

Department of Environment
and Resource Management

DERM Forest Products
Pocket Facts 2011



Tomorrow's Queensland: strong, green, smart, healthy and fair

Toward 
Tomorrow's Queensland

 **DERM**
Forest Products

DERM Forest Products

– responsibly managing Queensland's native forest and quarry resources



Who we are

DERM Forest Products is a commercially focussed forestry business unit within the Queensland Department of Environment and Resource Management.

What we do

We manage native forest timber production and the sale of quarry materials from State forests, timber reserves and other State-controlled lands across Queensland under the *Forestry Act 1959*.

Our business goal is to maximise financial returns from the management of native forest products and quarry materials from State lands within environmental and community expectations. Our primary customers are timber processors and quarry operators.

We work in partnership with key industry, community and government stakeholders to ensure the responsible management and efficient use of Queensland's native forest and quarry resources for the benefit of all Queenslanders.

Cover photo: DERM Forest Products Principal Overseer Tony Barbeler (left) discussing hardwood timber supply issues with Darren Roberts of Woodford Timbers.

Performance summary

Product	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Hardwood sawlogs	95 472 m ³	87 316 m ³	71 762 m ³
Cypress sawlogs	117 955 m ³	121 865 m ³	119 909 m ³
Landscaping & fencing timber	12 665 m ³	13,310 m ³	6,714 m ³
Mining timber	494 m ³	166 m ³	142 m ³
Girders, corbels, piles & sills	4617 m ³	1202 m ³	707 m ³
Hardwood poles	4217 m ³	6227 m ³	7829 m ³
Other hardwood round timber	3000 m ³	2525 m ³	1779 m ³
Sandalwood	331 m ³	202 m ³	252 m ³
Total log timber	238 751 m³	232 813 m³	209 095 m³

Total quarry material	3 372 117 m³	3 409 890 m³	4 524 122 m³
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Australian Forestry Standard (AFS) performance indicators

Defined Forest Area ⁽¹⁾	3 417 414 ha	3 413 872 ha	3 256 182 ha
Volume of sawlog supplied to AFS chain-of-custody certified sawmills	36 269 m ³	79 546 m ³	108 348 m ³

Workplace injuries⁽²⁾

Number of lost-time injuries	4	3	2
Lost-time injuries per million work hours	18.6	17.8	13.4
Average days lost per injury	14	64.3 ⁽³⁾	2.5

(1) The Defined Forest Area (DFA) is the area of land to which DERM Forest Products applies the *Australian Forestry Standard AS 4708:2007*. DFA maps are available on the department's website <www.derm.qld.gov.au>.

(2) Work-related injuries accepted by WorkCover.

(3) While DERM Forest Products recorded only three work-related injuries during the year, those recorded required significant time off work.

Our key achievements for 2010–11



Forest harvesting safety

Under the *Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995*, DERM Forest Products has obligations to ensure its staff and customers involved in the sourcing of forest products from State lands follow the requirements of the *Forest Harvesting Code of Practice 2007*. The code outlines ways to manage exposure to risks relating to forest harvesting operations. To strengthen compliance with the code, the business unit's Forest Harvesting Safety Policy and audit procedures were revised. A series of training sessions were also conducted to ensure staff and persons working in harvesting areas adhere to safe work practices under the scope of the code.

Industry training to protect koalas

During 2010–11, DERM Forest Products extended its koala conservation training program to include its timber industry clients and their harvesting contractors in South East Queensland. The training provides the business unit's field staff and now timber industry contractors with the skills to identify the presence of koalas in native forests that are scheduled for selective harvesting. They can then take measures to ensure koalas are protected during harvesting operations. The more than 90 attendees at the voluntary training sessions demonstrated the timber industry's commitment to koala conservation.

Maintaining world standards

DERM Forest Products has maintained certification to the *Australian Forestry Standard AS 4708-2007* through annual independent surveillance audits of the business unit's forest management system. The standard is based on internationally recognised criteria for managing forests for timber production from environmental, social, cultural and economic perspectives.

Responding to myrtle rust

DERM Forest Products is actively working with other groups within DERM as well as Biosecurity Queensland to develop operating procedures and staff training to manage any potential impacts caused by the spread of myrtle rust on Queensland's native forest timber industry.

First detected in Queensland in December 2010, myrtle rust is a serious fungal disease that affects plants in the Myrtaceae family.

Achievement recognised

DERM Forest Products Principal Overseer Evan Digby was presented with a DERM 2011 Australia Day Achievement Award for his outstanding 30-year contribution to forest management. Evan led the introduction of electronic GIS map production in the South East Forest Management Area and extended the use of GIS technology to support forest management operations such as native forest harvest planning, and quarry and fire management.

Record quarry material sales

In 2011–12, DERM Forest Products staff managed the record sale of more than 4.5 million cubic metres of quarry material from State lands. Demand was driven by Queensland Government infrastructure and natural disaster recovery projects and by strong growth in the mines and energy sectors to meet their infrastructure requirements such as rail and port developments. During the year, DERM Forest Products commissioned a specialist geotechnical consultant to undertake a survey to locate significant new deposits of quarry material on State lands in south and western Queensland. The survey identified 30 deposits with the potential to meet forecast demand by the mining and energy sectors for critical infrastructure developments in the Surat and Bowen Basins.



Our products

Native hardwoods

DERM Forest Products sells log timber to regionally-based processing companies in line with the Queensland Government's timber supply commitments agreed with peak industry and conservation

groups under the South East Queensland Forests Agreement and the ongoing Statewide Forests Process.

In 2010–11, the business unit sold 71 762 cubic metres of native forest hardwood sawlog and 17 424 cubic metres of miscellaneous hardwood products to timber processors and other customers. Timber sales for the year were slightly below target due to continuing reduced demand by the building industry as well as disruption to harvesting operations caused by severe and protracted rain that brought devastating floods to Queensland.

Queensland's native hardwood species such as spotted gum (*Corymbia citriodora*) and blackbutt (*Eucalyptus pilularis*) produce strong, dense timbers that are extremely durable in exposed use. As such, they are well suited for use in building construction, bridge girders, electricity poles, landscape applications and decking. In recent years, Queensland's hardwood timbers have been also used to make outdoor furniture.

DERM Forest Products also sell Queensland sandalwood (*Santalum lanceolatum*), which is valued for its aromatic oil content. During 2010–11, 252 cubic metres of sandalwood was selectively harvested, processed and exported under export licence to Asian markets principally for the production of incense and joss sticks.



Cypress

Cypress (*Callitris glaucophylla*) is another key commercial species that DERM Forest Products manages for timber production on State-controlled land. The business unit supplies around 85 per cent of Queensland's cypress log timber. During 2010–11, 119 909 cubic metres of cypress was sold to the State's processors. Cypress log timber sales were also down on target due to low demand from the building industry and wet weather affecting harvesting operations.

Cypress is strong and durable with a light-brown, knotty appearance. It is widely used in house construction, including flooring and exposed uses such as decking, cladding and fencing.



Quarry material

Under the provisions of the *Forestry Act 1959*, DERM Forest Products sells quarry material from land where the material has been reserved to the State. During 2010–11, it sold over 4.5 million cubic metres of quarry material such as crushed aggregate, road base, sand, gravel, fill, landscape rock and pebbles.



Queensland's extractive industry sources about 10 per cent of its annual quarry material requirements from quarries based on State-owned lands through more than 200 active sales permits issued by DERM Forest Products. These supplies help support infrastructure, development and construction projects such as roads, railways, ports and dams.

Our forest management

DERM Forest Products is committed to the responsible management of State-controlled native forest resources and to maintaining forest management certification to internationally recognised standards.

To achieve these commitments, the business unit has implemented a systematic approach to forest management that drives planning and policy decision making, as well as the implementation and monitoring of operations, consistent with a continual improvement framework. DERM Forest Products' forest management system is certified to comply with the *Australian Forestry Standard (AFS) AS 4708-2007*. Certification to the standard independently verifies that timber production is managed in a professional and responsible manner that is environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable. The AFS is internationally recognised through the Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes (PEFC)—a global umbrella forest certification body.

DERM Forest Products' AFS certification provides its timber processing customers with a platform from which they can achieve chain-of-custody certification and demonstrate the environmental integrity of their products. In December 2007, the business unit began contributing to a fund developed to assist timber processors recover costs associated with achieving chain-of-custody certification. The support scheme, administered by Timber Queensland, concluded in September 2010 after assisting six of DERM Forest Products' native forest timber customers to achieve chain-of-custody certification.





DERM Forest Products Queensland, Australia

Operates a management system that complies with the requirements of the Australian Forestry Standard:

AS 4708:2007

The Scope of Certification is:

Commercial harvest and removal of native forest products and related activities on the DERM Forest Products Defined Forests Areas designated for this purpose.

Office locations: As detailed in Appendix 1.

Date of Issue: 14 August 2009
Expiry Date: 31 March 2012
Certificate Number: 14731-06
Certification Number: 14731
Certification Date: 14 August 2009


On behalf of the board members



To confirm the currency of this certificate please email certificate@ncsi.com.au
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DERM Forest Products locations

DERM Forest Products' dedicated staff operate from 23 centres covering four forest management areas⁽⁴⁾ across Queensland:

Central Office

Level 12, 400 George Street GPO Box 2454, Brisbane Q 4001
Telephone: (07) 3330 6225 Fax: (07) 3330 6236

Cypress Forest Management Area

Level 3, 30 Marble Street, PO Box 589, Dalby Q 4405
Telephone: (07) 4672 4830 Fax: (07) 4672 4850

North Forest Management Area

25 Mabel Street, PO Box 1138, Atherton Q 4883
Telephone: (07) 4095 7050 Fax: (07) 4091 5211

South East Forest Management Area

27 O'Connell Street, LMB 383, Gympie Q 4570
Telephone: (07) 5480 5355 Fax: (07) 5480 5302

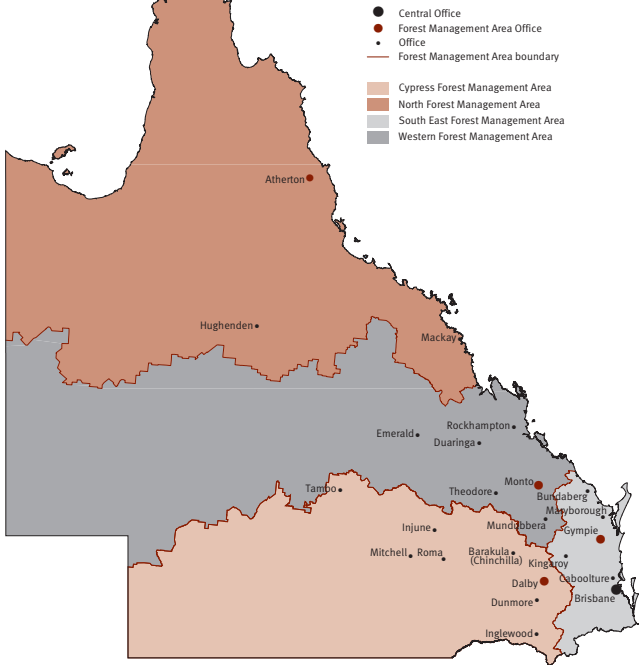
Western Forest Management Area

13 Rutherford Street, PO Box 219, Monto Q 4630
Telephone: (07) 4166 1433 Fax: (07) 4166 1871

For further information, email <forestproducts@derm.qld.gov.au> or visit the department's website <www.derm.qld.gov.au>.

(4) In late 2011, DERM Forest Products' North and Western Forest Management Areas will be amalgamated into one administrative area to improve the business unit's commercial performance and to better service changing customer needs.

DERM Forest Products Forest Management Areas



Committed to responsible forest management

In keeping with the AFS/PEFC certification of its own forest management system, DERM Forest Products uses only paper products sourced from forests that have been certified as responsibly managed.



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