



Parks, Conservation and Lands

Neighbourhood Notification of Harvesting Operations

Please be aware that commercial thinning (harvesting) operations will be undertaken in this vicinity.

- WHO:** ACT Parks Conservation and Lands (using appropriately qualified contractors)
- WHAT:** Commercial Thinning of pine trees
- WHEN:** Between 26 February 2010 and 30 November 2010
(*The exact date will be dependant on weather and production requirements*)
- WHERE:** Various compartments within Block 9/Sparrow, Kowen Forest (as per attached map).

Why are we thinning these areas?

Commercial harvesting of the ACT's pine plantations has been on hold since December 2004 when the salvage harvesting from the burnt plantations was completed. The loss of over 60% of the plantation required major renegotiation of contracts based on reduced volumes.

As a result of this lack of harvesting operations, much of Kowen Forest has slowed in growth and risks stopping altogether. Pine plantations require regular and timely thinning operations to provide enough light and moisture for the remaining trees to continue putting on volume and, therefore, value. Ultimately, if left un-thinned, these trees will start to deteriorate and could become dangerous to the many forest users in this area.

PCL rely on the cooperation of forest users to respect the safety aspects of this operation and to stay away from the operations. As logging trucks will be using the roads at potentially all times of the week (day or night), please take care exiting single tracks onto logging roads. Please ensure your vehicles do not block access into this area for logging trucks.

For more information, or if you would like to contact us during this operation, please call the Parks Conservation and Lands Forestry Coordinator:

*Peter Beutel on telephone 6207 5186 or email
Peter.Beutel@act.gov.au*

