

NZIF WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

6 OCTOBER 2014

Number 2014/37

NZIF introduces...

Simon Rapley

NZIF Registration Board Chair



The Registration scheme of the NZ Institute of Forestry is governed by the council and administered by a Registration Board. The Board is elected by members each two years for overlapping four year terms and meet as required to assess applications for new Registration and for five-yearly reviews. You will be introduced to the Board over the next few weeks. Having had one term as councillor and showing some interest in the Registration Board, I was asked to act as Registration Board Chair and started in this role in August. I have become a Registered Member recently myself and believe the scheme has merit for NZIF members.

In 1966 a Recognised Forestry Consultant Scheme was set up but in 1996 was replaced by the Registration Scheme. All Forestry Professionals, consultants and company foresters alike can apply to the Board to be recognised by their peers as having a high degree of professional knowledge and skill, high standards of professional conduct, and a commitment to ongoing learning. I see registration as something that all forestry professionals should aspire to.

Introducing... continued

I also see an increasing demand from the industry and from investors wanting to engage forestry professionals to evaluate and/or manage their assets to appropriate standards.

The NZIF council has initiated a review of the Registration scheme. A panel has been appointed, of which I am part of and the process is underway. I would be happy to hear from anyone who has suggestions to improve the scheme or to promote it both within the industry and outside it.

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Council News

The New Zealand Institute of Forestry has submitted on two recent areas of policy.

[NZIF Submission](#) AUSTRALIAN FOREST CERTIFICATION SCHEME to PEFC International, Switzerland.

[NZIF Submission](#) ENVIRONMENTAL GOODS PLURILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (details [here](#)).

National Office

New Zealand Institute of Forestry
PO Box 10513
Level 9
93 The Terrace
Wellington 6143
NEW ZEALAND

Phone +64 4 974 8421

Fax +64 4 473 9330

Email admin@nzif.org.nz

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PRESIDENT'S COMMENT

This week we are likely to hear about who gets the Ministerial portfolio for forestry. Based on this decision we will be able to infer if the Government believes Forestry is important or not. Most major parties adopted proactive forestry policies. We put much effort into trying to convince all parties, including National, of the importance of both private and public benefits of forestry to New Zealand. I hope we have been heard.

Last week I wrote to the Prime Minister stating "The NZ Institute of Forestry (NZIF), would like you to consider the importance of forestry to NZ and we would like to propose forestry is represented by a senior minister." I went on to say "During National's last term, forestry was sidelined under an associate minister of MPI. As you are aware the industry and the NZIF found this very unsatisfactory. We did not feel the Minister grasped the issues nor cared about the industry."

My strongly worded letter was not written lightly. I strongly believe our industry will continue to struggle to reach its full potential while we lack an effective voice in the Government. How any Government can sideline an industry which will be the second largest export earner in the near future is beyond understanding.

I believe choosing the correct Minister will have a major effect on the NZ economy, the environment and will improve the ability of the forestry industry to grow, increase regional employment, and play its part towards a strong balance of payments.

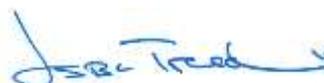
The question now is what we should do if we have not been heard and the portfolio is sidelined and taken on by a Minister unwilling to listen or speak up for the sector.

Your council has made a decision to be heard. We will continue to advocate for the sector. We will not meekly put forward our view but will speak up in all forum, loudly proclaiming the benefits of the industry.

We will continue to complain when the playing field is uneven and we will work with the other industry bodies to ensure the Government cannot play one off against the other. A game they became very good at during the last term.

Some members may feel we are being too brash, too loud or too confrontational. If this is how you feel please make your case to me. I would love to hear from you via email, phone, letters to this newsletter or LinkedIn. However at present most of the messages I have received have been ones of support, and therefore as your representative I feel not only must I continue, but I have the mandate to.

James Treadwell *RMNZIF*



MEMBER'S VOICE

A question on forest policy. Would this include some strategic thinking about "contingency species" in the case of not being able to grow radiata pine in the future because of pathogens? If there isn't some government leadership on this issue I don't think anything will happen. The government and MPI should be concerned that the future for planting radiata pine is not guaranteed, especially on some sites. There are a number of strategies that could be deployed to future-proof NZ forestry including

- (1) radiata breeding (but this is hit and miss and certainly won't provide total disease resistance by any means)
- (2) radiata hybridisation with other species to achieve disease resistance (difficult)
- (3) manipulating endophytes in radiata to achieve resistance (feasible)
- (4) GE (politically challenging but technically feasible)
- (5) planting other species (but what?).

There has been a lot of research on "alternatives" to radiata pine, but this has mainly been on alternatives to pine. I suspect that what is really needed is effort on an "alternative pine", and that is where I believe a forest policy could come in pretty handy.

I would appreciate your thoughts, or those of the working group.

I remember speaking to David Carter (then the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry) soon after National was elected for their first term on the subject of GE research. He said that they **wouldn't raise the issue in their first term but** would probably get onto it second term. **Obviously they didn't. I wonder if they will in their third term? "Research"** - not implementation. Simply following on from the **Royal Commission that said "proceed with caution"** - not stop altogether. Obviously the Government needs a policy on GE.

Bill Dyck

MEMBER'S VOICE

I find it so hard to accept that wood has been so poorly regarded by the Green Building Council. As you say wood use is sustainable and is great for the environment. To only have wood that is FSC certified is very restrictive. I don't know why FSC is so highly regarded. You don't even have to be sustainable (forester's definition) to qualify for certification. The FSC standards do not mention sustainability - the word doesn't even appear in their glossary! How the former NZFP plantations are now certified is highly questionable. Sure the part of the former plantation that remains is probably sustainable but that of course excludes the thousands of hectares of plantations that have been felled and converted to dairy farms. In my opinion FSC has little creditability.

Wink Sutton

The sale of the endowed Hofmann plantation

The intention of the buyers of the endowed 79,000 acre Hofmann Plantation of North Carolina State University is to clear most (all?) of the productive plantations and convert the land to non-plantation uses. To establish how the new owner might obtain having the wood harvest certified I sent an email to both the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) and received responses from both. To read these in full, click [here](#)

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The purchaser of the Hofmann plantation is unlikely to obtain certification for any wood that comes from the clearing of the plantation.

There are global implications if all wood harvests have to be approved as coming from sustainable forests or plantations

Wink Sutton

MEMBER'S VOICE

As an undergraduate I took the opportunity to attend sessions of the 1963 Agricultural Development Conference at Massey University. Professionals from seemingly every aspect of the agricultural industry and every interconnected economic, marketing and science field were resolutely focused on offering their 'bit' for the common goal.

The ADC had been set up by Agriculture Minister Tallboys at the request of Prime Minister Holyoake, because the latter had been advised there was a 'pinch' in overseas earnings predicted for ten years hence (1974). There was a need to produce more exports from farming. That common goal for the ADC thus became to increase stock numbers by 30 million ewe equivalents.

The Conference was driven by an industry-wide committee, assisted by a Secretariat within the Department of Agriculture.

The overarching committee established Working Parties in every speciality and endeavour that impinged upon farming. There were the obvious ones - dairying, sheep, beef, horticulture - and also land groups covering valuations, development, soils, fertilisers, management.

The Working Parties commissioned professionals to collect the very latest information available to the industry and drew conclusions and recommendations as to what was possible within their field; limitations were highlighted.

When the Auckland Section NZIF was discussing the need for a national forest policy earlier this year, the success of the ADC was brought to mind. There are significant differences between farming and forestry, between 1960s and 2010s, and in the Government support forthcoming, but the processes used with the ADC appealed to ASIF. ASIF decided to initiate a flexible program of self-help, to derive a national forest policy

As with the ADC 50 years ago, the involvement of the whole of the forest sector is absolutely essential. And believed to be possible and feasible. Certainly the broad-brush - all branches of the sector - approach must be pursued.

This is how the 'Forest Policy Project' (FPP) has evolved thus far. ASIF understand its role as being limited to these early initiation stages. FPP now needs the involvement of the entire sector. Professionals and leading-lights from the economy that have impact upon forests and forestry.

FPP now needs strong competent people to carry the project forward: charged with delivering a robust Policy some time down the track. Establishing the over-arching 'directorial' committee (tentatively called 'The Convocation') will be the focus of the small instigator group meeting this afternoon. It will also review how it can seek out and inspire top organisers to hold the reins for the various Working Party speciality groups.

Garth Cumberland [abridged]

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Announcement Notification of Planned FSC Certification Evaluation of Forestry Tasmania

As part of an upcoming Forest Stewardship Council™ (FSC®) certification evaluation, SCS Global Services is seeking stakeholder input regarding the forest management program and practices of Forestry Tasmania.

In pursuit of Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) endorsed forest management certification, Forestry Tasmania will be undergoing an audit in early December 2014. The audit will be conducted by SCS Global Services, a FSC-accredited certification body.

FSC sets standards that ensure forestry is practiced in an environmentally responsible, socially beneficial, and economically viable way. Forestry Tasmania (FT) is a State-Government Business Enterprise with the fundamental statutory responsibility to manage and control the Permanent Timber Production Zone (PTPZ) land of Tasmania's public forests, and to harvest and sell high quality sawlogs and other forest products.

SCS welcomes comments on the forest management of Forestry Tasmania or other topics pertinent to their seeking FSC certification.

Comments can be submitted via [email](#)

Full document and details can be found [here](#)

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Local Section News

Auckland Section NZIF invites you to their Marketing Seminar, being hosted by Rayonier Matariki Forests.

The last year has been a roller coaster ride for New Zealand's log exporters with prices reaching all-time highs in March before falling by 25%. Historically high inventory levels, competition from Pacific North West logs and lumber, a high NZ dollar, fluctuating demand and consumption, the Chinese economy and credit tightening are all having an impact on the market but what is the outlook?

Date: Thursday 9 October 2014, 5.30pm
Venue: Rayonier Matariki Forests, Level 5, 32-34 Mahuhu Crescent, Auckland.
Please RSVP to [Philip Elworthy](#) by Monday 6 October.

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Announcement

2014 Rutherford Lectures: Experiments across Worlds - Dame Anne Salmond

Dame Anne Salmond, renowned author, academic, environmentalist and winner of the 2013 Rutherford Medal, will present four lectures exploring different areas of our national life, exploring how exchanges between different ways of being, particularly Maori and European, have helped to shape our past and how they might contribute to an innovative and successful society for future generations.

- Date: Tuesday 28 October, 7pm
Venue: Tauranga Yacht Club (\$5 entry)
Title: THE SEA
- Date: Thursday 6 November, 7pm
Venue: Charles Luney Auditorium, St Margaret's College, Christchurch
Title: THE LAND
- Date: Thursday 13 November, 6pm
Venue: Soundings Theatre, Te Papa, Wellington
Title: PEOPLE AND POWER
- Date: Sunday 16 November, 5pm
Venue: Royal Wanganui Opera House, Whanganui
Title: RIVERS – GIVE ME THE WATER OF LIFE

Free entry (unless otherwise specified)

Enquiries: [email](#), register [here](#)

Local Section News

NZIF Otago-Southland branch invites you to the Otago-Southland Forest Products Industry Meeting

Date: Thursday 23 October 2014
Venue: Rosebank Lodge, Balclutha
Time: 5.30pm Drinks, 6.30pm Dinner, 7.15pm After-Dinner Presentation
Please register before noon Wed 22 October.
The Southern Wood Council (SWC), in conjunction with the local branch of the NZ Institute of Forestry and the Mid & South Otago Branches of the NZ Farm Forestry Association, present 'Innovations to Improve Log Marshalling Efficiencies'

For more information, email [Caroline Rickerby](#)
To register, email Caroline or fax 03 470 1906 page two of the attached [flyer](#) complete with names, details of your attendance and payment method.

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Notice from the Administrators

We continue to have over \$20,000 in outstanding membership fees. This includes over 40 students, almost 50 ordinary members, 2 registered members, 5 retired members and over 20 graduate/associate members still to pay. Prompt payment would be appreciated

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LinkedIn

To join in the discussions happening now, or to post something of interest to you with respect to the Forestry industry in New Zealand and around the world, join the NZIF group on LinkedIn. Participation in this group is only open to members of the NZIF and we are up to 125 members!

nz.linkedin.com

Press Release

Red Stag Timber to build Southern Hemisphere's largest sawmill in Rotorua 3 October 2014

Red Stag Timber Limited has announced that it will build a new \$60 million world-scale sawmill on its Waipa site at Rotorua. The state-of-the-art 'super-mill', to be manufactured by US firm USNR, will have an annual log input capacity of 1.2 million tonnes running on two shifts. The plant will have the latest sawmilling, scanning and optimization equipment, which will tie into the mill's current back-end bins and stacker. It will be operational from mid-2016. The investment will lift the company's annual output from 450,000m³ currently to 700,000m³ in five years' time with further site investment.

"This is good news for Red Stag's customers", says Red Stag group CEO Marty Verry. "This new sawmilling technology, along with our existing kiln drying and treatment technology, is far ahead of anything currently used in New Zealand, and the results are straighter, dryer, stronger and more dimensionally stable timber for our customers and their customers."

[It] is also good news for home builders, with Mr Verry expecting timber prices to fall up to 10 percent as a result of the added market competition.

An estimated twenty five sawmills have closed in New Zealand in the last ten years, as larger more efficient operations have expanded.

With volatile pricing and demand in export log markets, the new investment in stable domestic production will be welcomed by log suppliers. WPMA surveyed its members this year and found that such a policy would likely trigger \$1.17 billion on investment. "With the growing awareness of wood's environmental, thermal, and earthquake properties, as well as the potential for regional employment and export growth, I expect the government to follow Canada, France, Japan and parts of the USA in adopting such a policy," says Mr Verry.

[abridged]

Full Press Release [here](#)

Contact Marty Verry [here](#)

Announcement

Scion October Forest Science Seminar

"Sow now, reap critical mass later: planting trees for bioenergy in Central West, New South Wales, Australia" with Sandra Velarde, Forest Science's latest Economist recruitment.

Date: Wednesday 8 October 2014, 12-1pm

Venue: Scion, Rimu Room and Scopia Webinar, 49 Sala Street, Rotorua

Contact [Katrin Webb](#) to register for in-person attendance or for information on how to access the live stream.

Full seminar document [here](#).

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Forest Growing Research Conference

Registrations are open for the Inaugural [Forest Growing Research Conference](#)

More Income, Less Risk

All forest growers have two things in common: a wish to increase their forest income and to reduce the risks to their forests.

Find out what our forest scientists are doing to achieve an increase in their forest income and a reduction in risks to their forests.

Learn about their research programmes, the results to date and the expected benefits for you as a forest grower.

Date: 29 October - 31 October 2014

Venue: Rydges Hotel, Rotorua

Registrations close 22 October 2014

For more information email [Veronica Bennett](#) or telephone on 07 9211883

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CALENDAR

NZIF takes no responsibility for errors in this calendar. Please visit the website or contact the organisers to confirm times, locations, costs.

Oct 2014

- Wed 8 Scion October Forest Science Seminar, with Sandra Velarde, 12noon-1pm, Scion, Rimu Room, Rotorua, contact [Katrin Webb](#)
- Thurs 9 ASIF Marketing seminar, with Chris Rayes, 5.30pm, Rayonier Matariki Forests, Level 5, 32-34 Mahuhu Crescent, Auckland, RSVP to [Philip Elworthy](#)
- Wed 15 – Fri 17 Appita [Fibre Value Chain Conference & Expo](#), Distinction Hotel, Rotorua, for more information [email](#)
- Wed 22 NZIAHS Annual General Meeting, 3pm, Stewart 1, Lincoln University, Canterbury
- Wed 22 NZIAHS Canterbury Forum, 9am-3pm, Stewart 1, Lincoln University, Canterbury, *Enduring Agricultural Solutions For Improving Water Quality*
- Tues 28 Rutherford Lectures, THE SEA, Dame Anne Salmond, 7pm, Tauranga Yacht Club, Keith Allen Drive, enquiries [email](#)
- Wed 29 – Fri 31 Inaugural [Forest Growing Research Conference](#), Rydges Hotel, Rotorua, email [Veronica Bennett](#) or telephone on 07 921 1883

Nov 2014

- Thurs 6 Rutherford Lectures, THE LAND, Dame Anne Salmond, Charles Luney Auditorium, St Margaret's College, 12 Winchester St, Merivale, Christchurch, 7pm, enquiries [email](#)
- Thurs 13 Rutherford Lectures, PEOPLE AND POWER, Dame Anne Salmond, Soundings Theatre, Te Papa, Wellington, 6pm, enquiries [email](#)
- Sun 16 Rutherford Lectures, RIVER – GIVE ME THE WATER OF LIFE, Dame Anne Salmond, Royal Wanganui Opera House, 69 St Hill Street, Whanganui, 5pm, enquiries [email](#)
- Sun 16 – Wed 19 [A place to live national conference](#), Royal Society of NZ, Wanganui War Memorial Centre
- Wed 19 – Thurs 20 [ForestTech 2014](#), Distinction Hotel Rotorua, full programme [here](#)
- Sun 24 – Mon 25 New Zealand History of Science conference, email [Rebecca Priestley](#)

April 2015

- Mon 13 – Wed 15 [ANZIF Conference 2015](#), 'Creating Resilient Landscapes', Novotel Forest Resort Creswick, Victoria, Australia



NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF FORESTRY

Te Pūtahi Ngāherehere o Aotearoa Inc.

NZIF CONTACTS

President	James Treadwell	President@nzif.org.nz
Vice President and Membership	Kent Chalmers	Vice-President@nzif.org.nz
Treasurer and Journal	David Evison	Treasurer@nzif.org.nz
Registrar	Mike Marren	Registrar@nzif.org.nz
Administrator and Advertising	Jay Matthes	admin@nzif.org.nz
Assistant Administrator	Virginia Kennard	adminnzif@nzif.org.nz
Newsletter Coordinator		admin@nzif.org.nz
NZIF Foundation		foundation@nzif.org.nz