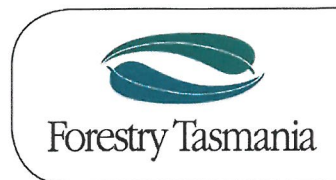


Phone: 03 6433 2666 Fax: 03 6433 2632

Your Ref:

Our File: 23rd September



To whom it may concern,

Forestry Tasmania licences Blue Hills Honey to utilise dedicated apiary sites on State forest for the purpose of collecting manuka honey.

Manuka (*Leptospermum scoparium*) is widely distributed throughout Tasmania, particularly in the wetter coastal heath and lowland scrub vegetation types. It can also be found as an understorey species in dry sclerophyll forest. (Kirkpatrick, J.B., Backhouse, S. (1997), *Native Trees of Tasmania*, Pandani Press, Tasmania).

Within the Murchison District, we find that it occurs predominantly in the buttongrass and heath moorlands of the North West and West Coast.

FT conduct fuel reduction burns in these areas during spring, on a 10 year rotation. We have recently established a protocol to ensure close communication about the burning program with affected beekeepers, to ensure ongoing and effective use of the manuka apiary sites.

We understand that the manuka honey industry in Tasmania is a growing one, and we are working with the beekeeping industry to facilitate ongoing access to this important resource.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Emma Barker".

Emma Barker
Apiary and Property Management
Murchison District

