



The Special Species Management Plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Forestry (Rebuilding the Forest Industry) Act 2014* (the Act).

The plan sets out a management framework that supports the growth and sustainability of the Tasmanian forestry industry, specifically the harvesting and use of Tasmania's special species timber.

- other public land (predominantly unreserved land within the meaning of the *Crown Lands Act 1976*).

The plan only has the capacity to set requirements on future potential production forest land. For all other land described in the plan, the plan is a guidance document only.

What are the special species?

Special species timbers are prescribed under the Act. There is also the capacity to prescribe special species under regulations. The current list of special species timbers are:

- blackwood (*Acacia melanoxylon*)
- myrtle (*Nothofagus cunninghamii*)
- celery top pine (*Phyllocladus aspleniifolius*)
- sassafras (*Atherosperma moschatum*)
- Huon pine (*Lagarostrobos franklinii*)
- silver wattle (*Acacia dealbata*).

None of these species are listed under either Tasmanian or Australian threatened species legislation.

What land is included in the plan?

The plan addresses special species timber harvesting on public land where harvesting is provided for by legislation and consistent with existing statutory land management objectives. Therefore, the plan addresses special species timber resources on:

- future potential production forest land
- permanent timber production zone land
- conservation areas and regional reserves

How will the plan operate?

The plan integrates with Tasmania's existing forest management system. It does not replace or remove any existing requirements upon applicants and land owners, or change the operation of the Forest Practices System, which is applicable to timber harvesting operations across all land tenures in Tasmania.

The plan is an important element of the management framework for harvesting on future potential production forest land. In order to approve an application to harvest special species timbers on future potential production forest land, the Minister for Crown Lands must be satisfied that the special species harvesting will be consistent with the plan.

Frequently Asked Questions

Does the plan allow harvesting in reserves?

All areas of land covered by this plan are included because special species timber harvesting is specifically provided for on these land tenures/classes under current and previous legislation. The plan does not have the power to change the areas of land in which special species timber harvesting can occur.

The *National Parks and Reserves Management Act 2002* (NPRMA) sets out the management objectives for the different reserved land classes. Of the eight reserve classes, only conservation areas and regional reserves specifically provide for special species timber harvesting. The 'controlled use of natural resources' (which includes both mining and forestry), has been a management objective in these two reserve classes since prior to the commencement of the NPRMA in 2002.

Why is there a need for special species harvesting on land when trees can be salvaged from hydro storages?

The plan supports the growth and sustainability of the Tasmanian forestry industry, specifically the harvesting and use of Tasmania's special species timber resource. Salvage wood is an important component of future supply but, as a finite resource, cannot form the basis of long-term planning. The plan assumes that the salvage of wood from hydro storages will continue in parallel with terrestrial harvesting operations.

Does the plan allow clear felling of forests?

Harvesting of special species on future potential production forest land, conservation areas and regional reserves is restricted by law to partial harvesting only. No clear felling of special species is permitted on these tenures.

On other tenures, the type of harvesting techniques permitted will be restricted by the requirements of the forest practices system, as well as the requirements of individual land owners.

Will existing activities, such as bee keeping and tourism ventures, be affected by special species timber harvesting?

Applications for special species harvesting will require approval from the relevant public land owner. Land owners will continue to have responsibility for management of activities on their land, including consideration of how different activities interact.

Why doesn't the plan discuss the economics of special species harvesting?

The plan describes the terms on which access to special species timbers may be sought. It does not guarantee minimum supply levels. Economic considerations of harvesting are ultimately a matter for industry to consider and take into account when developing harvest proposals.

What volume of special species timbers will be harvested?

The plan identifies a total maximum annual harvest quantity for the land to which the plan applies. This volume represents the maximum volume of sawlogs that may be sustainably supplied from land covered by the plan.

The volume does not represent a supply target and, other than for future potential production forest land, it does not influence individual land owner decisions around specific applications. It does however provide a guide to Government in monitoring biological sustainability of special species harvesting.

Actual harvesting rates are expected to be lower than the maximum level taking into consideration forest practices requirements, silvicultural techniques used and land owner requirements.

Who should I contact if I'm thinking about developing an application to harvest special species timbers?

The plan provides information on the likely approvals required and the relevant contacts.

Potential applicants seeking to harvest on future potential production forest land should contact the Crown Land Services Manager on 6233 6413.

For more information contact:

Department of State Growth

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Email: specialspecies@stategrowth.tas.gov.au

Web: www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/specialspeciesmanagementplan