

Providing Australian timber for Australians



Australia's forests are sustainably managed. In fact, Australia's timber industries comply with strict environmental regulation resulting in world class forest management.



As a society we have demands for timber and wood products – for building, furniture, paper, books and magazines, firewood and the list goes on...

As a responsible global citizen, with an abundance of natural resources and sustainable management practices, Australia has a social responsibility to produce as much of its own needs as possible.

There is a moral imperative to ensure that we do not become dependent on third world countries to provide our wood resources.



Did you know:

In Indonesia, as much as 50 million cubic metres of timber are thought to be illegally cut down each year

At least 20% of Russia's annual timber harvest is taken illegally

Illegal harvesting may account for as much as 50% of the total harvest in east Asia

In Cambodia, the volume of illegally harvested logs was ten times that of the legal harvest

In Cameroon and Mozambique about half of the annual timber harvest is illegal

In Brazil, an estimated 80% of timber extracted each year in the Amazon is removed illegally

Source: Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (2005)



If we don't use Australian timber where will we get our timber requirements from?



www.tastimber.tas.gov.au

Support Australia's Sustainable Forest Industries - Help Stop Illegal Logging

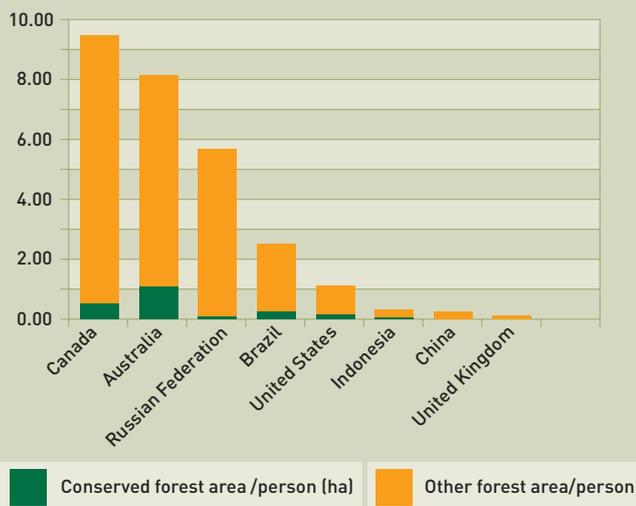
Illegal Logging

Australia imports approximately A\$440 million of forest products from illegally logged sources, predominantly in the Asia-Pacific region, each year. Illegal logging destroys forest ecosystems, threatens endangered

species, rewards lawbreakers and unfairly competes with products from sustainable forests. Illegal logging disadvantages our own timber industry, which is legally and sustainably managed for future generations.

Australia's Forest Resource

Australia has an abundance of natural resources, particularly forests. Australia has 4% of the world's forests and the second highest forest area per capita (8.15 hectares per person) of the ten most forested countries in the world.

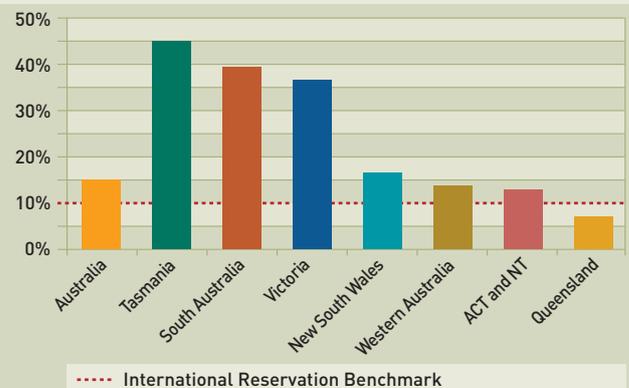


Source: Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry (2005)

Tasmania's High Forest Reservation

Comparative studies show that Australia's forest management is among the best in the world, especially in terms of areas reserved and codes of practice for production forests. The international benchmark for forest reservation, established by the World Wildlife Fund and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), is 10%. Tasmania has 45% of its forests in formal reserves.

Forest Reservation in Australia



Source: Food and Agriculture Organisation (2005)

Australia's Sustainable Forestry Program

Throughout Australia, there are strict environmental controls on the planning and conduct of timber harvesting operations. These controls ensure that issues such as biodiversity, water quality and flow, cultural heritage and landscape are protected. In Tasmania these controls mean that a further 20% of potential harvestable forest is

excluded from harvesting. In addition operations are monitored to ensure conformity with the plan and operating guidelines with breaches penalised.

Many international forest experts consider Australia to be a leader in sustainable forest management practices.

With an abundance of natural resources and sustainable management practices, Australia has a moral obligation to produce as much of its own needs as possible.