



## **Timber export investigation extended to cover jarrah logs**

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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Nannup Timber Processing, which runs the State's second largest native forest saw mill, has been stripped of its contract to buy marri logs from the Forest Products Commission (FPC).

This follows an investigation which found that Nannup Timber Processing exported marri logs in breach of its contract with the FPC.

The WA Forest Alliance, which exposed the secret export operation, criticised the investigation yesterday, saying that it should have included the apparent export of jarrah logs, and that a full and independent inquiry is needed.

Now, the Forest Products Commission has said that it will also investigate the alleged export of jarrah logs.

The WA Forest Alliance wants the investigation to be carried out independently of the Forest Products Commission.

"It's good to hear that the apparent export of jarrah logs will now be investigated, but it must be a truly independent investigation," said Jess Beckerling, convener of the WA Forest Alliance.

"This is the latest in a series of scandals surrounding native forest logging involving massive waste of high value logs, secret exports and the biodiversity conservation department dismissing conclusive evidence of the deliberate destruction of endangered wildlife habitat.

"It exposes the fact that there is a fundamental failure of regulation of the native forest logging industry.

"It's not just about the logs that have been exported this time. It is also about how and why the Forest Products Commission has failed to enforce the conditions of the contract.

"The investigation must be overseen by the ombudsman or a similar body which can look at the Forest Products Commission's failure to enforce the terms of the contract as well as the full extent of this secret export operation.

“It is not at all surprising that there has been such an angry reaction to this news. Native forest logging has no social licence and it really adds insult to injury when the logs taken from our forests aren’t even being sawn locally into usable timber products.

“Native forest logging is pushing Forest Black Cockatoos, Western Ringtail Possums and other forest wildlife to the brink of extinction and releasing huge volumes of carbon into the atmosphere.

“The only justification that the industry gives for continued logging is that it creates local jobs and timber for West Australians.

“It is outrageous that this mill has been sending its workers home and secretly loading logs into sea containers for export.

“It’s time for our forests to be protected and for the McGowan Government to put ordinary Western Australians who love the forests ahead of profit-seeking companies,” said Ms Beckerling.

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