

NOTE All discussions are based around 12,500 cubic metres of timber not the actual amount used or contracted supply figures

IVG Capstone report

there are considerable uncertainties as to the levels of sustainable supply for specialty timber which can be generated for various conservation/reservation scenarios and associated harvesting and utilisation structures. Only limited modelling has been undertaken and consequently there are considerable uncertainties associated with future supply levels. Page 9

Advice to Intergovernmental Taskforce on the independent verification process and agreement by the Reference Group of Signatories

In undertaking this work, the independent verification process will verify wood supply requirements (including for specialty timber) at a statewide and regional level taking into account the wood supply guarantees in Clauses 17 and 18 of the Intergovernmental Agreement, contracts and actual usage (including at a regional level) based on the best available information from Forestry Tasmania and other industry sources. – page 2

Wood supply work plan

provide a detailed assessment of options for increased special timber recovery including improved salvaging, a species by species précis on its distribution, and alternative sustainable harvest options, sustainable yields and standing volumes. Page 2

The Independent Verification Group will, as required by the clause 20 of the intergovernmental agreement and paragraph 2 of the terms of reference, assess and verify stakeholder claims with respect to sustainable timber requirements, including those for specialty timbers and regional sawmillers. – page 2

Review of Tasmanian Forest Estate Wood Supply Scenarios – Burgman and Robinson

2.3.2.1 Specialty Timber

*Specialty timbers arise in several different forest types and encompass a range of species (Figure 1 and Figure 2). The June 2011 report adopted the supply targets outlined in the Special Timbers Strategy (Forestry Tasmania 2010) of 10,000 m³/yr for Blackwood sawlogs, and 2,500 m³/yr of special timbers other than Blackwood for the ten-year period to 2019. **This supply will be sourced from the Special Timbers Zone defined in the Special Timbers Strategy.** The non blackwood special timbers will be sourced, at very low rates, primarily from non-swamp areas in the Special Timbers Zone. – page 13*

The development of the scenarios for specialty timbers is beyond the scope of this report as there is insufficient data on growth and yields and we therefore cannot verify claims regarding this resource. The Special Timbers Strategy identifies an area of 20,000 ha of mature wet eucalypt forest that would be managed on a long

rotation (200 years) for Special Timbers production. A proportion of this area falls within the 572,000 ha of proposed new reserves. **Of the total of approximately 98,000 ha that contain Specialty Timbers, approximately 64,000 ha (OR 65%) falls within the proposed new reserves (Figure 2). We could not assess the relative quality of the available resource in different areas, or the potential for areas outside FT's Special Timber Zones to supply specialty timbers (see below).** – page 13



There were insufficient data on growth and yield of specialty timbers to include specialty timber objectives in subsequent analyses. Page 48, Scenario 1

Socioeconomic impacts of forest industry change: a baseline study of the Tasmanian forest industry – Schirmer et al - July 2011 page XVii

“any loss of access to high conservation areas of native forest is likely to substantially impact supply to the industry as many SST areas are located in high conservation areas. Businesses are already experiencing stress due to the decline in tourism, and have limited financial capacity to adapt to change, as well as high reliance on a very specific wood resource that is not readily substitutable.”

“While recognising the significance of the woodcraft sector, we did not have sufficient resources to carry out a full social assessment.” – page 98.

“The sector is also vulnerable after already experiencing decrease in access to SST resources. The Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement led to a reduction in availability from 22 390m³ SST sawlog in 1999/2000 to 13 300m³ SST sawlog in 2006/07 with an additional allocation of 515 tonnes of craftwood (Bruekner-Leech, quoted by Farley et al. 2009, p. 3). In addition, concerns have been reported about reduced quality in the SST logs available (Farley et al. 2009).”–page 98

INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION GROUP SOCIO-ECONOMIC WORK STREAM RELEVANT TO TASMANIAN FOREST INTER-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT (IGA)

3. Twenty three long term contracts (to 2016) for a log volume 19,230 m³ per year for specialty timbers. Page 2

The treatment of specialty species timbers in Jobs and Investment Changes Model is at an aggregated level. The Model, at current stage of development, does not capture at sufficient detail the complex supply chain structures and varied products produced (required) to service markets. In addition there are considerable uncertainties as to the levels of sustainable supply for specialty timber (both in aggregate and by species) which can be generated for various conservation/reservation scenarios and associated harvesting and utilisation

structures. Only limited modelling has been undertaken and consequently there are considerable uncertainties associated with future supply levels. – page 2

During the IVG process participants using specialty species timber indicated that the volume of 12,500m³/yr was inadequate to support current requirements of industry.

Traditional supply levels for specialty species timber from Tasmania's native forest appears to have averaged around 16,000 m³/yr over the last five years (refer to Table 3.10, Appendix 2 – Sustainable Forest Management, Forestry Tasmania 2011). – page 6

