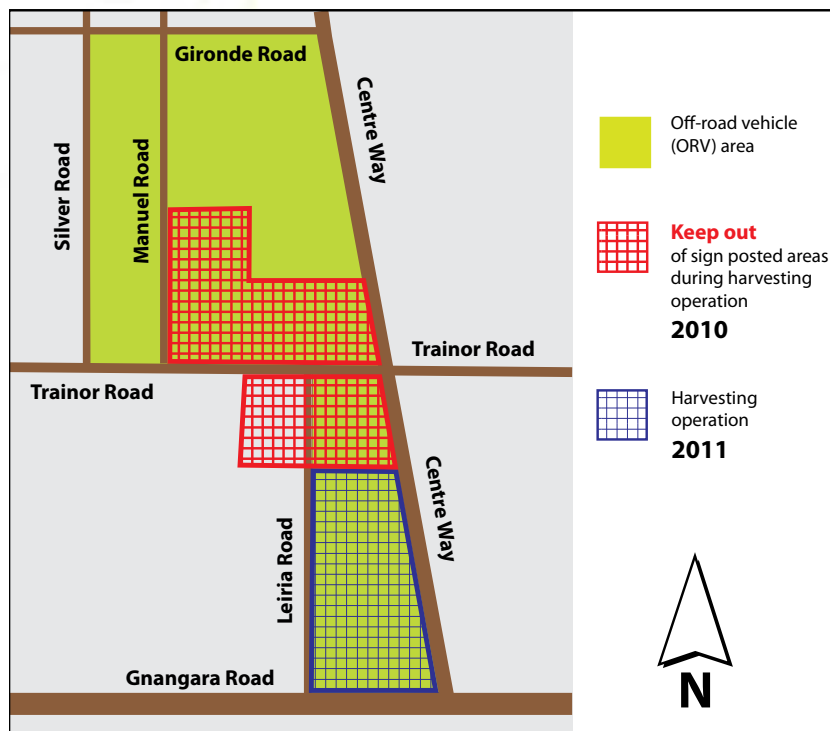


HARVESTING NOTICE

Gnangara off-road vehicle (ORV) area

The Forest Products Commission (FPC) will harvest sections of the Gnangara off-road vehicle (ORV) area between August and September 2010. The harvesting operation is expected to take up to eight weeks.

A second harvesting operation is to be conducted in winter of 2011. The map below defines the areas to be harvested.



Keep out of harvest areas

During harvesting operations, sections of the ORV area will be closed temporarily to ensure the safety of all riders. Areas designated as off-limits during harvest will be clearly demarcated by 'No Unauthorised Access' signs around the perimeter.

Entering declared work site areas is a criminal offence. Trespassers may be prosecuted. They may also be exposed to hidden dangers within the area.

Machinery working hours will be restricted to weekdays only. No operations are planned for weekends or public holidays.

The parts of the ORV area not affected by harvesting operations will remain open. The Pinjar ORV area opposite Barbagallo Raceway can be used as an alternative option.

Why harvest in this area?

The pine trees in the Gnangara area were originally planted in order to supply timber to local softwood timber mills and processing centres. The harvested timber will be used for furniture, structural and engineered timbers such as laminated veneer lumber (LVL), as well as joinery and decking. Many of you will already have these items in your homes.

Unlike unsustainable materials such as metal, concrete, brick, glass and plastic, timber is a renewable, carbon-friendly resource. As trees grow they absorb carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the earth's atmosphere. When the tree is harvested the carbon remains 'locked up' in the wood even when it is used for building products and furniture.

What happens after harvesting?

A post-harvest burn will be required to reduce the additional fuel loading created by the harvesting operation. The burn will occur after the harvest operation in preparation for the following summer. The timing of the burn is dependent on factors including suitable weather conditions as well as the dryness of the remaining material.

Post-harvest burns are not designed to consume all remaining residue. They are designed to target flash fuels (such as pine needles and small to medium size branches) that could allow a wildfire to rapidly develop in the wrong conditions.

The Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) has responsibility for management and future land use of the harvested compartments within the Gnangara Plantation. Questions and enquiries on these matters can be directed to their Wanneroo office on 9405 0700.



Things to remember:

- Only sections of the ORV area will be temporarily closed during the harvesting operation.
- Obey the 'No Unauthorised Access' signs and keep out of operational areas. Failing to do so is a criminal offence and trespassers may be prosecuted. They may also be exposed to hidden dangers within the area.
- Ride with caution! Be mindful of your surroundings and note that heavy machinery will be operating in this area.

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