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PM drops in with a knowledge of trees

COVER STORY P12



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National forest plan must deliver as our plantations turn backwards

Australia must urgently address supply crisis: AFPA

FEDERAL government figures released last week showing a continuing decline in Australia's plantation timber estate, should be a wake-up call for policy makers, says Australian Forest Products Association CEO Ross Hampton.

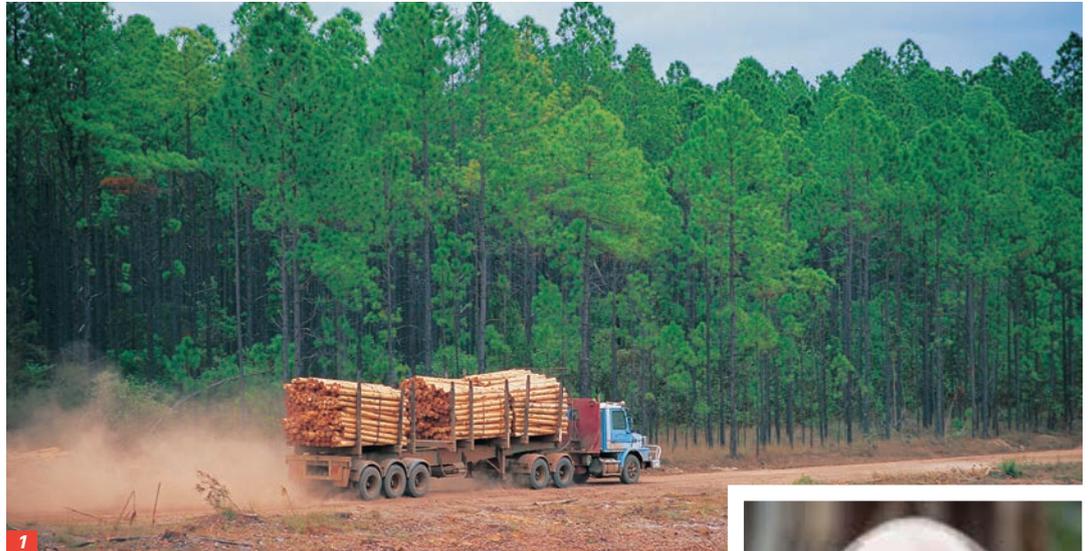
The ABARES report graphically shows the decline in available timber for domestic processing and continues a troubling trajectory of several years.

The Australian Plantation Statistics 2018 Update released last week by ABARES shows that in 2016-17, Australia's total commercial plantation area was 1,955,100 ha, down 19,700 or 1%.

"This is a crisis," Mr Hampton said.

"Nowhere in the world is there large-scale tree planting

“WE URGENTLY NEED TO GROW ABOUT 2.4 MILLION HECTARES



1/ **Running out... more plantation wood needed to keep pace with housing growth and ensure the viability of mills and processing plants and the towns they underpin.**
 2/ **Ross Hampton... skirting the real issue.**

without government policy backing. Australia only has a timber manufacturing industry employing tens of thousands of regional Australians thanks to the foresight of policy makers in previous generations who created the environment to enable the establishment of our national plantations estate of some two million hectares.

"We urgently need to grow to about 2.4 million ha if we are to keep pace with housing growth and ensure the viability of our mills and processing plants and the towns they underpin.

"We already import the timber used to frame about 60,000 houses a year. We have a constant deficit in wood products as a nation of



about \$2 billion. For a nation with ample land and expertise this is a travesty. Plantations use about half a percent of agricultural land. Adding another 400,000 ha would

Cont P 3



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NZ does farm forestry well: AFPA eye-opening mission

REPRESENTATIVES from the Australian Forest Products Association and the National Farmers Federation visited New Zealand recently to examine farm forestry operations near Rotorua.

The joint delegation of members, which was headed by AFPA chair Greg McCormack and NFF president Fiona Simson, examined farm forestry operations near Rotorua and investigated farm forestry operations that have realised the benefits of the practice across the Tasman.

"New Zealanders do farm forestry really well," Mr McCormack said. "It's very much accepted and respected among NZ farmers. Australia can certainly learn a lot from our neighbours on this issue."

He said there were a multitude of benefits to farm forestry including investment and income diversification for traditional farmers, protection for stock and crops and improved water quality on properties.

"In Australia, we haven't been as accepting of the practice, but hopefully with the NFF taking a strong and unprecedented interest, feelings will continue to change," Mr McCormack said.

Fiona Simson said more than 578,000 ha or 34% of plantation forest in New



AFPA chair Greg McCormack (left), NFF president Fiona Simson, and NZ farmer Geoff Rolleston looks at the farm forestry operations near Rotorua.

Zealand was owned by private individuals with parcels of no more than 10,000 ha.

By contrast in Australia, there were 150,000 ha of small-scale planted forest established by farmers. Furthermore, in places like the US and Sweden, more like 50% of forests were owned by farmers, families and small landholders.

FARM FORESTRY IN AUSTRALIA IS POINTING TO REAL BENEFITS

Current research on farm forestry in Australia is also pointing to real benefits. Early results from the CSIRO show that when 5-10% of a farm is under trees, it can increase the productivity of other agricultural products on the farm.

"There's a way to go, but the more we talk about it, the more we talk up the benefits, the more the take-up of

farm forestry will improve in Australia," Ms Simson said.

AFPA says farm forestry in Australia was pointing to real benefits with early results from the CSIRO showing when 5-10% of a farm is under trees, it can increase the productivity of other agricultural products on the farm.

The AFPA-NFF delegation visited the property of farmer Geoff Rolleston near Rotorua to look at farm forestry operations.

Mr Rolleston said Australia could learn from the progress of farm forestry in New Zealand, not only in financial terms, but also on how the stigma that farmers don't plant trees can be shaken.

"Australian farmers shouldn't be afraid about the notion of having a small proportion of their farm under plantation trees – they should in fact embrace it as a positive step forward in the business of farming," he said.

(With extracts from farmonline national)

"But it is unclear yet just how the government plans to generate a new round of tree planting," Mr Hampton said. "Industry presumes this will be addressed in the release of the full plan later this year.

"Without more trees to support our sawmilling, processing and pulp, paper and packaging businesses, and the jobs they provide, everything else we do is just skirting the real issue."



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From P 2

take that to about 0.6%.

AFPA has welcomed the \$20 million set out in the recent federal Budget towards the government's National Forestry Industry Plan.

Forest industry looks forward to contributing to restoration fund

Ambitious land program to expand carbon farming

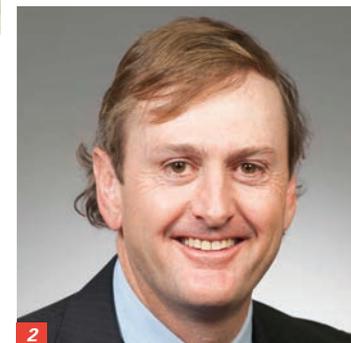
THE Queensland forest industry is looking forward to the opportunity for forestry activities to play a role in the development of the state government's \$500 million Land Restoration Fund.

Timber Queensland CEO Mick Stephens said the industry was excited by the prospects of this ambitious program to expand carbon farming in the state and support land-sector projects that could deliver environmental and economic co-benefits.

"The forest industry has a wealth of experience in developing and participating



1/ **Good prospects... forest activities to play big role in land restoration.**
 2/ **Mick Stephens... opportunities for carbon farming across the state.**



restoration and ultimately better protection of the Great Barrier Reef.

"In addition, timber products that are sustainably harvested contribute to a greater pool of renewable and carbon friendly products over time.

"These benefits can then flow through to broader economic development and employment in many rural and regional areas."

Mr Stephens said overall there was a spectrum of opportunities for carbon farming across the state from enhanced native forest regrowth, indigenous

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in land sector carbon projects and offsets markets such as the Emissions Reduction Fund and other voluntary schemes, and can assist landowners register and implement carbon projects," Mr Stephens said.

"Within Queensland, forestry can tick a lot of boxes when it comes to generating environmental and economic co-benefits," he said.

"These benefits can include carbon sequestration, reduced emissions, income diversification, agricultural productivity, climate resilience, soil and water conservation, habitat

“ENSURING APPROPRIATE CARBON MARKET SIGNALS ARE IN PLACE

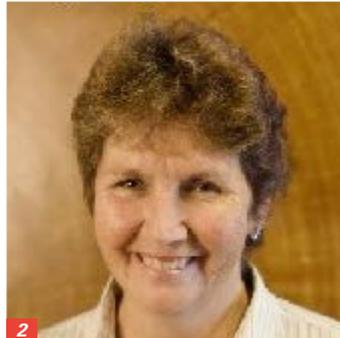
From P 4

forest management, timber plantations, mine site rehabilitation and better integrating tree planting and forestry activities into farming systems.

“Going forward, it will be important that forestry activities are fully captured in the design of eligible projects, methods and investment pathways for landholders and stakeholders, including the role of timber products for carbon storage,” he said.

“Not only do we want to educate landowners about the opportunities for enhancing forest cover for timber production and related environmental outcomes, we want to ensure appropriate carbon market signals are put in place to help drive these activities. This is likely to be a once-in-a-generation opportunity for the state government to get these parameters right.

“We therefore share many of the goals of the Palaszczuk government



1/ **Interactive workshops... improving landholders' knowledge of forestry.**
2/ **Bronwyn Lloyd... workshops will run over four days.**

management systems workshop series, starting on June 27-28.

The interactive workshop, which will run over four days is aimed at improving landholders' knowledge of silviculture forestry.

Bronwyn Lloyd of PFSE administration says the

“NATIVE FOREST MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP SERIES

workshops would be based at Nanango in Queensland's South Burnett region.

“As soon as we have the properties organised, the details will be sent through to those who have registered,” she said.

The series covers environmental systems relating to native forest management, ecological values, legislative constraints, species identification, stocking rates, harvesting to ensure ongoing production, maintaining biodiversity and a range of management techniques and strategies.

The workshop series is delivered in 2 x 2 day sessions, ideally 6-8 hours a day, allowing for landholder travel, one to two weeks between each session, depending on the availability of attendees.

PFSQ is sponsored by the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries through the Private Native Forest Extension Program.

Contact PFSQ on (07) 5483 6535 or email: pfsq@bigpond.com

2 to strengthen the carbon trading sector in agriculture and other land-based activities. We look forward to participating in the consultation process for the Land Restoration Fund and contributing to its further development.”

Meanwhile, Private Forest Service Queensland is delivering a native forest

Australia scores at ‘no-risk’ Launceston conference

SPEAKERS and industry site visits are now confirmed for the DANA wood products conference and field trip in Tasmania to be held from October 9 to 11 in Launceston.

The event at the Hotel Grand Chancellor features 18 international and domestic specialists from Tasmania and the mainland, with presentations on several



Hotel Grand Chancellor... venue for DANA wood products conference.

This is DANA's 7th event in Australia and director Dennis Neilson says it is fitting that it is being held in Tasmania, a state that is quickly regaining its former importance in the Australian forestry and wood products sectors.

A 1½-days field trip follows the conference with visits to plantations, softwood and hardwood sawmills, and log and wood chip export ports. Seats are be limited so early registration is recommended.

On Friday, October 12, DANA has arranged a visit to the unique Hydrowood

“FAVOURITE DESTINATION FOR FOREST INVESTORS

topics of interest to all Australians.

The popular New Funds-New Projects panel will round out proceedings.

Delegates are offered a comprehensive 1½-days information-packed conference on the domestic forest industry sector.

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First hardwood CLT plant now a \$190m reality for NW Tasmania

VICTORIAN-based family the Hermal Group has announced that an 80-ha site in Hampshire in northwest Tasmania, inland from Burnie, will be the location of its \$190 million cross laminated plantation timber mill and production facility.

This will be Australia's largest plantation-based hardwood mill and the first ever hardwood CLT production plant. Once complete, the facility expects to create around 221 jobs, with a further 160 jobs during the construction phase.

The operation will be called Tasmanian Amalgamated Renewable Timbers.

Hermal Group has been involved in the timber



Big win... Tasmanian Minister for Resources Guy Barnett (left) and Hermal Group's James Lantry inspect the Hampshire site, marked for a \$190 million CLT laminated plantation timber mill and production facility. Photo: Brodie Weeding

industry for eight generations and is headed by managing director Ron Goldschlager.

Minister for Resources Guy Barnett said this was a big win for the northwest,

and was more evidence of the growing confidence, investment and jobs in the industry on the back of the strong forestry policies of the Hodgman Liberal

government.

Hermal's focus on opportunities in Tasmania comes after it was forced out of Australia's biggest hardwood sawmill when the Victorian Labor government slashed wood supply by more than half.

The Hodgman government has backed the Hampshire project with a \$13 million grant and training support. A loan of up to \$30 million also will be available.

The facility will process more than 300,000 cub m of sustainable plantation hardwood logs each year.

Tasmania is a market leader in Australia in terms of the availability of plantation growth hardwood.



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DISCUSS

bracing and tie-down, see worked examples and know the difference they make.

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future building opportunities in FNQ and the opportunities for timber.

Date Tuesday 3 July 2018 | **Location** Sudbury Room, Rydges Plaza Cairns

Time 11.00am – 1.30pm (includes lunch) | **Cost** Timber Queensland & AIA members FREE | non-members \$30



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JUNE

18-19: FRAME 2018 Conference and Exhibition – Park Hyatt Melbourne. Focus on timber offsite construction, expanding local and global markets for timber buildings and the digital future ahead in design, manufacture and construction of timber frame multi-residential and mass timber commercial buildings. Contact Kevin Ezard, Frame Australia conference director, on 0419 538 638. Email: kevin@frameaustralia.com Visit www.frameaustralia.com

20: AFPA Parliamentary Friends of Forestry and Forest Industries Dinner – Mural Hall, Parliament House, Canberra. 6pm. Contact: (02) 6285 3833.

20-21: FIEA Woodflow 2018 – Melbourne, Australia.

26-27: FIEA Woodflow 2018 – Rotorua, NZ.

The objective, with 30-40% of delivered log costs being contributed by transport, is to improve efficiencies through the wood supply chain. It builds on the success of the HarvestTECH 2017 event. Unique opportunity to learn about innovations being developed and employed to assist in harvest and transport planning, logistics and operations. Visit www.woodflow.events

20-22: WoodSolutions Tour for building professionals – Melbourne, Wodonga, Sydney. The tour commences in Melbourne, travelling by coach to Wodonga to see

XLAM's CLT plant. Following this, flights to Sydney have been arranged as well as overnight accommodation, if required. The tour continues June 21 and 22 inspecting many buildings currently being constructed or recently completed in and around Sydney. Buildings range from CLT timber apartments, offices, schools and community halls as well as a laminated veneer lumber industrial shed and a 6-storey timber-framed apartment building. Contact (02) 8920 0446 or info@tdansw.asn.au

JULY

4-7: AWISA 2018 – ICC Sydney Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour Sydney.

Australia's largest ever exhibition of woodworking technology and design at Sydney's exciting new multi-level venue. Machinery, tooling, software, materials, fittings and services for the wood and panel processing industries. Visit www.awisa.com

12-14: Inaugural International Furniture Show Australia – International Convention Centre, Sydney. Presentations by Australian retailers and wholesalers and opportunity to deal directly with global furniture manufacturers from countries such as China, India, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines and Pakistan. Excellent platform for Australian manufacturers to reach out to buyers

from within Australia and New Zealand. Contact Australasian Furnishing Association at compliance@australianfurniture.org.au

AUGUST

8: FIEA Forest Industry Safety and Technology 2018 – Rotorua, NZ.

15: FIEA Forest Industry Safety and Technology 2018 – Melbourne, Australia.

Covering updates and developments in forest industry safety, as well as providing a space for sharing ideas on how people, culture, technologies and systems are used to improve the safety of workers. Visit www.forestsafety.events

SEPTEMBER

2-5: IFA and AFG Conference – University House, Australian National University.

Titled 'Forests for healthy cities, farms and people'. Title 'Forests for healthy cities, farms and people'. It will be preceded by AFG's pre-conference tour from Friday, August 31, to Sunday, September 2. Contact: (02) 6153 3044 or visit www.forestry.org.au

11-12: FIEA WoodTech 2018 – Melbourne, Australia.

18-19: FIEA Woodech 2018 – Rotorua, NZ.

Drymill scanning, wood machining, timber manufacturing. Includes timber scanning and optimisation, timber gluing and laminating, finger-jointing, cross cutting, timber

machining, kiln drying and timber finishing technologies. Visit www.woodtech.events

OCTOBER

1-3: 2018 DANA NZ Forest-Wood Processing Conference & Optional Field Trip – Wairakei Resort, Taupo.

Theme: 'Does the NZ industry have to be world class to compete in the world?'. One-and-half day conference, followed by one-and-half field Trip with nine Central North Island industry and industry-related site visits. Pre-conference afternoon / dinner cruise on Lake Taupo. Contact Julie Bell admin@dana.co.nz or visit www.danaevents.co.nz/2018taupo/

9-11: 2018 DANA Australian Forest-Wood Processing Conference & Optional Field Trip – Hotel Grand Chancellor, Launceston.

One-and-half day conference, one-and-half day field trip. Contact Julie Bell admin@dana.co.nz or www.danaevents.co.nz/2018tas/

19: Victorian Association of Forest Industries annual dinner – RACV Club, Melbourne. Tickets available from VAFI in July. Contact VAFI on (03) 9611 9000 or info@vafi.org.au

19th Australian Timber Design Awards in Sydney. Full details TBA. Entries open February 12 and close July 6. Judging period July 16-20. People's Choice voting July 23-August 17. Awards gala dinner mid-October. Visit



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JUNE

3-9: 3rd DANA China wood industry tour – China.

Manzhouli on Russia-China border, and Chongqing port and wood processing site visits, and to Chengdu Panda Breeding Centre. For further information, see: www.danaevents.co.nz
 Email: admin@dana.co.nz,
 Tel: + 647 3492764
 Skype: [admin.dana1](https://www.skype.com/user/admin.dana1)

18-19: West and Central Africa Summit – Libreville, Gabon.

To improve skills, share experiences and identify collaboration opportunities for the forest and wood-based industry associations of West and Central Africa. For further information go to www.gtf-info.com and enquiries direct to africasummit@gtf-info.com

JULY

16-20: COFO 23 - World Forest Week – Rome, Italy.

For further information see www.fao.org/about/meetings/cofo

SEPTEMBER

4-6: 8th World Congress on Biofuels and Bioenergy – Zurich, Switzerland.

For further information see: www.biofuels-bioengery.conferenceseries.com/Europe

6-8: 15th Annual Global Buyers Mission – Whistler, BC, Canada BC.

Wood event to find new sources of high quality, competitively priced wood products, while reconnecting with current suppliers and socializing with peers. Contact: Brian Hawrysh CEO, BC Wood Tel: + 604-882-7100. To register, click on: www.reg.conexsys.com/gbm18

16-17: 8th China Global Wood Trade Conference and Tour – Chongqing, China.

FEA Canada and China Timber & Wood Products Distribution Association. This will be the fourth joint-conference that both groups have been collaborated. The 2018 event s expected to set record attendance levels. See: www.woodmarkets.com/conference/conferences-china/2018-china-global-wood-trade-conference/

17-21: RISI Tenth International Woodfibre Trade Conference – Durban, South Africa.

See: www.events.risiinfo.com/wood-fiber/
 Email: conferences@risi.com, Tel: + 866.271.8525, + 32.2.536.0748

17-21: Managing Eucalyptus plantations under global changes – Le Corum, Montpellier, France IUFRO.

Improving resource use efficiency in eucalypt plantations. See: www.iufro.org and www.cirad.fr

25-26: FSC Asia Pacific Business Forum 2018 – Mumbai, India.

Email: info@au.fsc.org

OCTOBER

18-20: Timber Legality Research Symposium – University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark.

To be held in association with the Forests & Livelihoods: Assessment, Research, and Engagement network. See: www.globaltimbertrackingnetwork.org/event/timber-legality-research-symposium
 Email: cph@ifro.ku.dk

23-27: 4th International Congress on Planted Forests – Nanning, Guangxi, China.

Congress aims to investigate the contribution of planted forests to green development in the context of global changes. Topics will include the sustainability of planted forests in the context of changing climates and the future role of planted forests in bio-resources sustainability, environmental protection and green development. See: www.efiatlantic.efi.int/portal/events/
 Email: christophe.orazio@efi.int

NOVEMBER

5-10: 54th Session of the International Tropical Timber Council and Sessions of the Associated Committees

– *Yokohama, Kanagawa, Japan.* ITTO Secretariat. See: www.itto.int/workshop_detail
 Email: itto@itto.int
 Tel: +81-45-223-1110

12-17: 2nd DANA 2-day Central America and Andes Forestry Sector Investment Conference – Cancun Mexico.

With 2-day optional pre-conference field trip to teak and eucalyptus plantations; a large modern MDF mill in Villahermosa region; and a 2- day optional post-conference tour to Mayan archaeological and recreational sites. For further information: www.danaevents.co.nz/2018mexico/

12-18: XI International Workshop on Uneven-aged Silviculture: Challenges for increasing adaptability – Valdivia, Chile.

Uneven-aged silviculture is attracting increased interest due to its positive effects upon carbon sequestration, biodiversity, landscapes, and in its ability to provide a range of goods and services from managed forest ecosystems. Do uneven-aged forests have better options for adaptation to these future changes? See: www.uas.uach.cl/2018
 Email: pdonosos@uach.cl

• Please send any events listings to johnh@timberandforestrynews.com



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Off-site manufacture solution to address quality and performance

Expert global speaker's milestone address at Frame 2018

KEY speaker at this year's Frame Australia conference in Melbourne has a clear message: offsite construction is a game-changer for the construction industry.

"It's the answer to the long-standing industry debate about how productivity and innovation can build better buildings faster," says Nick Milestone, associate director projects at William Hare Ltd, UK, a global company that has executed projects in more than 50 countries.

"Offsite manufacture for onsite installation provides the solution to address quality and performance," says the 34-year veteran of the construction industry.

Mr Milestone takes a flexible approach to projects, just as he did in his previous job as managing director of B & K Structures, the UK's leading sustainable structural frame contractor, specialising in design and delivery of hybrid structures

"Enhanced production processes combined with strict quality controls in well-managed factories, deliver predictability."

Taking full advantage of offsite manufacturing techniques, he says, gets the best result in terms of speed, cost and sustainability.

"We deliver hybrid

BEST RESULTS IN TERMS OF SPEED, COST AND SUSTAINABILITY



- 1/ *The solution... off-site manufacture for on-site installation.*
- 2/ *Nick Milestone... tall buildings are the greatest potential for the wood industry.*

structures using a combination of cross-laminated timber, glue-laminated timber, timber cassettes, structural insulated panel systems, timber cassettes and steel," he says.

It's then a question of choosing the right combination of structural systems to achieve the fastest, cheapest and best result.

Mr Milestone has no doubts about the importance of timber. "I think collectively, engineer timber systems will have the greatest impact on the future of the construction industry," he says.

"Why? Because timber is the most renewable and sustainable building material. Its technology innovations give users confidence about

cost and performance, produce high-performance buildings, and reducing ongoing energy costs for the lifecycle of the building.

"I believe the global market for CLT is going to be enormous," he told the Swedish Wood magazine last year.

With a background in the steel industry, Mr Milestone discovered CLT in 2009, having gravitated towards wood after big clients in the UK wanted supermarkets built from glulam. "We quickly realised that steel and glulam work superbly with CLT in a

Cont P 10

The united voice for Australia's forest industries



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From P 9

kind of natural symbiosis," he said.

"With CLT you have a flexible material that allows much larger spans when used in a glulam or steel frame."

Mr Milestone said tall buildings were the greatest potential for the wood industry; up to four floors, the timber frame builders could take care of everything.

"Higher than that, there can be problems with stability. We can build structures with five or more floors using CLT

“ CLIENTS WANT THEIR BUILDINGS FINISHED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE



Networking... delegates gather around exhibits at last year's Frame event.

because it's self-stabilising," he said.

Mr Milestone said wood manufacturers had a role to play because there was too little capacity in the CLT market. "Greater capacity would also push down prices, which would help

establish the mature market that we need," he told Wood magazine.

"And it would shorten the start-up process on building projects. The last thing we need is long construction processes. The clients want their buildings finished as

quickly as possible, so they can claw back some of their investment much sooner."

Nick is also chairman of the board for the Timber Research and Development Association (TRADA), a UK-based international membership organisation dedicated to inspiring and informing best practice design, specification and use of wood in the built environment and related fields.

He will speak at the opening session addressing the Frame 2018 title 'Timber Offsite Construction'.

The conference and exhibition will be held on Monday and Tuesday June 18 and 19 at Park Hyatt Melbourne.

Visit www.frameaustralia.com

Possums case headed for full Federal Court hearing

THE Federal Court has continued an injunction brought against VicForests by the Friends of Leadbeater's Possum, preventing the state-owned organisations from harvesting timber in five coupes in the Central Highlands and West Gippsland.

The application for an injunction was submitted by

FLBP as part of the Amended Statement of Claim, a follow-on of the original case brought against VicForests in March regarding the Federal Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act exemption.

The Federal Court had previously found that VicForests were not affected by government delays

in reviewing the Central Highlands Regional Forest Agreement and therefore remained exempt from the EPBC Act.

VicForests general manager, corporate affairs, Alex Messina said he remained confident that VicForests' operations were compliant.

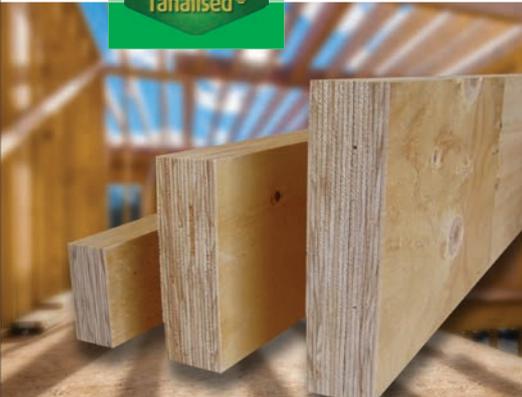
"We will defend our record

and argue this matter at the full hearing next year," Mr Messina said.

"The livelihoods of many of our contactors is dependent on continuing a planned harvest schedule. Unfortunately, as a result of this injunction, we will not be able to resume harvesting in five coupes until the after the full hearing."



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Designer calls for timber high rise in New Zealand: it's time to follow

A BUILDING expert wants the Auckland waterfront area to get the country's first timber high-rise, saying the Wynyard Quarter or Britomart areas would be ideal for a significant wood tower.

Damian Otto, director of design and digital construction at Takapuna-based Tallwood, called for Auckland to go green and build a timber tower of up to 15 levels.

"That would showcase what could be achieved after technical advancements in timber construction," Mr Otto said.

"I've heard suggestions of wood towers on a number of sites," he said, naming the Quay Park area as well as the

central business district but said nothing was definite and discussions only centred on plans, not finished design.

But Mr Otto said that could change.

"Wynyard is the best candidate for a wood building because it's reclaimed land and above the water. Wood buildings are lighter, so you can build more for less. Timber buildings also perform well in earthquakes," he said.

"It's only recently that the timber technology has caught up with materials and availability. There's going to be a doubling of demand of the type of materials needed to build wood high-rises."



Damian Otto... timber technology has caught up with materials and availability.

Mr Otto saw Lendlease's new wood International House in Sydney during its construction in 2016 and said that had led the way in Australasia.

"It's now time for us to follow."

He added: "International House is a seven-storey office building manufactured predominantly from engineered timber. It is a great example of the benefits of building tall with timber. There is no reason why we can't follow in our neighbour's footsteps and build beautiful, quality, timber buildings such as this one."

Last year, property mogul Sir Bob Jones said he planned to take the timber industry to new heights by erecting the world's tallest wooden office building in central Wellington on the Leader's Building, a 12-storey 52 m block due to be completed later this year.

(NZ Herald)

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PM drops in at Kennedy's with a knowledge of timber and trees



Welcome to wood... PM Malcolm Turnbull will the staff at Kennedy's Timbers.

AN election-style event at Kennedy's Timbers in Narangba north of Brisbane last week saw the Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull present his knowledge of the eastern and southern spotted gum versus the northern version, or as he volunteered: "Corymbia maculata as opposed to Eucalyptus maculata".

The PM toured the Narangba site, shook hands with staff and enjoyed a barbecue along with Michaelia Cash, the Minister for

Employment and Innovation, and Luke Howarth, the federal member for Petrie.

The 'pollies' were on the hustings ahead of the Longman by-election and picked Kennedy's timber because of its track record of growth, as well as a commitment to excellence and the environment in supplying quality reclaimed and sustainable timbers to the commercial and residential building industry.

Mr Turnbull said Kennedy's Timbers was "a great example

of a hardworking Australian family business".

"Since starting out in Brisbane in 1995, we've expanded to Melbourne, Sydney, Perth and New Zealand and are in an exciting growth phase," business owners Michael and Penny

Kennedy said.

"We're proud of the fact that we have employed five new people this year, with plans to appoint another five in the coming months."

They were thrilled to take the PM, Senator Cash and Luke Howarth on a tour of the Narangba head office and timber yard, showing off their reclaimed and sustainably produced hardwoods, on-site timber mill and bespoke joinery.

“BUSINESS OWNERS DESERVE CREDIT FOR JOBS GROWTH”

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From P 12

“It’s a day our team will never forget – and we were all surprised to discover that Mr Turnbull well and truly knows timber,” Michael said.

“In fact, we had a great discussion about the merits of spotted gum, ironbark, tallowwood, blackbutt and forest red gum and their different properties. He even knew the Latin botanical names of some of the timbers we have in stock, so Mr Turnbull is a great supporter of timber recycling and the timber industry.

“UNRELENTING PASSION FOR TIMBER”

Addressing staff, Mr Turnbull said the credit for jobs growth should go to the business owners, rather than politicians.

Luke Howarth advised:



Well done... Malcolm Turnbull congratulates Cherri Adams, sales administration and production coordinator at Kennedy's Timbers, possibly the 1,000,000th new job created under the federal Coalition government.

“We’ve seen a phenomenal growth in jobs. Last year alone, we had the largest number of jobs in Australia in our history – 415,000. And that jobs growth has continued.

“This month we’ve seen further growth – more than 22,000 jobs. Right now, we can say that as of April 1,013,600 jobs have been created in Australia.

Michael Kennedy said: “While government policies to support businesses are beneficial and more than welcome, we know that our success largely comes from offering timbers of unrivalled quality and eco-credentials, and backing our products with expert advice, in-house production and timely delivery.

“It’s this mix – combined with our unrelenting passion

for timber – that is fuelling our growth and helping us lead as a supplier of Australian recycled and sustainable timbers.”

On the cover: Michael Kennedy (right) gives the Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, Senator Michaelia Cash, and Luke Howarth, MP Petrie, a tour of inspection at Kennedy's Timbers, Narangba.

From P 5

harvesting site at Lake Pieman on Tasmania's west coast. Participants will travel from Burnie to the Hydrowood site for a two-hour boat trip and experience first-hand how the timber in this underwater forest is harvested. Numbers are strictly limited, which is why this visit has not been included in the field trip but rather as an optional post-conference event.

International consultant Mr Neilson says Australia is the favourite destination for forest and wood processing investors.

Boston-based Sewall's latest investment client survey concluded that Australia is the third least risky of all forest investment destinations after the US South and New Zealand

[“even less risky than the US South,” Mr Neilson suggests].

Key conference speakers will include a senior Tasmanian government minister and Greg McCormack, chair of AFPA.

Sessions will examine the Australian forest sector with a forest investment score-card debate and a new forest valuation model; trends in legal and commercial issues important to offshore investors in forestry and agriculture in Australia; future log supplies; log and woodchip exports; Asian wood markets; major new wood-panel projects and two sawmilling case studies; and the future for timber treatment standards.

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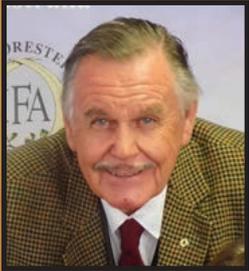
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Free pre-lunch drinks and refreshments have been sponsored.



Timber pioneers' lunch will get things humming for Qld children's hospice

THERE are only three children's hospices in Australia, despite a population of more than 23 million.

Hummingbird House is Queensland's only children's hospice and is the children's charity chosen this year to benefit from the annual Timber Pioneers Luncheon at the Pineapple Hotel, 706 Main Street, Kangaroo Point, starting at 12 noon on Friday, June 1.

Proceeds from a special luncheon raffle run by Brisbane Hoo-Hoo Club 218 will help swell contributions to the Brisbane-based hospice, which has become an integrated support service for the 3700 Queensland children affected by a life-limiting condition and their families.

The major raffle prize is a two-night stay at the highly-rated Belles at Montville in the Sunshine Coast hinterland provided by industry identity Noel Wooton and his wife.

Co-founders of Hummingbird House Paul and Gabrielle Quilliam, are an ordinary Queensland couple who, after fostering a child affected by a life-limiting condition, made it their mission to build the facility.

As a result of philanthropic funding to match government funding, in February 2015 the first sod was turned and the building of Hummingbird House commenced. With the foundations of the building being poured with families



On a mission... Paul and Gabrielle Quilliam, co-founders of Hummingbird House.

adding special mementos, it was easy to term Hummingbird House 'the house that love built'.

Over the next 18 months, the dream of Queensland's only children's hospice became a reality as the building took shape with supporters from across the state.

Since its inception 2011, the Hummingbird House Foundation has worked to become trusted curators of families' stories, pursue credible interactions with all levels of government; engage the Queensland community, and develop relationships within the paediatric palliative care sector.

Sponsors for the luncheon include Hyne Timber, Responsible Wood, Kennedy's Timber and the 'woodies' – the Blackall Range Woodcrafters Guild.

Early registration for the luncheon is essential and must be received by May 28. Dress is casual.

• See notice, this page.

Queensland land management laws spur questions on forest agreement

‘Transition to plantation sawlogs as a source of supply a pipe dream’

THE brouhaha over land management in Queensland and the rights of property owners to clear vegetation has brought another contentious issue to the fore – the South East Queensland Regional Forest Agreement.

Queensland introduced its latest set of tree-clearing laws this month, reversing many imposed by the previous Liberal National government. Now, federal Labor has proposed new powers to crack down on tree-clearing which is likely to transform the Queensland debate into a nation-wide row.

Professional foresters, Dick Pegg among them, say that



Dick Pegg... concerns over future for current sawmilling industry in southeast Queensland.

land management issues have brought the South East Queensland Regional Forest Agreement into the picture, an agreement they say has failed in providing sawlogs from plantations at the end of the 25-year life of the agreement.

Mr Pegg, a forestry consultant and former director

of operations for Queensland Forestry, who has worked

“ONLY FOREST AGREEMENT NOT SIGNED OFF BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

more than 60 years in the forest industry, says the agreement was signed in 1999 by the state government, a representative of the green movement and industry.

“The SEQRFA is the only forest agreement not signed off by the federal government,” Mr Pegg said.

“The commonwealth did not consider the planned lock-up of all state forests as reserves as justifiable and government advisers opined that production of sawlogs acceptable to the sawmilling industry from hardwood plantations in Queensland

Cont P 16

Snap to it. Photo contest will be forest experience.

Responsible Wood is again promoting a nation-wide photo contest, aimed at further raising awareness of the importance of sustainable forest management and certification. The contest theme – ‘experience forests, experience PEFC’ – enables participants to submit photos that fit this theme. This could embrace many topics, from forest landscapes to individual trees and plants, from harvesters to families hiking in the woods, from indigenous people to rural village life, from wooden buildings to photos of PEFC/Responsible Wood-labelled products.

The winning Australian entry in the PEFC contest will receive a \$500 gift voucher. The competition runs from Earth Day (April 22) to World Environment Day (June 5) and closes on June 5.

Responsible Wood opens the contest this month. Entries can be submitted electronically or by postal mail. All photos will remain with Responsible Wood for future use and promotion of Australian forest management.

Entries (any number) can be uploaded to Instagram **#RW2018PhotoContest** or emailed to PEFC Photo Contest at sdorries@responsiblewood.org.au or post to Responsible Wood, PO Box 786, New Farm, Qld 4005. Tel: (07) 3359 1758.



Responsible Wood 

From P 15

in 25 years was extremely unlikely.

“On the basis of this opinion and the opinion of many experienced Queensland foresters (several with international experience in growing hardwoods), the SEQRFA was based on what could only be termed as false claims by the greens.”

He added: “In June 2015, the Queensland government received a report from a consulting company on the performance of the hardwood plantations established under the SEQRFA.” Among their key conclusions were:

- The volume, quality, location and timing of the projected hardwood plantation estate meant that this resource would not directly replace the native forest resource from state lands.

- The low growth rates achieved for most species, particularly in the inland region, would tend to discourage any significant replant or expansion of the expected hardwood plantation estate.

Mr Pegg said that after the consultant’s report found the plantation program to be a failure, on July 31, 2015,



The native forest timber industry of southeast Queensland is in the midst of a wood supply crisis.

the government released a statement entitled ‘Key Features of South East Queensland Forest Agreement and Government Plan’, which in part stated:

- An additional 17% of state forests and timber reserve will be placed in a ‘last resort for logging’ category (schedule A); industry will be encouraged to transit to plantations as soon as possible to protect these forests.

- All logging of Crown native forests will cease by 2024.

Mr Pegg said a transition to plantation sawlogs as a source of supply for industry in southeast Queensland in 2024 was nothing more than a pipe dream.

“In fact, by publishing the

July 31 2015 statement, the government added to a flawed green point of view,” he said.

Mr Pegg referred to an article in the May 10 issue of Timber & Forestry enews where writer Cheryl Forrest lamented the short-term politics around the transfer of good productive native forest to national parks and the human misery associated with this.

“The outcome of the SEQRFA will be a result of

“ALL LOGGING OF CROWN NATIVE FORESTS WILL CEASE BY 2024

such politics,” he said.

Dick Pegg has written to Mark Furner, the Queensland Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries, seeking advice on three points:

- Will the government admit the SEQRFA has failed in providing sawlogs from plantations at the end of the 25-year life of the agreement?

- What does the government intend to do about the debacle where some 782,000 ha from sustainably-managed forests has been transferred to reserves and your stated intention to increase this to one million hectares over the 25-year life of the SEQRFA?

- What do you see as the future for the current sawmilling industry in southeast Queensland?

Mr Pegg added: “The bottom line, I fear, is that extra sawlogs coming from private property won’t replace those lost from Crown native forests.”

- Dick Pegg has been a forestry consultant since 1991, working mainly in China and Queensland on forestry and natural resource matters. He is patron of the Rural Fires Association of Queensland.

Commercial forestry plantation harvests at record levels

AUSTRALIA’S forestry sector continues to go from strength to strength, based on a report released today by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences.

ABARES executive director Steve Hatfield-Dodds said the Australian forest and wood products statistics: September and December quarters 2017 showed the volume of logs harvested reached record levels in 2016–17, exceeding 33 million

cub m, up 10% on the year.

“In 2016–17, the value of total logs harvested was up 13% to \$2.6 billion, driven by a record hardwood and softwood commercial plantation harvest of 29 million cub m,” Dr Hatfield-Dodds said.

“Commercial plantation logs now comprise 87% of Australia’s total log harvest, up 19% over the decade.

“The volume of logs harvested from the hardwood

plantation estate more than doubled since 2012-13, increasing to 11 million cub m in 2016-17 from 5 million cub m in 2012-13.”

Mr Hatfield-Dodds said hardwood commercial plantations were grown predominantly for pulpwood to meet growing export demand for woodchip, which remain Australia’s largest wood product export by value.

In 2016–17, exports were also at record highs, up

11% on the back of strong volume growth in woodchip. Roundwood is up 17% and paper paperboard up 10%, with exports of both growing strongly since 2012-13.

The record 2016–17 log harvest was also supported by Australia’s wood processing industries. Softwood sawn wood output increased by 3%, while production of wood-based panels and paper and paperboard grew more modestly.

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Komatsu 875... the best solutions combine to create the optimum forwarder.

contributes to enhanced opportunities for long-term harvesting profitability.

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strong and robust, with an effective crane and a high-load capacity, and it stands out in the market with a 16-tonne load capacity.

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dimensioned, and the articulated joint system is of the highest quality.

Another important feature of the Komatsu 875

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China has had open season on NZ log exports but clouds are gathering

NEW Zealand's forestry sector has had a stellar two to three years, with China soaking up the country's logs as fast as they could be sent there.

However, Westpac industry economist Paul Clark says clouds are gathering.

New Zealand's forestry owners, managers and contractors are being cautioned to heed the changing times, as Chinese building activity is expected to ease in the year ahead.

Mr Clark said the Chinese softening in demand during the next year was expected to slow demand for New Zealand logs, and prices should fall as a consequence.

"This won't be good news for forestry owners, managers and contractors,



1/ **Chinese demand... since 2008, the volume of NZ logs exports has grown by a whopping 190%.**
2/ **Paul Clark... China softening on log imports.**

Clark picked lower prices would be better news for the downstream wood processing industry.

That sector had struggled during the past two to compete with prices paid by the Chinese for logs produced locally, he said.

Otago and Southland have a large slice of the softwood forestry pie, with about 12% of the country's commercial plantation forests. Northland has about 11% and the central North Island regions about 33%.

"Since 2008, the volume of logs exported has grown by a whopping 190%," Mr Clark said.

That was mainly because of the growth in demand from China. Almost 12.7 million cub m, or 70%, of softwood logs harvested in New Zealand were exported to China in the year ending June 2017. That figure compared with just 1.4 million cub m exported in 2008.

(Otago Daily Times).

“CHINESE BUILDING ACTIVITY IS SLOWING DOWN

who have, for some time, dined out on China's massive appetite for logs," he said.

"Cashflow-dependent contractors will be especially vulnerable during this time," Mr Clark said in report on the forestry and wood processing sector.

However, as with every supply and demand story there is a winner, and Mr

From P 17

forwarder is the 7.4-litre engine which, with tried and tested SCR technology, not only minimises emissions and maximises fuel efficiency, but also delivers extremely high performance.

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Queen's canopy project is now a vast network of native forests

DURING the course of her 66-year reign, the Queen has planted more than 1500 trees all over the world and in an ABC documentary this week the great-grandmother discussed her commitment to a greener planet while strolling through the Buckingham Palace garden with Sir David Attenborough, the English broadcaster and naturalist.

Featuring a unique conversation between the Queen and Sir David as they walked in the palace gardens, the documentary explored the ambition of a remarkable new initiative – a vast network of native forests across Britain and the Commonwealth, protected forever in the Queen's name.

The documentary from ITN Productions follows the progress of the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy, the conservation project aimed at raising awareness of the value of indigenous forests,

“RAISING AWARENESS OF INDIGENEOUS FORESTS



1/ Talking trees... the Queen and Sir David Attenborough walk through the gardens at Buckingham Palace.

2/ Prince Harry during a visit to Epping Forest to view a wood pasture restoration project, which is part of the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy initiative. He planted trees and performed other conservation work with the children.

conservation and the ambition of The Queen's Commonwealth Canopy.

The canopy project is a unique network of forest conservation projects which unites the Commonwealth family of

nations to save one of the world's most important natural habitats.

Established in the name of Her Majesty as Head of the Commonwealth, this initiative is committed to raising awareness of the value of established indigenous forests, and saving them for future generations, as well as planting new forest.

The Commonwealth Canopy, conceived by the Frank Field MP, was launched at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Malta in 2015, a unique network of forest conservation initiatives, which involves all 53 countries of the Commonwealth.

and of preserving them for future generations.

At the centre of this landmark documentary is

the conversation between Her Majesty and Sir David Attenborough in which they discuss trees, nature and

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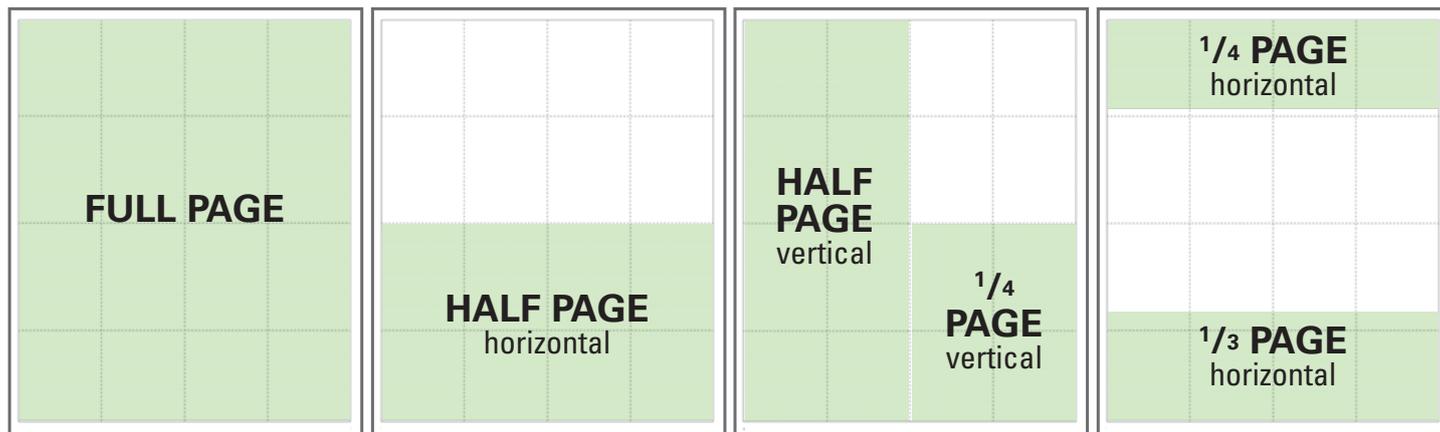
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* Publishers' claim. The publication draws on a new data-base vault of more than 14,500 emails – a number that grows weekly.

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