

Forest Rules

All forest land managed by TPFL requires permit entry. The permit holder agrees to have read, understood and to fully comply with the information below. TPFL reserves the right to terminate any permit for people non-compliant with TPFL protocols and rules. Further consequences may include forest trespass and Police notification. *A copy of the Access Permit must be carried while in the forest (electronic or printed).*

Common Rules

Access time	The recreational use of TPFL Forests by permitted entry only with the following access times: Codgers/Fringed Hill (Koata Park): Forest Access for walking, running and mountain biking is open seven (7) days a week, 24 hours a day. Permit registrations are on-line via Nelson City Council website. Sharlands Area: Forest Access for mountain biking ONLY is open seven (7) days a week, 24 hours a day. Permit applications are on-line via NMTBC. Balance of TPFL Forests: Is only permitted outside of normal forestry operational hours, i.e. during weekends, public holidays and during the hours of daylight in non-operational forests. Weekday's entry is during daylight hours after 5pm, Monday to Friday. Forests may be closed at any time due to operations and hazardous conditions. Any variation will be case by case with the permit holder.
Biosecurity	All forest users must follow the Biosecurity Protocol .
Camping	Not allowed.
Communication	All permit holders must be contactable by email and mobile phone and check permit websites before entering the forest.
Drugs & alcohol	It is not permitted to take or be under the influence of illegal drugs and alcohol within the forest.
Fires	Starting fires or smoking in the forest is prohibited.
Firearms	Unless you have a valid permit, the use of firearms, air rifles or archery equipment is prohibited in the forest.
Firewood	The cutting and collection of firewood and pine cones is by Firewood Permit only
Forest zones	Users must stay within the Forest Zones as defined by their access permit.
Hazards	The forest can be a hazardous place and a list of Hazards and Controls is provided. Hazards may exist and TPFL will take all practical steps to identify and minimise risk as defined by their responsibilities under the 2015 Health & Safety Legislation and Regulations. It is a condition of entry that you report any hazard or activity which is illegal or may result in damage to the forest environment. Hazardous conditions can arise due to a change in weather, operational activity and unplanned circumstances such as meeting non-permitted road users.
Health & safety	Anyone entering the forest has a responsibility to manage their personal safety and others they are responsible for while in the forest. They must monitor both the current and changing conditions before and during entry in the forest. Where there is a risk to safety, parties must leave the forest and immediately report any issues. All users must follow the standard Emergency Incident Procedure .
Hunting	Any form of hunting must comply with the Hunting Permit . Once you have a valid permit you can apply to the Weekly Hunting Ballot which allocates hunting blocks.
Neighbours	Entry onto adjoining neighbours' land is not permitted from TPFL managed forests unless first gaining approval from the owner or occupier.
Permits	Permits are non-transferable, maybe subject to restrictions, be revoked either verbally by individual contact or public notice. A copy of the permit must always be carried (print or electronic copy), and holders must comply with requirements when requested by TPFL.
Poisons	Do not touch any baits, lures, carcasses or traps; note that dogs are particularly susceptible to poison.
Property loss	The permit holder is to indemnify TPFL for any damage or loss to property, of TPFL or any other person, caused by the permit holder or those under their control while in the forest.
Restrictions	Access restrictions may be imposed at any time due to TPFL forest operation and seasonal constraint.
Risk & indemnity	All permit holders acknowledge and agree that they enter the forest entirely at their own risk and that TPFL or its officers or employees shall not be liable for any loss, injury or damage suffered by the permit holder, whether that loss, injury or damage arises as a direct or indirect consequence of any action or inaction of TPFL or its officers, employees, agents or sub-contractors.
Roads	Road users must comply with best practices, NZ codes and rules when driving on forest roads; including Vehicle Requirements and Radio Procedures for vehicles. Those on foot or cycling must follow the same rules as on a public road.
Signage	Obey all signage as displayed in the forest especially "Call-up", "Do not proceed" and "Road closed". Unless you have been given verbal permission, you cannot enter into any operational site or go past signage or barriers restricting through access.
Trees & plants	It is illegal to damage, fell and remove trees and plants within the forest.

Biosecurity Protocol

Machinery, equipment, personal footwear and clothing must be clear of causing any biological risk before entering the forest.

Equipment usage	If any vehicle, equipment or clothing has been in use in forest areas outside of the Nelson Marlborough region where there are known biological hazards it must be washed down, cleaned and disinfected prior to use.
Risk material	Remove all soil and plant debris and spray footwear, tyres or tracks and inside vehicle wheel arches with disinfectant.
Access approval	Approval is required prior to equipment being taken into any TPFL forest.

Hazards and Controls

The following is a list of the hazards that you may encounter in the forest and the controls in place to manage them.

Hazard	Potential Harm	Controls
Bees, wasps	Stings, anaphylaxis	Avoid stopping when passing active hives and have required medications available.
Bluffs, cliffs, gorges, steep slope, tomos, mineshafts.	Fracture, concussion, puncture wounds	Have appropriate standard of footwear, select safe routes to avoid a fall that could result in serious harm.
Falling debris from trees.	Fracture, concussion.	Wear a safety helmet, identify and avoid walking under unstable overhead debris. Trees may become unstable and unexpectedly fall over during and following, rain, wind and fire events.
Fire	Burns, property damage.	Do not light any fires and dial 111 if you see any fire. Follow emergency procedure .
Forest operations.	Being struck by machine, material, exposure to chemicals.	Follow all signage that is erected at entry points, along roadways especially operation warning and road closure signs. Do not stop to watch operations in progress. Avoid being below operation skid sites, rock slopes, harvest faces, under ropes, below moving machinery. If in doubt stop and call up on the radio for assistance and authorisation before proceeding.
Introduced hazards	Introduced user hazard description This is not a potential harm	Introduced hazards by the permit holder should be raised with the TPFL and suitable controls implemented.
Poisons	poisoning	Do not touch any suspicious substances and report location immediately.
Radio blind spots	Missed calls and vehicle collision.	Ensure drivers follow Radio Protocols and if in doubt stop until confirmation is received from other opposing drivers.
Roads	Vehicle accidents.	Obey similar rules as for driving on public roads, drive to the conditions, keep left, expect to see other vehicles on the road, slow down into corners, drive at a speed where you can stop within half the visible distance safely and obey signs. Watch out for ruts, holes and do not proceed if unsafe. On dusty roads stop until clear visibility ahead before proceeding.
Overhead and roadside.	Damage by falling objects.	Do not drive under any overhanging branches or leaning trees across the road larger than 100mm. Do not drive over any branch or tree larger than 100mm across the road or on the road surface. The operation of chainsaws to clear access is restricted to TPFL approved persons only.
Sharp vegetation and stakes.	Puncture wounds.	Wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including heavy duty footwear, gloves, gorse chaps and cape.
Slippery surfaces, stumps, rotten logs, uneven ground surfaces, holes in ground.	Strains, sprains, fractures.	Use suitable foot wear for specific activity type while in the forest. Select safe routes to move across and around.
Visibility	Vehicle accident.	While in the forest drive with vehicle headlights on and keep the radio on.
Washouts and slips.	Vehicle accident.	Do not proceed through any washout site where the vehicle may become stuck, there is the potential of a fall, the road formation is less than 1.5x the vehicle width, the road is undermined, or the road is unstable or has slips. Do not proceed, exit the site and report immediately on leaving the forest.
Weather conditions.	Hypothermia, strains, sprains, fractures.	Do not enter the forest in high winds or rain events. Check the local weather forecast. Ensure suitable footwear and clothing is worn.