



## **Forestry Corporation of NSW - State Forest Boundary Fencing Guidelines**

Forestry Corporation of NSW (FCNSW) recognises the need to balance the environmental effects of clearing State forest with the fire protection and fencing needs of forest neighbours.

Permits to clear fencelines will be authorised following the consideration of a range of factors by FCNSW. The review will include a database search for cultural heritage sites, threatened flora and fauna species, threatened ecological communities and Forest Management Zones (FMZ's).

Subject to meeting Threatened Species and other Legislative requirements, neighbours will be permitted to clear trees and inflammable material from boundary fencelines for a variable width up to a maximum of 5.0 metres inside the State forest boundary in order to minimise the risk of damage to the fenceline from falling timber and wildfire. The approved width will be the minimum consistent with the needs of the neighbour and taking into account the environmental sensitivity and economic value of the forest.

Clearing width of timber cover will be restricted to a maximum of one blade width (3.0 metres) where the area contains merchantable timber or is zoned FMZ 2 or 3A. A lesser width will apply where it is practical to place the access track on the neighbour's side of the fence.

No vegetation can be cleared on State forest in an area mapped as Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) adjacent to your property boundary.

No vegetation can be cleared by machinery within 10.0 m either side of LPI mapped and displayed watercourses. No machinery operations are permitted within this zone but limited hand lopping of vegetation may take place, sufficient only to allow for erection of a fence.

Removal of trees by clearing along the fenceline is generally restricted to trees less than 20 cm diameter unless specifically authorised by FCNSW.

Neighbours can be given an authority to salvage posts free of charge from timber cleared from the fenceline providing it is not included in an area zoned FMZ 2 or 3A. The posts can only be cut from trees which have been cleared with a tractor, ie: trees are not to be felled prior to clearing.

Debris cleared from the fenceline is to be pushed into the adjoining freehold for subsequent disposal by the landholder where possible.

### **Safety Issues**

The neighbour is to certify that the tractor to be used for the clearing is fitted with a ROPS (Rollover Protection System), FOPS (Falling Object Protection System) canopy, OPS (Operator Protective Structure) and that the operator is competent.

Neighbours issued with a letter of authority to cut fence posts free of royalty from the fenceline being cleared are to certify that the person cutting the posts has the appropriate chainsaw competency.

For additional information and return of application:

Land Administrator  
Forestry Corporation of NSW  
PO Box 168  
WAUCHOPE NSW 2446

Phone: 02 6585 3774  
Email: [landadministration@fcnsw.com.au](mailto:landadministration@fcnsw.com.au)

**Application for a Permit to clear a State forest fenceline**

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

For the freehold area adjoining State Forest boundary to be cleared:

Lot No.(s): \_\_\_\_\_ DP No.(s): \_\_\_\_\_

***Please provide a map illustrating the boundary to be cleared.***

Name of State forest adjoining your property: \_\_\_\_\_

How do you intend to clear the proposed boundary? \_\_\_\_\_

Does any proposed machine have ROPS/FOPS/OPS protection? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the machine operator competent to undertake the work? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you require to salvage posts from the boundary clearing? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the chainsaw user competent for the work? \_\_\_\_\_

Does the chainsaw operator have chainsaw accreditation? \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

Forest Management Zones involved by distance:      Total Fence Distance: \_\_\_\_\_

FMZ:    (1)        (2)        (3a)    (3b)    (4)        (5)        (6)        (7)        (8)

Result of Threatened Species database search:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Result of cultural heritage database search:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Result of TEC search:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Is drainage-line protection necessary? \_\_\_\_\_

The proposed fenceline clearing is approved / not approved to proceed:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_