

## **Latest News: Woodchip logging in the Bega River Catchment Richard Blakers March 2010**

### **Logging for woodchips in the catchment of the Bega River between Bega and Tathra is scheduled to begin in March 2010.**

Three compartments are scheduled for logging, shown in the map below

- two along Reedy Swamp Road (2102, 2014)
- one along Goats Knob road close to Mogareeka (2108)

The logging will affect a large number of people living in and around Bega, Mogareeka and Tathra.

There are no plans for public consultation over the impacts of the logging.

It is being run from the Eden Forestry Office.

The person to contact is: Tom Haliday 6496 8802

These are some of the impacts and the people who will be affected.

#### **Log truck and heavy machinery movements**

This will impact on residents living along

- Reedy Swamp Road,
- Tarraganda Lane between the Golf course and Bega,
- Bega Tathra Road at the Eastern edge of Bega
- Mogareeka
- Tathra

The impacts will include

- Road damage
- Heavy traffic in residential areas
- Dust, noise

#### **Fishing in the Bega River**

The terrain where the logging is proposed is steep and drains directly into wetlands and lagoons along the North side of the Bega River. Chinnock Lagoon and Mogareeka will be particularly impacted.

Impacts will include

- Soil and vegetation disturbance in the immediate catchment is widely recognised as a threat to wetlands and waterways.
- The wetlands are important breeding grounds for many of the fish that live in the river and birds that live along it.

#### **Bushfire risk**

Currently the forest canopy is closed, and understorey vegetation is thin and widely scattered.

Opening the forest canopy and disturbing the soil will lead to regrowth consisting of fire prone vegetation such as the forest she oak and young eucalypt.

This will increase the bushfire hazard for residents along

- the eastern end of ReedySwamp Road,
- Vimy Ridge Road
- the eastern end of Goats Knob Road
- Mogareeka

The logging compartments are also directly upwind of Tathra when extreme fire conditions associated with North Westerly winds occur.

These areas will be at increased risk of embers carried across the river creating spot fires.

### **Warf to waves**

The proposed logging lies along the route taken by the cyclists in the recent Warf To Waves event and will be highly visible to future events of a similar nature.

This will impact on organisers and participants in this and similar events

Bushwalkers and tourists

The logging will be highly visible to everyone using Goats Knob Road and ReedySwamp Road.

- Goats Knob Road is a popular walking and cycling track for Tathra residents and visitors.
- ReedySwamp Road is an increasingly popular walking and cycling track for Bega residents and visitors.

### **Logging compartments**

The shaded areas in the map below are the compartments scheduled for logging

