

# NZIF WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

15 SEPTEMBER 2014

Number 2014/34

## NZIF introduces

JAY MATTHES

Administration Manager



Jay has worked for the NZ Institute of Forestry for the last 3 years. She has also been employed by the NZ Forest Owners Association for the last 7 years in the Accounts department, which has complemented her role with NZIF.

Prior to working in the forestry industry, Jay worked for the Wellington Club for 15 years and for Family Planning previous to that. These roles supported her as she raised her two boys who have now flown the nest: Ben who is studying Industrial Design at Massey University of Wellington, and Jack who is studying Finance and Economics at the University of Auckland.

In her spare time, Jay walks her dog Axel over the Wellington hills.

Jay and her husband Ralph decided to undertake a landscaping project – wanting to start with a blank canvas they spent two days pulling everything out (“omg what have we done?!”). After two years they have a lawn, a few plants and two lovely pine trees. A long way to go...

## ELECTION 2014

To find out each political party’s policies on Forestry, please click [here](#)

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## A New Zealand Forest Policy

NZIF workshop to launch a process of forming a forestry-wide initiative to form a robust NZ Forest Policy.

This is your opportunity to be involved in drafting the policy development framework and to have input into formulating a policy that will shape your industry for many decades to come.

**Date:** 3pm Monday 22 September 2014

**Venue:** CBRE, Zurich House, Level 14, 21 Queen St, Auckland

**RSVP:** For catering purposes please RSVP to [Philip Elworthy](#) by Monday 15 September.

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## PRESIDENT'S COMMENT

It is the final week of this election and hopefully after the weekend we will have a better idea who we need to talk with for the next three years. I am hopeful whoever it is we will be better heard and actually listened to. Our industry has so much to offer NZ economically, socially, and environmentally, and no Government should ignore us.

So what do you want to see the next Government do for forestry? I would love to hear your thoughts and opinions either directly or via this newsletter. The council is here to represent you as members but to do so we need to hear from you. So please don't think I am too busy, or you are wasting my time; tell me what you want.

I have previously discussed the beginning of a project to form a NZ Forest Policy which will be referred to for decades to come. There is a meeting next Monday in Auckland to define this project and set tasks [see right]. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP. If you know of someone who is not a member, please suggest they attend (and then suggest they join the Institute!); if you would like to be involved in the project but cannot attend the meeting, please let me know so we can ensure you are on the mailing list. This project has the ability to change the future of our industry if we get it right and have involved all the right people, many who will be from outside the Institute. Please consider how you can help.

Finally, the next column will be written by your Vice President, Kent Chalmers. It is time you got another view other than mine. Please all get out to vote, it is a privilege not available to many in the world. Whoever gets into Government, your council will work with them to help deliver the full potential of our profession.

Have a great and productive week.

**James Treadwell** *RMNZIF*



## NZIF Forest Policy Project (FPP)

*A self-help National Forest Policy*

The Government has said it believes that New Zealand does not need a Forest Policy. It prefers that Forest Working Party decisions should be "market led". This is widely considered to be incorrect and forestry's important economic, social and environmental benefits cannot be realised if not guided by a robust Forest Policy. Foresters within NZIF believe that with careful fostering and coordination a crowd-sourced self-help National Forest Policy can be developed to appropriately guide the broader working party's long-term development.

The first planning meeting of the FPP will be a workshop in Auckland which will debate and refine these initial guidelines for the Project. The workshop is open to all NZIF members and other interested parties.

For details of this workshop, please see above.

The notes are intended to guide procedures and discussion at the workshop. They have been prepared by an 'instigator' group of NZIF members and will be distributed via email to all NZIF members.

Even though the objectives, definitions and processes have had a fair bit of thought applied to them, they are not set in concrete. Adjustments should be suggested and debated at the workshop.

A very important segment of the workshop is to discuss how the project can now be extended to become forest-sector-wide. FPP needs resource people from every facet of the forest sector, either to research and present data, to provide information and recommendations for consideration at working party seminars, or by serving on working party committees.

NZIF Forest Policy Project Working Party

## MEMBER'S VOICE

Members interested in dairy conversion and forest harvesting in New Zealand may like to refer to a map derived from satellite imagery at [Global Forest Watch](#)

Pan then zoom to New Zealand. Play the 10 year “tree cover loss” 2000 to 2013 visualisation (button bottom right). It clearly shows the scale of dairy conversions on the Canterbury Plains and in the Taupo to Rotorua corridor, but it also picks up all other business as usual forest harvesting and replanting, so probably overstates the degree of tree cover loss.

In a similar vein, refer also to the latest MPI “[Sustainable Forestry Bulletin, no 51](#)” August 2014.

The following guidance from MPI hardly seems compatible with a bulletin entitled Sustainable Forestry. Perhaps it would be better contained in a bulletin named “Progressive Dairying”, as it draws attention to the closing window for emitters to purchase low cost offsets for dairy conversions.

### The 2015 Change to Units used to pay ETS Obligations

If you deforest pre-1990 forest land in 2015 you must submit an emissions return, and thus pay the obligations with NZUs, in 2016. However, if you deforest in 2014, and submit a return and pay units before 30 May 2015, you can still use Kyoto units (e.g. ERUs).

Peter Weir

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Photo from David Buckleigh’s recent trip to New Caledonia, of a new resort constructed by Sheraton Hotels. There are some lessons here for the increase in the use of appearance grade wood in construction in New Zealand particularly of high class buildings.



## MEMBER'S VOICE

Many thanks for your contributions on the unfair treatment of forestry. We (foresters) appear to have lost the initiative. The world is in real trouble, and forestry and wood use can go some way to help it to change course. Other invested interests are having a field day at the expense of forestry. The environmental move has not helped - we should be supported not constantly being vilified.

Wink Sutton

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I wasn’t around when the State plantations were privatised but I can imagine the argument – innate superiority of free enterprise, ability to tap into world markets, introduction of cutting edge technologies and rock star management.

I returned to New Zealand shortly afterwards to a good forestry economy in Southland where I participated in the sale of a 100 hectare radiata plantation in which I had a share. There was a very active local sawmilling industry and the buyer of the bulk of the local state plantation estate was putting good quality wood onto the local market. We did very well. I thought “for once they’ve got it right”.

Now I see that they didn’t. The tended forests are gone, the industry has all but collapsed and what remains cannot get enough quality logs because the heir to the Forest Service does no pruning or thinning, neither has it introduced any new technology. What else it might have done I cannot tell – it doesn’t communicate locally and few Southlanders outside the business would know who it is.

I gather that this isn’t an uncommon situation elsewhere in New Zealand that we gave away a growing industry in return for commodity export, that we swapped an asset that could have filled our own pension funds for one that now fills those of others, and got nothing back.

The only solution left is an export tax on unprocessed wood.

John Purey-Cust

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## Council news

Legislation intended to prevent the importation to Australia of wood and wood products from illegally harvested forests comes into effect in November. NZIF has participated in the development of Australia's legislation, supporting the intention and purpose of the restrictions. That support has been qualified by our request that measures are introduced to ensure NZ's exports of wood and wood products are not unreasonably affected by way of additional and unreasonable compliance costs.

NZIF raised with MPI and Australian regulators our concern that because only 50% of the commercial estate is FSC certified, third party eco-certifications may not apply to all NZ wood products, particularly those arising from smaller forests. We highlighted the range of issues covered by eco-certification standards goes well beyond issues of legal access and harvest, and changes to those standards are determined by individuals and organisations without direct knowledge of or accountability to New Zealand.

Recent correspondence with the Director General of MPI elicited a positive response to the concept of Registered members of NZIF providing third party and expert assurance with respect to the legality of harvested wood products exported to Australia. The idea is not to duplicate the more comprehensive verifications of forest management provided by FSC and NZS AS 4708 which involves requirements beyond 'legal compliance'. Our proposal is those forest managers unable or unwilling to incur the cost and obligation can avail themselves of a credible and expert 'assurance' of legal compliance from a Registered member, thereby enabling the use of their harvest in wood and wood products actually or potentially destined for export to Australia, America or Europe. Given the diverse range of products which can arise from a single tree, it is our judgement almost all forest harvest will presumably need to meet the basic requirements for 'legality' verification.

The concept of a Registered member legality verification does not detract from and potentially enhances the value of a Government to Government 'low risk' ranking of NZ wood exports.

## Council announcement continued

We believe this will usefully complement the need for formal country to country assurance on NZ wood that can only come from the New Zealand Government.

The council is interested in your comments, queries and other thoughts. Please either write to **Member's Voice** in the newsletter and/or directly to [Murray Parrish](#).

## 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

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. Registrations need to be received before noon Wednesday 22 October 2014.

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NZIF Canterbury Branch invites you to the next local NZIF meeting.

Date: Thursday 25 September, 6pm  
Venue: School of Forestry, Ilam, Christchurch, Drinks and nibbles in foyer 6-7pm, Forestry, followed by talk in lecture theatre F3  
Guest speaker: Gordon Williams  
Cost: \$15 per person, students free  
Topic: The role of trees and forests on the properties of Landcorp Farming Ltd - NZ's largest farmer.

## 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 07 921 1883

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## Seeking employment opportunities

I am a newcomer in New Zealand, and I am writing to express my interest and willingness to find a job in the field of forest, tree plantation and forestry. I am familiar with the products and services, and would be highly appreciated to receive your advice about the matter. I have worked closely in forestry for many years, and I thought that I would be a good match for the places you may know.

Resume [here](#)

Ali Soltani  
Rotorua

## Plant Exports Review

Ministry of Primary Industries

Plant Exports phytosanitary certification review

New Zealand exporters have built an excellent reputation because of the quality of their products and the robust government systems overseeing their operations. In order to maintain this reputation, it is important to keep pace with the changing export landscape. As part of this the Ministry for Primary Industries is working on a review of New Zealand's system for ensuring all exports of plant products meet the requirements of importing countries by being free of plant pests and diseases of concern to them. This Plant exports phytosanitary certification system enables access for NZ plant exports to world markets and it is critical to our ability to export plants and plant products.

It is important to note that while the review will not mean significant changes to the system, it will be streamlined, making it easier to understand and providing a higher level of clarity and certainty to all parties regarding what is expected of them. The increased clarity will mean that organisations that MPI approves to carry out phytosanitary inspections (MAOs) will need to review their documentation to ensure they are up to date.

Full document [here](#)

If you have any questions, please email [MPI](#)

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## Applications open

Do you have something to say to the forestry profession in Australia and New Zealand about forest management, fire management or landscape level decision making? Would you like to make a contribution to discussions about the role of forests and foresters in international development? Do you have any great ideas for urban forestry, forest restoration, land care, or conservation of forest biodiversity?

If so, now is your chance to submit an abstract for a paper to present to the [ANZIF Conference 2015](#). The conference theme is 'Beyond tenure: managing forests across the landscape'. For more information on Abstract submission, click [here](#)

## ADVERTISING

### Forest of Tane



West Tawa Land Limited on behalf of itself and its associated entity, Forest of Tane Partnership (together called the "Proprietor") is considering options for selling its plantation forest which is located on the western hills overlooking the Wellington suburb of Tawa, and approximately 30km from the Port of Wellington. West Tawa Land Limited is also considering selling its freehold land on which the forest is situated.

The Proprietor now wishes to seek expressions of interest to assess possible market favour towards these options. The estate consists of several titles of freehold land with a total land area of approximately 36.8ha of which approximately 20.2 ha is stocked with radiata pine. The forest consists of 1984 and 1987 plantings and has been managed under an intensive tending regime and is now approaching harvest age. Total available volume for harvest is 12,000m<sup>3</sup> that can be harvested in one tranch. The Proprietor is prepared to consider options for sale including

1. Lump sum bid to secure the entire Forest of Tane Forest Estate including land, plantation forest, and other related assets;
2. Bid to secure plantation forest cutting rights only;
3. Proposals from suitably qualified companies interested to secure a contract with the Proprietor to execute a managed sale of the crop on behalf of the Proprietor.

Forme Consulting Group Ltd will assist the Proprietor by providing technical information and coordination of the process, whereas sales decisions and transactions will be managed by the Proprietor at its sole discretion.

All questions pertaining to the forest, information and sale process are to be forwarded directly to [John Schrider](#) at Forme Consulting Group Ltd, 04 232 7155 ext. 5.

Expressions of interest are required to be delivered to the Forme Consulting Group Ltd offices before 5pm, 31 October 2014

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

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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.

### Sept 2014

Wed 17 – Thu 18 [Wood Innovation 2014](#), Distinction Hotel, Rotorua, for more information email [Brent Apthorp](#) at Forest Industry Engineering Association  
Mon 22 A New Zealand Forest Policy workshop, 3pm, CBRE, Zurich House, Level 14, 21 Queen St, Auckland, please RSVP to [Philip Elworthy](#)

### Oct 2014

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*

### Nov 2014

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.

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