

NZIF Newsletter 2017-04 (13 March 2017)

President's Column



We are all aware many unswimmable rivers have become swimmable with the stroke of Nick Smith's pen. This is the problem with standards; if you don't like the result and you set the standards you change them.

I am the first to praise the target of having 90% of rivers swimmable by the year 2040 (though I would love to see this occur earlier). However I do not believe this should be achieved by changing the standards, real action is required, not a move of the goal posts.

Last year Nick Smith warned us aiming for swimmable rivers was "impractical". There was public outcry at this suggestion and now all of a sudden it is very practical. Is it an election year by chance?

So apart from changing the standards, what actually is being done to improve our rivers? Minister Smith tells us \$2 billion will be spent on fencing waterways. This is a laudable goal and should not be discouraged, however the real problem for our waterways is too much nitrogen; and nitrogen overload in the soil does not stop at the fence line.

Intensive farming results in so much cow urine, due to too many cows, the soil often can not cope. When there's too much urine it goes through the soil and into waterways with ease. Fencing will not stop this, and it seems when it comes to nitrogen pollution the Government buries it's head in the sand, as the only way to mitigate it is to de-intensify the dairy herd. Something this Government very much does not want to do.

Instead this Government is incentivising to encourage more industrial dairy conversions, despite the fact they know it is destroying our our rivers. There is a \$400m fund earmarked to subsidise irrigation schemes, which will encourage more industrial dairying, and as mentioned in the last newsletter Federated Farmers are calling for more subsidies to enable them to continue with current practices.

The Commissioner for the Environment has stated very clearly (and often), more industrial dairying will mean more pollution. Why do we keep ignoring her?

Whether we like it or not our rivers are not swimmable. The new standard which says rivers are swimmable if only 1:20 people will get sick is not good enough. The likely additional cost on our health system is just another subsidy for the polluters. This must change.

NZIF has consistently called for polluters to pay for their pollution. This means farmers should pay for their nitrogen pollution. If they can't figure out how to clean the rivers except by deintensifying their farming practices, then so be it. Our land and rivers are just too important.

All land users must take responsibility for the long term health of their soil and water. We need to start thinking about farm plans, where trees are planted on highly erodible soil, we need to understand at what level paddocks can be stocked and not exceed this, we must protect our streams and rivers, not just from sedimentation and phosphorous, but also from nitrogen overload and other chemicals.

NZIF is calling for a discussion on land management, including land under forests. The forest policy will be a start, however we need to look at all land and make some hard decisions about the best use of them, not just economically, but environmentally as well. In fact we should place the environmental value above the economic values. Yes as populations grow, the world is going to struggle to feed itself, but rather than using this as an excuse to destroy our rivers and soil (the very things that give us food), let's look at alternative ways to feed the world.

One in twenty people getting sick by swimming in our rivers is not good enough. Whatever the standards allow, we should not be proud of this. It is time we took a hard look at ourselves and make some much needed changes to our land management practices.

Regards

James Treadwell

Members Voice

Regarding the previous President's Column...

Hi James,

I could not have said better.

Well done and thanks.

Owen Springford

Institute News

Nelson/Marlborough Local Section Event - 15 March

Bill Dyck (FOA Biosecurity Manager) will present:

Changes to NZ Forest Biosecurity Surveillance System: Targeting Risk to improve forest health protection and maintain a healthy log trade.

Biosecurity threats to New Zealand are rapidly increasing for a number of reasons, but primarily because of increased trade and tourism. Pests and pathogens are getting closer to New Zealand and establishing in trading partner countries and hitchhiking on

trade goods and people to our border. NZ Forestry has had an active forest health surveillance system in place for more than 50 years and it has been regularly reviewed and updated. Over the last two years FOA has been working with MPI, Scion, AgResearch, SPS Biosecurity and CEBRA (Australian Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Assessment) and have developed a new Forest Biosecurity Surveillance system focused on risk and early detection to enable eradication. This means changes to how things have been done and also an even closer partnership with MPI to try to ensure forests are free of new incursions and that we can make guarantees to trading partners that we are not harboring unwanted organisms that they might see as a threat.

Date/Time: 15 March 2017 – 4.00pm, Location: Nelson Forests – Gladstone Road, Richmond

Auckland Section Event - 28th March

Log Export Market Update - Chris Rayes, Marketing Director, Rayonier Matariki Forests

The last year has been another positive period for New Zealand's log exporters but what is the outlook?

Recently returned from China, Chris Rayes, Marketing Director for Rayonier Matariki Forests, has once again kindly agreed to present his views on the log export markets of China, Korea and India, and to take us through developments over the past 12 months.

This meeting is generously hosted by Rayonier Matariki Forests for which the ASIF is very grateful.

Date: 5.30pm Tuesday 28 March 2017

Venue: Rayonier Matariki Forests, Level 5, 32-34 Mahuhu Crescent, Auckland

RSVP: Please RSVP to andy@logijztix.com by Friday 24 March

NZIF Conference 2017

The 2017 NZIF conference “**The Future of the NZ Forestry Sector**” and AGM will be held at the Novotel Lakeside, Rotorua between the **3rd and the 6th September 2017**. Please add this date to your diaries now!

A host of international and domestic speakers will provide insight into the technologies, policies, and market drivers that will shape our structure, position in the landscape and the composition of our workforce. The conference field trip will take advantage of Rotorua's unique position at the heart of the industry and will offer a unique opportunity to visit processing sites, research trials and local forests. More details of the programme will be published shortly. This conference will offer something to a broad range of industry professionals, students and associated industry sectors.

If you are interested in sponsoring the NZIF Conference or would like to book a Trade Stand please contact our President, [James Treadwell](#).

Inaugural NZIF Salary and Conditions Survey

The NZIF Council will be asking Members to contribute to an anonymous survey of Member's salaries and other benefits. Such surveys are common in Professional Organisations and give Members a better understanding of the industry they work in. The results will give Members information they can use for benchmarking and career planning. Further, the information can be used to promote careers in the forest industry by school careers advisors and consultants who will use the information on the conditions set by the NZIF.

Relative to other professional organisations, the NZIF has few Members and the survey will yield much more valuable information if a high proportion of Members complete the survey. Dr Euan Mason of the University of Canterbury will oversee the survey process and analysis to ensure the confidentiality of Members information and thorough analysis and presentation.

Simon Rapley RMNZIF

NZIF Councillor

Update from the NZIF Fire Committee

In the last NZIF newsletter there was an extensive report on the work that the NZIF Forest Fire Committee has done on the Fire & Emergency NZ (FENZ) Bill. The finalised version of the Question and Answer document is now available [here](#) .

[In the News](#)

Mid Otago Farm Forestry Association AGM and Upcoming Meetings - 20 March

"Carbon Farming and Funding for New Forests."

Venue: Outram Hall Time: 7.30 pm

This presentation will be given by speakers from the Ministry for Primary Industries. More information on this event can be found [here](#) .

Southland Farm Forestry Association Workshop – 20 March

Presentations on Carbon Farming, the Operation of the Emissions Trading Scheme and the Afforestation Grant Scheme. Dipton Golf Club, Bryce Road, Dipton. More information on this event can be found [here](#) .

Scion Research's 4th Annual Growing Confidence in Forestry's Future Conference and workshops 28-30 March

Otago Museum, Dunedin.

The GCOFF Research programme has reached the halfway mark or mid-rotation. At the outset, it set ambitious targets around raising the productivity of future forests and maximising the benefits from existing forests that will provide the wood sold into the domestic and international markets for the next 20 years at least. This conference will provide updates on key projects that are being undertaken within the overall GCOFF

programme and the implications for forest managers. More information on the event can be found [here](#) .

Invitation to "Growing Your Future"- 31 March

Meet with the people who drive Tairāwhiti's largest primary industry. Hear the details of the NZIER National Report.

Emerald Hotel, Gladstone Road, Gisborne.

More information on this event can be found [here](#) .

Ministry of Forestry Reunion - 15 April

Way back on 1 April 1987 the New Zealand Ministry of Forestry was born! That's right - nearly 30 years ago! MoF until 1992 also included the Forest Research Institute. MoF later merged, in 1998, with Agriculture to become MAF and more recently MPI.

To mark this milestone event a reunion of folk who worked in the Ministry of Forestry all those years ago is being organised!

It will be held in Wellington on Easter Saturday (15 April - from about 5.00pm) and with a restorative session on Easter Sunday from about 11.00am.

If you are interested in attending please do e-mail [James Barton](#) and he will put you on the list for further details.

The Commonwealth Forestry Association - Young Forester Award 2017

As part of the Commonwealth Forestry Association's (CFA) commitment to supporting the professional development of young foresters CFA are pleased to announce the launch of the CFA Young Forester Award 2017 in conjunction with the Faculty of Forestry at the University of British Columbia.

The CFA Young Forester Award provides a short-term work placement of three months hosted by the University of British Columbia at their Malcolm Knapp Research Forest, between September and December 2017, where the successful applicant will be able to develop their practical skills. The Award covers flights, accommodation, local travel, subsistence costs and a small bursary to cover the period of the placement.

More details on this award, including eligibility criteria, can be found [here](#). The Application Form should be completed and submitted via [email](#) by March 15th 2017.

NZFI Dryland Forests Initiative - Workshop Durable Eucalypts on Drylands: 19 - 20 April

Marlborough Research Centre, 85 Budge Street, Blenheim

Including presentations by New Zealand and international scientists and technical specialists and a visit to a NZDFI breeding trial site near Blenheim, where we will see and hear about some of the science that is being put into practice on the network of trial sites around the country. Also included is a tour of the LVL plant at Nelson Pine Industries Ltd. More information on this event is available [here](#) .

Calling for Nominations Eastland Wood Council – Skilled Professional of the Year

For the person/company that you know deserves the accolades and opportunity to stand up on stage and be recognised at the Eastland Wood Council Forestry Awards 2017 – May 19 Friday. [For more information](#)

MPI - Consultation on Japan timber legality scheme

Japan is developing a voluntary timber legality registration scheme for wood products companies. Draft regulations (ministerial ordinances) published on 27 February 2017 provide more details on the scheme's operation and requirements. The deadline for submissions on the draft ordinances is 23 March 2017. More information is available [here](#).

Eastland Wood Council Newsletter March 2017

The Eastland Wood Council's quarterly newsletter is attached [here](#) – enjoy the read and remember to put your nomination in to the 2017 Eastland Wood Council Awards along with purchasing your ticket to the Awards Dinner – May 19, Friday 2017 in Gisborne.

Employment wanted

Narendra Chand has recently moved from overseas as a permanent resident and is looking for an employment opportunity. Narendra has over 10 years work experience in environmental management sector, particularly in forest management that enhances ecosystem services (CV attached for details). Areas of expertise include valuation of environmental services, Climate Change, Environmental Economics and Ecosystem Modeling, Payment for Ecosystem Services, REDD+. Narendra has strong skills in using ecosystem services modelling tools such as Integrated Valuation of Ecosystem Services and Trade-offs (InVEST).

Narendra has strong skills on forest inventory using various tools and techniques and advanced uses of GIS and Remote Sensing technique for research in Forestry and Ecology and has used LIMDEP and STATA econometric software for my recent research on ecosystem services modelling. Academic qualifications include Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Management (Forestry) from Lincoln University, New Zealand and a high distinction in masters in Environmental Science (Forestry) from Australian National University, Australia.

Narendra's CV is available [here](#) .



Disclaimer

This newsletter is produced for NZIF Members. The contents (in whole or in part) should not be reproduced elsewhere nor the Newsletter distributed to others without permission from NZIF.

While every care is taken in preparing this Newsletter neither the NZIF nor those producing it can be held liable for any loss, damage or misrepresentation caused by the use of material contained in the Newsletter. The views expressed in this Newsletter do not necessarily represent those of the NZIF.