

Special Conditions Vehicle Users

Firewood Collection, Hunting, Possum Control, Neighbour & Through Access, Firearms Range

User Group Rules

User Group	Rules
Firewood access	Given the risks associated with firewood collection and cutting, access is restricted to people who have a working relationship or direct association with the forest.
Firewood use	Firewood is for personal use of the permit holder at their personal address; with one vehicle and one trailer per permit. Having other non-permit holder vehicles or trailers in the forest is strictly prohibited. Any forest material taken for sale, bartering or any other arrangements will be treated as theft and reported to the Police, unless previously agreed with TPFL.
Firewood collection	Is restricted to the collection of pinecones and timber offcuts from the designated forest location. Chainsaw use is not permitted.
Firewood cutting	<p>Is restricted to the cutting of timber offcuts from designated forest location. Chainsaws must only be used by the permit holder and there is to be no onsite use of mechanical log splitters.</p> <p><u>Chainsaw operation requirements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The chainsaw operator must hold the appropriate NZ Forest Industry Unit Standards to operate and maintain a chainsaw: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 6916 Demonstrate knowledge of the Approved Code of Practice relating to chainsaw use and ○ 6917 Demonstrate basic chainsaw operation. • The chainsaw is to be well maintained, have all safety features functioning and be used in accord with best practice. • The operator must only cut material standing on flat ground at the collection site, not raise the saw above waist height or cut material where there is a high risk of kickback. • Fuels must not be carried in the cab of a vehicle. Fuel must be stored on the vehicle at all times except when refuelling. • Once chainsaw use is finished onsite, the permit holder must remain on site for 30 minutes to ensure no fire occurs. • Where the permit holder has other people on site to assist with the collection of firewood, they are solely responsible for inducting and supervising them, to ensure that an emergency plan is in place, hazards are identified and controls are in place. • Anyone involved in firewood cutting must have suitable safety footwear, hearing and eye protection. • It is not permitted for a person to use a chainsaw on their own. <p><u>Protective chainsaw equipment required</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hi-Viz helmet (no more than 24 months old verified by manufacturer's date stamp). • Earmuffs Grade 5. • Visor or safety glasses. • Hi-Viz vest or coat (clean). • Protective chainsaw chaps or trousers. • Safety boots, steel capped, leather boots or chainsaw-resistant gumboots. • Basic First Aid Kit plus two large wound dressing or a Clorax (clotting) dressing.
Weekly hunting ballot	Once you have a valid Hunting Permit you must apply for a Hunting Ballot. This ensures that TPFL knows how many hunters are in the forest and where they are. It also enables hunters to visit different blocks. Blocks close to neighbours will be allocated only to selected hunters. You need to apply by Wednesday, one week in advance of the weekend you intend to go hunting. Choose the Apply for Hunting Ballot option on the permit site.
Hunting permit holder	Is restricted to one vehicle. The driver is the permit holder.
Hunting group size	Is restricted to one vehicle, total group limited by legal vehicle seating. Children are limited to a maximum of two per adult responsible to supervise. Maximum group of five individuals, including children.
Hunting group members	The permit holder must not take anyone into the forest who has a current trespass notice served. The party cannot have access to a firearm if any party member is currently restricted by the Police to hold and carry a firearm.
Hunting dogs	A maximum four dogs per party, electronic tracking collars must comply with Police standards.
Hunting hours	The hunting use of TPFL forests must be outside of normal forestry operational hours, i.e. during weekends, public holidays and during the hours of daylight in non-operational forests. No weekday entry for hunting. Any variation will be case by case with the permit holder.

Hunting targets Animals	Includes deer, goats, hares, pigs, rabbits. Excludes possums and game birds.
Hunting firearms and bows	Holders must have a current firearms' licence and comply with the Firearms Code. Given that hunting is only permitted during daylight hours the use of any night vision and heat sensing devices is strictly prohibited. Permit holders must complete a Hunting Pre-approval Assessment prior to gaining a permit and notify TPFL if any changes to these conditions occur.
Possum control	Permit holders must stay within the boundary of their permit area. There is to be only one vehicle per permit. Standard industry leg holds are to be used and be sited as industry best practice to minimise risk to native birds. Trap lines must be checked daily and the use of toxic bait is strictly prohibited. Carcases are to be removed from road edges and there is to be no hunting of other animals. Weekly kill tallies must be provided at the end of each week, including nil returns. All permit holders are to have completed a TPFL trapping induction and trapping course as well as be compliant with current industry rules and practices. Any incidents where there is non-compliance will immediately result in termination of access.
Possum control hours	.All weekdays, work can commence two hours before daybreak and continue during daylight hours in non-operational areas.
Neighbour and through access	Terms and conditions to be negotiated case by case; similarly, the hours and frequency of entry into the forest.
Neighbour and through access – multiple vehicles	Where there are more than three vehicles in a party, a lead and tail driver must be available, and two radios included. No more than five vehicles in a party unless prior approval given.
Vehicle radio requirements	All vehicles entering the forest, with the exception of those going to the firearms ranges, must have a forest radio available, able to be tuned to the required channel. If you do not have a radio contact Nelspec at www.nelspecs.co.nz to hire a suitable unit and complete basic training.
Firearm range	Only valid permits are issued through the local firearms club.
All permit holders	Restricted to location as shown on the permit map or notified location by the TPFL forest. Those requiring vehicle access must further comply with the, Emergency Incident Procedure, Vehicle Requirements, Radio Procedure, Forest Gate & Key Conditions.

Emergency Incident Procedure

In the event of an emergency follow these steps

Step 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call 111. If this does not work, use TPFL OPS-R2 radio channel. • Clear the radio channel by Transmitting "EMERGENCY EMERGENCY EMERGENCY" • Identify yourself and call 'Dispatch' or 'Richmond Hill Fire Lookout' during the summer period. • Repeat every 10 seconds until answered. • Give your location i.e. forest & road, road junction, grid co-ordinates or Km marker
Step 2	Information disclosure over the radio must not include the names of injured persons. The scene is to be frozen and treated as an incident site. It is not permitted to take photos and share incident information on social media, and confidentiality must be maintained.
Step 3	Where an emergency or incident has occurred a condition of TPFL is that permit holders provide details including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date, time, location, vehicle registration number. • Accident type, such as a near miss, personal harm or property damage.
Step 4	Serious harm incidents occurring outside of work hours or weekends reported through emergency services 111, must also be reported within two hrs to TPFL.
Vehicle Breakdown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should any vehicle breakdown or become stuck phone R&M Security & Investigation on 027 530 6230. Note that the vehicle must not be moved until authorised by the after-hours provider. • All costs associated with call out will the responsibility of the permit holder.
Notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serious harm incidents where someone is injured must be reported to TPFL within two hours of the event occurring. • It is a breach of permit condition to disclose any sensitive information and share with others and on social media without the prior written approval of TPFL.

Vehicle Requirements

All vehicles in forest must be compliant with the following requirements.

All drivers	All drivers of vehicles in TPFL managed forest must comply with the relevant legal codes governing Land Transport, have a current WOF, registration, \$10,000,000 3 rd party vehicle insurance and carry an Emergency Procedure Card. Drivers must be compliant with the Vehicle Requirements. Vehicles must not block or hinder access to any forest roads and only be driven by the licenced driver who is also the permit holder.
All vehicles	All vehicles must have an RT with TPFL radio channels. Headlights must be on when driving in forest. Must carry a minimum 1kg fire extinguisher, first aid kit, shovel (not required for motor bikes). Road speed for non-commercial forest users must not exceed 50km/hr.
Seatbelts	Seatbelts are to be worn when the vehicle is moving.
4WD	Engage 4WD before it is required.
Motor bike	These motor bikes are to be road worthy, have current registration and WOF, be fitted with spark arrestors, and helmets must be worn at all times. Motor bike riders are to be members of the Nelson Motor Bike Club and comply fully with their club rules.
ATV	All-terrain-vehicles ATV are not permitted to be used in forest.
Trailers	All trailers must have a current WOF, registration, be secure and must be towed by the permit holder.

Radio Procedure

All vehicle users are to follow standard radio protocols but should drive to the conditions and expect to see unidentified road users regardless of call-up.

Radio fitting	All motor vehicles are to have radio channel access to OPS-R2 by either a fixed base or handheld radio. Additional channels may be required based on the user group.
Behaviour	Messages are to be short and to the point. No swearing or inappropriate comments. All radio messages are recorded.
Radio on	Turn radio on before entering the forest to establish if there is any traffic on your intended route.
Call-up	Identify vehicle type, forest entrance point, road being driven along and end location. Repeat call up for each road being driven to the next location. Examples: Vehicle 1 – “Log truck starting up Bradleys Rd from the gate to Golf Rd.”
Respond to call-up	Where another driver receives the call-up that another vehicle is approaching, they should return the call and identify their location. Example Vehicle 2 - “Light vehicle at Bradley Golf Rd intersection I will pull over and wait, keep coming.” Example Vehicle 1 -“Roger light vehicle pulled over Bradley Golf.”
Road marker	All operational roads have km markers that provide a reference point, as do road names; and some passing bays are identified. While driving make a mental note of your location to respond to other users.
Call-up points	Call-up at specific call points and increase awareness through radio channel blind spots.
Repeat	Do not proceed if you have had a driver call up on a road until you have their location. Do not enter any restricted operational areas until authorised. Repeat a call if the other caller is unclear and if you have forgotten your location.
Radio test	If you are unsure if your radio is transmitting or receiving calls make a test call and seek confirmation from another road user. Example: “Radio test can someone confirm.” If the radio is faulty do not enter the forest. If in the forest phone R&M Security & Investigation on 027 530 6230 and ask that they call-up on your behalf to notify other road users.

Forest Gate & Key Conditions

All forest gate key holders must comply with the following;

Gate keys	Keys are issued to the permit holder and must not be shared other than for the purpose of the permit held. Any loss must be reported immediately. The permit holder will incur the following penalty for loss: vehicle gate key \$1200, non-vehicle gate key \$100, gate cards or disks \$100. Key holder is to ensure the security of the key and not leave it in a vehicle where it could be taken.
Gates locked	Forest gates are to be closed and locked after 4pm weekly and 24/7 during weekends. If a crew leaves before 4pm they should ensure the gate is locked. Crews should ensure that if multiple gates are opened at start-up, they are closed by 4pm. Individuals identified as not locking gates they are responsible for, will incur a \$400 locking fee.

