



New South Wales

Forestry Amendment (Timber Harvesting Safety Zones) Bill 2023

Explanatory note

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to amend the *Forestry Act 2012* (the *principal Act*) to—

- (a) establish offences relating to certain areas in which timber harvesting operations are carried out (*timber harvesting safety zones*), and
- (b) increase the maximum penalties for certain obstruction offences.

Outline of provisions

Clause 1 sets out the name, also called the short title, of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act on the date of assent to the proposed Act.

Schedule 1 Amendment of Forestry Act 2012 No 96

Schedule 1[1] inserts proposed Part 5C into the principal Act. The proposed part introduces notice requirements for timber harvesting safety zones and makes it an offence for a person to, among other things, enter or remain in a timber harvesting safety zone or obstruct or interfere with timber harvesting or related forestry operations carried out within the zone. The proposed part also enables authorised officers to give certain directions to persons in timber harvesting safety zones.

Schedule 1[2] and [3] increase the maximum penalties for offences under the principal Act, section 83, including those related to providing false or misleading information to, or obstructing,

impersonating, assaulting or bribing, an authorised officer exercising investigative or enforcement functions under the principal Act.