

MCAV Timber Policy and Statement

In November 2019 the State Government announced that native forest logging would be phased out across the state by 2030, with logging of old growth forests to cease immediately. The MCAV believe it is short-sighted and irresponsible to stop all utilisation of public land to the detriment of a balanced and sustainable Victorian industry and resource.

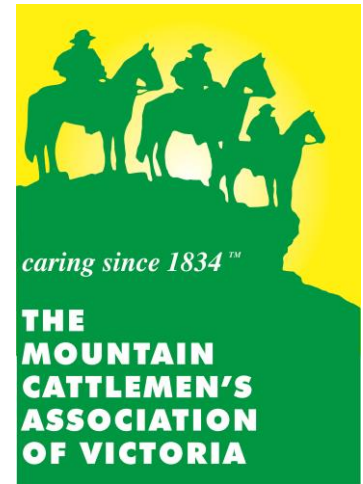
We firmly believe:

- That native forest and plantation harvesting should continue in environmentally sound quantities, and that those quantities should be decided by a panel of credible and knowledgeable bush users, including from within the logging industry
- That additional State Government investment needs to be made to further promote and encourage new participation in the Victorian Farm Forestry sector
- That those within the forest industry continue to be actively recruited for their help in fighting bush fires
- That jobs within the timber industry be retained through the continuation of native timber, farm forestry and plantation harvesting; and
- That all timber that can be harvested locally should be.

We do not accept:

- That native forest logging should be phased out unnecessarily
- That Blue Gum plantations are a suitable replacement for plantation hardwood
- That plantation timber is a suitable replacement for appearance grade timber, as preferred by the construction industry
- That now-mature trees planted as part of farm forestry be left unharvested
- That Australia's demand for construction and appearance grade timber should be sourced from Asia where environmental regulations are far less stringent.

An extended timber statement, which details both the MCAV's position on the industry and questions left unanswered by the State Government, is available.



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