

FORESTS COMMISSION, VICTORIA

MELBOURNE, VIC. 3002.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE 63/1834 1st March, 1972.

TELEPHONE 63 0321

EXTENSION No. 7041

TELEGRAMS: FORESTCOM. MELB.

Mr. L. B. Williams,  
Officer in Charge,  
WORKING PLANS BRANCH.

re: Draft cutting plan for the Steavenson  
Block - Marysville Forest District.

1. The attached plan provides for an increase in the productivity of a district with limited sawlog resources by proposing (a) salvage logging to supply sawlogs and pulpwood from previously cutover stands of predominantly mature and over mature ash type forest and (b) regeneration of these areas following completion of logging. The annual sawlog volume cut under the plan for the first 5 year period is expected to vary in the range of 525,000 to 850,000 s.ft. HLV. ✓
2. The proposed area is within about 10 miles from Marysville and within 60-70 miles of Melbourne. It is considered to have a high priority for the type of operations outlined in the plan. ✓
3. The basis of the plan is comprehensive and appears to be sound. I agree with the concept of regenerating more or less a constant area each year rather than attempting to obtain regular levels of output. Safeguards for the protection of water catchment and scenic resources also appear to be adequate. ✓
4. Preliminary discussions with the Silvicultural Officer and the ~~Log~~ Allocation Officer suggest that there are unlikely to be any major silvicultural or sawlog allocation problems provided that pulpwood is cut from the area. ✓
5. As indicated in the plan, the harvesting of pulpwood is the key to the success of finding an economic amount of sawlogs and also obtaining effective regeneration treatment. A pulpwood output of 1500 cunits per year is assumed from the proposed operations. ✓
6. This anticipated level of 1500 cunits per year starting in 1972/73 has already been included in the current A.P.M. Plan of Utilization. This together with an expected output of 1500 cunits/year from an existing program at Mt. Margaret gives a total expected annual output of B class pulpwood of 3000 cunits/year for the Marysville district. ✓

7. This current A.P.M. Plan of Utilization is due for review before the end of June 1972. Judging from the Company's present reluctance to cart pulpwood to Maryvale over a similar distance of 120-130 miles at Heyfield, A.P.M. might not want such a large amount of pulpwood from Marysville.
8. However, I consider that the Steavenson Block proposal is an important project and it should be endeavoured to get the Company to take the full 3000 cunits per year even if the Heyfield project lapses because of it. Also there is the added incentive of getting the Company to operate over the full area in which they have exclusive rights for pulpwood - particularly when the operation itself has particular merit such as in this case.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended -

- (i) That the approval of the Chief of Division of Forest Management be sought for the plan as proposed in the report of 14/12/71 for implementation starting in 1972/73 subject to satisfactory arrangements being made to harvest the pulpwood as outlined in the report.
- (ii) That A.P.M. be requested to take 3000 cunits per year of B class pulpwood from Marysville district in the Plan of Utilization to be drawn up by June 1972 for the period July 1972 - June 1977.

*This has been arranged  
9/10/72*

*Scawen*

Working Plans Officer.

*General authorisation of the cutting plan to await negotiation of a suitable pulpwood quota for Marysville.*