

9.2.2 Forestry for wood production code

9.2.2.1 Application

- (1) This code applies to assessing a material change of use for development involving cropping (where involving forestry for wood production) within the Rural zone.
- (2) When using this code, reference should be made to Part 5.

9.2.2.2 Purpose

- (1) The purpose of the code is to ensure forestry for wood production is assessed with equal regard to other forms of cropping, to guarantee long-term harvest and minimise impacts.
- (2) The purpose of the code will be achieved through the following overall outcomes:
 - (a) the use is appropriately located and setback from areas of environmental interest and existing infrastructure;
 - (b) the impacts on adjoining land uses are minimised;
 - (c) the risk of fire is minimised;
 - (d) expected harvest cycles, volumes, timescales and haulage routes, plus proposed wildfire management and the location of supportive infrastructure are known by local government, where development is assessable.

9.2.2.3 Criteria for assessment

Part A - Criteria for self-assessable and assessable development

Table 9.2.2.3.a – Forestry and wood production code – self-assessable and assessable development

Performance outcomes	Acceptable outcomes
For self-assessable and assessable development	
Setbacks	
<p>PO1 The establishment of the forest for wood production is located to minimise impacts (such as shading and falling trees) on infrastructure and areas of environmental interest.</p>	<p>AO1.1 The establishment of the forest for wood production is set back from existing infrastructure and areas of environmental interest in accordance with Table 9.2.2.3.b – Forestry for wood production setback distances.</p>
	<p>AO1.2 No cultivation and planting for wood production is to occur in the setback areas identified in Table 9.2.2.3.b. Road and track establishment and maintenance can occur.</p>
	<p>AO1.3 Self-propagated seedlings (wildlings) generated from the forest for wood production are eradicated from the setback areas identified in Table 9.2.2.3.b.</p>
Impacts on soil structure, fertility and stability	
<p>PO2 The impacts of the forest for wood production on soil structure, fertility and stability are minimised through appropriate management of the site.</p>	<p>AO2.1 The establishment and maintenance (including associated tracks and roads) of the forest for wood production utilises one or more of the following methods: (a) mechanical strip cultivation on the contour, spot cultivation or manual cultivation is used</p>

Performance outcomes	Acceptable outcomes
	<p>for establishment on slopes greater than 10 per cent and less than 25 per cent;</p> <p>(b) either spot cultivation or manual cultivation is used for establishment on slopes equal to or greater than 25 per cent;</p> <p>(c) tracks and roads are established away from natural drainage features and areas that are subject to erosion and landslips.</p> <p>AO2.2 Any part of a track or road established and maintained as part of the forest for wood production is appropriately drained and adopts the following measures:</p> <p>(a) establish and maintain a suitable surface;</p> <p>(b) drain the track or road with crossfall drainage (preferably with a slope greater than 4 per cent) or by shaping the track or road to a crown so that water drains to both of its sides;</p> <p>(c) establish and maintain drainage structures to convey water away from the track or road formation (for example, crossdrains, mitre drains, turnouts and diversion drains or relief culverts).</p> <p>AO2.3 Drainage water from tracks and roads established and maintained as part of the forest for wood production is directed away from exposed soils, unstable areas, and towards undisturbed ground and areas with stable surfaces.</p>
Fire risks	
<p>PO3 The risk of fire to adjoining premises and infrastructure is minimised through the provision of firebreaks and fire tracks and roads.</p>	<p>AO3.1 Firebreaks are established and maintained:</p> <p>(a) between the forest for wood production, adjoining premises and existing infrastructure;</p> <p>(b) at a minimum width from the base of the outside trees in accordance with Table 9.2.2.3.c Forestry for wood production fire break distances;</p> <p>(c) that are free of flammable material that is greater than 1 metre high;</p> <p>(d) to be accessible and trafficable for fire suppression vehicles.</p> <p>AO3.2 Fire access tracks and roads are established and maintained:</p> <p>(a) to a minimum width of 6 metres;</p> <p>(b) that are accessible;</p> <p>(c) that ensure no part of a plantation is more than 250 metres from a fire access track or road.</p>
For assessable development	
Cropping harvest, haulage and wildfire management	

Performance outcomes	Acceptable outcomes
<p>PO4 The local government is informed of the expected cropping harvest cycles, volumes, timescales and haulage routes, plus proposed wildfire management and location of supportive infrastructure.</p>	<p>AO4.1 When the forest for wood production area is greater than 10 hectares a management report is attached to the development application that contains the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) expected harvest cycles and estimated harvest timescales; (b) an estimated haulage route plan identify likely local roads for transporting the harvest to the primary destination/s; (c) proposed methods and supporting infrastructure location for managing wild fire (including an area map of the property location, adjacent roads and tracks, property entrances, location of fire access tracks and turnarounds on the property and location of water points in the area).

Table 9.2.2.3.b – Forestry for wood production setback distances

Aspect	Distance (measured from the base of the tree)
Areas of environmental interest	
Top of a defined bank of streams (gully, creek or river) that are represented on the 1:100 000 topographic map series in accordance with the stream order classification system.	Stream order 1 to 2: 5 metres; or Stream order 3 to 5: 10 metres; or Stream order 6: 20 metres.
State-owned protected areas and forest reserves under the <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i> .	10 metres
Protected vegetation under the <i>Vegetation Management Act 1999</i> .	10 metres
Infrastructure	
Dwellings	100 metres or such distance that ensures the dwelling is consistent with the requirements of AS3959-2009 and the Building Code of Australia.
Machinery sheds	25 metres or 1.5 times the maximum anticipated height of the tree at harvest, whichever is the greater.
Transmission lines and above-ground pipelines (excluding infrastructure servicing only the farm) not subject to an easement	25 metres or 1.5 times the maximum anticipated height of the tree at harvest, whichever is the greater.

Table 9.2.2.3.c – Forestry for wood production firebreak distances

Firebreaks	
Forestry for wood production activities less than 40 hectares	7 metres
Forestry for wood production of 40 hectares to 100 hectares	10 metres
Forestry for wood production greater than 100 hectares	20 metres, or a 10 metre break that is free of flammable material that is greater than 1 metre high followed by a 10 meter fuel reduction area where forestry for wood production trees are pruned up to a minimum height of 5 metres, commencing once trees are greater than 10 meters in height.