

Forest Management Plan 2004-2013 Compliance report

As at 31 December 2009



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Contents

Introduction	1
Biological diversity	2
Productive capacity	5
Ecosystem health and vitality	12
Soil and water	15
Natural and cultural heritage	18
Socio-economic benefits	19
Plan implementation	20

Introduction

This annual report on the compliance of the Forest Products Commission (FPC) staff and contractors with the provisions of the *Forest Management Plan 2004-2013* (FMP) and subsidiary management guideline documents is in accordance with Action 32.5 of the FMP. It applies to the year ending 31 December 2009.

The Actions in the FMP represent the proposal and are the proponent commitments with respect to implementation. The FMP includes either an actual (in the text of the Action) or indicative (in Appendix 14 of the FMP) timeline for the implementation of each Action.

The report addresses the Actions in the order they appear in the FMP.

This report does not address those Actions which are solely the responsibility of the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) or the Conservation Commission of Western Australia. If the responsibility of an Action lies with FPC and DEC or with FPC and the Conservation Commission, then the Action is addressed only from the perspective of FPC. This report only addresses those actions which were to be implemented or completed by the end of 2009 or those that had an ongoing annual commitment.

Biological diversity

Item	Compliance Status
<p>3.1 DEC and FPC will conduct their operations within the informal reserves established by Appendix 3:</p> <p>3.1.1 in a manner that has regard to the requirements set out in Appendix 3 where the operation occurs prior to the approval of the guidelines referred to in the following paragraph (on plan commencement and end of year one); and</p> <p>3.1.2 in accordance with the <i>Guidelines for the Management of Informal Reserves</i> which are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be prepared by DEC with public consultation; • provide for the manner in which the requirements of Appendix 3 are to be met; and • be submitted to the Conservation Commission for advice and approved by the Minister for Environment by 31 December 2004, when they will take effect and supercede Appendix 3. 	<p>During 2009 DEC developed and published a guideline referenced as “Department of Environment and Conservation 2009, Guidelines for Protection of the Values of Informal Reserves and Fauna Habitat Zones, Department of Environment and Conservation, Sustainable Forest Management Series, SFM Guideline No. 4”.</p> <p>FPC managed operations associated with informal reserves in a manner that had regard for the requirements of Appendix 3 of the FMP 2004-2013 and subsequent to its publication the above referenced guideline.</p> <p>There were 14 incidents recorded associated with informal reserves. 1 incident concerning the harvesting of a small area of unmapped old growth forest was considered of high environmental consequence, the remaining 13 incidents were of minor environmental consequence.</p>

Item	Compliance Status
<p>3.4 FPC will not undertake any timber production in any area:</p> <p>3.4.1 referred to in Action 3.2.1; or</p> <p>3.4.2 for which the Conservation Commission has determined an assessment of whether the area should be classified as old-growth forest on DEC's corporate database to be warranted;</p> <p>until the Conservation Commission has assessed the area and confirmed the classification of that area in DEC's corporate database as other than old-growth forest (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>During 2009 harvesting occurred in a number of coupes associated with mapped old growth subject to Action 3.2.1. The mapped old growth areas were either demarcated out of the harvestable area or harvesting activity did not proceed until the Conservation Commission had completed its review. No incidents were recorded.</p>
<p>6.2 FPC and its agents will conduct its silvicultural operations (on plan commencement and ongoing):</p> <p>6.2.1 in accordance with DEC's <i>Silviculture Guidelines</i>; and</p> <p>6.2.2 prior to the formal incorporation of the amendments identified in Appendix 5 into those guidelines, in a manner that is consistent with those amendments.</p>	<p>FPC conducts silvicultural operations in accordance with DEC's <i>Silvicultural Guidelines</i>. 15 incidents relating to silvicultural applications were recorded during 2009.</p> <p>13 were of minor environmental consequence and 2 relating to tree marking quality were assessed as being moderate environmental consequence.</p>
<p>7.4 DEC and FPC will conduct their operations in indicative fauna habitat zones, and in fauna habitat zones established under Appendix 4 and the <i>Guidelines for the Selection and Management of Fauna Habitat Zones</i> (on plan commencement and ongoing):</p> <p>7.4.1 in a manner that has regard to the requirements set out in Appendix 4, where the operation occurs prior to the approval of the guidelines; and</p> <p>7.4.2 in accordance with the guidelines after they are approved and supercede Appendix 4.</p>	<p>During 2009 DEC developed and published a guideline referenced as "Department of Environment and Conservation 2009, Guidelines for Protection of the Values of Informal Reserves and Fauna Habitat Zones, Department of Environment and Conservation, Sustainable Forest Management Series, SFM Guideline No. 4".</p> <p>FPC managed operations associated with informal reserves in a manner that had regard for the requirements of Appendix 4 of the FMP 2004-2013 and subsequent to its publication the above referenced guideline.</p> <p>During 2009, there were 2 Incidents related to fauna habitat zones.</p> <p>Both were of minor environmental consequence.</p>

Item	Compliance Status
<p>8.2 DEC and FPC will conduct their operations having regard to DEC's <i>Conservation of Endangered and Specially Protected Fauna in the Wild</i> policy and <i>Conservation of Threatened Flora in the Wild</i> policy (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>FPC includes the requirements of these policies into its planning and implementation processes.</p> <p>There were no incidents recorded associated with this requirement.</p>
<p>8.5 (Plantations): FPC will advise DEC of its harvesting and management activities within plantations:</p> <p>8.5.1 where those activities may impact on threatened species and threatened ecological communities, agreed protection measures will be implemented (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>FPC is currently conforming to this via the use of the Disturbance Activities and Environmental Assessment Checklist and a weekly notification system to DEC.</p>

Productive capacity

Item	Compliance Status
<p>10.4 (Plantations): FPC will maintain the minimum area of plantation estate required to meet <i>State Agreement Act</i> supply requirements by:</p> <p>10.4.1 replanting pines in all suitable areas of state forest and freehold (fee simple) land held in the name of the Executive Director that have previously been planted with pines and have been clearfelled, except at Gnangara, Peel, Hamel and other areas determined consistently with the agreement ratified under the <i>Wood Processing (Wesfi) Agreement Act 2000</i> (on plan commencement and ongoing); and</p> <p>10.4.2 establish new plantations on appropriate cleared land to replace any plantation areas that are clearfelled but not replanted with plantation species (as required).</p>	<p>FPC replanted approximately 2070 hectares of plantation in 2009.</p>

Item	Compliance Status
<p>11.1 The average annual yield of logs, calculated over the 10 year life of the plan, shall not exceed the maximum volumes stipulated in Tables 3 and 4, and given above for wandoo, Blackbutt and sheoak (in year one and end of year ten).</p>	<p>The FMP provides for annual average yields of first and second grade sawlogs for jarrah of 131,000 m³ and for karri of 54,000 m³. The actual removals totalled approximately 109,560 m³ for jarrah and 53,440 m³ for karri. The actual removals in 2009 for jarrah were approximately 16.4% below the allowable annual average. The actual removals in 2009 for karri were approximately 1% below the allowable annual average. Both these variations are below the 10% allowance provided by the FMP.</p> <p>The total sawlog volume harvested for the three years 2007, 2008 and 2009 combined was approximately 376,940 m³ for jarrah and 169,990 m³ for karri compared to an allowable level of 412,650 m³ and 170,100 m³ respectively.</p> <p>The FMP allows for the harvesting of 534,000 m³ of jarrah and 196,000 m³ of marri other bole volume and approximately 143,700 m³ of jarrah and 5,240 m³ of marri other bole volume were harvested in 2009, well below allowable limits.</p> <p>For karri bole logs other than first and second grade sawlogs the FMP provides for an average 117,000 m³ to be produced annually where as the actual produced in 2009 was approximately 111,740 m³.</p>
<p>11.2 In addition to the yield referred to in 11.1, FPC may contract for the removal and sale of forest products of species other than jarrah, karri, marri, blackbutt, wandoo and sheoak that become available in small quantities from operations designed to produce the yield referred to in 11.1 or as a result of other operations such as mining (as required).</p>	<p>During 2009 there was no removal of forest products of other species recorded in FPC's Logging Operations Information System (LOIS).</p>

Item	Compliance Status
<p>11.3 FPC will prepare annual timber harvesting plans that are to be (on plan commencement and ongoing):</p> <p>11.3.1 developed in consultation with, and to the requirements of DEC;</p> <p>11.3.2 consistent with the allowable timber yields referred to in action 11.1; and</p> <p>11.3.3 made publicly available.</p>	<p>Annual timber harvesting plans were prepared for 2009 in consultation with and to the requirements of DEC. These were consistent with the allowable timber yields and were made publicly available.</p>
<p>11.4 FPC and DEC will:</p> <p>11.4.1 monitor the volume of all timber log categories removed from native forest in each year, separately recording for each of the commercial species the equivalent volume of (in year one and ongoing):</p> <p>first and second grade sawlogs;</p> <p>lower grades of sawlogs; and</p> <p>residue logs; and</p> <p>11.4.2 periodically audit the grading and removal of sawlogs (in year one and ongoing).</p>	<p>FPC records the volume of timber removed from forest coupes in the Logging Operations Information System (LOIS). Log volumes recorded as removed have been reported against action 11.1 above.</p> <p>FPC did not conduct an audit of log grading and removal of sawlogs during 2009. FPC has a full time position dedicated to log grading adjudication and monitoring.</p>
<p>11.5 DEC will prepare rolling three-year indicative timber harvesting plans (in year two and ongoing) that are to be:</p> <p>11.5.1 developed in consultation with FPC;</p> <p>11.5.2 consistent with the allowable timber yields referred to in action 11.1; and</p> <p>11.5.3 made publicly available.</p>	<p>Three year indicative harvesting plans for the years 2010-2012 were prepared during 2009 by DEC in consultation with FPC. These were consistent with the allowable timber yields and were made publicly available.</p>

Item	Compliance Status
<p>11.6 FPC will conduct its silvicultural operations:</p> <p>11.6.1 in accordance with DEC's <i>Silviculture Guidelines</i> (on plan commencement and ongoing); and</p> <p>11.6.2 prior to the formal incorporation of the amendments identified in Appendix 5 into those guidelines, in a manner that is consistent with those amendments (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>FPC conducts silvicultural operations in accordance with DEC's <i>Silvicultural Guidelines</i>. 15 incidents relating to silvicultural applications were recorded during 2009.</p> <p>13 were of minor environmental consequence and 2 relating to tree marking quality were assessed as being moderate environmental consequence.</p>
<p>11.8 DEC and FPC will monitor and record the areas over which each different silvicultural treatment is achieved in each year (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>Monitoring and recording of the areas over which each different silvicultural treatment is implemented is ongoing. DEC's Forest Management Branch captures this information electronically in its SILREC/GIS program.</p>
<p>11.9 FPC will, where practicable and economically feasible, enter into contracts that are not confined to the supply of first and second grade sawlogs. For example, FPC may enter into contracts for the sale of bole sawlogs. When FPC enters into such a contract, FPC and DEC will calculate the equivalent volume of first and second grade sawlogs which would be derived from the volume of timber taken under the contract (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>FPC has continued to seek markets for supply of logs other than first and second grade sawlogs. Delivery of jarrah bole logs and jarrah and karri third grade logs continued during 2009. As required, the component of first and second grade logs in these bole logs is included in the annual removal figures provided against action 11.1.</p>
<p>12.1 (Plantations): FPC will harvest exotic species on State forest and timber reserves to supply up to 1.2 million cubic metres per annum of various log products to industry (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>Total volume of exotic species delivered in 2009 was below 1.2 million cubic metres including deliveries from land held in the name of DEC's Chief Executive Officer. Total volume of softwood delivered was approximately 925,000 cubic metres. This figure includes volume supplied from Sharefarms.</p>

Item	Compliance Status
<p>14.2 (Plantations): FPC will:</p> <p>14.2.1 maintain an early warning system for Sirex in pine plantations (on plan commencement and ongoing); and</p> <p>14.2.2 monitor weeds, pests and diseases affecting productivity and, where reasonable and practicable, take measures to control them (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>Static Sirex traps established across FPC's plantation estate (Gnangara to Albany) are being monitored and maintained as an early warning system.</p> <p>The eradication program to control the European House Borer infestation continued during 2009.</p> <p>The monitoring of weeds, pests and diseases in plantations which have the potential to affect productivity is ongoing and part of routine operations.</p>
<p>15.1 FPC will conduct regeneration operations in a manner that:</p> <p>15.1.1 is in accordance with DEC's <i>Silviculture Guidelines</i> (on plan commencement and ongoing); and</p> <p>15.1.2 prior to the formal incorporation of the amendments identified in Appendix 5 into those guidelines, is consistent with those amendments (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>FPC conducts silvicultural operations in accordance with DEC's <i>Silvicultural Guidelines</i>. 15 incidents relating to silvicultural applications were recorded during 2009.</p> <p>13 were of minor environmental consequence and 2 relating to tree marking quality were assessed as being moderate environmental consequence.</p>
<p>15.2 FPC will pursue additional markets for log categories that have traditionally been under-utilised, particularly lower grade jarrah and karri sawlogs and marri sawlogs (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>Refer action 11.9. FPC continued to actively seek additional markets for lower grade log products during 2009.</p> <p>Negotiations are continuing with a potential buyer of low grade jarrah and other species which was advertised in 2008.</p> <p>Demand for lower grade marri sawlog increased during 2009, however there is still a need to identify markets for the marri logs not suitable for the sawmilling industry.</p> <p>Demand for karri low grade logs showed signs of improvement in 2009, both from the sawmill sector and for woodchip production.</p>

Item	Compliance Status
<p>15.4 (Plantations): FPC will:</p> <p>15.4.1 regenerate areas of plantation that are clearfelled and are to be replanted with exotic species, in accordance with FPC's <i>Plantation Management Guidelines</i> (on plan commencement and ongoing);</p> <p>15.4.2 rehabilitate the native vegetation in areas of plantation that are clearfelled and are not to be replanted with exotic species, in accordance with <i>Guidelines for the Rehabilitation of Plantation Areas</i> that are to be:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">developed by DEC with public consultation; and</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">submitted to the Conservation Commission for advice and approved by the Minister for Environment before they take effect (as required); and</p> <p>15.4.3 where regeneration or rehabilitation operations do not result in regeneration or rehabilitation to a standard specified in the relevant guidelines, investigate the cause and if necessary, repeat the regeneration or rehabilitation operations in order to achieve that standard (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>All clearfelled plantation areas replanted in 2009 were established as per FPC's <i>Plantation Management Guidelines</i>.</p> <p>Native vegetation was not impacted during clearfell operations and all areas of plantation clearfelled were replanted with exotic species.</p>

Item	Compliance Status
<p>16.1 FPC and DEC will:</p> <p>16.1.1 maintain records of the history of silvicultural treatments applied to stands of trees (on plan commencement and ongoing);</p> <p>16.1.2 develop schedules of future silvicultural treatments for stands of trees to promote growth of timber that can be used to produce sawlogs (on plan commencement and ongoing);</p> <p>16.1.3 assess stand development when silvicultural treatments are scheduled, with a view to determining whether those treatments are then required (on plan commencement and ongoing);</p> <p>16.1.4 undertake or reschedule those proposed silvicultural treatments, according to the assessment referred to in action 16.1.3 (on plan commencement and ongoing); and</p> <p>16.1.5 report to the Conservation Commission every two years after the commencement of the plan on the extent to which these scheduled silvicultural treatments have been undertaken (in year two and ongoing).</p>	<p>The spatial extent and silvicultural objective of treatments in 2009 has been recorded through DEC's SILREC program.</p> <p>SILREC was utilised by FPC, along with field evaluation, to instruct on silvicultural treatment schedules for forest areas requiring attention according to FMP guidelines.</p>

Ecosystem health and vitality

Item	Compliance Status
<p>17.2 FPC will:</p> <p>17.2.1 undertake an analysis of the risk from fire to its native timber production resources (in year two and end of year two); and</p> <p>17.2.2 provide to DEC funding sufficient to enable DEC to control the risk to acceptable levels, so far as is reasonable and practicable (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>FPC continues to provide funding for fire management activities to a level it believes sufficient to meet its fire management obligations.</p>
<p>17.4 (Plantations): FPC will:</p> <p>17.4.1 undertake an analysis of the risk from fire to its plantation timber production resources (in year two and end of year two);</p> <p>17.4.2 undertake an analysis of the risk from fire emanating from its plantations moving into surrounding land (in year two and end of year two); and</p> <p>17.4.3 cooperate with DEC and other organisations in seeking to control the risks to acceptable levels, so far as is reasonable and practicable (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>An extensive plantation fire protection program is conducted by DEC and is supported by FPC. This seeks to address the fire risks associated with the plantations. A detailed analysis wildfire threat analysis was completed in 2006.</p>

Item	Compliance Status
<p>18.2 DEC and FPC will conduct their operations having regard to the <i>Management of Phytophthora and Disease Caused By It</i> policy and in accordance with Volume 1 of the <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi and Disease Caused by It guidelines</i> (on plan commencement and ongoing), which:</p> <p>18.2.1 will be reviewed by DEC with public consultation by 31 December 2008; and</p> <p>18.2.2 in the case of a new policy or guidelines, or revisions to the policy or guidelines, will be submitted to the Conservation Commission for advice and approved by the Minister for Environment before they take effect (as required).</p>	<p>FPC conducts its operations having regard to the <i>Management of Phytophthora and Disease Caused By It</i> policy and in accordance with Volume 1 of the <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi and Disease Caused by It guidelines</i></p> <p>7 Incidents were recorded related to management of <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i>. All incidents were of minor environmental consequence.</p>
<p>18.5 FPC will, so far as is reasonable and practicable, maintain their nurseries free from weeds, pests and pathogens that could be transported into the forest with planting stock (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>FPC nursery operations continue to have regard to this action. No related incidents were recorded.</p>

Item	Compliance Status
<p>18.6 (Plantations): FPC will:</p> <p>18.6.1 monitor for the presence of significant weeds, pests and diseases in plantations, and where reasonable and practicable undertake control measures (on plan commencement and ongoing);</p> <p>18.6.2 develop and implement weed, pest and disease control programs for identified weeds, pests and diseases (on plan commencement and ongoing);</p> <p>18.6.3 where there is an identified risk that plantation operations may result in transport of <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i>, conduct its operations having regard to the policy and in accordance with the guidelines referred to in action 18.2 (on plan commencement and ongoing); and</p> <p>18.6.4 take reasonable and practicable measures to control the spread of plantation species into adjacent native vegetation (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>FPC monitors and where necessary implements control programs for significant weeds, pests and diseases.</p> <p>FPC responds to advice from DEC, Water Corporation and the Department of Agriculture and Food regarding the presence of declared pests, weeds and diseases as necessary and appropriate.</p> <p>The eradication program to control the European House Borer (EHB) infestation continued during 2009.</p> <p>FPC operations manage <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> risk via the Disturbance Activities and Environmental Assessment Checklist and associated hygiene plans.</p>
<p>19.1 DEC and FPC will undertake their regeneration or rehabilitation operations by (on plan commencement and ongoing):</p> <p>19.1.1 using natural regeneration where reasonable and practicable; or</p> <p>19.1.2 where natural regeneration is not reasonable and practicable, using seed collected locally or plants propagated from seed collected locally.</p>	<p>FPC continues to provide for the use of natural regeneration or seed collected locally.</p> <p>No incidents were recorded against this action during 2009.</p>
<p>19.2 DEC and FPC will report to the Conservation Commission annually as to the circumstances where local seed sources have not been used in their regeneration or rehabilitation operations (in year one and ongoing).</p>	<p>During 2009 no reports in relation to the use of non local seed were necessary.</p>

Soil and water

Item	Compliance Status
<p>20.4 FPC and DEC will rehabilitate soil damaged in the course of their operations (on plan commencement and ongoing) by:</p> <p>20.4.1 identifying and mapping damaged soil; and</p> <p>20.4.2 undertaking rehabilitation work as soon as is reasonable and practicable after the completion of the operation.</p>	<p>FPC continues to undertake rehabilitation of soil damaged during its operations.</p>
<p>20.5 (Plantations): FPC will:</p> <p>20.5.1 conduct its plantation operations in a manner that is in accordance with guidelines for soil protection in the <i>Code of Practice for Timber Plantations</i> and the relevant plantation manual, which will be revised in consultation with DEC by 31 December 2005 (on plan commencement and ongoing); and</p> <p>20.5.2 rehabilitate damaged soil resulting from plantations operations to the standards specified in the <i>Code of Practice for Timber Plantations</i> and the relevant plantation manual (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>FPC conducts its plantation operations in a manner that is in accordance with guidelines for soil protection in the <i>Code of Practice for Timber Plantations</i>. There were no incidents of excessive soil disturbance recorded in 2009.</p>

Item	Compliance Status
<p>21.1 DEC and FPC will conduct their operations:</p> <p>21.1.1 in a manner that has regard to the provisions for stream zones in Appendix 3 where the operation occurs prior to the approval of the guidelines referred to in the following paragraph (on plan commencement and end of year one); and</p> <p>21.1.2 in accordance with the <i>Guidelines for the Management of Informal Reserves</i> referred to in action 3.1.2 and the <i>Soil and Water Conservation Guidelines</i> referred to in action 20.1.2 (in year two and ongoing).</p>	<p>During 2009 DEC developed and published a guideline referenced as “Department of Environment and Conservation 2009, Guidelines for Protection of the Values of Informal Reserves and Fauna Habitat Zones, Department of Environment and Conservation, Sustainable Forest Management Series, SFM Guideline No. 4”.</p> <p>FPC managed operations associated with stream zones in a manner that had regard for the requirements of Appendix 3 of the FMP 2004-2013 and subsequent to its publication the above referenced guideline.</p> <p>There were 9 recorded Incidents related to stream zones in 2009. All were of minor environmental consequence.</p>
<p>21.3 DEC and FPC, in consultation with the Conservation Commission, will evaluate with the Water Corporation and the Water and Rivers Commission and FPC any proposal seeking to employ silvicultural treatments to increase the flow of water to surface and ground water reservoirs (as required and as required).</p>	<p>FPC continued to contribute to the Water Corporation Wungong project proposal through representation on the Wungong Technical Reference Group and in implementation of plans and operations involving forest harvesting.</p>

Item	Compliance Status
<p>21.5 (Plantations): FPC will:</p> <p>21.5.1 conduct its plantation operations in a manner that is in accordance with guidelines for water protection in the <i>Code of Practice for Timber Plantations</i> and the relevant plantation manual, which will be revised in consultation with DEC by 31 December 2005 (on plan commencement and ongoing);</p> <p>21.5.2 consult with the Water and Rivers Commission prior to undertaking plantation operations in a public water catchment area (on plan commencement and ongoing); and</p> <p>21.5.3 evaluate with DEC, the Water Corporation and the Water and Rivers Commission and FPC any proposal seeking to employ silvicultural treatment to increase the flow of water to surface and ground water reservoirs (as required and as required).</p>	<p>FPC has conducted its operations in a manner that is in accordance with the <i>Code of Practice for Timber Plantations</i> and the relevant plantation manual with consultation as required by this action item.</p>

Natural and cultural heritage

Item	Compliance Status
<p>25.2 DEC and FPC will conduct their operations in a manner that has regard to the <i>Indigenous Heritage Management guidelines</i> and <i>Non-Indigenous Heritage Management guidelines</i> after those Guidelines have been prepared (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>FPC ensures that Indigenous and non-Indigenous heritage values are considered during the planning and implementation of its operations. This includes consultation with Indigenous owners.</p>
<p>25.3 (Plantations): FPC will:</p> <p>25.3.1 undertake its operations in a manner that is in accordance with guidelines in the <i>Code of Practice for Timber Plantations</i> and the relevant plantation manual for the identification of significant heritage sites, which are to be revised in consultation with DEC (on plan commencement and ongoing); and</p> <p>25.3.2 share information relating to identified heritage sites with DEC (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>Prior to commencement of each harvesting operation a Disturbance Activities and Environmental Assessment Checklist is completed which takes into account heritage values.</p> <p>FPC currently uses the same database information as DEC with additional checks conducted using recognised Indigenous and non-Indigenous heritage information databases and websites.</p> <p>No incidents were recorded in the plantations EMS during 2009.</p>

Socio-economic benefits

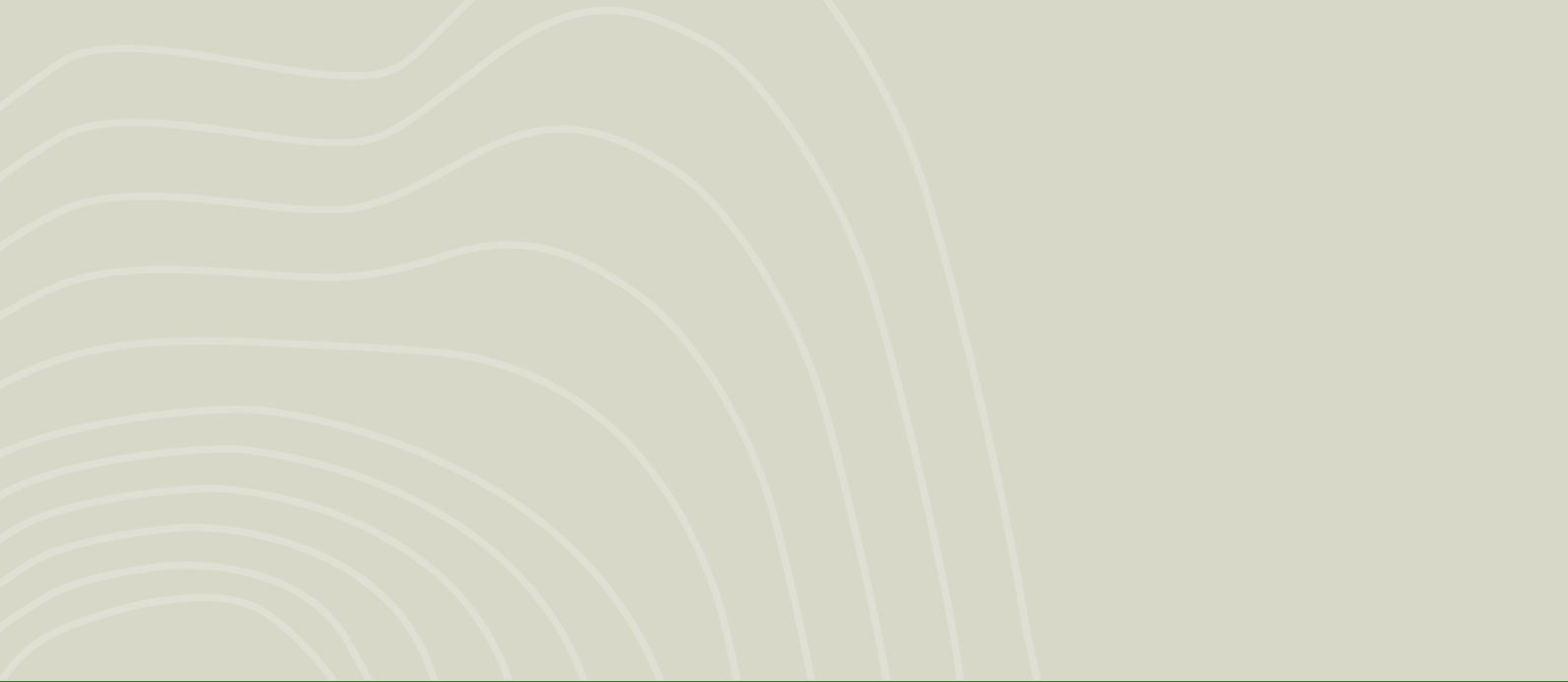
Item	Compliance Status
<p>27.1 DEC and FPC will:</p> <p>27.1.1 maintain a visual landscape classification and management system (on plan commencement and ongoing);</p> <p>27.1.2 review guidelines for the application of visual landscape management principles in land-use planning, codes of practice, operational guidelines and other relevant manuals (by year five and end of year five); and</p> <p>make submissions in relation to development proposals that may impact on visual landscapes on land to which the plan applies that are forwarded to them for comment or advice, with a view to seeking to reduce the effect of any proposed development on the visual quality of the landscape (as required and as required).</p>	<p>FPC implements the visual landscape management requirements as specified in DEC's guidelines such as SFM Guideline No.1. Visual landscape management is an item for consideration in the pre harvesting checklist and harvesting operations must give relevant consideration.</p>
<p>27.2 (Plantations): FPC will consider the impact of plantation operations on the visual quality of the landscape and, where reasonable and practicable, will conduct those operations in a manner that seeks to reduce their impact on the visual quality of the landscape (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>FPC has addressed this action item where required in the Disturbance Activities Environmental Assessment Checklist and when planning its plantation operations.</p>
<p>29.4 DEC and FPC will maintain a database of areas from which basic raw materials have been extracted and will progressively develop plans and works programs for the rehabilitation of these areas.</p>	<p>FPC maintains a database of areas from which basic raw materials have been extracted and develops and implements rehabilitation programs as required.</p>

Plan implementation

Item	Compliance Status
<p>32.1 DEC and FPC, in consultation with the Conservation Commission, will:</p> <p>32.1.1 cooperate in the development of an annual audit program to monitor the extent to which management of land to which the plan applies is undertaken in accordance with the plan (on plan commencement and ongoing); and</p> <p>conduct audits in accordance with the annual audit program, and report the results to the Conservation Commission (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>During 2009 the focus of FPC audits reflected the achievement of the standards requirements of the Australian Forestry Standard.</p> <p>There were 3 internal audits completed who's focus reflected the requirements of the Australian Forestry Standard (AFS) within the native forest business section.</p> <p>An external audit for native forests was also successfully conducted in relation to full AFS certification. A surveillance audit for the FPC's Environmental Management System was also successfully completed as part of this audit.</p>
<p>32.4 The Conservation Commission, DEC and FPC will publish the results of the audits referred to in actions 32.1, 32.2 and 32.3.</p>	<p>During 2009 the FPC did not undertaken any audits directly related to Action 32.1.</p>
<p>32.5 FPC will publish annual reports on the compliance of its staff and contractors with the provisions of the plan and subsidiary management guideline documents (in year one and ongoing).</p>	<p>This document fulfils this required action item.</p>
<p>32.7 DEC and FPC will cooperate with the Commonwealth in the implementation of the Montreal indicator program (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>FPC will cooperate with both DEC and the Commonwealth as required on this issue.</p>
<p>32.8 (Plantations): FPC will, through the Plantation Environmental Management System, audit the extent to which plantation operations are undertaken in accordance with the plan. Audits will be planned with and reported to DEC and the Conservation Commission (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>The FPC has structured its Environmental Management System (EMS) to monitor FMP compliance on a quarterly basis. Additionally, three internal audits were conducted on the Plantations Branch in 2009 and an external surveillance audit for the EMS was successfully completed.</p>

Item	Compliance Status
<p>33.3 FPC will test methods to increase the utilisation of sawlogs below first and second grade standards (in year two and ongoing).</p>	<p>The joint venture arrangement between Advance Timber Concepts (ATC) at the University of Western Australia and FPC is nearing the end of a five year term by the end of 2010. Research undertaken has included the use of small dimension short length and low grade material for producing lightweight and small section high value chairs.</p> <p>Sawmilling and research trials were undertaken by Industry on log grade specifications and utilisation of Bole Logs.</p> <p>In addition, the FPC conducted joint trials with Forestry Tasmania to value add products from thinning operations, including rotary peeling of hardwoods and other processing methods. These utilization trials are being undertaken with several companies in China.</p> <p>Exploring opportunities for the sale of bole and other third grade logs are ongoing.</p>
<p>35.1 DEC and FPC will, when required by the provisions of the plan, undertake public consultation in relation to the development and review of management policies and guidelines (as required and as required).</p>	<p>There were no management policies or guidelines developed by FPC during 2009 that required public consultation.</p>
<p>36.2 (Plantations): FPC will maintain an environmental management system independently accredited as conforming to ISO 14001:2004 (on plan commencement and ongoing).</p>	<p>FPC maintained an independently accredited EMS for its plantation operations during 2009, and is committed to maintaining it as required.</p> <p>FPC also achieved Australian Forestry Standard accreditation for all plantations on state managed lands in June 2009.</p>
<p>38.2 DEC and FPC will take reasonable and practical steps to:</p> <p>38.2.1 identify the skills required to competently undertake the key tasks referred to in action 37.1.2;</p> <p>38.2.2 review the skills and competency levels of persons responsible for undertaking those tasks; and</p> <p>38.2.3 initiate training and other programs to increase skill and competency levels where they are deficient (in year two and end year two and ongoing).</p>	<p>The FPC in conjunction with Albany TAFE has implemented programs for staff to achieve Certificate 3, 4 and Diploma level in Forestry and Certificate 3 and 4 in business. This implementation is being rolled out as an ongoing process.</p> <p>A Native Forest Cert IV course has been developed in conjunction with Great Southern TAFE and West One. It is due for publication in the second half of 2010 and FPC is aiming to provide training in this course to Native Forest Staff in the first half of 2011</p>

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