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The Government of Western Australia acknowledges the traditional owners throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all members of Aboriginal communities and their cultures; and to Elders past, present and emerging.

In particular, DBCA acknowledges the Noongar people as the traditional owners and native title holders within the Forest Management Plan area in the south-west of Western Australia and respects the continuing connection and importance of forests to their cultural, physical and spiritual health.

Welcome to Issue 11 of the FMP 2024-2033 eNewsletter

In this issue:

- Public comments on the Draft Forest Management Plan 2024-2033
- Referral of the Draft Forest Management Plan 2024-2033 to the Environmental Protection Agency
- More information

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Thank you again to everyone who took the time to make a submission and provide feedback on the *Draft Forest Management Plan 2024-2033* during the two-month public consultation period.

The team has reviewed thousands of submissions about the future management of our south-west forests. A total of 3517 submissions were received on the draft plan, comprising 345 unique submissions and 3172 proforma submissions. Submissions were received from individuals, industry groups and businesses, community-based organisations, local government and state government organisations.

Submissions received addressed a broad range of topics and varied from detailed comments on specific sections of the plan, to requests for clarification on concepts and management, while others drew attention to inconsistencies or errors within the plan. All submissions were considered, however not all submission comments met the criteria necessary to result in amendments to the plan.

Further details regarding the feedback received, key amendments to the plan in response to submissions and submission themes that were out of scope or already considered are outlined in the *Summary of public submission on the Draft Forest Management Plan 2024-2033* report now available on our web page at dbca.wa.gov.au/forest-management-plan.

Referral of the Draft Forest Management Plan 2024-2033 to the Environmental Protection Agency

The *Draft Forest Management Plan 2024-2033* has been referred to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) for a determination on whether the plan requires assessment under Part IV of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

Copies of the public consultation report and any proposed changes to the plan resulting from the public consultation have also been provided to the EPA to assist with the determination.

What happens next?

The EPA has invited public comments through its consultation hub on whether or not the EPA should assess the plan and if so, the level of assessment.

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More information

If you know of anyone who might like to receive these eNewsletters, please invite them to <u>complete this online form</u> and we'll add them to our stakeholder register.

Join us on social media – we'll share key milestones about the draft plan on WA Parks and Wildlife Service channels such as <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

You are receiving this newsletter as someone who's interested in the management of Western Australia's native forests. If you do not wish to receive updates about the FMP 2024-2033, you can unsubscribe

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