



Robyn Parker MP

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Heritage

MEDIA RELEASE

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HELP FOR PRIVATE LANDHOLDERS TO MANAGE NATIVE FORESTS

Environment Minister Robyn Parker today launched a new set of resources to help landholders manage their native forests sustainably.

The harvesting of timber for the purposes of private native forestry requires approval through a property vegetation plan that ensures environmental outcomes are improved or maintained.

Ms Parker said that the plan is a legally binding agreement between a landholder and the Environment Protection Authority.

“A series of DVDs and on-line videos developed by the EPA will help land owners understand their rights and responsibilities,” Ms Parker said.

“Ensuring a balance between timber supplies and maintaining environmental values is an important but often complex science.

“To guarantee that this resource is being managed sustainably, there are strict guidelines for landowners who manage native forests on their own land.

Ms Parker said the EPA issued around 500 private land logging licences - Private Native Forestry Property Vegetation Plans - to landholders every year.

“These free resources are yet another example of how the NSW Government is helping rural landholders and their contractors understand and meet environmental requirements,” Ms Parker said.

“The training DVDs and on-line clips are part of a \$10.1 million private native forestry funding package which was provided by the Environmental Trust.

“This package has helped around 300 landholders and logging contractors attend specialised training courses run by TAFE NSW, the Department of Primary Industries, Master Tree Growers and the EPA.”

The EPA has mailed out copies of the DVD to all landholders who have signed a private native forestry property vegetation plan in the last two years and all those who undertook training.

The clips are also now available on the EPAs website <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/pnf/trainingvideos.htm>

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