

GROUP ACTIVITIES

VISITOR INFORMATION SHEET

INTRODUCTION

Forestry Plantations Queensland Pty Ltd (FPQ) is one of Australia's largest timber plantation companies, managing around 200,000 hectares of plantation across Queensland. A majority of these plantations can be found on State plantation forest which is managed by FPQ in accordance with a Plantation Licence.

State plantations forests which form the Licence Area, are commercial forests and are primarily managed for the commercial growing and harvesting of plantation timber. The extensive network of existing roads throughout these forests not only serve a practical purpose, allowing for timber harvesting and fire management, but also provide recreational opportunities for walkers, cyclists, horse riders, four wheel drivers and trail bike riders.

GROUP ACTIVITIES

A group activity is defined in the *Forestry Regulation 1998* as "the organised use of a part of the State forest (including Plantation Licence areas) in a way that may interfere with the general public use of the forest".

A Group Activity Permit is required for "organised" events in the Plantation Licence Area involving groups of people beyond the normal family gatherings and includes:

- All competitive events (excluding motor vehicle and equestrian events, which require a Competitive Event Permit)
- Where the activity is not normally conducted in a forest environment (e.g. a wedding ceremony or other religious ceremony, a concert or public meeting)
- All other groups that exceed the following limits

ACTIVITY	NUMBER
Bushwalking	15
horse riding	15
Bicycle Riding	15
4WD	5
2WD	5
Motorcycles	5

GROUP ACTIVITY PERMITS

Group activities may only be conducted in the Plantation Licence Area by the holder of a Group Activity Permit under section 20 of the *Forestry Regulation 1998*.



Photo courtesy of Multi-terrain bike Orienteers

An application form can be obtained from your local FPQ office, or online at www.fpq.net.au.

In making an application, applicants are responsible for:

- ensuring the current version of the application form has been fully completed and signed
- lodging the appropriate application fee with the application form.

The following attachments should be included with the application form to ensure the application can be assessed and processed in a timely manner:

- a detailed map of the activity location or route
- evidence of public liability coverage to a value of \$10 million if an incorporated group.

Fees

An application fee applies to all Group Activity Permits. Fees are subject to annual price increases in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI). See the Information Sheet outlining the Visitor Management Fee Schedule for the latest applicable fees.

Additional daily fees are only payable in the case that special access, supervision or exclusive use is required.

Term

A Group Activity Permit may be issued for a maximum period of 1 year.

More than one activity can be listed on a single permit (e.g. calendar of events)

Permit type	Application fee	Permit fee	Additional fee
Catering)	✗	✓	n/a
All other assoc. commercial activity	✓	✓	if applicable

Fees applicable to associated commercial activities associated with Competitive Event permit activities.

ASSOCIATED COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

There will be times where a Group Activity Permit application is lodged, where the event is supported by activities of a commercial nature, such as catering, photography or the sale of equipment. In these cases a separate Commercial Activity Permit application needs to be lodged for the “associated commercial activities” when applying for a permit from FPQ.

Catering

FPQ considers catering, that is appropriate to the scale of the group activity, to be 'integral' to managing the activity. Appropriate catering will therefore be exempt from the Commercial Activity Permit application fees applicable to catering associated with a group activity permit. Commercial Activity Permit fees will apply.

All other associated commercial activities

Where a commercial activity is not 'integral' to the management of the group activity then full commercial fees apply and separate applications and permits will be required.

CROSS AGENCY PERMITS

On occasion an applicant may wish to access the Plantation Licence Area managed by FPQ and State forest managed by Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) for a single activity.

In such cases:

- a single application is required
- a single set of fees will apply
- DERM will administer the permit.
- all application forms and fees should be submitted to DERM

IMPORTANT NOTE:

FPQ will administer and issue permits for activities solely accessing the Plantation Licence Area. If your application involves only FPQ managed forests, your application must be submitted to FPQ.