



**New Zealand Institute of Forestry**

Te Pūtahi Ngāherehere o Aotearoa Incorporated

# Forest Policy for the Future

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# Introduction

- ❑ Mankind has cleared two thirds of the NZ forest landscape



# The need for a Forest Policy?

- ❑ Trees and forests have immense (multitude) value to Kiwis
- ❑ To provide guidance for the use protection and development of its trees and forests



# Why are foresters developing policy?

- They perceive productive potential which is under-rated



# What is the forest community involvement?

- Broad representation by brilliant people at all levels
- Five themed Working Parties became the driving force
- Intensive testing and consultation continues



# Definitions determined and settled upon

## Definition of a **Forest**:

- ❑ An area of trees of any age, regardless of species or the purpose for which the trees are managed, and including conservation, production and urban forests.

## Definition of the **Forest Sector & Forest Community**:

- ❑ Persons who contribute to, make use of or have an interest in forests in any way.

## Definition of **Forest Policy**:

- ❑ A set of enduring and visionary statements encompassing all matters concerning New Zealand's forests and their sustainable uses.



# Objectives & Purpose for Forest Policy Project

The **Objective** of the Forest Policy Project is:

To establish, publish and maintain a pragmatic and enduring National Forest Policy for all forests, all forest activities and all forest users, which will:

1. Meet future economic, environmental and social demands on forests;
2. Recognise the unique long-term investment and management characteristics of forests;
3. Provide legislators – central and local government regulators and decision makers – with reliable information enabling them to realise the sector's potential contribution to the nation;
4. Guide resource managers and investors towards better informed, higher quality and more advantageous decisions concerning forestry.



# Forest Policy & Climate Change

- ❑ Increase native and exotic plantation area over next decade
- ❑ One million hectares of erodible pasture land will be the best start





# Forest Policy & Ecosystem services

- Forests are a major component of New Zealand's natural capital
- Forest ecosystem services include:
  - Enhancement of biodiversity;
  - Sequestration of carbon;
  - Prevention of erosion of unstable soils;
  - Mitigation of contamination to run-off water;
  - Provision of shade and shelter;
  - Provision of aesthetic and ambient environments;
  - Provision of characteristics supporting tourism;
  - Mitigation of the loss nutrients and silt to waterways;
  - Provision of recreational activities;
  - Provision of food;
  - Provision of wood for energy;
  - Production of raw materials for novel products.



# Forest Policy & On-shore Processing of Logs

- Encourage further on-shore log processing.



# Forest Policy & Use of Wood

- Build and rebuild in wood



# Forest Policy & forest advocacy

- ❑ Develop a well-versed and erudite advocate for forestry
- ❑ Purpose – to coordinate and implement forest policy



# Summary

- ❑ Forest Policy Project highlights the significant values of products and benefits
- ❑ Some non-traded benefits are commonly overlooked and underrated
- ❑ FPP exhorts New Zealand to establish more forests for economic, social, cultural and environmental rewards

