



TECHNOLOGY AND BOUNDARY RULES



MODERN TECHNOLOGY

Desktop and mobile technology is central to the proposed Coastal IFOA. Improved access to information will provide the community with confidence that NSW's timber production forests are being protected.



Everything from individual trees, koala habitats and streams, to exclusion zones will be digitally mapped using modern technology. This will provide forestry operators with better and more accurate information on where they can and cannot harvest. At the same time this will provide the NSW Environment Protection Authority with the information it needs to monitor compliance and will ensure areas of special conservation value are protected.



BOUNDARY RULES AND BUFFERS FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT AREAS

The proposed Coastal IFOA introduces two categories for boundaries that will apply to all exclusion zones* in NSW forests.

CATEGORY 1 RULES

Rules apply to areas that are more sensitive to disturbance and require a more stringent level of protection due to the environmental value they add to the landscape such as vital habitat. These include bird nests and roosts, wildlife habitat and tree retention clumps.

Trees cannot be felled over the boundary of an environmentally significant area and harvesting machines are prohibited from entering these areas. Additionally, forest products or coarse woody debris cannot be removed from these areas.



CATEGORY 2 RULES

Rules apply to areas that can tolerate a degree of disturbance but still need protection, such as old growth forest and rocky outcrops.

Under the proposed Coastal IFOA, trees must not be felled into a category 2 area unless there are no practical alternatives. Should this felling have to occur, no more than six trees can be felled in any 200-metre length of the boundary of a category 2 environmentally significant area. Machines are only permitted to enter the outer 5 metres of a category 2 area to fell a tree if it can't be safely felled from within the harvest area.

*Exclusion zones are areas around protected features where forestry activities are not allowed or are restricted.

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