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## Timber harvesting begins in Mumbulla State Forest

29 Mar 2010

Harvesting operations will begin in [Mumbulla State Forest](#) north east of Bega this week.

The compartments planned for harvesting have a gross area of 441 hectares, of which 243 hectares are available for harvesting. This represents 3.9% of Mumbulla State Forest.

The two compartments, to be harvested over the next six months, will be closed to the public for safety reasons.

“The harvesting contractors will be using heavy machinery to snig logs to loading areas where they will be debarked and placed on trucks,” said Forests NSW Southern Region manager Ian Barnes.

“This can be a hazardous operation if there are people on the ground nearby.

“The forest closure is a precaution whenever there is a potential safety risk to forest workers because of people deliberately entering a harvest area.

“Only approved visitors to the site who undertake a site induction are permitted to enter the closed area.”

Mr Barnes said Forests NSW officers may issue penalty infringement notices to any people contravening the closure and they may also be subject to police action.

The closed area will be clearly signposted. Where necessary, an alternative access route will be provided to Mumbulla Creek Falls Picnic Area.

There has been no evidence of koalas found in the current harvesting area in the west of Mumbulla State Forest.

“The koala activity found in the recent two-year survey was in the east of the forest,” Mr Barnes said.

“Ecology teams have surveyed each compartment and found no evidence of koalas.

“Should any evidence of koala activity be found during the harvesting event, the requirements for protection under the threatened species licence will apply.

“The forest forms part of the timber supply provided for under the Eden Regional Forest Agreement between the NSW and Commonwealth governments.

“Thinning and integrated operations will yield essential high value sawlogs for industry in the southeast.”

### Further reading

[Forests NSW - Sustainable forest management](#)

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