



Plantation Design Guidelines – Farm Forestry

Preamble

These guidelines apply to farm forestry plantations, up to and including 100 hectares in size. They are based on the Forest Owners Conference Plantation Design Guidelines, modified to reflect smaller plantations and match the standards and use the definitions contained in “Firebreaks and Fire Access Tracks – Guidelines for State Government Agencies” 1992 and updated in 2004.

Guidelines

Farm Forestry Plantations (ie 100 hectares or less)

1. Firebreaks

- 1.1 A firebreak is an effectively fuel-reduced area, which may include non-flammable strip(s), primarily managed to retard or prevent the spread of fire.
- 1.2 All plantations need an external boundary firebreak, this shall consist of either
 - 1.2.1 For plantations of 40 hectares or less
 - A 7 metre wide break (external to the plantation)
 - 1.2.2 For plantations of 40 to 100 hectares
 - A 10 metre wide break (external to the plantation)
- 1.3 A firebreak shall incorporate a vehicular access track (as specified in 2.1 to 2.4).

2. Vehicular Access – For Fire Trucks

- 2.1 All access tracks shall, where possible be a minimum of 7 metres wide to allow for the simultaneous access of two fire trucks. Pruning may be required to achieve a minimum clearance for fire truck access to 7 metres in width and 4 metres in height.
- 2.2 Vehicular access tracks shall where practicable, enclose individual plantation units not exceeding 40 hectares in size.
- 2.3 All access tracks shall, if possible, be aligned to provide straight through access at junctions.
- 2.4 If dead end tracks are necessary, they must be sign-posted and a turnaround provided.

3. Set-back of plantation edge from habitable dwellings

- 3.1 Set-back of plantation edge from habitable dwellings existing at the time of initial plantation development shall generally be a minimum of 35 metres combined with fuel reduction works within the plantation to provide a total of 50 metres, or the regional standard for native vegetation and revegetation areas, whichever is the lesser.

GENERAL

The above guidelines are to be viewed as minimum standards.