

CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT AMENDMENT BILL 2024

Receipt and First Reading

Bill received from the Assembly; and, on motion by **Hon Kyle McGinn (Parliamentary Secretary)** on behalf of Hon Darren West (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Environment), read a first time.

Second Reading

HON KYLE MCGINN (Mining and Pastoral — Parliamentary Secretary) [6.01 pm]: I move —

That the bill be now read a second time.

The purpose of the Conservation and Land Management Amendment Bill 2024 is to amend the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984. I am very pleased to introduce these amendments that solidifies this Labor government’s historic decision to stop the unsustainable practice of commercial native logging. This commitment will protect our south west native forests and manage them into the future for their health and resilience. More than two decades after the Gallop Labor government ended old-growth logging, the Cook government has delivered on its commitment to end commercial logging in Western Australia’s native forests. Western Australia has become one of the first states in Australia to end commercial logging of native forests.

Western Australia has become one of the first states in Australia to end commercial logging of native forests. Under the *Forest management plan 2024–2033*, this government will commit to protecting nearly two million hectares of native karri, jarrah and wandoo forests for future generations.

By way of background, state forest and timber reserves are reserved under the CALM act for multiple purposes including conservation, recreation, water catchment protection, timber production on a sustained yield basis and other purposes prescribed in regulation 81 of the Conservation and Land Management Regulations 2002. Three key amendments will be made by the amendment bill. The first will repeal the provision in section 55(1a) that allows “timber production on a sustained yield basis” to be a purpose for which indigenous state forest and timber reserves may be reserved. The second will limit the regulation-making power in section 55(1a) so that timber production cannot be prescribed in the CALM regulations. The third will amend section 55 to clarify that timber production does not include the removal of salvaged forest products arising from, or in anticipation of, prescribed activities or purposes. This will enable the removal of salvaged forest products to continue as a purpose for which state forest and timber reserves are managed.

There has been extensive community, industry and government agency engagement on the recently approved *Forest management plan 2024–2033*. I do not intend to revisit those issues here, suffice to say, the amendment bill facilitates the appropriate management and protection of our south west native forests consistent with that plan. Other amendments to be made by the amendment bill are administrative in nature and will update and modernise the CALM act consistent with the government’s goal of pursuing legislative reform.

Schedule 1 of the act will be amended to enable the Conservation and Parks Commission, which is a body established to advise the Minister for Environment on the conservation estate and its management, to convene meetings using instantaneous electronic communication—that is, remote meetings—rather than in person. Lastly, male-specific references in schedule 1 will be replaced with gender-neutral references.

Pursuant to standing order 126(1), I advise that this bill is not a uniform legislation bill, and it does not ratify or give effect to an intergovernmental or multilateral agreement to which the government or the state is a party—nor does this bill by reason of its subject matter introduce a uniform scheme or uniform laws throughout the commonwealth.

I commend this bill to the house and table the explanatory memorandum.

[See paper [3270](#).]

Debate adjourned, pursuant to standing orders.