

ForestrySA

About Us



Government
of South Australia



ForestrySA

www.forestrysa.com.au

Our Vision

To be a leading forestry business

Our Mission

To promote a sustainable and profitable forestry business, marketing quality products and services that maximises value consistent with our Charter

Our Strategic Goals

Maximise returns through business development
Continue to improve business productivity
Develop organisational culture and reputation

Forestry in South Australia

ForestrySA manages the state owned plantation resource which primarily consists of *Pinus radiata* in the Green Triangle, the Mount Lofty Ranges and the Mid North Regions. The Head Office for ForestrySA is located in Mount Gambier.

South Australia was the first state in Australia to develop and commercialise radiata pine plantations and was the earliest commercial manufacturer of radiata pine-based paper and particleboard.

Environment

ForestrySA is committed to the economic, environmental and social aspects of sustainable forest management practice.

To optimise efficiency and reduce risk, ForestrySA has an integrated Forest Management System which includes the quality, environment and sustainable forest practice requirements of the Australian Forest Standard (AFS) AS 4708 and the international standard for Environment, ISO 14001.

Softwood

ForestrySA is responsible for the management of approximately 94,000 hectares of primarily radiata pine plantation in the Green Triangle and Ranges Regions.

Our annual planting program is maintained at about 2,500 hectares per annum principally in the Green Triangle. Opportunities for forest expansion are also being realised through an annual program of land purchase for new plantations.

A large number of building products are manufactured by ForestrySA's softwood customers including structural timber, engineered wood products and wood panelling. Our plantation timbers are also used to manufacture tissue and other paper products.

Hardwood

ForestrySA manages two Joint Venture hardwood plantation programs in the Green Triangle Region, both growing bluegums to produce woodchips which will be exported through the Port of Portland to Japan to produce high quality paper.

Research and Development

A forest research program is maintained by ForestrySA to improve wood growth and timber characteristics, lower costs and better manage risk through adaption. The program also seeks to support industry activities with a range of trials and activities jointly funded by ForestrySA and the State Government.

Conservation

ForestrySA manages and protects some 25,000 hectares of native forest in South Australia.

A number of these areas, including the Mount Gawler Native Forest in the Mount Lofty Ranges and Honans Native Forest in the Green Triangle represent areas of high conservation and biodiversity value. There is no harvesting of timber from native forests.

Each Native Forest Reserve has a specific management plan to ensure that conservation and environmental values are recognised and managed accordingly.

Recreation

South Australia's forests are a significant open space and tourism resource that contain diverse landscapes of forest, geography, open spaces and heritage areas.

Each year more than two hundred thousand day visits are undertaken in the Mount Lofty Ranges and Mid North Forest Reserves. These forests provide a wide range of opportunities and places that we can all enjoy including outdoor recreation, conservation of native forests, water catchments, habitat for native flora and fauna, and plantation grown timbers.

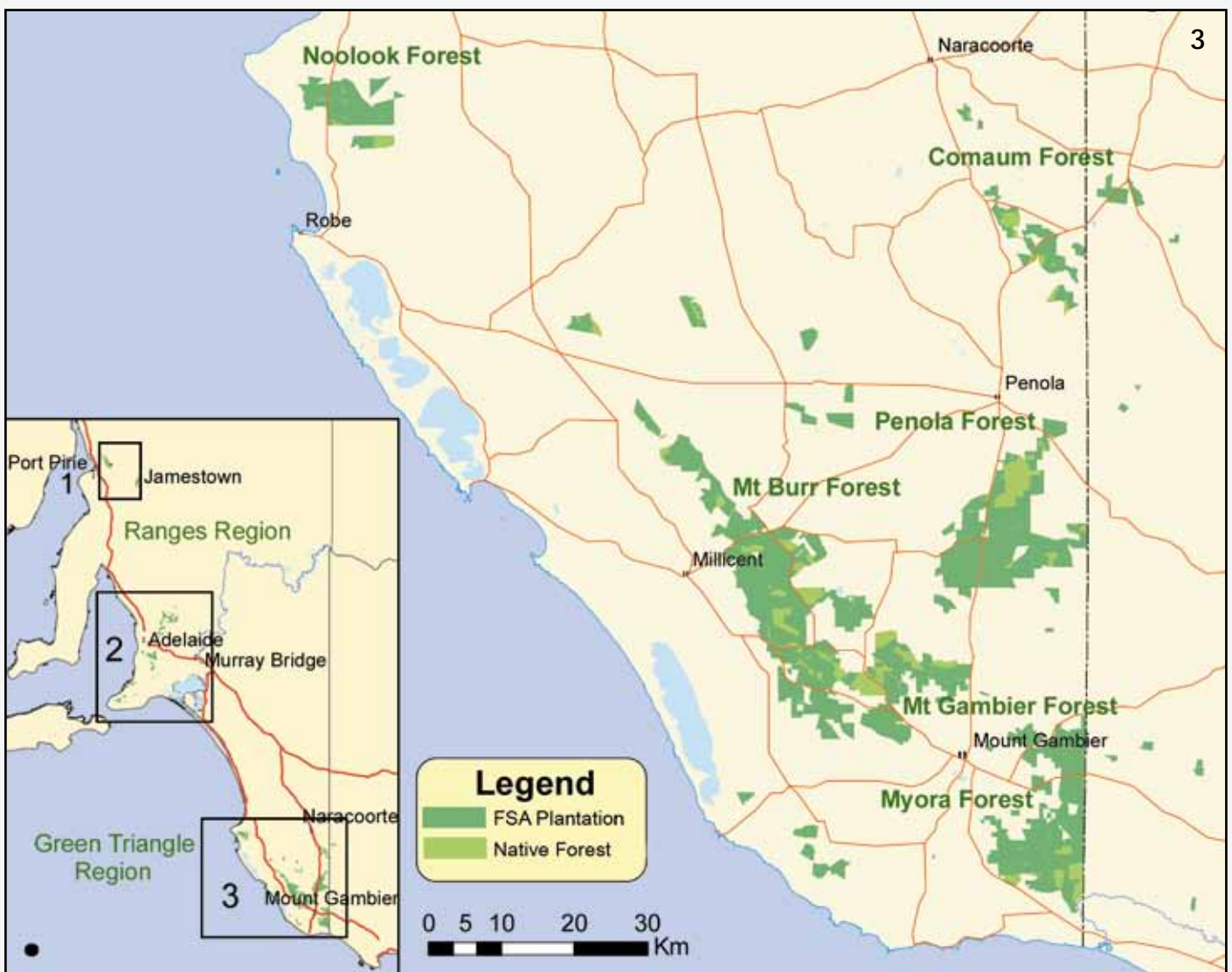
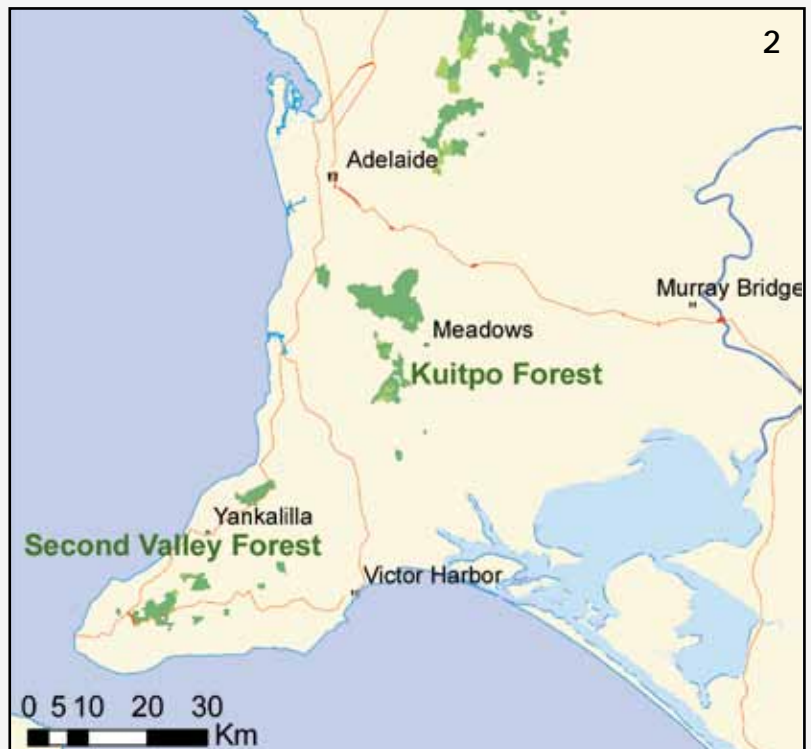
The forests at Bundaleer and Wirrabara are also popular and provide visitors with opportunities to see spectacular country in the Southern Flinders Ranges. In the Green Triangle recreational activities include bush walking and cave diving (subject to licence agreements).

To ensure the protection of these forests and valuable community assets from fire, camping and barbecues are not allowed during the fire danger season. All forest reserves are closed to the public on declared Total Fire Ban days. In the event of fire call 000.

Further information is available on the ForestrySA website at www.forestry.com.au.



Forest Maps





Our Role

- Maximise the value of the business
- Manage plantation forests for commercial production using best practice standards
- Undertake, and where appropriate commercialise, forestry related research
- Foster and support the growth of an internationally competitive forestry industry
- Encourage and facilitate regionally based forestry economic activities
- Participate in regional resource protection
- Manage protected environments for community benefits



Our History

- 1873 "Forest Trees Planting Encouragement Bill" to encourage tree planting in South Australia.
- 1875 First Forestry Board appointed with G.W. Goyder as Chairman
- 1876 Planting begins at Bundaleer, Wirrabarra and Mount Gambier
- 1882 South Australian Woods and Forests Department formed
- 1889 First Arbor Day in Australia in Adelaide (June 20)
- 1899 Planting begins at Kuitpo in the Mount Lofty Ranges
- 1902 Milling commences at Wirrabara in the Mid-North
- 1907 Planting of large areas of radiata pine in the South East
- 1909 Planting begins at Mount Crawford
- 1910 Government land purchases for forestry totals 45,290 Ha
- 1931 Government sawmill at Mount Burr commenced operation
- 1935 South Australia Forestry Royal Commission
Expansion of plantation
Reservation and management of native forest areas
- 1939 Zinc deficiency in soils identified as cause of dieback and rectified
- 1941 First annual surplus of income over expenditure payment to South Australia Treasury
- 1942 Wood pulp production commences using small logs from thinning operations
- 1957 Particle board production begins in South Australia
- 1958 Wandilo Fire, eight employees killed in a fire storm event
- 1960 Kimberly-Clark Australia opens its first tissue plant at Millicent
Pressure preservation timber used for electricity and communication poles
- 1970 Start of implementation of solutions to stop second rotation productivity decline
- 1973 ForestrySA stops clearing of native forest for new plantation establishment, ahead of the South Australian Government's Native Vegetation Act in 1985
- 1982 First RFW Fire trucks put into service
- 1983 21,000 hectares of pine plantation destroyed in Ash Wednesday fires, thousands of tonnes of wood salvaged and stored in Lake Bonney
- 1992 Bleached pulp produced from plantation radiata pine at KCA mill in Tantanoola
First softwood chip exports
- 1993 State owned sawmills sold to Carter Holt Harvey
- 1995 First use by ForestrySA of aerial water bombing in fire control
- 1999 First Bundaleer Forest Festival Weekend
- 2001 South Australian Forestry Corporation established (trading as ForestrySA)
- 2002 Certification to international environmental standard ISO 14001
- 2004 Record harvest of 1.8 million cubic metres of log from ForestrySA plantations
Certification to Australian Forestry Standard (AFS) AS 4708
First ForestrySA Wood Sculpture Competition
FireKings replace RFW fire trucks
- 2007 New ForestrySA Head Office opened in Mount Gambier
Commencement of use of containerised seedlings
- 2008 Increase sawlog harvest to 1 million cubic metres
Use of LiDAR as the basis for plantation productivity assessment
- 2009 Recertified to AFS Standard AS 4708
- 2010 Review of harvest strategy and increase in Green Triangle sawlog production capacity to 1.1 million cubic metres

Contact Us

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