



Availability and supply of domestic firewood, fencing material, speciality timbers and craftwoods - answers to common questions

FIREWOOD

Can I collect firewood from Crown land, including pastoral leases for my own use?

The collection of firewood from Crown Land, including pastoral leases, by the general public for their own personal use is managed and administered by the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC).

Rules and regulations regarding firewood collection are available from all DEC regional and district offices and from DEC's State Operations Headquarters at Kensington.

Note that firewood collected for private use may not be sold.

What is the FPC's policy regarding commercial harvesting and sale of firewood?

Commercial firewood operations are managed through contracts administered by the Forest Products Commission (FPC). The system is designed to ensure the equitable and orderly marketing of the firewood in accordance with an internationally recognised environmental management system.

There are two types of contracts:

i) Harvesting contracts

Harvesting (logging) contractors work for the FPC to harvest timber from the forest. These businesses have the responsibility to harvest logs, including firewood logs, according to stringent conditions to ensure that the forest environment is not damaged. The contractors are paid by the FPC to produce and deliver all types of logs, including firewood logs, to the FPC's customers. Harvesting contracts are awarded after the calling of public tenders.

(ii) Sale contracts

Businesses who buy logs, including firewood logs, from the FPC do so under 'contracts of sale'. These buyers have logs delivered to their mill or yard by the FPC's harvesting contractors. Most contracts of sale are won following public tender.

When will the FPC be next selling firewood by auction or tender?

Open tenders for purchase of firewood logs under Contract of Sale are held at irregular intervals, depending on demand, availability of raw material, and performance of existing contract customers. Tenders are advertised in The West Australian newspaper.

Can you tell me the names of people who supply firewood?

Yes

A list of businesses that purchase firewood logs commercially from the FPC is attached.

Further information can also be found on our website, at www.fpc.wa.gov.au/buytimber.

How much does the FPC charge for firewood logs and other products?

Delivered prices for firewood logs typically vary from around \$55 to \$90 per tonne, depending on haulage distance. Fencing logs will cost around \$90 per tonne delivered.

The price of delivered firewood and other log products sold by the FPC is made up of a number of components as explained below:

- Stumpage-to cover the value of the wood
- In-forest costs-to cover FPC's in-forest management costs
- Roading-to cover the cost of building and maintaining forest roads
- Administration-to cover administration of the contract
- log production cost-to cover the cost of felling, extracting and loading the logs onto a truck
- log delivery cost-to cover the cost of delivery of the logs to the buyer's yard

Prices are subject to indexation at six monthly intervals - 1 January and 1 July. It is possible that a stumpage higher than the standard is paid. This happens where a business has bid a higher price following a public tender or auction.

What is the quality of the firewood logs?

The current standard specification for domestic firewood logs sold by the FPC is as follows:

Species: jarrah, or any other species made available by the FPC and acceptable to the buyer.

Moisture content Any moisture content; i.e. either 'green' or 'dry' (see note below).

Dimensions Diameter: minimum underbark 150mm, maximum underbark 1200mm

Length: minimum 1.8m, maximum unlimited

Unacceptable defects

- Decayed wood, if the proportion by volume is greater than 15%.
- Shattered wood.
- Double heart or spiral grain likely to hinder manual splitting of sawn blocks.

Note: Firewood logs must be segregated into 'green' or 'dry' logs. Dry logs are those cut from standing dead trees with most bark absent, or from logs that have been lying on the ground for at least three years. Green logs are all other logs.

FPC sells firewood logs wholesale in their raw state to firewood merchants. These logs will have variable moisture contents. Environmental Protection regulations do not allow green or unseasoned firewood (moisture content greater than 20%) to be retailed to the public in the greater metropolitan area.

Is firewood available for collection or can it be supplied during winter?

Yes, although restrictions apply in many areas.

(a) Availability for public collection: The public should contact the nearest DEC District office to ascertain where public firewood may be obtained in winter.

(b) Supply to contracted customers: Supply of firewood logs, like all other forest products from the jarrah forest, is often severely limited in winter months to minimise the risk of spreading jarrah dieback. The FPC requires contract buyers of logs to accept logs during the summer months for stockpiling and sale during winter. This also gives more time for 'green' logs to be processed and dried before sale to the public.

CRAFTWOOD, BURLS AND SPECIALTY TIMBERS

How can I obtain craftwood from the forest?

Small quantities of craftwood (eg half or one tonne) can be collected after obtaining a Minor Production Contract (formerly a Forest Produce Licence) from the FPC office nearest to the area from which the wood is to be collected.

Contact details for FPC's offices are available later in this document.

Craftwood is a term used to describe a piece of wood on the forest floor. It is generally small in size, but with certain features of grain, colour or shape that make it suitable for manufacture into craft items.

Burls cannot be purchased as 'craftwood'. (see question 15)

What are the rules regarding collection of craftwood?

A Minor Production Contract (MPC) for craftwood gives a person access to certain areas of State forest to collect small quantities of timber for manufacture into craft items. It is not

designed to allow people to set up mini-sawmilling or timber processing operations for supply of sawn timber to other people. An MPC is typically issued for a period of up to three months.

The specific rules are as follows:

(a) Only material from the forest floor can be collected, from areas of forest indicated on the contract. No standing tree, either dead or alive, can be felled.

(b) The maximum length of timber that can be removed from the forest is 1.5 metres. If any particular piece of wood greater than 1.5 metres is required, it must be inspected and marked by an FPC officer before collection.

(c) Only hand tools such as an axe, wheelbarrow and chainsaw may be taken into the forest to collect craftwood. Portable sawmills (including chainsaw mills), tractors and winches are not permitted. If a chainsaw is used, appropriate qualifications are necessary.

For information on obtaining qualifications, please contact a registered training organisation (RTO). Contact details for RTO's in the forestry sector can be found at www.forestworks.com.au.

(d) Vehicles taken into the forest must remain on forest roads or tracks.

How much does craftwood cost?

Craftwood costs approximately \$20 per tonne. No contractor production or delivery costs apply to craftwood because the product is collected by the buyer.

Can burls be collected as craftwood?

No.

Burls (the woody growths on the sides of some trees) are relatively scarce and are subject to specific higher stumpages.

Burls may be obtained by contacting the people who have a Contract of Sale with the FPC (see appended list of names) or by participating at



FPC auctions conducted at Harvey approximately every four months.

If available, burls in isolated areas may be purchased in accordance with an MPC issued by the FPC.

Burls cost around \$400 per tonne.

Can craftwood be exported?

Yes. For further information contact the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) on 1800 020 504 (A free call from anywhere within Australia).

It is the policy of the Western Australian Government that raw material such as craftwood be processed essentially by local crafts people. However, where there is more craftwood material and burls available than required to meet local requirements, the FPC will support applications to export the excess.

There is no restriction on the export of craftwood to other Australian states.

How can I obtain feature or speciality timbers?

Either by purchasing direct from the commercial operators on the attached list or by successfully bidding for such timbers at FPC auctions at Harvey.

Further information can also be found on our website, at www.fpc.wa.gov.au/buytimber.

Feature timber includes curly grained jarrah, sheoak, blackbutt, wandoo, marri and large timber slabs. Please write to the FPC if you wish to be advised of future tenders or auctions for sale of feature logs (Refer to question 3 for address details).

POSTS, RAILS, ETC

How can I obtain posts, rails, strainers, small and medium sized poles (house poles) and other round timbers for fencing or building purposes?

Refer to the commercial operators on the attached list.

Further information can also be found on our website, at www.fpc.wa.gov.au/buytimber.

As with firewood, the FPC has phased out the use of Forest Produce Licences (now known as Minor Production Contracts) for the sale of fencing material, except in exceptional circumstances.

SALVAGE OF ISOLATED LOGS

Can I buy isolated logs in the forest resulting, for example, from trees blown over by storms?

As a rule, no.

The FPC can only sell forest products from annual planned harvesting areas (coupes) as approved by DEC.

Isolated logs lying in the forest outside approved harvesting coupes, but within the area of State forest available for timber harvesting, can only be collected and sold if prior approval is given by DEC. Enquiries in such cases should be directed to the nearest DEC office, although it must be realised that approval for collection and purchase will only be given when:

(a) the log(s) cannot be harvested in the near future by FPC contractors and sold to FPC customers, and

(b) it is in DEC's best interests to have the log(s) utilised.

Contact us:

Forest Products Commission
Level 1, 117 Great Eastern Highway, Rivervale WA 6103

Phone: (08) 9475 8888

Facsimile: (08) 9475 8899

Email: info@fpc.wa.gov.au

Website: www.fpc.wa.gov.au

NATIVE FOREST PRODUCT SUPPLIERS AS AT APRIL 2010

The following people/firms currently purchase bush firewood logs and/or other native forest products as indicated, from the FPC, under Contract of Sale.

You can also use our Buy Timber service (visit www.fpc.wa.gov.au/buytimber) to easily search for suppliers and service providers.

Note: Details provided under product columns are timber species included in the contract, and the contract number for FPC purposes only.

Name, mill/yard location and phone number	Bush Firewood	Fencing Material (inc. small poles)	Burls	Feature or Specialty Timber	Regular Sawlogs (either graded or "bole")
A. METROPOLITAN AREA					
All Purpose Firewood Supply (Ivan Zanki) Bibra Lake 9437 3620	jarrah cos 2819				
Bannister's Firewood Supplies (Matthew Walsh) Canningvale 9438 2103	jarrah cos 2814				
Better Firewood (Bill & Brenda Elliott) 9525 3601	jarrah cos 2914				
Ferguson, CJ & MO Toodyay 9574 2987	jarrah cos 2826				
Heritage Sawmillers (Terry Keogh) jarrahdale 9526 0051				sheoak cos 2802	
Inglewood Products (David Gosatti) Malaga 9249 3666					jarrah cos 2776
Oakford Firewood & Mulch (Max Rogers) Oakford 9397 0082	jarrah cos 2809				
Jarrah Select Mundijong 95262778	jarrah cos 2822	jarrah cos 2822			
Ridolfo Forest Products (John di Toro) Dirkbrook & Picton 9411 7788	jarrah cos 2846	Any species including large poles and bridge timbers; limited availability. cos 2787			

Name, mill/yard location and phone number	Bush Firewood	Fencing Material <small>(inc. small poles)</small>	Burls	Feature or Specialty Timber	Regular Sawlogs <small>(either graded or "bole")</small>
A. METROPOLITAN AREA cont..					
Roleystone Firewood (Simon Blackmore) Kelmscott 9397 6313	jarrah cos 2833				
Over 55 Lifestyle Villages (Frank Pinner) Pickering Brook 9293 8389	jarrah cos 2821	jarrah cos 2821			
B. SOUTH WEST					
Archstar (Scott Richardson) Dunsborough 9755 2522				jarrah cos 2790	
Bill's Firewood Supplies (Bill Guthrie) Busselton 9752 2548	jarrah cos 2812	jarrah cos 2812			
Blueleaf Corporation (Whittakers Timber Supplies) Greenbushes 9764 3700					jarrah, karri & marri cos 2771
Crouch, LM & EA (Lindon Crouch) Nannup 9756 2048	jarrah cos 2845				
Danny's Firewood & Timber Supplies (Danny Ferris) Mandurah 9530 1825				jarrah & marri cos 2794	
Dawson Contracting (Bernie Dawson) Donnybrook 9731 2064	jarrah cos 2808	jarrah cos 2808			
Denmark Spot milling (Steve Nelson) Nannup 9844 4789				marri cos 2797	
Espinosa, KG (Keith Espinosa) Busselton 9754 1932		jarrah cos 2849			
Freo Firewood (Barry Fry) Brunswick Junction 9734 7535	jarrah cos 2823				
Giovanetti Transport (Steve Giovanetti) Picton 9725 4325	jarrah cos 2811	jarrah cos 2811			
Gunns Yarloop Deanmill 9733 5004 9734 2177 9771 1677					jarrah & marri cos 2770
Hansen Timber & Milling (Chris Hansen) 0447 841 969	jarrah cos 2946			blackbutt, sheoak cos 2946	

Name, mill/yard location and phone number	Bush Firewood	Fencing Material <small>(inc. small poles)</small>	Burls	Feature or Specialty Timber	Regular Sawlogs <small>(either graded or "bole")</small>
B. SOUTH WEST cont..					
Jarrahco (John Riegert) Yarloop 9720 1705 0407 443 149	jarrah cos 2825	jarrah cos 2825			
John Streater Fine Furniture Yallingup 9755 1211				jarrah cos 2789	
DO & LD Martin Rosa Brook 9757 4087	jarrah cos 2835	jarrah cos 2835			
Nannup Timber Processing Nannup 9756 1006					jarrah cos 2772
Neville Pears Margaret River 9758 8891	jarrah cos 2926				
MSMR (Lib Palermo) Australind 9796 1500	jarrah cos 2760				
Premium jarrah Fencing (Ted Thompson) Balingup 9764 1250	jarrah cos 2816	jarrah cos 2816			
Rowney, CG & KL (Cliff Rowney) Busselton 9753 1067				wandoo cos 2807	
Saunders, GW & NL (George Saunders) Collie 9734 1383					jarrah cos 2779
Shane's Wood Supplies (Shane Little) Dwellingup 9538 1375	jarrah cos 2834	jarrah cos 2834			
Teaktown (Mike Donaldson) Busselton 9753 1417	jarrah cos 2839				
Waroona Wood Supplies (Glenn Baker) Waroona 0429 020 112	jarrah cos 2844				
West Coast Timber (John Knaption) Binningup 0408 642 313				jarrah cos 2792	
Whiteland Milling (Neil Whiteland) Busselton 9753 1109				sheoak cos 2800	jarrah & marri cos 2777
Worsley Firewood & Fencing (Rodney Lee) Collie 9734 1508	jarrah cos 2848	jarrah cos 2848			

Name, mill/yard location and phone number	Bush Firewood	Fencing Material (inc. small poles)	Burls	Feature or Specialty Timber	Regular Sawlogs (either graded or "bole")
C. LOWER SOUTHWEST					
Appadene Forest Products (Colin Campbell) Manjimup 9772 4111	jarrah cos 2818			marri cos 2796	jarrah & marri cos 2774
Australian Craftwood & Timber (Alvin Corbet) Manjimup 9771 8463 9771 8468					jarrah cos 2775 marri cos 2781
Auswest Timbers (Gary Addison) Pemberton 9752 1655					karri cos 2773
Boranup Gallery (James Howieson) Witchcliffe 9757 7585				jarrah, marri & blackbutt cos 2788	
Chowerup Timber Mill (Jo Giuntoli) 9831 1330	jarrah cos 2914			wandoo, blackbutt, marri cos 2194	
Geenacres Mill (Noel Holdsworth) Yornup 9761 9024	jarrah cos 2810	jarrah cos 2810		jarrah, marri, blackbutt, sheoak & wandoo cos 2679	jarrah cos 2780
Middlesex Mill (Tony Drake) Manjimup 9777 1996				marri cos 2795	jarrah cos 2778
Herdigan, WC & EM (Wayne Herdigan) Manjimup 9771 2187	jarrah cos 2813				
D. WHEATBELT					
Davo's Wood (David Thompson) Boddington 9883 9378	jarrah cos 2824	jarrah cos 2824			
Gale, GE & FK (Geoff Gale) Kojonup 9832 8098				sheoak cos 2804	
Goldsmith, RO & CA (Ross Goldsmith) Wagin 9729 2888	jarrah cos 2820				
Jah Roc Nominees (Gary Bennett) York 9758 8949				blackbutt cos 2798	

Name, mill/yard location and phone number	Bush Firewood	Fencing Material <small>(inc. small poles)</small>	Burls	Feature or Specialty Timber	Regular Sawlogs <small>(either graded or "bole")</small>
D. WHEATBELT cont..					
Livingstone, WJ & RM (Bill Livingstone) York 9641 1507	jarrah cos 2836				
Russell, CC & J (Colin Russell) Narrogin 9881 1607	Brown Mallet cos 2937	Brown Mallet cos 2937			
E. SOUTH COAST					
Albany Landscape Supplies (Brian Rule) Albany 9842 1073	jarrah cos 2842				
Djarilmari Timber Products (Colin Payne) Denmark 9484 2020		Goldfields spp. cos 2928	Goldfields spp. cos 2928		
France, NA Denmark 9848 2020		Goldfields spp. cos 2929	Goldfields spp. cos 2929		
Franey & Thompson (Stephen Franey) Albany 9841 1518	jarrah cos 2815				
Redmond Sawmill (Luke Gatti) Redmond 9845 3017	jarrah cos 2817				
F. GOLDFIELDS					
Harris, WG (Bill Harris) Norseman 9039 1079	Goldfields spp. cos 2662				
Mader, K (Keith Mader) Menzies 9024 2086	Goldfields spp. cos 2661	Goldfields spp. cos 2661			
Redbush Pty Ltd (David Pascoe) 9039 0609	jarrah cos 2925				
Saxonwood Holdings (Rob McKenna) Coolgardie 9021 8782	Goldfields spp. & jarrah cos 2663				