspection and cleaning.

- 6.6.5 Be located in a position so that the emissive material is not directed on to the forest floor while in the felling position, nor towards the operator and that heated surfaces do not contact forest floor in cutting position.
- 6.6.6 Include baffles or screens in such a manner that continued expansion and cooling of exhaust material is progressive during passage from engine port to final exit. These should be simple and are regarded as secondary in importance to the size and cooling capacity of the exhaust system.
- 6.6.7 Not allow ignition of any natural forest fuel held adjacent to the exhaust orifice within 30 seconds when the saw is operating under load.
- 6.7 A contractor shall not use or operate or permit the use or operation of any internal combustion engine in a Regrowth area if :
- (a) the exhaust system of the engine is not clean, sound and free from gas leaks.
 - (b) there is emitted from the engine any smoke, carbon particles, sparks or oily substance.
 - (c) the engine is subject to any fault or mechanical defect which in the opinion of a Forest Officer would cause or be likely to cause an outbreak of fire.
- 6.8 A contractor may establish in any Regrowth area section not more than 1 dump of fuel on a site and of a size approved by a Forest Officer. The ground around such dump shall at all times be clear of all vegetation or inflammable debris for a distance of not less than 6 metres.
- 6.9 Smoking shall not be permitted within 6 metres of the closest point of a fuel dump.
- 6.10 A contractor or his employee shall not start or permit to be started any chainsaw immediately after fuelling until such chainsaw has been wiped to remove any spillage and has been moved clear of the place at which the fuelling was carried out.

- 6.11 A Forest Officer may prohibit any or all types of logging operations in the Regrowth areas at such times and for such periods as is necessary when in his opinion such action is warranted by the Forests Department Fire Danger Ratings.
- 6.12 The Conservator may require that all or some of the employees of a contractor working in the Regrowth areas be trained to a level of competence in fire suppression acceptable to a Forest Officer. .
- 6.13 A Forest Officer may exempt a Contractor and his employees from the requirements of Para. 6.2 when in the opinion of the Forest Officer weather conditions allow. This could normally be expected in winter.
- 6.14 The Conservator of Forests will accept no liability for the loss or damage by fire, however started, of any equipment or property owned or operated by a contractor or any of his employees.

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Code of Regrowth Logging (941)
Practice for all logging WES
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