

FOREST AGREEMENT FOR LOWER NORTH EAST REGION



New South Wales Government

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1 PRELIMINARY AND INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

We, the *Ministers** party to this *forest agreement**, agree that:

1.1 TITLE

This is the *forest agreement** made under the *Forestry and National Park Estate Act 1998* for the Lower North East (LNE) Region of New South Wales. Its name is the *Lower North East Region Forest Agreement**.

1.2 PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT

The Parties to this agreement are:

- a) The Minister administering the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.
- b) The Minister administering the *Forestry Act 1916*.
- c) The Minister administering the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.
- d) The Minister administering the *Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991*.
- e) The Minister administering the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*.

A references to “the *Ministers**” in this agreement means these *Ministers**.

1.3 PREAMBLE

In making this agreement we

- a) Note that during 1997 and 1998 a *regional forest assessment** of the LNE Region was carried out in part by, and in part on behalf of, the *Resource and Conservation Assessment Council (RACAC)**. This assessment included an assessment of environmental and heritage values, economic and social values, timber values and *ecologically sustainable forest management (ESFM)** of forests in particular areas of the Region, that the Council considered appropriate. A list of the documents containing information about the *regional forest assessment** is at Attachment 1. The parties consider the listed documents to be those relevant to this *forest agreement**.
- b) Reaffirm the commitment of the New South Wales Government to the goals of the National Forest Policy Statement, being an agreement made in 1992 by the Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments, which sets out broad environmental and economic goals for the conservation and management of Australia’s forests.
- c) Note the obligations on the Commonwealth of Australia arising from the Intergovernmental Working Group in Criteria and Indicators for the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Temperate and Boreal Forests (Montreal Process), Convention on Biological Diversity, Agenda 21, Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change.

- d) State that the overriding intention of forest management across all tenures is to maintain and enhance all forest values in the environmental, social and economic interests of the State.
- e) Note the decisions on forests and forestry in this Region made by the New South Wales Government in 1998 including a substantial increase in the size of reserves for nature conservation, and commitments to the supply by State Forests of New South Wales (*SFNSW**) of specified volumes of timber. A summary of this decision including achieved targets is contained in Attachment 2.
- f) Note the CAR reserves in the region comprised of all conservation reserves which qualify under JANIS as dedicated and informal reserves, areas managed by prescription and qualifying private land (with the owners agreement).

1.4 DEFINITION OF REGION

This agreement applies to the UNE Region, shown on *Map 1**. The boundaries of the Region are identical to those used for the *regional forest assessment** of the Region.

1.5 SCOPE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT

This agreement sets out the principles and strategic framework for the cooperative management of all forests by the agencies within our portfolios and, to the extent possible, by the State Government generally and by non-government owners and managers of forests. The preferred means of achieving appropriate management in privately owned forests is through cooperation and incentives, with legislative controls being kept to the minimum necessary for effective management of these forests.

We undertake to ensure that the obligations and commitments within this agreement are delivered to ensure effective conservation, forest management and forest industry outcomes.

To these ends we agree to promote the principles and provisions of this agreement within government and within the community.

1.6 RELATIONSHIP TO INTEGRATED FORESTRY OPERATIONS APPROVAL

It is our intention to grant an *Integrated Forestry Operations Approval (IFOA)** in the Region on, or as soon as possible after, the making of this agreement.

To the extent of any inconsistency between this agreement, or any document required to be produced by this agreement, and an applicable *IFOA**, the *IFOA** must prevail. (Note also the provisions of section 6.3 Dispute Resolution).

Where there is a change to the *IFOA** the agencies must jointly agree to appropriate transitional arrangements.

1.7 RELATIONSHIP TO REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENTS

Through the *Scoping Agreement for New South Wales Regional Forest Agreements (1996)* the Governments of NSW and the Commonwealth have agreed to enter into *Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs*)*. At the time of making this *forest agreement**, a *RFA** has not been made for the Region. The intention is that this *forest agreement** is one means by which NSW must implement obligations and undertakings arising from a *RFA** for the Region.

Note: The *Deferred Forest Agreement between the Commonwealth of Australia and the State of New South Wales (1996)* provides at clause 9 that “Where a *Regional Forest Agreement** applies to an area covered by this [Deferred Forest] Agreement the terms of the *Regional Forest Agreement** will override the provisions of this agreement”.

1.8 DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED IN THE AGREEMENT

Terms in this agreement shown in italics and with an asterisk (e.g. *forestry operations**) are defined in Definitions at section 7.1. Acronyms appear at section 7.2.

1.9 DURATION OF AGREEMENT

This agreement takes effect upon signing by all parties, and unless earlier amended or terminated in accordance with clause 18 of the *Forestry and National Park Estate Act 1998*, remains in force for twenty years.

1.10 FUNDING

All funding required to implement the terms of this agreement is subject to the constraints and considerations of Government budgetary requirements.

2 PROMOTING ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT IN THE REGION

2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

An Environmental Management System (*EMS**) must be developed by National Parks and Wildlife Service (*NPWS**) and *SFNSW** and be based on the principles contained in Attachment 3. Each *EMS** must include forest management and be tailored to the agency's roles and responsibilities. *NPWS** and *SFNSW** must consult on the contents of their *EMS** and take all reasonable steps to ensure consistency of outcomes where there are common environmental aspects between the agencies.

The following provisions apply to the *EMS** for *SFNSW** and *NPWS** respectively.

2.1.1 SFNSW Native Forest Management System - State Forest Management

*SFNSW** must complete and implement its *EMS** - the Native Forest Management System (*NFMS**) with the longer term objective of achieving system certification comparable with ISO 14001 (Attachment 4).

The *NFMS** is to be a comprehensive planning, assessment, implementation, monitoring, auditing and reporting system detailing how *SFNSW** must implement *ESFM** on its estate. It must:

- Contain comprehensive policy, planning and operational guidelines.
- Detail clear roles and responsibilities for *SFNSW** staff and external contractors.
- Establish a set of strategies, tools and information systems.

The *NFMS** must be the subject to public consultation prior to finalisation and must be regularly reviewed to ensure continual improvement in the management of the State's native forests occurs. Accordingly, the *NFMS** must be consistent with the provisions and spirit of this agreement.

This *NFMS** must be implemented by 1 April 2001.

The *NFMS** shall be the mechanism by which *SFNSW** will implement commitments and obligations under the *NSW forest agreements** and *RFAs** and effectively contribute to Australia's international obligations under the Montreal process (see section 2.11).

Through the *NFMS**, *SFNSW** must develop Regional *ESFM** plans to implement the *NSW forest agreements**. Progress in meeting the targets in the Regional *ESFM** plans must be reported annually through Regional *ESFM** reports. *SFNSW** must also report at a statewide level on its overall progress and performance through its annual Environmental and Social Values Report (first published in 1998).

The field staff and contractors of *SFNSW** must continue to receive appropriate competency based training. As a priority *SFNSW** staff and contractors undertaking *forestry operations**, must receive training in biodiversity management, soil and water management, log grading, silviculture, *harvest planning** and *cultural heritage**.

2.1.2 NPWS Environmental Management System

*NPWS** must develop and implement an *EMS**, which:

- Contains an environmental policy for all organisational operations and responsibilities.
- Provides for environmental planning and assessment processes for *NPWS** activities.
- Sets environmental objectives and targets, and implementation measures to achieve them.
- Includes management guidelines for *ESFM**.
- Includes processes for monitoring, evaluation of performance and adaptive management.

The *EMS** must be implemented by 1 April 2004.

To facilitate implementation of the *EMS** *NPWS** staff and contractors must continue to receive appropriate competency based training.

2.2 MANAGING THE SFNSW ESTATE

2.2.1 Regional ESFM Plans

*SFNSW** must implement its commitments and obligations under this agreement and *RFAs** through the preparation of a Regional *ESFM** Plan. The Regional *ESFM** Plan must have the status of a management plan under the *Forestry Act* 1916. It must be subject to public exhibition and consultation. *SFNSW** must develop a Regional *ESFM** Plan by 1 April 2000.

Regional *ESFM** Plans must outline the process for systematic assessment of *cultural heritage** to allow for broad *cultural heritage** planning at a regional level.

2.2.2 Forest Management Zoning

The Regional *ESFM** Plan must include mapped *Forest Management Zones (FMZ)** classifying all *State forest** into one of seven zones (refer to Attachment 5). These include zones which delineate those areas of *State forest** managed as conservation reserves and those areas managed for timber production.

These zones for the LNE have been mapped.

Land dedicated or set apart as a flora reserve under the *Forestry Act* 1916 must be managed as a *dedicated reserve** with similar conservation status as national parks and nature reserves by *SFNSW**. *SFNSW** undertakes to complete and make public working plans for land dedicated or set

apart as flora reserves by 1 January 2001. Working plans will be incorporated into the Regional ESFM Plans.

The *FMZs** must be managed in accordance with 'Forest Management Zoning in State Forests', and in the case of those *FMZs** which are part of a *CAR reserve system**, (including dedicated, informal and prescription) and/or are equated with *IUCN reserve category** must be managed in accordance with the requirements for such reserves.

2.2.3 Harvesting Plans

*Harvesting Plans** must be prepared for all *logging operations** and *forest products operations** conducted under a Timber Licence. The harvesting plans must apply the conditions of the *IFOA** for the Region, including the terms of any relevant licences provided by the *IFOA** to the specific site and be consistent with this agreement. Minor operations where timber is removed by Authorisation under section 30(I) of the *Forestry Act 1916* does not require harvesting plans, however the Authorisation must detail location and necessary conditions. The *NFMS** outlines *SFNSW* harvest planning** requirements.

2.2.4 Codes of Practice and Eco-Field Guides

Codes of Practice specified in Attachment 6 provide an operational interpretation and guidelines for management for staff and contractors at a state wide level. An Eco-Field Guide for this Region must provide detailed management information (for example on silviculture, pest control, the conservation of soil and water resources etc.) specifically tailored to the Region. These codes and guides must be regularly reviewed to ensure that the best available information is used and their provisions are effective in achieving *ESFM** outcomes. Eco-Field Guides for the LNE Region must be finalised by 1 December 1999.

Codes of Practice and Eco-Field Guides must be consistent with any *IFOA** and this agreement. In the event of any inconsistency between the Codes of Practice and Eco-Field Guides and an *IFOA**, the *IFOA** must prevail.

2.2.5 Monitoring and Auditing

Monitoring must be undertaken as part of the *EMS** to achieve continual improvement in forest management. Overall progress in achieving *ESFM** within the Region must be monitored as part of the sustainability criteria and indicators program detailed in section 2.11 and Attachment 9. In particular the resource inventory information contained in Forest Resource and Management System (FRAMES) must be monitored.

*SFNSW** must employ its internal audit system to ensure the consistent application of standards across *Crown timber lands** and any other lands managed by *SFNSW** for timber production and to monitor compliance by its staff and contractors with the conditions of any relevant *IFOA**.

2.2.6 SFNSW Reporting

Progress in meeting the targets in the Regional *ESFM** Plans must be reported annually through Regional *ESFM** reports. *SFNSW** must also report at a state wide level on its overall performance through its annual *SFNSW** Environmental and Social Values Report. Where appropriate the above information must be incorporated into the annual report on this *forest agreement** which is tabled in Parliament. (refer to section 6.9).

2.2.7 Change of Forest Management Practice

Where *SFNSW**, as the proponent of a proposed forest activity or where it Licences or approves a proposed forestry activity, is of the view that the activity is not covered by the *forest agreement*/IFOA** then *SFNSW** may either:

- Apply for an amendment of the *forest agreement*/IFOA** to cover it and defer the activity until the *IFOA** is amended; or

- Resolve not to have the activity covered by the *IFOA** and elect to deal with the matter under Part 5 *EPA Act*; or
- Resolve not to pursue the activity.

Planned *forest operations** and other activities are considered in continuing agency consultations and *forest agreement** reporting arrangements. When considering these proposed *forest operations** and activities, *SFNSW** will also liaise with *DUAP**, *NPWS**, and EPA on the proposal (and no less than 2 months before commencement). *SFNSW** must carry out an appropriate assessment of impacts resulting from any proposed changes and each agency must consider the environmental consequences of any proposed changes in terms of their regulatory responsibility

Notification by *SFNSW** on the location and nature of *forestry operations** will regularly (at least bi-monthly) be provided to *NPWS**, *DUAP**, EPA, NSW Fisheries, as outlined in *IFOA** arrangements.

2.2.8 Silvicultural Practice

As part of ecosystem management, a native forest silvicultural regime must be implemented on State forest. Use of light and medium Australian Group Selection and light, medium and heavy single tree selection must occur in identified forest types.

Site specific silviculture must be applied within a harvesting area using clear silvicultural specifications for specific forest type and forest structure as outlined in Ecosystem Field Guides. The actual silviculture applied will depend on forest type, stand structure and the Plan of Operation (scheduling arrangements).

SFNSW must:

- Establish a demonstration area for silvicultural practices for use in field supervisor training.
- Audit compliance with silvicultural specifications.
- Report for the Region the total harvest area treated by forest types, silvicultural types (including light and medium Australian Group Selection and light, medium and heavy single tree selection) as estimated from harvesting plans. Reporting may be at a finer scale as agreed by *DUAP**, *NPWS**, *SFNSW**, and *EPA**.
- Consult on ecosystem management, including silviculture, as part of the EMS.

These arrangements must be progressed by 1 April 2001.

2.3 MANAGING FOR CONSERVATION OUTCOMES

2.3.1 Comprehensive Adequate and Representative Reserve System

The primary function of the *CAR reserve system** is to ensure the conservation and protection of biodiversity and heritage values. The *CAR reserve system** may be complemented through time by a range of private land conservation measures.

The *CAR reserve system** on public land has the following three components:

1. *Dedicated reserves**. This comprises reserves established through legislation for conservation purposes and equivalent to categories I, II, III, and IV as defined by the IUCN Commission for National Parks and Protected Areas. They include:

- National parks and nature reserves dedicated under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* 1974.
- Land dedicated or set apart in *State forest** as a Flora Reserve under the *Forestry Act* 1916; and zoned *FMZ** 1 under *SFNSW** *Forest Management Zoning** System.

2. *Informal reserves**. These areas comprise:

- *FMZ** 2 (*FMZ** 2) under *SFNSW** Forest Management Zoning System (Attachment 5 provides a description of the Forest Management Zoning System). *Mineral exploration** and *mining** are permitted activities, but logging and grazing must be excluded. The Minister for Forestry must create these *informal reserves** pursuant to the amended *Forestry Act* 1916 by October 1999 and they must be called *special management zones**.
- The *FMZ** 2 areas will comprise:
 - (i) The informal reserves shown on map 2.
 - (ii) Areas of clumped reserves derived from *net harvest area exclusions** including High Conservation Value old growth, *forest agreement** negotiated rainforest etc.
 - (iii) Any other areas determined by *SFNSW**.
- A new class of *Crown Reserve** formally dedicated under the *Crown Lands Act* 1989. These reserves must be established for the primary purpose of conservation while allowing *mineral exploration** and *mining**.

The following principles must apply to *informal reserves**, in accordance with the *JANIS** reserve criteria:

- These areas must be reserved for conservation purposes under approved management plans and be managed accordingly.
- Changes to the existing areas as defined on Map 2, requires a variation to this agreement and associated public consultation provisions must apply, unless the area is being added to the dedicated reserve system.

3. Values protected by Prescription. Values are protected in two ways:

- By including areas of State forest within *Forest Management Zone** 3 (*FMZ** 3) under *SFNSW** Forest Management Zoning System. Lands included in *FMZ** 3 contain particular values which are subject to protection mechanisms listed in local prescriptions approved by the Minister for Forests.

Some *FMZ** 3 areas will permit limited logging, subject to these prescriptions, and others will not permit logging at all. In the LNE Region, considerable areas were not included in the *FMZ** 2 category because of the existence of perpetual Crown leases for grazing etc or significant identified mineral values. Included in the delineated *FMZ** 2 areas are high conservation value old growth and *forest agreement** negotiated rainforest. *Mineral exploration** and *mining** and those activities explicitly allowed for in the conditions of grazing leases etc are permitted activities in these *FMZ** 3 areas but other conditions of management must be consistent with those of *FMZ** 2 areas (including no logging operations).

Government consideration of upgrading these areas to the *FMZ** 2 category will involve consultation with the Department of Mineral Resources over mineral issues prior to any program of voluntary lease acquisition. Note that some of the aforementioned areas are

covered under section 6.16.2 and, following the agreed process outlined in that section, may be dedicated as formal reserve without amendment to this *forest agreement**.

- By protective prescriptions as set out in the Conditions for the Conservation of Threatened Species or a licence under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* or in any *IFOA** for the Region. These conditions complement the *dedicated reserves** and *informal reserves** and include protection of rare non-commercial forest types, old-growth forest, rainforest, and threatened species in all areas that are available for managed for sustainable timber production. These prescriptions must be routinely applied in both *FMZ** 3 and *FMZ** 4.

2.3.2 Managing JANIS Dedicated Reserves

*NPWS** must progressively complete and publish plans of management for land dedicated or reserved under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* by 1 January 2005 for areas dedicated or reserved in the LNE Region.

Flora Reserves under the *Forestry Act 1916* must be managed by *SFNSW**. *SFNSW** undertakes to complete and make public working plans (attached to Regional *ESFM* Plans) for land dedicated or set apart as flora reserves by 1 January 2001.

2.3.3 Managing other JANIS reserve components

The *Crown Reserves** must be managed for the primary purpose of conservation by the Director-General of National Parks and Wildlife in the capacity of Manager of the Reserve Trust. The Director-General of National Parks and Wildlife and the Director-General of the Department of Mineral Resources must enter into an MOU regarding the management of these areas by 30 September 1999 including the formation of a committee to advise the Manager of the Reserve Trust. The Management Committee will comprise equal numbers of delegates of the two Directors-General.

The *NPWS** and the Department of Mineral Resources must undertake to review all *Crown Reserves** every five years. Any areas no longer requiring consideration of mineral interests must be dedicated under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, with the concurrence of the Minister administering the *Mining Act 1972*.

*SFNSW** must include in Regional *ESFM** Plans working plans for *informal reserves** (*FMZ** 2) and areas managed by prescription (i.e. *FMZ** 3 and 4), in consultation with *NPWS**, *DUAP** and *DMR**.

*NPWS** must progressively complete and publish plans of management for *Crown Reserves** dedicated under the *Crown Lands Act 1989* which are adjacent to land dedicated or reserved under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* by 1 January 2005 for areas dedicated or reserved in the LNE Region.

Management prescriptions for High Conservation Value Old Growth Forest, Rainforest and Rare Non Commercial Forest Type Protection must continue to apply.

In the LNE Region, the areas identified for declaration as *FMZ** 2, shown as light pink areas on the attached maps and described as proposed *informal reserve** (Map 2), were identified as having high conservation value but were excluded from dedicated reservation specifically due to concerns

regarding mineral and petroleum potential. As the only objection to these *FMZ* 2* areas becoming part of the *dedicated reserve** system related to mineral prospectivity, the boundaries of these areas must only be altered or revoked by the joint agreement of the Minister for the Environment, the Minister for Planning, the Minister for Forestry and the Minister of Mineral Resources.

The *NPWS** and *DMR** will review mineral and petroleum objections over *FMZ*2* and *FMZ*3* lands every five years, or earlier as agreed between the agencies. If in the future Department of Mineral Resources waives its objections, negotiations must commence with *SFNSW** for the areas to be included in the *dedicated reserve** system. If *mineral exploration** is successful, *mining** must be subject to the normal environmental impact assessment and development approval process.

An occupation permit taskforce must be formed, comprising the Director-General of National Parks and Wildlife, the Chief Executive Officer of *SFNSW**, the Director-General of Department of Land and Water Conservation and the Chief Executive Officer of NSW Farmers. After consultation, the taskforce must oversee the phasing out of occupation permits which currently exist in areas identified as *FMZ* 2* or new *FMZ* 1* areas by 1 July 2000. Initiatives to ameliorate impacts must be implemented by the taskforce.

2.3.4 Aquatic Reserves

The Minister for Fisheries may declare Aquatic reserves under the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* within *State forests**, national parks and nature reserves and other lands of the Crown, and develop management arrangements for those reserves. It is agreed such reserves may be created, after consultation with the agency managing the land.

2.4 FLORA, FAUNA AND FISH

2.4.1 NSW Biodiversity Strategy

The NSW Biodiversity Strategy will be released in March 1999, with implementation commencing immediately and further amendments relating to fish and marine vegetation will also be implemented, as soon as they are finalised. A number of priority actions have been identified under the strategy to achieve biodiversity conservation including bioregional assessments, implementation of biodiversity surveys, and pest management programs.

Implementation of the Biodiversity Strategy on forested lands in the Region, requires a cooperative effort and each agency must ensure effective implementation of the actions in the Strategy applicable to their portfolio.

2.4.2 Threatened Species Licence Conditions

The conservation of flora, fauna and fish, including Threatened Species and Protected Fauna and Native Plants, in timber production areas of *State forests** and other *Crown timber lands** of the Region, will be primarily achieved through the implementation of the *Threatened Species Licence** under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* and the *Threatened Species Licence** under the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*, contained in the *IFOA**.

The terms of the Licence under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* as part of the *IFOA** provide for cooperative arrangements in developing grazing management plans for *SFNSW**, feral and introduced predator control plans and threatened flora – species management plans.

2.4.3 Cooperative approaches for implementing the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 and Threatened Species provisions of the Fisheries Management Act 1994

In addition to the terms of the *Threatened Species Licence** contained in any *IFOA** applying to all or part of the Region, the conservation of flora, fauna and fish will also require the cooperation of the Parties over those non-licence components of the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* and Threatened Species provisions of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*. These components include:

- The nomination of species, populations, ecological communities and key threatening processes to the scientific committee and fisheries scientific committee for listing in Schedules 1, 2 and 3 of the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* and Schedules 4, 5 and 6 of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*.
- The preparation and implementation of Recovery Plans for Threatened Species, Endangered Populations and Endangered Ecological Communities.
- The preparation and implementation of Threat Abatement Plans for Key Threatening Processes.
- The identification, declaration and subsequent protection of Critical Habitat.

Where it is relevant to the area or activities covered by this agreement, *SFNSW** and *NPWS** must notify each other of any proposal to nominate for listing or delisting any species, populations, ecological communities or key threatening processes to the Scientific Committee.

The *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* and the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* provide for any person to submit nominations to the Scientific Committee.

Other cooperative actions which must be undertaken by *NPWS** and *SFNSW** include:

- The continued implementation of joint management plans such as the Pine Creek Koala Management Plan.
- A joint *NPWS** and *SFNSW** study to refine models to identify Hastings River Mouse Habitat, which must be completed by 31 December 1999.

2.4.4 Approaches for considering new threatened species information including the discovery of new species within regions, important new records and new management information

2.4.4.1 Species new to science

During the life of this agreement species, populations and ecological communities, and key threatening processes may be added to or removed from Schedules 1, 2 and 3 of the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* and Schedules 4, 5 and 6 from the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*. New species, populations and ecological communities appropriate for including in these schedules may be discovered and species, populations and ecological communities not previously known to exist in the Region may be found. Their conservation requirements have not been assessed as part of this agreement or the *IFOA** for the Region.

The terms of licences under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* and Part 7A of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* provide for a process to consider threatened species, endangered populations, endangered ecological communities and key threatening processes that are newly listed in the above schedules of the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* and *Fisheries Management Act 1994*.

A process must be developed and implemented whereby the conservation requirements of *species new to science** are assessed. The *IFOA** provides a review mechanism.

Where the review of the conservation requirements of *species new to science** recommends a new prescription, the *Threatened Species Licence** of the *IFOA** must be reviewed and after the review proposed amendments considered for making.

Where a *species new to science** is found the precautionary principle must apply and all efforts must be made to minimise impact on these species until the assessment and review have been finalised.

Where a *species new to science** is found the following process must be implemented:

- a) Upon becoming aware of the discovery of a species or subspecies, *SFNSW** and *NPWS** will liaise with each other in order to develop an appropriate management response.
- b) *SFNSW** and *NPWS** must consider: whether the species or subspecies is affected by specified forestry activities; whether it occurs on *State forests**; whether a prescription is required; and any other relevant matters.
- c) If a prescription is required, it must be agreed within seven working days of notification, or longer if agreed.
- d) The agreed prescription must be submitted to the relevant *Ministers** as a proposed amendment to the *Threatened Species Licence**.
- e) As far as practicable, *SFNSW** must seek to minimise any adverse impacts on the species or subspecies pending the finalisation of this process.

2.4.4.2 Important new records

During the life of this agreement important new occurrences may be found:

- Of threatened species, populations, and ecological communities not recorded in the Region before.
- That represent a substantial extension to the known range of threatened species, populations, and ecological communities.
- Of threatened species, populations, and ecological communities that are very rare, including locations where they have not been recorded in the last ten years.

For those threatened species, populations, and ecological communities not already covered by terms of licences under *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* and Part 7A of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* in the *IFOA**, a process must be implemented whereby the conservation requirements of the species are assessed. The relevant terms of the *IFOA** must be reviewed accordingly and appropriate amendments considered. This process must be developed by 1 October 1999. The *IFOA** provides a review mechanism.

Where there is an important new record of a species in the area the following process must be implemented:

- a) Upon becoming aware of an important new record, *SFNSW** and *NPWS** must liaise with each other in order to develop an appropriate management response.
- b) *SFNSW** and *NPWS** must consider: whether the record is affected by specified forestry activities; whether it occurs on *State forests**; whether a prescription is required; and any other relevant matters.

- c) If a prescription is required, it must be agreed within seven working days of notification, or longer if agreed.
- d) The agreed prescription must be submitted to the relevant *Ministers** as a proposed amendment to the *Threatened Species Licence**.
- e) As far as practicable, *SFNSW** must seek to minimise any adverse impacts on the record pending the finalisation of this process.

2.4.4.3 New Information

During the life of this agreement new information may become available concerning the biology and ecology of species covered by the *Threatened Species Licence** and new information regarding the effectiveness of the licence conditions contained in the *IFOA**.

A process must be implemented whereby new information is assessed and, where required, the *Threatened Species Licences** are to be reviewed and amended in accordance with the *Forestry and National Park Estate Act 1998*. This process must be determined by 30 June 1999.

In particular, where new information on the distribution, population size or ecology of species of threatened flora suggests that the species allocation to a particular condition of the *Threatened Species Licence** needs to be reviewed, *NPWS** and *SFNSW** will undertake such a review.

2.4.4.4 Mitigation of damage to threatened species habitat

The conservation of Threatened Species, Endangered Populations and Endangered Ecological Communities is best achieved through protection of terrestrial and aquatic habitats. The *Threatened Species Licence** of the *IFOA** is the primary means to mitigate damage to the habitat of threatened species.

The process detailed in the *IFOA** must be implemented to ensure that damage to threatened species habitat is reversed. Additional opportunities for mitigating damage to the habitat of threatened species must be considered and implemented, where appropriate.

2.4.4.5 Management of Rainforest, High Conservation Value Old Growth Forest and other prescriptive exclusions

Rainforest, high conservation value old growth forest and other areas protected through exclusions of logging, *forest product operations** and other operations as specified identified in the *Threatened Species Licence** for the *IFOA** are critical to the conservation of protected and threatened species. These and other areas must be protected through prescriptive exclusions consistent with the protection of their conservation values.

For the larger, more significant exclusion areas a management plan must be prepared by *SFNSW** by 1 January 2002, as an attachment to the appropriate Regional *ESFM** Plan and in consultation with *NPWS**. The larger more significant exclusion areas will be those areas as agreed between the Director-General of National Parks and Wildlife, the Chief Executive Officer of *SFNSW** and the Director-General of *DUAP**. The management plan must take into account prescribed burning regimes, responses to wildfire, pest plant and animal management, road construction and maintenance and erosion control works.

Construction of roads and trails through areas of rainforest, high conservation value old growth forest and rare and non-commercial forest on *NPWS** estate will only be considered where a Plan of Management is in place.

2.5 WILDERNESS

The Director-General of *NPWS** must place on public exhibition a Wilderness Assessment Report (including identification of areas under the *Wilderness Act 1987*) for the LNE Region by 1 January 2000. The report must address the question of identification as wilderness of all *provisionally identified wilderness** on land where the *Wilderness Act 1987* applies. *NPWS** must provide advice to the Minister administering the *National Park and Wildlife Act 1974* on the submissions received during public consultation and the areas recommended for wilderness declaration. The Minister administering the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* must then consider whether to declare the relevant lands to be wilderness areas, taking into account the advice and views of the Government.

Note: Under the *Forestry and National Park Estate Act 1998* an area in which *forestry operations** authorised by an *IFOA** may be carried out cannot be proposed or identified as, or declared to be, a wilderness area under the *Wilderness Act 1987* or the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

2.6 WILD RIVERS

Rivers within the Region may have relevant wild values and accordingly all actions relevant to forest conservation and management must ensure the continuation of these wild values by prescription. If in the future any river or part of a river within the *Crown timber lands** in the Region is declared to be a wild river (if such powers are ever enacted), this *forest agreement** and *IFOA** in the Region may be altered where this is necessary to protect those values.

2.7 NATIONAL ESTATE AND WORLD HERITAGE

The rainforest values contained in existing reserves, which have been recognised internationally by being listed as World Heritage Areas, must be protected. These areas are collectively known as Central Eastern Rainforest Reserves, Australia (CERRA).

As a result of the LNE agreement, substantial new rainforest areas have been added to existing reserves. The *Ministers** agree to undertake studies in the new *dedicated reserve** areas, and if they meet World Heritage criteria, to nominate additional areas for World Heritage Listing as extensions to CERRA, by 1 April 2001.

The *Ministers** also recognise that the forests of the LNE Region may potentially contain other outstanding universal World Heritage values apart from rainforests. These other potential values may include Eucalypt dominated vegetation and religious beliefs embodied in the landscape (Aboriginal dreaming sites and bora grounds). The *Ministers** agree to further studies being undertaken in the forests of the *dedicated reserve** areas of the LNE Region by 1 April 2002, to investigate and document other potential World Heritage values. If areas are demonstrated to be of outstanding universal significance on the basis of these values, the *Ministers** agree to put them to the Government for consideration of their protection and nomination for World Heritage Listing.

The *Ministers** recognise that a large number of sites contained in the Region are listed on the Register of the National Estate kept in accordance with the *Australian Heritage Commission Act 1975* (Commonwealth). The *Ministers** agree that the National Estate values of these sites must be protected.

2.8 INDIGENOUS AND NON-INDIGENOUS CULTURAL HERITAGE

The protection of Indigenous and non-Indigenous *cultural heritage** values is a key responsibility of the Government. Decision making in relation to *cultural heritage** will be informed and based on best practice guidelines as articulated in the following documents, but also in consultation with Aboriginal communities:

- The Burra Charter (Australia ICOMOS).
- The Conservation Plan (Kerr 1982).

- Guidelines For The Protection, Management And Use Of Aboriginal And Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Places (Department of Arts and Communication).
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Standards & Guidelines Kit (NSW NPWS*).
- NSW Heritage Manual (Office of Heritage).
- The Australian Natural Heritage Charter (Australian Committee for IUCN).

*Cultural heritage** management guidelines must be prepared for the Region by October 1999. These guidelines will incorporate the identification, assessment and management of *cultural heritage** and will include performance indicators. The guidelines must be attached to the *IFOA** for the Region and will be based on principles developed by the Cultural Heritage Working Group which include:

- Design of protective mechanisms at the regional level.
- Ensuring compliance with legislative controls.
- Recognition of *cultural heritage** as a key responsibility of forest agencies.
- Ensuring the involvement of rightful communities.
- Sharing of knowledge and skills development.
- Engaging stakeholders in the management process.
- Using performance indicators to measure progress.

Forested landscapes contain many items that provide information concerning Aboriginal use of, and the spiritual link to, the land and this evidence needs to be protected through:

- The protection of Aboriginal sites and artefacts.
- The maintenance of natural forest values, including landforms and the native flora and fauna that forests support.

NPWS* intends to review processes for Indigenous *cultural heritage** management, including the current process of consents to destroy Aboriginal Relics under section 90 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, in consultation with Aboriginal communities and SFNSW*. The aim of the review will be to develop systems that better consider the landscape context of sites, and develop processes that provide for efficient protection and greater involvement of Aboriginal communities in *cultural heritage** decision making.

It is agreed that knowledge about non-Indigenous *cultural heritage** must be shared with relevant stakeholders. It is agreed that Aboriginal people are the rightful holders of all Aboriginal *cultural heritage** information, and any sharing of this information will only be appropriate with permission from Aboriginal people with cultural links to the information requested. In particular there is an obligation on the part of agencies to share knowledge with Aboriginal communities and knowledge sharing may also extend to other community groups and bona fide researchers. Intellectual property rights will be appropriately protected.

It is recognised that effective conservation is dependent on improved information. The NPWS* must continue to develop information management systems for Indigenous heritage in consultation with the Aboriginal community and other stakeholders. Information concerning Aboriginal cultural values must be continually reviewed and this information must be submitted to the centralised information system currently maintained by the NPWS* (Aboriginal Sites Register of NSW).

SFNSW* and NPWS* must update and continue to maintain their section 170 registers for the protection of *cultural heritage** under the *Heritage Act 1977*. Sites of State significance will also be listed as required under the *Heritage Amendment Act 1998*.

SFNSW* will consult with relevant stakeholders and communities in the finalisation of its policy on Indigenous and non-Indigenous *cultural heritage** as part of its NFMS* and will incorporate strategies for the protection and management of *cultural heritage** within the relevant Regional ESFM* Plan.

SFNSW* and NPWS* must report on *cultural heritage** performance through annual reports, state of the environment reports and other appropriate reporting mechanisms that publish results against performance indicators and provide access to the outcomes of performance reviews.

2.9 PRIVATE LAND

2.9.1 Private land

There is a commitment to the conservation and management of the private forests. Conservation values occur on private land and these areas were not identified publicly during the assessment process, but must be an ongoing priority for conservation and protection as part of this agreement.

Conservation values on private land are complementary to the *CAR reserve system** identified on public land. There is a commitment to the voluntary inclusion of private land, where the conservation values either do not occur on public land or are not adequately reserved on public land.

Attachment 7 outlines principles applying to private land and voluntary mechanisms that may be applied to achieve conservation on private land. These include various contractual arrangements such as Voluntary Conservation Agreements under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, Property Management Plans under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* and Property Management Plans under the *Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997*.

The protection of high conservation values on private land must be facilitated by RACAC*. To assist RACAC*, NPWS* by 1 January 2000 must identify forest ecosystems on private land, that are a conservation priority for inclusion in the *CAR reserve system**. For the LNE Region this will require completion and incorporation of the *CRAFTI** and land capability data into regional databases.

By 1 January 2000, RACAC* must establish a committee and seek funding (subject to availability and approval) to promote protection of conservation values on private lands within the LNE Region.

Where acquisition of lands is proposed it must be subject to the involvement of DMR* in assessment and valuation of mineral interests prior to any decision to proceed.

The role of the *Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1995* in conserving native vegetation on private land is acknowledged and the work by RACAC* must seek to complement and assist implementation of this Act.

Private forest owners must be encouraged to undertake their management operations in a manner consistent with ESFM* principles, and agree that CRA data sets and reports must be made available to interested parties (such as Regional Vegetation Management Committees or Bush Fire Committees), for use in developing management operations consistent with ESFM* principles.

2.9.2 Timber obtained by SFNSW from private land

SFNSW* will undertake a private property supplementation program, which involves the purchase of timber rights or private property to assist in supply arrangements to industry. When any private land is purchased for this purpose and dedicated as *State forest**, harvesting and roading operations must be subject to *forest agreement** and conditions of the *IFOA**.

When timber rights are purchased harvesting must be subject to the controls contained in the *Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997*, and be subject to relevant legislation including *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*, *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*. Consideration must be given to applying the terms of any relevant *IFOA**.

2.10 FIRE MANAGEMENT

It is acknowledged that bushfires are a feature of the Australian environment which elicit various responses in native flora and fauna, the conservation of which is a prime responsibility under this *forest agreement**.

We support a strong commitment to fire management having regard to its roles in ecosystems and forest management and the need to protect human life, property and cultural values.

*SFNSW** and *NPWS** must prepare a joint arrangement through District Fire Committees for the prevention, detection and suppression of bush fires in areas under their management. This must be prepared by 1 April 2001.

2.11 ESFM INITIATIVES

2.11.1 Ecologically Sustainable Forest Management

*ESFM** is the guiding philosophy for forest conservation and management. This philosophy is based on the recognition that the forest holds many values in society and that these values include ecological as well as socio-economic factors. *ESFM** is founded on a framework that sets out performance indicators reflecting these key values. These indicators, in turn, guide the work of forest conservation and management and must provide the basis for evaluating our progress. *ESFM** is based on:

- The establishment of a *comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system**.
- The development of an internationally competitive forest products industry.
- Integrated, complementary and adaptive forest conservation and management across tenures.

Many of the existing NSW processes and regulations are designed to produce effective outcomes in terms of fauna, flora, soil and water conservation on public forests but issues need to be managed across the landscape.

The achievement of *ESFM** on public and private land must be promoted, and to the ongoing review and subsequent implementation of its legislation, policy, plans, codes and prescriptions to ensure *ESFM** objectives can be achieved in a more efficient regulatory environment. Proposed changes to the forest management system are outlined in Attachment 8.

2.11.2 Criteria and Indicators for ESFM

Evaluation of forest conservation and management systems must be enhanced by implementing mechanisms to monitor and review the sustainability of forest management practices over time. To ensure this occurs, the sustainability indicators presented in Table 1 and detailed in Attachment 9, must be monitored (these include the framework of regional indicators developed by the Montreal Implementation Group (MIG)). By 1 April 2000 an evaluation framework must be developed to provide the basis for the 5-year review of *ESFM** under the *forest agreement**.

**TABLE 1
INDICATORS OF ESFM FOR THE LNE REGION**

| FOREST VALUE / CRITERIA | INDICATOR |
|-------------------------|--|
| Biodiversity | <p><i>1.1.a</i>* Extent of area by forest type and tenure.</p> <p><i>1.1.b</i> Area of forest type by growth stage distribution by tenure.</p> <p><i>1.1.e</i>* Fragmentation of forest types.</p> <p><i>1.2.a</i>* A list of forest dwelling species</p> <p><i>1.2.b</i>* The status (threatened, rare, vulnerable, endangered, or extinct) of forest dwelling species at risk of not maintaining viable breeding populations, as determined by legislation or scientific assessment.</p> |

| FOREST VALUE / CRITERIA | INDICATOR |
|--|---|
| | 1.2.b.1* The status of endangered populations and ecosystems as determined by legislation or scientific assessment (sub-indicator of 1.2.b). |
| Maintenance of productive capacity of forest ecosystems | 2.1.a Area of forest land and net area of forest land available for timber production. 2.1.b Total growing stock of both merchantable and non-merchantable tree species on native forest land available for timber production. 2.1.d* Annual removal of wood products compared to sustainable volume. 2.1.f* Area and percent of plantation established meeting effective stocking one year after planting. 2.1.g* Area and percent of harvested area of native forest effectively regenerated. |
| Maintenance of ecosystem health and vitality | 3.1.a* Area and percent of forest affected by processes or agents that may change ecosystem health and vitality (narrative as interim) |
| Conservation and maintenance of soil and water resources | 4.1.a Area and percent of forest land covered by comprehensive Road Management Plans, which include; - an assessment of the extent of existing road infrastructure, - processes for ongoing improvement, - targets and milestones. 4.1.a Area and percent of forest land systematically assessed for soil erosion hazard, and for which site-varying scientifically-based measures to protect soil and water values are implemented (Interim). |
| Maintenance of forest contribution to global carbon cycles | 5.1a Total forest ecosystem biomass and carbon pool, and if appropriate, by forest type, age class, and successional stages (Category B). 5.1c Contribution of forest products to the global carbon budget (Category B). |
| Maintenance and enhancement of long term multiple socio-economic benefits to meet the needs of society | 6.2.c Number of visits per annum. 6.4.c Change in condition and number of recorded places, artefacts, sites, buildings or other structures. 6.5.a Direct and indirect employment in the forest sector and forest sector employment as a proportion of total employment. |
| Legal, institutional and economic framework for forest conservation and sustainable management | 7.1* Extent to which the legal framework (laws, regulations, guidelines) supports the conservation and sustainable management of forests (Narrative). 7.2 Extent to which the institutional framework supports the conservation and sustainable management of forests (Narrative). 7.4 Capacity to measure and monitor changes in the conservation and sustainable management of forests (Narrative). 7.5 Capacity to conduct and apply research and development aimed at improving forest management and delivery of forest goods and services (Narrative). |

Indicators are to be trialled and assessed during the first five year period to ensure they are practical, measurable, cost-effective and capable of being implemented at the regional level. The sustainability indicators may be revised over time in light of the continuing development of indicators for NSW forests but before any change can occur, a report must be prepared and public consultation must be undertaken.

Reporting on indicators must be as detailed in Attachment 9. Reporting on indicators must contribute to the annual reports to parliament by the Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning and to the five yearly review of the *forest agreement**.

2.11.3 Research Including Monitoring and Survey

By the five year review, a compendium of New South Wales forest research must be prepared by *DUAP** and it must provide a bibliography of research in progress as well as published and unpublished works and the bibliography must be regularly updated.

Consultation between agencies must occur in the development of joint research projects and jointly agree on priorities for research and survey. The major priority of future research in New South Wales must be an understanding of environmental impacts and the development of appropriate mechanisms to monitor and continually improve the sustainability of forest management practices. A strategy for important research and what monitoring is to be undertaken (including *ESFM** indicators) must be prepared jointly by *SFNSW** and *NPWS** by 1 January 2000. The strategy must include other relevant land managers such as DLWC.

All research reports relevant to this agreement must be made public. This must occur by locating on the internet details of how the information may be obtained and providing access to all information through *DUAP**.

*SFNSW** has a number of continuing research projects in areas that were formerly *State forests** and are now in national parks and nature reserves. The continuation of this experimentation and research is important for both *SFNSW** and *NPWS** in continuing to meet *ESFM** including obligations under the Montreal Process.

Continuing access is required by *SFNSW** to these project areas, and therefore some roads and trail will need to be maintained in an open condition. Also some research areas will require increased levels of fire protection, as negotiated between the agencies. The type of activities involved in the continuing research obligations include: experimental burning; wildlife detection and capture; radio tracking; flora and seed sample collection; soil and water sampling; weirs and flow measurement; tree measurement, isolated harvesting operations in accordance with research requirements. Access by *SFNSW** to sites of current *SFNSW** research projects on the *national park estate** must be negotiated on a case by case basis.

The costs of providing access must be covered by *SFNSW**. Research projects must be consistent with the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* and must not interfere with the management objectives of reserves. The conduct of practices required for research objectives that may not be in keeping with reserve management objectives must need to be negotiated on a case by case basis (e.g. road maintenance). Costs of maintaining research sites in a manner not in keeping with reserve management objectives must be covered by *SFNSW** (e.g. road maintenance). *SFNSW** must provide *NPWS** with details of affected studies, the location of sites and access requirements by 1 December 1999.

*SFNSW** will share the results of this work with relevant agencies.

2.12 FOREST HEALTH AND ESTABLISHMENT

*NPWS** and *SFNSW** must participate in co-operative programs with each other, other land management agencies and/or with land holders as appropriate where a broader landscape approach is most effective in addressing noxious weed control, feral animal control or other matters related to forest health.

*NPWS** and *SFNSW** must also seek specialist advice where pests or disease cause significant damage, decline or death of trees.

2.13 MANAGING OTHER FOREST USES

2.13.1 Joint tourism and recreation management

*SFNSW** and *NPWS** must develop cooperative arrangements such as joint regional recreation and tourism plans. Consultation in preparing such plans should occur with other relevant agencies. Joint regional recreation and tourism plans must be prepared by 1 April 2001. Plans must identify such issues as: codes of practice, promotional activities, sustainable management, visitor numbers and impact monitoring, operational matters and cooperative arrangements.

2.13.2 Mining and mineral exploration

The parties recognise that *mining** and *mineral exploration** are not permitted in the *dedicated reserve** system. It is permitted in *Crown Reserves** managed by the Director General of the *NPWS**. Within *Crown Reserves**, *mining** and *mineral exploration** is permitted in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding between the *NPWS** and the Department of Mineral Resources, and in accordance with applicable environmental assessment requirements.

2.13.3 Water

Management activities undertaken by *SFNSW** and *NPWS**, must be done in such a manner which ensures protection of water resources (including water quality and quantity), unless in accordance with an *IFOA**.

2.13.4 Roads and Access

*NPWS** and *SFNSW** must prepare a Memorandum of Understanding on joint usage of roads and trails, a process for determining contributions to road and trail maintenance, access arrangements and related issues for endorsement by Director-General of *NPWS** and the Chief Executive Officer of *SFNSW** by 1 January 2000. Until the Memorandum of Understanding is in place, maintenance and construction costs associated with these roads and trails that are required for *forestry operations** or access by *SFNSW** and are within the lands subject to this agreement, must be negotiated on a case by case basis.

2.13.5 Collection of botanical material by SFNSW

Continued access must be available to *SFNSW** or their contractors for the collection of botanical material (seed, seed capsules, or scions) for the purpose of propagating planting stock for plantation establishment or regeneration programs from areas of former *State forest** transferred to *national park estate** as a result of the *Forestry and National Park Estate Act 1998*. Collection methods must be as approved by the *NPWS** District Manager and would usually be limited to tree climbing and pruning techniques.

3 SUSTAINABLE TIMBER SUPPLY

3.1 SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY FOR TIMBER SUPPLIES

A sustainable timber supply arrangement is to be implemented where the annual committed volumes of quota quality sawlogs are reduced from 163,000 m³ to 140,000 m³. This volume is subject to an inventory review to be completed in 2007 (see Section 3.5). From the LNE Region twenty thousand (20,000) cubic metres of HQL sawlogs has been allocated to the UNE Region. Any increases to these volumes must be sustainable and consistent with modelling using FRAMES. (Note: These reductions to sustainable volumes are in addition to the previous 30% reductions as part of the 1996 Interim Forest Assessment.)

A staged long-term sustainability strategy based on a 20 year supply of quota quality sawlogs at the above level is underpinned by a long-term sustainable supply of quota quality sawlogs from this region. Supply levels over the next 20 years have been set to ensure social and economic imperatives are met and to allow a transition to a greater contribution of quota supplies from regrowth forests and plantations, under an orderly, staged transition.

The long-term (100 year) supply predictions average of 113,500 m³/year for high quality logs from existing (as at 1 January 1999) native forests and existing plantations managed by State Forests.

This long-term supply prediction only comprises part a long term forest timber resource. Additional quota quality volume is intended to be obtained from a range of initiatives including; private property purchased by State Forests; plantations established by State Forests in joint ventures with private landowners or on purchased land; or through the trading of carbon sequestration rights.

Volumes of high quality logs from these proposed sources would add significantly to the volumes from existing native forest and plantation and would contribute to long-term sustainable yield that differ from the 20 year committed volume by about 10% in LNE region.

These arrangements would ensure timber is provided over the next 20 years within a long-term sustainability strategy.

3.2 TIMBER COMMITMENTS

Compensatable timber supply commitments occur under existing Wood Supply Agreements and new Wood Supply Agreements (WSAs). It is intended that 20 year WSAs based on existing 5+5 Term Agreements will be implemented and a new Wood Supply Agreement of 20 years duration be entered into with Boral. The volumes contained in these agreements will be subject to a review of inventory in 2007.

Harvesting of 160,000 m³ of High Quality Large (HQL) sawlogs from the Region will occur to supply Term Agreement or Wood Supply Agreement holders. Twenty thousand (20,000) cubic metres of HQL sawlogs allocated in the UNE region will be sourced from the LNE region.

Additional volumes must be supplied under a transitional “top-up” arrangement over two years to assist industry adjustments, beginning 1st January 1999 and then be reduced by half in the following twelve month period and terminate by 31st December 2000.

Continuing supply of High Quality Small (HQS) logs at a minimum of 8,500 m³ per annum in the Region to meet existing wood supply agreements must also occur.

*SFNSW** has existing good faith customers to whom it supplies either quota and non-quota timber products including piles, poles, girders and veneer logs. This supply will continue at 50% of 1995 purchase levels. *SFNSW** will also continue supply of existing allocations of pulp grade timber to a wood panel plant at Raymond Terrace and to Boral.

The Minister for Forestry, consistent with the regional *forest assessment**, must consider entering into other wood supply agreements for processing thinnings from hardwood plantations and native regrowth forest operations within the LNE Region.

Forest products such as non-quota material, firewood, fencing materials, seed, beekeeping products, cut wildflowers, commercial bush tucker, tea tree oil and road construction material may also be supplied on a sustainable basis, and applicable statutory controls.

3.3 TIMBER SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS

There will be a package of timber supply arrangements including:

- Reduced timber allocations to a sustainable level consistent with the CAR reserve system* and with supply under compensatable wood supply agreements referred to above.
- Supplementation by *SFNSW** through the purchase of private land and timber rights as part of the private property supplementation program as outlined in Section 2.10.2.
- Removal of traditional Management Area supply arrangements to enable transfer of timber between Regions.
- Log Haulage Assistance for five years to assist with transition to the new timber supply arrangements.
- Timber supply from hardwood plantations. This includes supply from logging associated with rehabilitation of identified hardwood plantations remaining within the new reserve system by 30 June 2001 subject to conditions agreed by *SFNSW** and *NPWS**.
- The progressive implementation of log merchandising by *SFNSW**.

Supply from State Forests' areas undergoing further consideration. Sustainable timber agreement supplies for LNE of 160,000 m₃ per year are based on continued supply from identified leasehold and mineral interest areas and identified wilderness areas on *State forest**. Areas not required to sustain these allocations must be considered for reserves consistent with *JANIS**.

- Supply from salvage logging activities (for example, arising from storm damage and fire salvage).
- An eight year inventory review as part of commitments in new wood supply agreements, as (outlined in section 3.5).
- Continuation of arrangements under existing agreements to allow for the carrying forward into subsequent years of volumes under cut and over cut.

Management strategies concerning timber resources to be adopted by SFNSW* includes:

- Operational matters in *State forests** are the responsibility of the Minister for Forestry within the terms of the *Forest Agreement**, *IFOA** and subject to applicable legislation.
- Operations must proceed under the terms of the Forest Agreements, Integrated Approvals (incorporating *NPWS**, EPA and Fisheries Licensing requirements) and State Forests' Native Forest Management System.
- The Interim Deferred Forest Areas (IDFAs) applied by NSW no longer exist.
- A silvicultural regime must be implemented on *State forest** which must include the use of light and medium Australian Group Selection and light, medium and heavy single tree selection.
- Areas previously assessed as 'State Capable' and '*Provisionally Identified Wilderness*'* which remain on *State forest** must be accessible for logging operations.
- Mapped high conservation value old-growth must be protected in accordance with IFOA while logging may proceed in candidate old-growth areas not mapped as having high conservation value.
- Rainforest must be protected.
- Continued use of forest roads and access within newly reserved areas for *forestry operations** will occur as negotiated by *SFNSW** and *NPWS**.

Supply of forest products from other new timber supply initiatives are covered by the conditions of this Agreement provided the manner of supply are otherwise consistent with the Agreement.

3.4 FOREST MANAGEMENT

Forest operations must occur under SFNSW planning arrangements which include: Regional ESFM Management Plans, State Forests' Environmental Management System, Forest Management Zoning strategies, Codes of Practice (including Eco-Field Guides), silvicultural guidelines, protection of indigenous and cultural heritage, post-logging assessments, environmental restoration auditing, and competency-based training for State Forests' Field Staff and industry contractors. These planning arrangements must be consistent with the relevant terms of the *forest agreement** and *IFOA** conditions.

Consultations on timber supply arrangements must occur through the development of Plans of Operation.

3.5 TIMBER RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

Refinement of resource availability is focussed on two levels. The first level entails additional inventory plot measurement to improve volume estimates at *SFNSW** Regional level. This program is underpinned by funding of \$500,000 per year for five years as part of the Forest Agreement package. The inventory must be conducted consistent with the principles of inventory processes used

in FRAMES (Forest Resource and Management Evaluation System). This inventory must be supplemented by progressive enhancement at the regional level of modifier models in FRAMES. This is achieved by the progressive refinement of harvesting area exclusions and refinement of FRAMES' parameters such as the tree defect and tree availability modifier models using locally specific data to replace RFA Regional average modifier models. *SFNSW** will consult with *NPWS** and DUAP on the terms and conduct of the FRAMES assessment. Following the FRAMES refinement *SFNSW**, *NPWS** and DUAP will consult on appropriate spatial scales for reporting actual yields against the FRAMES estimate. Annual reporting to Parliament will then be at that spatial scale.

The second level of refinement must be an aggregation of these progressive enhancements into a review of supply levels across the *RFA** Region at Year 8 of the 20 Year Term Agreements. The review must determine a supply level for Years 9-20 of the Term Agreements.

The supply review at year 8 is specified in the Term Agreements. The review will be based on the 1999 Forest Agreement land base, the EPA conditions and Conservation Protocols applying to the 1999 IFOA (without amendment), and the enhanced FRAMES estimates of supply levels. The review must determine a supply level for Years 9-20 in accordance with the Term Agreements. In addition, value-adding criteria will have been applied at year 5.

Monitoring of FRAMES performance will also comprise comparison of actual and predicted volume each 12 month period at the RFA Region level, and assessment of the progressive 20 year supply at the RFA Region level.

The results of resource inventory and annual monitoring must be used to review the performance in achieving the implementation of sustainable yield of timber products.

SFNSW must also report on annual production of timber products other than production of quota saw logs.

3.6 TIMBER INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVES

This *forest agreement** must enhance opportunities for industry development and employment in forest-based industries in the Region. Accordingly, a range of initiatives to facilitate employment are outlined in Attachment 10, subject to funding. As indicated these jobs must be preferentially filled by displaced timber workers.

The Forest Industries Structural Adjustment Program (FISAP) must be extended for a further five years from 30 June 2001 until 30 June 2006 and \$ 10 million must be provided to fund initiatives during the extension.

The following initiatives are agreed, subject to funding:

- Assist in the establishment of a Biomass Energy plant in Walcha (\$2M capital grant from the consolidated funds). The Minister for Forestry is to pursue other Biomass Energy proposals.
- Establishment of 2,000 ha per year for five years of hardwood plantations for long-term sawlog production in UNE and LNE (\$6M/year to State Forests from consolidated funds).
- Private property management and timber supplementation by State Forests (\$18M capital over five years and \$380K recurrent over five years).
- Log haulage assistance (\$1 M/year for five years).
- Enhanced Timber Resource Inventory Studies.
- North Coast Thinnings Program.
- Management initiatives to the National Park Estate.
- Aboriginal *Cultural Heritage** in co-management initiatives.
- Carbon sequestration initiatives.

4 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

4.1 INVOLVING THE COMMUNITY IN FOREST MANAGEMENT

The public reporting activities and on-going opportunities for public participation and consultation associated with forest operations and management in the existing New South Wales processes and instruments must continue. These public reporting and consultative mechanisms are outlined below.

The public participation and reporting mechanisms relevant to this *forest agreement** (such as annual reporting and 5 year review) are outlined in sections 6.2, 6.7-10.

4.2 PUBLIC REPORTING AND CONSULTATIVE MECHANISMS RELEVANT TO THE NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

The current public reporting and consultative mechanisms relevant to the *NPWS** are as follows:

- National Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council and District Advisory Committees.
- Preparation and amendment of plans of management under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.
- Preparation, amendment and review of District Bushfire Management Committee plan of operations and bushfire risk management plan (*Rural Fires Act 1997*).
- Preparation of reserve fire management plans.
- Activities associated with the implementation of the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*.
- Public consultation associated with the consideration of the identification and declaration of wilderness areas, in accordance with the *Wilderness Act 1987*.
- Nomination, preparation and possible contraventions of recovery plans and threat abatement plans prepared under the *Endangered Species Protection Act 1992*.
- Consultation with the Aboriginal community in relation to Aboriginal *cultural heritage** information.

The following additional reporting and consultative mechanisms must be implemented by the *NPWS** by 1 April 2000, including:

- The preparation of a State of the Parks report.
- A review of the role and composition of the National Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council.
- A review of the structure of District Advisory Committees so they can provide advice on both on-reserve and off-reserve conservation strategies in a bioregional context.

4.3 PUBLIC REPORTING AND CONSULTATIVE MECHANISMS RELEVANT TO STATE FORESTS OF NSW

The current public reporting and consultative mechanisms relevant to *SFNSW** are as follows:

- Preparation and review of Codes of Practice.
- Preparation, amendment and review of District Bushfire Management Committee plan of operations and bushfire risk management plan (*Rural Fires Act 1997*).
- Consultation with the Aboriginal community in relation to Aboriginal *cultural heritage** information.
- Financial, environmental and social value reports on an annual basis for *SFNSW** within an *ESFM** framework.

The following additional reporting and consultative mechanisms will be implemented by the *SFNSW** by 1 April 2000, including:

- *SFNSW** Regions will consult with stakeholders on operational issues such as the Plan of Operations, Divisions on more strategic issues such as 5 yearly Regional *ESFM** Plans, consultations will also occur through stakeholder groups and community forest partnerships.
- Preparation and amendment of Regional *ESFM** Plans under the *Forestry Act 1916*.
- Consultation on Native Forest Management System.
- Any committee established to implement forest management at the landscape level.

4.4 PUBLIC REPORTING AND CONSULTATIVE MECHANISMS RELEVANT TO NSW FISHERIES

The current public reporting and consultative mechanisms relevant to NSW Fisheries are as follows:

- Activities associated with the implementation of Threatened Species provisions of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*.

4.5 PUBLIC REPORTING AND CONSULTATIVE MECHANISMS RELEVANT TO OTHER AGENCIES

The current public reporting and consultative mechanisms relevant to other agencies are as follows:

- Catchment management committees.
- Publication of State of the Environment reports including reporting against performance measures, sustainability indicators, research and reviews.

The following additional reporting and consultative mechanisms must be sought for implementation by the State by 1 April 2001:

- Committees to provide advice to the Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning on the management of land in any region covered by a *forest agreement**.
- Development of public consultation and public reporting mechanisms at the strategic planning level.
- Development of public participation mechanisms through the introduction of new partnerships (for example, the International Model Forest Network).

5 NATIVE TITLE RIGHTS AND INTERESTS OR ABORIGINAL LAND CLAIMS

5.1 ABORIGINAL INVOLVEMENT IN FOREST MANAGEMENT

5.1.1 Co-management arrangements and joint ventures

The spiritual importance of land to the Aboriginal community, and the inseparability of natural heritage and *cultural heritage** to Aboriginal people is recognised and acknowledged. It is recognised that Aboriginal people are the custodians of their own culture. Hence the Government is committed to establishing effective working relationships with Aboriginal communities concerning the ownership and management of land.

*SFNSW** and *NPWS** must progressively negotiate joint management arrangements with local Aboriginal communities that enable Aboriginal people to be involved in the strategic management of their traditional country and explore opportunities for joint ventures that promote recognition, awareness and respect for Aboriginal *cultural heritage**. Other ventures likely to generate mutual benefits to the Aboriginal, as well as the wider, community must also be considered. Where further analysis indicates the feasibility of ventures, project plans must be developed for implementation.

*NPWS** will conduct a preliminary assessment of all new Parks declared within the LNE Region to identify priority areas that could be further added to Schedule 14 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

Together with the relevant Aboriginal communities, *SFNSW** will examine any *State forest** that could be considered for co-management or joint venture arrangements by April 2000.

*NPWS** and *SFNSW** must prepare a joint strategy which will include how Aboriginal communities can gain access to materials for art and craft purposes, food sources and medicine; access to firewood, and opportunities for traditional use and cultural activity. The strategy may involve camping rights, fee exemptions and rights to people with traditional cultural links with particular areas. This strategy must be prepared by 1 April 2000.

5.1.2 Employment and training strategy

The *Ministers** commit to increasing the opportunities for Aboriginal people to gain valuable land management training and, where possible, subsequent employment. These may include:

- The employment of Aboriginal staff by both *SFNSW** and *NPWS** to foster a closer working partnership between the Aboriginal community and the agencies and assist *cultural heritage** protection.
- Involvement of Aboriginal communities in staff training programs to ensure efficient co-management.

The *Ministers** agree that the *NPWS** will offer permanent employment opportunities for Aboriginal people, as part of funding package for the management of the additions to the reserve system, in operational management.

*NPWS** and *SFNSW** must jointly prepare an employment and industry development program for Aboriginal people by 1 April 2000. This program will outline the strategy for the employment of Aboriginal people by *NPWS** and *SFNSW** as Aboriginal Liaison Officers, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Officers or in an Aboriginal traineeship program intended to equip Aboriginal people for roles in land management.

The joint venture arrangements may create further opportunities for Aboriginal people to be employed. Ventures could include ecotourism, publications, map production, and the production and sale of art and crafts.

5.1.3 Consideration of Indigenous values in forests

It is agreed that Aboriginal interests and values can only be properly addressed if these are identified by members of the Aboriginal community and considered in conjunction with appropriate representatives. Decision making in relation to Indigenous heritage must involve Aboriginal communities and their knowledge, values and concerns must be considered during all phases of forest management.

Each agency must prepare a strategy which outlines how *SFNSW** and the *NPWS** will ensure that Aboriginal communities and stakeholders are given a greater participatory role in forest management. This strategy must be prepared by 1 April 2000.

*SFNSW** must involve Aboriginal communities in the development and finalisation of its policy in relation to Aboriginal involvement in forest management, which will form part of the *NFMS**. The policy will cover issues such as site inspection, monitoring, site maintenance, a review of career opportunities for Aboriginal people and cross-cultural training for staff. As part of the policy development process, *SFNSW** will review hunting and gathering practices jointly with the *NPWS**.

*NPWS**, through its role in the Environment Impact Assessment process, must ensure Indigenous heritage values are considered wherever developments occur.

A strategy must be prepared which outlines how *SFNSW** and the *NPWS** will ensure that Aboriginal communities and stakeholders are given a greater participatory role in forest management. This strategy must be prepared by 1 April 2000.

5.2 NATIVE TITLE AND INTERESTS AND ABORIGINAL LAND CLAIMS

If any implementation of this agreement affects any native titles rights and interests such implementation must be in accordance with the *Native Title Act 1993* (C'wth). Aboriginal land claims under the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* will be dealt with according to law.

6 IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION

6.1 AMENDMENT OR TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT

This agreement may be amended or terminated at any time jointly by the parties to the agreement.

The public must be given an opportunity to participate in connection with any amendment or revocation of this agreement. The public participation that is required, is outlined in section 6.2.

The Minister administering the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* must cause a copy of any amendment or termination of this agreement (together with a statement of the reasons for the amendment) to be furnished to the *Presiding Officer** of each House of Parliament within 7 days after the relevant matter arises.

6.2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN MAKING AN AGREEMENT

Public participation is required when making a *forest agreement** (except the first agreement) and when an amendment or revocation occurs and must include:

- Giving notice of the making of the proposed agreement or amendment/revocation in a newspaper circulating throughout the State and also in a newspaper circulating in the Region (including notice of the place at which and times during which viewing can occur).
- Making any proposed amendment or amendment/revocation available for public inspection, at the place and during the times specified in the notice, for at least 28 days after the notice is given in both of those newspapers.
- Inviting representations in connection with the proposed agreement or amendment/revocation within the time specified in the notice.
- Consideration of any such representation before the agreement is made or before an amendment or revocation.

6.3 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The Resource and Conservation Division (RACD) of *DUAP** will arbitrate and coordinate issues arising from this agreement at an agency level. RACD will report to the chair of *RACAC** and through the appropriate level of Government.

Where there is a proposal to vary the Agreement or IFOA, the agencies involved must work cooperatively to resolve any issues. Where issues remain unresolved a joint assessment would be prepared and submitted to the Ministers. The relevant agencies must negotiate as far as is practicable and present a joint position to the Ministers outlining areas of agreement and unresolved issues. Any issues of disagreement should be clearly identified in the joint advice to Ministers and supporting arguments from each agency must be annexed to the proposal. Agencies can also provide supplementary briefings to their respective portfolio Ministers.

6.4 COOPERATION

Each agency involved in the implementation of this agreement or an *IFOA** applying to the Region must cooperate to the fullest extent in achieving their aims and spirit.

This cooperation is to include:

- Allowing access for inspections.
- Provision of information, and not unreasonably withholding information.
- Full consultation, and consideration of views.
- Timely notification of new information, issues.

6.5 COMMUNICATION ABOUT AGREEMENT

Any notice or other communication concerning this agreement must be in writing and addressed to each Minister.

6.6 EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

If a situation arises which constitutes exceptional circumstances. The procedures for dispute resolution and amendment of this agreement must be followed.

6.7 COMPENSATION

The compensation provisions in commercial contracts for timber suppliers from *Crown timber lands** to which the Minister for Forests is a party are acknowledged, and apply according to their terms and according to law. The *Ministers** must consult on any proposed action (outside the terms of the agreement or any applicable *IFOA**) which could affect the ability of *SFNSW** to meet its contractual obligations, except in the event of an emergency where section 2.4.4 applies or *cultural heritage** issues where *NPWS** and *SFNSW** guidelines will be applied.

The *Ministers** must be satisfied that sufficient funds are available for any compensation before taking any action likely to involve a liability for compensation.

It is noted that the terms of contracts exclude compensation in the event that the adopted inventory outcomes based on 1999 land base and *IFOA** (without amendment) result in reductions of supplies committed under contracts.

6.8 FIVE YEAR REVIEW

Every five years after the agreement is signed, a review of the performance of the agreement must be undertaken by the *Ministers**. The review is to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the agreement (and Approval) in meeting the Government goals and policies. New studies and data are not required and it must not be an assessment in the traditional terms in which environmental assessment is known.

The review is to be undertaken for the purposes only of assessing:

- (a) The implementation of the provisions of the agreement, and
- (b) Whether *IFOA** are effective in achieving the purpose of those approvals.

The terms of reference for the review must be agreed by all parties prior to its commencement.

Modifications may arise from the five yearly reviews but it is not envisaged that a major re-negotiation of the licence would occur, nevertheless the *Ministers** are unfettered in this regard.

Despite clause 18 of the Act (*amendment to the agreement at any time*), the agreement may not be amended as a result of a review under this section, until the report on the outcome of the review has been tabled under clause 20 (5).

The parties are to ensure that the public is given an opportunity to participate in the review of this agreement and is to include:

- Giving at least 6 months notice of the review (including the proposed terms of reference of the review) in a newspaper circulating throughout the State and also in a newspaper circulating in the Region.
- Inviting representations in connection with the proposed terms of reference within the time specified in the notice and consideration of any such representation before the terms of reference are settled.
- Giving notice of whether any changes are proposed to the agreement or *IFOA** in a newspaper circulating throughout the State and also in a newspaper circulating in the Region (including notice of the place at which and times during which any proposed amendment must be available for public inspection).
- Making any proposed changes available for public inspection, at the place and during the times specified in the notice, for at least 28 days after the notice is given in both of those newspapers.
- Inviting representations in connection with the proposed amendment within the time specified in the notice.
- Consideration of any such representation before a decision is made on the outcome of the review and any changes are made.

A report on the outcome of each review must be tabled in each House of Parliament within 12 months after the end of the relevant 5-year period and it must be based on any relevant information including the annual reports submitted to Parliament by the Minister for Planning.

6.9 PROCESS FOR ANNUAL REPORTING

The Minister administering the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* must prepare an annual report on this agreement, which must include:

- (a) *ESFM** in the Region; and
- (b) Compliance with any *IFOA** for the Region.

Each annual report is to be tabled in each House of Parliament as soon as practicable after it is prepared and may be combined with either other reports required by the Act or an annual report from *DUAP**.

The annual report must include details of:

- The achievement of any milestones as set out in the agreements.
- Progress with the implementation of the *EMS** of *NPWS** and *SFNSW** as they pertain to the agreement.
- Progress reports with the implementation of Aboriginal co-management arrangements.
- Progress in implementation of *ESFM** indicators.
- Reports as specified in the *IFOA**.
- Results of the monitoring, research and review strategy.
- Results of the monitoring of the *timber resource**, including comparison of actual yields against *FRAMES* estimates and any associated variations.
- Review of levels of protection of forest ecosystems and old growth forest achieved in the *CAR reserve system**.

6.10 PARLIAMENTARY TABLING OF AGREEMENT

The Minister administering the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* must cause a copy of this agreement to be furnished to the *Presiding Officer** of each House of Parliament within 7 days after the agreement is signed.

A copy of this agreement is to be furnished to the *Presiding Officer** so it can be laid before that House within 15 sitting days of that House after it is received by the *Presiding Officer**.

The *Presiding Officer** of a House of Parliament is to make this agreement public, as soon as practicable after receiving the document, if it has not been sooner laid before that House, whether or not the House is in session.

If such an agreement is made public by the *Presiding Officer** of a House of Parliament before it is laid before that House, it attracts the same privileges and immunities as if it had been laid before that House.

6.11 PUBLIC NOTICE AND PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF AGREEMENT, ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS

Within 7 days after the relevant matter arises, the Minister administering the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* must place a public notice in a newspaper circulating throughout the State and also in a newspaper circulating in the Region, about:

- The making of a *forest agreement** and any amendment or termination of this agreement.
- The granting of an *IFOA** and any amendment, suspension or revocation.

Any such notice is to state the place at which copies of the relevant documents must be available for public inspection.

Copies of the following documents must be available for public inspection at the head office and other regional offices of *DUAP**, and at such other offices or places as the head of the Department directs, during ordinary office hours and within 7 days after the relevant matter arises:

- (a) This agreement and any amendment or termination of this agreement (together with a statement of the reasons for the amendment or termination);
- (b) Each *IFOA** and any amendment, suspension or revocation (together with a statement of the reasons for the amendment, suspension or revocation).
- (c) The terms of reference of each 5-yearly review of this agreement; and
- (d) The last annual report on, and the report of the last 5-yearly review of this agreement that are tabled in Parliament.

Copies of these documents referred to above must be made available, as soon as practicable, on the Internet by means of the website of *DUAP**.

A person may take copies of any such document on payment of the actual charge determined by the head of *DUAP** to cover the cost of the copying.

6.12 CONDUCT OF RESEARCH AND MONITORING PROGRAMS

Research and objective monitoring programs must be based on rigorous scientific methods and experimental design and be capable of withstanding scientific and public scrutiny. Where appropriate, research must include statistical and analytical methods, state hypotheses, utilise sufficient replicates, controls and stratification. Confidence limits and other qualifications should be clearly stated.

6.13 DATA MANAGEMENT

The *regional forest assessment**, comprised a large amount of social, economic and environmental data. This data bank is an important resource to the general community, government agencies and the scientific community, by providing a comprehensive tool for decision-making and public education. This data must be made publicly accessible, and is to equally be shared between all parties to the agreement.

A data management agreement will be developed to manage the data developed, and any future data or scientific research that results from this agreement. This data management agreement must be finalised by 1 April 2000, and must cover:

- Ownership and custodianships.
- Archival lodging and location, and associated documentation standards.
- Access, use and maintenance of the data.
- Monitoring, research and review strategy including details on scientific rigour of the strategies.
- Data for, and monitoring of, *ESFM** indicators.
- Complete sharing of data between agencies as it pertains to forest management.

All archival copies of data must be lodged by 1 October 1999.

6.14 RESOURCES AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

In our portfolios adequate resources are available and appropriate administrative arrangements must be in place to allow the terms of this agreement to be met and carried out, as appropriate and subject to the overall priorities of Government (including the approval of funding if required).

6.15 COOPERATION BETWEEN REGULATORY AGENCIES

*DUAP**, *NPWS**, *EPA**, *SFNSW** and *NSW Fisheries** must for any *IFOA** devise and implement a coordinated complaint handling and response system. This is to ensure both efficient enforcement of an *IFOA** and use of staff and other resources. *SFNSW* will be advised of the system.

These arrangements are not to hinder or limit any agencies statutory roles or responsibilities. This system must be agreed between the relevant heads of agencies by 1 January 2000 and implemented on that agreement.

6.16 TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

6.16.1 Plantations on National Park Estate

In some circumstances harvesting of larger areas of higher merchantable value plantation (approximately 400 hectares in total) could occur as a transitional arrangement as part of rehabilitation works jointly agreed between *NPWS** and *SFNSW** in the plantations identified in Attachment 11. Any harvesting in these areas must be completed by 30 June 2001.

Works programs and rehabilitation plans must be jointly prepared by *NPWS** and *SFNSW**, and approved jointly, prior to any rehabilitation works (including harvesting) occurring in these areas. Rehabilitation plans must cover the following:

- Where the plantation species is considered to be a locally occurring species, the harvesting regime is likely to consist of only partial canopy removal.
- Where the plantation species is not considered to be a locally occurring species the harvesting regime is likely to generally consist of a clearfell, and stem treatment if necessary for coping species.
- These harvesting operations must be supervised by *SFNSW** staff, and monitored by *NPWS** staff.
- Product marketing and account administration must be undertaken by *SFNSW* staff in consultation with *NPWS* staff.
- Identification of harvesting regime and methods.
- Proposed timing of harvesting.

- Identification of post harvest treatments.
- Rehabilitation objectives.
- Rehabilitation technique to be used.
- Proposed timing of rehabilitation.
- Monitoring proposals.
- Identification of performance indicators.
- Identification of further remedial works if necessary.
- Funding basis for works.

Rehabilitation works must be substantially complete within 6 months of harvest completion.

Rehabilitation costs will be funded by royalties obtained from the sale of timber harvested as part of the rehabilitation program. Net proceeds from sales must be from these areas must be held separately by *SFNSW** and must be available to fund rehabilitation works as specified in rehabilitation plans. Such funds must be pooled to be used remedial works on any of the areas on which harvesting is used as a rehabilitation tool. At the completion of all rehabilitation undertaken as part of this agreement, any unexpended rehabilitation funds will become the property of *SFNSW*.

6.16.2 Lands for Further Consideration

The Directors-General of Urban Affairs and Planning, National Parks and Wildlife and the Chief Executive Officer of *SFNSW** in liaison with the Director-General of the Department of Mineral Resources must identify certain additional areas as 'available for formal reservation'. These areas will be refined from the 'areas for further consideration' established by the Government's decision. The process for identifying these lands is that described in the *DUAP** memo dated 4 February 1999 and entitled "Procedure for dealing with lands for further consideration for reservation". Minor variations outside the boundaries of the 'areas for further consideration' may also be included. Any of these areas (excluding areas of leasehold) which the Agencies agree is suitable for formal reservation must be dedicated as soon as practicable.

*NPWS** may pursue the purchase of any leases on these areas on an entirely voluntary basis using approaches agreed with NSW Farmers. The procedure for purchasing land must be determined with NSW Farmers by 31 August 1999. Such proposed purchases will be subject to concurrence by *DMR** where major mineral objections exist as mapped (Map 2). *DMR** will be notified in all other cases.

Any areas for which the leases are purchased must be incorporated following liaison with *DUAP** and *SFNSW** as soon as is practical by gazettal into the *NPWS** estate. The Minister for the Environment must notify the Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning and the Minister for Forests of purchases prior to dedicating the lands. If parts of the area covered by a lease lie outside of the area for further consideration then the Government may purchase the entire lease. In such cases, only those areas of the purchased lease within the area for further consideration will be added to the *national park estate**.

In the interim, these lands must be zoned by *SFNSW** as *FMZ* 2* ,or *FMZ* 3* where they are encumbered by leases or have major mineral value precluding *FMZ* 2* , and must be managed accordingly (see section 2.3.1). Any activities in these lands that may diminish the conservation values of the area must only be carried out with the agreement of the *NPWS** and following consultation with leaseholders.

*SFNSW** must pursue upgrading to *FMZ* 2*, any *FMZ* 3* area which would be classed as 'available for formal reservation' but for unresolved minerals issues. Accordingly the Government must

attempt to voluntarily acquire these leases using approaches coordinated with the *NPWS** purchase strategy.

The *NPWS** and *SFNSW** must aim to complete negotiations by 30 June 2000. The Parties must promptly prepare a submission to Government seeking funding (subject to approval and availability) for the purchase of leasehold land.

*NPWS** must assess the forest conservation values of remaining vacant Crown land in consultation with the Department of Land and Water Conservation, the Department of Mineral Resources and other relevant stakeholders by 1 January 2003. Vacant Crown land areas with forest conservation values not adequately represented in the existing reserve system must be designated as *dedicated** or *informal reserves** unless there are significant reasons for exclusion.

The process (prior to any purchases) of selecting land for purchase by *SFNSW** for timber supply must consider key substantially unmet CAR conservation targets. A process for this, and the key targets must be developed by *SFNSW**, including consultation with *NPWS** and DUAP, by 30 June 1999. This is not to hinder the overall purpose of the Private Property Supplementation Program, to supplement *SFNSW** timber supply.

Areas of vacant Crown land with potential mineral resource interest must be considered for *Crown reserve** establishment in accordance with section 2.3.

*DUAP**, *SFNSW**, and *NPWS** agree that any tenure changes to any of these lands as a result of the above process must not occur without prior consultation with *DMR**.

*DUAP**, *SFNSW**, and *NPWS** agree to prepare a joint acquisition strategy for these lands.

Note: Any relevant *IFOA** will apply to additions to *State forests** or other *Crown timber land**.

6.16.3 Wild Dog Control

Wild dog control using 1080 baits (including aerial baiting) will be able to proceed in land managed under *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* for the duration of 1999, where *SFNSW** has given an approval or an undertaking for such works to be carried out. Under this arrangement baiting must be in accordance with measures approved by the *NPWS** District Manager. Aerial baiting can only occur in areas where ground baiting is not a viable option.

6.17 ISSUES OUTSIDE THE PORTFOLIOS OF THE FOUR MINISTERS

The *forest agreement** may affect matters dealt with by another Minister and accordingly it is agreed to consult such a Minister when the need arises and noted that matters involving other portfolios will require the agreement of the appropriate Minister and/or agency. Memorandums of Understanding, or similar mechanisms will be utilised where appropriate.

6.18 ESTABLISHMENT OF AGREED MILESTONES

All milestones are given in Attachment 12 and their achievement must be reported on during the first five years, and as part of the five-yearly review, using the public reporting mechanism discussed in sections 6.8-6.11.

7 DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

7.1 DEFINITIONS

Note: Definitions followed by *[F&NPE Act]* are from the Forestry and National Parks Estate act 1998.

ancillary road construction means the provision of roads and fire trails, and the maintenance of existing railways, to enable or assist in ***forestry operations****.

Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative (CAR) Reserve System is a reserve system to conserve all native forest types and old growth as well as the plants and animals that depend on them, and meaning set out in *JANIS**.

CRAFTI refers to Aerial Photography Interpretation undertaken as part of the *regional forest assessment** for the areas covered by this *forest agreement**.

Crown-timber lands has the same meaning as in the *Forestry Act 1916*. *[F&NPE Act]*

Crown Reserve means lands dedicated or reserved under Part 5 of the *Crown Lands Act 1989*.

cultural heritage generally refers to places of historic, social, aesthetic or scientific value. A cultural heritage place can be a site, area, landscape, building or other work, group of buildings or other works, together with associated contents and surroundings, that is significant for its historic, social, aesthetic or scientific value. The value of a cultural heritage place is determined by assessment against a set of significance criteria which reflect the values outlined above. In the forest environment these values can be expressed, for example, through the fabric of an archaeological or historic site, through spiritual associations with particular places, or within a landscape with a combination of intangible and tangible elements.

dedicated reserve means a reserve equivalent to International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) Protected Area Management Categories I, II, III, IV as defined by the IUCN Commission for National Parks and Protected Areas (1994). The status of Dedicated Reserves is secure, requiring action by the Parliament or in accordance with legislation for reservation or revocation. Dedicated reserves include, but are not limited to, parks under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NSW) and flora reserves under the *Forestry Act 1916* (NSW) and the proposed Special Protection Zones under the Forest Management Zoning System.

ecologically sustainable forest management (ESFM) is managing forests so that they are sustained in perpetuity for the benefit of society by ensuring that the values of forests are not lost or degraded for current and future generations. *ESFM** applies to all forest tenures.

environmental management systems (EMS) is the framework which enables an organisation to follow its environmental policy and achieve its objectives. An EMS can be developed for an entire organisation or for discrete functional areas. The primary benefit of an EMS is that it gives an organisation a way of managing its environmental performance, thereby allowing it to contribute to improved environmental quality.

forest agreement means a forest agreement referred to in Part 3 that is in force. *[F&NPE Act]*

forest management zones (FMZ) is a land classification system which sets out, in map format, management intent across the entire *State forest** estate and clearly differentiates between those areas of *State forests** which are specifically set aside for conservation and those areas which are available for timber harvesting and other activities. The zones include:

Zone 1 Special Protection

- Zone 2 Special Management
- Zone 3 Special Prescription
- Zone 4 General Management
- Zone 5 Hardwood Plantations
- Zone 6 Softwood Plantations
- Zone 7 Non Forestry Use

forestry operations means:

- (a) *logging operations**, namely, the cutting and removal of timber from land for the purpose of timber production, or
- (b) *forest products operations**, namely, the harvesting of products of trees, shrubs and other vegetation (other than timber) that are of economic value, or
- (c) *on-going forest management operations**, namely, activities relating to the management of land for timber production such as thinning, bush fire hazard reduction, bee-keeping, grazing and other silvicultural activities, or
- (d) *ancillary road construction**, namely, the provision of roads and fire trails, and the maintenance of existing railways, to enable or assist in the above operations. [*F&NPE Act*]

Note: The definitions of *logging operations**, *forest product operations**, *on-going forest management operations** and *ancillary road construction** are used separately (q.v.).

forest products operations, namely, the harvesting of products of trees, shrubs and other vegetation (other than timber) that are of economic value. [*F&NPE Act*]

harvest plans means a plan produced by or for *SFNSW** setting out the operational detail for a site specific *logging operation** at the scale of a compartment or group of compartments in a *State forest**. Provisions include areas to be logged or not logged, location of roads and log dumps, operational specifications, environmental protection, logging intensity and silvicultural methods.

Indicator 1.1a

- **forest type** - a class in the hierarchy of vegetation classification of forests characterised by the taxonomic and or structural composition of canopy trees (usually by the dominant species) - as defined by *RFA** forest type data sets.

Indicator 1.1.e

- **general retained habitat** - habitat that is suitable for use by a species and is not subject to management practices or changes in land use that may render the habitat unsuitable for any period of time.

Indicator 1.2.a

- **forest dwelling** - species living in forest and/or reliant upon resources provided by forest. The term “forest dwelling” is taken to include all forest dependent species.
- **functional populations** - populations that are both viable and of sufficient abundance to play their traditional role in ecosystem processes.
- **viable populations** - populations that have enough individuals, genetic variation and are spatially distributed in such a way that allows continued survival of the population.

Indicator 1.2b

- **conservation status** - the designation of species on Commonwealth or State conservation legislation. e.g. threatened species may be either “endangered” or “vulnerable” under the *NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 (TSC Act)*.
- **scheduled forest dwelling species** - forest dwelling species (above) that appear on the lists (schedules) of species identified on either Commonwealth or State species conservation

legislation. e.g. endangered species are listed on Schedule 1 and vulnerable species are listed on Schedule 2, of the TSC Act.

Indicator 1.2b1

- **conservation status** - the designation of populations or ecosystems on Commonwealth or State conservation legislation. e.g. populations and ecosystems may be listed as endangered under the TSC Act

Indicator 2.1.d

- **allowable timber cut** - as defined by the *forest agreement**

Indicator 2.1f

- **effective stocking** - the survival of planted trees one year after planting at a level that must provide a cost-effective return upon harvest.

Indicator 2.1.g

- **effective regeneration** - success of regeneration in re-establishing the pre-harvesting forest structure and species composition, specific for each forest type and locality.

Indicator 3.1.a

- **ecosystem health** - the state of an ecosystem's processes (energy, nutrient, hydrological, and biological processes) which maintains the vitality of the system.
- **vitality** - is equated to the ability of the ecosystem to perpetuate itself.
- **climatic events** - including flood, storm, wind, drought etc.

Indicator 7.1

- **property rights** - the right of ownership, control or management over an area of land.
- **appropriate land tenure arrangements** - the recognition of rights of ownership, control or management by establishing land tenure agreements with the traditional Indigenous owners of an area of land.
- **traditional management practices** - the recognition and acceptance of traditional Indigenous management practices (including the harvesting of plants and animals, and the use of fire, for traditional purposes).
- **self management** - the recognition and acceptance of the rights of Indigenous people to manage their own interests without intervention.

informal reserve means a reserve that contains and is managed for conservation values which contribute to the CAR Reserve System and meets the principles for Informal Reserves as described in the JANIS Report. It includes, but is not limited to, parts of the SFNSW Preferred Management Priority areas and parts of the proposed Special Management Zone under the Forest Management Zoning System.

integrated forestry operations approval means an approval referred to in Part 4 that is in force. [F&NPE Act]

IUCN Reserve Category means the categories set out in Guidelines for Protected Area Management Categories, published in 1994 by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, Gland, Switzerland.

JANIS or JANIS Report means the report by the Joint Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council (ANZECC)/Ministerial Council on Forestry, Fisheries and Aquaculture (MCFFA) National Forests Policy Statement Implementation Sub-committee, titled 'Nationally Agreed Criteria for the Establishment of a Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative Reserve System for Forests in Australia', published by the Commonwealth of Australia in 1997.

logging operations means the cutting and removal of timber from land for the purpose of timber production. [F&NPE Act]

Map 1 means the Map marked “Lower North East Region – Forest Agreement” attached to this agreement.

Map 2 means the map marked ““Lower North East CRA/RFA Proposed National Parks and Reserves and other areas for further consideration”” attached to this agreement.

mining means “mining” under the *Mining Act 1992* and includes production of “petroleum” under the *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991*. It does not include the extraction of extractive resources not defined as “minerals” under the *Mining Act 1992*.

mineral exploration means “prospecting” under the *Mining Act 1992* or under the *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991*.

Ministers include:

1. The Minister administering the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.
2. The Minister administering the *Forestry Act 1916*.
3. The Minister administering the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.
4. The Minister administering the *Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991*.
5. The Minister administering the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*.

minor forest products include all forest products other than saw logs. The products include specialty timber, fence posts and the commercial collection of firewood. Non wood products are also included, for example, cut wildflowers, commercial bush tucker products, tea tree oil and bush rock. Filming and photography are considered a forest use rather than a forest product, and as such are not included in this category.

national park estate means:

- (a) land declared as a wilderness area under the *Wilderness Act 1987* or the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, or
- (b) land reserved or dedicated under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, or
- (c) land dedicated or set apart as a flora reserve under the *Forestry Act 1916*, or
- (d) land dedicated or reserved for a similar public purpose under the *Crown Lands Act 1989*.
[F&NPE Act]

net harvest area exclusions means more areas depicted on the GIS Data Layers titled “UNE_CLUMP100” and “LNE_CLUMP100”.

on-going forest management operations means activities relating to the management of land for timber production such as thinning, bush fire hazard reduction, bee-keeping, grazing and other silvicultural activities. [F&NPE Act]

Presiding Officer means the President of the Legislative Council or the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. However:

- if there is a vacancy in the office of President, the reference to the President is a reference to the Clerk of the Legislative Council, or
- if there is a vacancy in the office of Speaker, the reference to the Speaker is a reference to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly. [ref. cl. 21 (7) of F & NP Bill]

provisionally identified wilderness means the eleven areas determined to be capable of identification as wilderness under section 6 of the *Wilderness Act 1987* during the "Wilderness Assessment Project - UNE & LNE".

regional forest assessment comprises any such assessment for the agreement concerned, together with any environmental impact statements obtained by the Forestry Commission or other determining authority under Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* or related environmental studies that the parties to the agreement consider relevant. [F&NPE Act]

regional forest agreement means an agreement between the Commonwealth and New South Wales as referred in the *Scoping Agreement for New South Wales Regional Forest Agreements*

(1996) between the Commonwealth of Australia and the State of New South Wales (made on 25 January 1996) and as defined in the Export Control (Hardwood Wood Chips) (1996) Regulations (Commonwealth), that being:

- (a) identifies areas in the region or regions that the parties believe are required for the purposes of a comprehensive, adequate and representative national reserve system, and provides for the conservation of those areas; and
- (b) provides for the ecologically sustainable management and use of forested areas in the region or regions; and
- (c) is expressed to be for the purposes of providing long-term stability of forests and forest industries; and
- (d) is expressed to be a Regional Forest Agreement for the purposes of these Regulations; having regard to studies and projects carried out in relation to all of the following matters that are relevant to the region or regions;
- (e) environmental values, including old growth, wilderness, endangered species, national estate values and world heritage values;
- (f) indigenous heritage values;
- (g) economic values of forested areas and forest industries;
- (h) social values (including community needs); and
- (i) principles of ecologically sustainable management;

Resource and Conservation Assessment Council means the body by that name established by the Government of the State in 1995, or any other body established by the Government of the State to replace that body. [*F&NPE Act*]

SFNSW means the Forestry Commission of New South Wales, trading as State Forests of New South Wales.

special management zones is an area of *State forest** where operations are prohibited to protect special conservation value. [*F&NPE Act*]

species new to science includes newly discovered species and taxonomic revisions.

State forest means land dedicated under the *Forestry Act 1916* (or under the former *Forestry Act 1909*) as a *State forest**, being a dedication that is in force. [*F&NPE Act*]

threatened species licence refers to the terms of licences under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* and/or *Fisheries Management Act 1994* that are taken to be granted by the *IFOA**.

timber resources includes the timber currently on a defined area of land, an estimate of the volume and types of timber products currently available from a defined area of land, and an estimate developed using predictive modelling techniques of the sustainable future yields of the volume and types of timber products on that area of land.

7.2 ACRONYMS

| | |
|-------|--|
| API | Aerial Photography Interpretation |
| CDEP | Community Development Employment Program |
| CERRA | Central Eastern Rainforest Reserves, Australia |
| DMR | Department of Mineral Resources |
| DUAP | Department of Urban Affairs and Planning |
| EMS | Environmental Management System |
| EPA | Environment Protection Authority |
| ESFM | Ecologically Sustainable Forest Management |

| | |
|--------|--|
| FISAP | Forestry Industry Structural Adjustment Package |
| FMZ | Forest Management Zone |
| FRAMES | Forest Resource and Management System |
| HQS | High Quality Small logs |
| IDFA | Interim Deferred Forest Areas |
| IFOA | Integrated Forestry Operations Approval |
| IUCN | International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources |
| LNE | Lower North East |
| MIG | Montreal Implementation Group |
| NFMS | Native Forest Management System |
| NPWS | NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service |
| RACAC | Resource and Conservation Assessment Council |
| RACD | Resource and Conservation Division |
| RFA | Regional forest agreement |
| SFNSW | State Forests of New South Wales |

8 SIGNATURE OF PARTIES

Dated:

5 March 1999

(Signed)

(Signed)

Craig Knowles
Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning

Kim Yeadon
Minister for Forestry

(Signed)

(Signed)

Pam Allan
Minister for the Environment

Bob Martin
Minister for Fisheries

ATTACHMENT 1

LIST OF DOCUMENTS IN REGIONAL FOREST ASSESSMENT

1.1 REPORTS - PROJECT

1.1.1 Economic and Social Technical Committee

- Consultancy Report on Apiary in NSW
- Identification of Plantation Expansion Opportunities-NSW
- FPA Library Data Access Upgrade
- Forum Model for UNE & LNE NSW RFAs.
- Development opportunities for hardwood based forest Industries in the UNE & LNE NSW RFA Regions. (Report only)
- Economic Survey of the hardwood based Industries of the UNE & LNE RFA Regions.
- Industry Response for the hardwood Processing Industry in the UNE & LNE RFA Regions.
- Management Intent Survey for Private Forest Owners in the UNE & LNE CRA Regions. (Report only)
- Tourism and Recreation Study for the UNE & LNE CRA Regions
- Timber Supply Priority Zoning for the LNE & Southern CRA Regions.
- Profile and Economic Assessment of grazing on State forests in the UNE/ LNE RFA Regions.
- A report on Forest Wood Resources and minor Forest Produce for the UNE/UNE RFA Regions.
- Location Impacts of Forest Industry Expenditure. (Report only)
- Benefit Transfer and Threshold Value Analysis of Non-Use Values of Forest Preservation
- Review of forest industry mitigation measures, Upper North East and Lower North East Regions
- Economic Assessment of Water Values
- Assessment of Mineral Resources
- Post Impact Studies Analysis and Regional Profile.
- Social Values of Forests.
- Regional Economic Impact Assessment for the LNE CRA Region.
- Modelling and Social Impact assessment for the LNE CRA Region.

1.1.2 Environment and Heritage Technical Committee

- Fauna Surveys - NSW CRAs
- Statewide Cultural Heritage Data Audit, Integration and Analysis (non. Indig.)
- Protecting cultural heritage values and places in the NSW forest estate. (Report only)
- Protecting cultural heritage values and places in the NSW forest estate (Report only)
- Protecting cultural heritage values and places in the NSW forest estate (Report only)
- Statewide Indigenous Consultation Process for the CRA/RFA Process
- Assessment of places of Aesthetic significance in NSW CRAs
- Assessment of places of Aesthetic significance in NSW CRAs
- Overview of Archaeological Resources on Forests
- Response to disturbance of Forest Species in CRA Regions of NSW
- Response to disturbance of Forest Species in CRA Regions of NSW
- Mapping of Forest Management History
- Mapping of Forest Management History
- Threatened Plants Project
- Modeling Areas of habitat significance for Vertebrate fauna and Vascular flora in North East NSW

- Identification of places of Natural history significance
- Identification of places of Geoheritage significance
- Old Growth Forest related projects for the UNE & LNE CRA Region
- UNE & LNE Regions Forest History and Heritage Assessment (Non Indigenous)
- Soil and Regolith Attributes for CRA/ RFA Model Resolution.
- Wilderness Assessment - UNE & LNE Regions
- Collection of Vegetation Data from Historical Portion Plan Surveys - UNE & LNE Regions.
- LNE Forest Ecosystem Derivation Project Stage II Analysis & UNE pre- 1750 forest ecosystem Derivation.
- Reserve Design (report only)
- Evaluation of derived ecosystems as biodiversity surrogates and analysis of biological variation within forest ecosystems.
- Pilot Project to monitor Change using LANDSAT
- Various Recovery Planning Related Projects.
- LANDSAT TM data Change detection tool UNE / LNE CRA Regions.
- JANIS and Natural National Estate Conservation Requirements for the UNE and LNE CRA regions.
- Development of C-Plan functionality to guide achievement of spatial configuration objectives
- Extensive Natural National Estate Values - UNE/LNE CRA
- Lower North East CRA Vegetation Mapping Project: Stage 1.
- Lower North East - South of the Hunter River Vegetation Mapping (Survey and Analysis)
- Mingaletta Aboriginal Heritage Area Project - LNE CRA Region

1.1.3 FRAMES Technical Committee

- Strategic Inventory
- Biometrics Models
- Yield Simulator
- Strategic Yield Scheduler

1.1.4 ESFM Working Group

- Statewide and Regional Assessment of NSW Management Systems and processes.
- Knowledge and Information Gaps for UNE, LNE and STH CRAs
- Knowledge and Information Gaps for UNE, LNE and STH CRAs
- Criteria, Indicators, Targets and Monitoring Processes for the UNE, LNE and Southern RFA Regions. (Report only).
- Review of protective measures and forest practices and expression of these into language for information systems.
- Application of the protective measures and forest practices into a quantitative database
- Water quality and quantity for the Upper and Lower North East, Southern RFA regions

1.1.5 Multiple Technical Committee Projects

- Community Consultation through Regional Forest Forums. No project report required.
- CRA Data Manual - Statewide Project
- Joint Secretariat
- Arcview Metadata Tool Development
- Planning Unit Derivation (data only)
- Data Warehouse Integration
- UNE/LNE data Integration for CPLAN Project

- Preparation for LNE CRAFTI Project
- LNE CRAFTI Project.

1.2 REPORTS – OTHER

- Commonwealth of Australia, 1992, National Forest Policy Statement, A New Focus for Australia's Forests, Second Edition, Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra.
- Commonwealth of Australia, 1996, the National Strategy for the Conservation of Australia's Biological Diversity, Commonwealth Department of the Environment, Sport and Territories, Canberra.
- Commonwealth of Australia, 1997, National Agreed Criteria for the Establishment of a Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative Reserve System for Forests in Australia, A Report by the Joint ANECC/MCFFA National Forest Policy Statement Implementation Subcommittee, Canberra.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, 1997, Draft NSW Biodiversity Strategy, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Hurstville.
- FCNSW 1988, Environmental impact statement. Forestry operations in the Eden Management Area. October 1988. Forestry Commission of New South Wales, Sydney.
- FCNSW 1990 Environmental impact statement. Forestry operations in the Eden Management Area. February 1990. Forestry Commission of New South Wales, Sydney.
- FCNSW 1991 Environmental impact statement. Forestry operations in the Eden Management Area. February 1991. Forestry Commission of New South Wales, Sydney.
- FCNSW 1992 Supplementary environmental impact statement, Proposed forestry operations in the Eden Management Area. August 1992. Forestry Commission of New South Wales, Sydney.
- Harris-Daishowa (Australia) Pty Ltd 1986, Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Eden (NSW) Export Woodchip Operation for the Period 1989-2009. Margules and Partners (Consultants), December 1986.
- Resource and Conservation Assessment Council 1996, Interim Assessment Process Report, NSW.
- Social indicators workshop outcomes (Unpublished) 1996, Assessing Sustainable Forest Management in Australia Conference, November 1996, Canberra.
(<http://www.dpie.gov.au/dpie/conference/asfma>)
- SFNSW 1994, Environmental impact statement, Proposed forestry operations in the Eden Management Area, Volume A Main Report.
- The Montreal Process 1995, pp. 27. *Criteria and Indicators for The Conservation and Sustainable Management of Temperate and Boreal Forest*. Canadian Forest Service, Natural Resources Canada, 351 St. Joseph Boulevard, Hull, Quebec, Canada, K1A 1G5 pp. 27.
- CSIRO Forestry and Forest Products, Andrew Smith SETSCAN and Pat O'Shaughnessy & Assoc. 1997. ESFM Practices. Final draft. pp. 139
- FORTECH 1997, Eden RFA Criteria and Indicators. Forestry Technical Services, GPO Box 4, Canberra pp. 15 and annexes 1-7.
- IGAE 1992. Intergovernmental Agreement on the Environment. Commonwealth of Australia. AGPS. Canberra.
- Department of Planning (1993a) Environment impact assessment – Proposed forestry operation: Wingham management area, Department of Planning, Sydney.
- Department of Planning (1993b) Environment impact assessment – Proposed forestry operation: Glen Innes management area, Department of Planning, Sydney.
- Department of Planning (1994) Environment impact assessment – Proposed forestry operation: Kempsey/Wauchope management area, Department of Planning, Sydney.

- Department of Urban Affairs and Planning, 1995, Environmental Impact Assessment for Eden Management Area 1994 Environmental Impact Statement. Sydney.
- Forest Essentials Pty Ltd, 1997a Validation of Eden Wood Resources Data. A report to the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council New South Wales and State Forests NSW.
- Forest Essentials Pty Ltd, 1997b Modification of the STANDSIM model for the Eden Management Area. A report to the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council New South Wales and State Forests NSW.
- SFNSW, 1994 Environmental Impact Statement: Proposed Forestry Operations in Eden Management Area. November 1994, State Forests of New South Wales, Sydney.
- Interim Assessment Process, 1996 Wood Resources Study.
- Strategic Framework for Comprehensive Regional Assessments in NSW.
- NSW CRA/RFA Management Structures
- Technical Framework for environment and heritage assessments in the NSW CRA/RFA process
- ESTC. June 1997. Technical framework for addressing economic and social values in the NSW CRA/RFA process.
- Forest resource and management system (FRAMES) technical framework. 18 June 1997.
- Draft NSW ESFM technical framework. October 1997.
- Data Management Group - Terms of Reference
- Guidelines for Regional Forest Forums. NSW CRA/RFA Steering Committee. RACAC.
- RACAC Council Terms of Reference
- API Working Group - Terms of Reference
- Integration Working Group -Terms of Reference
- Integration Manual
- Scoping Agreement for NSW RFA
- Mount Royal Environmental Impact Statement Volume 1 Report – Volume 2 (Appendices) published by the Forestry Commission of New South Wales, prepared by Kinhills Engineers, September 1992. Supplementary documents: Assessment of Impact of Logging operations* on Archaeological Sites prepared by Resource Planning Pty. Ltd, November 1991; Flora and Fauna Survey prepared by Shields, York & Binns, published by the Forestry Commission of New South Wales.
- Wingham Environmental Impact Statement , Department of Planning, January 1993.
- Glen Innes Environmental Impact Statement, State Forests of New South Wales (Manidis Roberts, Consultants), October 1992. Supporting documents: Fauna Impact Statement prepared by Austeco Pty. Ltd., published by the Forestry Commission of New South Wales October 1992; Flora Survey prepared by D. Binns, published by the Forestry Commission of New South Wales 1992.
- Dorrigo Environmental Impact Statement, State Forests of New South Wales, Volume A (Main Report), B (Appendices), C (Fauna Species Profiles) and Supporting Volume 1 (Soil Report –ERM Mitchell McCotter) September 1995); Volume 2 Dorrigo – Aquatic Fauna Report) – Australian Water Technologies April, 1994); Volume 3 – Fauna Report by Dr. Lim of Countrywide Ecological Service 1995); Volume 4 – European Disturbance History Specific Sites in Chaelundi State Forest by P. Curby), 1994, State Forests of New South Wales, December 1995.
- Kempsey/Wauchope Environmental Impact Statement, Forestry Commission of New South Wales, (Truyard Pty. Limited) May, 1993.
- Report on Fauna Survey in the Kempsey and Wauchope Forestry Management Areas, Mount King Ecological Surveys, May, 1993.
- Eden Environmental Impact Statement Volume A (Main Report), Volume B (Appendix 1) – Fauna Impact Statement, Volume C Appendices 2-25, State Forests of New South Wales, November 1994

- Grafton Environmental Impact Statement Volumes A, Volume B (Appendix 1), State Forests of New South Wales, November 1994. Supporting documents No. 1 – Terrestrial Fauna: Description and Assessment of Forestry Impacts prepared by Andrews & Moore, State Forests of New South Wales, 1994; No. 2 – Flora and Assessment of Impacts prepared by Moore & Floyd, State Forests of New South Wales, 1994; No. 3 - Soils Reports by Veness & Associates, State Forests of New South Wales, 1994; No. 4 – European Heritage: Historical Report by Blackmore & Associates, State Forests of New South Wales, 1993; No. 5 – Archaeological Survey of Historical Sites by S. Pearson 1993; No. 6 – European Disturbance: History of Dalmorton State Forest by P. Curby, State Forests of New South Wales; 1993.
- Supplemental Documents: Aquatic Environment Report by D. Balloch, Forestry Commission of New South Wales 1993; Archaeological Report by Hall & Lomax, Forestry Commission of New South Wales 1993; Community Consultation Report by Centre for Coastal Management, University of New England, Forestry Commission of New South Wales, 1993; Recreation, Scenic & Wilderness Report by Centre for Coastal Management, University of New England, Forestry Commission 1993; Topographic Survey Assessment 1921-34, edited by R. Williams, Forestry Commission of New South Wales. 1993.
- Casino Environmental Impact Statement, Volumes A (Main Report), B (EIS Appendices), C (Fauna Appendices) and Supporting Documents Volume 1(Archaeological Report); Volume 2 (Aquatic Environment Report); Volume 3 (Community Consultation Report); Volume 4 (European Heritage: Historical Report); Volume 5 (Archaeological Survey of Historical Sites Report); Volume 6 (Terrestrial Fauna Report); Volume 7 (Flora Survey Report); Volume 8 (Soils Report); Volume 9 (Recreation, Scenic and Wilderness Report); Volume 10 (Fuel Management Plan), State Forests of New South Wales, November 1995.
- Murwillumbah Environmental Impact Statement Volumes A (Main Report), B (EIS Appendices), C (Fauna Appendix) and Supporting Documents Volume 1 (Flora Report by WBM Oceanics Australia 1996); Volume 2 (Fuel Management Plan Casino District – State Forests of NSW) November 1996); Volume 3 (Aboriginal Anthropological Study – R. Heron and K. Reed 1996); State Forests of New South Wales, December 1995.
- Gloucester/Chichester Environmental Impact Statement Volumes A (Main Report), B (EIS Appendices) , C (Fauna Impact Statement) and Supporting Vol.1 (Soils Report Veness & Associates); Vol. 2 (Hydrology and Water Quality- CMPS & F Environmental); Vol. 3 (Aquatic Environment Report – Hardwick, Chessman & Growns); Vol. 4 (Flora Survey – D. Binns); Vol. 5 – (Fauna Survey – Ecotone Ecological Consultants); Vol. 6 (Bat Fauna Survey – G.C. Richards); Vol. 7 (Frog Survey – A. White); Vol. 8 (An Investigation into the Aboriginal Archaeological Record – Denis Byrne); Vol. 9 (Report on Historical Sites – J. Murray); Vol.10 (Gloucester and Chichester Management Areas Recreation Investigations – Manidis Roberts); State Forests of New South Wales, December 1995.
- Tenterfield Environmental Impact Statement Volume A (Main Report), Volume B (EIS Maps), Volume C (Appendices), Volume D (Fauna Impact Statement) and Supporting Volumes – No. 1 Soils Report (Veness & Associates) May 1994; No. 2 – Aquatic Environment Report by Chessman, O’Connor and Holleley of Australian Water Technologies) June 1995; No.3 - Flora Survey by D. Binns 1995; Vol. No. 4 – Native Fauna of the Tenterfield Management Area by F.D. Fanning) 1995; Vol No. 5 – Aboriginal Archaeological Report by Dennis Byrne) April 1993; Vol. No. 6 – Archaeological Survey of Historical Sites Report by Sue Pearson) 1992, State Forests of New South Wales, September, 1995.
- Urbenville Environmental Impact Statement Volume A – Main Report, Volume B – Environmental Impact Statement Maps, Volume C – Environmental Impact Statement Appendices, Volume D – Environmental Impact Statement Fauna Impact Statement and Supporting Documents: Volume 1 (Soil Report); Volume 2 – Hydrology and Water Quality); Volume 3 -Aquatic Environment Report); Volume 4 - (Description and Assessment of Forestry

Impacts on Fauna); Volume 5 (Aboriginal Archaeological Report); Volume 6 –(Flora Survey); Volume 7 – (Social Impact Assessment); Volume 8 – (Economic Evaluation); State Forests of New South Wales, December 1995.

- Coffs Harbour/Urunga Environmental Impact Statement Volumes A (Main Report), B (Appendices), C (Schedule 12 Fauna) and Attachment “EIS – Maps” and Supporting Documents Volume 1 (Archaeological Survey of Historical Sites – Susan Pearson 1994);
- Volume 2 (Urunga-Coffs Harbour Forestry Land Resources Study by DLWC March 1994); Volume 3 (Aquatic Environment Report by Austeco Pty. Ltd. September 1994); Volume 4 (Description and Assessment of Forestry Impacts on Fauna of the Urunga-Coffs Harbour Management Areas by Smith, Andrews, Gration, Quin & Sullivan – Austeco Pty Ltd. February 1995); Volume 5 (Flora Survey of the Urunga and Coffs Harbour Management Area by Tweedie, Bruskin, Chapman & Heyward March 1995); State Forests of NSW, December 1995.
- Walcha/Nundle/Styx Environmental Impact Statement Volume A (Main Report), Volume B (EIS Appendices), Volume C (Fauna Appendix) and Supporting Volume 1 (Fauna Survey) Report; Volume 1A (Frog Report); Volume 2 (Flora Survey Report); Volume 2A (Orchid Report), Volume 3 (Aquatic Environment report); Volume 4 (Archaeological Report), Volume 5 (Soils report); Volume 6 (Fuel Management Report), State Forests of New South Wales. December 1995.
- Queanbeyan/Badja Environmental Impact Statement Volumes A, B, C and Supporting Documents No 1- Soils by R.L. Newman Pty. Ltd 1995, Vol. No. 2 – Aquatic Environment & Fauna Parts a, b & c, Vol. No. 3 –Flora Survey – V. Jurskis, R Shiels & D. Binns 1995, Vol. 4(a) Fauna Survey – Quality Environmental Management Pty Ltd 1994, Vol. 4(b) Target Surveys of Endangered Fauna – R Goldingay, G.J. Daly & J. Baker, 1995, Vol. 5 – Economic and Social Impacts – Consulnet 1995, Vol. 6 – Archaeological Survey – Grinberg Knight & Associates, 1995, Vol. No. 7 – Energy Consumption – CSIRO Division of Forestry, 1995, State Forests of New South Wales December, 1995.
- Morisset Environmental Impact Statement Volumes A (Main Report), B (Appendices), C (Fauna Impact Statements) and Supporting Documents Vols. 1 (Morisset EIS Soils Report) State Forests of NSW); Vol. 2 (Aquatic Survey of Streams within the Cessnock and Wyong Management Areas – Australian Museum Business Services); Vol. 3 (Flora Survey – State Forests of NSW); Vol. 4 (Survey of Non-flying Mammals and Owls); Vol. 5 (Bat Survey of the Morisset Forestry District – G.A. Hoye FBN Bat Surveys 1995); Vol. 6 (Fauna Survey of the Morisset Forestry District- Diurnal Birds Rick Webster 1995); Vol. 7 (Fauna Survey of the Morisset Forestry District – Reptiles and Amphibians- Ross Wellington & Richard Wells 1995); Vol. 8 – Morisset Forestry District EIS: Assessment of Aboriginal Archaeological Sites – Kinhills Enginners 1995); Vol. 9 – Morisset EIS European Cultural Heritage Study – EJE Group 1995); State Forests of New South Wales, December 1995.
- Broad Old Growth Mapping Project final report. NPWS.
- Part 1 Digitising of National Parks and Nature Reserves Boundaries and Part II digitising of Identified Wilderness Boundaries NPWS
- Estimation of Pre 1750 Forest Type Distribution for RACAC Northern Study Area: Supplementary Figures
- Framework for Metadata Statements for RACC Northern Study Area Datasets
- Metadata Statements for RACAC Northern Study Area Datasets
- Pre-1750 Vegetation Model: Historical Study RACAC Northern Study Area
- Data Preparation Central Study Area
- Preparation of Data and Databases Volume I Outline of pre 1750 vegetation and old growth for the Eden and Southern Study Areas NPWS
- Preparation of Data and Databases Volume 2 - Pre-1750 vegetation and forest disturbance mapping Tumut Study Area. NPWS

- A Preliminary Forest Community Classification for Southeastern NSW CSIRO
- Pre-1750 Vegetation Mapping for South Coast Forests Area Volume 1 Phases 1-3 CSIRO
- Pre-1750 Vegetation Mapping for South Coast Forests Area Volume 2 Phases 4-5 CSIRO
- Collection, Data Entry and Classification of Plot Data for the Tumut Study Area Phase 6 CSIRO
- Wilderness Project Methodology and Results NPWS

1.3 DATA DESCRIPTION

- C-plan data
- Geology layer
- DMR minerals data - whole directory unchanged, 'as-is'
- Centres of endemism - fauna
- Centres of endemism - flora
- Centres of endemism - invertebrates
- fauna assemblage models
- Flora models - various species
- Flora point localities with buffers
- Forest ecosystems
- High Quality habitat Old Growth
- Old Growth Forest by Forest Ecosystem
- Old growth forest and other successional stages
- Site productivity
- Fauna models - arboreal mammals
- Fauna models - amphibia
- Fauna models - bats (flying foxes)
- Fauna models - diurnal birds
- Fauna models - ground mammals
- Fauna models - reptiles
- Fauna models - nocturnal birds
- Fauna models - turtles
- fauna model shapes - arboreal mammals
- fauna model shapes - amphibia
- fauna model shapes - bats (flying foxes)
- fauna model shapes - diurnal birds
- fauna model shapes - ground mammals
- fauna model shapes - reptiles
- fauna model shapes - nocturnal birds
- fauna model shapes - turtles
- National Estate - disjunct fauna
- National Estate - disjunct flora
- National Estate - important habitats
- National Estate - fauna species at the end of their range
- National Estate - flora species at the end of their range
- National Estate - migratory species
- National Estate - natural landscapes
- National Estate - primitive and relictual fauna species
- National Estate - rare fauna species
- National Estate - rare flora species
- National Estate - rare vegetation communities
- National Estate - refugia

- National Estate - remnant vegetation
- National Estate - species richness - fauna
- National Estate - species richness - flora
- National Estate - habitat richness
- National Estate - undisturbed catchments
- National Estate - vegetation community richness
- Identified Wilderness Areas (exc declared areas)
- Identified Wilderness Areas
- NWI Wilderness Areas
- NWI Database
- Declared wilderness
- Forest inventory database
- Places of cultural heritage (non-indigenous) significance - core areas
- Roads, rail, pipelines, power lines, etc
- Grazing
- Mapping of Forest Logging History, (Events not mapped at subcompartment level)
- Mapping of Forest Logging History (Events mapped at sub-compartment level)
- Attribute data linked to planning units to feed directly into C-Plan:- year of logging event, number of events, total volume removed, frequently disturbed areas
- Roading and other infrastructure within SFNSW
- Drainage lines - compiled from individual map sheets
- Apiary sites
- CRA boundaries
- Areas acquired but not gazetted as National Park
- SFNSW easements
- Forest Types
- SFNSW leases and easements
- Crown land identifier
- Planning units (excluding private land, summarised with fewer items)
- Planning units (excluding private land)
- Native Title areas
- Occupational permits
- State Forest Preliminary Management Intent
- Preferred Management Priority
- Aboriginal land claims - linked to PLUID in tenure file
- Outputs - information points for negotiation
- Outputs - Information Point report
- Outputs - LNE options Development
- Outputs - SFNSW Project
- Outputs - UNE Negotiations
- Outputs - UNE Options Development
- FRAMES - net harvestable area
- FRAMES program and database

1.4 MINUTES

- Minutes from the Regional Forest Forums – Upper North, Lower North and Eden
- Minutes from the Environment and Heritage Technical Committee
- Minutes from the Cultural Heritage Working Group
- Minutes from the Economic and Social Technical Committee

- Minutes from FRAMES (Forest Resources and Management Systems)
- Minutes from the Ecological Sustainable Forest Management Group
- Minutes from the NSW RFA/CRA Steering Committee
- Minutes from the RACAC (Resource and Conservation Assessment Council)
- Minutes from the Data Management Group
- Minutes from the API Working Group
- Minutes from the Integration Working Group

1.5 MAPS

1.5.1 Draft Interim Forestry Assessment – May 1996

- N 1 – 3 maps including Conservation, 30% and 50%
- N 2 – 2 maps including Conservation + 30% and 50%
- N 3 – 2 maps including Conservation + 50% and 70%
- N 4 – 3 maps including Conservation, 30% and 50%
- N 5 – 3 maps including Conservation, 30% and 50%
- N 6 – 3 maps including Conservation, 30% and 50%
- Central – 3 maps including Conservation, 50% and 70%
- S1 – 2 maps including Conservation + 50% and 70%
- S2 – 2 maps conservation and 70%
- Tumut – 1 map
- Eden – 4 maps including Conservation, Industry and Union, Extended National Park and Deferred Forest Outcome

1.5.2 Interim Forestry Assessment – September 1996

- N 1 – 3 maps including Conservation, 30% and 50%
- N 2 – 2 maps including Conservation + 30% and 50%
- N 3 – 2 maps including Conservation + 50% and 70%
- N 4 – 3 maps including Conservation, 30% and 50%
- N 5 – 3 maps including Conservation, 30% and 50%
- N 6 – 3 maps including Conservation, 30% and 50%
- Central – 3 maps including Conservation, 50% and 70%
- S1 – 2 maps including Conservation + 50% and 70%
- S2 – 2 maps conservation and 70%
- Tumut – 1 map
- Eden – 4 maps including Conservation, Industry and Union, Extended National Park and Deferred Forest Outcome

1.5.3 Announcement of NSW Forest Agreement

- Eden NSW Forest Agreement – October 1998
- Upper North East NSW Forest Agreement – November 1998
- Lower North East NSW Forest Agreement – November 1998

ATTACHMENT 2

SUMMARY OF THE NSW GOVERNMENT'S 1998 FORESTRY DECISION AND THE *FORESTRY AND NATIONAL PARK ESTATE ACT 1998*

INTRODUCTION

The Government's recent decisions on forests in Eden and the northern regions are the culmination of nearly four years of intensive data gathering, analysis and negotiation by major forest stakeholders. Legislation giving effect to key parts of the Government's decisions has now been passed through the NSW Parliament. (The *Forestry and National Park Estate Act 1998* came into effect prior to and on 1 January 1999.)

The aim of the NSW Government's forest policy since 1995 has been to secure a balanced outcome in the forest regions: an outcome which takes into account conservation issues as well as economic and social issues. The Government has been working towards the development of both a comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system of forests and an ecologically sustainable, value-added and secure native forest timber industry.

The Government's decisions:

- Give effect to the Government's Forest Policy to protect old growth, wilderness and other conservation values through a comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system.
- Give effect to the Government's Forest Policy to develop an ecologically sustainable, value-added and secure native forest timber industry.
- Integrate the regulatory regimes for environmental planning and assessment, for the protection of the environment and for threatened species conservation, through legislation that provides for Forest Agreements and Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals.
- Protect nearly 449,500 hectares of former State forest in national parks, nature reserves, flora reserves and Crown reserves through:
 - Reservation in national parks and nature reserves of 382,000 hectares in the Upper and Lower North East and up to 37,000 hectares in Eden.
 - Reservation in flora reserves of 3820 hectares in the Upper and Lower North East and 6450 in Eden.
 - Reservation in Crown reserves of 20,080 hectares in the Upper and Lower North East.
- Reserve key areas of conservation significance and protect habitat of threatened or vulnerable species.
- Provide the timber industry long-term security and certainty of supply through 20 year term agreements, subject to achieving value-adding criteria and resource review.
- Create a net employment gain related to public forested areas in the Eden Region of between 39 and 49 jobs and in the Upper North East (UNE) and Lower North East (LNE) Regions of between 202 and 212 jobs.
- It is important to note that the decisions taken in New South Wales do not preclude Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs) between the New South Wales and Commonwealth Governments being signed at any time in the future.

KEY ELEMENTS OF DECISION FOR UPPER AND LOWER NORTH EAST

NSW Forest Agreements and Integrated Approvals

The new Forestry and National Parks Estate Act institutes a coordinated approach to environmental regulation of forestry, providing for

- 20 year Forest Agreements between the Ministers for the Environment, for Planning and for Forestry and, optionally, the Minister for Fisheries which must cover:
 - Provisions that promote ecologically sustainable forest management.
 - Provisions relating to sustainable timber supply from forestry operations covered by the Agreement.
 - Provisions relating to community consultation on forestry operations and other matters covered by the Agreement.
 - Provisions regarding arrangements on native title rights and interests and other provisions.
- The performance of the Agreements are to be reviewed every five years.
- A system of Integrated Forestry Operations (IFO) Approvals for future forestry operations. These approvals will set out the terms and conditions under which logging may occur in a State forest or on Crown timber lands (which are subject to a Forest Agreement). An IFO approval may be for up to 20 years, but must be reviewed every five years. An IFO approval is granted by the same Ministers as for Forests Agreements. It is only effective in areas where there is a Forest Agreement in place.

More detailed information on Forest Agreements and Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals are contained in section 3 (below) which details the new legislation.

Conservation Outcomes in Upper and Lower North East

The Government's decision protects nearly 406,000 hectares of former State forest in national parks, nature reserves, flora reserves, Crown reserves and historic sites with reservation of key areas of conservation significance and protection of habitat of threatened or vulnerable species. This includes the following outcomes:

- The total hectares added to dedicated reserves in the Upper and Lower North East regions is 405,898 hectares.
- About 382,000 hectares is added to the reserve system as national park or nature reserve under the National Parks and Wildlife Act, including 85 new national parks or nature reserves, and 37 additions to existing parks.
- UNE
 - 136,572 hectares will be added to the reserve system as either national park or nature reserve, representing 31 new reserves and 23 additions.
- LNE

- 245,628 hectares will be added to the reserve system as either national park or nature reserve, representing 54 new reserves and 14 additions.
- 3818 hectares (UNE – 214 hectares; LNE – 3604 hectares) of new and additions to existing State Forest flora reserves (formal reserves with similar conservation status to national parks and nature reserves).
- 11,732 hectares will be dedicated under the Crown Lands Act as Crown Reserves in the UNE and 8,348 hectares in the LNE, with the Director General of the NPWS to be manager of the reserve trust.
- Seed funding for the establishment of a revegetation program in new national parks for carbon sequestration (ie. greenhouse abatement).
- Funding proposal for the establishment of the Yamba Coastal Walking Track.
- Funding for vegetation data compilation, publication and community access.

Areas for further consideration

- Approximately 77,000 hectares of State forest which is held under Crown leases and/or has potential mineral potential is to be considered for inclusion in the reserve system due to its high conservation value. Every effort will be made by the State agencies to resolve the status of these areas by February 28 1999, with the aim of including those areas in the reserve system after consideration of the potential impact on mineral interests and wood volumes. Any reservation will be under the National Parks and Wildlife Act where possible. Reservation of State forest under Crown leases would require voluntary sale of the lease.

Wilderness issues in the Upper and Lower North East

- Areas of wilderness identified before the CRA process within State forests will be investigated further for reservation, subject to concurrence of the Minister for Forestry. Where the identified wilderness is within the areas for further consideration (see above, section 1.2.2) it will also be considered in those negotiations. “Areas for further consideration” includes almost all areas of previously identified wilderness on public land which are not in the reserve system. Areas previously assessed as ‘State Capable’ and ‘Provisionally Identified Wilderness’ which remain within State forests will be accessible for logging operations, where appropriately zoned.
- For provisionally identified wilderness (PIW), National Parks and Wildlife Service will prepare for public exhibition a Wilderness Assessment Report for the northern regions. In that report, the Director-General, National Parks and Wildlife Service will formally identify additional wilderness. However, as required by the Act, areas subject to an IFO approval (i.e. on State forest) will not be identified.

Industry and Employment Outcomes in the Upper and Lower North East Regions

Outcomes for industry include:

- UNE
 - Minimum of 129,000m³ per annum of high quality large (HQL) sawlogs to meet existing commitments to Term Agreement and Wood Supply Agreement holders.
 - High Quality Small (HQS) logs at a minimum of 2,000 m³ per annum to meet existing

- 20,000m³ of the 129,000m³ of HQL sawlogs allocated in the UNE region will come from the LNE region.
- LNE
 - minimum of 140,000m³ per annum of high quality (HQL) large sawlogs to meet existing commitments to Term Agreement and Wood Supply Agreement holders. As indicated above, an additional 20,000 cubic metres will be allocated to UNE from the LNE, giving a total of 160,000m³ sourced from LNE.
 - High Quality Small (HQS) logs at a minimum of 8,500 m³ per annum to meet existing Term Agreement and Wood Supply Agreements.
 - This outcome also provides for 20 year Long Term Wood Supply Agreements based on existing 5 by 5 year term agreements which have eight years to run, and their renewal for a subsequent 12 years, in line with the 20 year term of the relevant Forest Agreement and IFO approval and subject to resource availability. The Wood Supply Agreement with Boral will similarly be extended for 20 years with a mid term review. The volume contained in the extended contracts will be subject to a review of resource level at the eight year review. This review will be based on the Forest Agreement land base, the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) conditions and the conservation protocols applying to the Approval and updated timber inventory information.
- Interim “top up” arrangements, above Term Agreement/Wood Supply Agreement levels negotiated in 1997, will be maintained at existing levels for 12 months beginning 1 January 1999 and then be reduced by half in the following year and end at 31 December 2000.
- Supply of additional timber volumes produced in association with the quota supply to Term Agreement and Wood Supply Agreement holders, including high value-added timber products such as girders, piles, poles and veneer products to existing good faith customers in the UNE and LNE at 50 % of 1995 purchase levels and allocations of pulp grade timber to the existing wood panel plant located at Raymond Terrace and Boral.
- Seed funding and allocation of pulpwood for proposed Biomass Electricity Generation Plant at Walcha.
- Wood Supply Agreements between the Minister for Forestry, and Boral and North Forest Products Ltd to process thinnings for export as woodchips from hardwood plantation and native regrowth forest operations. This was part of the September 1996 Government decision. The volumes under this approval are to be adjusted to conform with the outcome of the present forestry decisions.
- To assist in transitional supply arrangements, a strategy will be developed for timber supplementation from private property involving the purchase of private land timber rights or private property. To ensure security of supply and the application of equivalent environmental controls to those on State Forest lands, the funding package provides for private forest management and \$18 million over five years for timber supplementation (ie. to purchase timber).
- Further modelled reductions after 20 years of Term Agreement/Wood Supply Agreement allocations for UNE and LNE to 70,000 m³ and 113,500 m³ respectively, subject to changes due to supplementation from private property land purchased for timber and plantations.
- Industry development projects in the Upper and Lower North East, together with additional State Forests and National Parks and Wildlife Service positions, will provide an opportunity for the employment of between 273 and 283 people in the short to medium term, which is a net

will be funded from a combination of Consolidated Revenue, Forestry Industry Structural Adjustment Program (FISAP) funds and existing funding.

- A Timber Industry Development Taskforce will be established, chaired by an independent chairperson with suitable industry background, to perform two functions: to provide advice to State Forests and the Minister for Forestry on private property supplementation and to assist the implementation and further identification of timber industry and related regional development initiatives.
- There will be an extension to the Forestry Industry Structural Adjustment Program (FISAP) for a further five years from 30 June 2001 until 30 June 2006.
- A log haulage assistance scheme has been authorised of up to \$1 million per annum over the next five years. Haulage is necessary as timber supply patterns change, and where costs associated with haulage are expected to rise as timber is sourced from outside traditional supply areas.
- Funding towards the establishment of 2,000 hectares of eucalypt plantations each year over the next five years for long term sawlog production.
- Funding to assist State Forests in the immediate need for inventory work following the completion of the CRA process in the UNE and LNE Regions.

Plantations within new reserves

- The issue of whether to incorporate, or harvest prior to incorporation in the reserve system, larger areas of plantation of higher merchantable value was largely resolved during the reserve selection process, but some site-specific issues remain. These will be resolved as part of the boundary refinements process. As a general rule, plantations on the edge of proposed reserve areas will be excluded from the reserve system, while plantations totally enclosed by proposed reserves will be included in the reserve system. There may be exceptions to this general rule. The areas requiring further consideration are in Mebbin, Nullum, Goonegary, Kiwarrak, Lorne, Burrawan–Queens Lake, Bulahdelah and Chichester State forests. Negotiations will continue with State Forests and NPWS, and where necessary DUAP (RACD), to resolve this issue by the end of February 1999.

Management of State Forests

The following management provisions will apply on State forests in the Upper and Lower North East regions:

- Integrated Operations will proceed under the terms of the Forest Agreements, Approvals and State Forests' Native Forest Management System.
- Extension to the Timber Industry (Interim Protection) Act will provide for continuation of activities while Forest Agreements are being developed.
- State forests will be available for harvesting subject to applicable controls. The North East Harvest Advisory Board (NEHAB) will be dissolved as it will be no longer required or relevant.
- The EPA and SFNSW will clarify the operational interpretation of the licence conditions, including filter strips.
- A silvicultural regime will be implemented which will include the use of light and medium

Australian Group Selection and light, medium and heavy single tree selection.

- Mapped, high conservation value old-growth as defined during the CRA negotiations will be protected from logging [subject to area minima].
- Rainforest shall be protected.
- There shall be continued use of forest roads within newly reserved areas for forestry purposes, as negotiated with SFNSW and NPWS, consistent with the Forestry and National Parks Estate Act (s.13 and clause 7 of Schedule 7).

ADDITIONAL ASPECTS OF GOVERNMENT'S 1998 DECISION

Informal Reserves (Forest Management Zone 2)

- In the development of the reserve system, a number of State Forest areas were specifically identified to be declared Forest Management Zone 2 (FMZ 2) under the forthcoming SFNSW Forest Management Zoning System. In the case of the Upper North East and Lower North East decision, the areas specifically identified for declaration as FMZ 2 ('informal' reserves) were identified as having conservation value but were excluded from formal reservation specifically due to concerns regarding mineral and petroleum potential. In addition, 'general' areas of FMZ 2 have been delineated as part of the management of State Forests. These FMZ areas will contribute to meeting conservation targets and hence be part of the comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system.
- FMZ 2 informal reserves are to be created under the amendments to the Forestry Act made by the Forestry and National Park Estate Act which give the Minister for Forestry power to establish special management zones to protect special conservation values. Under the Act, these 'informal reserves' can only be revoked or the boundaries amended by the Minister of Forestry following public consultation. Minerals exploration and mining are permitted activities (along with other activities) in areas of State Forest zoned FMZ 2, but logging and grazing are excluded.
- FMZ 2 areas are 'informal' reserves as defined under the Nationally Agreed Criteria for Reserves (otherwise known as JANIS). State Forest flora reserves and national parks and nature reserves are classified as part of the 'formal' reserve system under the JANIS criteria.
- Forest Management Zone 3 [FMZ 3] are areas managed by prescription according to JANIS criteria. They will also contribute to the comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system.
- If at some time in the future Department of Mineral Resources waives its objections, negotiations can commence with State Forests for the areas to be included in the formal reserve system. If however mineral exploration is successful, mining will be able to proceed subject to the normal environmental impact assessment and the development approval process.

Apiary Sites

Apiary Permits

- The National Parks and Wildlife Service will recognise Apiary Permits on land proposed for addition to the reserve system in the Upper and Lower North East Regions, and will continue to renew permits on a yearly basis to existing permit holders. If apiary sites occur in areas proposed for reserve addition which are at a later date formally identified and declared as

wilderness, the NPWS would prefer to find alternative locations for these sites outside the area to be declared wilderness. Apiary sites on NPWS managed land will be managed in accordance with NPWS policy, which allows, from January 1 1999, transfer of permits to other family members or when businesses are sold. Apiarists will not be disadvantaged as a result of the negotiated outcome for the Upper and Lower North East Region.

Private Land

Conservation values on private forest land

- There are a number of high conservation value ecosystems which either do not occur on public land or which can not be adequately reserved on public land. Throughout the assessment process the Government has clearly indicated that any conservation activities undertaken on private lands would be on a purely voluntary basis.
- The Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997 also seeks to promote the conservation of native vegetation through a public consultation process and the development of regional plans restricting clearing.

Improved management of private forests and timber supplementation

- NSW has approximately 5 million hectares of privately owned native forest. While the conservation of natural values of these areas is accommodated through the provisions of the Native Vegetation Conservation Act, Threatened Species Conservation Act, Clean Waters Act etc, the development of a Forest Agreement provides an opportunity to also improve the standard of commercial forest management of privately held native forests and, at the same time, to improve employment opportunities in the private forest sector and provide a supplementary raw material resource to the timber industry.
- The private forest project has two major components. The first is concerned with establishment of a Private Forests Unit by State Forests to provide a substantially enhanced level of extension and advice to private forest owners. The second component is concerned with acquisition of areas of private forest or the timber rights over private forests as a supplementary resource to industry to partially offset resource losses resulting from transfer of areas of State Forest to the CAR reserve system. The acquisition by State Forests of these areas of private forest areas or rights will also enhance their long term sustainability.

Identified Wilderness and Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals

The Wilderness Act and/or the wilderness sections of the National Parks and Wildlife Act will not apply to areas where forestry operations are authorised under an Integrated Forestry Operations Approval.

Training in Environmental Management

Forest management in NSW is subject to increasingly complex conditions and requirements. To ensure that these are met, State Forests and the industry are developing a series of training courses

which will meet national competency standards. It is intended that all industry personnel will undertake this training over a two-year period, after which an assessment of competency will be necessary for gaining a licence to operate on State forests.

Aboriginal Management and Employment Initiatives: Upper and Lower North East

These include:

- Examination of areas which may be suitable for inclusion under Schedule 14 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act for Aboriginal ownership.
- Progressively negotiating joint management arrangements between NPWS / SFNSW and Aboriginal communities.
- Funding over 5 years for an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Project employing six Aboriginal trainees and four Cultural Heritage Officers.
- Funding for 15 permanent employment positions as a result of new national parks and nature reserves.

Summary of Achieved Targets

In the Upper North East Region there are 162 forest ecosystems and 144 old growth ecosystems. If the additions to the formal reserve system are adopted, as outlined in this Cabinet Minute, a total of 59 forest ecosystems and 26 old growth ecosystems will achieve conservation targets. This will leave 103 forest ecosystems below target, of which 74 are ranked highly vulnerable, and 118 old growth forest ecosystems below target, of which 76 are ranked highly vulnerable (see attachment G). In the Lower North East Region, there are 198 forest ecosystems and 169 old growth ecosystems. If the additions to the formal reserve system are adopted, a total of 83 forest ecosystems and 59 old growth ecosystems will achieve conservation targets. This will leave 115 forest ecosystems below target, of which 87 are ranked highly vulnerable, and 110 old growth ecosystems below target, of which 56 are ranked highly vulnerable (see attachment H).

SUMMARY OF NSW FORESTRY AND NATIONAL PARK ESTATE ACT 1998

This summary of the legislation, while covering all its major features, is only a lay persons guide to its contents. It should not be relied upon as a substitute for the Act itself. As with any summary of legislation, it does not remove the need to refer to the provisions themselves and to seek legal advice where appropriate.

The Act became law on 14 December 1998 and came into effect on or before 1 January 1999.

The purpose of the Act is, firstly, to transfer certain State forest and other Crown lands in the Eden, Lower and Upper North East regions to the national park estate and to Aboriginal ownership.

Secondly, the Act provides for Forest Agreements between ministers, and a system of Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals for future forestry operations. The Act also amends the Forestry Act 1916 to provide for a new category of informal reserves and amends the Timber Industry (Interim Protection) Act 1992 to extend its operation for a further year pending Ministerial Forest Agreements and Integrated Approvals. The State Forests' South Monaro Management Area is added to the areas to which Act applies.

Land transfers to national park estate and Aboriginal ownership (Part 2 of the Act)

This Part of the Act creates new, and adds to existing, national parks and nature reserves; creates new Crown reserves and flora reserves. Where necessary, State forests are revoked to achieve this. In the Eden region some State forest and Crown land is transferred to the Local Aboriginal Land Councils.

The descriptions of these lands can be adjusted to improve detail, correct inaccuracies, rationalise boundaries for effective management. Any such adjustments may only be made before 28 February 1999.

Forest Agreements (Part 3 of the Act)

- A Forest Agreement is an agreement between NSW Ministers about the conservation and management of a region which has been the subject of a regional forest assessment.
- A Forest Agreement must contain provisions that promote ecologically sustainable forest management. It must contain provisions about sustainable timber supply, community consultation on forestry operations and arrangements concerning native title rights and interests or Aboriginal land claims, as well as other provisions the Ministers consider appropriate.
- The Ministers administering the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, the Forestry Act, the National Parks and Wildlife Act, and the Protection of the Environment Operations Act are required to be parties to Forest Agreements; the Minister administering the Fisheries Management Act may also be a party.
- The Agreement must describe the region to which it applies and list the documents making up the relevant regional forest assessment.
- The Resource and Conservation Assessment Council must conduct/have conducted a regional forest assessment before a Forest Agreement can be made. Such an assessment is to include assessments of environment and heritage values (including indigenous heritage), economic and social values, ecologically sustainable forest management and timber resources in the particular region concerned. The assessment may include other relevant material.
- Forest Agreements are to refer to any associated Integrated Forestry Operations Approval under Part 4 of the Act (see below) that has been or will be granted at the time of the Agreement.
- The Ministers are required to make Forest Agreements for the Eden, Upper North East and Lower North East Regions within 120 days of the date of proclamation of the Act (that is, by 3 May 1999) or as soon as possible thereafter. Regional forest assessments have already been carried out in these Regions, and the Act makes it clear that no further regional forest assessments are required for these Regions before Forest Agreements may be made.

Public Consultation

- The Ministers are required to ensure public consultation prior to the making of a Forest Agreement or its amendment or termination. This consultation is to include giving public notice, inviting and considering any representations. Such consultation is not required for the initial Eden, Upper North East or Lower North East Forest Agreements.

Review and Reporting

- The Ministers are to jointly review Forest Agreements, and any associated Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals, every five years after each Agreement is made. Such reviews are limited to assessing the implementation of the Agreement and whether the approvals are effective in achieving their purpose. The public is to be given an opportunity to participate in the review. This must include giving prior notice of the review and making any changes proposed to such Agreements or IFO approvals available for inspection.
- The Ministers are to report to Parliament on the outcome of each review, within 12 months of the commencement of the review. A Forest Agreement cannot be amended as a result of a review until this report has been made.
- Annual reports to Parliament are required on each Forest Agreement including ESFM in the region(s) and compliance with Integrated Forestry Operations Approval(s). Public notice is to be given of Agreements and IFO approvals as made, amended, suspended etc and the relevant documents are to be made available for public inspection at central and regional offices of the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning.
- The Minister administering the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act may establish committees to provide advice on the management of land in any region covered by Forest Agreements.

Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals (Part 4 of the Act)

- The Act institutes a coordinated approach to the regulation of forestry operations, providing for a system of Integrated Approvals for future forestry operations on State forests and other Crown timber lands. These approvals are to set out the terms and conditions under which forestry operations (including logging) may occur. An approval may be granted for up to 20 years, but must be reviewed every five years.
- A Forest Agreement must be in place for the area proposed to be covered by an IFO approval; an IFO approval is revoked if the Forest Agreement is terminated.
- An IFO approval is to describe the forestry operations and area to which it applies. The approval may contain the terms of relevant licences under the Pollution Control Act (or the Protection of the Environment Operations Act after its commencement), the Threatened Species Conservation Act and the Fisheries Management Act. The approval may also contain other relevant conditions.
- An Integrated Forestry Operations Approval is to be granted jointly by the Ministers party to the associated Forest Agreement – the Ministers administering the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, the Forestry Act, the National Parks and Wildlife Act, and the Protection of the Environment Operations Act; the Minister administering the Fisheries Management Act may also be a party to the IFO approval.

Enforcement of Integrated Forestry Operations Approval

- Relevant licences included in an IFO approval may be enforced in the same way as any other licence under the relevant Acts (Pollution Control Act 1970; Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997; Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995; Fisheries Management Act 1994). However, the terms of a relevant licence cannot be varied, and the licence cannot be

revoked, under the relevant Act. The agency responsible for enforcing a licence must notify the Ministers who granted the IFO approval of any contraventions (of which it becomes aware) of the terms of the licence by the persons carrying out forestry operations covered by the IFO approval.

- Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act does not apply to the granting or amendment of an Integrated Forestry Operations Approval. Nor does it apply to forestry operations covered by an IFO approval.
- Environmental planning instruments under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act [note that these are made under part 3, not Part 4] cannot prohibit, require development consent for, or otherwise restrict, forestry operations covered by an IFO approval.
- Stop work orders and/or interim protection orders under the National Parks and Wildlife Act and Threatened Species Conservation Act do not apply to the carrying out of forestry operations subject to an Integrated Approval; this does not prevent the making of an order to protect any Aboriginal relic or place.
- An area in which forestry operations authorised by an IFO approval may be carried out cannot be proposed, identified or declared a wilderness area under the Wilderness Act or the National Parks and Wildlife Act.
- Ministers as well as the regulatory agencies may bring proceedings in the Land and Environment Court where a breach of an Integrated Forestry Operations Approval occurs. The Court will be able to make orders in relation to any breaches, including orders to suspend the approval.
- Third parties may draw breaches to the attention of regulators, as is currently the case. However, powers in other legislation that may otherwise have applied to enable any person to commence court proceedings to remedy or restrain breaches such as a breach of a Forest Agreement or of an Integrated Forestry Operations Approval (including the terms of relevant licence) have been excluded. The Act does not affect any rights persons may have at common law.

Miscellaneous (Part 5 of the Act)

The Forestry and National Park Estate Act amended the Forestry Act to allow the Minister for Forestry to declare areas within State forests to be “special management zones” (informal reserves) in recognition of their special conservation value. To this end also, the Minister may prohibit operations in the zone.

The Native Title Act (NSW) was amended to ensure that land dedicated, reserved, declared or vested by the Forestry and National Park Estate Act, or by the National Parks and Wildlife Act or Wilderness Act, with effect on or after January 1 1994, does not extinguish or affect native title rights and interests. The Minister is to review the Act as soon as possible after December 14 2003 –five years from the date of assent – to determine whether the policy objectives of the Act remain valid and whether its terms remain appropriate for securing those objectives. A report on the review is to be tabled in Parliament within 12 months after the end of the five year period.

Schedule 6 details those areas of State forests and Crown lands to be transferred to the Eden and Bega Local Aboriginal Land Councils, respectively.

Schedule 9 sets out amendments to the Timber Industry (Interim Protection) Act 1992 to extend the Act's operation to the end of 1999 and to State Forests of NSW South Monaro Management Area.

ATTACHMENT 3

KEY PRINCIPLES OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

An environmental management system must be consistent with the following broad principles:

Principles

- (a) An appropriate environmental policy must be in place.
- (b) The environmental aspects arising from the organisation's past, existing or planned activities, products or services must be identified to determine the environmental impacts of significance.
- (c) Relevant legislative and regulatory arrangements must be identified.
- (d) Priorities must be identified and appropriate environmental objectives and targets set.
- (e) A structure and program(s) to implement the policy and achieve objectives and targets must be established.
- (f) Planning, control, monitoring, corrective action, auditing and review activities must be facilitated to ensure both that the policy is complied with and that the environmental management system remains appropriate.
- (g) The system must be capable of adapting to changing circumstances.

ATTACHMENT 4

STATE FORESTS NATIVE FOREST MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The NFMS consists of three parts:

1. Ecologically Sustainable Forest Management (ESFM) Policy
2. Native Forest Management Strategy
3. Native Forest Management Operations Manual

Policy

State Forests ESFM Policy outlines the agency's commitment to implementing ecologically sustainable forest management. The main goals of the ESFM policy are to:

- Conserve biodiversity.
- Protect soil and water quality.
- Protect cultural heritage.
- Maintain long-term forest productivity.
- Contribute to the quality of life of the people in NSW by enhancing the social benefits and economic returns from forest management.
- Ensure greater participation by the community and stakeholders in forest management.
- Comply with all regulatory requirements and government policy.

Strategy

The Strategy document details the policies, strategies, roles and responsibilities for each component of the NFMS.

Key components include:

- An integrated harvest planning system that incorporates the environmental, social and environmental and socio-economic considerations that must be addressed.
- Skill development, training and codes of practice (refer to attachment x) for staff and contractors.
- Measuring and improving performance through monitoring and audit.
- Communication and transparent decision making processes for forest management.
- Participation processes for implementing Regional Forest Agreement outcomes.
- Information systems using best available knowledge.
- Research & development.
- Silviculture strategy based on maintaining or increasing the productive capacity of the forest while managing for ecological values.
- Review & continuous improvement processes.

Operations Manual

The operations Manual provides more detailed information for the use of field officers and contractors. It includes:

- What assessments and surveys of flora and fauna, heritage and soils must be completed in order to plan harvesting.
- What needs to be considered in preparing a plan for harvesting and what organisations need to be consulted.
- How State Forests supervises and checks harvesting activities.
- What monitoring of flora and fauna populations or water quality must be completed.

- What reports must State Forests produce on operational performance and what needs to be included in them.

This documentation will be held at all regional and Divisional Offices of State Forests.

ATTACHMENT 5

FOREST MANAGEMENT ZONES

“The following is a summary and full details of the zoning scheme, including its implementation, are contained in the document 'Forest Management Zoning in State Forests', published 1999.”

The Forest Management Zoning system is a simple two tiered classification. In the first tier each part of every State Forest is classified into one of seven Zones, according to the priority given to the management of particular forest values in the area and to the level of security that applies to the zone. In the second tier, Special Values, which recognise particular natural or cultural features or specific forest uses, may be applied to the zone as a whole or to an individual site within a zone.

Each Zone will permit or prohibit certain forest management activities, where permitted activities will be subject to either standard or special conditions. Standard Conditions are those, applicable to the proposed activity, specified in relevant planning documents, such as Codes of Practice, Operational Circulars, Protocols, Licences and Management Plans or included in Integrated Forestry Operation Approvals (under the *Forestry and National Parks Estate Act 1998*). Generally these prescriptions are relevant at a landscape scale. Special Conditions are those that are specified for the proposed activity, in addition to or to supplement the Standard Conditions. These may also include particular approvals or additional constraints as a condition to allow certain activities. Generally these prescriptions are relevant at a site-specific scale.

A summary of the zones and prohibited activities within each zone is provided below:

| Zone | Description | Prohibited Activities |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| 1 - Special Protection | Management to maximise protection of very high natural and cultural conservation values. | Any activity not permitted by the Working Plan, eg: Timber harvesting Removal of forest products and materials Grazing by domestic stock ¹ Gravel/hard rock quarrying Mineral and petroleum exploration ² |
| 2 - Special Management | Specific management and protection of natural and cultural values where it is not possible or practicable to include them in Zone 1. | Any particular kind of operation the Minister advises the Commission by notice in writing that is prohibited, eg: Timber harvesting Removal of forest product and materials Grazing by domestic stock ³ Gravel/hard rock quarrying |
| 3 - Special Prescriptions | Management for conservation of identified values and/or forest | Case by case assessment dependent on the specific Special Values involved. |


¹ No new grazing Occupation Permits will be issued.

² Many (but not all) Zone 1 areas will be exempted from the provisions of the mining legislation by agreement between Ministers under Section 21 of the Forestry Act.

| Zone | Description | Prohibited Activities |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| | ecosystems and their natural processes, whilst also facilitating other management activities. | |
| 4 - General Management | Management of native forests for timber production and conservation of broad area habitat and environmental values which are not dependent on the structure of the forest. | |
| 5 - Hardwood Plantations | Management of plantations to maximise sustainable timber production on a continuing and cyclical basis. | |
| 6 - Softwood Plantations | | |
| 7 - Non Forestry Use | Management of cleared (non-forested) areas, such as those used for special developments. | Activities which conflict with the specific Non-forest use of the site. |

Application of Special Values Across Forest Management Zones.

| Zone | Special Values | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|------------|-------|------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|
| | Natural | | | | | Cultural | | Forest Uses | | | | |
| | Natural Feature | High Conservation Value Old Growth | Rainforest | Flora | Wildlife (Fauna) | Indigenous Cultural Heritage | Non-Indigenous Cultural Heritage | Scientific Research | Visual Aesthetics | Catchment | Tourism Recreation | Education |
| | N | O | R | F | W | I | H | S | V | C | T | E |
| 1 Special Protection | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ① | ① |
| 2 Special Management | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 3 Special Prescription | | | | ② | ② | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 4 General Management | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 5 Hardwood Plantation | | | | ③ | ③ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 6 Softwood Plantation | | | | ③ | ③ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 7 Non Forest Use | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

- ① A new Zone 1 Special Protection would not usually be created for these Special Values.
- ② In exceptional circumstances these Special Values may be applied in Zone 3.
- ③ May be used where natural vegetation is retained within plantation areas.
-  These Natural Values are managed by prescription and would not usually require Special Value classification within these Zones

ATTACHMENT 6

CODES OF PRACTICE

Codes of Practice include:

- Timber Plantations (Environmental Protection) Harvesting Code 1997 (Schedule 1 of Timber Plantations (Harvest Guarantee) Regulation 1997).
- State Forests of NSW Forests Practices Code : Part 1: Timber harvesting in State Forests Plantations (July 1995).
- State Forests of NSW Forests Practices Code : Part 2: Timber harvesting in Native Forests State Forests and Crown-Timber lands (November 1995).
- State Forests of NSW Forests Practices Code : Part 3: Plantation Establishment and Maintenance (July 1997).
- State Forests of NSW Forest Practices Code: Part 4 - Forest Roads and Fire Trails (February 1999).
- State Forests of NSW Forest Practices Code: Part 5 - Wildlife Management in Native Forests (due for completion by April 2000).

ATTACHMENT 7

PRINCIPLES AND MECHANISMS TO ACHIEVE CONSERVATION ON PRIVATE LAND

The Ministers agree that the principles applying to private are as follows:

- Voluntary in nature.
- Clearly understood by the community.
- Are real partnerships.
- Provide benefits for all Parties.
- Actions must be strategic and integrated.

The Ministers agree that the most important element included in any mechanism to achieve conservation management on private forested land are:

- Effectiveness.
- Ownership.
- Simplicity.
- Clarity of roles.
- Certainty.
- Flexibility.
- Equitable.

The Parties agree that a range of mechanisms are applicable to private land. These include:

- Voluntary conservation agreements.
- Landholder initiated agreements.
- Non-contractual voluntary agreements.
- Fee for service.
- Voluntary acquisition.
- Fixed term common law contract.
- In perpetuity common law contract.
- Community grants.
- Property management plans.
- Voluntary land and water management plans.
- Other mechanisms that may be developed to suit individual landholders or situations.

ATTACHMENT 8

CHANGES TO FOREST MANAGEMENT

Improvements to the forest management system include:

- Review legislation and policies relevant to the allocation and pricing of hardwood logs from State forest before the end of 1999
- Use its best endeavours to complete and publish plans of management for areas dedicated under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.
- Implement and/or review the Forest Resource and Management System (FRAMES) inventory.
- Make subsequent decisions on the declaration and management as wilderness of areas of the CAR reserve system provisionally identified as wilderness during the regional forest assessment.
- Implement the Forest Management Zoning system.
- Manage cultural values, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, according to guidelines.
- National Parks and Wildlife Service developing an Environmental Management System (EMS), for lands dedicated under the *National Park and Wildlife Act 1974* consistent with the following broad principles.
 - An appropriate environmental policy must be in place.
 - The environmental aspects arising from the organisation's past, existing or planned activities, products or services must be identified to determine the environmental impacts of significance.
 - Relevant legislative and regulatory arrangements must be identified.
 - Priorities must be identified and appropriate environmental objectives and targets set.
 - A structure and program(s) to implement the policy and achieve objectives and targets must be established.
 - Planning, monitoring, corrective action, auditing and review activities must be facilitated to ensure both that the policy is complied with and that the environmental management system remains appropriate.
 - The system must be capable of adapting to changing circumstances.
- SFNSW developing a Native Forest Management system as an EMS, with the objective of achieving system certification comparable with the ISO 14000 series. (or alternatively "consistent with the principles outlined above")
- Adopting the NSW Biodiversity Strategy, taking into account the issues raised during its public consultation phase.
- Continuing to develop the public consultation and public reporting mechanisms through the introduction of new partnerships (for example, the International Model Forest Network).
- Providing ongoing formal public participation processes to raise awareness and understanding of ESFM and how it can be achieved in NSW forests.
- Developing and implementing an information management system to facilitate the sharing of data for the use by all agencies, including local government, involved in the management of forested land.
- Improving the cooperation and coordination between Government agencies so as to achieve integrated management for conservation, wood production, and other values in both public and private forests.

ATTACHMENT 9

CRITERIA, INDICATORS, TARGETS AND MONITORING PROCESSES OF ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

This attachment describes a project undertaken as part of the regional forest assessments of forests in New South Wales. The regional forest assessments (RFAs) provide the scientific basis on which forest agreements will be signed for major forest regions of New South Wales. These agreements will determine the future of these forests, providing a balance between conservation and ecologically sustainable use of forest resources.

Project objective/s

This document recommends Criteria, Indicators and Targets for the Upper North East and Lower North East regions for use in guiding and measuring ecologically sustainable forest management (ESFM). In ESFM, the use of indicators is an attempt to reflect the key environmental, social and economic aspects of a healthy regional society. These different aspects are reflected as different criteria under which specific indicators will measure our success at reaching ESFM goals. For each Indicator, Targets have been set at the levels required to achieve ESFM. Details of data availability, monitoring methodology and reporting requirements are also provided. Systematic measurement and assessment of each Indicator will show if our Targets for ESFM are being met. If necessary, our forest management practices can then be adapted to better meet our goals.

Methods

A set of regional criteria and indicators of ESFM were developed by the Montreal Implementation Group (MIG) and endorsed by State agencies and Ministers for use as a core set of indicators of ESFM across Australia. In the development of regional indicators for the UNE and LNE regions, MIG Category A (Core) indicators were adopted and further developed for application. Input from experts and stakeholders in the Forest Agreement process was sought to tailor the MIG indicators specifically to the UNE and LNE regions.

Key results and products

Twenty one Category A Indicators have been identified, supplemented by 2 Category B indicators where no Category A Indicators were available. Category B Indicators require research and development before implementation. In some cases, short-term Interim Indicators have been suggested for Category A indicators that require the development of specific management plans before implementation. The indicators listed in this document are Category A indicators unless otherwise indicated.

An annual report on performance in achieving ESFM in each region will be presented to NSW parliament, and a 5 yearly review will assess the success of the Forest Agreements in implementing ESFM in each region. If the reviews indicate that ESFM targets are not being met, there will be an opportunity to adapt forest management practices to better meet these aims. Successful implementation of ESFM will require a collective commitment by stakeholders and forest conservation and management agencies to monitor and interpret the trends in the indicators over time. Public participation in the review process will be encouraged.

CRITERION 1: BIODIVERSITY

Ecosystem Diversity

Indicator 1.1.a Extent of area by forest type and tenure

Rationale

To monitor the change in **forest type*** cover for the entire forest estate within the region against targets set for retention of forest types. This indicator aims to identify which forest types are increasing or decreasing in area, as a basis for adaptive management.

Indicative Targets

All tenures to be managed to maintain or increase the extent of forest ecosystem/type (as per RFA data systems).

- Public tenures to be managed to maintain or increase the extent of pre-1750 native forest type.
- Private tenures to be managed to maintain regional targets (by Local Government Areas or bio regions) being not less than 25% of estimated pre-1750 cover, or as determined under Regional Vegetation Management Plans.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

Baseline data from the RFA forest type data sets.

Ongoing data from SFNSW tenure will be provided through operational updates to a forest management database. Ongoing data from NPWS will be provided by mapping disturbance (e.g., fire).

Regional Vegetation Management Plans and applications for clearing licences may provide relevant information for private and leasehold land.

Re-inventory using remotely sensed imagery may be possible across all tenures if appropriate resourcing is available.

Reporting

Area (ha) for each forest type by tenure (where available). Add narrative to describe how much of the total forest area the data refers, and to identify tenures that are not mapped or poorly known.

Indicator 1.1.b Area of forest type by growth stage distribution by tenure

Rationale

Ecological processes and the species associated with those processes, within any forest ecosystem or forest type, are associated with vegetative structures and developmental stages.

Indicative Targets

Increase the proportion of mixed aged forest in a balance of growth stages that broadly reflects natural disturbance regimes and silvicultural regimes.

Manage native forests to ensure that growth stages are fully represented within each forest type across the regional landscape.

Maintain a spatial arrangement of age classes to ensure the maintenance of threatened species, where appropriate.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

Baseline data will be used from the RFA forest type data sets.

Ongoing data from SFNSW tenure will be provided through operational updates to a forest management database. Ongoing data from NPWS will be provided by mapping disturbance (e.g., fire).

Regional Vegetation Management Plans and applications for clearing licences may provide relevant information for private and leasehold land.

Re-inventory using remotely sensed imagery may be possible across all tenures if appropriate resourcing is available.

Reporting

Report on the percent of forest estate with a mix of early, mid and late age classes. Record by the same forest types as used in Indicator 1.1.a. Report forest stands as:

- Regeneration stands - defined as stands where the most abundant crown form is regeneration and or the year of origin indicates that the majority of trees within the stand are less than 20 years of age.
- Regrowth stands - defined as stands where the most abundant crown form is regrowth and or the year of origin indicates that the majority of trees within the stand are between 20 and 80 years of age.
- Mature stands - defined as stands where the most abundant crown form is regular and or the year of origin indicates that the majority of trees within the stand are greater than 80 years of age.
- Overmature stands - defined as stands where the most abundant crown form is irregular and this has been determined to be due to age.

Changes in area over time related to forest management objectives.

Indicator 1.1.e Fragmentation of forest types

Rationale

To provide information on the loss of forest cover and the spatial configuration of that loss within a region. The extent of connectivity on the forest landscape should be considered in relation to threatened species habitat and **general retained habitat**.

Indicative Targets

Ensure connectivity at the regional, catchment and sub-catchment scales.

Minimisation of the number and width of roads and other easements through retained habitat and connection corridors.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

Maps of the area of interest at an appropriate scale and level of accuracy derived from sources including ADP, remote sensing, DEA tenure maps and conservation protocol connection corridors.

maps.

Each agency to develop a road management plan that itemises future road construction and road closure over retained habitat patches and connection corridors over its estate (see Indicator 4.1.a).

Reporting

During the first five year term of the Forest Agreements, maps will be used to assess connectivity among the key features identified by targets. Reporting will be narrative until mathematical approaches are developed.

Quantify proportion of connection corridors that are dissected by roads and easements.

SPECIES DIVERSITY

Indicator 1.2.a A list of forest dwelling species

Rationale

This indicator measures the change in species richness and composition over time and provides a list of species that should be managed for. **Forest dwelling** is taken to include forest dependent species.

Indicative Targets

Prevention of the loss of species.

Maintenance of species abundance at **viable and functional population levels** across the regional landscape.

Maintenance of regional species composition.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

Baseline data from RFA flora and fauna data layers, research data and agency data bases.

Survey records are collected by SF during harvest planning. Survey records are collected by NPWS during research or planning. NPWS get additional information from external sources (e.g., universities and the public) which is collated in the Wildlife Atlas.

Work is required to develop a complimentary sampling scheme to cover sampling gaps and facilitate comparative studies. Integration of records across agencies is also required.

Populations of a known subset of species, possibly representative species from functional guilds, should be monitored to indicate patterns of abundance.

Reporting

The names of all vertebrate animal and vascular plant species, and their habitat, conservation status and distribution, are to be recorded for each region.

Trends in abundance of representative species to be interpreted with respect to management practices and environmental influences.

Indicator 1.2.b The status (threatened, rare, vulnerable, endangered, or extinct) of forest dwelling species at risk of not maintaining viable breeding populations, as determined by legislation or scientific assessment.

Rationale

To manage threatened species so as to improve their **conservation status** and formal designation. Changes in status should be used to develop risk management strategies for the future.

Indicative Targets

Improvement of the status of **scheduled forest dwelling species**.

Protect habitat where endangered species occur.

Development and implementation of recovery plans for listed species. Recovery plans to conform to agreed standards and include clear indicators of success and performance criteria.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

Commonwealth and State lists of threatened (rare, vulnerable, endangered or extinct) species, under whatever terminology is used, and their rationale for listing.

Data on the range and abundance of threatened taxa from pre-logging surveys, other surveys, research and incidental reports.

Data from Recovery Planning and related performance indicators.

Reporting

Changes to the status of species to be interpreted with regard to the cause of the change in listing.

Systematic and periodic scrutiny of recovery plans and their performance success.

Sub-indicator 1.2.b.1 The status of endangered populations and ecosystems as determined by legislation or scientific assessment

Rationale

To manage endangered populations and ecosystems so as to improve their **conservation status** and formal designation. Changes in status should be used to develop risk management strategies for the future.

Indicative Targets

Improvement of the status of endangered populations and ecosystems.

Protect habitat where endangered populations and ecosystems occur.

Development and implementation of recovery plans for listed populations and ecosystems. Recovery plans to conform to agreed standards and include clear indicators of success and performance criteria.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

Commonwealth and State lists of threatened (rare, vulnerable, endangered or extinct) populations and ecosystems, under whatever terminology is used, and their rationale for listing.

Data on the range and abundance of endangered populations and ecosystems from pre-logging surveys. other surveys. research and incidental reports.

Data from Recovery Planning and related performance indicators.

Reporting

Changes to the status of populations and ecosystems to be interpreted with regard to the cause of the change in listing.

Systematic and periodic scrutiny of recovery plans and their performance success.

CRITERION 2: MAINTENANCE OF PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS

Indicator 2.1.a Area of forest land and net area of forest land available for timber production

Rationale

This indicator is a measure of the capacity of forests to meet society's demand for timber products.

Indicative Targets

Maintenance or increase of the net area of native forest available for timber production.

Establishment of a minimum of 10 000 ha of plantations on cleared land, across the UNE and LNE regions combined, for the first 5 years of the Forest Agreement.

Acquisition of cleared private land for the establishment of plantations.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

RFA databases provide baseline data for SFNSW.

FRAMES provides the relevant data for State forests. This database will be updated and maintained as part of ongoing management practices.

Regional Vegetation Management Plans may provide relevant information for private tenures.

Reporting

Report area (ha) of forest land, and area (ha) available for timber production across all land tenures and forest types, including secondary forest on private land and plantations separately.

Indicator 2.1.b Total growing stock of both merchantable and non-merchantable tree species on native forest land available for timber production

Rationale

This indicator shows the total growing stock of both merchantable and non-merchantable tree species on forest land available for timber production.

Indicative Target

Maintenance or increase of the total growing stock, and growing stock of merchantable tree species, in native forest available for timber production.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

RFA databases provide baseline data for State forests.

FRAMES provides the relevant data for State forests. This database will be updated and maintained as part of ongoing management practices.

as part of ongoing management practices.

Regional Vegetation Management Plans may provide relevant information for private tenures although yield relationships will need to be quantified.

Reporting

Total growing stock of merchantable and non-merchantable tree species in native forest reported separately for private land and State Forest.

Indicator 2.1.d Annual removal of wood products compared to sustainable volume

Rationale

This indicator is a measure of the actual harvest against the sustainable level of production.

Indicative Target

That the quota sawlog removal does not exceed the **allowable timber cut** by $\pm 25\%$ within any 1 year and $\pm 5\%$ over a 5 year Forest Agreement period.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

RFA databases provide baseline data for State forests.

FRAMES provides the relevant data for State forests. This database will be updated and maintained as part of ongoing management practices. The SFNSW Forest Management Plan will also contain this data.

Regional Vegetation Management Plans may provide relevant information for private tenures although yield relationships will need to be quantified. Returns from sawmills could supplement this data.

Reporting

Report species, size and type of wood products removed during forestry operations.

Annual and 5 yearly reporting of volume removed against allowable timber cut.

Report for public and private tenures separately, and plantations and native forests separately.

Indicator 2.1.f Area and percent of plantation established meeting effective stocking one year after planting

Rationale

To determine the extent and efficacy of the planting effort.

Indicative Target

Increase stocking success.

Increase area of plantations by a minimum of 10 000 ha, across the UNE and LNE regions combined, over the first 5 years of the Forest Agreement.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

Each plantation manager/owner to define **effective stocking** levels for each plantation.

Data provided for new plantations and re-planting after clearfelling.

SFNSW has existing information systems that report on plantation performance. Further information may also be available from the Hardwood Plantation Strategy and the SFNSW Information Memorandum.

Additional data will be required from private plantation owners/managers.

Reporting

Success of plantation establishment measured against the defined effective stocking level.

Indicator 2.1.g Area and percent of harvested area of native forest effectively regenerated

Rationale

To determine the success of regeneration effort. It is acknowledged that after some practices, such as thinning, regeneration may not be required.

Indicative Target

100% of harvested native forest **effectively regenerated**.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

SFNSW collect this data in post-harvest surveys, and maintain records as part of their ongoing management program.

Data on private lands is not currently available and will require the development of methods for the collection of data.

Reporting

Areas and percent of area by forest type that have been effectively regenerated, and have not been effectively regenerated, are to be reported on.

CRITERION 3: MAINTENANCE OF ECOSYSTEM HEALTH AND VITALITY

Indicator 3.1.a Area and percent of forest affected by processes or agents that may change ecosystem health and vitality (narrative as interim).

Rationale

A number of agents can affect ecological processes in forests and may produce significant changes to the condition of the forest. This indicator measures the areas affected by those processes, and the level of impact within those areas.

Indicative target

Minimisation of the area and percent of forest affected by processes or agents that reduce **ecosystem health and vitality**. Note that on the level of individual agents, specific targets may be generated with further research.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

Processes and agents that may change ecosystem functioning need to be identified on a regional basis. These include interactions between natural events and management actions in the following areas; fire, **climatic events**, river regulation, salinisation, grazing, introduction of exotic biota,

logging, clearing, roading, bell-miner dieback, insects and diseases.

RFAFTI data should be considered as baseline data, e.g., disturbance codes.

Data from agency fire monitoring, pest control programs and pest survey and research. Data may be generated out of local observation.

Reporting

Narrative, and where possible quantitative, reporting of the area and percent of forest affected by given processes or agents considered important at a regional level.

Narrative, and where possible quantitative, reporting of the area and percent of forest where given processes or agents are controlled or their effects are countered by rehabilitation.

Reporting processes should distinguish between natural and human induced effects.

CRITERION 4: CONSERVATION AND MAINTENANCE OF SOIL AND WATER RESOURCES

Indicator 4.1.a Area and percent of forest land covered by comprehensive Road Management Plans, which include, an assessment of the extent of existing road infrastructure, processes for ongoing improvement, targets and milestones.

Rationale

To assess and manage the impact of roading in forests on the conservation of soil and water resources.

Indicative Targets

Road Management Plans are to be completed for all Forest Agreement regions within 5 years of the signing of the relevant Forest Agreement.

Data availability and Monitoring methodologies

Each agency to develop a Road Management Plan that details road lengths, regolith class, road category density, stream crossing density, future road construction and road closure etc. over its estate. Road Management Plans should consider road and crossing density by catchment.

The Ecologically Sustainable Roding Index and Ecologically Sustainable Crossing Index may be used to test the efficacy of Road Management Plans at meeting targets.

Reporting

Reporting against targets and milestones built into Road Management Plans.

Indicator 4.1.a (Interim) Area and percent of forest land systematically assessed for soil erosion hazard, and for which site-varying scientifically-based measures to protect soil and water values are implemented

Rationale

This indicator aims to demonstrate that soil erosion and water pollution risk has been explicitly addressed in forest management planning and field operations.

Indicative Targets

All areas where forest activities/operations are occurring are systematically assessed for soil erosion and water pollution hazard.

Site-specific scientifically-based measures to protect soil and water values are implemented in all areas where forest activities/operations are occurring.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

Data derived from management and operation plans.

EPA to provide data on SFNSW compliance with licence conditions as specified in the regional Integrated Forestry Operations Approval.

Reporting

The effectiveness of protective measures, including Licence conditions and Codes of Practice, in preventing soil erosion and water pollution need to be assessed.

CRITERION 5: MAINTENANCE OF FOREST CONTRIBUTION TO GLOBAL CARBON CYCLES

There are no Category A indicators for Criterion 5 at present.

The following Criterion 5 indicators are Category B.

Indicator 5.1a: Total forest ecosystem biomass and carbon pool, and if appropriate, by forest type, age class, and successional stages

Rationale

Forests can undergo significant changes of carbon storage associated with natural mortality, thinning, fire, harvesting and regrowth. This indicator is compatible with the National Carbon Accounting System which will meet Australia's obligations to track changes in national Carbon stocks under the Kyoto Protocol.

Indicative target

Maintenance of the total carbon stored in the forest.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

Data on wood loss by natural mortality, thinning, fire and harvesting can be balanced against regrowth data to indicate positive or negative changes to carbon across the region.

Partial reporting of this indicator can be derived from wood volume and age class data in Indicators 1.1.a and 1.1.b, provided that appropriate biometric relationships have been established. SFNSW will develop these biometric relationships based on FRAMES and will provide these to other agencies.

Reporting

Changes in Carbon held in above-ground wood volumes will be reported once biometric relationships are established. This must be interpreted as a surrogate for total forest contribution to global carbon.

Indicator 5.1c: Contribution of forest products to the global carbon budget

Rationale

Different forest products decay at varying rates. The rate at which carbon is removed, albeit temporarily, from the system, can be assessed by accounting for the different end-products from forest industries. By increasing the proportion of wood converted to long-lived products, such as building materials and furniture, the quantity of carbon held in storage will be increased.

Indicative Targets

Increase the average longevity of forest products.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

Quantify the relative proportions of wood used for different products. The decay rates of these products also needs to be quantified.

Data may be available from a variety of sources including the Australian Bureau of Statistics and industry sources. Integration of data will involve desktop analysis and synthesis of different data formats.

Reporting

Data from different sources will be integrated using an agreed classification system.

CRITERION 6: MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG TERM MULTIPLE SOCIO-ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF SOCIETIES

Recreation and tourism

Indicator 6.2.c Number of visits per annum

Rationale

This indicator shows the amount of overall recreation use and suggests the amount of demand for forest based tourism and recreation.

Indicative Target

Area and percent of forest lands covered by comprehensive cross-agency Integrated Tourism and Recreation Plans, including information on;

- The management of visitation to State Forest and National Parks.
- The maintenance of opportunities for visits in response to demands.
- Mitigation measures in place in high-use areas.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodologies

NPWS to supply data on the number of visits per annum to identified areas from vehicle counters, track counters, registration books, booking systems and license allocations. SFNSW to provide additional data where available.

Narrative information from Agency staff and public survey, where available, about 'overuse' of particular sites by visitors.

Inter-agency working group to develop an Integrated Tourism and Recreation Plan for the forest

Reporting

Report on trends in annual recreation and tourist use and compare with area available.

Report on area and percent of land suffering material damage from overuse, and effectiveness of damage mitigation and rehabilitation measures.

CULTURAL, SOCIAL AND SPIRITUAL NEEDS AND VALUES**Indicator 6.4.c Change in condition and number of recorded places, artefacts, sites, buildings or other structures.****Rationale**

The protection and enhancement of cultural heritage features within the forest estate. This indicator specifically recognises both indigenous and non-indigenous cultural heritage.

Indicative Targets

Maintenance and promotion of cultural heritage values, places, sites and other items in forests.

Increase in the number of Indigenous peoples' involved in site protection and rehabilitation.

Increase in the proportion of heritage places, sites and other items managed in accordance with established heritage management principles and endorsed Conservation Management Plans.

Increase the protection of places, sites and other items from threats to their physical condition.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

The Aboriginal Sites Register for New South Wales and Agency Section 170 registers to be used as a collection point for data concerning Aboriginal places, sites and other items. The Aboriginal Sites Register could be modified to include appropriate fields to incorporate information on maintenance or protection works on Aboriginal sites.

Records of non-indigenous heritage sites and Section 170 registers are maintained separately by each agency.

Information from consultation with Indigenous community and Native Title Representative Bodies.

Reporting

Each agency to monitor and report on the condition of known places, sites and other items and any changes in the condition of places, sites and other items within its own tenure. Narrative information as to the reason for change in condition.

Compliance of management practices with endorsed Conservation Management Plans to be reported.

Number of Indigenous people employed in the monitoring, rehabilitation or management of their places, sites or artefacts, and the forest estate, be monitored and reported by each agency.

EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNITY NEEDS

Indicator 6.5.a Direct and indirect employment in the forest sector and forest sector employment as a proportion of total employment

Rationale

Employment is an important measure of the economic contribution of forests in meeting the needs of the whole community.

Indicative Targets

Increase or maintain direct and indirect employment in the forest sector.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

Data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, Agency and industry sources to be collated to provide employment data for the forest industry (production and tourism) and associated industries. Data may also be available from the Community Development Employment Program (CDEP) scheme from local Indigenous communities.

FISAP may also provide data at a regional level.

Reporting

Employment trends to be considered in context of community expectations and industry developments in and close to the region.

Reporting will be via desktop analyses possibly supplemented by economic models.

CRITERION 7: LEGAL, INSTITUTIONAL AND ECONOMIC FRAMEWORK FOR FOREST CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT

Indicator 7.1 (Narrative) Extent to which the legal framework (laws, regulations, guidelines) supports the conservation and sustainable management of forests

Rationale

Under the Montreal Implementation Group framework, this indicator has a number of sub-indicators which are incorporated in the one indicator here:

- Sub-indicator 7.1(a) Clarifies **property rights**, provides for **appropriate land tenure arrangements**, recognises customary and traditional rights of Indigenous people and provides a means of resolving property disputes by due process. It identifies changes to the legal system and frameworks for land ownership and management, the legal system and frameworks for Indigenous land, and ownership and other inherent rights relating to land, particularly the rights and interests of Indigenous peoples. It aims to recognise, respect and integrate Indigenous Peoples' rights into all aspects of the management process.
- Sub-indicator 7.1(b) Provides for periodic forest-related planning, assessment and policy review that recognises the full range of forest values, including coordination with relevant sectors. This shows how the legal framework demonstrates a regional commitment to achieving ecologically sustainable forest management.

- Sub-indicator 7.(c) Provides opportunities for public participation in public policy and decision making related to forests and public access to information. This enables the legal framework to be assessed for transparency and participation in public policy and decision making at the regional level.
- Sub-indicator 7.1(d) Encourages the development and application of best practice codes, licences and regional prescriptions for forest management.
- Sub-indicator 7.1(e) Provides for the conservation and management of environmental, cultural, social and/or scientific values in forests and ensures the participation of Indigenous peoples in all aspects of forest planning and management processes

Indicative Targets

A legal framework that:

- Addresses property rights, appropriate land tenure arrangements, recognises **traditional management practices** and **self management** as well as the customary and traditional rights of Indigenous people, and provide means of resolving property disputes by due process.
- Demonstrates a commitment to and addresses the ecologically sustainable management of all forest values, as defined within the NSW ESFM Principles, through appropriate legislation, management plans, licences, regional prescriptions, and codes of practice.
- Conserves special environmental, cultural, social and/or scientific values, including the recognition and inclusion of Indigenous perspectives and value systems.

Environmental controls over forest operations and management activities through Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals, Codes of Practice and regional prescriptions that address ecologically sustainable forest management, are best practice, and are subject to continuous improvement.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

An inventory of relevant legislation, Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals, SFNSW and NPWS management plans, regional prescriptions, and codes of practice for the full range of forest values, public and Indigenous participation and consultation processes, periodicity of review and availability of information.

Assessment and evaluation of the outcomes of relevant legislation, management plans, Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals, regional prescriptions and codes of practice, in relation to the achievement of ecologically sustainable forest management.

Reporting

Compare the status of the legal framework and its various elements in addressing ecologically sustainable forest management at the start of the Forest Agreement with changes in the legal framework at appropriate intervals over the period of the Forest Agreement to determine whether targets are met.

Indicator 7.2 (Narrative) Extent to which the institutional framework supports the conservation and sustainable management of forests

Rationale

To assess whether effective processes are in place to foster an institutional commitment to building community awareness and support for the ecological sustainable management of forests.

Indicative Targets

Maintenance or increase in public involvement activities and public education, awareness and extension programs, including increased public awareness of Indigenous peoples' rights in forest-related information, such as the number of Regional Forest Forum and Committees of Advice on Forest Landscape Management meetings, throughout the life of the Forest Agreement.

Maintenance or increase in the numbers, competency and currency of skills required to deliver ecologically sustainable forest management.

Updating and adapting regional management plans and policies in the light of changing environmental, social and economic circumstances and new information.

Reduction of the number of forest management related breaches and prosecutions for a region.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

Current levels and funds expended on public involvement activities and public education, awareness and extension programs.

Regional Agency management plans, policy documents, State of the Environment reporting and State of the Parks reporting.

Number of employees by qualification category (graduate, diploma/certificate, trade skill) by agency, total number of training days per year by type of training, total number of staff undertaking natural resource management courses. Data to be provided by agencies.

Number of forest related breaches and prosecutions from regulatory agencies.

Funds expended on forest related public involvement activities and public education, awareness and extension programs.

Status of forest management based on annual ESFM reports to Parliament under the Forestry and National Parks Estate Act 1998.

Number of forest management related breaches and prosecutions for a region.

Reporting

Report on forest-related public involvement activities and public education, awareness and extension programs.

Report on the presence and currency of forest-related regional management plans including reporting on performance indicators and targets associated with these plans.

Report on the number of employees by qualification category (graduate, diploma/certificate, trade skill, other) and training days, by agency/institution/company in forest management.

Report on industry self-regulation and enforcement strategies used by industry.

Report addressing monitoring and enforcement effort.

Indicator 7.4 (Narrative) Capacity to measure and monitor changes in the conservation and sustainable management of forests

Rationale

To ensure a regional framework monitoring system and sufficient current data is available to measure and monitor changes in the full range of forest values and ensure ecological sustainable forest management.

Indicative Targets

Data requirements and monitoring methodologies are available to meet annual and 5-yearly reporting requirements of ESFM under the Forest Agreements.

Data requirements and Monitoring methodology

Table showing data availability and currency for each indicator associated with Criteria 1-7.

Data to be collected from State agencies, institutions, Indigenous communities and others as appropriate.

Reporting

Report summarising data inadequacies and/or the lack of relevance of some indicators in the region.

Report addressing the comprehensiveness and adequacy of forest inventories, including monitoring.

Refer to each indicator for details of reporting.

Indicator 7.5 (Narrative) Capacity to conduct and apply research and development aimed at improving forest management and delivery of forest goods and services**Rationale**

A scientific understanding of forest ecosystem characteristics and functions is needed to underpin sustainable forest management.

Indicative Targets

Improvement of the capacity to conduct and apply research and development aimed at improving forest management and the delivery of forest goods and services.

Development of a scientific understanding of forest ecosystem characteristics and functions, forest management and delivery of forest good and services.

Assurance that Indigenous traditional forest knowledge is incorporated to improve forest management and delivery of forest good and services.

Assurance of sufficient coverage of areas of forest management by research papers and projects, and identification of areas not covered by current research.

Data availability and Monitoring methodology

Monitor research effort in terms of the number of research papers published and studies undertaken relevant to forest values and ecological sustainable forest management, the number of people employed (scientific and technical staff), and total expenditure on research and development.

Reporting

Report on initiatives undertaken to address regional research needs.

Report on changing forest management practices and adaptive management practices resulting from

research.

ATTACHMENT 10

INDUSTRY AND EMPLOYMENT - COMMITMENTS AND INITIATIVES

| Region | Project | Employment |
|------------------|--|-------------------|
| Lower North East | Management of Additions to National Parks [NPWS] | 65 (18)* |
| | Enhanced Private Forest Mngmt and Resource Supply | 2 |
| | Log Haulage Assistance | ? |
| | Plantation Expansion | 12-14 (1) |
| | North Coast Thinnings | 37 (20) |
| | Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Officers [NPWS/SFNSW] | 5 |
| | Biomass Energy Production | 10-12 (5) |
| | Vegetation Data Compilation [NPWS] [NPWS] | ? |
| | Revegetation for Carbon Sequestration on NP [NPWS] | 4 (2) |
| | Resource Inventory | 5 (2) |

*The figures in brackets represent the number of jobs targeted to displaced timber workers (out of total number, not in addition to total).

ATTACHMENT 11

HARDWOOD PLANTATION AREAS ON NPWS

| Schedule 2 - Hardwood Plantation Areas - Transitional Harvesting then to NP or NR | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------|------------|-------------|------|--------|------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Pluid | Tencode | Sfpunit | SFName | Sfno | Compno | HardpItab | NP/NR | Hectares |
| 19375 | SFH | 296016662 | Bulahdelah | 296 | 166 | 296016662 | Myall Lakes NP Additions | 7.39 |
| 19380 | SFH | 296016661 | Bulahdelah | 296 | 166 | 296016661 | Myall Lakes NP Additions | 33.713 |
| 16966 | SFH | 779011161 | Dingo | 779 | 111 | 779011161 | Dingo Tops NP | 20.023 |
| 11120 | SFH | 1044010262 | Goonengerry | 1044 | 102 | 1044010262 | Nightcap NP | 2.869 |
| 11126 | SFH | 1044010264 | Goonengerry | 1044 | 102 | 1044010264 | Nightcap NP | 10.78 |
| 11131 | SFH | 1044010267 | Goonengerry | 1044 | 102 | 1044010267 | Nightcap NP | 5.387 |
| 11137 | SFH | 1044010266 | Goonengerry | 1044 | 102 | 1044010266 | Nightcap NP | 4.502 |
| 11143 | SFH | 1044010265 | Goonengerry | 1044 | 102 | 1044010265 | Nightcap NP | 3.543 |
| 11146 | SFH | 1044010268 | Goonengerry | 1044 | 102 | 1044010268 | Nightcap NP | 2.982 |
| 11147 | SFH | 1044010269 | Goonengerry | 1044 | 102 | 1044010269 | Nightcap NP | 2.168 |
| 11158 | SFH | 1044010361 | Goonengerry | 1044 | 103 | 1044010361 | Nightcap NP | 2.416 |
| 11164 | SFH | 1044010363 | Goonengerry | 1044 | 103 | 1044010363 | Nightcap NP | 4.502 |
| 11180 | SFH | 1044010366 | Goonengerry | 1044 | 103 | 1044010366 | Nightcap NP | 2.863 |
| 11185 | SFH | 1044010367 | Goonengerry | 1044 | 103 | 1044010367 | Nightcap NP | 9.188 |
| 13075 | SFH | 527004261 | Ingalba | 527 | 42 | 527004261 | Mungay Mtn | 5.313 |
| 18208 | SFH | 298002461 | Kiwarra | 298 | 24 | 298002461 | Talawahl NR | 4.774 |
| 18243 | SFH | 298000461 | Kiwarra | 298 | 4 | 298000461 | Khappinghat NR Additions | 15.179 |
| 18246 | SFH | 298000464 | Kiwarra | 298 | 4 | 298000464 | Khappinghat NR Additions | 20.261 |
| 18248 | SFH | 298000462 | Kiwarra | 298 | 4 | 298000462 | Khappinghat NR Additions | 14.027 |
| 18251 | SFH | 298000463 | Kiwarra | 298 | 4 | 298000463 | Khappinghat NR Additions | 2.066 |
| 10571 | SFH | 626000662 | Mebbin | 626 | 6 | 626000662 | Mebbin NP | 9.592 |
| 10591 | SFH | 626000863 | Mebbin | 626 | 8 | 626000863 | Mebbin NP | 18.983 |
| 10594 | SFH | 626000861 | Mebbin | 626 | 8 | 626000861 | Mebbin NP | 19.615 |
| 10595 | SFH | 626000862 | Mebbin | 626 | 8 | 626000862 | Mebbin NP | 11.742 |
| 10607 | SFH | 626000864 | Mebbin | 626 | 8 | 626000864 | Mebbin NP | 10.538 |
| 10622 | SFH | 626000867 | Mebbin | 626 | 8 | 626000867 | Mebbin NP | 1.754 |
| 10629 | SFH | 626000866 | Mebbin | 626 | 8 | 626000866 | Mebbin NP | 7.051 |
| 10632 | SFH | 626000872 | Mebbin | 626 | 8 | 626000872 | Mebbin NP | 11.024 |
| 10636 | SFH | 626000871 | Mebbin | 626 | 8 | 626000871 | Mebbin NP | 3.716 |
| 10644 | SFH | 626000869 | Mebbin | 626 | 8 | 626000869 | Mebbin NP | 5.517 |
| 10650 | SFH | 626001161 | Mebbin | 626 | 11 | 626001161 | Mebbin NP | 3.609 |
| 10782 | SFH | 626001662 | Mebbin | 626 | 16 | 626001662 | Mebbin NP | 20.999 |
| 10803 | SFH | 626001663 | Mebbin | 626 | 16 | 626001663 | Mebbin NP | 28.446 |
| 20494 | SFH | 535081062 | Orara West | 535 | 810 | 535081062 | Urumbilum NP | 11.436 |
| 20496 | SFH | 535081061 | Orara West | 535 | 810 | 535081061 | Urumbilum NP | 4.193 |
| 20542 | SFH | 535081162 | Orara West | 535 | 811 | 535081162 | Urumbilum NP | 5.386 |
| 20611 | SFH | 535081161 | Orara West | 535 | 811 | 535081161 | Urumbilum NP | 3.403 |
| 11078 | SFH | 173009161 | Whian Whian | 173 | 91 | 173009161 | Nightcap NP | 18.502 |
| 11082 | SFH | 173009863 | Whian Whian | 173 | 98 | 173009863 | Nightcap NP | 14.267 |
| 11087 | SFH | 173009862 | Whian Whian | 173 | 98 | 173009862 | Nightcap NP | 6.897 |

ATTACHMENT 12

MILESTONES

| CLAUSE | OUTCOME | RESPONSIBILITIES | COMPLETION DATE |
|------------------|--|---|-------------------|
| Chapter 2 | | | |
| 2.1.1 | Preparation of SFNSW Native Forest Management System. | SFNSW | 1 April 2001 |
| 2.1.2 | Preparation of NPWS EMS. | NPWS | 1 April 2004 |
| 2.2.1 | Preparation of Regional ESFM Plans. | SFNSW | 1 April 2000 |
| 2.2.2 | Preparation of working plans for all flora reserves (attached to Regional ESFM Plans). | SFNSW | 1 January 2001 |
| 2.2.4 | Preparation of SFNSW Forest Practices Code: Part 5 – Wildlife Management in Native Forests. | SFNSW | 1 April 2000 |
| 2.2.4 | Preparation of Eco-field Guides for the LNE Region. | SFNSW | 1 December 1999 |
| 2.2.8 | Preparation of arrangements for silvicultural practices. | SFNSW | 1 April 2001 |
| 2.3.1 | Creation of special management zones on State forests. | Minister for Forests | 1 October 1999 |
| 2.3.2 | Preparation of plans of management for dedicated reserves under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> . | NPWS | 1 January 2005 |
| 2.3.2 | Formation of a management committee and signing of an memorandum of understanding about the management of Crown Reserves | D-G NPW and D-G DMR | 30 September 1999 |
| 2.3.2 | Undertaking a review of Crown Reserves every five years. | NPWS and DMR | 1 April 2004 |
| 2.3.3 | Preparation of management plans for informal reserves and areas managed by prescription on State forest. | SFNSW | 1 April 2001 |
| 2.3.3 | Preparation of plans of management for Crown Reserves. | NPWS | 1 January 2005 |
| 2.3.3 | Rationalising of FMZ 2. | SFNSW, NPWS, DMR and DUAP | 1 April 2001 |
| 2.3.3 | Formation of an Occupation Permit Task Force. | DG-NPWS, CO-SFNSW, DG-DLWC and CO-NSW Farmers | 1 July 1999 |
| 2.3.3 | Phasing out of occupation permits. | Occupation Permit Task Force | 1 July 2000 |
| 2.4.1 | Release of NSW Biodiversity Strategy. | NPWS | March 1999 |
| 2.4.2 | Preparation of grazing management plans, feral and introduced predator control plans and threatened flora species management plans. | SFNSW and NPWS | 1 April 2005 |
| 2.5.3 | Preparation of cooperative approaches for non-licence components of the TSC Act such as nomination of species, populations, ecological communities and key threatening process, recovery plans, threat abatement plans and critical habitat. | SFNSW and NPWS | On-going |
| 2.4.3 | Refinement of models for Hastings River Mouse habitat | NPWS and SFNSW | 31 December 1999 |
| 2.4.4.3 | Preparation of a process to assess conservation requirements in relation to important new information concerning the biology and ecology of a species and/or effectiveness of licence conditions. | NPWS and SFNSW | 30 June 1999 |
| 2.4.4.5 | Preparation of management plans for large areas of rainforest, high conservation value old growth and other areas excluded by prescription. | SFNSW | 1 January 2002 |
| 2.5 | Public exhibition of a wilderness assessment report for LNE | DG-NPWS | 1 January 2000 |

| CLAUSE | OUTCOME | RESPONSIBILITIES | COMPLETION DATE |
|------------------|---|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Region. | | |
| 2.7 | Review of CERRA World Heritage Areas to identify if any additional rainforest will be included. | NPWS | 1 April 2001 |
| 2.7 | Studies of the dedicated reserve system to identify World Heritage values. | NPWS | 1 April 2002 |
| 2.8 | Preparation of cultural heritage management guidelines. | NPWS and SFNSW | 1 October 1999 |
| 2.8 | Review of Indigenous cultural heritage management processes to provide a landscaped based system. | NPWS | 1 April 2001 |
| 2.8 | Preparation of an information management system for Indigenous heritage. | NPWS | Ongoing |
| 2.8 | Updating section 170 register. | SFNSW and NPWS | Ongoing |
| 2.8 | Finalisation of policy on Indigenous and Non-Indigenous cultural heritage. | SFNSW | 1 April 2000 |
| 2.9.1 | Identification of high conservation values areas on private land. | NPWS | 1 January 2000 |
| 2.9.1 | Establishment of a committee to look at conservation issues on private land. | RACAC | 1 January 2000 |
| 2.9.2 | Private property supplementation program. | SFNSW | 1 April 2004 |
| 2.10 | Preparation of joint arrangements for the prevention, detection and suppression of bush fires. | SFNSW and NPWS | 1 April 2001 |
| 2.11.2 | Monitoring of ESFM criteria and indicators. | SFNSW, NPWS, DLWC | Commencing July 1999 (As per Att. 9) |
| 2.11.2 | Preparation of an evaluation framework for the criteria and indicators. | SFNSW, DUAP, NPWS | 1 April 2000 |
| 2.11.2 | Trial and assessment of indicators. | SFNSW, NPWS, DLWC | 1 April 2004 |
| 2.11.2 | Reporting on indicators. | SFNSW, NPWS, DLWC | As per Att. 9 |
| 2.11.3 | Preparation of a compendium of NSW forest research. | DUAP | 1 April 2004 |
| 2.11.3 | Preparation of a strategy that outlines all the monitoring and research to be undertaken. | SFNSW and NPWS | 1 January 2000 |
| 2.11.3 | Determining a method to provide all research reports to the public. | DUAP | 1 December 1999 |
| 2.11.3 | Provide NPWS with details of affected studies, location of sites and access requirements. | SFNSW | 1 December 1999 |
| 2.13.1 | Preparation of joint regional recreation and tourism plans. | SFNSW and NPWS | 1 April 2001 |
| 2.13.5 | Preparation of a memorandum of understanding on joint road and trails, maintenance and access arrangements. | CEOs | 1 January 2000 |
| Chapter 3 | | | |
| 3.2 | Wood supply agreements for processing thinnings. | SFNSW | 1 April 2000 |
| 3.2 | Amendment of wood supply agreement with Harris Daishowa Australia. | SFNSW | 1 March 1999 |
| 3.5 | Refinement of resource availability by additional plot measurements. | SFNSW | Over the next 5 years |
| 3.5 | Enhancement of modifier models in FRAMES. | SFNSW | Over the next 5 years |
| 3.5 | Consultation with SFNSW and DUAP on the terms and conduct of the FRAMES assessment. | SFNSW, DUAP and NPWS | 1 April 2000 |
| 3.5 | Following the FRAMES refinement, consultation will happen on the appropriate spatial scale for reporting actual yields against FRAMES estimates | SFNSW, NPWS and DITAP | 1 April 2004 |

| CLAUSE | OUTCOME | RESPONSIBILITIES | COMPLETION DATE |
|------------------|---|--|----------------------------------|
| 3.5 | Review of supply levels at Year 8 of the 20 year term agreements. | SFNSW | 1 March 2007 |
| 3.5 | Monitoring of actual and predicted volume each 12 year period. | SFNSW | 1 April 2000 and then every year |
| 3.5 | Report on annual production of products other than production of saw logs. | SFNSW | 1 April 2000 and then every year |
| Chapter 4 | | | |
| 4.2 | Additional reporting and consultative mechanisms for NPWS such as State of Parks report, NPWS Advisory Council and District Advisory Committees. | NPWS | 1 April 2000 |
| 4.3 | Additional reporting and consultative mechanisms for SFNSW* such as Plan of Operations, Regional ESFM plans, annual review of 5 year plan of operations, NFMS and any committee established to implement forest management at the landscape level. | SFNSW | 1 April 2000 |
| 4.5 | Additional reporting and consultative mechanisms such as Committees to provide advice to the Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning on the management of land in any Region covered by a <i>forest agreement</i> *, development of public consultation and public reporting mechanisms at the strategic planning level, development of public participation mechanisms through the introduction of new partnerships (for example, the International Model Forest Network). | DUAP, SFNSW, NPWS | 1 April 2001 |
| Chapter 5 | | | |
| 5.1.1 | Negotiation of land transfers, co-management and joint management arrangements. | NPWS, SFNSW and Aboriginal communities | 30 December 2000 |
| 5.1.1 | Assessment of all parks to determine if any could be added to Schedule 14 of the NPW Act. | NPWS | 30 December 2000 |
| 5.1.1 | Examination of any State forest to identify co-management and joint venture arrangements | SFNSW and Aboriginal communities | 1 April 2000 |
| 5.1.1 | Joint strategy on how Aboriginal communities gain access to materials for art and craft purposes, food sources and medicine; access to firewood, and opportunities for traditional use and cultural activity | SFNSW and NPWS | 30 December 2000 |
| 5.1.1 | Preparation a joint strategy which will include how Aboriginal communities can gain access to materials for art and craft purposes, food sources and medicine; access to firewood, and opportunities for traditional use and cultural activity. | NPWS and SFNSW | 1 April 2000 |
| 5.1.2 | Preparation of a joint strategy to facilitate an employment and industry development program for Aboriginal people. | NPWS and SFNSW | 1 April 2000 |
| 5.1.3 | Preparation of a strategy to ensure that Aboriginal communities and stakeholders are given a greater participatory role in forest management. | NPWS and SFNSW | 1 April 2000 |
| Chapter 6 | | | |
| 6.8 | Every five years after the agreement is signed, a review of the performance of the agreement must be undertaken to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the Agreement (and Approval) in meeting the Government goals and policies. | DUAP | 1 April 2004 |
| 6.9 | Preparation of an annual report on the forest agreement which will include an ESFM report and the outcomes of compliance with any integrated forestry operations approval for the region. | DUAP | 1 April 2000 |
| 6.10 | Furnishing of the agreement to the Presiding Officer of each | DUAP | 7 days after it is |

| CLAUSE | OUTCOME | RESPONSIBILITIES | COMPLETION DATE |
|--------|---|---|--|
| | House. | | signed. |
| 6.10 | Agreement is to be laid before Parliament. | Presiding Officer | 15 sitting days after it is received by the Presiding Officer. |
| 6.10 | Agreement to be made public. | Presiding Officer | 7 days after it is signed |
| 6.11 | Public notice in a newspaper circulating throughout the State and also in a newspaper circulating in the Region, about the agreement and IFOA. | DUAP | 1 April 1999 |
| 6.11 | Copies of documents to made available for public inspection at the head office and other regional offices of the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning. | DUAP | 1 April 1999 |
| 6.11 | Copies of documents made available on the Internet by means of the website of the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning. | DUAP | 1 May 1999 |
| 6.13 | Preparation of data management agreement. | NPWS, SFNSW, NSW Fisheries, DUAP | 1 April 2000 |
| 6.13 | Lodgement of all archival copies of data. | NPWS, SFNSW, NSW Fisheries, DUAP | 1 October 1999 |
| 6.15 | Devise and implement a coordinated complaint handling and response system. | DUAP, NPWS, EPA and NSW Fisheries | 1 January 2000 |
| 6.16.1 | Harvesting of plantations in national parks. | NPWS and SFNSW | 30 June 2001 |
| 6.16.2 | Refinement of the 'areas for further consideration'. | DUAP, NPWS, SFNSW, DMR | 1 December 1999 |
| 6.16.2 | Preparation of the procedures for purchasing the leases on land. | NPWS and NSW Farmers. | 31 August 1999 |
| 6.12.2 | Completion of negotiations on <i>FMZ* 2</i> and <i>FMZ* 3</i> . | NPWS and SFNSW | 30 June 2000 |
| 6.12.2 | Assessment of forest conservation values of remaining vacant Crown land. | NPWS, DMR, DLWC and other stakeholders. | 1 January 2003 |
| 6.12.2 | The process (prior to any purchases) of selecting land for purchase by <i>SFNSW*</i> for timber supply must consider key substantially unmet CAR conservation targets. A process for this, and the key targets must be developed by <i>SFNSW*</i> , including consultation with <i>NPWS*</i> and DUAP, by 30 June 1999. This is not to hinder the overall purpose of the Private Property Supplementation Program, to supplement <i>SFNSW*</i> timber supply. | SFNSW | 30 June 1999 |

The milestones in this Attachment should be read in conjunction with the relevant clauses in the Agreement.