

UPDATE ON LOGGING ACTIVITIES IN SOUTH COAST/SOUTHERN REGION MARCH 2009



Buckenbowra pre logging Jan 08



Buckenbowra logged March 09

The Southern Region runs from Nowra down to Cobargo and out to the Great Dividing Range. The unprotected State Forest areas total 200,000+ hectares.

From the March IFOA report we see that there are currently 15 different compartments being logged in the area, totalling 3071 hectares.

- Just south of Nowra, and very close to the coast, in the **Jervis Bay Catchment**, compartment 1040 of Currumbene SF is being logged, we suspect that most of the wood goes to the big firewood yard near Tomerong, but a fair proportion would also be heading down to the Eden chip mill.
- In the **Clyde River Catchment** four compartments are active: South Brooman 55 & 61, Currowan 222, and Yadbora 445.
- In the **Tomaga River Catchment** compartment 186 of Mogo SF is undergoing the AGS treatment. AGS means 'Australian Group Selection' in stumpy-speak; but to a normal bush observer it means mini clear fells dotted through the compartment. This style of logging is quite new to the coastal zone but we expect it will become the norm as supplies for the chipper dwindle.
- Wandera 586 has been active since 7 May 08, part of the ongoing logging of the eastern area of this SF in the **Deua River Catchment** area. Once done there we expect they will head out to the western side of Wandera into more contentious territory.
- In the **Tuross River Catchment** there are four logging operations active: compartments 3020 and 3067 of Bodalla SF. Local reports inform us that the 3020 logging is heavily targeting red wood species which is interesting because it is not preferred by the chip mill... And in Dampier SF compartments 3123 & 3231 are current; these Dampier compartments mostly tend to be in original condition, or to have been only lightly logged in the past.
- Out west along the Divide there are four Tallaganda compartments in operation: 2217, 2218, 2413, & 2416. This will nearly complete the logging of the Mulloon Basin in northern Tallaganda, which used to be old-growth until Palerang Road was bulldozed through a couple of years ago. Compartments 2413 & 2416 are in the roading stage, meaning more old growth to be logged soon. Records show that

since the RFA started about 75% of Tallaganda has been logged. Both the **Murray River** and the **Shoalhaven River** have their headwaters in the Tallaganda forest.

There are twenty compartments reported as pending for future disturbance, totalling over 2900 hectares, all slated to be underway in the next 12 months. It must be remembered that any compartment can be logged anytime once a harvest plan is approved.

Tony Whan South East Forest Rescue