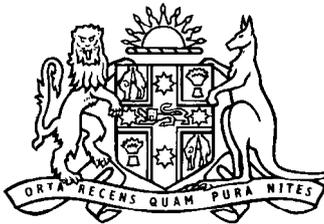


SOUTHERN REGION FOREST AGREEMENT



New South Wales Government

3 May 2002

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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 Southern Region of New South Wales. Its name is the *Southern 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 reference to “the *Ministers**” in this agreement means these *Ministers**.

1.3 COMMENCEMENT

This agreement commences when it is signed by the *Ministers**. If the dates on which they sign this agreement differ between *Ministers**, this agreement is to commence on the latest of those dates.

1.4 PREAMBLE

In making this agreement we:

- a) Note that during 1996 to 1999 a *regional forest assessment** of the Southern Region was carried out in part by, and in part on behalf of, the *Resource and Conservation Assessment Council (RACAC)**. This assessment included an examination of environmental and heritage values, economic and social values, timber values and the *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), the Convention on Biological Diversity, Agenda 21 and the 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 *comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR*) reserve system** in the region is comprised of all conservation reserves which qualify under *JANIS** as dedicated and informal reserves, areas managed by prescription and qualifying private land (with the owner’s agreement).
- f) Note the tenure within the Region can only be approximated because operational boundaries are still being determined. The approximate area of each tenure is shown in Table 1.

**TABLE 1
APPROXIMATE AREA OF EACH TENURE CATEGORY IN THE REGION**

TENURE	AREA PRE <i>FOREST AGREEMENT*</i> (HA)	AREA POST <i>FOREST AGREEMENT*</i> (HA)
<i>NPWS*</i>		
National Park and Nature Reserve	1 032 511	1 316 382
Informal Crown Reserve (NPWS managed)	-	32 398
State Recreation Area (NPWS managed)	4 067	6 757
<i>SFNSW*</i>		
<i>State forest*</i> (excluding all <i>FMZ*</i> reserves and plantations) ¹	298 025	237 063
Flora Reserve (<i>FMZ*</i> 1)	3 520	9 532
<i>FMZ</i> Reserves (<i>FMZ</i> 2 and 3a – SF Managed) ²	219 994	60 963
Plantation management (softwood and hardwood) ³ Note: includes small areas of Native Forest.	124 241	123 732

¹The *State forest** areas after the *forest agreement** relate to the *Forest Management Zoning** system which has been finalised during this process. The *State forest** areas prior to the decision have been derived using a similar classification.

² Areas of ‘*FMZ* Reserves’ *Pre-Forest Agreement** include all areas for which the management intent excluded harvesting, plus un-dedicated Forest Preserves.

³Area of Plantation reduced due to the reservation of 57 hectares of softwood plantation in Woodburn *State Forest** and the re-zoning of approximately 450 ha of native forest within plantations as *FMZ** 1 or 2.

1.5 DEFINITION OF REGION

This agreement applies to the South Coast and Tumut subregions of the Southern Region, shown on *Map 1** and *Map 2**. The boundary of the Region is the area shown on these two maps. This *forest agreement** does not include the Goulburn Subregion of the Southern Region.

1.6 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.

1.7 RELATIONSHIP TO INTEGRATED FORESTRY OPERATIONS APPROVAL

1.7.1 Relationship between the forest agreement and IFOA

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.

1.7.2 Relationship of the IFOAs

The *Ministers** agree that the *IFOA** for the Southern Region will be based on the existing *IFOA*s* for the Upper North East and the Lower North East regions, with changes as necessary to accommodate the Southern Region.

1.8 RELATIONSHIP TO REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENT

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 been made for the Region. The intention is that this *forest agreement** is one means by which NSW can implement obligations and undertakings arising from a *RFA** for the Region.

1.9 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 or appear as Acronyms in section 7.2.

1.10 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.

1.11 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 *State Forests of NSW (SFNSW*)* and be based on the principles contained in Attachment 2. 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 Environmental Management System - State Forest Management

*SFNSW** must complete and implement its *EMS** with the longer term objective of achieving system certification comparable with ISO 14001 (Attachment 3). It will include a component covering native forests - the *Native Forest Management System (NFMS*)* and another component for planted forests.

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

This *EMS** must be implemented by 30 June 2003.

The *EMS** 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). A further part of the *EMS** will be prepared to cover the planted forest component by 31 December 2003.

Through the *EMS**, *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, evaluating performance and for adaptive management.

The *EMS** must be implemented by 30 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 for the region by 31 August 2002.

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 eight zones (refer to '*Managing our forests sustainably: Forest Management Zoning in NSW State Forests*', *SFNSW** Operational Circular 99/10). These include zones that delineate those areas of *State forest** managed as conservation reserves and those areas managed for timber production.

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 31 August 2002. Working plans will be incorporated into the Regional *ESFM** Plans.

The *FMZs** must be managed in accordance with ‘*Managing our forests sustainably: Forest Management Zoning in NSW State Forests*’, *SFNSW** Operational Circular 99/10’ 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

For activities regulated under Part 4 of the *Forestry and National Park Estate Act 1998*, *harvesting plans** must be prepared for all *logging operations** conducted under a Timber Licence. Operational plans must be prepared for all *ancillary road construction**. *Harvesting plans** and *operational plans for road construction** 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. *Forest products operations** removed by Authorisation under section 30(I) of the *Forestry Act 1916* do not require harvesting plans. However the Authorisation must provide details on the location and any necessary conditions. The *EMS** - *NFMS** outlines *SFNSW** *harvest planning** requirements for native forests.

For activities regulated under the *Plantations and Reafforestation Act 1999* plans must be prepared, as required in the *Plantations and Reafforestation (Code) Regulation 2001*.

2.2.4 Codes of Practice and Eco-Field Guide(s)

Codes of Practice specified in Attachment 4 provide operational interpretation and management guidelines for staff and contractors at a statewide level. An Eco-Field Guide(s) for this Region must provide detailed management information (for example on silviculture, pest control, the conservation of soil and water resources etc.). They must also be 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 Guide(s) for the Southern Region must be finalised by 31 August 2002.

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

2.2.5 Monitoring and Auditing

Monitoring and review 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 7. In particular, the resource inventory information contained in *Forest Resource and Management Evaluation System** (*FRAMES**) must be monitored and reviewed as discussed in section 3.5.

*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. It must also employ this audit system to monitor compliance by its staff and contractors with the conditions of any relevant *IFOA**. The results of this monitoring and auditing, should be reported using a mechanism determined by *DoP**, *NPWS**, *SFNSW**, *NSW Fisheries**, and *EPA**.

2.2.6 SFNSW Reporting

Notification by *SFNSW** on the location and nature of *forestry operations** will be regularly provided to *NPWS**, *DoP**, *EPA**, *NSW Fisheries**, as outlined in *IFOA** arrangements.

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 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 licenses or approves a proposed forestry activity, is of the view that the activity is not covered by the *forest agreement*/IFOA** then *SFNSW** may:

- Apply for an amendment of the *forest agreement*/IFOA** to cover it and defer the activity until the *forest agreement*/IFOA** is amended; or
- Resolve not to have the activity covered by the *IFOA** and elect to deal with the matter under Part 5 *EP&A Act*; or
- Resolve not to pursue the activity.

When considering proposed *forest operations** and activities, *SFNSW** will also work with *DoP**, *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.

2.2.8 Silvicultural Practice

As part of ecosystem management, a native forest silvicultural regime must be implemented on *State forest**. Use of light, medium and heavy Australian Group Selection and light, medium and heavy single tree selection, as modelled in *FRAMES**, will occur in identified geographic locations as appropriate to the yield association and forest structure.

Site specific silviculture must be applied within a harvesting area using clear silvicultural specifications for specific yield associations and forest structures as outlined in the Eco-field Guide(s). The actual silviculture applied will depend on yield association, stand structure and the Plan of Operation* (scheduling arrangements).

*SFNSW** must:

- Establish a register of locations where different silvicultural practices can be examined, as an aid for field supervisor training.
- Audit compliance with silvicultural specifications and this will be reported by a mechanism determined by *DoP**, *NPWS**, *SFNSW**, *NSW Fisheries**, and *EPA**.
- Report for the Region the total harvest area treated by native forest yield association, silvicultural types (including light, medium and heavy 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 *DoP**, *NPWS**, *SFNSW**, *NSW Fisheries**, and *EPA**.
- Consult on ecosystem management, including silviculture, as part of the *EMS**.

These arrangements must be progressed by 30 September 2003.

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 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 (1994). 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 (refer to '*Managing our forests sustainably: Forest Management Zoning in NSW State Forests*', *SFNSW** Operational Circular 99/10).
2. *Informal reserves**. These areas comprise:
 - *FMZ** 2 under *SFNSW** *Forest Management Zoning* System (refer to '*Managing our forests sustainably: Forest Management Zoning in NSW State Forests*', *SFNSW** Operational Circular 99/10). *Mineral exploration** and *mining** are permitted activities, but logging and grazing must be excluded. The Minister for Forestry must create these *informal reserves** as *special management zones** pursuant to Clause 21A of the *Forestry Act* 1916 by 31 August 2002.

The *FMZ** 2 areas will comprise the draft informal reserves (subject to minor boundary refinement prior to formal creation of *special management zones**) shown on Map 3 and Map 4. Additionally *FMZ** 2 areas may comprise:

- (i) Clumped areas derived from *net harvest area exclusions** including high conservation value old growth forest ecosystems, rainforest and rare non-commercial forest ecosystems.
 - (ii) 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**.
 - State Recreation Areas dedicated under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* 1974.

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 final *special management zones** derived from the areas shown on Map 3 and Map 4 require 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 by three mechanisms:

- Land being included in *Forest Management Zone* 3a (FMZ* 3a)* – Lands included in *FMZ* 3a* contain particular values which are subject to similar protection mechanisms as *FMZ* 2* and are outlined in ‘*Managing our forests sustainably: Forest Management Zoning in NSW State Forests*’, *SFNSW* Operational Circular 99/10*. Included in the *FMZ* 3a* areas are high conservation value old growth ecosystems and rainforest; areas of mining and mineral exploration interest and leasehold; and areas that do not meet the size criteria for classification as *FMZ* 2*.
- Land being included in *Forest Management Zone* 3b (FMZ* 3b)* – Lands included in *FMZ* 3b* contain particular values which are subject to protection mechanisms outlined in prescriptions approved by the Divisional Manager.
- Land within *Forest Management Zone* 4 (FMZ* 4)* – By protective prescriptions as set out in the *IFOA** for the Region and includes features that are unable to be mapped at a scale of 1:25 000, but are identified and marked during operations.

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 31 January 2006 for areas dedicated or reserved in the Southern 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 31 August 2002.

2.3.3 Managing other JANIS reserve components

*Crown Reserves** must be managed for the primary purpose of conservation by the Director-General of *NPWS** in the capacity as Manager of the Reserve Trust. The Director-General of *NPWS** and the Director-General of the *DMR** have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the management of these areas and must form a committee by 30 June 2002 to advise the Manager of the Reserve Trust on the matters specified in the Memorandum of Understanding concerning *Crown Reserves**. The Management Committee will comprise equal numbers of delegates of the two Directors-General.

The *NPWS** and the *DMR** must undertake to review all *Crown Reserves** every five years. With the concurrence of the Minister for Mineral Resources, any areas no longer requiring consideration of mineral interests must be dedicated under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

*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 31 January 2006.

*SFNSW** must include in Regional *ESFM* Plans*, working plans for *FMZ* 2* and *3a* and guidelines for areas managed by prescription (i.e. *FMZ* 3b* and *4*), in consultation with *NPWS**, *DoP** and *DMR**. This must be completed by 31 August 2002.

Management prescriptions on *State forests** for high conservation value old growth forest ecosystems, rainforest and rare non-commercial forest ecosystems must continue to apply.

In the Southern Region, the areas identified as *FMZ* 2*, and described as proposed *informal reserve** on Map 3 and Map 4, were identified as having high conservation value but were excluded from dedicated reservation specifically due to concerns regarding mineral and petroleum potential

or management feasibility. For those *FMZ* 2* areas related to mineral prospectivity only, the boundaries of these areas must only be altered or revoked by the joint agreement of the *Ministers**.

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, *DMR** 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.

The Occupation Permit and Permissive Occupancy Taskforce, comprising the representatives of Director-General of *NPWS**, the Chief Executive Officer of *SFNSW**, the Director-General of *DLWC** and the Chief Executive Officer of *NSW Farmers** must consider the Southern Region by 31 December 2002. After consultation and within 18 months of gazettal of the new reserves, the Taskforce must oversee the phasing out of occupation permits in *State forests** which currently exist in areas identified as formal reserves and informal reserves and permissive occupancies on Crown land identified as formal reserves and informal reserves. Initiatives to ameliorate the social, economic and environmental impacts must be implemented by the working group.

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 other lands of the Crown, and develop management arrangements for those reserves. Aquatic reserves are a fundamental means of protecting and managing aquatic habitat values, including those required for protection of threatened fish species. It is agreed that such reserves may be created with the consent of the agency managing the land.

2.4 FLORA, FAUNA AND FISH

2.4.1 NSW Biodiversity Strategy

The NSW Biodiversity Strategy was released in March 1999, with implementation commencing immediately. 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 Aquatic Habitat and Fish Passage

A significant proportion of the rivers in New South Wales arise in or flow through forested lands. Protecting the biodiversity values of these rivers is critical to *ESFM** and accordingly all actions relevant to forest conservation and management must ensure the continuation and, where possible, enhancement of aquatic habitat values, and that fish migration and travel is not obstructed.

2.4.3 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 native forest in *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 *Fisheries Management Act 1994*, contained in the *I FOA**.

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. These plans must be completed by 30 July 2006. Additionally the terms of the Licence under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* as part of the *IFOA** provides for the preparation of threatened flora species management plans.

2.4.4 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 non-licence provisions of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*. The non-licence components of the *Threatened Species Licence** 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 relevant Scientific Committee.

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

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

2.4.5.1 Changes to threatened species schedules

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*.

2.4.5.2 Species new to science

Conservation requirements must be developed and implemented for *species new to science**. Where the conservation requirements of *species new to science** recommends a new prescription, the *Threatened Species Licence** of the *IFOA** must be reviewed. After the review, amendments to the *Threatened Species Licence** may be considered.

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 process outlined below must be implemented:

- a) Upon becoming aware of the discovery of a species or subspecies, *SFNSW** and *NPWS** or *NSW Fisheries** will liaise with each other in order to develop an appropriate management response.
- b) *SFNSW** and *NPWS** or *NSW Fisheries** 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 relevant *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.

2.4.5.3 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 the terms of licences under *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* and Part 7A of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* in the *IFOA**, the conservation requirements of the species must be assessed and appropriate measures implemented. The relevant terms of the *IFOA** must be reviewed accordingly and appropriate amendments considered. 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** or *NSW Fisheries** must liaise with each other in order to develop an appropriate management response.
- b) *SFNSW** and *NPWS** or *NSW Fisheries** 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 relevant *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.

2.4.5.4 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**.
- Effectiveness of the licence conditions contained in the *IFOA**.
- Impacts from forestry operations.

New information is to be assessed and, where required, the relevant *Threatened Species Licence** is to be reviewed and amended in accordance with the *Forestry and National Park Estate Act 1998*. This process must be consistent with that outlined in section 2.4.4.2.

In particular, where new information on the distribution, population size or ecology of species of threatened flora and fauna 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.

2.4.5.5 Mitigation of damage to threatened species habitat

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

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

2.4.5.6 Management of rainforest, high conservation value old growth forest ecosystems and other prescriptive exclusions

Rainforest, high conservation value old growth forest ecosystems and other areas protected through exclusion of logging, *forest product operations** and other operations as specified in the *Threatened Species Licence** for the *IFOA**, are important 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.

The Regional *ESFM** Plan(s) to be prepared by *SFNSW** must include guidelines for management of the larger, more significant exclusion areas. The larger more significant exclusion areas will be those as agreed between the Director-General of *NPWS**, the Chief Executive Officer of *SFNSW** and the Director-General of *DoP** by 31 December 2002. The guidelines should 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, any old growth forest ecosystems and rare non-commercial forest ecosystems on *NPWS* estate** will only be considered where a Plan of Management is in place. In the absence of a Plan of Management construction of roads and trails through areas of rainforest, old growth forest ecosystems and rare non-commercial forest ecosystems on *NPWS* estate** will be subject to environmental assessments as part of *NPWS** Reviews of Environmental Factors.

2.5 WILDERNESS

The Director-General of *NPWS** placed on public exhibition a Wilderness Assessment Report (including identification of areas under the *Wilderness Act 1987*) for the Southern Region on 5 March 2001 for a period of 12 weeks. The report addressed the question of the assessment and identification, where the criteria for wilderness have been met, as wilderness of all *provisionally identified wilderness** and any other land assessed where the *Wilderness Act 1987* applies. *NPWS** must provide advice to the Minister administering the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* on the submissions received during public consultation and the areas recommended for wilderness declaration by 31 December 2002. 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 *Ministers** recognise that the forests of the Southern Region may potentially contain World Heritage values. These 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 Southern Region by 30 April 2004, to investigate and document potential World Heritage values. If areas are demonstrated to be of outstanding global 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 ABORIGINAL AND NON-ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

The protection of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal *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: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance 1999 (Australia ICOMOS Inc; Melbourne; 2000).
- The Fifth Edition Conservation Plan (James Semple Kerr, The Fifth Edition Conservation Plan: A Guide to the Preparation of Conservation Plans for Places of European Cultural Significance, Published by J.S. Kerr on behalf of the National Trust of Australia (NSW), Sydney 2000).

- Guidelines For The Protection, Management and Use of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Places (Department of Arts and Communication, 1997).
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Standards & Guidelines Kit (NSW NPWS*, 1997).
- NSW Heritage Manual (NSW Heritage Office and Department of Planning, Sydney 1996)
- Assessing Heritage Significance A NSW Heritage Manual Update (NSW Heritage Office, Sydney 2001).
- Australian Natural Heritage Charter (Australian Committee for IUCN, 1996).

*Cultural heritage** management guidelines must be applied by NPWS* and SFNSW* when managing *Cultural heritage** in the region. These guidelines will incorporate the identification, assessment and management of *cultural heritage** and will include performance indicators. The guidelines will be based on principles developed by the *Cultural Heritage Working Group**. The principles 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.

The guidelines applying to *State forests** must be attached to the *IFOA** for the Region.

Forested landscapes contain many items that provide information concerning Aboriginal use of, and the spiritual links to the land. 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 Aboriginal *cultural heritage** management, 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. This review must be completed by 31 August 2005.

It is agreed that knowledge about non-Aboriginal *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 is appropriate only 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 must be appropriately protected.

It is recognised that effective conservation of cultural heritage is dependent on improved information. The NPWS* must continue to develop information management systems for Aboriginal 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 Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal *cultural heritage** as part of its EMS* - NFMS* and will incorporate strategies for the protection and management of *cultural heritage** within the relevant Regional ESFM* Plan. This must be completed by 31 August 2002.

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

There is a commitment to the conservation and management of private forests. Conservation values occur on private land and although these areas were not identified publicly during the assessment process, they 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 5 outlines principles applying to private land and mechanisms that may be applied to achieve voluntary 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 Agreements and Management Contracts under the *Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997*.

The protection of high conservation values on private land may be facilitated by RACAC*. To assist RACAC*, NPWS* must identify forest ecosystems on private land that are a conservation priority for inclusion in the *CAR reserve system** by 30 June 2002.

By 30 June 2002, RACAC* must establish a committee and ensure agencies are promoting the protection of conservation values on private lands within the Southern Region (subject to availability of funding and approval).

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

The role of the *Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997* and Catchment Management Boards in conserving native vegetation on private land is acknowledged and the work by RACAC* must seek to complement and assist implementation of this work.

Private forest owners must be encouraged to undertake their management operations in a manner consistent with ESFM* principles. The Ministers* agree that CRA* data sets and reports must be made available to interested parties (such as Regional Vegetation Management Committees, District Bushfire Management Committees), for use in developing management operations consistent with ESFM* principles. The distribution of CRA* data sets will be managed in accordance with the data management agreement discussed in section 6.13.

2.10 FIRE MANAGEMENT

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

The *Ministers** support a strong commitment to fire management having regard to its roles in ecosystem evolution and maintenance, forest management, timber management and the need to protect human life, property, and cultural values.

*SFNSW** and *NPWS** will continue to participate in District Fire Committees for the prevention, detection and suppression of bush fires in areas under their management.

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 a 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 progress towards *ESFM**. *ESFM** is based upon:

- 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 effective achievement relies on review and subsequent implementation of legislation, policy, plans, codes and prescriptions to ensure *ESFM** objectives can be met in a more efficient regulatory environment. Proposed changes to the forest management system are outlined in Attachment 6.

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 2 and detailed in Attachment 7 must be monitored (these include the framework of regional indicators developed by the Montreal Implementation Group (MIG)). By 30 September 2002 an evaluation framework must be developed to provide the basis for the five year review of *ESFM** under the *forest agreement**.

**TABLE 2
INDICATORS OF ESFM FOR THE SOUTHERN REGION**

FOREST VALUE / CRITERIA	INDICATOR
Biodiversity	1.1.a Extent of area by forest ecosystem and tenure. 1.1.a.1 Understorey vegetation layer. 1.1.b Area of forest ecosystems by growth stage distribution by tenure. 1.1.e Fragmentation of forest ecosystem. 1.2.a A list of forest dwelling species. 1.2.b The status (threatened, rare, vulnerable, endangered, or extinct) of

FOREST VALUE / CRITERIA	INDICATOR
	<p>forest dwelling species at risk of not maintaining viable breeding populations, as determined by legislation or scientific assessment.</p> <p>1.2.b.1 The status of endangered populations, ecological communities and ecosystems as determined by legislation or scientific assessment.</p>

FOREST VALUE / CRITERIA	INDICATOR
Maintenance of productive capacity of forest ecosystems	<p>2.1.a Area of forest land and net area of forest land available for timber production.</p> <p>2.1.b Total growing stock of both merchantable and non-merchantable tree species on native forest land available for timber production.</p> <p>2.1.d Annual removal of wood products compared to sustainable volume.</p> <p>2.1.e Annual removal of non-timber forest products (eg berries, mushrooms, game, honey, wildflowers, tree ferns and possums) compared to the sustainable level.</p> <p>2.1.f Area and percentage of plantation established meeting effective stocking one year after planting.</p> <p>2.1.g Area and percentage of harvested area of native forest effectively regenerated.</p>
Maintenance of ecosystem health and vitality	3.1.a Area and percentage 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	<p>4.1.a Area and percentage of forest land covered by comprehensive Road Management Plans, which include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an assessment of the extent of existing road infrastructure, - processes for ongoing improvement, - targets and milestones. <p>4.1.a (Interim) Area and percentage 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.</p>
Maintenance of forest contribution to global carbon cycles	<p>5.1a Total forest ecosystem biomass and carbon pool, and if appropriate, by forest ecosystems, age class, and successional stages.</p> <p>5.1c Contribution of forest products to the global carbon budget.</p>
Maintenance and enhancement of long term multiple socio-economic benefits to meet the needs of society	<p>6.1.a Value and volume of wood and wood production.</p> <p>6.2.c Number of visits per annum.</p> <p>6.4.c (i) Change in condition and number of Aboriginal cultural heritage features within the forest estate including recorded places, artefacts, sites, or other structures.</p> <p>6.4.c (ii) Change in condition and number of historic heritage features within the forest estate including recorded places, artefacts, sites, buildings or other structures.</p> <p>6.5.a Direct and indirect employment in the forest sector and forest sector employment as a proportion/percentage of total employment.</p>
Legal, institutional and economic framework for forest conservation and sustainable management	<p>7.1 Extent to which the legal framework (laws, regulations, guidelines) supports the conservation and sustainable management of forests (Narrative).</p> <p>7.2 Extent to which the institutional framework supports the conservation and sustainable management of forests (Narrative).</p> <p>7.4 Capacity to measure and monitor changes in the conservation and sustainable management of forests (Narrative).</p> <p>7.5 Capacity to conduct and apply research and development aimed at improving forest management and delivery of forest goods and services (Narrative).</p>

Indicators are to be trialed 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 7. Reporting on indicators must contribute to the annual reports to parliament by the Minister for Planning and to the five yearly review of the *forest agreement**.

2.11.3 Research including Monitoring and Survey

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

Consultation between agencies must occur in the development of joint research projects and to set priorities for undertaking research and surveys. 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 monitoring (including *ESFM** indicators) must be prepared jointly by *SFNSW** and *NPWS** by 30 June 2003. The strategy must include other relevant land managers such as *DLWC** and establish links with other research strategies such as that being developed under the State Biodiversity Strategy or the process under the Natural Resources Research Taskforce.

All project reports relevant to the *regional forest assessment** must be made public by the 30 June 2002. This must occur by providing access to relevant information through *DoP**.

*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 may be important for both *SFNSW** and *NPWS** in continuing to meet *ESFM** including obligations under the Montreal Process.

Continuing access may be required by *SFNSW** to these project areas, and therefore some roads and trails 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; and 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 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 30 June 2002.

*NPWS** research permits will outline the required reporting and data sharing arrangements.

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 31 August 2003. 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. They are permitted in *Crown Reserves** managed by the Director-General of the *NPWS**. Within *Crown Reserves** and *FMZ* 2/3a*, *mining** and *mineral exploration** is permitted in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding between the *NPWS** and *DMR**, and in accordance with *SFNSW* FMZ** guidelines and applicable environmental assessment requirements.

2.13.3 Water

Management activities undertaken by *SFNSW** and *NPWS**, must be done so that it ensures protection of water resources (including water quality and quantity), in accordance with the *IFOA**. This management should contribute to the achievement of interim environmental objectives (or final environmental objectives in approved Water Management Plans) set for the catchments in the Southern Region.

2.13.4 Roads and Access

*NPWS** and *SFNSW** must prepare a Memorandum of Understanding on joint usage of roads and trails, which deals with issues and opportunities. Examples of these include: a process for determining contributions to road and trail maintenance; access arrangements; and other related issues. The Memorandum of Understanding will be endorsed by Director-General of *NPWS** and the Chief Executive Officer of *SFNSW** by 31 December 2002. Until the Memorandum of Understanding is in place, maintenance and construction costs associated with these roads and trails 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

On former *State forest** transferred to the *national park estate** as a result of the *National Park Estate (Southern Region Reservations) Act 2000*, 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.

Collection methods must be as approved by the *NPWS** Regional 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 for native forests where the annual committed *high quality large (HQL*) log** volumes are a minimum of 48 500 m³ for the South Coast Subregion and a minimum 48 000 m³ for the Tumut Subregion. Any increases to these volumes must be sustainable and consistent with modelling using *FRAMES**.

The long term sustainability strategy is based on a 100 year even flow supply of *HQL* logs** at the above levels.

This long term supply prediction is only part of a long term forest timber resource. Additional *HQL* log** volumes may be obtained from a range of initiatives including silvicultural investment (discussed in section 3.6), private property purchases by *SFNSW**; private property timber rights, or plantations established by *SFNSW** either directly or in joint ventures with private landowners.

3.2 TIMBER COMMITMENTS

Timber supply commitments from native forests (containing compensation provisions) 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. Harvesting of a minimum of 48 500 m³ of *high quality large (HQL*) logs** from the South Coast Subregion and a minimum 48 000 m³ of *HQL* logs** from the Tumut Subregion will occur. Supply at the level of existing commitments (42 000 m³ of *HQL* logs**) will continue to holders of current Term Agreements or *WSAs** holders and in accordance with established quota allocations. The allocation of *HQL* logs* in excess of this amount (6 500 m³ of *HQL* logs**) will be at the direction of the Minister for Forestry.

Continuing supply of *high quality small (HQS*) logs** and provision of *residue timber** for charcoal and *pulpwood** consistent with the *HQL* log** volumes in the Region will also occur.

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

3.3 TIMBER SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS

3.3.1 Timber supply arrangements and management

There will be a package of timber supply arrangements. These arrangements are detailed below.

- Timber allocations will be made at a sustainable level consistent with the *CAR reserve system** and with supply under compensatable wood supply agreements referred to above.
- Traditional Management Area supply arrangements will be removed. This will enable transfer of timber between regions.
- Log merchandising by *SFNSW** will be implemented.
- Sustainable timber agreement supplies for native forests of the South Coast Subregion of a minimum of 48 500m³ *HQL* logs** per year and native forests of the Tumut Subregion of a minimum of 48 000m³ *HQL* logs** per year are to be 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**.
- Clause 79 of the *Regional Forest Agreement** for the Southern Region, provides an additional 20 000 m³ of quota quality sawlogs to be supplied from Ingebirah State Forest and non-State forest Crown-timber lands in the Tumut Subregion East of Kosciusko National Park.
- Supply may be sourced from areas suited to commercial thinning operations. The *Ministers** note that commercial thinning operations are required to sustain future *HQL* log** supplies at agreed levels.
- Supply may be sourced from salvage logging activities (for example, arising from storm damage and fire salvage).
- Arrangements under existing agreements to allow for the carrying forward into subsequent years of volumes under cut and over cut may continue.

The management framework for timber resources to be adopted by *SFNSW** incorporates the following:

- 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 this *forest agreement**, the Southern Region *IFOA** (incorporating *NPWS**, *EPA** and *NSW Fisheries** licensing requirements), *Plantations and Reafforestation Act 1999* and *SFNSW*'s NFMS**.
- The *Interim Deferred Forest Areas** applied by NSW no longer exist.
- A silvicultural regime must be implemented on native forests within *State forest** which must include the use of light, medium and heavy Australian Group Selection and light, medium and heavy single tree selection.
- Thinning of forests to promote growth will occur.
- Mapped high conservation value old growth forest ecosystems must be protected in accordance with the *IFOA** while logging may proceed in candidate old growth ecosystems not mapped as having high conservation value.
- Areas of *State forest** identified as wilderness under the *Wilderness Act 1987* that remain outside the formal reserve system, will be accessible for *forestry operations**.
- 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 native 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.

3.3.2 Timber supply arrangements and management relevant to charcoal production

SFNSW may not sell or make available for the purposes of *residue timber** more than 200 000 tonnes per year from the South Coast Subregion (Map 1). *Residue timber** may only be sourced as green timber from live trees or trees salvaged (eg storm or fire damage). It will not include removal of dead standing timber or down material (including hollow logs) for charcoal production.

The quantity of *residue timber**, for charcoal production, cannot be supplied without the forfeiture of Harris Daishowa Australia's current contract entitlement of 97 000 tonnes of *pulpwood** from the South Coast Subregion (Map 1).

Timber from thinning operations is not generally suitable for charcoal production. However, as part of thinning operations some trees are felled for sawlogs and other high value products and hence will produce a *residue timber** component.

The timber supply arrangement, management framework and silvicultural practice, are determined by the requirements of the sawlog market (eg mix of species, size and quality required by the sawmills), balanced against ecological sustainability. The supply of residue timber for charcoal production will not change the mix of species, size, quality and quantity of trees harvested when compared to operations where no residual timber was being supplied. *SFNSW** must undertake a baseline analysis of tree species mix, size, quality and quantity for each compartment within *State forest** (post forest agreement) using existing data contained in harvesting records and other sources (ie sales data on sawlogs and higher value products). The results of this analysis must be provided to *NPWS** and *DoP** by 30 September 2002.

Each year *SFNSW** must monitor and report as part of the forest agreement annual report process, the:

- Amount of residual timber (tonnage) harvested from each compartment.
- Amount of species, size, quality and quantity of trees harvested in each compartment from sales data on sawlogs and higher value products and compare this to the baseline data.

If monitoring each year indicates a change in these parameters (ie amount of species, size, quality and quantity of trees harvested), *SFNSW** must consult *DoP** and *NPWS** to determine if remedial action is required. *SFNSW** must implement appropriate actions agreed between the three agencies.

There will be no trees felled for the sole purpose of supplying timber for charcoal production. The harvest intensity will be determined by the 48 500 m³ *HQL** commitment and not commitments for *residue timber**.

The provision of 35 000 tonnes of *fluxwood** per year, is required as part of the silicon smelting process. *Fluxwood** will be supplied from the following sources in the order of priority as set out below (if available):

- (a) Chipped sawmill offcuts.
- (b) Part of the 200 000 tonnes of *residue timber**.
- (c) Thinnings.

Each year *SFNSW** must monitor and report, as part of the forest agreement annual report process, the total quantity (tonnes) of *fluxwood**, if this is sourced from (b) or (c) above, and the total quantity (tonnes) of thinnings.

3.3.3 Purchase of timber rights or private property by SFNSW* for timber supply

*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** or *Plantations and Reafforestation Act 1999*.

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**.

The process (prior to any purchases) of selecting land for purchase by *SFNSW** for timber supply must address criteria to be agreed between *SFNSW* and *NPWS**. These criteria will consider: the key substantially unmet CAR conservation targets; whether there is any need for access through reserves; issues of reserve design; and proximity to national parks and nature reserves. These criteria are to be developed by 30 June 2002, including the consultation with *DoP**. This is not to hinder the overall purpose of the Private Property Supplementation Program, to supplement *SFNSW** timber supply.

3.4 FOREST MANAGEMENT

Forest operations must occur under *SFNSW** planning arrangements which include: Regional *ESFM** Plans; *EMS** - *NFMS**; Forest Management Zoning strategies; Codes of Practice (including Eco-Field Guides); silvicultural guidelines; protection of Aboriginal and cultural heritage; post-logging assessments; environmental restoration auditing; and competency based training for *SFNSW's** Field Staff and industry contractors. These planning arrangements must be consistent with the relevant terms of the *forest agreement** and *IFOA** conditions or *Plantations and Reafforestation Act 1999*.

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

3.5 TIMBER RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

Refinement of resource availability on native forests will include additional inventory plot measurement to improve volume estimates at *SFNSW** regional level. The inventory must be conducted so that it is consistent with the principles of inventory processes used in *Forest Resource and Management Evaluation System** (*FRAMES**).

This inventory must be supplemented by progressive enhancement at the regional level of the modifier models incorporated within *FRAMES**. This is to be achieved by the progressive refinement of harvesting area exclusions and the 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 (for an explanation of these terms refer to three *FRAMES** reports for the Southern Region titled “Biometric Models; Yield Simulator; Strategic Yield Scheduler”).

The monitoring and review of *FRAMES** performance will also include a comparison of actual and predicted volume each financial period for the Southern Region, and an assessment of the progressive 20 year supply for the Southern Region.

*SFNSW** will consult with *NPWS**, *EPA** and *DoP** on the terms and conduct of the *FRAMES** review by 30 September 2002.

*SFNSW** will consult with *NPWS** and *DoP** on appropriate spatial scales for reporting actual yields against the *FRAMES** estimate. This information will be provided to *DoP** at that spatial scale, to be included in the Annual Report to the NSW Parliament.

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

*SFNSW** must also provide a report to *DoP**, *NPWS** and *EPA**, on annual production of timber products other than production of *HQL* logs** for each financial year.

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 industry development and employment are outlined in Attachment 8, subject to funding. As indicated in Attachment 8, some of these jobs must be preferentially filled by displaced timber workers.

The Forest Industries Structural Adjustment Program (FISAP) applies in the Southern Region and will be available to fund initiatives until 30 June 2006.

The following is a list of the initiatives agreed to, subject to funding.

- Management initiatives for the *national park estate** including Aboriginal *Cultural Heritage** Officers.
- Management of informal reserves on *State forests**.
- Aboriginal Employment Opportunities in *Cultural Heritage** management in *State forests**.
- Feral animal control program.
- Silvicultural improvement program including thinning and culling techniques.
- Purchase of private property or timber rights, both for standing timber and for planting of new forests.
- Carbon sequestration on national parks (if such opportunities are identified in the Region).

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 five year review) are outlined in sections 6.2, 6.8-11.

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

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

- National Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council and Advisory Committees.
- The preparation and amendment of plans of management under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.
- The preparation, amendment and review of District Bushfire Management Committee plan of operations and bushfire risk management plan (*Rural Fires Act 1997*).
- The 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*.
- Consultation with the Aboriginal community in relation to Aboriginal *cultural heritage** information.

The following additional reporting and consultative processes must be implemented by the *NPWS** by 31 August 2002, including:

- The preparation of a State of the Parks report.

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

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

- The preparation and review of Codes of Practice.
- The 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.
- The preparation of financial, environmental and social value reports on an annual basis for *SFNSW** within an *ESFM** framework.

The following additional reporting and consultative processes will be implemented by the *SFNSW** by 31 August 2002, including:

- *SFNSW** Regions will consult with stakeholders on operational issues such as the Plan of Operations.
- Stakeholder consultation on forest conservation and management will also occur through stakeholder groups and community forest partnerships.
- Stakeholder consultation on the *EMS** - *NFMS** will be conducted.
- Any committee established to implement forest management at the landscape level.
- *SFNSW** will document the basis for silvicultural practices (including peer review) and publish the *Native Forest Silviculture Manual* (*SFNSW*).

Additionally, *SFNSW** Divisions will consult stakeholders on the preparation and amendment of five-yearly Regional *ESFM** Plans (to be prepared by 31 August 2002). Eco-Field Guide(s) for the Southern Region will be published by 31 August 2002.

4.4 PUBLIC REPORTING AND CONSULTATIVE MECHANISMS RELEVANT TO NSW FISHERIES

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

- Catchment Management Boards.
- Water Management Committees.
- Regional Vegetation 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 might be sought for implementation:

- Committees might be formed to provide advice to the Minister for Planning on the management of land in any region covered by a *forest agreement** in accordance with the *Forestry and National Park Estate Act 1998*.
- Public consultation and public reporting mechanisms might be developed at the strategic planning level.
- Public participation mechanisms might be developed 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 are 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. These arrangements must 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**. These arrangements must be completed by 31 December 2006, with annual reporting to Resource and Conservation Division of *DoP** on progressive achievement for this milestone. 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 and implemented.

*NPWS** will conduct an assessment of all new reserves declared within the Southern Region to identify priority areas that could be added to Schedule 14 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, when and if nominated. Schedule 14 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* lists lands of cultural significance to Aboriginal people which may be considered by Parliament for transfer of ownership to appropriate Aboriginal people and lease back to *NPWS** for management purposes.

Together with the relevant Aboriginal communities, *SFNSW** will examine any *State forest** that could be considered for co-management or joint venture arrangements by 31 December 2004.

*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 31 December 2003.

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 a package for the management of the additions to the reserve system.

*NPWS** and *SFNSW** must prepare an employment and economic opportunities program with Aboriginal people by 30 June 2003. The program will outline the strategy for the employment of Aboriginal people.

Partnerships between *NPWS**, *SFNSW** and Aboriginal communities may create further opportunities for employment and training for Aboriginal people (and in particular young people), in the management of forested land and Aboriginal heritage. Such opportunities may include: joint management; joint ventures; increased participation by Aboriginal community members on management committees; access arrangements; cultural tourism; promotion of culture through production of publications; map production; the production and sale of art and craft; and the promotion of cultural talents.

5.1.3 Consideration of Aboriginal 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 Aboriginal heritage must involve Aboriginal communities. 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 30 June 2003.

*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 *EMS** - *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 Aboriginal heritage values are considered wherever developments occur.

5.1.4 Aboriginal interests in the Hume and Riverina Regions of SFNSW and the South West Slopes Region of the National Parks and Wildlife Service

Within the Hume and Riverina Regions of *SFNSW** and the South West Slopes Region of the *NPWS** marked on Map 5, the following additional arrangements have been agreed between the local Aboriginal community, including the Snowy Mountains Elders, *SFNSW** and *NPWS**.

5.1.4.1 Cooperative management arrangements

*SFNSW** and *NPWS** must progressively negotiate, by the 31 December 2006, separate co-operative management agreements with local Aboriginal communities that enable Aboriginal people to be involved in the management of *State forests** and national parks and to 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 community must also be considered. Where consideration has identified ventures, project plans must be developed for their implementation.

Through the *forest agreement**, Aboriginal interests on national parks are to be represented through cooperative management with *NPWS** as stated in the *NPWS's** corporate plan and which is linked with a policy of cooperative management and legislative responsibility. Similar cooperative management is to be established with *SFNSW** for *State forest**, through the *forest agreement**.

An Aboriginal Management Committee will be established for both *State forests** and national parks by 31 December 2003 to represent and manage Aboriginal *cultural heritage** on *State forests** and national parks respectively. Members of relevant Aboriginal organisations, *SFNSW** and *NPWS** will be represented on the Committee. Representatives from *SFNSW** and *NPWS** will not outnumber Aboriginal representation.

The Terms of Reference for the Committee will be determined and developed by the Committee members upon establishment. The Terms of Reference must include the following aspects:

- The development of a Plan of Management by 31 December 2003, which will address the management principles, guidelines and objectives stated above.
- Ensuring that *cultural heritage** management is based on a complete cultural landscape. Initiatives might involve *SFNSW** and *NPWS** facilitating detailed assessments of *State forests** and national parks of interest to the Aboriginal Management Committee.
- Participation by the Aboriginal community in the decision making process for zoning forest areas of *cultural heritage** sensitivity.
- The Aboriginal representatives of the Aboriginal Management Committees will consult with the Aboriginal communities whom they represent.

5.1.4.2 Enterprise development on State forest with SFNSW

Enterprise development has been identified as a major interest for Aboriginal communities. These interests include the following:

- Timber harvesting for traditional purposes, for example, didgeridoo harvesting and timber for artefact manufacturing.
- Plant harvest, in accordance with *NPWS** requirements, for medicinal and food resources, for Aboriginal community use only.
- Commercial collection of native seeds for propagation and rehabilitation as a commercial activity.

- Eco-tourism projects, to ensure community education, in general, as a part of any tourist operations, as decided upon by the Management Committees.
- Other enterprise development opportunities such as bee keeping and firewood collection.

5.1.4.3 Aboriginal Protected Areas on State forest

Areas of *State forest** are to be identified and set aside for Aboriginal education and specific community activities in accordance with Aboriginal traditional practices. Such areas to be determined and agreed upon by the Management Committees by 31 December 2006.

Zone(s) in *State forests** are to be created. These will protect Aboriginal *cultural heritage** and provide adequate measures (including buffers) to mitigate the adverse effects of forest activities, soil erosion and visitation to sensitive cultural areas. This must be implemented by 31 December 2006.

5.1.4.4 Positions of employment identified for SFNSW

It is a requirement that *SFNSW** initiate the following employment opportunities by 31 December 2005, subject to external funding, to enable active Aboriginal participation in the management of forests:

- The establishment of Administrative Traineeships in clerical or receptionist positions. This will be evidence of *SFNSW**'s commitment to developing effective customer relations with Aboriginal communities.
- The creation of Field Assistants positions - These positions will generate interest and enthusiasm from Aboriginal communities who have not had access to previous opportunities to engage in forestry work. These positions will also provide Aboriginal employees with access to a career structure if their interest is developed adequately. They will have an option of further formal study to provide an expertise in forest management. Alternatively, the positions involve a degree of skills training which would also be of benefit to Aboriginal employees. There is a need to target females as well as males, with a view to permanent appointment.
- The appointment of Aboriginal Heritage Officers - It would be beneficial to *SFNSW** to employ, at a minimum, one male and one female to deal with cultural matters on a traditional cultural basis. Positions would be based at locations in accordance with existing *SFNSW** office facilities to provide adequate support and supervision. These officers would also work in co-operation with *NPWS** Aboriginal Sites Officers. These positions could also be established as Traineeships, for a period of up to 2 years, with a view to permanent appointment, depending on satisfactory services. Duties may include monitoring, auditing, undertaking prelogging surveys including flora/fauna surveys.
- The appointment of a Geographic Information Systems Officer - There is an existing demand for Aboriginal communities to be trained in the area of GIS, not only for work relating to *SFNSW**, but for such skills to be made available to the Aboriginal community. The *Ministers** note that the development of GIS skills would an extreme benefit to the local community. This position can be developed from a traineeship.
- The creation of positions dealing with feral animal/weed management - Employment opportunities should be provided in Riverina and Hume *SFNSW** Regions.
- The provision of staff development and cultural awareness training for all existing *SFNSW** staff as soon as possible. This training could be developed by the Management Committees.

5.1.4.5 Management of Aboriginal cultural heritage on NPWS* estate

To complement the identified opportunities within *SFNSW**, it is required that *NPWS**, in accordance with the statutory responsibilities of the *National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974*, protect and

manage Aboriginal *cultural heritage** by implementing the following recommendations provided by relevant Aboriginal representatives.

It is required that NPWS*, subject to external funding:

- Enter into a co-operative management agreement with the relevant Aboriginal communities by 31 December 2006 to develop co-operative management and funding strategies to ensure the effective protection and management of Aboriginal *cultural heritage** on NPWS* estate. This will be in accordance with NPWS*'s* Corporate Plan as well as NPWS*'s* statutory responsibilities for the protection and management of Aboriginal *cultural heritage**.
- Develop and implement a policy in relation to access to parks, nature reserves and other appropriate service estate, for traditional purposes. This policy framework will be developed by the Aboriginal Management Committee.
- Consider allowing two Aboriginal representatives to sit on the South West Slopes Regional Advisory Committees.
- Provide all NPWS* staff located in the Southern Directorate adequate cultural awareness training, to improve customer relations with Aboriginal communities.

5.1.4.6 Aboriginal employment and training opportunities within NPWS

The following areas of employment were identified within NPWS* as a major priority for Aboriginal communities, in the Region.

- Administrative Traineeships, subject to external funding, resulting in permanent appointment. Such as clerical or receptionists positions.
- Aboriginal Sites Officer to work co-operatively with Aboriginal Heritage Officers in SFNSW*. Position to be permanently located in Tumut.
- Geographic Information Systems Officer, subject to external funding - There is an existing demand for Aboriginal communities to be trained in the area of GIS, to be of benefit to various Government agencies as well as to the Aboriginal community. If NPWS* is to support access to the Aboriginal Sites Register for Aboriginal communities, then the Service needs to seriously consider how the community might gain the skills to gain full advantage of the GIS. Therefore it is feasible that NPWS* are in a perfect position, having created the demand for such a skill, to provide the community with the skills to access their own Aboriginal Heritage information systems. A position for a GIS Officer is vitally important to meet the demands of the Aboriginal community.
- Trainee Aboriginal Field Officer - This position is to be a permanent appointment located in Tumut.
- Aboriginal Research Officer or Trainee Aboriginal Ranger to be appointed to assist in recording Aboriginal oral histories for the Region.

5.2 NATIVE TITLE AND INTERESTS AND ABORIGINAL LAND CLAIMS

If any implementation of this agreement affects any native title rights and interests, such implementation must be in accordance with the *Native Title Act 1993* (Commonwealth). 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 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** or when an amendment or revocation occurs. To ensure this occurs, the parties must:

- Give 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).
- Make 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.
- Invite representations in connection with the proposed agreement or amendment/revocation within the time specified in the notice.
- Consider any such representation before the agreement is made or before an amendment or revocation. This consideration should include a written analysis on the public submissions, outlining the reasons why suggested improvements were or were not included in the *Forest Agreement**.

6.3 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

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

Where there is a proposal to vary the Southern Region *Forest Agreement** or *IFOA**, the agencies involved must work cooperatively to resolve any issues. Where issues remain unresolved a joint assessment should 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 together with any 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 the actions and purpose of the IFOA.

This cooperation is to include:

- Allowing access for inspections.
- Providing information, and not unreasonably withholding information.
- Consulting fully and considering views.
- Notifying in a timely way any new information and 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.

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 integrated forestry operations approval) in meeting the Government's 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 the *IFOA** is effective in achieving its purpose.

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 *IFOA** would occur. Nevertheless the *Ministers** are unfettered in this regard.

Despite clause 18 of the *Forestry and National Park Estate Act 1998 (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) of the *Forestry and National Park Estate Act 1998*.

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

- 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 considering 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.
- Considering 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 five year period and it must be based on any relevant information including the annual reports submitted to Parliament by the Minister administering the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

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 either with other reports required by the *Forestry and National Park Estate Act 1998* or an annual report from *DoP**.

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.
- The review of levels of protection of forest ecosystems and old growth forest ecosystems achieved in the *CAR reserve system** due to changes in the components of 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 (including any amendment or termination of the agreement) to be furnished to the *Presiding Officer** of each House of Parliament within seven 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 seven 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 is available for public inspection.

Copies of the documents listed below must be available for public inspection at the head office and other regional offices of *DoP**, and at such other offices or places as the head of *DoP** directs, during ordinary office hours and within seven 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 five-yearly review of this agreement.
- (d) The last annual report on, and the report of the last five-yearly review of, each 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 *DoP** website.

A person may take copies of any such document on payment of the actual charge determined by the head of *DoP** 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 and use 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 for the general community, government agencies and the scientific community. It provides a comprehensive tool for decision making and public education. This data must be made publicly accessible, and are to be equally 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 30 June 2002, and must cover:

- Ownership and custodianships.
- Archival lodging and location, and associated documentation standards.
- Access, use and maintenance of the data including data updates.
- A 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 they pertain to forest management.

Data used in the regional forest assessment process (Attachment 1, clause 1.3) will be distributed to stakeholders who participated in the process by *RACD**. Third party requests will be referred to the relevant custodian identified in the schedule of the data management agreement.

All archival copies of data must be lodged by 30 June 2002.

6.14 RESOURCES AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

In our portfolios adequate resources are to be made 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

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

These arrangements are not to hinder or limit any agency's statutory roles or responsibilities. This system must be agreed between the relevant heads of agencies by 30 June 2002 and implemented on that agreement.

6.16 TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The *Ministers** agree to the formation of a working group by 30 June 2002 to make recommendations on the management and tenure of areas of *State forests** that are isolated from the productive *State forests**.

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 note that matters involving other portfolios will require the agreement of the appropriate Minister and/or agency. Memorandums of Understanding, or similar mechanisms will be used where appropriate.

6.18 ESTABLISHMENT OF AGREED MILESTONES

All milestones are given in Attachment 9 and their achievement must be reported on during the first five years, and as part of the five-yearly review, using the public reporting mechanisms discussed in sections 6.8, 6.9 and 6.11.

7 DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

7.1 DEFINITIONS

Note: Definitions followed by [*F&NPE Act*] are from the *Forestry and National Park 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 ecosystems and old growth forest ecosystems as well as the plants and animals that depend on them, and has the 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 have the same meaning as in the *Forestry Act 1916*. [Clause 3 of the *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 that 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.

Cultural Heritage Working Group was a technical group involved in the regional forest assessment during 1996 to 2000. Their task was to consider heritage values including Aboriginal heritage.

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.

fluxwood is one of the three ingredients used in the manufacture of silicon metal and comprises chips of timber that have an approximate dimension of 75mm x 75mm x 55mm.

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

forest management zones (FMZ) is a land classification system outlined in ‘*Managing our forests sustainably: Forest Management Zoning in NSW State Forests*’, *SFNSW** Operational Circular 99/10. It 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 3a: Harvesting Exclusions
- Zone 3b: Special Prescription
- Zone 4 General Management
- Zone 5 Hardwood Plantations
- Zone 6 Softwood Plantations
- Zone 7 Non Forestry Use
- Zone 8 Areas for further assessment

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) *ongoing 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. [Clause 3 of the *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. [Clause 3 of the *F&NPE Act*]

Forest Resource and Management Evaluation System (FRAMES) is described in four *FRAMES** project reports for the regional forest assessment of the Southern Region titled “Strategic Inventory – Southern”; “Biometric Models – Southern”; “Yield Simulator– Southern”; “Strategic Yield Scheduler – Southern”. *FRAMES** was also a technical committee involved in the regional forest assessment, who had as a task the assessment of timber resources in the region.

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.

high quality large logs means High Quality Logs having a centre diameter under bark of at least 40cm.

high quality logs means logs of 2.4 metres or more in length, which, meet the SFNSW specifications for high quality.

high quality small logs means High Quality Logs having a centre diameter under bark of less than 40cm.

Note: The following defines specific terms used in the discussion on indicators in Attachment 7

Indicator 1.1a

- **forest ecosystem** - 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 *CRA** forest ecosystem data sets.
- **non-treed elements** - areas within the forest ecosystems in which trees are not the dominant structural vegetation type. e.g. swamps, marshes, rocky outcrops.
- **human induced disturbance** - disturbance of forest ecosystem extent by human activities, whether for land management, recreational or other purposes.

Indicator 1.1.b

- **balance of growth stages** – forest comprised of a range of tree stands that reflect natural forest disturbance regimes, such as regeneration stands, regrowth stands, mature stands and overmature stands.
- **mixed-aged forest** – forest comprised of more than one age-class, usually created by natural processes, long term selective logging or gap-phased replacement.

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.
- **functional connectivity** - connectivity between patches of retained forest allowing for population viability and the continuation of ecosystem processes across the regional landscape. Connectivity is usually provided by corridors of retained or restored habitat.
- **functional populations** - populations that are both viable and of sufficient abundance to play their traditional role in ecosystem processes.

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

- **ecologically sustainable timber production**- where the rate of removal of any forest product is consistent with sustainable levels, that is where the effects of activities/disturbances which threaten forests, forest health, forest productivity, or forest values do not compromise ecological processes.
- **allowable timber cut** - as determined by the *RFA**

Indicator 2.1.f

- **effective stocking** - a plantation block is effectively stocked where sufficient trees remain after one year so that all possible silviculture regimes intended for the site remain viable

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 6.2c

- **carrying capacity** - the number of visitors to forest, for tourism and recreation purposes, that can be maintained without damage to ecosystem function, health or vitality. The ecologically sustainable rate of visitation and use.

Indicator 6.2d

- **recorded places** - sites of significance to Aboriginal peoples that have been formally registered by State agencies, archaeological survey reports and on the Register of the National Estate.

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 Aboriginal owners of an area of land.
- **traditional management practices** - the recognition and acceptance of traditional Aboriginal 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 Aboriginal people to manage their own interests without intervention.
- **co-existing rights** - the recognition and acceptance of the rights of Aboriginal people to manage or have a say in management decisions of land under joint Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal management (private or public).

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, parts of the proposed Special Management Zone under the ‘*Managing our forests sustainably: Forest Management Zoning in NSW State Forests*’, SFNSW* Operational Circular 99/10 and Crown reserves managed by the NPWS* where the Director General is the trustee.

integrated forestry operations approval means an approval referred to in Part 4 that is in force. [Clause 3 of the F&NPE Act]

Interim Deferred Forest Areas include the areas identified in the *Deferred Forest Agreement* between the Commonwealth and State of NSW signed on 25th January 1996 as subsequently amended and areas identified by the Interim Assessment Process under RACAC (NSW Government 1996, *Draft Interim Forestry Assessment Report*).

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. [Clause 3 of the F&NPE Act]

Map 1 means the Map marked “Southern Region– Forest Agreement – South Coast Subregion” attached to this agreement.

Map 2 means the Map marked “Southern Region– Forest Agreement – Tumut Subregion” attached to this agreement.

Map 3 means the map marked “Draft SFNSW Managed Informal Reserves – South Coast Subregion ” attached to this agreement.

Map 4 means the map marked “Draft SFNSW Managed Informal Reserves – Tumut Subregion” attached to this agreement.

Map 5 means the map marked “Hume and Riverina Regions of *State forests** and the South West Slopes Region of the National Parks and Wildlife Service” 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.
[Clause 3 of the *F&NPE Act*]

net harvest area exclusions means the sum of areas within the compartment in which logging is prohibited by any Act (including under the *IFOA**) or due to *SFNSW** management.

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. [Clause 3 of the *F&NPE Act*]

operational plans for road construction means a plan produced by *SFNSW** setting out the operational detail for road construction within native forests.

plan of operations means the annual plan prepared by *SFNSW** outlining the supply arrangements to industry

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. [Clause 21 of the *F&NPE Act*]

provisionally identified wilderness means areas determined to be capable of identification as wilderness under section 6 of the *Wilderness Act* 1987. Twenty seven provisionally identified

wilderness areas were reported on in the CRA report titled *Wilderness Assessment - Southern* (2000) and were considered in negotiations for this *Forest Agreement**.

pulpwood means timber suitable for the manufacture of reconstituted products including paper and panel board and does not include timber suitable for *high quality large log*s* or *high quality small log*s*.

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. [Clause 15 of the *F&NPE Act*]

regional forest agreement means an agreement between the Commonwealth and New South Wales as referred to 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 ecosystems, wilderness, endangered species, national estate values and world heritage values;
- (f) Aboriginal heritage values;
- (g) economic values of forested areas and forest industries;
- (h) social values (including community needs); and
- (i) principles of ecologically sustainable management;

residue timber means the timber remaining from a tree after a log (being a *high quality large log**, *high quality small log** or low quality sawlog) has been removed from that tree.

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. [Clause 3 of the *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. [Schedule 8 of the *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. [Clause 3 of the *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
CAR	Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative
CRA	Comprehensive regional assessments
DMR	Department of Mineral Resources
DoP	Department of Planning
EMS	Environmental Management System
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
ESFM	Ecologically Sustainable Forest Management
FISAP	Forestry Industry Structural Adjustment Package
F&NPE Act	<i>Forestry and National Park Estate Act 1998</i>
FMZ	Forest Management Zone
FRAMES	Forest Resource and Management Evaluation System
HQL	High Quality Large
HQS	High Quality Small
IFOA	Integrated Forestry Operations Approval
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
MIG	Montreal Implementation Group
NFMS	Native Forest Management System
NPWS	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
NSW Fisheries	New South Wales Department of Fisheries
RACAC	Resource and Conservation Assessment Council
RACD	Resource and Conservation Division of DoP
RFA	Regional Forest Agreement
SFNSW	State Forests of New South Wales
TSC Act	<i>Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i>
WSAs	Wood Supply Arrangements

8 SIGNATURE OF PARTIES

Dated:

2002

Andrew Refshauge
Minister for Planning

Kim Yeadon
Minister for Forestry

Bob Debus
Minister for the Environment

Edward Obeid
Minister for Fisheries

ATTACHMENT 1

LIST OF DOCUMENTS IN REGIONAL FOREST ASSESSMENT

1.1 REPORTS - PROJECT

1.1.1 Economic and Social Technical Committee

- Report on Apiary in NSW – Southern Region
- Identification of Plantation Expansion Opportunities in NSW – Southern NSW CRA
- Regional Profile – Southern Region
- Industry Response Modelling for Hardwood Processing – Southern CRA
- Assessment of Mineral Resources in the Southern CRA Study Area
- Threshold Value Analysis of Non-Use Values - Southern Region
- Regional Economic Impact Assessment – Southern CRA
- Tourism and Recreation Study – Southern CRA Region
- Forest Based Industries Development Opportunities – Southern CRA Region
- Industry Initiatives Study – Southern Region
- A report on Forest Wood Resources for Southern NSW CRA Region
- Sawmill Survey – Southern Region
- Social Assessment Report - Southern Region NSW
- Economic Assessment of Water Values – Southern Region

1.1.2 Environment and Heritage Technical Committee

- Statewide Cultural Heritage Data Audit, Integration and Analysis (Non-Indigenous)
- Development of C-plan Functionality to Guide Achievement of Spatial Configuration Objectives
- Reserve Design
- Reserve Adequacy and the Management of Biodiversity - a supplement to the Reserve Design Report
- Overview of Archaeological Resource on Forests: A discussion paper
- Identification of Places of Natural History Significance
- Vertebrate Fauna Survey
- Mapping of Forest Management History Report, UNE LNE and Southern Regions
- Places of Geoheritage Significance in NSW CRA Forest Regions
- Assessment of Places of Aesthetic Significance within the NSW CRA Regions - Stage 2 Southern Region
- Identification, Assessment and Protection of National Estate Values in Southern NSW CRA Region
- Threatened Plants - Southern Region
- Forest Ecosystem Classification and Mapping for the Southern CRA Region - Volume 1 and Volume 2: Appendices
- Community Heritage Values, Identification and Assessment Project for the UNE/LNE Regions: Vol 1 – Workshop Overview; Vol 2 – Social Value Assessment; Vol 3 - Places Assessment
- Wilderness Assessment - Southern

- Modelling Areas of Habitat Significance for Vertebrate Fauna and Vascular Flora in the Southern CRA Region
- Lithology and Soil/Regolith Attribute Mapping – Southern CRA Region
- Collection of Vegetation Data from Historical Portion Plan Surveys – Southern CRA Region
- Evaluation of Effectiveness of Derived Forest Ecosystems and Surrogates for Invertebrate Biodiversity, and Identification of Hotspots of Invertebrate Endemism - Southern Region
- Protective Mechanisms for Cultural Heritage - Southern Region
- Protective Mechanisms for Cultural Heritage - 'Generic' Version

1.1.3 FRAMES Technical Committee

- Strategic Inventory – Southern
- Biometrics Models – Southern CRA Region
- Yield Simulator – Southern
- Strategic Yield Scheduler – Southern

1.1.4 ESFM Working Group

- Description of Management Systems and Processes for Achieving Ecologically Sustainable Forest Management in NSW
- Description of Management Systems and Processes for Achieving Ecologically Sustainable Forest Management in NSW - Volumes 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Assessment of Management Systems and Processes for Achieving Ecologically Sustainable Forest Management in NSW
- Knowledge and Information Gaps for the Upper North East, Lower North East and Southern CRA/RFA Regions
- Criteria, Indicators, Targets and Monitoring Processes of Ecologically Sustainable Forest Management for Southern RFA Region
- Review of protective measures and forest practices – biodiversity workshop – Southern Region
- Review of protective measures and forest practices – biodiversity workshop – Appendices - Southern Region
- Review of statewide protective measures and forest practices.
- Review of statewide protective measures and forest practices – Appendices.
- Application of Protective Measures and Forest Practices into a Quantitative Database - UNE and LNE Regions
- ESFM project: Water quality and quantity for the Upper and Lower North East, Southern RFA regions
- ESFM project: Water quality and quantity for the Southern RFA Region
- Peer Reviews of Water Quality and Quantity Upper North East, Lower North East and Southern RFA Regions

1.1.5 Multiple Technical Committee Projects

- CRA Aerial Photography Interpretation (CRAFTI) Project: Stage 3 – Southern CRA Region
- CRA Data Manual – Statewide
- Crown Land Determination - Southern Region

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, 1995, *Regional Forest Agreements - The Commonwealth Position*, Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra
- Commonwealth of Australia, 1996, *National Strategy for the Conservation of Australia's Biological Diversity*, Commonwealth Department of the Environment, Sport and Territories, Canberra.
- Commonwealth of Australia, 1997, *Australia's First Approximation Report for the Montreal Process*, Montreal Process Implementation Group, Commonwealth of Australia, 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.
- Commonwealth of Australia, 1998, *A Framework of Regional Indicators (Sub-National) Level Criteria and Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management in Australia*, Montreal Process Implementation Group, Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, 1999, *NSW Biodiversity Strategy*, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Hurstville.
- Social indicators workshop outcomes (Unpublished) 1996, Assessing Sustainable Forest Management in Australia Conference, November 1996, Canberra.(<http://www.dpie.gov.au/dpie/conference/asfma>)
- 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.
- IGAE 1992. *Intergovernmental Agreement on the Environment*. Commonwealth of Australia. AGPS. Canberra.
- 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.
- NSW ESFM Technical Framework.
- Data Management Group - Terms of Reference
- Guidelines for Regional Forest Forums. NSW CRA/RFA Steering Committee. RACAC.
- RACAC Terms of Reference
- API Working Group - Terms of Reference
- Integration Working Group -Terms of Reference
- Eden Integration and Options Development Manual
- Scoping Agreement for NSW RFA
- NSW Government (1996) *Draft Interim Forestry Assessment Report*, NSW Government
- NSW Government (1996) *Wood Resources Study - Interim Forestry Assessment*, NSW Government
- NSW Government/Commonwealth Government (1998) *Towards an Eden Regional Forest Agreement*, 15 May, NSW Government/Commonwealth Government
- NSW Government (1999) *Eden Region Forest Agreement*, 5 March, NSW Government

- NSW Government (1999) *Upper North East Region Forest Agreement*, 5 March, NSW Government
- NSW Government (1999) *Lower North East Region Forest Agreement*, 5 March, NSW Government
- NSW Government (1999) *Integrated forestry operations approval for the Lower North East Region granted under the Forestry and National Park Estate Act 1998*, 21 December, NSW Government
- NSW Government (1999) *Integrated forestry operations approval for the Upper North East Region granted under the Forestry and National Park Estate Act 1998*, 21 December, NSW Government
- NSW Government (1999) *Integrated forestry operations approval for the Eden Region granted under the Forestry and National Park Estate Act 1998*, 21 December, NSW Government
- NSW Government/Commonwealth Government (1998) *Towards an Eden Regional Forest Agreement*, May 1998, NSW Government/Commonwealth Government
- NSW Government/Commonwealth Government (1999) *Eden Regional Forest Agreement*, August 1999, NSW Government/Commonwealth Government
- NSW Government/Commonwealth Government (1999) *A Regional Forest Agreement for North East NSW – An information kit*, September 1999, NSW Government/Commonwealth Government
- NSW Government/Commonwealth Government (2000) *A Regional Forest Agreement for North East NSW*, March 2000, NSW Government/Commonwealth Government
- NSW Government/Commonwealth Government (1999) *A Regional Forest Agreement for Southern NSW – An information kit*, October 1999, NSW Government/Commonwealth Government
- NSW Government/Commonwealth Government (2000) *A Proposal for Regional Forest Agreement for Southern*, January 2000, NSW Government/Commonwealth Government
- NSW Government/Commonwealth Government (2001) *A Regional Forest Agreement for Southern NSW*, April 2001, NSW Government/Commonwealth Government

1.3 DATA DESCRIPTION (GIS LAYERS, SPREADSHEETS, DATABASES, MODELS AND C-PLAN INPUT DATA)

- C-Plan database (matrix) and program
- Fauna models – amphibian
- Fauna Models – arboreal mammals
- Fauna Models - bats
- Fauna Models - diurnal birds
- Fauna Models – ground mammals
- Fauna Models – nocturnal birds
- Fauna Models - reptiles
- CRAFTI (Aerial Photographic Interpretation) Floristics
- CRAFTI (Aerial Photographic Interpretation) Structure
- Forest Ecosystem – portion plan (‘Access’ database)
- Forest Ecosystems
- Rare Plants
- Forest Fire History
- Fire Atlas Hazard Reduction Fires

- Forest Logging History (mapped at subcompartment level)
- Forest Logging History
- Timber Stand Improvement
- Fire Atlas Wildfires
- Cadastre, Drainage, Infrastructure, Towns, Roads
- Operating Coal Mines and Quarries (as at September 1999)
- Current Mining Leases (as at September 1999)
- Current Mining Leases with Company and Commodity Data (as at September 1999)
- Current Exploration Licences (as at September 1999)
- Current Exploration Licences with Company and Commodity Data (as at September 1999)
- Geology
- Current Section 117 Notifications under the EPA Act (as at October 1999)
- Mineral Deposits
- Mineral Potential (tract maps, composite, cumulative, weighted composite, weighted cumulative)
- Mineral Data - miscellaneous
- Candidate Old Growth
- Old Growth by Forest Ecosystem
- Old Growth and Successional Growth Stages
- Planning Unit Layer
- Easements
- Gravel Pits
- Military Areas
- Occupational Permits
- Declared Wilderness
- Identified Wilderness
- NWI Wilderness
- PIW Wilderness
- National Estate - Geoheritage
- National Estate – Natural History; arachnids, cave fauna, cold blooded vertebrates, lichens, mammals, multiple insects, reference sites, research sites, threatened plants, liverworts.
- National Estate Value Old Growth
- National Estate Disjunct Flora and Fauna
- National Estate Natural Landscapes
- National Estate Undisturbed Catchments
- National Estate Flora Richness Habitats
- National Estate Endemic Fauna Habitats
- National Estate Primitive Relictual fauna and refugia
- National Estate Important fauna habitat (inc. migratory species)
- National Estate Rare fauna habitat
- National Estate Fauna species richness habitat
- National Estate Range end fauna
- National Estate Rare flora
- National Estate Range End Flora
- National Estate Primitive flora and refugia
- National Estate Endemic flora
- National Estate Rare old growth

- National Estate Rare vegetation complexes
- National Estate Remanent vegetation complexes
- Register of National Estate
- Non-indigenous Cultural Heritage – Contextual GIS Layer
- Non-indigenous Cultural Heritage – C-plan GIS Layer
- Soils Layers
- CRA Boundary Layer
- Digital Elevation Models
- Roughness Indices
- Apiary
- Crown Land
- Skidmore Topographic Position Indices
- Topographic Position Indices
- Topographic Maps in .jpg format
- Satellite Imagery enhanced for Forest and Woodland
- Frames Program and Data (Strategic Inventory, Yield Simulator, Spectrum, Net Harvest Area Modifier, Net Harvest Area, Timber Priority Zoning)

1.4 MINUTES

- Minutes from the Regional Forest Forums – Southern, 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 Resource and Management System)
- 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 Expert Working Group
- Minutes from the Integration Working Group

ATTACHMENT 2

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 3

STATE FORESTS NATIVE FOREST MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The Native Forest Management System (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 social and environmental and economic considerations that must be addressed.
- Skill development, training and codes of practice (refer to Attachment 4) 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 forest agreement outcomes.
- Information systems using best available knowledge.
- Research and development.
- Silviculture strategy based on maintaining or increasing the productive capacity of the forest while managing for ecological values.
- Review and continuous improvement processes.

Native Forest Management 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 4

CODES OF PRACTICE

Codes of Practice include:

- Timber Plantations (Environmental Protection) Harvesting Code 1997 (Schedule 1 of *Timber Plantations (Harvest Guarantee) Regulation 1997*).
- A Code of Practice is being developed for plantation under the *Plantations and Reafforestation Act 1999*.
- 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 30 June 2002).

ATTACHMENT 5

PRINCIPLES AND MECHANISMS TO ACHIEVE CONSERVATION ON PRIVATE LAND

The Ministers agree that the principles applying to conservation on private land 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 elements included in any mechanism to achieve conservation management, on private forested land are:

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

The Ministers 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
- Property agreements and management contracts
- Voluntary land and water management plans
- Other mechanisms that may be developed to suit individual landholders or situations

ATTACHMENT 6 CHANGES TO FOREST MANAGEMENT

Improvements to the forest management system include:

Systems covering public and private land

1. The Parties note that the terms of an Integrated Forestry Operations Approval will have primacy over other elements of the SFNSW Native Forest Management System. The Parties recognise that the SFNSW Native Forest Management System (including Codes of Practice, Eco-Field Guides, the Regional ESFM Plan, the order of works plan, and harvesting plans), will be the mechanism for implementing the terms of the Integrated Forestry Operations Approval on State forest.
2. New South Wales will further improve its Forest Management System across forest management agencies and land tenures by:
 - (a) Developing consistent with this Agreement, a Regional ESFM Plan, and an Integrated Forestry Operation Approval. They will collectively:
 - Specify and describe the range of values and processes to be managed, including objectives and targets of management;
 - Describe the links to Codes of Practice, Eco-Field Guides and associated silvicultural prescriptions;
 - Specify the wood supply commitments and their relationship to Sustainable Yield;
 - Outline ongoing arrangements for monitoring activities specified in the ESFM plan and reporting against plan objectives and targets;
 - Describe processes for regular reviews of the ESFM plans involving public consultation.
 - (b) NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service developing an Environmental Management System (EMS) by 30 April 2004, for lands dedicated under the *National Park and Wildlife Act 1974* (NSW) consistent with the following broad principles:
 - An appropriate environmental policy should be in place;
 - The environmental aspects arising from the organisation's past, existing or planned activities, products or services should be identified to determine the environmental impacts of significance;
 - Relevant legislative and regulatory arrangements should be identified;
 - Priorities should be identified and appropriate environmental objectives and targets set;
 - A structure and program(s) to implement the policy and achieve objectives and targets should be established;

- Planning, monitoring, corrective action, auditing and review activities should be facilitated to ensure both that the policy is complied with and that the environmental management system remains appropriate;
 - The system should be capable of adapting to changing circumstances.
- (c) State Forests of NSW developing, by 30 June 2003 a Native Forest Management System as an EMS, to a standard which would allow certification of the system under the ISO 14000 series.
- (d) Implementing the New South Wales Biodiversity Strategy, taking into account the issues raised during its public consultation phase.
- (e) Establishing Regional Vegetation Management Plans which are coordinated with other management plans and Codes of Practice under the *Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997*.
- (f) Improving the coordination and effective use of resources allocated to research for ESFM in New South Wales.
- (g) Providing ongoing formal public participation processes to raise awareness and understanding of ESFM and how it can be achieved in New South Wales forests.
- (h) 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.
- (i) 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.
- (j) Developing and implementing public education programs to deal with ecologically sustainable management issues and clearly relate these to management requirements for conservation and to the codes of forest practice governing activities in both public and private forests.
- (k) Maintaining and enhancing competency based training for field staff and forest operators in flora and fauna identification and management, heritage management, soil and water protection, silvicultural training, inventory and management information systems and product segregation.
- (l) Incorporating, by the first five-yearly review, within Regional ESFM Plans and plans of management under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NSW), provisions that address in an integrated fashion bush and other fires to ensure ecologically sustainable management of the forest estate. These plans will be consistent with the NSW Biodiversity Strategy and any Bush Fire Risk Management Plans.
- (m) Incorporating, by the first five-yearly review, within Regional ESFM Plans and plans of management under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NSW), integrated feral animal and weed control programs.

- (n) Establishing a process, including public reporting, for regular audits of compliance and reviews of Codes of Practice, Eco-Field Guides and Regional Prescriptions by 31 December 2002 and undertake audits at first and subsequent five-yearly reviews of the Agreement. This process is to be included in any environmental management system, including the SFNSW Native Forest Management System.
- (o) Establishing by 30 September 2003 a register of locations where different silvicultural practices and the suite of silvicultural regimes can be examined, as an aid for field supervisor training.
- (p) The Native Forest Silviculture Manual (SFNSW) to be published by 31 August 2002 will outline the scientific basis for site specific silvicultural regimes and the silvicultural decisions and guidelines to where such regimes are to be applied. A peer review process will form part of the public consultation process on the Native Forest Silviculture Manual.

Systems on private land

3. Improve administrative arrangements and cooperation and coordination by State agencies to facilitate the timber industry utilising private forest resources, including:
 - Arrangements to ensure ecologically sustainable forest management on private forests involving provision of technical advice, extension services, research and assistance in the estimation of Sustainable Yield.
 - As a means of encouraging private forestry development, develop a regulatory framework that enables a more efficient and integrated approval process to allow for effective private forestry development.
 - Codes of Practice for private plantations and private native forests will be in place within five years. Provide advice regarding marketing and pricing.
 - Under the *Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997*, regional vegetation management plans covering private lands form a basis for strategic regional planning of private native forestry. With appropriate public involvement, and consistent with the *Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997*, the Regional Vegetation Management Committees will pursue planning policies that provide for appropriate long term, secure, management provisions for private native forests. The management plans should provide for harvesting for commercial wood production subject to relevant codes and ecologically sustainable forest management considerations.
 - Ensure that an integrated Code of Practice is developed for plantation activities across all tenures, under the *Plantations and Reafforestation Act 1999* and the environmental standards in the objects of this Act and its linkage with the *Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997* are maintained. Plantation establishment and reafforestation projects are authorised by the NSW Department of Land and Water Conservation (DLWC). Applications to establish a plantation that comply with the Code of Practice will be given approval by DLWC within 14 days. Existing plantations can also continue to obtain certainty for the purposes of harvesting as per the *Timber Plantations (Harvest Guarantee) Act 1995*, and similar provisions included in the *Plantations and Reafforestation Act 1999*. (The Code of Practice under the *Plantations and Reafforestation Act 1999* commenced on the 14 December 2001.)

4. Parties agree that a private forest inventory of southern NSW to determine the basis of yield of wood products from private land is required. Parties will use their best endeavours to promote an inventory of private forests, with the agreement of forest owner groups.

Development program for FRAMES

5. Within six months of the signing of this Agreement SFNSW will publish all FRAMES CRA reports for the Southern Region.
6. Consistent with the development of a statewide FRAMES system:
 - (a) Continue to develop a suite of computational tools to help manage NSW forests at operational scales for a range of values including wood yield, growth stage, water quality and quantity, natural and cultural heritage and wildlife habitat.
 - (b) Develop by the end of 2010, a model to predict recruitment and maintenance of habitat trees over time.
 - (c) Determine, based on review, field based sampling and principles of sustainability to determine the range of silvicultural regimes and prescriptions that can be appropriately applied to each strata or forest type.
 - Subject to clause 2(p) parties agree that, site specific silvicultural regimes of light, medium and heavy Australian Group Selection, and light, medium and heavy Single Tree Selection, and thinning, or combinations of these are appropriate to apply in the Southern Region.
 - The FRAMES models will reflect these site-specific silvicultural regimes.
 - (d) Report the annual production of all timber products.
 - (e) Within the first five year period undertake additional inventory plot measurement consistent with FRAMES principles to improve the accuracy of volume estimates at the regional level.
 - (f) Monitor FRAMES performance through comparison of actual versus predicted volumes annually.
7. SFNSW will consult with NSW Fisheries, NPWS, EPA and DoP in the establishment of an ongoing FRAMES development program for the Southern region. It is expected that this program will be implemented by 31 December 2006 and will include the following elements:
 - Improved inventory base and modifier models.
 - Review of the number and coverage of permanent growth plots to ensure they cover an appropriate range of sites, strata and silvicultural systems.
 - Undertake and document sensitivity analyses of biometric and quality progression models so as to improve understanding of yield projections.
 - Continued permanent growth plot measurement to update growth, mortality and recruitment models and development of new models to reflect changing silviculture (including thinning).

- Development and implementation of a Native Forest Management Information System (MIS) that addresses silvicultural and harvesting planning and progressively improves estimates of net harvestable area, management history, silvicultural requirements of stands and operational feasibility. The system should also inform monitoring and reporting against Sustainability Indicators consistent with section 2.10 of this Agreement to provide a basis for continual improvement in sustainable management of forest values.
- Testing of simulation models against independent data sets and undertake sensitivity analysis to help inform error limits of sustainable yield.
- Refinement of the FRAMES simulator and scheduler so that it selects and reports a range of silvicultural prescriptions and yield tables within strata, that reflect operational practices.
- Development of a mechanism within FRAMES to report on area harvested, residual stand characteristics and modelled silviculture and harvesting regimes.
- Implementation of a process to take into account the risks of fire, differing regulatory arrangements and other potential impacts on sustainable yield.
- Documentation of systems, processes, models and databases used in the calculation of sustainable yield.
- Processes for appropriate internal reviews and audits of sustainable yield as part of the SFNSW Native Forest Management System.
- Monitoring, by SFNSW, of actual quality versus predicted quality of product removed over time.

Review and audits of sustainable yield on public land

8. Ministers agree to the following:

- Commission and publish an independent review of the enhanced systems and process, models, information base, and assumptions which contribute to the FRAMES system applying to both the South Coast and Tumut subregions of the Southern Region by 31 December 2006;
- Undertake a review of sustainable yield every five years using enhanced FRAMES systems and information bases. The results of this will inform the annual volume which may be harvested from the Southern Region (or subregion), being mindful of achieving long-term sustainable yield and optimising sustainable use objectives consistent with this Agreement; and
- Undertake independent audits of sustainable yield to be completed and published in time for each subsequent five-yearly review.

ATTACHMENT 7 CRITERIA, INDICATORS, TARGETS AND MONITORING PROCESSES OF ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

This attachment describes a project undertaken as part of the regional forest assessment of forests in New South Wales. This is a shortened version of a report undertaken by the ESFM Group, which is titled “Criteria, indicators, targets and monitoring processes of Ecologically Sustainable Forest Management for Southern RFA Region”.

Project objective/s

This document outlines and describes the Criteria, Indicators, Objectives and Indicative Targets for the Southern Region for use in guiding and measuring ecologically sustainable forest management (ESFM). ESFM aims to maintain, in perpetuity, a full range of forest values. In this project, forest values, legal, institutional and economic frameworks for forest conservation and sustainable management are represented by the seventh Criteria. Each criterion is characterised by a set of related indicators, which are measured in quantitative or narrative terms, and are monitored periodically to assess change. For each indicator, indicative targets have been identified on the basis of the best available information and advice at levels considered appropriate to achieve ESFM. These may change over time as our knowledge and understanding of indicators for ecologically sustainable forest management improves. Details of data availability, monitoring methodology, reporting requirements and research and development requirements are also provided. Systematic measurement and assessment of each indicator will show if our indicative targets for ESFM are being met. If necessary, our forest management practices can then be adapted to better meet our goals.

Methods

The criteria and indicators recommended here were developed from “A Framework of Regional (Sub-National) Level Criteria and Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management in Australia” (Montreal Implementation Group 1998), and tailored to the Southern Region by consultation with independent experts, relevant government agencies and stakeholders through the Southern Regional Forest Forum.

Key results and products

Twenty-one indicators that are immediately implementable (Category A), supplemented by three indicators that require research and development before implementation immediately after the first five year review of the Forest Agreement (Category B), have been identified. Short-term interim indicators or reporting mechanisms for some Category A indicators have also been included until mechanisms for their full implementation have been determined. The indicators for ESFM in the Southern Region are listed below:

Terms in this attachment shown in italics and with an asterisk (e.g. *forest ecosystem**) are defined in Definitions at section 7.1.

CRITERION 1: BIODIVERSITY

ECOSYSTEM DIVERSITY

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

Rationale

This indicator is one of a set of indicators to assess ecosystem diversity and should be examined with regard to the full suite of ecosystem diversity indicators. The rationale is to monitor the change in *forest ecosystem** cover for the entire forest estate within the Southern Region against targets set for retention of forest ecosystems. This indicator aims to identify which forest ecosystems are increasing or decreasing in area, as a basis for adaptive management.

Objectives

- To monitor the change in extent of forest ecosystems by tenure;
- To ensure the distribution and extent of forest ecosystems do not fall below a precautionary minimum level (to be specified), to ensure their long term viability.

Indicative target

- All tenures to be managed to maintain or increase the extent of forest ecosystems (as per CRA data systems).
 - Public tenures to be managed to maintain or increase, where possible, the extent of native forest ecosystem;
 - Private tenures to be managed to maintain regional targets (by local government areas or bioregions) as determined under Regional Vegetation Management Plans.

Data requirements and monitoring methodology

- Baseline data from the CRA forest ecosystem 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;
- Ecosystems or other community association types may be reported upon at the local level and must fit into regional and national reporting requirements;
- State Forest and NPWS management plans and zoning systems will provide information of changes to forest area under these tenures;
- Plantations should be distinguished and *non-treed elements** of forest ecosystems are to be recognised;
- For CAR reserves identify separately areas:
 - in dedicated reserves;
 - in informal reserves;

- where values are protected by prescription;
- private land managed to protect values.
- Ground surveys may also be used to assess expansion/contraction of forest cover;
- Consultation with local Aboriginal communities may provide information regarding pre-1750 forest type distributions, or indicate where such information may be found.

Reporting

- Area (ha) for each forest ecosystem by tenure (where available). Add narrative to describe how much of the total forest area the data refers to, and to identify tenures that are not mapped or poorly known;
- The methodology, including the scale and the level of confidence at which the area of forest ecosystem is to be reported, will be specified. Changes in forest ecosystems are likely to be small and reporting at too coarse a scale will not detect changes;
- Area actively restored and managed of forest ecosystem previously reduced below a state-wide level that was less than 15% of pre-1750 levels;
- Methodologies for obtaining information for private lands will be developed in accordance with the Forest Agreement;
- Tenures need to be reported upon in the following categories: private land (freehold and leasehold), State Forest, conservation reserves, other crown tenures (by management classification such as production, conservation, protection/water, special management), Commonwealth land and other land;
- Changes in this indicator need to be interpreted in relation to indicator 1.1.b

TABLE A: SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR REPORTING INDICATOR 1.1A

Forest ecosystem by tenure	% of extant	% pre-1750	Target	% target met

This table to be completed with data layers from the Regional Forest Assessment outcomes (targets).

Indicator 1.1.a.1 Understorey vegetation layer (Category B)

Rationale

This indicator provides an indication of the diversity of the understorey vegetation layer. The management and maintenance of shrub and ground vegetation should be based upon the same principles devised for tree cover.

Objective

- To manage native forest so that a range of understorey vegetation types and structures are maintained throughout the forest. (Methodologies will need to be developed to classify, map and monitor understorey vegetation layers).

Indicative target

To be developed.

Data requirements and monitoring methodology

To be developed.

Reporting

To be developed.

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

Rationale

Ecological processes and the species associated with those processes, within any forest ecosystem, are associated with vegetative structures and developmental stages. This indicator should make allowances for certain areas to undergo natural succession (ie within National Parks) and allow others areas such as State forests to be maintained at a range of growth stages while minimising the loss of old growth from threatening processes.

Objective

- To maintain a range of growth stages and forest ecosystems across the landscape.

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 ecosystem across the regional landscape. No one growth stage should be allowed to dominate the forest 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 CRA 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 percentage of forest estate with a mix of early, mid and late age classes. Record by the same forest ecosystems 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.
- Report forest stands as per data layer (disturbance) categories in CRAFTI;
- Changes in area over time related to forest management objectives;
- Implications of changes in the indicator for flora and fauna dependent upon particular growth stages need to be considered.

Indicator 1.1.e Fragmentation of forest ecosystems

Rationale

To provide information on the loss of forest cover and the spatial configuration of that loss within a region. Fragmentation can have the following effects on the gene pools of formerly continuous populations:

- small populations become demographically vulnerable through inbreeding;
- loss of variability from local populations can limit adaptations to environmental change.

The extent of connectivity on the forest landscape should be considered in relation to threatened species habitat, *general retained habitat** on public and private land, and conservation reserves.

Objectives

- To ensure *functional connectivity** through implementation of conservation protocols, planning and connectivity between reserves and retained habitat;
- To identify where connectivity needs to be restored across the regional landscape;
- To ensure that clearing does not increase the degree of fragmentation across tenures;
- To ensure that reserves and retained habitat incorporate the full suite of topographic and physical landscape properties, as well as biotic habitat and forest ecosystems;
- Restrictions to native animal movement will be reduced by optimising road surfacing and construction and easement construction.

Indicative targets

- Ensure connectivity at the regional, catchment and sub-catchment scales;
- Ensure connectivity supports *functional populations** of target species between reserves and retained habitat (see Research and Development);
- 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 API, remote sensing, CRA tenure maps and conservation protocol connection corridor 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 Agreement, 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. It is recognised that this list would never be comprehensive. The list should discriminate between indigenous and non-indigenous species. *Forest dwelling** is taken to include forest dependent species. This indicator has limited application to plantations.

Objectives

- To maintain the extent and quality of species habitat at levels that support *functional populations** across landscapes;
- To maintain or restore the species composition, richness and abundance (of representative species) of forest dwelling species;
- To prevent the endangerment of indigenous species;
- To, where possible, fill survey gaps;
- To identify representative species, within guilds, in representative habitats, to monitor over time;
- To identify species potentially at risk within the Southern Region.

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;
- Protection of the habitat of endangered species.

Data requirements and monitoring methodology

- Baseline data from CRA flora and fauna data layers, research data and agency databases;
- SFNSW collects survey records during harvest planning;
- Survey records are collected by NPWS and SFNSW during research or planning;

- Other available sources of data eg. NPWS get additional information from external sources (e.g., universities and the public) which is collated in the Wildlife Atlas, community interest groups (eg. Royal Australian Ornithological Union, Field Naturalist Societies) collect information on species abundance and distribution;
- Work is required to develop a complementary sampling scheme to cover sampling gaps and facilitate comparative studies. Integration of records across agencies is also required;
- Work is required to identify and incorporate other sources of data such as Regional Vegetation Management Plans and consultancy reports;
- 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 animals including fish, 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;

C: SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR REPORTING FOREST DWELLING SPECIES (BY FOREST ECOSYSTEM, MANAGEMENT ZONE, DISTURBANCE HISTORY, LAND TENURE AND GROWTH STAGE).

Species name	Guild	Conservation Status	Abundance	Habitat

- Interpretation should separate species richness and species composition.

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. This is essential to the conservation of biodiversity. Changes in designated classification can be used as a crude indicator. However, these changes may be based on primary data, which should be used as early indicators of change if available. Some threats to species may be beyond the control of forest managers. Changes in status should be reported and reviews undertaken to develop risk management strategies for the future.

Objectives

- To improve the conservation status of *scheduled forest dwelling species**;
- To maintain non-endangered species at their current status.

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 threatened species licence conditions for forest activities (under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*, *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, and the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*), and their performance success.

Sub-indicator 1.2.b.1 The status of endangered populations, ecological communities 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. This is essential to the conservation of biodiversity. Changes in designated classification can be used as a crude indicator. However these changes may be based on primary data which should be used as early indicators of change if available. Some threats to endangered populations and ecosystems may be beyond the control of forest managers. Changes in status should be reported and reviews undertaken to develop risk management strategies for the future.

Objectives

- To improve the conservation status of scheduled endangered populations and ecosystems;
- To maintain non-endangered populations and ecosystems at their current status.

Indicative targets

- Improvement of the status of scheduled endangered populations and ecosystems;
- Protect habitat where endangered populations and ecosystems occur;
- Development and implementation of recovery plans for endangered populations and ecosystems. Recovery plans to conform to agreed standards and include clear indicators of success and performance criteria;
- Changes to the number of listed endangered populations and ecosystems, interpreted with regard to the cause of change in listing.

Data requirements and monitoring methodology

- Commonwealth and State lists of threatened (rare, vulnerable, endangered or extinct) populations, ecological communities and ecosystems, under whatever terminology is used, and their rationale for listing;
- Data on the range and abundance of endangered populations, ecological communities 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, ecological communities 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. Plantations are to be included in this indicator.

Objectives

- To maintain the net area of native forest available for ecologically sustainable timber production;
- To optimise and where possible increase the area of land under softwood and hardwood plantation from existing cleared land.

Indicative targets

- Maintenance or increase of the net area of native forest available for timber production;
- Maintenance or increase of the area of softwood and hardwood planted forests on cleared land.

Data requirements and monitoring methodology

- CRA databases provide baseline data for SFNSW;
- FRAMES provides the relevant data on 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 ecosystems, including secondary forest on private land and softwood and hardwood 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.

Objective

- Maintain or increase the total growing stock of merchantable and non-merchantable tree species on native forest land available for timber production.

Data requirements and monitoring methodology

- CRA databases provide baseline data for State forests;
- Continuation of the FRAMES inventory process provides relevant data for State forests. It is unlikely that growing stock will be assigned by individual tree species. Growing stock is more likely to be assigned by merchantable strata class and inferred commerciality. This database will be updated and maintained as part of ongoing management practices;
- Regional Vegetation Mapping Plans may provide relevant information for private tenures although yield relationships will need to be quantified.

Reporting

- The anticipated reporting units are basal area of trees >10 cm dbhob (breast height over bark) and timber volume of trees >10 cm dbhob across the net harvestable area;
- Total growing stock of merchantable and non-merchantable tree species in native forest reported separately for private land and State forests.

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

Rationale

This indicator is a measure of the actual harvest, to meet society's demand for wood products, against the sustainable level of production.

Objective

- To ensure consistent and *ecologically sustainable** supply of wood products from production forest across all tenures.

Indicative target

- Removal of high quality large logs and high quality small logs, low quality logs and pulp grade timber does not exceed the *allowable cut** by $\pm 25\%$ within any 1 year and $\pm 5\%$ over a five year period;
- Track and report on trends for all wood products in order to determine if the *allowable cut** equals sustainable yield.

Data requirements and monitoring methodology

- CRA 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 Mapping Plans may provide relevant information for private tenures although yield relationships will need to be quantified. Returns from sawmills could supplement this data;
- Actual yield will be calculated by aggregating information from coupes across an appropriate geographic scale, compared to annual targets, and reported on an annual basis;
- All monitoring procedures should be reviewed in the second year of reporting. This review should consider the reliability and magnitude of changes reported for harvested compartments against other changes in State forest and other tenures. A full accounting of timber harvest and log stocks will be undertaken in the fifth year review of the Forest Agreement.

Reporting

- Report species, size and type of wood products removed during forestry operations;
- Annual and five yearly reporting of volume removed against allowable timber cut;
- Report for public and private tenures separately, and plantations and native forests separately;
- Report on: high quality large sawlogs (including large veneer logs); high quality small sawlogs; pulp grade timber; and poles, piles, girders high quality small logs and low quality logs.

Rationale

This indicator is a measure of the actual harvest, to meet society's demand for non-wood products, against the sustainable level of production.

Objective

- To ensure consistent and *ecologically sustainable** supply of non-wood products from production forest across all tenures.

Indicative target

- To identify sustainable volume settings for a range of non-wood products by tracking and reporting on trends in production;
- Maintain production at sustainable set supply levels.

Data requirements and monitoring methodology

- Collate and track trends in removal of non-wood products under licence

Reporting

- Report on trends in production of non-wood products removed from public forests under licence;
- Annual and five yearly reporting of volume of non-wood products removed.

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

Rationale

To determine the extent and efficacy of the planting effort.

Objective

- To increase the area of effectively stocked plantations.

Indicative targets

- Increase stocking success.

Data requirements and monitoring methodology

- Each plantation manager/owner to report on the total area of plantations established as well as the area of effectively stocked plantations;
- 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 percentage 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.

Objective

- To effectively regenerate all areas of harvested native forest.

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;
- Field surveys will be undertaken to determine the success of regeneration.

Reporting

- Areas and percentage of area by forest strata that have been effectively regenerated, and have not been effectively regenerated, are to be reported on;
- The expected survey method will rely on point-to-plant sampling of seedling regeneration in conjunction with post harvest monitoring;
- Effective regeneration levels are assigned depending on the forest strata and harvesting regime applied. Consequently, the threshold level that determines effective regeneration differs across the landscape.

CRITERION 3: MAINTENANCE OF ECOSYSTEM HEALTH AND VITALITY

Indicator 3.1.a Area and percentage 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. This indicator should be considered together with indicators under Criterion 1 to give an overall picture of forest health and vitality.

Objectives

- To maintain ecosystem health* and vitality*;

- To control outbreaks of disease, pests or other agents affecting ecosystem health and vitality, through cooperative planning and management;
- To minimise the risk of outbreaks of disease, pests or other agents affecting ecosystem health and vitality.

Indicative target

- Minimisation of the area and percentage 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;
- CRAFTI data should be considered as baseline data, e.g., disturbance codes;
- Data is available 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 percentage 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 forestage 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 percentage 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 in regards to the conservation of soil and water resources.

Objectives

- To ensure the conservation and maintenance of soil and water resources;
- To optimise road type and density to meet soil, aquatic habitat and water protection controls and adequate access for forest use and management;
- To optimise the type and density of drainage line crossings to meet soil, aquatic habitat and water protection controls and adequate access for forest use and management.

Indicative target

- Road Management Plans are to be completed for all regions within five 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 Roading 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 percentage 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 risk has been explicitly addressed in forest management planning and field operations. The percentage of area effected by soil erosion may be very small but can still produce a significant effect, e.g. a picnic area in a pristine catchment.

Objective

- To ensure all areas where forest activities/operations are occurring are systematically assessed for soil erosion hazard;
- To ensure that appropriate site-specific scientifically-based measures to protect soil and water values are implemented.

Indicative targets

- All areas where forest activities/operations are occurring are systematically assessed for soil erosion 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 on the area and percent of forest land systematically assessed for soil erosion hazard, and the site-specific scientifically-based measures to protect soil and water values implemented, are to be 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

Indicator 5.1a Total forest ecosystem biomass and carbon pool, and if appropriate, by forest ecosystem, age class, and successional stages (Category B)

Rationale

Forests can maintain their contribution to global carbon cycles by maintaining or increasing the amount of carbon stored within them. At a local scale, forests can undergo significant changes of carbon storage associated with natural mortality, thinning, fire, harvesting and regrowth, but for a larger forest area the harvest loss from one area can be balanced by regrowth in a number of other areas. The age class distribution and successional stage of forests provides information on the changing structure of forests and determines whether they are in a predominantly regenerating or mature stage.

The National Greenhouse Response Strategy includes the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory (NGGI) which estimates for each State the annual changes in C-stocks in native and plantation forests, be it with wide bands of uncertainty. The Kyoto Protocol requires Australia to track changes in national C stocks from deforestation, reforestation and afforestation activities initiated since 1990. The National Carbon Accounting System is currently being established in the Australian Greenhouse Office to conduct such accounting. Indicators for Criterion 5 should be compatible with and contribute to that internationally binding requirement.

Objective

- To determine total forest ecosystem biomass and carbon pool;
- To ensure that the total carbon stored across the forest area is not reduced.

Indicative target

- Maintenance or increase in 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 (Category B)

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.

Objectives

- To measure the amount of carbon stored in forest products and therefore not in the atmosphere contributing to changes in atmospheric conditions.

Indicative target

- 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 need 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

PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

Indicator 6.1.a Value and volume of wood and wood production

Rationale

Enables socio-economic benefits to be monitored by ascertaining trends in value and volume of wood production against management objectives

Objectives

To increase economic development from sustainable management of public forest.

Indicative target

- Volume should be in line with the allowable timber cut as determined by the Forest Agreement.

Data requirements and monitoring methodology

- SFNSW collates sale volumes and total royalties for logs sourced from State Forests to fit Region boundary;
- SFNSW data is currently collected on a regional basis, however, SFNSW are developing techniques for collation at a CRA level;
- Following annual reporting, ongoing monitoring would ensure that the process of data collection is achieving the stated objectives and opportunities to improve the adopted methodology are implemented.

Reporting

- Reporting should occur against the log product themes by sale volume and value assigned in Indicator 2.1.d.;

- The volume of wood products will be recorded in either cubic metres (m³) or tonnes (t).

RECREATION AND TOURISM

Indicator 6.2.c Number of visits per annum

Rationale

This indicator provides an indication of the amount of overall recreation use and suggests the amount of demand for forest based tourism and recreation. It is a key variable in determining the sustainability of recreation and tourism. Tourism and recreational demand must be balanced against the conservation of forest by determining ecologically sustainable levels of use.

Objective

- To integrate tourism and recreation demands with ecological sustainable forest management.

Indicative target

- Area and percentage of forest lands covered by comprehensive cross-agency integrated tourism and recreation plans, including information on:
 - the management of visitation to State forests and national parks;
 - the maintenance of opportunities for visits in response to demands;
 - mitigation measures in place in high-use areas.
- Growth in line with regional or state recreation and tourism trends. These will provide a benchmark for forest related tourism growth relative to local or state tourism growth rates.

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 licence 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;
- Data should be measured upon a consistent unit, ie visitor days, which is a combination of visitor nights and number of visits;
- Tourism NSW should develop (using existing tourism region data as a base) a Southern CRA region specific database of tourism visitation.

Reporting

- Report on trends in annual recreation and tourist use and compare with area available;
- Report on area and percentage 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)

Indicator 6.4.c (i) Change in condition and number of Aboriginal cultural heritage features within the forest estate including recorded places, artefacts, sites or other structures

Rationale

The protection and enhancement of Aboriginal cultural heritage features within the forest estate.

This indicator measures the degree of management of *recorded places**, artefacts and structures within the forest estate. This indicator should make allowances for the changing condition of sites being managed, and for the number of sites being added to (or deleted from) site records. This indicator specifically recognises Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Objectives

- To manage forests such that Aboriginal heritage values are protected;
- To minimise and, where possible, eliminate threats to the condition of sites;
- To ensure that site integrity, function and meaning is maintained within the landscape;
- To ensure that appropriate mechanisms that meet Aboriginal community requirements are in place to protect heritage features and that threatening processes are managed with regard to cultural values;
- To ensure Aboriginal groups are involved in the monitoring and rehabilitation of their sites;
- To increase the number of Aboriginal communities involved in managing cultural sites and the forest estate;
- To preserve sites containing Aboriginal cultural heritage;
- To enhance Aboriginal cultural values through public awareness;
- To manage Aboriginal cultural heritage sites in a way that is sensitive to the Aboriginal communities' requirements.

Indicative targets

- Maintenance and promotion of cultural heritage values, places, sites and other items in forests;
- Increase in the number of Aboriginal communities 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;
- Information and data on cultural sites will also be collected in consultation with the Aboriginal community. All information and data will be protected as requested by the Aboriginal community;
- NPWS records of Section 90 consents to destroy sites will be used as a primary source of data. Data will include information on the site type, content and location and reasons for destruction.

Reporting

Each agency to monitor and report through consultation with Aboriginal community groups 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.

TABLE D: SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR REPORTING INDICATOR 6.4C (i) and (ii)

Heritage Feature (Place Name)	National Estate/ State Heritage Value	Location	Tenure	Threatening Processes	Current Protective Mechanisms	Management and resource Implications

- Report on the known condition of recorded places, sites and other items and any changes in the condition of places, sites and other items within the Southern Region as defined by and referenced through the local Aboriginal communities;
- Agencies to annually report on number of sites for which permits have been given for ‘consent to destroy’;
- Compliance of management practices with endorsed Conservation Management Plans to be reported;
- Number of Aboriginal people employed in the monitoring, rehabilitation and management of their places, sites or artefacts, and the forest estate, be monitored and reported by each agency;
- Level of Aboriginal participation and consultation in the protection and management of cultural heritage values, places, sites and other items in forests are monitored and reported under Criterion 7.1.c.

Indicator 6.4.c.(ii) Change in condition and number of historic heritage features within the forest estate including recorded places, artefacts, sites, buildings or other structures

Rationale

The protection and enhancement of historic heritage features within the forest estate. This indicator measures the degree of management of *recorded places**, artefacts and structures within the forest estate. This indicator should make allowances for the changing condition of sites being managed, and for the number of sites being added to (or deleted from) site records. This indicator specifically recognises historic cultural heritage, which encompasses the heritage of all Australians including historic heritage of Aboriginal Australians.

Objectives

- To manage forests such that historic heritage values are protected;
- To minimise and, where possible, eliminate threats to the condition of sites;
- To ensure that site integrity, function and meaning is maintained within the landscape;
- To ensure appropriate mechanisms which meet community requirements are in place to protect heritage features and that threatening processes are managed with regards to cultural values;
- To ensure community groups are involved in the monitoring and rehabilitation of site;
- To enhance cultural values through public awareness.

Indicative targets

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

- 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

- NPWS Sites Register for New South Wales and Agency Section 170 registers (maintained separately by each agency). Agency historic sites registers (including Section 17 registers) to be used as collection points for data. These may require modification to include appropriate fields to incorporate information on maintenance or protection works on sites.

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.

TABLE D: SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR REPORTING INDICATOR 6.4C (i) and (ii)

Heritage Feature (Place Name)	National Estate/State Heritage Value	Location	Tenure	Threatening Processes	Current Protective Mechanisms	Management and resource Implications

- Report on the condition of known places, sites and other items and any changes in the condition of places, sites and other items within the Southern region;
- Compliance of management practices with endorsed Conservation Management Plans to be reported.

EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNITY NEEDS

Indicator 6.5.a Direct and indirect employment in the forest sector and forest sector employment as a proportion/percentage of total employment (Category B)

Rationale

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

Objective

- To monitor the level of employment to determine the contribution of the forest sector to employment and community needs.

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 covering a range of activities such as ecotourism, birdwatching, etc. Data on local Aboriginal communities may also be available from the Community Development Employment Program (CDEP) scheme;
- FISAP may also provide data at a regional level;

- Assessment of the impacts of changes in the forestry industry on employment that is indirectly related to the forestry industry. This could be undertaken using I-O techniques from the first survey conducted in 1999;

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;
- Using the results of the survey process. A central agency needs to establish a mechanism reporting of direct and indirect employment for the region;
- The data should be reported against various categories, including employment category, and forestry dependent and ancillary business.

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

Indicator 7.1.a

This indicator provides mechanisms to clarify *property rights** and *establish appropriate land tenure arrangements** that recognise *traditional management practices** and *self-management** as well as the existence of native title and the customary and traditional rights of Aboriginal communities.

Self-management is defined as a “a delegated function whereby a group or some type of formal authority carries out tasks with funds and program designed by others outside the group or region”. Recognition that the Commonwealth Government has responsibility in implementing the current native title legislation.

Rationale

The indicator accounts for the inextricable links between land ownership, land management and custodial obligation. It is useful as it identifies changes to:

- the legal system and frameworks for land ownership and management, including self management;
- the legal system and frameworks for Aboriginal land;
- ownership and other inherent rights relating to land, particularly the rights and interests of Aboriginal communities.

The conservation and sustainable management of forests must comply with the requirements of any native title/land right legislation.

Objective

This indicator intends to show the adequacy of the legal framework in providing mechanisms for clarifying property rights and establishing appropriate land tenure arrangements.

Data requirements and monitoring methods

An inventory of Acts (refer to indicator 7.1.e and 6.6.a) and assessment and evaluation of all relevant instruments within legislation, policies and plans of Commonwealth and State Governments that address customary and traditional rights of Aboriginal communities including:

- Native title and other land rights mechanisms;
- mechanisms (including effective resourcing) for involvement of Aboriginal communities in management of natural and cultural resources which reflect their cultural and social values;
- recognition of compatible Aboriginal activities within the context of forest management, traditional management practices and self management;
- management of *co-existing rights**; and
- appropriate mechanisms for the protection of intellectual property.

Reporting

- Report on assessment outcomes of the above inventory.

Indicator 7.1.b Provides for periodic forest-related planning, assessment, and policy review that recognises the range of forest values, including coordination with relevant sectors.

Rationale

This indicator shows how the legal framework demonstrates a regional commitment to achieving sustainable forest management. The existence of a legal framework that adequately addresses this indicator will demonstrate a commitment to sustainable forest management.

Indicative Target

- That the full range of NSW forest values, as defined within NSW ESFM Principles, are addressed through the current management system, including appropriate legislation and policies and regulatory framework. These include licence approvals and their equivalent, codes of practice, regional prescriptions and management plans.

Data requirements and monitoring methods

Description of legislation, the regulatory framework and management plans and the process of review for forest planning, assessment, and policy for the following range of NSW forest values identified in the NSW Forest Agreement, including coordination with relevant sectors:

- Biodiversity;
- Productive capacity and sustainability of forest ecosystems;
- Forest ecosystem health and vitality;
- Soil and water;
- Positive contribution of forests to global geochemical cycles;
- Long-term social and economic benefits;
- Natural and cultural heritage values.

Reporting

- Narrative report describing and evaluating legislation, the regulatory framework and management plans and the process of review for forest planning, assessment, and policy for the range of NSW forest values identified in the NSW Forest Agreements.

Indicator 7.1.c Provides opportunities for public participation in public policy and decision making related to forests and public access to information

Rationale

Enables the policy framework to be assessed for transparency and public participation in public policy and decision making at the regional level.

Indicative Target

- That there is an effective public participation and information process involving all parts of the community recognising the need for informed participatory decision making.

Data requirements and monitoring methods

- List of mechanisms for public participation, consultation, access to information, including frequency of review of policy and decision making processes at the regional level.

Reporting

- Narrative report providing a list of mechanisms for public participation, consultation, access to information, including periodicity of review of policy and decision making processes at the regional level.
- This information should allow the effectiveness of the public participation and information process involving all parts of the community to be assessed, recognising that different perceptions of public participation processes may exist, and that some commercial and traditional Aboriginal information may be of a sensitive or exclusive nature and may need to be retained under local control.

Indicator 7.1.d Encourages the development and application of best practice codes of forest management

Rationale

Codes of practice indicate a commitment to compliance with environmental management systems, including the legislative, regulatory and policy framework, and continuous improvement in forest management practices.

Indicative Target

- To establish effective environmental controls and regulations over forest operations and management activities that address ecologically sustainable forest management across all forest tenures and uses, through codes of practice, licensing arrangements, and regional prescriptions, and which are subject to regular review and (continual) improvement.

Data requirements and monitoring methods

- A list of relevant legislation, codes of practice and associated regional prescriptions for the management of the full range of NSW forest values across native forest and plantation areas (content and coverage);
- Reporting of reviews and improvements made to codes of forest practice and regional prescriptions;
- Area and percentage of native forest and area and percent of plantations covered by codes of forest practice and regional prescriptions.

Reporting

- Narrative report of the above.

Indicator 7.1.e Provides for the management of environmental, cultural, social and/or scientific values in forests and ensures the participation of Aboriginal communities in all aspects of forest planning and management processes.

Rationale

This indicator provides for qualitative and quantitative measurement of the legal framework covering special environmental, cultural, social and/or social values in forest management and including the recognition of Aboriginal perspective and value systems. This indicator allows for Aboriginal self-determination through the articulation of values by Aboriginal communities. It intends to show the adequacy of the legal framework in providing for participation in planning and management with links to indicators 6.6.a and 7.1.a to provide an analysis of the legal framework.

Indicative Target

- That the legal and policy framework is adequate for conserving special environmental, cultural, social and/or scientific values, including the recognition and inclusion of Aboriginal communities perspective's and value systems.

Data requirements and monitoring methods

- List of relevant legislation, policy and plans in relation to the full range of NSW forest values.

Reporting

Narrative list of the legislation, policy and plans in relation to the full range of NSW forest values. Links with 7.1.a in recognising the needs of Aboriginal communities and 7.1.b in relation to management of the full range of values in forests.

- Narrative addressing government policies including a list of relevant Acts, policies and plans that address NSW forest values drawing on the NSW ESFM Group report "Statewide Assessment of NSW Management Systems and Processes for ESFM";
- Measure the implementation of the legal framework including those Acts relating to Aboriginal communities by comparing the legal and policy framework in place, with changes (improvements) in the framework at appropriate intervals over the period of these Agreements, such as the five year period of review;
- Report on changes in the forest management system addressing silviculture and conservation, including regional prescriptions, covering scientific basis, periodicity of review and public availability.

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

Indicator 7.2.a Provide for public involvement activities and public education, awareness and extension/training programs and making available forest-related information

Rationale

To assess whether effective public education, participation and awareness processes are in place to build community awareness and support for the ecologically sustainable management of forests.

Indicative target

- To maintain or increase public involvement activities, public education, public awareness, extension/training programs;
- To maintain or increase public awareness of Aboriginal communities' rights in forest-related information; to better educate the broader community on the need for the recognition of Aboriginal rights;
- To enhance availability of forest-related information, extension and training services.

Data requirements and monitoring methods

- List of public involvement activities public involvement activities and public education, awareness and extension/training programs;
- Mechanisms for public participation, public awareness and extension/training for a range of forestry activities such as regional policies, management plans, regional prescriptions and codes of practice for State Forests, reserves and crown lands;
- Number of consultative meetings with community groups including Aboriginal communities in relation to cultural heritage information;
- Expenditure on public participation, public education, public awareness, and extension/training for a range of forestry activities such as regional policies, management plans, regional prescriptions and codes of practice for state forest, reserves and crown lands (Links with 7.1.c);
- Types and number of reports, information papers and circulars on forest-related public involvement activities and public education, awareness and extension/training programs (such as, annual reports, value specific reports, State of the Environment reporting and State of the Forest reports etc.).

Reporting

- Narrative report on the above.

Indicator 7.2.b Undertake and implement periodic forest-related planning, assessment, and policy review including cross-sectoral planning and coordination

Rationale

Procedures are in place for periodic regional planning, assessment and policy review by the responsible institutions and provide the basis for continuous improvement in forest management.

Indicative Target

- Procedures for monitoring, reviewing and evaluating management policies, plans and processes, including cross sectoral planning and coordination, covering:
 - Laws, regulations and guidelines to ensure the effective implementation of plans;
 - State-wide policies on NSW ESFM values;
 - Status and currency of management plans for forests, crown lands and reserves and assessment of performance of targets and objectives in management plans;
 - Processes for updating and adapting regional management plans and policies in the light of changing environmental, social and economic circumstances and new information;
 - Management of CAR values in Formal and Informal Reserves.

Data requirements and monitoring methods

- Document the presence and currency of regional management policies and plans including the reporting of performance indicators and targets of ecologically sustainable forest management;
- Document processes for periodic review (frequency and scope) of policies, management plans, and planning instruments

Reporting

- Narrative report on the above.

Indicator 7.2.c Develop and maintain levels of human resource skills across relevant disciplines

Rationale

Appropriate levels of human resource skills are required to implement sustainable forest management.

Indicative Target

- To maintain or increase/improve the numbers, competency and currency of skills required to service management responsibilities/accountabilities to deliver ecologically sustainable forest management;
- To reduce the number of forest management related breaches and prosecutions for a region;
- Incentive schemes to foster skills development.

Data requirements and monitoring methods

For public and private enterprises:

- Total number of training days and number of attendees, by type of training per year;
- Expenditure on and number of staff training, trainee and development programs against NSW forest values;
- Document and report number of employees by qualification category (graduate, diploma/certificate, trade skill) in relation to NSW ESFM forest values and critical areas of forest management, such as:
 - Forest planning and management
 - Reserve management and planning
 - Codes of forest practice
 - Conservation protocols and prescriptions
 - Silviculture
 - Fire management and control
 - Pathology
 - Sustainable yield monitoring and projection (including inventory)
 - Research into forest management and conservation issues
 - Soil conservation
 - Water quality.
- Report on incentive schemes to foster skill development.

Reporting

- Narrative report on the above.

Indicator 7.2.e Enforce laws, regulations and guidelines

Rationale

Enforcement of laws, regulations, guidelines etc. may encourage effective implementation of ecologically sustainable forest management practices which includes plans being effectively implemented, noting that number of breaches can reflect both enforcement effort and compliance with the law.

Indicative Target

- Mechanisms are in place to ensure compliance with plans, codes, prescriptions and licences;
- Achievement of 100% compliance with laws, regulations, licences, guidelines and codes.

Data requirements and monitoring methods

- Presence and currency of objectives, targets and indicators in management plans, codes, prescriptions and licences for which conformance and compliance is required;
- Number of forest-related breaches and prosecutions in comparison to the number of enforcement audits undertaken from regulatory agencies for individual departments, including trends in compliance audits (noting that low levels of breach and prosecution may mean high level of compliance or a low level of enforcement);
- Annual reporting of compliance with Integrated Forestry Operations Approval, Codes of Practice and Regional Prescriptions;
- Industry self-regulation and enforcement strategies used by industry;
- Monitoring and enforcement effort and expenditure.

Reporting

- Narrative reporting of the above.

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

Indicator 7.4.a Availability and extent of up-to-date data, statistics and other information important to measuring or describing indicators associated with criteria 1-7

Rationale

To ensure a regional framework monitoring system and sufficient current data is available to measure and monitor changes in the full range of NSW forest values to ensure ecological sustainable forest management. Trends over time should show whether there is improved reporting capacity.

Indicative Target

- Data, statistics and other information important to measuring or describing indicators associated with Criteria 1-7 are available and up-to-date;
- Data and monitoring methodologies are available to meet annual and five yearly reporting requirements of ESFM under the Forest Agreement.

Data requirements and monitoring methods

- Data to be collected from State agencies, institutions and private enterprises as appropriate.

Reporting

- Table showing data availability and currency for each indicator associated with Criteria 1-7, including a list of activities in relation to NSW ESFM values being monitored under the Forest Agreement and currency of information;
- Summarise data inadequacies and review relevance of indicators in the region to build relevant and current monitoring program;
- Review and assess comprehensiveness and adequacy of forest inventories, including monitoring;
- Refer to each indicator for particular details of reporting.

Indicator 7.4.b Scope, frequency and statistical reliability of forest inventories, assessments, monitoring and other relevant information

Rationale

A comprehensive and current inventory provides the basis for all forest planning for ecologically sustainable forest management. The data will show the degree to which the forest inventories and monitoring cover all NSW forest values and contribute to their ongoing sustainable management throughout appropriate planning.

Indicative Target

- Inventories, assessments and monitoring programs cover all NSW ESFM values (including those addressed under Montreal process Criteria and Indicators) on both public and private lands at a scale, frequency and reliability that provides a basis for the ecologically sustainable management of forests.

Data requirements and monitoring methods

- Document inventories, assessments and monitoring programs for forest management activities for all NSW ESFM values, together with their scale, frequency and measures of reliability. Particular effort will be required to obtain data from private forests and conservation reserves.

Reporting

- Narrative report on the above.

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

Indicator 7.5.a Development of scientific understanding of forest ecosystem characteristics and functions

Rationale

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

Indicative Target

- To establish a sound scientific understanding of forest ecosystem characteristics and functions;
- To achieve appropriate coverage of NSW forest values and areas of forest management by research programs and projects;
- To achieve an appropriate coverage of ecosystem components by research publications;
- To identify areas not covered by current research for the purposes of strategic planning.

Data requirements and monitoring methods

Document research effort in relation to:

- Monitor and report on research effort in relation to NSW forest values as identified in Forest Agreement and NSW ESFM Group reports on Criteria and Indicators and Knowledge and Information Gaps in relation to:
 - number of people employed (scientific and technical staff);
 - expenditure in each area;
 - total expenditure on research and development;
 - number of research papers published.
- Identify research issues to be addressed over the following five-year period in relation to NSW ESFM forest values and report on initiatives undertaken to address regional research needs identified five years previously.

Reporting

- Narrative report on the above.

Indicator 7.5.d Enhancement of ability to predict impacts of human intervention on forests

Rationale

The ability to predict impacts is required to ensure that long-term objectives are likely to be met. Predictive ability is dependent on good inventory data and scientific knowledge.

Indicative Target

- To improve the capacity to predict impacts of human intervention on forests through research and development and the measurement and monitoring of changes in NSW forest values resulting from forest management;
- To identify gaps in knowledge and information for determining ecologically sustainable forest management;
- To improve capacity for continual improvement in forest management by identifying and acting upon deficiencies in planning and operations to achieve ecologically sustainable forest management;
- To improve capacity to conduct and apply research and development to achieve sustainable forest management, continual improvement, and the delivery of forest goods and services.

Data requirements and monitoring methods

- Document results of monitoring programs of impacts of forest management activities on NSW forest values;
- Identify areas requiring more knowledge and information (eg. impacts of management practices on biodiversity and silviculture, biodiversity surveys, strategic inventory);
- Identify areas of improvement in forest management planning and operations to achieve ecologically sustainable forest management;
- Document capacity to conduct and apply research and development for sustainable forest management;
- Document improvements in forest management practices and adaptive management that lead to ecologically sustainable forest management.

Reporting

- Narrative report on the above.

Indicator 7.5.f Percentage of native forests and plantations that are formally supported by silvicultural and product utilisation research support

Rationale

Research support is required to ensure that all forests have an adequate scientific basis for management. The data should show the extent of forest areas that lack research support.

Indicative Target

- To increase the area of private forests and plantations that have sustainable scientifically based silvicultural prescriptions and harvesting codes of practice and research support;
- Data requirements and monitoring methods;
- Percentage of area of private forests and plantations that are formally supported by silvicultural and product utilisation research support;
- Identify forest areas associated with forest research effort to indicate areas that are not covered by current research.

Reporting

- Tabular and narrative report on the above.

ATTACHMENT 8

INDUSTRY AND EMPLOYMENT - COMMITMENTS AND INITIATIVES

Region	Project	Employment
Southern Region	Management initiatives on the National Park Estate including four Aboriginal <i>Cultural Heritage</i> * Officers	91 (50)
	Aboriginal Employment Opportunities in <i>Cultural Heritage</i> * management in State Forests	2 (0)
	Non-commercial thinning program	4 (4)
	Management of informal reserves on <i>State forests</i> *	3 (1)
	Feral animal control program	1 (0)
	Silvicultural improvement program including thinning and culling techniques	15.5 (15.5)
	Purchase of private property or timber rights, both for standing timber and for planting of new forests.	Employment numbers not known
	Carbon sequestration on National Parks (if such opportunities are identified in the Region).	Employment numbers not known

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

Employment in Aboriginal Heritage and Conservation Management

The NPWS will fund the employment of 91 positions for conservation and Aboriginal heritage management of the new Southern reserves. Four of these positions are identified as Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Officers.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Program

This project will fund assessment of Aboriginal cultural heritage on State forest in the Southern Region. Two cultural heritage officers employed by State Forests will foster a close working partnership between the Aboriginal community and the NSW Government's forestry program. The cultural heritage officers' tasks will centre on identifying, assessing significance, and giving greater protection of sites. They will consult on protection mechanisms for these sites with Aboriginal communities and management agencies. This project will also encourage increased participation of the local Aboriginal community in forest management decisions.

Funding level: \$150,000 per annum for 5 years

Funding source: NSW Consolidated Fund

Employment impact: 2 positions for 5 years

Management of Informal Reserves on State Forest Estate

An important component of the Forest Agreement is the protection of conservation values within informal reserves established within the State forest estate. These areas are Forest Management Zoned 2 or 3A and are unavailable for timber harvesting. Under the Forest Agreement and IFOA, management plans for these areas are required and rehabilitation works such as road closure, exclusion of grazing, weed control and additional feral animal control programs etc may be required. As these areas contribute to the CAR Reserve System it is important that appropriate active management occurs. The NSW government will provide the necessary funding for informal and prescriptive reserve management within the Southern Region.

Funding level: \$350,000 per annum

Funding source: NSW Consolidated Fund

Employment impact: The equivalent of 3 positions full time.

Conservation Management Funding for National Parks and Wildlife Service

Recurrent funding for the management of additions to the National Parks estate as follows:

Year	Approved to date (\$'000)
2000/2001	5,003
2001/2002	9,860
2002/2003	9,145
2003/2004 and ongoing	9,145 ongoing
Total	33,183

Pest Management

During the CRA process, experts identified feral animal control as a key tool in the long term conservation of critical fauna species on both reserves and timber producing forested lands. A State Forests of NSW project funds feral animal management on State forest in the Southern Region.

Funding will assist feral animal control in three areas:

- Improved ground baiting techniques.
- Expansion of program to currently uncontrolled areas.
- Research into the impacts of feral cats.

Funding level: \$70,000 per annum for 5 years
Funding source: NSW Consolidated Fund
Employment impact: 1 position for five years.

The NPWS will implement a pest management planning, assessment and monitoring program, including:

- A range of appropriate best practice methods will be used to control key vertebrate pests which impact on park neighbours and native species.
- Noxious weed programs will target species of economic and environmental significance. Similar to the vertebrate pest work, the weed control programs are aimed at meeting NPWS responsibilities to its neighbours and protecting biodiversity on park.

Fire Management Planning

The NPWS will prepare reserve fire management plans which develop and implement programs that effectively monitor and protect biodiversity outcomes and plan for community protection.

Hazard Reduction and Asset Protection

Fuel management programs will be undertaken across NPWS reserves in line with Risk Management Plans and Reserve Fire Management Plans. Fuel management programs will generally be carried out by the prescribed application of fire which often requires the use of helicopters (aerial ignition).

Fire Trail Maintenance

This program of ongoing works will include the maintenance of drainage structures, surface grading, bridge repair and repair of creek crossings.

Silviculture Improvement Program

This project aims to improve the medium and long term High Quality Large Log supply from State forests in the Southern Region by using thinning and culling silvicultural techniques. The Regional

Forest Assessment modelled wood supply provides an even flow of High Quality Large Logs. Ensuring a supply of high quality large logs is an important factor in ensuring long term sustainability of all forest products from timber production forests. Silvicultural investment is a valuable tool in ensuring the continuing supply of high quality large logs from Southern forests by concentrating growth in the better quality trees in the forest and by ensuring successful regeneration following harvesting.

A program of silvicultural investment will restore productivity to degraded timber stands capable of improved sawlog growth, and release young, potentially merchantable trees otherwise inhibited by non merchantable overstorey. State forest areas eligible for this treatment include:

- Forest requiring a regeneration event by creation or extension of canopy gaps.
- Areas of advanced forest regrowth requiring release from inhibiting over-storey.
- Having environmental attributes indicative of average, or better, forest productivity.

Trained field crews will treat to varying degree about 20,000 hectares of State forest.

Funding level:	A \$4m program averaging about \$670k per annum over 6 financial years.
Funding source:	NSW Consolidated Fund – \$1.5 m NSW FISAP – \$1.25 m Commonwealth FISAP – \$1.25 m
Employment impact:	15.5 full time positions

Purchase of Private Property Program

This project increases the area of forest in the Southern Region from which sawlog yield can be accessed by purchasing private property or timber rights, both for standing timber and for the planting of new forest. This is a significant program in ensuring the long term sustainability of sawlog supply.

This program involves purchase of suitable properties, or the timber rights on them, for:

- existing native forest timber currently, or soon to be, of commercial size; and
- plantation establishment and joint venture schemes.

Funding level:	Land purchase	\$4.76m
	Plantation establishment	\$240k
Funding source:	NSW Consolidated Fund – \$5m	
Employment impact:	Additional employment will be generated in plantation establishment and maintenance, site preparation and land management.	

Funding has also been allocated from the NSW Government Environment Trust Fund for the voluntary purchase of private lands to:

- Assist towards meeting conservation targets not already met on the formal dedicated reserve system and improve the management boundaries of these reserves including the purchase of inholdings. **Funding level:** \$1.2 million.

Asset Maintenance

Bridge Maintenance

Bridges that will be incorporated into the new NPWS parks are often of a low standard timber construction. Following engineering inspection many will require the replacement of major structural components.

Visitor facilities and infrastructure maintenance

A range of visitor facilities have been transferred to NPWS management. Examples include lookouts, several high profile roadside rest areas, walking tracks and camping areas. Cyclical maintenance programs will be implemented to ensure facilities meet appropriate safety standards and to facilitate sustainable use.

Capital Works

Capital works programs will be implemented by the NPWS to enhance visitor experiences in the new national parks. Works will include – lookout and walking track construction, camping area development and interpretation facilities. Capital works funding for the management of additions to the National Parks estate as follows:

Year	Approved to date (\$'000)
2000/2001	795
2001/2002	625
2002/2003	895
2003/2004 and ongoing	290
Total	2,605

ATTACHMENT 9 MILESTONES

REFERE NCE IN CLAUSE & ATTACH MENT	OUTCOME	RESPONSI- BILITIES	COMPLETI ON DATE
CHAPTER 1			
1.6.1 Att 6 (1) & (2a)	Granting of an <i>Integrated Forestry Operations Approval*</i> for the Southern Region	DoP	As soon as possible after signing
CHAPTER 2			
2.1.1 Att 2 & 3 Att 6 (2c)	Complete and implement <i>SFNSW* EMS*</i> .	SFNSW	30 June 2003
2.1.1	A further part of the EMS* will be prepared to cover the planted forest component.	SFNSW	31 December 2003
2.1.1 Att 6 (2k)	The field staff and contractors of <i>SFNSW*</i> must continue to receive appropriate competency-based training including training in biodiversity management, soil and water management, log grading, silviculture, <i>harvest planning*</i> and <i>cultural heritage*</i> .	SFNSW	Ongoing
2.1.2 Att 6 (2b)	Development and implementation of an EMS* by NPWS*.	NPWS	30 April 2004
2.1.2	To facilitate implementation of the EMS*, NPWS* staff and contractors must continue to receive appropriate competency based training	NPWS	On-going
2.2.1 4.3 Att 6 (1) & 2(a)	Preparation of Regional ESFM Plans.	SFNSW	31 August 2002
2.2.2	Provision of mapped FMZ* on all State forests attached to Regional ESFM Plans.	SFNSW	31 August 2002
2.2.2 2.3.2	Complete and make public working plans for land dedicated or set apart as flora reserves (attached to Regional ESFM Plans).	SFNSW	31 August 2002
2.2.3	For activities regulated under Part 4 of the <i>Forestry and National Park Estate Act 1998</i> , harvesting plans must be prepared for all logging operations conducted under a timber licence.	SFNSW	On-going
2.2.3	For activities regulated under the <i>Plantations and Reafforestation Act 1999</i> plans must be prepared, as required in the <i>Plantations and Reafforestation (Code) Regulation 2001</i> .	SFNSW	On-going
2.2.4 Att 4	State Forests of NSW Forest Practices Code: Part 5 - Wildlife Management in Native Forests.	SFNSW	30 June 2002
2.2.4 4.3	Prepare and publish Eco-field Guides for the Southern Region.	SFNSW	31 August 2002
2.2.5	SFNSW to employ an internal audit system to ensure consistent application of standards and monitor compliance with IFOA.	SFNSW	On-going
2.2.5	The results of this monitoring and auditing, should be reported using a mechanism determined by <i>DoP*</i> , <i>NPWS*</i> , <i>SFNSW*</i> , <i>NSW Fisheries*</i> , and <i>EPA*</i> .	DoP, NPWS, SFNSW, NSW, and EPA	On-going
2.2.6	Notification on the location and nature of forestry operations to NPWS, EPA, NSW and DoP as outlined in <i>IFOA*</i> arrangements.	SFNSW	On-going
2.2.6	Progress in meeting the targets in the Regional <i>ESFM*</i> Plans must be reported annually through Regional <i>ESFM*</i> reports.	SFNSW	Annually
2.2.6	Statewide reporting of overall progress and performance through	SFNSW	Annually

REFERENCE IN CLAUSE & ATTACHMENT	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBILITIES	COMPLETION DATE
	the Environmental and Social Values Report.		
2.2.7	Liaise with DoP, NPWS and EPA on proposed forestry activities not covered by forest agreement and integrated forestry operations approval. Impacts from the proposed forestry activities must be assessed.	DoP, NPWS, SFNSW and EPA	On-going (2 months before activities commence)
2.2.8 Att 6 (2c)	Native forest silvicultural regime must be implemented on State forest.	SFNSW	On-going
2.2.8 Att (2o) 4.2	Preparation of arrangements for silvicultural practices including demonstration areas(for silvicultural practices and suite of silvicultural regimes), auditing, report area harvested and silvicultural types and consult on ecosystem management.	SFNSW	30 September 2003
2.3.1	Creation of special management zones on State forests.	Minister for Forests	31 August 2002
2.3.2	Preparation of plans of management for dedicated reserves under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> .	NPWS	31 January 2006
2.3.3	Formation of a committee to advise the Manager of the Reserve Trust on the matters specified in the Memorandum of Understanding concerning Crown Reserves.	D-G NPWS and D-G DMR	30 June 2002
2.3.3	Undertaking a review of Crown Reserves every five years.	NPWS and DMR	30 April 2007 and each 5 year period thereafter
2.3.3	Preparation of plans of management for Crown Reserves.	NPWS	31 January 2006
2.3.3	Preparation of working plans for informal reserves (FMZ 2 and 3a) and guidelines for areas managed by prescription (FMZ 3b and 4) in consultation with DoP, NPWS and DMR.	SFNSW, NPWS, DoP, DMR	31 August 2002
2.3.3	Review of mineral and petroleum objections over FMZ 2 and FMZ 3 lands.	NPWS and DMR	30 April 2007 and every five yearly review
2.3.3	Consideration of the Southern Region by the Occupation Permit and Permissive Occupancy Task Force.	DG-NPWS, CO-SFNSW, DG-DLWC and CO-NSW Farmers	31 December 2002
2.3.3	Phasing out of occupation permits in <i>State forests</i> * which currently exist in areas identified as formal reserves and informal reserves and permissive occupancies on Crown land identified as formal reserves and informal reserves.	Occupation Permit Task Force	Within 18 months of gazettal of new reserves
2.3.4	Minister for Fisheries may declare aquatic reserves.	Minister for Fisheries	On-going (As required)
2.4.1 Att 6 (2d)	Implementation of NSW Biodiversity Strategy.	NPWS	On-going
2.4.3	Preparation of grazing management plans and feral and introduced predator control plans.	SFNSW	31 July 2006
2.4.4	Preparation of cooperative approaches for non-licence components of the <i>Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i> and <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> 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
2.4.4	Notify NPWS/SFNSW of listing and delisting of threatened species, populations, etc and review IFOA for changes to	NPWS and SFNSW	On-going

REFERENCE IN CLAUSE & ATTACHMENT	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBILITIES	COMPLETION DATE
	schedules on Threatened Species Licence.		
2.4.5.1	Review IFOA for changes to schedules on Threatened Species Licence.	NPWS, SFNSW, NSW	On-going
2.4.5.2	Conservation requirements must be developed and implemented for species new to science and IFOA must be review.	NPWS, NSW, SFNSW	On-going
2.4.5.2	Implement stated process when species new to science are found.	NPWS, NSW, SFNSW	On-going
2.4.5.3	Conservation requirements must be developed and implemented for new records of threatened species, populations and ecological populations and IFOA must be review.	NPWS, NSW, SFNSW	On-going
2.4.5.3	Implement stated process where important new record was discovered in an area.	NPWS, NSW, SFNSW	On-going
2.4.5.4	New information is to be assessed, and where required Threatened Species Licence is reviewed and IFOA amended.	NPWS, NSW, SFNSW	On-going
2.4.5.4	Where new information on the distribution, population size or ecology of species of threatened flora and fauna suggests that the species allocation to a particular condition of the <i>Threatened Species Licence</i> * needs to be reviewed, NPWS* and SFNSW* will undertake such a review.	NPWS, NSW, SFNSW	On-going
2.4.5.6	Preparation of guidelines for the management of large areas of rainforest, high conservation value old growth and other areas excluded by prescription and attached to the Regional ESFM Plan.	SFNSW	31 August 2002
2.4.5.6	The larger more significant exclusion areas will be those as agreed between the Director-General of NPWS*, the Chief Executive Officer of SFNSW* and the Director-General of DoP.	DG of NPWS*, Chief Executive of SFNSW* and DG of DoP.	31 December 2002
2.5	NPWS* must provide advice to the Minister administering the <i>National Park and Wildlife Act 1974</i> on the submissions received during public consultation and the areas recommended for wilderness declaration.	NPWS	31 December 2002
2.7	Studies of the dedicated reserve system to identify World Heritage values.	NPWS	30 April 2004
2.8	Apply cultural heritage management guidelines when managing cultural heritage.	NPWS and SFNSW	On-going
2.8	SFNSW Cultural heritage management guidelines should be attached to IFOA.	SFNSW	30 June 2002

REFERENCE IN CLAUSE & ATTACHMENT	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBILITIES	COMPLETION DATE
2.8	NPWS to review processes for Aboriginal cultural heritage management.	NPWS, SFNSW,	31 August 2005

REFERENCE IN CLAUSE & ATTACHMENT	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBILITIES	COMPLETION DATE
		Aboriginal communities	
2.8	Preparation of an information management system for Aboriginal heritage including maintenance of Aboriginal Sites Register of NSW.	NPWS and Aboriginal communities	Ongoing
2.8	Updating section 170 register.	SFNSW and NPWS	Ongoing
2.8	Finalisation of policy on Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal cultural heritage.	SFNSW	31 August 2002
2.8	Reporting 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.	NPWS and SFNSW	Annually
2.9 Att 5	Voluntary conservation of private land, where the conservation values either do not occur on public land or are not adequately reserved on public land. According to principles in Attachment 5.	All agencies	On-going
2.9	Identification of forest ecosystems on private land that are a conservation priority for inclusion in the CAR Reserve system.	NPWS	30 June 2002
2.9	Establishment of a committee to look at conservation issues on private land.	DoP	30 June 2002
2.10	Continuing participation in District Fire Committees for the prevention, detection and suppression of bush fires.	SFNSW and NPWS	On-going
2.11.2 Att 7	Monitoring of indicators presented in Table 2 and detailed in Attachment 7.	SFNSW, DoP, NPWS	On-going
2.11.2	Preparation of an evaluation framework for the criteria and indicators.	SFNSW, DoP, NPWS	30 September 2002
2.11.2	Review of indicators.	SFNSW, NPWS, DoP	30 April 2007
2.11.2	Reporting on indicators to contribute to annual reports to Parliament.	DoP	Annually
2.11.3	A compendium of New South Wales forest research must be prepared.	DoP	30 April 2007
2.11.3 Att 7	A strategy for important research and monitoring (including <i>ESFM</i> * indicators) must be prepared jointly by <i>SFNSW</i> * and <i>NPWS</i> *	SFNSW, NPWS	30 June 2003
2.11.3	All project reports relevant to the <i>regional forest assessment</i> * must be made public.	DoP	30 June 2002
2.11.3	Continuing projects in former State forest areas to be documented and details provided to NPWS on affected studies, location of sites and access requirements.	SFNSW	30 June 2002
2.12	<i>NPWS</i> * and <i>SFNSW</i> * must participate in co-operative programs where a broader landscape approach is most effective in addressing noxious weed control, feral animal control or other matters related to forest health.	SFNSW, NPWS	On-going
2.13.1	Preparation of joint regional recreation and tourism plans.	SFNSW and NPWS	31 August 2003
2.13.4	Memorandum of Understanding on the usage of roads and trails maintenance and access arrangements.	DG-NPWS, CEO-SFNSW	31 December 2002
CHAPTER 3			
3.3.2	<i>SFNSW</i> * must undertake a baseline analysis of tree species mix, size, quality and quantity for each compartment within State forest	SFNSW	30 September 2002

REFERENCE IN CLAUSE & ATTACHMENT	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBILITIES	COMPLETION DATE
	(post forest agreement) using existing data contained in harvesting records and other sources (ie sales data on sawlogs and higher value products). The results of this analysis must be provided to NPWS* and DoP*.		
3.3.2	Each year SFNSW* must monitor and report as part of the forest agreement annual report process, the: amount of residual timber (tonnage) harvested from each compartment and amount of species, size, quality and quantity of trees harvested in each compartment from sales data on sawlogs and higher value products and compare this to the baseline data.	SFNSW	Annual
3.3.2	If monitoring each year indicates a change in these parameters (ie amount of species, size, quality and quantity of trees harvested), SFNSW* must consult DoP* and NPWS* to determine if remedial action is required and SFNSW* must implement appropriate actions agreed between the three agencies.	SFNSW, DoP and NPWS	Annual
3.3.2	Each year SFNSW* must monitor and report, as part of the forest agreement annual report process, the total quantity (tonnes) of fluxwood* (if this is sourced from either as part of the 200 000 tonnes of residue timber* or thinnings) and the total quantity (tonnes) of thinnings.	SFNSW	Annual
3.3.3	SFNSW* will undertake a private property supplementation program (such as purchase of timber rights or private property) and when any private land is purchased and dedicated as State forest*, harvesting and roading operations must be subject to forest agreement* and conditions of the IFOA*.	SFNSW	On-going
3.3.3	The process (prior to any purchases) of selecting land for purchase by SFNSW* for timber supply must address criteria to be agreed between SFNSW and NPWS*. These criteria will consider: the key substantially unmet CAR conservation targets; whether there is any need for access through reserves; issues of reserve design; and proximity to national parks/nature reserves.	SFNSW, DoP, NPWS	30 June 2002
3.4	Stakeholder consultation on timber supply arrangements must occur through the development of Plans of Operation.	SFNSW	Annually
3.5 Att 6 (6e)	Refinement of resource availability on native forests by additional inventory plot measurements to improve volume estimates at a regional level.	SFNSW	30 April 2007
3.5 Att 6 (7)	Enhancement of modifier models in FRAMES including refinement of harvesting area exclusions and FRAMES* parameters (such as the tree defect and tree availability modifier models), using locally specific data to replace RFA* regional average modifier models.	SFNSW, DoP	31 December 2006
3.5 Att 6 (6f)	Monitoring and review of FRAMES performance to include comparison of actual versus predicted volumes for each financial year.	SFNSW	Annually
3.5	Monitoring and review of FRAMES performance to include assessment of progressive 20 year supply.	SFNSW	Annually
3.5 Att 6 (7)	SFNSW* will consult with NPWS*, EPA* and DoP* on the terms and conduct of the FRAMES* review/development program.	SFNSW, NPWS, EPA and DoP	30 September 2002
3.5	SFNSW will consultation on the appropriate spatial scale for reporting actual yields against FRAMES estimates.	SFNSW, NPWS and DoP	On-going
3.5	Information on actual yields against FRAMES estimates at the	SFNSW, DoP	Annually

REFERENCE IN CLAUSE & ATTACHMENT	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBILITIES	COMPLETION DATE
Att 6 (6d)	agreed scale to be provided to <i>DoP*</i> and included in the Annual Report to the NSW Parliament (at the determined scale).		
3.5	The results of resource inventory and annual monitoring of actual and predicted timber volumes, must be used to review the performance in achieving the implementation of sustainable yield of timber products	SFNSW	Ongoing
3.5 Att 6 (6d)	A report to <i>DoP*</i> , <i>NPWS*</i> and <i>EPA*</i> , on annual production of products other than production of saw logs for each financial year.	SFNSW	Annually
3.6 Att 8	Undertake a range of initiatives to facilitate industry development and employment as outlined in Attachment 8, subject to funding.	SFNSW. NPWS	On-going
3.6	The Forest Industries Structural Adjustment Program (FISAP) applies in the Southern Region and will be available to fund initiatives until 30 June 2006.	Forestry Structural Adjustment Unit, Offices of Forestry Information	30 June 2006
CHAPTER 4			
4.2	Additional reporting and consultative mechanisms for NPWS such as State of Parks report.	NPWS	31 August 2002
4.3 Att (2p) Att 6 (7c)	Additional reporting and consultative mechanisms for <i>SFNSW*</i> such as Plan of Operations, NFMS and any committee established to implement forest management at the landscape level. Document basis for silvicultural practices and publish Native Forest Silviculture Manual.	SFNSW	31 August 2002
CHAPTER 5			
5.1.1	<i>SFNSW*</i> and <i>NPWS*</i> must progressively negotiate joint management arrangements with local Aboriginal communities.	NPWS, SFNSW and Aboriginal communities	31 December 2006
5.1.1	Annual reporting to RACD on the progress by NPWS and SFNSW on negotiating co-management and joint management arrangements with Aboriginal committees.	RACD, NPWS and SFNSW	Annually
5.1.1	Other ventures likely to generate mutual benefits to the Aboriginal, as well as the wider, community must also be considered.	NPWS, SFNSW and Aboriginal committees	On-going
5.1.1	Where further analysis indicates the feasibility of other ventures, project plans must be developed and implemented.	NPWS, SFNSW and Aboriginal committees	On-going
5.1.1	Assessment of all parks to determine if any could be added to Schedule 14 of the NPW Act.	NPWS and Aboriginal committees	31 December 2006
5.1.1	<i>SFNSW*</i> will examine any <i>State forest*</i> that could be considered for co-management or joint venture arrangements.	SFNSW and Aboriginal committees	31 December 2004

REFERENCE IN CLAUSE & ATTACHMENT	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBILITIES	COMPLETION DATE

REFERE NCE IN CLAUSE & ATTACH MENT	OUTCOME	RESPONSI- BILITIES	COMPLETI ON DATE
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.	NPWS, SFNSW and Aboriginal committees	31 December 2003
5.1.2	Preparation of an employment and economic opportunities program with Aboriginal people.	NPWS and SFNSW	30 June 2003
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	30 June 2003
5.1.3	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 EMS* - NFMS*.	SFNSW	30 June 2003
5.1.4.1	SFNSW* and NPWS* must progressively negotiate separate co-operative management agreements with local Aboriginal communities that enable Aboriginal people to be involved in the management of State forests* and national parks.	SFNSW, NPWS, Snowy Mountain Elders	31 December 2006
5.1.4.1	Explore opportunities for joint ventures with SFNSW* and NPWS* that promote recognition, awareness and respect for Aboriginal cultural heritage*. Other ventures likely to generate mutual benefits to the Aboriginal community must also be considered.	SFNSW, NPWS, Snowy Mountain Elders	31 December 2006
5.1.4.1	Where consideration has identified ventures, project plans must be developed for their implementation.	SFNSW, NPWS, Snowy Mountain Elders	31 December 2006
5.1.4.1	An Aboriginal Management Committee will be established for both State forests* and national parks to represent and manage Aboriginal cultural heritage* on State forests* and national parks respectively.	SFNSW, NPWS, Snowy Mountain Elders	31 December 2003
5.1.4.1	Terms of Reference for the Committees will be determined and developed by the Committees members upon establishment. Terms of Reference must include specified aspects.	Aboriginal Management Committee	31 December 2003
5.1.4.1	Development of a Plan of Management, which will address the management principles, guidelines and objectives of the Aboriginal Management Committee.	Aboriginal Management Committee	31 December 2003
5.1.4.2	Enterprise development with SFNSW has been identified as a major interest for Aboriginal communities. Some examples are provided.	SFNSW, Snowy Mountain Elders	31 December 2005
5.1.4.3	Areas of State forest* to be identified and set aside for Aboriginal education and specific community activities in accordance with Aboriginal traditional practices. Such areas to be determined and agreed upon by the Management Committees.	SFNSW, Snowy Mountain Elders	31 December 2006
5.1.4.3	Creation of a zone to protect Aboriginal cultural heritage, with adequate measures (including buffers) to protect against adverse impacts by forest activities, soil erosion and visitation to sensitive cultural areas.	SFNSW, Snowy Mountain Elders	31 December 2006
5.1.4.4	SFNSW* should initiate the specified employment opportunities	SFNSW,	31 December

REFERE NCE IN CLAUSE & ATTACH MENT	OUTCOME	RESPONSI- BILITIES	COMPLETI ON DATE
	to enable active Aboriginal participation in the management of forests, subject to external funding.	Snowy Mountain Elders	2005
5.1.4.5	NPWS should enter into a co-operative management agreement with the relevant Aboriginal communities to develop co-operative management and funding strategies to ensure the effective protection and management of Aboriginal <i>cultural heritage</i> * on NPWS* estate, subject to external funding.	NPWS, Snowy Mountain Elders	31 December 2006
5.1.4.5	Aboriginal communities consider it a NPWS* responsibility to develop and implement a policy in relation to access to parks, nature reserves and other appropriate service estate, for traditional purposes. This policy framework will be developed by the Aboriginal Management Committee.	NPWS, Snowy Mountain Elders	31 December 2006
5.1.4.5	A provision be created for two Aboriginal representatives to sit on the South West Slopes Regional Advisory Committees.	NPWS, Snowy Mountain Elders	31 December 2005
5.1.4.5	All NPWS* staff located in the Southern Directorate be provided with adequate cultural awareness training, to improve customer relations with Aboriginal communities.	NPWS, Snowy Mountain Elders	31 December 2005
5.1.4.6	Specified employment opportunities in NPWS were identified as a major priority for Aboriginal communities in the Region, subject to external funding.	NPWS, Snowy Mountain Elders	31 December 2005
CHAPTER 6			
6.2	Public participation is required when making a <i>forest agreement</i> * or when an amendment or revocation occurs.	DoP	When making or amending
6.8	Every five years after the agreement is signed, a review of the performance of the agreement must be undertaken by the <i>Ministers</i> * to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the Agreement (and Approval) in meeting the Government goals and policies.	DoP, NPWS, SFNSW, NSW, and EPA	30 April 2007 and every 5 years
6.8	The public is to be given an opportunity to participate in the review of this agreement.	DoP, NPWS, SFNSW, NSW, and EPA	31 December 2005 and every 5 years
6.8	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 five year period.	Minister administering the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>	31 July 2007 and every 5 years
6.9	The Minister administering the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> must prepare an annual report on this agreement which will include ESFM and compliance with any integrated forestry operations approval for the region.	Minister administering the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>	Annually
6.9	Each annual report is to be tabled in each House of Parliament as soon as practicable after it is prepared	Minister administering	Annually (as soon as

REFERE NCE IN CLAUSE & ATTACH MENT	OUTCOME	RESPONSI- BILITIES	COMPLETI ON DATE
		the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>	practicable after it is prepared)
6.10 6.1	A copy of the <i>forest agreement</i> * including any amendment or termination of the agreement must 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 <i>Presiding Officer</i> *.	DoP	Within 7 days so it can be laid in Parliament in 15 days
6.11	Public notice in a newspaper circulating throughout the State and also in a newspaper circulating in the Region, about the making of forest agreement and IFOA or amendment.	DoP	Within 7 days after it is signed
6.11	Copies of documents to made available for public inspection at the head office and other regional offices of the Department of Planning and other offices.	DoP	Within 7 days after it is signed
6.11	Copies of documents made available on the Internet by means of the website of the Department of Planning.	DoP	As soon as practicable after documents are made public
6.13 Att 6 (2h)	Preparation of data management agreement.	NPWS, SFNSW, NSWF, DoP	30 June 2002
6.13	Lodgement of all archival copies of data.	NPWS, SFNSW, NSWF, DoP	30 June 2002
6.15	Devise and implement a coordinated complaint handling and response system for the IFOA.	DoP, EPA, NPWS, NSWF	30 June 2002
6.16	Formation of a working group to make recommendations on the management and tenure of areas of <i>State forests</i> * that are isolated from the productive <i>State forests</i> *.	DoP, SFNSW, NPWS, DMR	30 June 2002
ATTACHMENTS			
Att 6 (2e) Att 6 (3) (forth dot point)	Establishment of Regional Vegetation Management Plans under the <i>Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997</i> ; to cover private lands and form a basis for strategic regional planning of private native forestry.	DLWC	On-going
Att 6 (2f)	Improving the coordination and effective use of resources allocated to research for ESFM in New South Wales.	SFNSW, DoP, NPWS, NSWF, EPA	On-going
Att 6 (2g)	Providing formal public participation processes to raise awareness and understanding of ESFM and how it can be achieved in New South Wales forests.	SFNSW, DoP, NPWS, NSWF, EPA	On-going
Att 6 (2h)	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.	SFNSW, DoP, NPWS, NSWF, EPA	On-going
Att 6 (2i)	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.	SFNSW, DoP, NPWS, NSWF, EPA	On-going
Att 6 (2j)	Developing and implementing public education programs to	SFNSW, DoP,	On-going

REFERENCE IN CLAUSE & ATTACHMENT	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBILITIES	COMPLETION DATE
	deal with ecologically sustainable management issues incl. management requirements for conservation and codes of forest practice governing activities in both public and private forests.	NPWS, NSW, EPA	
Att 6 (2l)	Incorporate into Regional ESFM Plans and plans of management under the NPW Act, provisions which addresses bush and other fires ensuring ecologically sustainable management of forests.	SFNSW, NPWS	30 April 2007
Att 6 (2m)	Incorporate into Regional ESFM Plans and plans of management under the NPW Act integrated feral animal and weed control programs.	SFNSW, NPWS	30 April 2007
Att 6 (2n)	Establish a process, including public reporting, for regular audits of compliance and reviews of Codes of Practice, Eco-Field Guides and Regional prescriptions.	SFNSW	31 December 2002
Att 6 (2n)	Undertaking audits of compliance at first and subsequent five-yearly reviews.	SFNSW	30 April 2007 and each 5 year review
Att 6 (3)	Improve administrative arrangements and cooperation and coordination by State agencies to facilitate the timber industry utilising private forest resources.	DoP, SFNSW, NPWS, DLWC	On-going
Att 6 (3) (first dot point)	Arrangements to ensure ESFM on private forests involving provision of technical advice, extension services, research and assistance in the estimation of Sustainable Yield.	DoP, SFNSW, NPWS, DLWC	On-going
Att 6 (3) (second dot point)	As a means of encouraging private forestry development, the State will develop a regulatory framework that enables a more efficient and integrated approval process to allow for effective private forestry development.	DoP, SFNSW, NPWS, DLWC	On-going
Att 6 (3) (third dot point)	Codes of Practice for private plantations and private native forests will be in place within five years. The State will also provide advice regarding marketing and pricing.	DLWC	30 April 2007
Att 6 (3) (fourth dot point)	With appropriate public involvement, and consistent with the <i>Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997</i> , the Regional Vegetation Management Committees will pursue planning policies that provide for appropriate long term, secure, management provisions for private native forests incl. harvesting for commercial wood production.	DLWC	On-going
Att 6 (3) (fifth dot point)	NSW will ensure that an integrated Code of Practice is developed for plantation activities across all tenures, under the <i>Plantations and Reafforestation Act 1999</i> . Existing plantations can also continue to obtain certainty for the purposes of harvesting as per the <i>Timber Plantations (Harvest Guarantee) Act 1995</i> , and similar provisions included in the <i>Plantations and Reafforestation Act 1999</i> .	DLWC	Code commenced on the 14 December 2001

REFERENCE IN CLAUSE & ATTACHMENT	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBILITIES	COMPLETION DATE
Att 6 (4)	Undertake a private forest inventory of southern NSW to determine the basis of yield of wood products from private land is required, with the agreement of forest owner groups.	SFNSW	On-going
Att 6 (5)	Publish all FRAMES CRA reports for Southern	SFNSW	Within six months of signing
Att 6 (6a)	Continue to develop a suite of computational tools to help manage NSW forests at operational scales for a range of values including wood yield, growth stage, water quality and quantity, natural and cultural heritage and wildlife habitat.	SFNSW	30 December 2010
Att 6 (6b)	Develop by the end of 2010, a model to predict recruitment and maintenance of habitat trees over time.	SFNSW	31 December 2010
Att 6 (6c)	Determine, based on review, field based sampling and principles of sustainability to determine the range of silvicultural regimes and prescriptions that can be appropriately applied to each strata or forest type.	SFNSW	30 April 2007
Att 6 (6c second dot point)	The FRAMES models will reflect the site-specific silvicultural regimes applied in Southern Region.	SFNSW	30 April 2007
Att 6 (7)	Establishment of an on-going FRAMES development program to include the listed elements.	SFNSW	31 December 2006
Att 6 (8 first dot point)	Commission and publish an independent review of the enhanced systems and process, models, information base, and assumptions which contribute to the FRAMES system applying to both the South Coast and Tumut subregions of the Southern Region.	SFNSW	31 December 2006
Att 6 (8 second dot point)	Undertake a review of sustainable yield every five years using enhanced FRAMES systems and information bases. The results of this will inform the annual volume which may be harvested from the Southern Region (or subregion), being mindful of achieving long-term sustainable yield and optimising sustainable use objectives consistent with this Agreement.	SFNSW	30 April 2007 and each 5 year review
Att 6 (8 third dot point)	Undertake independent audits of sustainable yield to be completed and published in time for each subsequent five-yearly review.	SFNSW	30 April 2007 and each 5 year review

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

MAP 1

South Coast Subregion of the Southern Region

MAP 2

Tumut Subregion of the Southern Region

Map 3

Draft SFNSW Managed Informal Reserves - South Coast Subregion (Map referred to in sections 2.3.1 and 2.3.3)

Map 4

Draft SFNSW Managed Informal Reserves - Tumut Subregion (Map referred to in sections 2.3.1 and 2.3.3)

Map 5

Hume and Riverina Regions of State forests and the South West Slopes Region of the National Parks and Wildlife Service

(Map referred to in section 5.1.4)