



**2010 Quit Forest Rally – 16-18 April, 2010 – Busselton & Nannup, Western Australia**

## **Sean Williamson wins first Quit Forest Rally Moto**

West Australian Sean Williamson made history yesterday winning the first Quit Forest Rally Moto in Nannup, Western Australia.

Williamson was joined by 13 teams to contest the two day navigation rally run over the same stages as the Australian Rally Championship (ARC) event, Quit Forest Rally, through the plantation forests around Nannup.

It was the first time in the history of the ARC that two wheeled motorcycles (moto) and four wheeled motorcycles (quad) had joined rally cars to contest an event.

"It was really good, the track was fantastic and it was really well organised," Williamson said after the win.

"Hopefully now that people can see what it's all about they'll come back next year and we'll have a few more numbers. I think the concept is great and it will take off for sure," he continued.

Williamson, riding a Yamaha 450, took the lead from Michael Heuchan (Husaburg 570) on SS8 of Heat One and went on to claim the heat by 22.2 seconds.

In Heat Two, Heuchan had the lead from the opening stage until a charging Williamson overtook him on SS20, the final stage of the event, taking the outright win by 4.5 seconds.

A seasoned campaigner in national series and safari events, Heuchan praised the event organisers and said all the riders were blown away by the support they received from the rally fraternity and fans.

"This is easily the best supported event I've ever done as far as spectators go," Heuchan said.

"It's been phenomenal. When we did the parade lap in Busselton there was 3000 people cheering us on, we've never seen anything like it. To have the place live with spectators cheering, even the drivers were giving us a wave, was just awesome, it was the best event ever for that."

Quit Forest Rally Moto was the talking point of the weekend, from spectators, officials, ARC competitors and the riders themselves and if the support they received is anything to go by bikes could become a more permanent fixture on the ARC calendar, even if only in Western Australia.

When asked if he thought the riders would be interested in joining up with more ARC rounds in the future Heuchan's position was clear.

"It's not an if, they just have to...it's too good a thing to not do. If we're invited back we'll certainly be back."

Andrew Coaker (Husaburg 570) rounded out the podium and continued to praise the initiative of Quit Forest Rally Moto event organisers.

"It was a bit of a buzz. With such short stages you get all fired up and then you go to another one. Compared to the longer rallies, they are totally different, they're all about endurance and trying not to make mistakes where as this you just go flat out just for a short time," Coaker said.

"It's just been a wonderful weekend and all credit must go to the organisers for putting on such a fantastic event."

The Quit Forest Rally is a SMOKE FREE event

Heath Young was the fastest of the quad entries, coming home with a time of 02:25:57.0 just over three and a half minutes from Williamson.

Young recorded the fastest stage times of any competitor on SS10 Nannup Oval, SS14 Folly 1 and SS20 Helium. Young finished the event more than one minute ahead of the next quad competitor, Dale Tribbick.

Quit Forest Rally Moto, similar to the Australian Safari and the Condo 750 in New South Wales, was the first event of its kind to be held in Australia.

For full results go to [www.rally.com.au](http://www.rally.com.au)

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