



MEDIA RELEASE

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Karri salvage operation welcomed,

It has been over a year since the Northcliffe fires devastated over 5,000ha of karri regrowth forests, a future timber source for the WA forest products industry.

Unfortunately a combination of factors including a build-up of heavy fuel loads in native forests caused the 2015 Northcliffe fire to burn severely and with intense heat.

“Fires like the one we witnessed in Northcliffe have the potential to permanently damage the forest by incinerating the seed beds. The Executive Director of the Forest Industries Federation of WA, Melissa Haslam said today

“This appears to be the case in Northcliffe with minimal natural recovery over the past 12 months.

The Forest Industries Federation welcomed the Ministers announcement that 100ha of the karri forest devastated by the 2015 Northcliffe fires will be salvaged and regenerated.

“While only a small amount of the total regrowth forest that was lost will be salvaged, at least this salvage operation will make way for new seedlings to be planted before winter which will be managed to provide a valuable future supply of timber for the industry.

While FIFWA welcomed today’s announcement, the industry is calling for more prescribed burns and mechanical fuel reduction trials around assets including timber reserves and plantations to reduce the impact of fires on the industry in the future.

Melissa Haslam
Executive Director

FOREST INDUSTRIES FEDERATION WA INC
U1 Abridge House, 5 Turner Ave BENTLEY WA 6102
PH: 08 9472 3055 FAX: 08 9472 3155 EMAIL: info@fifwa.asn.au