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Young professionals celebrate special day in the Green Triangle

COVER STORY P8



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NZ proposes new rules to better manage carbon farming with exotic forests excluded from ETS

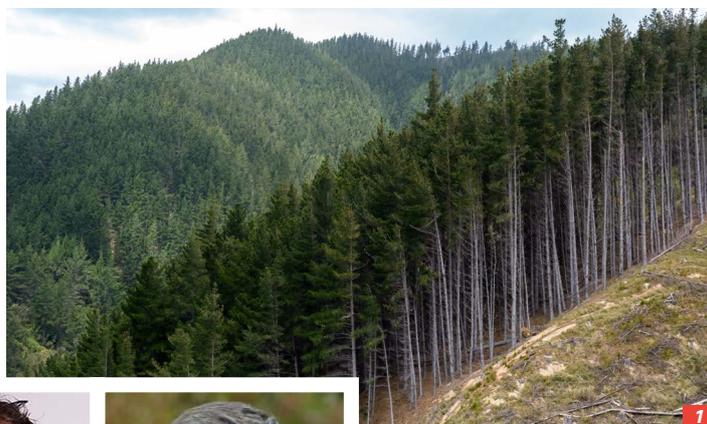
NEW Zealand Forestry Minister Stuart Nash and Climate Change Minister James Shaw have released a public discussion document that seeks feedback on ideas to better manage afforestation.

“Climate change is a challenge we cannot postpone,” Stuart Nash said.

“The government wants to encourage afforestation to help meet our climate change targets, offset carbon emissions, and also help farmers, landowners and investors diversify their income streams.

“We want to balance the risks created by new permanent exotic forests which are not intended for harvest. We have a window to build safeguards into the system, prior to a new ETS framework coming into force on January 1 next year.

Mr Nash said from 2023,



- 1/ **New Zealand proposing to exclude exotic species from the permanent forest category.**
- 2/ **Stuart Nash.**
- 3/ **James Shaw.**

intend to balance the need for afforestation with wider needs of local communities, regional economies, and the environment.”

Mr Nash said increased plantings of exotic forests were being driven by rising carbon prices as landowners and investors sought higher returns. The NZU price had

more than doubled over the past year, from around \$35 in late 2020 to more than \$80 in February 2022.

Permanent exotic forests such as radiata pine had potential environmental and ecological risks. These included pests, fire, damaged habitats for native species, biodiversity threats, and a relatively short lifespan compared to well-managed mixed indigenous forests.

“Later this year, we will also consult on proposals which could give local councils more powers to decide under the Resource Management Act where exotic forests are planted in their areas,” Mr Nash said.

James Shaw said planting more trees could help meet climate goals, but it was important to make sure all types of afforestation were well-managed through the ETS and the planning process.

“New Zealand was once blanketed with native forests, home to indigenous birds, insects and other wildlife,” he said.

“CLIMATE CHANGE A CHALLENGE THAT CANNOT BE POSTPONED”

Cont P 4



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Russia ‘conflict timber’ loses forest certification as destructive invasion impacts on environment

Military aggression affects the many people who depend on forests for their livelihood

BOTH PEFC and the Forest Stewardship Council have suspended trading certificates in Russia and Belarus blocking all controlled wood sourcing from the two countries.

This means that wood and forest products from Russia and Belarus cannot be used in PEFC or FSC products anywhere in the world as long as the armed violence continues.

All timber originating from the two countries is now listed as ‘conflict timber’ and therefore cannot be used in PEFC or FSC-certified products.

PEFC, the world’s largest forest certification system, is extremely concerned about the Russian government’s attack on Ukraine.

“The military invasion is in direct opposition to our core values,” PEFC chair Eduardo Rojas Briales said.

“This aggression causes unspeakable and unacceptable pain and death to innocent people, including women and children. It also has an immediate and long-term destructive impact on the environment, on forests, and on the many people that depend on forests for their livelihoods,” PEFC said.

The clarification that timber from Russia and Belarus is ‘conflict timber’ follows an



Eduardo Rojas Briales... Russia’s military invasion of Ukraine is in direct opposition to our core values.

extraordinary meeting by the PEFC International board to discuss Vladimir Putin’s military aggression against Ukraine and its implications for PEFC and PEFC-certified forest owners and companies.

Both PEFC and FSC will continue to closely monitor the situation and are ready to take additional measures to protect the integrity of their certification systems.

“All our thoughts are with Ukraine and its people, and we share their hopes for a return to peace,” FSC director-general Kim Carstensen said.

“We also express our sympathy with those people in Belarus and Russia who do not want this war,” he said.

“We must act against aggression, and at the same time, we must fulfil our mission of protecting forests. We believe that stopping all trade in FSC-certified and controlled materials, and at the same time maintaining the option of managing forests according to FSC standards, fulfils both



Kim Carstensen... we must act against aggression, and at the same time, we must fulfil our mission of protecting forests.

these needs.”

To continue to protect forests in Russia, the two certification bodies will allow forest management

certificate holders the option of maintaining their certification of forest management, but with no permission given to trade or sell PEFC or FSC-certified timber.

The categorisation of timber follows the adoption of the Resolution on Aggression against Ukraine by the United Nations General Assembly, which “deplores in the strongest terms the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine ... and the involvement of Belarus”

.The PEFC chain-of-custody

Cont P 5

“ WE WILL CONSIDER ADDITIONAL MEASURES IF NECESSARY ”

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Australian Forest Products Association

Michael O'Connor and Stacey Gardiner take the reins as co-chairs of ForestWorks board in 2022

David Forbes appointed deputy manager, Tony Price continues as board member

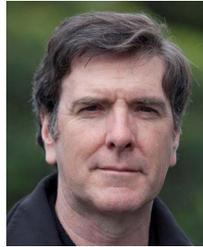
CFMEU's Michael O'Connor and Stacey Gardiner who has more than 20 years in strategic planning will take the reins as co-chairs of the ForestWorks board in 2022.

Mr O'Connor, national secretary of CFMEU's manufacturing division since 2005, has been with the union for more than 35 years, commencing work as a union organiser in 1985.

He is co-chair of First Super, a \$3.24 billion industry superannuation fund with 46,000 members across the timber, pulp and paper, and furniture and joinery industries, and their communities. He also chairs



Stacey Gardiner



Michael O'Connor



Yvette Nash



Tony Price

the First Super investment committee and is a director on the board of Industry Super Australia.

Stacey Gardiner has worked in the forest industry for the past seven years and is an experienced leader committed to building mutually beneficial relationships across organisations and industries

to support transformation and value creation.

She has more than 20 years' experience in strategic planning and managing teams focused on creating strategic frameworks and developing evidence-based policy.

Stacey holds a Bachelor of Agricultural Science and a Master of Land Use Planning.

Outgoing ForestWorks board chair Tony Price was thanked by the board "for his wise counsel and stewardship, as well as his passion and love for the industry"

He will continue as a ForestWorks board member.

In other changes at ForestWorks, as part of a planned leadership transition

and growth strategy, David Forbes has been appointed as the deputy general manager. He brings a wealth of experience in stakeholder engagement

and understands the skills challenges facing our industry.

ForestWorks is recruiting for a new general manager to take over from Yvette Nash. Yvette has worked across the industry to re-establish ForestWorks relevance with industry, and has significantly grown the organisation.

At the conclusion of her contract, Yvette has chosen to pursue other opportunities. The board has acknowledged Yvette's commitment to the role, her many achievements and wishes her well in her future endeavours.

David Forbes will be acting as ForestWorks general manager until a new general manager is appointed.



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From P 2

"Today much of those ancient forests are gone, but what remains is still a vital carbon sink."

In its advice to government, the Climate Change Commission says New Zealand must increase both indigenous and exotic tree planting to meet emissions targets.

"But they also warned we need to reduce our overall

reliance on forestry offsets, and better manage the impacts of afforestation," Mr Shaw said.

"For example, a proliferation of permanent exotic forestry could result in lower long-term carbon prices and potentially limit investment in low-carbon technologies."

Public submissions can be made from March 14, with the consultation running until April 22, 2022. www.mpi.govt.nz/

From P 3

standard considers 'conflict timber' as a 'controversial source' (PEFC ST 2002:2020 3.7), which cannot be used in PEFC certified product groups (PEFC ST 2002:2020 Appendix 1 6.1). 'Conflict timber' is defined as ... "timber that has been traded at some point in the chain of custody by armed groups, be they rebel factions or regular soldiers, or by a civilian administration involved in armed conflict or its representatives, either to perpetuate conflict or take advantage of conflict situations for personal gain. (PEFC ST 2002:2020, 3.6)"

The clarification that timber from Russia and Belarus is to be categorised as 'conflict timber' is based on the UN



The clarification that timber from Russia and Belarus is 'conflict timber' follows an extraordinary meeting by the PEFC International board.

General Assembly Resolution A/ES-11/L.1 (March 2, 2022) 'Aggression against Ukraine' during the 11th Emergency Special Session, to safeguard the integrity of PEFC chain-of-custody certification. This clarification is initially valid for six months.

PEFC will publish further

guidance in the coming days.

Fifty-five national members with 50 endorsed national certification systems have joined forces under the PEFC umbrella to collaboratively promote sustainable forest management.

With more than 330

million ha of certified forests, PEFC is the largest forest certification system in the world. To this must be added more than 20,000 companies that have obtained PEFC chain-of-custody certification, demonstrating their commitment to responsible sourcing of certified products.

Last week, Assurance Services International, a global watchdog on sustainability standards, announced the termination of accreditation scopes in Belarus due to non-conformance with FSC's core labour requirements, and risks to the safety of people involved in audits. This termination was based on an investigation that preceded the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Omicron toll but more homes are under construction

BUILDING approvals fell by a remarkable 27.9% in January as Omicron disrupted the record boom in home building.

HIA economist Tom Devitte says approvals for detached houses fell by 17.3% and 43.6% for multi-units.

"This sharp fall in January can be attributed to staff shortages during the Omicron outbreak and a higher than

usual uptake of holiday leave," Mr Devitt said.

"There are no indications that home building activity is facing weak demand any time soon, despite temporary interruptions from the Omicron outbreak in January," he said.



HIA anticipates an above-average volume of approvals will be reported in coming months as the impact of this

disruption fades.

Early indications are that home building bounced back as the Omicron wave abated and builders were able to return to work.

There are more homes under construction at present than in any previous cycle and this will continue to grow until mid-2022.



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Responsible Wood would like to announce the release of the new AS/NZS 4708 Sustainable Forest Management Standard.

Responsible Wood 
RW/1-10-1

Hyne Group's new partners from the UK visit Tumberumba mill where it's business as usual

Growth opportunities and a combined 320 years of family-owned sawmilling heritage

FOLLOWING the Hyne Group partnership announcement last month, board directors from the new shareholder UK-based James Jones & Sons Ltd Tom Bruce-Jones and Eddie Balfour joined Hyne CEO Jon Kleinschmidt and strategic relations manager Katie Fowden for a meet and greet with the Snowy Valleys Council.

The new Hyne group chairman Tom Bruce-Jones welcomed the opportunity to reassure the council that it is "business as usual" for the Tumberumba sawmill including no changes to the Hyne Community Trust which will be calling for its annual applications once again in the lead up to June.

"Eddie and I have loved our visit to Tumberumba and we welcomed the opportunity to meet the Mayor, councillors and CEO of the council in person and we look forward to the ongoing relationship and support," Mr Bruce-Jones said.

"The Hyne Community Trust is an excellent initiative and I am pleased so many organisations have benefitted from this providing lasting

“ PROVIDING FUTURE CARBON NEGATIVE PRODUCTS



Tom Bruce-Jones, Jon Kleinschmidt, Eddie Balfour (centre) and Katie Fowden (right) with the Snowy Valleys Council Mayor and councillors.

benefits to the community," he said.

"As we already knew from our due diligence prior to entering our partnership with the Hyne Group the sawmill in Tumberumba is world class. Due to travel restrictions this is first time we have been able to meet the highly professional and skilled team members and we are both very impressed and delighted

with what we saw throughout the site.

"It was really interesting to learn about all of the innovations that have been employed, and indeed by the scale of all the different areas.

"Our visit to Forest Corporation NSW also provided us with a greater understanding of the terrible impacts from the bushfires,

but also gave us reassurances for the opportunities ahead.

The UK visitors looked over a two-year-old forest area which was planted after the bushfires as well as the plantation nursery.

"These will provide future carbon negative products to build homes and secure the future of Tumberumba jobs and the long-term viability of the sawmill," Mr Bruce-Jones said.

The visit to Tumberumba was part of a two-week packed itinerary including Hyne Timber's Maryborough and Brisbane sites and the XLam facility at Wodonga, Australia's pioneering CLT plant.

Mr Bruce-Jones added: "It also enabled us to spend time with the Hyne family



Mike Beardsell, Jon Kleinschmidt, Tom Bruce-Jones, and Belinda Lengenber in the Forest Corporation NSW plantation estate.

Cont P 7

MARCH

21: United Nations International Day of Forests. Countries are encouraged to organise activities involving forests and trees, such as tree planting campaigns.

23: National Eucalypt Day. Help us find Australia's favourite gum tree. There are over 900 eucalypt species across the continent – Eucalyptuses, Corymbias and Angophoras – from the towering Mountain Ash of south eastern Australia, to the haunting ghost gum of the outback, to the West Australian Mottlecah – The Rose of the West. You have until March 20 to vote. Details for entry at www.eucalyptaustralia.org.au/eucalyptoftheyear/

29-30: International Conference on Forest Resources Accounting and Economics – Australia World Academy of Science,

Engineering and Technology, Sydney, NSW. For further information see; <https://waset.org/forest-resources-accounting-and-economics-conference-in-january-2022-in-sydney>

APRIL

20-21: Centre for Future Timber Structures 2022 Australian Timber Design Workshops in Launceston, Tasmania and Brisbane, QLD. Created for building design professionals interested in timber construction to develop skills, confidence and networks in a unique, hands-on environment. Registration and cost: Early bird discount (ends February 28): \$900. Standard: \$1100 (single day \$650, student price: \$250). For further information Professor Keith Crews email: k.crews@uq.edu.au Event re-scheduled from early February.

MAY

10-12: Environmental Forestry – Rotorua, New Zealand. Forest Industry Engineering Association. Improving environmental performance across the forest industry. For further information see: www.environmentalforestry.events

18-19: DesignBUILD – Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre, Melbourne, VIC. Event will bring together Australia's architecture, building, construction and design communities. For further information see: designbuildexpo.com.au

JUNE

10: Third time lucky! GTTIA Awards – Mount Gambier, SA. The GTTIA committee confirms the awards gala event will be held on June 10 at The Barn, Mount Gambier SA. Tickets on sale April 25 and for purchase online. Email: info@gttia.com

21-22: Frame Australia Timber Offsite Construction – Crown Promenade Melbourne, VIC. New global 'hybrid' format. Choose from a selection of half-day and full-day programs. Virtual delegates can register for just one or more conference sessions. For further information and registration visit the website www.timberoffsiteconstruction.com

SEPTEMBER

11-16: Gottstein Trust Understanding Wood Science Course – Sunday evening, September 11, 2022, in Albury, NSW, for the field trip component, ending on Friday, September 16, in Canberra. The course is fully booked and a wait list is operating on a first-in-first-served basis. Delivered in partnership with the ANU. The course program can be downloaded at www.gottsteintrust.org

From P 6

who have retained just over a 40% share in the business and for the new board members to get acquainted properly."

The Hyne Group and the James Jones & Sons partnership brings together a combined 320 years of family-owned sawmilling heritage to pursue growth opportunities in Australia and New Zealand.



Eddie Balfour, Tom Bruce-Jones, Phil Green, Mike Beardsell, Jon Kleinschmidt, Belinda Lengenber, Nick Firth and Katie Fowden at the Forest Corporation NSW nursery in Tumut.

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Women's Day celebrated in Green Triangle and Donna does it again with Clarence region award

JIM BOWDEN

AN enthusiastic group of young professionals gathered in the Green Triangle on Tuesday this week to celebrate International Women's Day and promote women in the forest sector.

The gathering contributed to the achievement of the 2023 United Nations theme 'Gender Balance Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow'.

Plantation management companies in the Green Triangle region – OneFortyOne Plantations, SFM, HVP and Timberlands Pacific – committed to developing talent and opportunities within the sector, brought together a cohort of summer students, scholarships winners and recent graduates who have started their professional careers, bringing a diverse range of educational backgrounds and experiences.

Recognising the importance of building peer relationships and networking, the current group has committed to meeting regularly and drawing on the expertise within their businesses to broaden their knowledge and skills.

“EMPOWERING WOMEN IN THE FOREST SECTOR CAN CREATE NEW OPPORTUNITIES



Young professionals in the Green Triangle celebrate International Women's Day... from left, Ainsley Mann, HVP, Bella Walker, Taylah Martin and Heidi Maresch, OneFortyOne Plantations, Grace Tse, Timberlands Pacific, Jia Yi Chew, SFM, and Sarah Caldwell, Timberlands Pacific.

Meanwhile, leaving flooded Grafton to attend the 2022 NSW Premier's Woman of the Year awards in flooded Sydney on Tuesday, Donna Layton, general manager of Notaras sawmill, was rewarded with a win in the Clarence Local Woman of the Year category.

This caps her win in the prestigious national Shine Awards announced in November last year. Donna, who has devoted much of her life to the sawmilling industry and the communities



it serves, was presented with the Shine Dedication Award. Countries all over the world united in the celebration of women's achievements. The March 8 event honoured women of the past, present and future generations who have championed for change in gender equality and funding female-focused charities.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organisation's forestry division says empowering women in the

forestry sector can create significant development opportunities and generate important additional benefits for their households and communities, particularly in rural areas.

FAO says given their knowledge and roles of forests and the forestry sector, women need to be sufficiently represented in relevant institutions, accepted as stakeholders with specific views and interests, and empowered to have a say in transformative decisions.

In order to empower women in the forestry sector, FAO says, it is necessary to advocate for good governance systems which provide secure tenure for women; collect gender disaggregated data to monitor gender roles in the sector; implement gender in capacity building activities; carry out knowledge building activities aimed at understanding gender-specific roles, needs and dynamics; analyse the potential entry points for gender components in projects and programs; and circulate important data and facts related to gender in the forests and forestry sector.



The Governor of NSW Margaret Beaxley AO QC congratulates Donna Layton on her Women's Day award win at a special breakfast in Sydney yesterday morning.

On the cover: Celebrating International Women's Day in the Green Triangle are summer student Sarah Caldwell and graduate forester Grace Tse, both employees of Timberlands Pacific.

Queensland regional forestry hub targets EOIs in round of research and development projects

MANUFACTURING
competitiveness, bioenergy and carbon are focus areas for a South + Central Queensland Regional Forestry Hub's round of projects released this week with an expression of interest process closing on April 1.

Manager Kerry Fullarton says the hub, which was established as part of the federal government's National Forest Industries Plan, is focused on leveraging and implementing projects to boost productivity and growth in the sector to meet Australia's future needs for wood and fibre in the next decade. "Following a productive start to 2022 the South + Central Queensland



South + Central Queensland Regional Forestry Hub steering committee meet at the Laminex Australia Gympie plant ... from left, Mick Stephens and Clarissa Brandt, Timber Queensland, Greg Phipps, EcoCottages, James Hyne, Hyne Timber, Greg Leach, AgForce Queensland, Curly Tatnell, DTM Timber, Kerry Fullarton, South + Central Queensland Regional Forestry Hub, and Dennis Biasotto, Laminex Australia.

Regional Forestry Hub has opened an EOI process for four research and development projects," Mrs Fullarton said.

"We are now

commissioning experts to deliver reports on priorities that have been identified in consultation with industry, community, and government stakeholders," she said.

"We have three projects aligned to our goal of maximising manufacturing processes and products

Cont P 11

 **TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION**

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New Forests announces first close of Tropical Asia Forest Fund with \$US120m commitment

Diversified portfolio of plantation assets in Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia

NEW Forests, a global investment manager of nature-based real assets and natural capital strategies, has announced the first close of its Tropical Asia Forest Fund 2 (TAFF2) with \$US120 million of capital commitments. Investors in the first close include sovereign wealth, corporate, philanthropic and development finance capital from Australia, Europe, Japan, the Philippines, Singapore and the US.

TAFF2 is a closed end fund that aims to capitalise on the long-term investment opportunities in sustainable plantation forestry in southeast Asia. Asia has the world's fastest growing demand for wood products. Investment is required not only in a high quality and sustainable plantation sector but also in productive landscapes that are integrated with positive climate, biodiversity impacts and sustainable development, to address the region's sustainability transition.

TAFF2 is expected to develop a diversified portfolio of sustainable forest plantation assets in Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand, Laos and Cambodia for end markets such as timber, rubber and carbon.

New Forests' investment approach drives value through best practice forestry management, market and supply chain development,



implementation of high-quality governance, and leading environmental and social management practices.

TAFF2 also includes a unique blended finance structure that will enable integrated investment in impact activities focused on climate action, community engagement and livelihoods, and biodiversity conservation into this plantation forestry portfolio.

The impact activities are closely linked to the Paris Agreement and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. New Forests' objective is to demonstrate that asset management integrating commercial forestry investments with activities such as ecosystem restoration, reforestation, and community forestry will lead to better returns, long-term

- 1/ **Asian forests have important role in aligning growth with climate positive, nature positive, and sustainable development outcomes.**
- 2/ **David Brand... Asia central to the economic and sustainability transformations happening in the 21st century.**
- 3/ **Geoffrey Seeto... investors play a key role in Asia transitioning to more responsible forestry management.**

sustainability outcomes, and operational resilience.

New Forests CEO David Brand said Asia was central to the economic and sustainability transformations happening in the 21st century.

"Asia has an important role to play in aligning its growth with climate positive, nature positive, and sustainable development outcomes," Mr Bran said.

"The TAFF2 investment strategy has been developed to invest capital in these transformations, using the blended finance structure to

mobilise more capital towards high social and environmental impact outcomes."

Managing director of New Forests Asia Geoffrey Seeto said Southeast Asia offered institutional investors competitive forestry returns compared to more established markets, diversification into new markets, and the capacity to support the region's transition to a sustainable, climate-smart forest industry.

"We are excited to be partnering with leading institutional investors from Asia Pacific, Europe and the US, who will play a key role in Asia's forestry sector transitioning towards more responsible forestry management," Mr Seeto said.

Investors in the first close include Asian Development Bank, the Australian government, David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Tease and Total Energies.

New Forests will continue to raise capital for TAFF2 throughout 2022 and anticipates a second close later this year, with a goal of raising \$US300 million.

New Forests has been investing in southeast Asia for over a decade and has an office in Singapore. TAFF2 is New Forests' second fund dedicated to sustainable forestry in the region after closing the Tropical Asia Forest Fund (TAFF) in 2013.

In September last year, TAFF2 was awarded the Best Impact Fund, Private from Financial Investigator in the Netherlands.

“INVESTORS CAN HELP CATALYSE CHANGES ACROSS SE ASIA'S FOREST SECTOR

From P 9

through innovation, science, and technology and add value through improved supply chain logistics.”

The manufacturing competitiveness projects are:

- Assessment of the volumes of wood biomass residues and their potential uses and markets.
- Evaluate the feasibility of new technologies and processes in timber and wood products industry to deliver a range of cost-competitive products.



Bioenergy and carbon are focus areas for a South + Central Queensland Regional Forestry Hub’s round of projects.

- Evaluate the feasibility of using new harvesting technologies and processes in Queensland’s forestry

operations.

Kerry Fullarton said the fourth project sat under the hub’s bioenergy and carbon focus area.

“We aim to promote the benefits of forestry in addressing climate change by delivering bioenergy, carbon storage and biomass for future sustainable growth,” she said.

Expressions of interest must be submitted by 5 pm on April 1.

Contact Kerry Fullarton on email k.fullarton@seqfh.com.au

Ukraine crisis and floods to worsen timber shortages

THE war in Ukraine and the Australian floods are expected to exacerbate the timber shortage.

Global lumber prices have increased to near record highs of \$2000 per thousand feet of board since Vladimir

Putin ordered troops to invade Ukraine.

South Australian Forest Products Association CEO Nathan Paine said the “terrible invasion” of Ukraine had significant potential to harm the South Australian

market. He urged political parties to commit to planting 50 million trees over the next four years in the state.

“This crisis is shining a blazing spotlight on the fact that we are not planting enough trees to meet our

future needs,” Mr Paine said.

“One thing Covid has taught us is the need for sovereign capability to ensure we have enough fibre and timber to meet our needs,” he said.

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Fit for purpose: FSC ANZ to kick off revision of Australian management standard for forests

IN accordance with FSC International's requirements for the maintenance of national forest stewardship standards, FSC ANZ has reviewed the Australian standard.

The review showed that while the standard is largely performing well, a revision is required to ensure it remains fit for purpose.

FSC ANZ CEO Damian Paull explains: "With an overall goal of maintaining continuity and consistency in the standard, the FSC ANZ board of directors has approved a targeted revision of the standard."

He adds that "the targeted nature of the revision means that the necessary improvements identified in the review constitute the scope of its revision. We believe this will make

SMOOTH AND EFFICIENT REVISION PROCESS



for a smooth and efficient revision process, where the parts of the standard that work well will largely remain unchanged."

The revision will address key issues identified by Australian standard users and the FSC ANZ membership to ensure the continued relevance of the standard. This includes issues related

1/ Standard continues to promote best-practice responsible forest management in the face of changing external circumstances.

Photo: FSC New Zealand

2/ Damian Paull... the FSC ANZ board of directors has approved a targeted revision of the standard.

to Principle 2, Workers' Rights, and the inclusion of non-timber forest products (NTFPs) in the standard.

Further, Mr Paull says that to ensure the standard continues to promote best-practice responsible forest management in the face of changing external circumstances, the revision will include an evaluation of how climate change and bushfire adaptation and mitigation strategies, as well as post-catastrophic disturbance options, can

be supported by the existing framework of the standard.

Also included in the scope are relevant developments in the FSC normative framework since the standard was produced, most notably changes in FSC's international generic indicators and the revision of the FSC pesticides

policy.

Mr Paull says that subject to approval by the FSC ANZ board, additional indicators or topics can be added to the scope during the revision process.

In accordance with FSC International's procedures, a chamber-balanced standards development group consisting of FSC ANZ members will be established to support the revision of the standard. A call for expressions of interest for membership of the standards development group will be issued in due course.

The revised standard must be recommended to FSC International's board of directors by November 2024.

Continuous drying kiln removes 'bottleneck' at Hyne Tuan mill

RESEARCHERS from the forest product innovation team in the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries have led a timber drying project that has resulted in significant industry change.

Hyne Timber has now operationalised its continuous drying kiln capability

supported by DAF research and its collaboration with the ARC Future Timber Hub.

The hub's project team, led by Dr Chandan Kumar, senior scientist at DAF (pictured), is very proud



to contribute and improve Hyne Timber's operations.

Drying timber is considered a 'bottleneck' at Hyne Timber's Tuan mill, consuming substantial energy and time,

and contributing to the highest carbon footprint in the harvesting and processing operations.

The \$14.5 million investment in CDK capacity has achieved thermal energy efficiencies of about 20-30%, has enabled an increase in production and has created almost 60 new jobs.



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Spoils are there for a sector on the ‘front foot’

AUSTRALIA'S rural industries, including forestry, will continue to prosper if they meet growing expectations around sustainability and keep making sound investments that build resilience and encourage innovation.

ABARES executive director Dr Jared Greenville told this year's Outlook conference that industry had an opportunity to lever off its current successes to ensure continued growth and competitiveness over the coming decades.

"We're seeing a shift in willingness to pay for sustainability – by governments and consumers," Dr Greenville said to delegates in his Outlook to 2026-27 address.

"There is increasingly a recognition that farming

and land management involves land and biodiversity stewardship," Dr Greenville said.

"As a result, new markets are being created to establish these attributes as agricultural outputs in their own right.

"We're expecting there will be a threefold increase in the number of consumers in high income countries between now and 2050. That's around three billion more high-income consumers who will demand products we produce and have rising expectations around sustainability.

"Take Indonesia, for example – both demand for products we produce, and imports, are expected to increase significantly between now and 2050."

Dr Greenville said there would be disruptions to



Dr Jared Greenville..... we are seeing a shift in willingness to pay for sustainability.

international supply chains, issues with market access, labour constraints and a range of other factors the sector would need to respond to.

"In navigating this future, it's important that we invest in things that make us resilient."

He said Australia's export fortunes hinged on opening new market access opportunities that provide

flexibility and options when disruptions occur.

"To remain on the front foot, addressing non-tariff measures, developing biosecurity protocols and helping break down global levels of trade and production distorting support will be important," Dr Greenville said.

"At the moment, Australia trades on a clean and green image but expectations are increasing, and we are one of multiple suppliers who can deliver this.

"We will need to be able to meet these expectations on a competitive footing, and we know more work needs to be done."

Dr Greenville added: "We're in a good starting position, but the race is only beginning."

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Logging on to low-emission Outlander Aspire

ROLLING up alongside a well-stocked yard of hardwood logs in Enright's sawmill at Beaudesert in a Mitsubishi Outlander Aspire we realised it had been 12 years since our last visit with forestry friend Dr Gary Bacon.

Our mission then was to measure the carbon captured in a massive Eucalyptus saligna that after 300 years of growth had been laid to rest in a covered site at the mill's entrance 34 years ago.

A brass plaque dedicates the log to "the timber getters and sawmillers of the district whose skills and hard work contributed to its development (mill's centenary 1888-1988, bi-centenary of Australia 1788-1988)".

The Enright family reckoned the expired tree was 300 years old when it was taken from the Burnett state forest on the Queensland-NSW border.

The good doctor's bag of instruments recorded that the Sydney blue gum carried 11 tonnes of carbon and in its lifetime had sucked in more than 70 tonnes of CO₂.

Prior to the visit, we had driven the Outlander around the Scenic Rim, a group of forested mountain ranges that are part of the Great



1/ Flood rain have stalled bush operations but there was at least six weeks supply of logs in the Enright's yard when the Mitsubishi Outlander Aspire turned up last week.

2/ Dr Gary Bacon measures the girth before counting the carbons in Enright's Sydney blue gum.

Dividing Range.

The compact crossover SUV used 7.5 L/100 km of unleaded petrol in a combined city and highway cycle with an impressive 83-87 km zero-emissions driving range.

Under the bonnet is a 2.5-litre naturally-aspirated four-cylinder engine producing 135 kW at 6000 rpm and 245 Nm at 3600rpm. A more economical – and more expensive – plug-in hybrid version is on the way.

The Aspire sits in the middle of the SUV range starting at \$41,490 plus



onroads for the front-wheel drive with the AWD at \$43,990.

Plenty of equipment comes as standard – 20-in. wheels, dual-zone climate control, heated front seats, a power tailgate, keyless entry and start, wireless charging, wired smartphone, auto headlights and wipers, rear-

view camera and front and rear parking sensors.

The seats, a combination of micro-suede and synthetic leather, are comfortable and the driving position is widely adjustable. In the second row there's plenty of space: the bench slides fore-aft, reclines and can be folded 40/20/40 for extra flexibility. A fold-down centre arm rest contains a pair of cup holders and the back of the centre console houses two USB ports and rear air vents.

As with most variants, the Outlander Aspire comes with a packed kit that includes front and side airbags in the front, curtain airbags for the first two rows, a driver's knee airbag and a centre airbag to stop the driver and front passenger crashing together.

ANCAP has awarded the Outlander a maximum five-star for forward collision mitigation, pedestrian detection, lane departure warning/prevention, emergency lane assist, blind spot monitoring, rear cross traffic alert, emergency brake assist, rear autonomous emergency braking, active cruise control, traffic sign recognition and trailer stability control.

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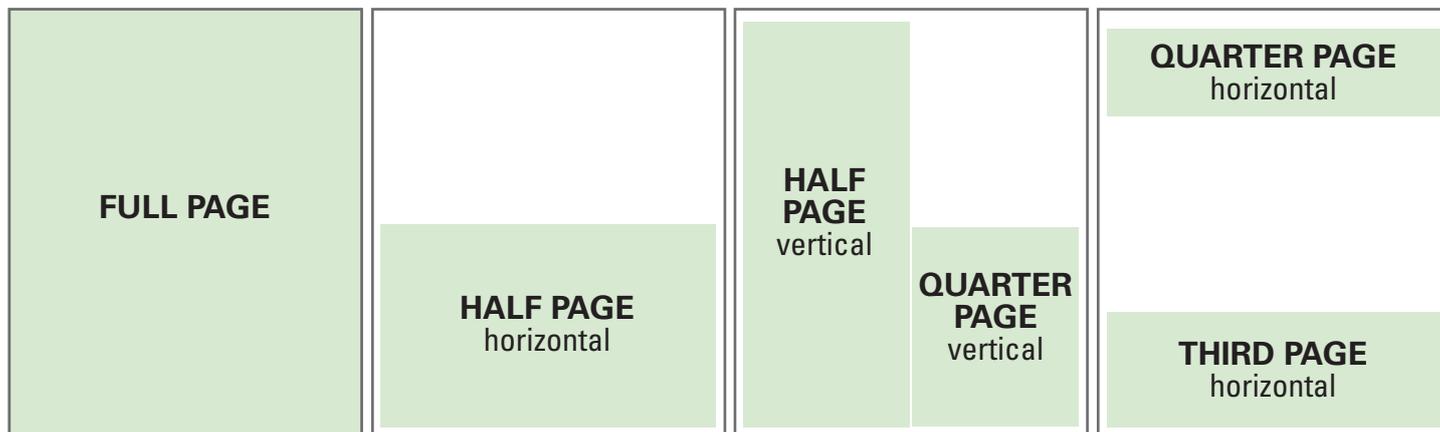
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THIRD PAGE: \$215

Horizontal • 73mmH x 190mmW

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

Horizontal • 73mmH x 190mmW

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