



Native Forest Management Workshop Series

A 5day Native Forest Management (NFM) Workshop Series that will implement a comprehensive knowledge and capacity building program based on demonstrating actual NFM processes and associated interaction with Grazing Land Management. The program will encourage the adoption of best practice forest management processes incorporating the protection and enhancement of biodiversity, fire management, state legislation, codes of practice, grazing land management, and forest management planning as part of whole of Property Management Planning.

The Series Agenda:

1st Field day

Introduction – Forest Management Legislation and Stand Measurement

- Objectives of the course
- Native Forest Legislation (VMA, IPA, PMAV's, etc)
- Recognising tree species and forest products in the field, their specifications and hierarchy of values
- Reading tree crowns, understanding crown placement, tree form, vigour and growth rates as well as indicators of stem faults, termites and other problems.
- Native forest assessment methods, stocking rates and forest health and the resultant evaluation of the condition of the stand and implications for forest management directions.
- Re-cap and evaluation

2nd Field day – Thinning Methodologies and Stand Improvement

- Re-cap of previous workshop
- When is a stand ready for harvest or treatment? (Standing volume, viability, species, product range, optimal diameter)
- Condition of the stand and implications for forest management directions. (Review)
- Landscape and its implications for forest Management including biodiversity, habitat and ecological values. Location of buffer and filter zones, exclusion areas, habitat trees, tracks, etc.
- Timber Stand Improvement (forest thinning) processes including tree marking for retention, stocking rates, treatment methods and costs.
- Enhancing native grasses and legume values, forest management and GLM
- Re-cap and evaluation

3rd Field Day – Preparing for Harvest

- Re-cap of previous workshop
- Marketing (potential buyers, their constraints/processes, products)
- Harvest access (Property access – power lines, bridges, low branches, sharp corners, grade, wet weather access, log-dump/loading/turn around area size and location, snig tracks, crossings)
- Harvest planning and management including planning for regeneration (seed, lignotuber or coppice), mapping, fire management, exclusion zones and maintenance ecological values.
- Tree marking for retention to ensure stand health, improve growth rates and maintain optimum site stocking rates considering site quality, product, species and management cycle
- Re-cap and evaluation

4th Field day – Post Harvest Management

- Re-cap of previous workshop
- Contractors, contracts, standing sales, log dump sale, mill gate sale
- Contractor management (accreditation, insurance, reputation)
- Stand protection, penalty clauses
- timber sales, values, product range
- Post harvest management (Fire, stand protection, removal of temporary crossings, track and dump drainage)
- Regeneration from seed, lignotuber or coppice, establishment, management and protection.
- Treatment after harvest (timing, methodology, stocking rates, species mix)
- Fire Management for fuel reduction, regeneration establishment and habitat and stand protection
- Re-cap and evaluation

5th Field Day - Planning

- Re-cap of previous workshops
- Writing a base harvest plan
- Forest management planning as part of Property management Planning, schedules, etc including fire regimes
- Re-cap and where to from here.
- Group evaluation of series

Follow up Field day

There will be a follow-up session, (at 6-12 months) preferably on a couple of participant's properties to review adoption and understanding.

Field day length

Ideally 4 – 6 hours per day allowing for landholder travel, two weeks in-between each module depending upon availability of attendees. Each module is to be delivered on a week day.