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WA plantation pine land 'wasted' as carbon offsets project goes begging

THE Institute of Foresters of Australia and Australian Forest Growers are calling for the Western Australian government to take urgent action to allow the replanting of pine in the Gngangara/Pinjar/Yanchep region.

Chair of the IFA/AFG's WA division Brad Barr said the clearfelling of maritime pine trees in the plantations north of Perth without replanting made little sense.

The trees are being liquidated because they purportedly use too much rainwater which is needed to replenish the Gngangara ground water aquifers for human use.

"This scenario seems irrational and lacks consideration of sensible forest management," Mr Barr said.

"Research has shown that, provided the pine trees are regularly thinned, the amount of water they use is little different to that used by the surrounding natural vegetation.

"The government is



Endangered... Carnaby's cockatoos have adapted to eating pine cones after the decline of other habitats.

currently seeking proposals from private sources to expand WA's pine plantation estate by 50,000 ha over 10 years, but at the same time is ignoring the 22,000-ha estate right on the doorstep of the second biggest pine timber factory in the state (Wesbeam) to which the government is committed to supply logs under a State Agreement Act.

"The pine trees also provide a valuable food source and roosts for the endangered Carnaby's cockatoo, which have become increasingly

dependent on this pine resource since it was first established in the early 20th century."

IFA/AFG considers the multiple benefits of plantations has been overlooked, and the impact upon water tables over-emphasised to the detriment of other forest and land values.

A LACK OF SENSIBLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

"This area is just 10% of the total Gngangara groundwater area of 220,000 ha," Mr Barr said.

"The ex-plantation is now mostly unmanaged land, going to waste, and has been fallow for so long that planted pine trees will be eligible for

generating Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs). If 10,000 ha were replanted, the IFA/AFG estimates that more than 2 million ACCUs could be generated over time, and the revenue from carbon credits alone may cover the costs of reforestation.

"These ACCUs could be used to offset emissions from water desalination or other large development projects and would represent the single largest carbon sequestration project in Australia."



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Forest sector must be turbo-charged to achieve 2050 carbon neutral goal

Ross Hampton appointed new chair of FAO forestry council

INCOMING chair of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation's forestry advisory council Ross Hampton says the world's renewable timber and forestry sectors must be turbo-charged if they are to have any chance of achieving the global goal of 'Carbon Neutral by 2050'.

Mr Hampton, who is also CEO of the Australian Forest Products Association, has been appointed chair of the FAO's advisory committee on sustainable forest-based Industries (ACSFI).

"I am honoured to be chosen for this role," Mr Hampton said.

"The ACSFI is determined to promote world best practice sustainable forest management such as occurs in Australia and many parts of the globe. My ambition is to continue the powerful representation of outgoing chair Carina Håkansson, who was director-general of the Swedish Forest Industries Federation."

Mr Hampton said the world's sustainably managed forestry and forest products industries were uniquely positioned to play a major role in the renewed global drive to achieve 'Carbon Neutral by 2050', and in the international post-Covid recovery efforts.

He pointed to the 4th

“SHIFT TO TALL TIMBER BUILDINGS HAS BEEN TOO SLOW



Ross Hampton... a passionate and serious advocate for sustainable forest industries.



Sven Walter... push to increase uptake of forest-based renewables.



Lyndall Bull... looking forward to implementing the new 2020-2030 ACSFI Strategic Framework.



Carina Håkansson... forests have key role in conserving biodiversity and other ecosystems.

assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which stated: "A sustainable forest management strategy aimed at maintaining or increasing forest carbon stocks, while producing an annual sustained yield of timber, fibre or energy from the forest, will generate the largest sustained mitigation benefits."

"Wood and timber products don't just store carbon as the trees grow, they also store it in the products produced from forests. Timber is also far less energy-intensive to produce than steel and concrete, making it the 'green' choice for construction."

However, despite some outstanding breakthroughs in innovative engineered timber products, Ross Hampton says the shift to medium and high-rise timber buildings has been too slow in Australia and internationally "if we are to make a meaningful impact on climate."

He says every major city authority with a climate action plan should be

demanding developers use more timber.

"Forestry products also have a huge role to play in providing biodegradable alternatives to single use

plastics which are choking our waterways and oceans," Mr Hampton said.

The secretary of the ACSFI, based in Rome, Sven Walter

Cont P 4

The united voice for Australia's forest industries



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He keeps Bob-bing up: High Court next?

"IT'S annoying, tiring and, frankly, very boring."

Nick Steel, CEO of the Tasmanian Forest Products Association, added: "Bob Brown has now applied to take his legal battle on native forests to the High Court after three Federal Court judges determined that the Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement IS just that – an RFA."

The Bob Brown Foundation had its Federal Court case dismissed but has vowed to fight on. It had argued Tasmania's RFA is invalid because it does not properly

protect threatened native animals.

"The forest industry called for a wake after the Federal Court decision," foundation spokeswoman Jenny Weber said.

"Instead the Bob Brown Foundation held a celebratory launch of the next stage of its campaign including its move towards a High Court appeal."

The Tasmania's Liberal government, Labor Opposition, and state-owned forestry company Sustainable Timber Tasmania all support the Federal Court's ruling.

State Resources Minister Guy Barnett says it extremely disappointing High Court action was being pursued.

"The Federal Court was clear and it's time for the Bob Brown Foundation to respect



Nick Steel... there is good news

the umpire's decision," he said.

The Federal Court judgment agreed with STT that there is a broader suite of environmental protections in force in Tasmania.

"The government has always stated that we have full confidence in our regional forest agreement and our sustainable forest management practices.

"We will fight to protect Tasmanian businesses, jobs

and communities."

The forest industry employs more than 5700 people, directly and indirectly.

Nick Steel said spasmodic forest protests were still occurring, but on public land used by STT.

"The media seems to be shying away from this," he said. "I think they're losing interest.

"However, they did report some good news ... that Neville Smith Forest Products is increasing production at its Southwood mill near Huonville that will create 30 new jobs."

Meanwhile, who actually pays for Bob Brown's court costs is unknown at this time.

Brown has twice been arrested in recent months at separate protests at logging coupes in the state's northeast.

JIM BOWDEN

From P 10

congratulated Mr Hampton as incoming chair.

"Our push to increase the uptake of forest-based renewables needs strong leadership and Mr Hampton has shown he is a passionate and serious advocate for sustainable forest industries."

AFPA represents forest growers, harvesters, and manufacturers of timber and paper products.

FAO forestry officer, Australian Dr Lyndall Bull added: "I have known

Ross Hampton for many years. I am looking forward to working with him to implement the new 2020-2030 ACSFI Strategic Framework ensuring that the vital work of ACSFI is at the forefront of the wider global audience"

Carina Håkansson says the forest industry has a key role in conserving biodiversity and other ecosystem services and, by so doing, maintaining the ecological functions and the integrity of forests.

"Adaptation to climate change will pose new challenges and opportunities on forest management and conservation to ensure forest health while avoiding setbacks such as insect outbreaks or unwanted fires," she said.

“IT'S TIME TO RESPECT THE UMPIRE'S DECISION



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“FORESTRY HAS KEY ROLE IN CONSERVING BIODIVERSITY

Students Zoom in to interact live with foresters on their career opportunities

MORE than 1700 primary and secondary students from every state and territory in Australia registered to be a part of ForestLearning and the Primary Industries Education Foundation's (PIEFA) live Forester Time 2020 webinars for National Ag Day on November 19.

Forester Time allowed students to see, hear and interact live with a forester on Zoom web video conferencing and learn more about their daily work, diversity of career opportunities, and the renewable and sustainable cycle of forestry.

Students had plenty of questions, including "what's the best thing about being a forester?"; "how many trees do you plant every year?"; and "have you every ridden in one of those one-million-dollar harvesting machines?"

Foresters Kathryn Cressell from Forico (Tasmania), Gavin Livingston from Vic Forests (Victoria) and Sarah Maddison from HVP Plantations (Victoria) each presented 30-minute sessions with



Students at Moss Vale High School in the Southern Highlands of NSW learn about forests and biodiversity in their Stage 5 agriculture program using ForestLearning teaching resources and teacher pack contents.

primary and secondary school cohorts connecting from their classrooms or home learning spaces.

For secondary students, Gavin from VicForests presented 'Forestry 101 – managing today's forests for tomorrow's generations', and Sarah Maddison presented and demonstrated more about what she does with UAVs and drones in forestry – 'seeing the wood for the trees – technologies used in forest management'.

For the primary school students, Kathryn Cresswell presented 'where does wood

come from?' including a live gameshow ... 'is it a forest?'.

Teacher Joanne from Our Lady of Mercy College sent email feedback to say:

"I found the session invaluable and am looking forward to sharing these resources with my materials design technology – wood students."

Jane from Victoria also

“MANAGING TODAY'S FORESTS FOR TOMORROW'S GENERATIONS

provided feedback: "What an enjoyable webinar! I would like to refer back to these sessions once they are published online".

The live recordings of Gavin Livingston and Sarah Maddison's webinars are available to view at: www.forestlearning.edu.au

Meanwhile, ForestLearning will be hosting Forester Time student and teacher professional learning sessions in conjunction with the Design and Technologies Teacher Association Victoria and PIEFA throughout 2021.

Cont P 7



Wildlife Retreat at Taronga, NSW

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Female forest scientists bring new business, environmental solutions

AS part of International Day of Women and Girls in Science today (February 11) Timber Queensland celebrates the work of its female scientists.

Strategic relations and communications manager at Timber Queensland Clarissa Brandt said the forest sector provided women with a wonderful opportunity for a science career in the natural environment.

"Forestry is such an exciting sector to work in; it provides challenging work using innovative technology and a great balance of being in the great outdoors and an office environment," Ms Brandt said.

"By using their scientific expertise in our forests, women are providing innovative and creative solutions," she said.

"International Day of Women and Girls in Science is an opportunity to promote full and equal access to and



Alison Dillon testing water quality... forestry combines many science disciplines.

forester for HQPlantations, Queensland's largest plantation forest grower, says forestry combines many science disciplines.

"Sustainable forest management relies on botany, biology, geology, chemistry, mathematics, biometrics, meteorology, geography and understanding different ecosystem types," she said.

A Southern Cross University forest science graduate, Alison said in her planning role she regularly uses GIS-based mapping products and interpret LiDAR data.

"I love the variety my job offers ... every day I'm doing

something different out in the field, in the office, meeting with neighbours and Aboriginal Elders, mapping – it's great. I'm helping to make a difference, protecting the forest and contributing to carbon capture through growing wood products," she said.

As the sixth most forested

country in the world, Alison says Australia's forests and forest industries are in need of talented young people to carry on the work of maintaining ecosystem values and playing a critical role in the management of forests.

"I would encourage all women to consider studying science and working in forestry – it's a really rewarding way to connect with your environment and make a difference," Alison said.

Alison Dillon, planning forester for HQPlantations... helping to make a difference, protecting the forest and contributing to carbon capture.



Clarissa Brandt... women and girls are providing innovative and creative solutions

participation in science for women and girls.

"The day is a reminder that women and girls play a critical role in science and technology communities and that their participation should be strengthened."

Alison Dillon, a planning

“WOMEN IN FORESTRY MAKING A DIFFERENCE

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19 March 2021

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FEBRUARY

8-12: Future Timber Hub showcase. Looking at research and partners facilities through a series of lunchtime webinars from 12 pm to 1:15 pm (AEST) each day, starting on Day 1 with projects covering prefabrication and digital fabrication strategies for large-scale timber construction; and alternative uses for under-valued sawmill products in innovative timber structures. Details and how to register will be listed on www.futuretimberhub.org More details next issue.

MARCH

15-18: DANA New Zealand Forest Industry Status and Outlook Conference and Field Trip – Napier Conference Centre, Marine Parade, Napier, New Zealand. For further information visit www.danaevents.co.nz/2021napier/

or contact Conference Organiser Julie Bell admin@dana.co.nz

19: Doing Timber Business in Queensland – Northern Suburbs Bowls Club 175 Edinburgh Castle Rd, Wavell Heights, QLD. Join QLD's full industry supply chain at a one day symposium followed by barefoot bowls & BBQ networking. For more information visit www.timberqueensland.com.au/ events or email admin@timberqueensland.com.au

JUNE

16-18: TABMA National Conference – Oaks Cypress Lakes Resort, Hunter Valley, NSW. Contact Alicia Oelkers at alicia@tabma.com.au

JULY

10: Victorian & Tasmanian Hardware Awards – Showtime Events Centre, Melbourne, VIC. 6:30pm-11:30pm. Contact

Natalie Scott at n.scott@hardwareaustralia.com.au

17: Queensland Hardware Industry Awards – Rydges South Bank, Brisbane, QLD. 6:30pm-11:30pm. Contact Natalie Scott at n.scott@hardwareaustralia.com.au

AUGUST

13: South Australian Hardware Industry Awards – Stamford Grand, Glenelg, SA. 6:30-11:30pm. Contact Natalie Scott at n.scott@hardwareaustralia.com.au

SEPTEMBER

4: TABMA QLD Awards Dinner – Rydges South Bank, Brisbane, QLD. 6.00pm start. Contact Alicia Oelkers at alicia@tabma.com.au

10: New South Wales Hardware Legends and Industry Awards – Doltone House Darling Island, Sydney, NSW. 12:00pm – 4:30pm. Contact Natalie Scott at n.scott@hardwareaustralia.com.au

com.au

17: Western Australia Industry Awards – Beaumonde on the Point, Perth, WA. 12:00pm – 3:30pm. Contact Natalie Scott at n.scott@hardwareaustralia.com.au

OCTOBER

TBA: TABMA NSW Awards Dinner – Sydney, NSW. Contact Alicia Oelkers at alicia@tabma.com.au

11-14: IFA/AFG national conference 'Your Forests, Our Future' – Country Club Tasmania, Launceston, TAS, Australia. Open to forest scientists, forestry professionals and forest growers. Call for abstracts and sponsorship opportunities will be released in coming months. Contact Institute of Foresters of Australia. Visit www.forestry.org.au or phone (03) 9695 8940.

From P 5

The 2021 series will begin in March with the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries wood scientists sharing more about the

SCHOOL INCURSION WEBINARS WILL BE RUN EACH TERM



Students across Australia joined in the ForestLearning and the Primary Industries Education Foundation's (PIEFA) live ForesterTime 2020 webinars

wonderful world of wood.

Live ForesterTime school incursion webinars will be run each term and presenters are being sought to share what they do around the country in forests and wood.

Contact ForestLearning for more about how to get involved by emailing Beth Welden at info@forestlearning.edu.au.

•The complete seed-to-shelter journey, Page 10.



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FEBRUARY

24-26: Reforestation for biodiversity, carbon and livelihoods – VIRTUAL EVENT. The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and Botanic Gardens Conservation International will jointly convene a three day debate, scientific research, best practice and policy recommendations to go beyond the headlines and find ways to raise the standard of global reforestation. The conference will create a global hub of expertise and innovative thinking, to ensure that reforestation delivers benefits not just for carbon capture, but also for biodiversity and human wellbeing. For further information see: www.worldagroforestry.org/event/reforestation-biodiversity-carbon-capture-and-livelihoods

MARCH

8-10: European Forest Products Industry Conference – VIRTUAL EVENT. Fastmarkets RISI. Pulp, paper and packaging forecasts and panel discussions - Understand the key market changes impacting the European supply chain and beyond. For more information see: www.risiinfo.com/events/

9-11: Dubai WoodShow – Dubai World Trade Centre, Dubai. The Dubai WoodShow is the premier destination for wood specialists. It is the region's only dedicated business-to-business meeting place for the wood, wood accessories and woodworking machinery industry. For further information see: www.woodshowglobal.com/dubai/#section3

APRIL

1-4: International Conference on Agriculture, forestry, Biotechnology and Food Science (ICAFBFS) – Bali, Indonesia. The key intention of ICAFBFS is to provide opportunity for the global participants to share their ideas and experience. This event will also help the delegates to establish research or business relations as well as to find international linkage for future collaborations. For further information see: www.allconferencealert.com/event-detail.html?ev_id=522856

MAY

24-28: XV World Forestry Congress – Seoul, South Korea. 15th World Forestry Congress. The theme will be: Building a green, healthy and resilient future with forests. For further information see: <https://wfc2021korea.org/online/notice.html?act=view&aid=40>

JUNE

29-1: WoodEX for Africa – Gallagher Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa. Long established as the gateway to Africa's timber trade, WoodEX for Africa 2021 will be the ultimate machinery, tools and supplies gathering in Africa. Held in conjunction with the 2nd Deck & Flooring Expo and co-located with Africa's biggest construction expo, African Construction Expo. For further information see: <https://woodexforafrica.com/>

JULY

2-4: The International Forest Festival – Feanadock National Forest, Leicestershire. UK. Music, forests, art and ideas. For further information see: <https://timberfestival.org.uk/>

AUGUST

9-12: World Conference on Timber Engineering – Santiago, Chile. Uruguay XXI will host as part of its strategy to promote investments in the forestry and wood sector. This is the first time this event is held in South America and will be hosted by the Chilean capital. The main topics that this conference will cover are sustainable forests for timber production, wood products and connections, wood engineering and architecture, policy, implementation and management, education, promotion and future trends. For further information see: www.uruguayxxi.gub.uy/en/events/article/145/

16-19: 20th Commonwealth Forestry Conference – VIRTUAL EVENT. An informal forum for foresters, and all those with an interest in the forestry sector to exchange knowledge and experience. It is organized by the Standing Committee on Commonwealth Forestry and covers general aspects of forest management and governance and has a focus on the changing priorities of the forestry sector. For further information see: <https://cfc2021.ubc.ca/>

• Please send events to John Halkett: johnh@timberandforestrynews.com

Bulletin: wood can 'build back better' from Covid-19

A HIGHLY-acclaimed Australian architectural practice and an award-winning structural engineer have combined to produce the winner of the Australian certified timber prize presented by Responsible Wood.

The Wildlife Retreat, a lush bushland oasis in the iconic Taronga Zoo headlines the latest Responsible Wood Bulletin.

The summer edition also covers the 'virtually

unmissable' PEFC General Assembly including the announcement of the 2020 PEFC photo of the year.

Marketing and communications officer Jason Ross is encouraged by the role Responsible Wood and PEFC will play in 'building back better'

"The timber and forestry sector may emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic with higher social and operations standards and social measures than before," Mr



HQPlantations' southern pine plantation on Queensland's Sunshine Coast.

Ross said.

"What is clear is that the sustainable wood sector must be part of the global strategy to 'build back better'.

He said the challenge for forestry businesses was to implement sustainable practices, embrace certification schemes such as Responsible Wood and PEFC, and so far as practicable, invest in innovation and digitisation.

The bulletin covers the latest developments in the AS / NZS trans-Tasman forestry standard, a re-commitment to the Australian Made campaign and a visit to HQPlantations Tuan-Toolara estate.

Dave Gover joins AKD team to help support ongoing growth in Queensland

New role focuses on construction issues and opportunities for the future

AKD has recruited additional talent into the organisation and one role which will have considerable interaction with AKD customers is the newly-appointed business development manager.

Dave Gover has joined the business, based at the company's Queensland sawmill in Caboolture. He will have a dual focus, with the primary focus as business/product development manager and the secondary focus as leader for the Queensland sales team, reporting to general manager sales Liam Buchanan.

Dave said, "the position will focus on construction methodologies of today, how they are likely to evolve and how AKD uses its wood resource and manufacturing



Dave Gover... strong credentials, a wealth of experience.

capabilities to provide products that help customers and their customers continue to build with timber.:

He said the role would actively investigate the application of AKD products, construction issues and opportunities for the future.

David Gover comes with strong credentials, a wealth of experience and deep connections throughout the industry and a passion for timber. He was formerly the CEO of the Engineered Wood Products Association of Australasia where he led a team of technical

experts in verifying that wood products conform to Australian standards and provided technical assistance to processors in product development.

During his time with EWPA, Dave was the chair of the Building Products Industry Council, a multi-sector organisation advocating for regulations which deliver acceptable building outcomes for society. He has also held operations and production management roles in LVL and glulam manufacturing and hardwood sawmilling.

With an engineering qualification, he has provided technical support for the specification of engineered wood products and supported product development for EWPs across Australasia, developing the necessary manufacturing capabilities to match.

Dave is a strong advocate of timber and plays an active role in leading industry discussion and research on the potential of timber within the construction industry. He will support the AKD Queensland sales team as the company looks to significantly expand that site's production capacity, product volume and range.

Dave is looking forward to meeting AKD's customers across all of the company's markets, understanding the challenges and opportunities being faced, and exploring how AKD will navigate them and support their customers now and into the future.

“PRODUCTS THAT HELP CUSTOMERS CONTINUE TO BUILD WITH TIMBER

Ongoing demand for new houses beyond HomeBuilder

AUSTRALIA'S new homes sales last month were just 12.1% lower than at the same time the previous year.

New sales reached remarkable heights in the December 2020 quarter, almost 100% higher than at the same time the previous year.

HIA chief economist Tim Reardon said the impact of HomeBuilder was already reflected in record high

housing finance results and approvals data, which would lead to strong jobs growth in the industry in 2021.

"The surge in sales at the end of 2020 can be attributed to HomeBuilder as households finalised contracts to build a new home before the end of the December 31 deadline to access the \$25,000 grant," Mr Reardon said.

"As a consequence of

HomeBuilder drawing forward sales in December, new home sales in January were just 30% of the number of sales achieved in December 2020.

"This is still an encouraging result given the nature of the market in January, which is typically a slow month for sales."

The relative strength of sales in January is encouraging and indicates

that there will remain ongoing demand for new homes beyond the HomeBuilder scheme. After drawing forward sales into December, HomeBuilder will also push sales back until the end of March when the reduced \$15,000 grant ends.

"For this reason, sales are expected to remain flat in February before another surge in March," Mr Reardon said.

Virtual forest excursions for schools – a complete seed-to-shelter journey

WITH an ever-increasing number of teachers and parents looking for online alternatives for traditional classroom teaching during and beyond Covid-19, ForestLearning has launched new ForestVR apps for IOS, Android, and Oculus Go.

The apps allow students, teachers and parents to be immersed in virtual forests and wood processing facilities via 360-degree vision. This 'world first' complete seed-to-shelter VR journey of the ultimate renewable resource was captured in 28 locations around Australia. The experiences showcase the complete 30-year growth cycle journey through pine and spotted gum forests – from the nursery, planting, management, harvest and wood processing.

"Virtual reality has truly overcome problems around the inaccessibility of visiting

physical forests and wood processing facilities," ForestLearning program manager at Forest and Wood Products Australia Beth Welden said.

"This is particularly useful and relevant during the past and current Covid-19 social distancing restrictions experienced in schools," she said.

ForestVR experiences are available to view via VR headset, iPad, tablet,



1/ Virtual reality has overcome problems around the inaccessibility of visiting physical forests and wood processing facilities.
2/ Beth Welden... online alternatives for traditional classroom teaching.

smartphone, PC or Mac at www.forestlearning.edu.au/forestvr.

The ForestVR virtual reality apps will support teaching resources soon to be launched for geography and design and technologies subject areas in collaboration with the Geography Teachers Association Victoria and the Design and Technology Teachers Association Victoria.

ForestLearning, an initiative of FWPA, provides Australian teachers with Australian curriculum aligned teaching

and learning resources from K-12 surrounding sustainable forests and wood products via the one-stop-shop for teacher's portal www.forestlearning.edu.au.

ForestLearning also coordinates the ForestLearning Industry Education Champion program, complete with tools, presentations and resources for forest and wood product industry volunteers to present in a school or host a forest or wood processing tour for school students in their forest or workplace.

For more information about ForestVR or the Forest Education Industry Champion program, email Beth Welden at info@forestlearning.edu.au

Further links are found at the ForestLearning website – www.forestlearning.edu.au

ForestVR apps include IOS -<https://apps.apple.com/au/app/forestvr/id1510533439>; Play Store: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.forestlearning.forestvrmobile>; or Oculus Store for a unique keycode: info@forestlearning.edu.au



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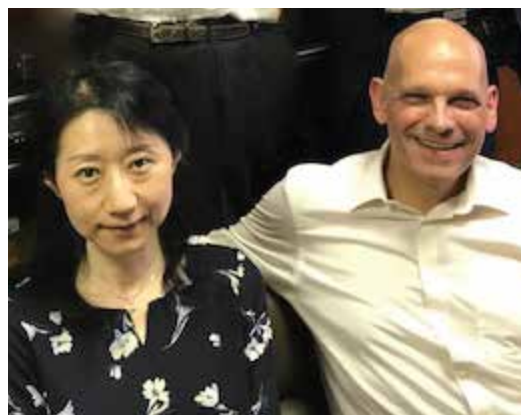
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Australia gains from new PEFC marketing appointment in Japan



New international marketing manager in Tokyo Makiko Horio with PEFC CEO Ben Gunneberg.

AUSTRALIAN certified timber producers trading with Japan will benefit from the appointment of a new international marketing manager in Tokyo.

The long-established Sustainable Green Ecosystem Council, a national governing body for PEFC in Japan, will work with Makiko Horio to increase market share of forests endorsed by PEFC, the biggest global alliance of national forest certification systems.

In her new role, Ms Horio will visit PEFC brand users in Japan promoting PEFC-certified forest fibre to a wide range of businesses.

She will also explore new ways of communicating PEFC's information, research, and certification systems to the wider industry.

Ms Horio began promoting forest certification in 2008 while working for the Tokyo branch of a foreign bank before being appointed by PEFC Asia Promotions and SGECE, a PEFC endorsed member since 2003.

"I am fully committed to continue doing my best as a

small part of SGECE and PEFC Japan, Makiko Horio said.

The new position is supported by Responsible Wood and co-funded by a number of stakeholders across the Australian forest products sector.

Japan is an all-important market for Australian forest products, with sustainably-sourced wood fibre to Japan's wood biomass market a rapidly-expanding source of renewable energy.

AFPA CEO Ross Hampton said an Australian forest products trade mission to Japan in 2019 had helped build a stronger relationship with Japan and helped expand the market for high-quality Australian forest products.

"Our forest product exports to Japan make up about 14%, or about \$510 million, of our total wood fibre exports and the industry wants to see this grow to include a wider variety of products," Mr Hampton said.

"Our industry sees real benefit in building stronger ties with Japan," he said.





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Huonville expansion creates new jobs

TASMANIAN timber industry pioneer Neville Smith Forest Products is set to increase production at its Southwood mill near Huonville from July 1 this year.

The expansion will immediately create 30 new full-time jobs in the Huon Valley.

CEO Andrew Walker said it was planned to commence a full second shift at its Southwood operation as the business stepped-up its domestic value-adding capacity.

"We will begin the recruitment process for additional employees almost immediately, as the new team members will require around two months training in customised production operations as well as the critical area of workplace



Andrew Walker... stepping up domestic value-adding capacity.

safety," Mr Walker said.

"We are hopeful that a majority of new employees will be recruited from within the Huon Valley, including school leavers."

NSFP is an equal opportunity employer committed to training, career development and a safety-first workplace culture.

The new job opportunities fill the employment gap in

the Huon Valley left following the closure of the Ta Ann mill in the wake of the 2019 bushfires.

The growth initiative will assist public and private forest growers in mitigating the current geopolitical risks associated with exports of Tasmanian forest product to China.

Neville Smith Forest Products, which has been

operating in Tasmania since 1924, already employs some 120 people and has recently formed a long-term strategic partnership with Oak Possibility, providing training and employment outcomes to the disability sector.

Mr Walker said the decision to increase production at Southwood was a sign of the confidence the company had in Tasmania's renewable forest industry and in the growing demand within Australia for high quality native timber and plantation products.

The additional resource required to underpin the second shift at the Southwood will be procured from a mix of sustainable, fully certified public and private plantation and native timber growers.



Expression of Interest Supply of biomass to Hunter Energy



Hunter Energy is seeking potential biomass residue suppliers to enter into a non-binding Expression of Interest to supply the Redbank Power Station, near Singleton in the NSW Hunter Valley with biomass after the power station is recommissioned from mid-2021.

Biomass can be:

- Sawmill and wood processing residues
- Forest residues from harvesting and thinning
- End-of-life, industrial and other wood waste streams

Prospective suppliers should be able to supply a minimum of 2000 tonnes a year, and should be located within a 400 km radius of Singleton.

For further information contact:
Matt Corbett via email:
mcorbett@rongbuk.com.au or
mob: 0434 632 533



Confucious say ‘stick your logs’: is there a much deeper message here?

Forest contractors usually first to feel the chill of restricted supply

YOU know, I have always been interested in Chinese proverbs. Apparently now Confucius says: “Hey you Aussies – stick your logs up your clacker!” But you have to look behind what Confucius says for a deeper meaning.

Is the Chinese export log export ban trying to tell us something? The talk down around here early this year has – in the wake of the 2019-2020 bushfires – been about an expectation of sharply contracting log supplies and job losses towards the middle of the year.

This is of course deeply concerning. Forest contractors are usually the first to feel the chill when the winds of reducing logs harvesting levels blow through the plantations.

Even before, and certainly after the bushfires, we know there are log supply shortages. Pulp logs have been transported from up around Oberon to supply the Visy pulp mill and certainly post the bushfires sawlog supplies are expected to continue to contract further.

As part of the Parliament of Australia’s House Standing Committee on Agriculture and Water Resources inquiry late last year into timber supply chain constraints



1/ Hey... listen to Confucius then do the sums.
2/ Makes sense... processing Australian-grown logs in Australia will support building and construction activity, regional economic survival and forest industry jobs.



TRUNK LINES



With **CHERYL FORREST**

in the plantation sector, a series of public hearings were held. These hearings heard evidence from a range of senior members of the timber industry able to provide perspectives both broad and through time.

AKD Softwoods chief executive Shane Vicary advised there will be 70 to 80 jobs lost probably before June or July 2021, when softwood log harvest levels reduce as a result of bushfires.

Local forestry warhorse,

well-deserved Australia Day gong and chairman of the Softwoods Working Group Peter Crowe told a hearing that the bushfires have had up to a 40% impact on the potential supply to the processors he represents in the NSW South West Slopes region.

Also noted was that

“LET’S PROCESS OUR EXPORT LOGS IN AUSTRALIA

no trees could as yet be identified as being planted under the program announced by the government in 2019 to plant a billion trees.

So, the Chinese proverb would suggest that not exporting pulp logs and sawlogs, but processing them here in Australia, is the subtlety of the proverb. Makes sense I reckon ... it will kick a few goals. Not only will it assist in easing the tight log supply situation in support of building and construction effort, but will keep sawmills functioning and jobs in both sawmilling and forest contracting from falling off a cliff.

Excuse me, but I find it impossible to believe that logs from eastern Russia can be sawn in distant Europe sawmills, shipped to Australia and then sold at competitive prices. And we can’t transport logs that would otherwise be exported from say Portland to domestic sawmills in Tumut and Tumbarumba or elsewhere for that matter.

Where are you forestry minister Jonno Duniam? Work needs to be done to ensure that Australian-grown trees and logs that the Chinese suggest we ‘stick up our clacker’ are now processed in Australia to support building and construction activity, regional economic survival and forest industry jobs.

Seems like a no-brainer to me. What do you think?

Cheryl

The MARKET Leader...



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Supporting nation's fuel economy: Pentarch's Eden diesel storage plan

Trade opportunities for region's timber processing and optimisation

RESEARCH and development group Pentarch Logistics together with its partner South East Fibre Exports (SEFE), is investigating the viability of constructing a new diesel storage facility at the Eden wood and export facility in southern NSW.

The SEFE-owned industrial site is about 25 km south of the Eden township at the southern end of Twofold Bay, and houses timber processing and wood-chipping operations, timber storage yards and has its own wharf and ship-loading infrastructure.

A potential strategic diesel storage site at Eden will support the federal government's long-term goal of increased domestic fuel stocks aimed at limiting the impact of fuel supply disruptions.

“POSITIONING THE PORT FOR FUTURE GROWTH



An opportunity to increase fuel storage and distribution capacity will provide further employment and trade opportunities in the area, and complement other activities being undertaken at the Eden site including the timber processing and optimisation hub.

The proposed strategic diesel storage facility

will be designed to be able to provide fuel to vessels calling into the Port of Eden, therefore positioning the port for future growth.

Paul Heubner said the establishment of a new fuel reserve in combination with the planned investments at the Eden site would produce important employment and economic benefits to the region and would provide much-needed fuel supply reliability.

Pentarch Logistics will enter into preliminary discussions on the project with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment shortly.



Pentarch Logistics CEO Paul Heubner said the proposed site was strategically positioned in a non-metropolitan location on the east coast about half way between Sydney and Melbourne and could serve as a distribution point for fuel to areas such as Canberra, the Riverina, Snowy

1/ A potential strategic diesel storage site at Eden will support the federal government's long-term goal of increased domestic fuel stocks.

2/ Paul Heubner...Eden site represents a unique and compelling location for a viable greenfield operation.

Mountains, the NSW south coast and eastern Victoria.

"We believe the Eden site represents a unique and compelling location for a viable greenfield operation which best meets national fuel security requirements," Mr Heubner said.

The Eden facility has a fuel depot which distributes over 4 million litres of diesel a year to Pentarch Logistics and its associated contractors.

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Mitsubishi 'eclipses' many mid-range 'city SUVs' with the popular cross LS

JAPANESE automakers lead the world in sales, technological changes and production.

Their industry took shape in 1910 when the conglomerate Zaibatsu was formed. But the non-existent consumer car market was delayed until 1917 when Mitsubishi manufactured the Model A, a 2.8 litre straight four engine that had an output of 26 kW and a rear-wheel drive that could reach speeds of 96 km/hour.

We had to wait until 1960 for the Mitsubishi 500, the company's first passenger car since the Model A.

Fast-forward 60 years and Mitsubishi has 'eclipsed' all this, especially now as a leader in sales of mid-sized SUVs such as the all-wheel drive Eclipse Cross LS, which in the first eight months last year registered almost 6000 sales – a 9.7% improvement on 2019.

Mitsubishi has applied some light cosmetics to the Eclipse Cross 'city SUV'; previously all-wheel drive was only available on the flagship Eclipse Cross Exceed.

"We listened to our



The Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross LS brings a more affordable all-wheel drive.

customers, and they wanted a more affordable all-wheel drive which is why we added this to the LS," said deputy director of marketing Derek McIlory.

The 2021 LS AWD comes in at \$35,090 (+\$300). Prices in the range start at \$30,290 for the Eclipse cross ES up to \$40,790 for the Eclipse Cross Exceed.

Tipping the scales at a hefty 550 kg, the Euro-V emissions-standard 1.5-litre four-cylinder turbo-charged petrol engine averages 7.7L/100km and 174 grams/km of carbon dioxide emissions.

Mitsubishi's super all-wheel control (S-AWC) system (for a \$250 premium) features active yaw control, which regulates the brakes and power

steering to control torque split between the left and right wheels, which in turn aids handling both through corners and in a straight line.

A stretched body creates extra boot space, rising from 341 litres to 405L. With the 60/40-split folding rear seats down, total cargo space rises from 1122 litres in the previous model to an expansive 1149 litres.

The Eclipse Cross retains the five-star ANCAP rating it achieved in 2017 and has a host of active and passive safety features.

Exceed variants score revised front door trims with illumination and a black interior headlining, while the special 'Black Edition' adds rain-



Rear-wheel drive pushed the Mitsubishi Model A to 96 km/hour more than a century ago.

sensing wipers, dusk-sensing headlights, fog lights, forward collision mitigation and high-beam assist.

Every version includes seven airbags, autonomous emergency braking, forward collision mitigation, cruise control, paddle shifters, 8 in. touchscreen, Bluetooth connectivity with audio streaming and voice control, Apple Carplay and 18 in. alloys.

Key LS additions are lane departure warning, auto high beam, rear parking sensors, keyless entry/start, auto on/off headlights and wipers, front fog lights, privacy glass, auto up/down windows, roof rails, electric park brake, brake auto hold and an audio upgrade – and Mitsubishi's regular five-year/100,000 km warranty.

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HEAD OFFICE

Timber & Forestry enews
PO Box 69, Potts Point, NSW 1335,
Australia
Phone | +61 (0) 417 421 187

PUBLISHERS

John Halkett | +61 (0) 417 421 187
johnh@timberandforestryenews.com
Dennis Neilson | +64 (0) 7 349 2764
dennison@timberandforestryenews.com

MANAGING EDITOR

Jim Bowden | +61 (0) 401 312 087
cancon@bigpond.net.au
PO Box 330, Hamilton Central QLD
4007, Australia

ADVERTISING

John Halkett | +61 (0) 417 421 187
johnh@timberandforestryenews.com
advertising@timberandforestryenews.com

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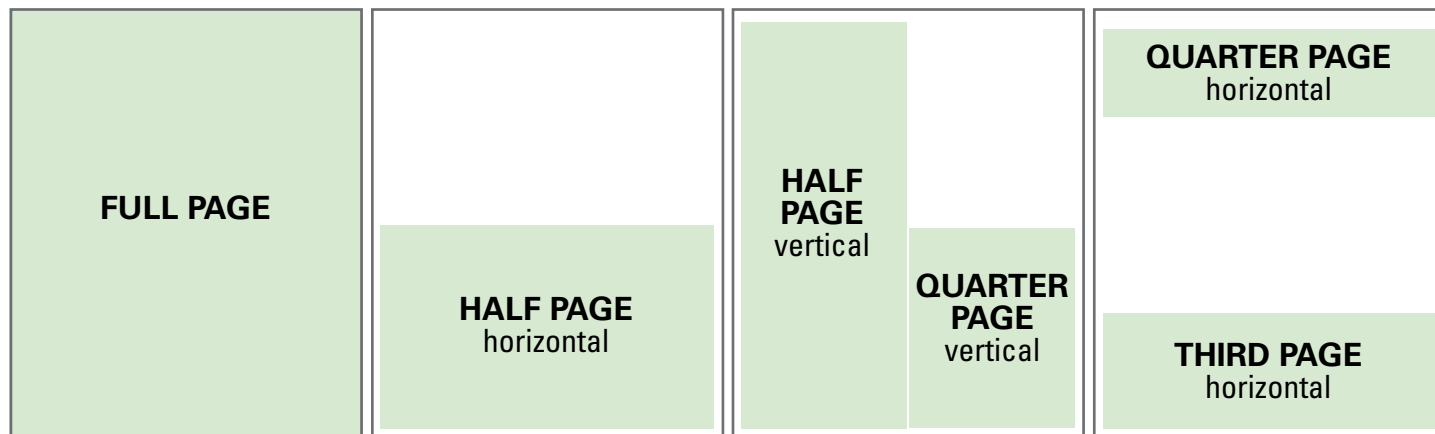
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PAGE 1 Front cover strip: Contract booking

Horizontal • 30mmH x 190mmW

PAGE 1 Front cover module: Contract booking

Horizontal • 45mmH x 49.5mmW

PAGE 2 below story: Contract booking

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