

FORESTRY AND NATIONAL PARK ESTATE ACT 1998

AMENDMENT NO 3 TO INTEGRATED FORESTRY OPERATIONS APPROVAL FOR THE SOUTHERN REGION

The Integrated Forestry Operations Approval for the Southern region is amended as set out in the following schedules to this instrument:

Schedule 1 — amendments to the terms of licence under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* set out in Appendix C of the Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals for the Southern region

This instrument commences on the day of signature below.

Notes do not form part of this instrument. They are provided to assist understanding only.

Dated: 18 December 2012.

**Robyn Parker MP
Minister for the Environment**

**Katrina Hodgkinson MP
Minister for Primary Industries**

SCHEDULE 1 – AMENDMENTS TO THE TERMS OF LICENCE UNDER THE *THREATENED SPECIES CONSERVATION ACT 1995* SET OUT IN APPENDIX C OF THE INTEGRATED FORESTRY OPERATIONS APPROVALS FOR THE SOUTHERN REGION

[1] **Clause 6.8**

Renumber all subclauses

Renumber subclauses a) to n) as subclauses a) to o)

Subclauses a), b), c), and d)

Replace ‘2012’ with ‘2013’ in subclauses a), b), c), and d).

Subclause k)

Replace “1 September 2012” with “1 September 2013” in subclause k)

Subclause l)

Replace “(commencing 2012)” with “(commencing 2013)” in subclause l)

STATEMENT OF REASONS

AMENDMENT NO 2 TO THE INTEGRATED FORESTRY OPERATIONS APPROVAL FOR THE SOUTHERN REGION

The Integrated Forestry Operations Approval (IFOA) for the Southern Region came into effect on 13 May 2002. It has been subsequently amended by two instruments that took effect on 1 March 2004 and November 2011. The current amending instrument constitutes a third amendment to the IFOA for the Southern Region.

Proposed Southern IFOA amendment No. 3 is a continuation of Amendment No 2 (November 2011) that introduced conditions for protecting Yellow-bellied Glider populations of the Bago Plateau and its habitat. The conditions identified areas of land to be set aside as “exclusion zones” (where logging is prohibited) for the protection of habitat until 1 September 2012. The conditions also gave effect to a Population Management Plan which would guide the development of modified management prescriptions and monitoring of Yellow-bellied Gliders across Forest NSW estate on the Bago Plateau.

REASONS FOR AMENDMENTS

The NSW Scientific Committee is considering whether to delist the Yellow-bellied Glider of the Bago Plateau based on information about its distribution. The Chairman of the Scientific Committee has indicated that it may not be in a position to make a Final Determination until 30th June 2013.

The proposed amendment extends the exclusion of logging from areas of the Bago Plateau identified as high and medium quality habitat until 1 September 2013 (extending the previous expiry date by 12 months). The amendment will protect glider habitat and help ensure Forests NSW timber commitments are met over the coming months. Modified harvesting prescriptions are still to be negotiated between Forests NSW and the EPA and these prescriptions will apply to high and medium quality habitat from 1 September 2013.

A review of the impacts of logging on the Endangered Population will still be addressed through a separate Population Management Plan. The population management plan will include a monitoring program which will assist in triggering appropriate management responses in order to mitigate against potential threats to the population. Results of the monitoring program are required to be reported upon annually and the population management plan is subject to review by the EPA or Forests NSW. The amendment also extends by 12 months the commencement of monitoring required.

The amendment corrects the numbering of subclauses made in amendment 2. Clause 6.8 subclauses are to be re-numbered a) to o).