

Small planted woodlot forest practices plan

The Forest Practices Authority, Private Forests Tasmania, forest companies and landowners have worked together to develop a small planted woodlots forest practices plan (SPWFPP) which is simpler to develop and implement. This should save costs in the planning and implementation of forest operations.

Small planted woodlots are defined as a forest plantation or windbreak that is less than 10 ha in size on a single property and is located in an agricultural setting surrounded by cleared land. A property is defined as a block of land with a unique Property Identification Number (PID) which is usually indicated in a rates notice as a single rateable entity.

According to the [Forest Practices Act 1985](#) (the Act), an FPP is required for harvesting of timber or clearing trees unless the [Forest Practices Regulations 2017](#) provide an exemption.

The environmental risk of harvesting small planted woodlots (such as pine woodlots in open paddocks) is often negligible. However the environmental risk may be potentially significant in certain situations, particularly where the plantation is on or near vulnerable land such as streams, erodible soils, sinkholes, significant biodiversity or cultural heritage values. Consequently, an FPP is still required to manage these risks.

The normal [FPP](#) template should be used, but only the applicable sections need to be completed. For example, the relevant sections do not need to be completed where the area is not to be replanted and/or no roads are required to be constructed or upgraded.

In general, the SPWFPP is to be considered for certification on the basis that the applicant has followed some key steps in preparation of the FPP:

1. The forest owner or FPO has prepared a [checklist](#) (a pro-forma has been developed).
2. The special values assessments for [biodiversity](#), and [cultural heritage and soil and water](#) have been completed using a simplified approach provided by the FPA.
3. The [FPP](#) covers the essential operational elements and management of any special values and vulnerable land.
4. The FPP includes a clear map showing the important features and operational requirements according to the words in the plan.
5. All the application requirements according to s.18 of the [Act](#) have been met.

For further information on SPWFPPs please contact one of the following:

[Forest Practices Authority](#)

[Private Forests Tasmania](#)

A [Forest Practices Officer](#)