

NZIF Newsletter 2017-09 (22 May 2017)

President's Column



Does New Zealand have a clear policy of how to reduce emissions? If so I am unsure what it is. Would it not be nice if before the election we could have a clear view on what we need to do to reduce our emissions and we had all parties agreeing to the process. Unlikely I know, but surely this issue is larger than politics.

New Zealand seems to be stuck in a merry-go-round when it comes to our emissions reduction policy. We have the ETS, but not everyone in it. There is a lot of talk about what to do but not much action. We need to accept our policy may not be perfect, and just get on with it. Doing something is much better than doing nothing.

Other countries are getting on with it. China built a wind turbine and 200 square metres of solar panels an hour last year. It is time we took action as well. Our expertise is not in building turbines or solar panels, but we are good at managing our land. Let us use our expertise to make a difference. Yes I am talking more trees. As the ETS has not really encouraged new planting at the rate which is required, I would like to see our Government actually undertaking a planting program and getting back into tree ownership. We may even end up with a Ministry for Forestry again.

So what should our plan of action be? Many groups, such as Vivid Economics or Pure Advantage have proposed a plan. The common theme has been increased planting, and a review of some of our other land practices. I am of the belief it is time for a review of our land use. We need a land use policy. Yes I know this may effect our freedom to use the land for what we want, but we can not afford the continual degradation of waterways and increase in our carbon profile. I am afraid some farming practices should be assessed and perhaps not allowed on certain land.

But what about us? A large planting program to help balance our carbon profile would be great for our industry, but we must ensure we don't cause other issues due to 'intensification'. We need to consistently remind ourselves about the negative issues caused by diary intensification. Any planting must be undertaken to the highest standard and must bring the public along. This may mean public access, set backs from streams, pest control, and not putting plantations on land more suitable for other uses.

It is likely we will benefit from a clear and united policy on emissions. With this comes responsibility and we need to be prepared to be responsible. Planting large scale pine plantations which will be impossible to harvest and will eventually fall down, is not

responsible. Yes I know they may not be our problem, but they will be our children's problem and we should not look at short term gain which will have a negative future effect on New Zealand Inc. As an industry we need to be clear on what we believe is sustainable and best use for different pieces of land. Perhaps re-establishing native forest is the best long term option for highly erodible land and not a plantation. Who knows. It is time we have the discussion, and seek input from many professionals in their field and agree what our principals should be.

First, however, we need a clear emissions reduction policy, one which all parties agree with. Therefore I encourage you this year to hold your MP accountable for building and keeping to a cross-party consensus on an emissions policy. We must also encourage them to make decisions for the benefit of NZ and not their party. The need to reduce emissions is greater than any one party.

Regards

James Treadwell



[Institute News](#)

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!

At the 2017 annual conference we invite you to join us to hear from experts and industry leaders and take a glimpse at the future of the forest sector. The conference will focus on connected topics:

- Developing a vibrant, profitable and sustainable sector;
- Meeting the diverse demands placed upon us by society;
- Public relations and human factors;
- Māori leadership within the sector;
- Political perspectives;

- Attracting and retaining a skilled workforce.

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

Journal of Forestry - Latest Issue

The latest issue of the Journal of Forestry is now available on the NZIF website. [Link to journal](#)

In the News



Publication consultation: Council charging to monitor permitted activities in the National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry

The government is now calling for submissions on a proposed addition to the NES-Plantation Forestry.

In April 2017, amendments to the Resource Management Act 1991 were passed into law. One of those amendments allows for a National Environmental Standard to include a provision which enables councils, should they choose to do so, to charge for monitoring permitted activities under the Standard.

The government invites your comments on whether or not this provision should be included in the NES-PF.

The consultation opens on Friday 19 May 2017 and ends at 5pm on Friday 16 June 2017.

More information is available [here](#).

Royal Society of New Zealand Te Aparangi

The role of the Royal Society of New Zealand Te Aparangi is the advancement and promotion in New Zealand of science, technology, and the humanities. The New Zealand Institute of Forestry is a Constituent Organisation of the Royal Society which means it is recognised by the Royal Society as "...a nationally significant membership body undertaking learned society activities...". The following link takes you to the Royal Society Alert Newsletter. The newsletter contains information on upcoming events and lectures which may be of interest to NZIF members. [Link to article](#).

Insurance Brokers Perspective On Fire Legislation Changes

The attached article provides a very good overview on the pending fire structural/legislation changes from an insurance brokers perspective. As we know there remains many unanswered questions with only six weeks to go. [Link to article](#)

Advertisement - Job Vacancy

Harvest Engineering Manager- Gisborne Ernslaw One Limited

Ernslaw One is a forest owner and manager requiring a Harvest Engineering Manager for their Gisborne operations.

You will manage a team of three to carry out the harvest planning and oversee the construction of the associated roads and landings. This comprise of some 70 km of new roads and 200 landings per year. Given the unstable nature of the East Coast, these have to be built to a very high standard to meet use and environmental requirements. You will also be responsible for resource consents and achieving high health and safety standards.

Serious consideration will be given to applicants with:

- A tertiary qualification preferably in forest engineering and/or relevant experience in harvest planning, earthworks and stream crossing construction and maintenance;
- Knowledge of cable forest harvesting systems, quarrying and roading;
- Ability to manage staff and contractors with emphasis on health and safety;

Ernslaw One Ltd is committed to ensuring a safe and healthy environment. The successful applicant would require a pre-employment medical, drug and alcohol assessment.

A position description and application form is available from Iain McInnes on ph 0272 907 547, or email harvestengineer@ernslaw.co.nz. A letter of application with a CV should be submitted by Wednesday 7th June 2017.



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