

Timber Sorting Matrix*

Grade	Extent of Visual Defects	Nature of Defects	Integrity & Authenticity	Future applications	Value	Example Photographs
1	≤10%	Weathering consistent with age. Localised deterioration around fixings and cut ends only. Timber in good, sound condition	Original 1933 fabric in intact lengths; original intact assemblies; fabric with desirable historic markings;	Re-use in Replacement Jetty design elements; Other Shire projects	Commercial	
2	≤25%	Weathering consistent with age. Localised deterioration around fixings and cut ends, as well as other wear and tear/ general surface damage; timber generally in good to fair condition	Original or early fabric in intact or slightly modified lengths; timber in sound condition	Other construction projects; timber trader market	Commercial	
3	>25%	Considerable weathering; enlarged recesses and deterioration to exposed surfaces and around fixings and cut ends; timber generally in fair to poor condition	Cut-down or damaged lengths of 1933 fabric; non-original replacement fabric	Small scale domestic and community use; opportunistic salvage	Community	
4	Defective	Excessive weathering and deterioration. Broken, rotted, splintered timber with structural failure; timber with contamination; timber generally in poor condition	Broken lengths; non-original replacement fabric; contaminated material	Opportunistic salvage; landfill	Minimal	

* This matrix has been developed specific to the Tanker Jetty project and involves a process of sorting material using a visual assessment procedure as material is being handled by heavy machinery. All four sides of the timber sections/assemblies are observed by the machine operator and ground crew, and if necessary, non-invasive methods of inspection are used to determine the physical characteristics of the timber before it is placed in stacks of like quality and member sizes. For example, the timber structure can be tested for sponginess or dry rot using a handheld screw-driver or similar tool to confirm the integrity of the timber. This is valuable where the external surface of the timber section appears sound, but there is a suggestion of a hollow or drummy interior.

Onsite, key characteristics of the timber were agreed as the basis for grading, including the nature and extent of defects, as well as the integrity and authenticity of the material. The Contractor was also advised of the potential future applications of the timber, which can often assist in the visual assessment process, in confirming whether or not the material might have value in a future commercial or community application.

There are numerous structural grading and visual grading standards that apply to the usual sorting of timber for structural and aesthetic applications, and this process is usually undertaken by specialists in the field. These standards can not reasonably apply to the process of sorting the salvaged timber from the Tanker Jetty, which is generally in a deteriorated condition and not intended to be used for structural applications. In future, should specific sections of timber be proposed to be used in a structural application, the onus will be on the owner of the timber to undertake formal structural grading to ensure its fitness for purpose.