

Timber planting future to grow after 'water rule' scrapped COVER STORY P 5



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Green Triangle Timber Industry Awards nominations are open

NOMINATIONS are now open for the 2023 Green Triangle Timber Industry Awards. Each award category aims to showcase the remarkable achievements of individuals and companies within our vibrant timber community.

Submissions are currently open with organisers encouraging nominations.

"Let's come together to celebrate the unsung heroes who have shaped the local timber and forestry industry and those who pave the way for a brighter future!" they shared in a statement.

Green Triangle Timber Industry Award Categories for the 2023 Award include:

- Sawmilling & Processing Excellence
- Operations Harvesting & Infield Chipping Excellence
- Operations Silviculture & Timber Support Services Excellence
- Logistics Excellence Port Operations, Marshalling & Timber Haulage
- Trainee/Apprentice of the Year Award



Reid Logging took out the 2021 Safety Excellence Award for a company with less than 30 staff.

- Timber Legend Award
- Safety Excellence –
 Less than 30 Staff
- Safety Excellence More than 30 Staff
- Safety Excellence Individual Award
- Environment & Sustainability Award

And this year there's something new with the introduction of Award Category Mentors.



"We are excited to share that each award category has a mentor from our GTTIA Committee," organisers shared on their website.

"Our mentors are happy to help you get started, assit you to make sure all the criteria requirements are met in your submission and will make nominating someone or a business an easier process for you.

"Each mentor and their contact details are listed below in the categories – please give them a call, they are ready and waiting to help," they said.

The award winners will then be celebrated at the Gala Dinner Event on October 27th at The Barn, where we will not only honour all nominees' outstanding achievements but also raise the profile of our timber industry, both within our community and across the nation.

Nominations are open now until the 6th of August and can be made at https:// gttia.com/nomination-2023/

<image>

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New director appointed for Centre for Timber Durability and Design Life

THE National Centre for Timber Durability and Design Life is entering the next and exciting stage of its evolution, with the appointment of new Director, Professor Tripti Singh.

With more than 20 years of experience in managing collaborative, multi-milliondollar research programmes, Professor Singh is one of the leading names in wood protection research.

The centre is a Forest & Wood Products Australia (FWPA) and University of the Sunshine Coast (UniSC) supported initiative. It launched in 2016 with the goal of returning Australia to the forefront of international best practice and underpinning consumer confidence in timber product performance.

"We are delighted to welcome such a well-respected and widely recognised name from the international wood science community to the Director role," said Craig Taylor, FWPA chair.

"The centre has enjoyed an outstanding launch and evolved to become a valuable resource for the entire industry. We look forward to its continued success and expansion under Tripti's leadership," Mr Taylor said.

Over the past six years, the centre has made important inroads. It has collaborated with the sector to ensure Australia has access to the world's leading research while building strong links between industry, academia and customers.





It has overseen critical research projects that have delivered significant value to the sector and helped to educate the next generation of durability scientists, boosting Australian research capacity. Today it is home to 20 associated researchers and students.

"Tripti has a proven ability to innovate, build teams, and develop strong relationships with stakeholders including industry members, funding bodies and academics, making her the perfect fit for this role," said Professor Ross Young, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation) at the University of the Sunshine Coast.

"Under Tripti's expert guidance there is no doubt the centre and its team will continue to expertly fulfil the vital role it has come to play within the industry during the next stage in our collaboration," Mr Young said.

Professor Singh is currently a senior scientist at New Zealand's Scion, a governmentowned company that conducts research to drive innovation and growth from the nation's forestry, wood products and wood-derived materials. She

Professor Tripti Singh will bring two decades of experience to the new role.

is also highly familiar with the work of the centre having acted as an international advisory committee member since 2017.

"Taking over the leadership of such a vital centre for research into timber durability is a privilege, particularly during a time where so many opportunities exist for expanding timber use in Australia," said Professor Singh.

"Industry collaboration on vital research projects will be key to ensuring the ongoing success of the centre. At its core, I believe nurturing relationships with industry and strengthening linkages with research groups in the domestic and global durability community will help align centre research with industry needs and result in practical solutions ready for implementation in real-world settings.

"While there are many

Cont P 4

The united voice for Australia's forest industries



0408 404 764 enquiries@ausfpa.com.au www.ausfpa.com.au Australian Forest Products Association

Therese Taylor steps back from TFFPN role

AFTER more than five 'great years' in the Convenor chair, the time has come for Therese Taylor to step back from her role with the Tasmanian Forest & Forest Products Network (TFFPN).

Therese said it has been a professional highlight for her to work with the forest industry to establish and nurture a network organisation which enables members to work collaboratively together on issues which affect the entire supply chain.

"There is so much to

THERE IS SO MUCH TO CELEBRATE



celebrate, including growing pride in the industry through our 2000+ members, establishing the Tasmanian Timber Awards, putting in place a workforce planning framework to attract the workforce of tomorrow and

Therese Taylor will step back from her role after nearly five years

communicating the best practice and innovation of this industry," Ms Taylor said.

"I will be saying many 'thank yous' over the next few months for the support and assistance I have received, however in the short term we are on the search for a Convenor."

From P 3

opportunities associated with the increased popularity of timber use for construction and infrastructure, durability and susceptibility to decay and degradation present challenges, which the centre is well-placed to help overcome," Professor Singh said.

Industry also applauded the centre's work and the new appointment.

"The centre strives to deliver practical solutions to existing industry challenges and sustains an ongoing focus reflective of the needs of our sector and its future development," said industry representative Marina Milic, wood technologist at AKD, Australia's largest softwood sawmilling business.

"Under Tripti's leadership,

According to TFFPN Convenor role has been advertised and is an exciting CEO position, suited to executive-level candidates, who can bring high-level leadership, wide ranging strategic and operational skills, stakeholder engagement and management, and collaboration and governance skills.

The position is part-time (0.4 FTE) and allows for significant autonomy to shape next steps and outcomes.

The link to the position description is available through SEEK and applications close at 5pm on Friday 14 July.

"Please feel free to get in touch with Therese directly if you'd like to discuss the role," a spokesperson said.

having access to skilled and applied researchers locally through the centre will continue to offer a greater understanding of wood science and timber properties to industry members throughout Australia."

Tripti will be joining the centre in mid-August. In pursuit of a smooth transition, Professor Singh will be supported into her role by the outgoing Director Jeff Morell over the next 18 months as the centre continues to develop.

The appointment of a new Director has been part of the vision for the centre since its creation, with the initial Director's role being to establish and grow the centre to the point where it could be successfully handed over to the next generation of research leadership.

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4

Forestry welcomes the abolishment of carbon market barriers for new timber plantings

AUSTRALIA'S forest

industries have welcomed the Albanese Government's move to abolish regulatory barriers preventing new timber plantings from participating in the Emissions Reduction Fund (ERF).

The decision delivers on the Government's election commitment to scrap the 'water rule', chief executive officer of the Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA) Joel Fitzgibbon said.

AFPA has been campaigning to remove the 'water rule' for many years, as access to the carbon market will incentivise investment in Australia's plantation and farm forestry estate which is urgently needed to help Australia meet its future timber and wood fibre needs while making a significant contribution to Australia's emissions reduction targets.

In October 2022, the Federal Government

> TIMBER PLANTINGS GROW AFTER WATER RULE SCRAPPED



One billion trees are needed by 2030 to secure Australia's timber future.

announced a consultation process on the 'water rule' which prevented plantation and farm forestry project access to the carbon market in areas with annual average rainfall above 600mm – thereby holding back much need investment in new timber and fibre plantations in most timber processing regions.

"The removal of these restrictions nationally is great news because Australia desperately needs new production tree plantings to grow future timber and wood fibre supply. Today, the Government has delivered for the industry by removing these barriers to carbon markets," Joel Fitzgibbon said.

Australia needs one billion new production trees planted by 2030 to secure Australia's future timber and fibre supply for everything from house frames to packaging and paper products.

Furthermore, AFPA-Master Builders Australia analysis highlighted that Australia will be 250,000 new house-frames short of demand by 2050 if Australia doesn't achieve the billion new trees by 2030 goal. That's cities the size of Newcastle and Geelong combined. Australia has the golden opportunity to ready itself for insatiable international demand for sustainably sourced wood and fibre, with global demand forecast to quadruple by 2050.

"The forest products sector thanks the Government for its delivery of this key commitment. AFPA will continue to work with Minister Watt and other Government Ministers on fibre security strategies which build sovereign capability while helping Australia realise its decarbonisation ambitions," Joel Fitzgibbon concluded.

On the cover: AFPA Joel Fitzgibbon has welcomed the abolishment of the regulatory barriers preventing new timber plantings.

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RFS members recognised for combined 400 years of service

MEMBERS of the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) Southern Border District for NSW were celebrated during a special event held in Holbrook this month to recognise their dedication and near 400 years' of service amongst them.

Deputy Commissioner Peter McKechnie presented 13 National Emergency Medals, eight Long Service Medals as well as one National Medal for RFS members who have rendered sustained or significant service.

"Today is an opportunity to recognise the hard work and incredible contribution of volunteers and staff across the region," Deputy Commissioner McKechnie said.

"Every single one of these members should be proud of themselves and their dedication to protecting local communities,"

"They stood sideby-side with their fellow firefighters across NSW and faced fierce blazes during one of the most destructive fire seasons in recent memory. It is important to have these volunteers

on deck to mentor and guide the younger generation joining the Service now and into the future." Deputy Commissioner McKechnie said.

"I'd particularly like to recognise Bill Shultz of the Burrumbuttock Brigade and David Harrison of the



National Emergency Medals, eight Long Service Medals, and one National Medal for RFS members who have rendered sustained or significant service.

Woomargama Brigade who have been recognised for their impressive 57 and 64 years of service respectively," Deputy Commissioner McKechnie said.

In a boost the region's firefighting capabilities, today's ceremony also included the handover of the replacement single-cab fire tankers for the Redlands and Rand Rural Fire Brigades.

Both Brigades were excited take receipt of the keys, replacing their previous tankers, which had served their communities for around 30 years.

Deputy Commissioner McKechnie also thanked the family, friends, employers and colleagues of all NSW RFS volunteers. "We know it takes their ongoing support and patience to assist and enable our volunteers to do what they do to save lives and property," he said.

"It's the families who support our volunteers to protect their community who too, should be recognised and thanked today."

It comes as firefighters across the nation gear up for a more damaging fire season.

With the arrival of el nino, hot and dry conditions are expected to intensify in the summer period.

Windy winter weather has already kept firefighters in NSW busy. More than 60 bush and grass fires were reported across the state over last weekend with crews working around the clock to contain them. Strong winds are still being experienced from the Hunter to the south coast today. Houses in parts of the Hunter region of NSW were under threat after strong winds pushed flames towards boundaries a warning of what could come with the summer ahead.





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JULY

16-21: Understanding Forest Course, Gottstein Trust -**Pacific Bay Resort, Coffs** Harbour, NSW. A week-long forest science course that provides an understanding of sustainable Australian forest management, the economics of growing trees for wood production and other forest services. The course covers both planted and natural forests and provides an appreciation of environmental issues and international strategic trends in the forestry industry. For further information see: https:// gottsteintrust.org/grantscourses/understanding-forestscience-course

AUGUST

29-30: Timber & Forestry enews Australian Timber Supply Summit – Melbourne. Early warning alert. For any queries relating to the conference, please contact CORP COMM.Email: info@ corp-comm.com.au Phone: +61 3 5977 0244

27-3 SEPT: Malaysian Timber Council Trade and Marketing Mission to Australia – Melbourne & Brisbane.

Including visits to Melbourne and Brisbane. To participate and for further information contact John Halkett at john. halkett@forestlands.com.au or 0417 421 187

SEPTEMBER

9: Women in Forest & Timber **Network Charity Cocktail** Fundraiser - Rose Room, Brisbane. 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Annual charity cocktail fundraiser in support of the Brisbane Domestic Violence Service (BDVS). This event will raise much-needed funds to help BDVS respond to women, children and families experiencing domestic and family violence and to continue achieving safer families, free from abuse. For further information and sponsorship opportunities contact Jacinta. Colley@vidawood.com

11-12: Timber Off-Site

Construction Conference – Crown Promenade Melbourne.

The theme for 2023 is "Timber & Technology – The Zero Carbon Future". For more information visit www. timberoffsiteconstruction.com

OCTOBER

15-19: ANZIF Conference: Embracing our natural capital: The science, technology, and art of managing forests for all values – Twin Towns Conference Centre, Coolangatta, Queensland. Further details from Forestry Australia at: https://www. forestry.org.au/

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Exemplary achievements in NZ forestry recognised

ON Monday, the New Zealand Institute of Forestry (NZIF) held its awards dinner in Wellington to honour the winners of its most prestigious accolades. The recipients of this year's awards represent a diverse range of skills and experiences, from dedicated grassroots efforts to impactful policy planning and execution, as well as academic leadership.

The highly sought-after recognition, the New Zealand Forester of the Year award, celebrates individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the forestry sector throughout the previous year. The awardee is presented with a unique carving, crafted by Lyonel Grant. This year's recipient has been actively involved in the growth and promotion of Maori forestry, ensuring the preservation of Maori land rights and fostering optimal land usage. During the award presentation, President James Treadwell praised the awardee, stating, "They have been an instrumental figure, navigating complex challenges and balancing divergent needs to improve



 Te Kapunga Dewes, 2023 Forester of the Year.
 Grace Marshall, 2023 Prince of Wales Sustainability Cup awardee, with James Treadwell, NZIF president looking on.

the situation for all New Zealand foresters, not solely Maori foresters." Te Kapunga Dewes of Ngati Porou, Te Arawa and Te Whakatohea was named the New Zealand Forester of the Year for 2023. Grace Marshall of Hawkes Bay received the Prince of Wales Sustainability Cup at the ceremony.

The forestry industry remains a significant contributor to the New Zealand economy.

Treadwell noted the industry's efforts go beyond economic gains, encompassing social benefits such as carbon capture, recreational opportunities, clean water, biodiversity, and overall well-being. "We are fortunate to have a highly skilled cohort of industry professionals who set the benchmark for others to aspire to," he remarked.

"The NZIF takes great pride in celebrating the very best and championing the recipients of the NZIF's awards."

Additionally, the NZIF has appointed two distinguished individuals as Fellows in recognition of their tireless contributions to the growth and advancement of the New Zealand forest sector. David Evision and Don Hammond have exhibited unwavering dedication over the course of several decades and fully deserve their fellowship.

Lumber prices stabilise to new normal levels

THE extreme volatility of lumber markets in 2021 and 2022 appears to be in the rearview mirror, with more stable, normal prices going forward this year, predicts Keta Kosman, analyst and owner of Madison Lumber reported.

Prices for Western sprucepine-fir (SPF) are up this week to US\$446 per thousand board feet, Kosman reports. That should be good for B.C. sawmills. Over the past year, a number of B.C. sawmills have taken either temporary curtailments or been shuttered for good, due in no small part to high operating costs and a dwindling supply of affordable timber.

"Those mills that have slowed down and been curtailed and been rotating through curtailment are going to come back online," Kosman predicts. "What I think is that, where we've been seeing a lot of these curtailments, especially in the past year, there's going to be way less of that now."

Lumber prices increased during the pandemic, thanks to a lot of remodeling and renovations, and then the new housing market picked up. It did so at a time when there were supply challenges, including a dwindling supply of fibre in B.C. and rising costs of operating.

Rising interest rates aimed at tempering inflation have indeed cooled housing prices. But new housing starts are moving up – an indication of fundamental demand for new homes, driven by Millennials.

Eastland Wood Council seeks way ahead for the region's forestry

BY MICHAEL SMITH

OUTRAGE to Optimism', the recently released report of a wide-ranging investigation into land use in Tairawhiti (East Coast) makes for a sobering read especially given that it notes "we have five to 10 years to turn this environmental disaster around"

Since its release, yet another weather event (following on from Cyclone Gabrielle) has resulted in more flooding, slips and road closures ... emphasising the precarious state of the

landscape.

Philip Hope, chief executive of the Eastland Wood Council (EWC) – which provides a collective voice for the region's forest industry – previously acknowledged that EWC members were committed to finding solutions to the impact of forestry slash on the environment. "We support local solutions to this local problem, and we are stepping up as a sector to make sure we are part of the solution."

The EWC noted in its submission to the investigation panel the lack of public awareness of the steps that have already been taken in the wake of the 2018 storms.

"EWC members were pleased to show some examples of these changes



Philip Hope: "We are working hard to regain the trust and confidence of our community."

when we met with panel members. Further to these measures, which will, over time, serve to better prevent the mobilisation of harvest debris, the EWC will be implementing its Good Practice Guideline for Catchment Management, which provides guidance for members to further strengthen and implement more stringent management practices inside forestry gates.

"Measures include planning to manage and limit the extent of clearcut, staging harvests in larger catchments, evaluating slope stability and actively undertaking risk assessments based on aspect, slope gradient, slope length, stability, and risk of landslides against major weather events."

Mr Hope describes the land use report as fulsome and detailed – "and we are grateful for the panel's work, which

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MADE IN CANADA

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is an important step forward for our community as we all make changes to combat the increasingly severe weather we face.

"Forestry is a significant part of the economic and social fabric of Tairawhiti – and as an industry, we are working hard to regain the trust and confidence of our community.

"The EWC welcomes the findings addressed to our sector; including the need for a comprehensive risk assessment to identify land to be retired from forestry, and key recommendations surrounding a restriction on large-scale clearfell harvesting."

He adds that the EWC supports many of the recommendations, including collaborating with a woody debris taskforce, and new options for the removal of



The EWC supports "a fair and equitable clean-up of woody debris from impacted communities". Photo: Eastland Wood Council

debris. "And we want to reiterate our support for a fair and equitable clean-up of woody debris from impacted communities."

The panel called for the adoption of staged coupe harvesting, and a limit to the total area within a catchment that can be clearfelled each year – no more than 5% of a catchment to a maximum of 40 hectares.

(Grant Dodson, President of the Forest Owners Association, has pointed out that the recommendation means it will take 20 years to harvest a catchment.)

While agreeing that change is necessary, Mr Hope says the region still needs a viable forestry industry and should not delay harvesting the most fragile areas. "Otherwise the trees grow in size and weight, and entire faces will be at more risk of slipping into the river system during weather events.

"Subsequent to the release of the report, individual members have been undertaking modelling to understand the impact of such stringent restrictions on harvesting by catchment. Members agree the sector should not jump to conclusions. However, they have many questions and some concerns."

He is hopeful of providing feedback before the recommendations go to Cabinet. "I'm mindful the results of modelling the recommended restrictions on harvest operations may have unintended consequences. It would be good to acknowledge and discuss them."





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Being planned; future of Qld native timber in uncertainty

THE future of Queensland's native timber industry is still being planned and a toplevel report on it remains secret, according to Rural Communities Minister Mark Furner.

Gympie Today reports the industry has been in a state of serious uncertainty as the government moves to close down many state forest areas to Gympie's immediate south, converting them into national park.

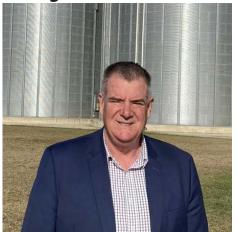
Mr Furner was answering a parliamentary Question on Notice from Gympie MP Tony

IT IS A STATE OF SERIOUS UNCERTAINTY Perrett, who had sought the outcomes of a report from the state government's Native Timber Advisory Panel.

Mr Perrett said a communique from the panel last October had been with Mr Furner since last year, but had not been released.

Mr Furner said the government's Native Timber Action Plan was committed to "bringing stakeholders together through a Native Timber Advisory Panel to provide views on a sustainable future for the industry that also ensures conservation outcomes."

"At the meeting held in September 2022, the Panel chair presented several potential futures for native



The Hon. Mark Furner, Queensland Agricultural and Industry Development Minister said the future of the native timber industry is being planned.

forestry in Queensland to generate discussion and obtain views on key issues.

"The views were documented after a healthy discussion.

"The next step is to release

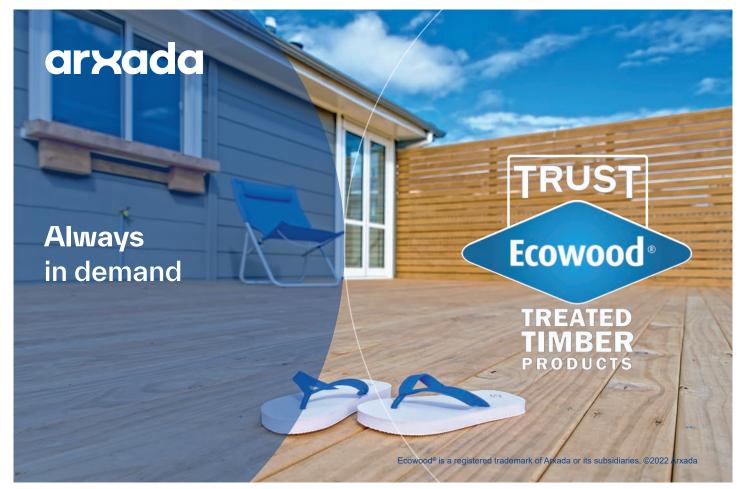
a paper for public discussion, outlining the Government's proposed future policy direction for native forestry in Queensland.

"The Panel chair's report is an important consideration in the development of this paper, with many of the complex issues it addresses still being under active consideration by ment.

the Government.

"As such it is not appropriate to release the chair's report at this time," he said.

Source: Gympie Today



11

2023 Australian Timber Supply Summit

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Timber & Forestry e-news and DANA NZ collaboration invites you to the 2023 Australian Timber Supply Summit, the leading Australian Conference for Sustainable Forestry Companies, Hard & Softwood Suppliers, Sawmill Companies, Timber & Truss Manufacturers, Builders, Architects and Industry Consultancy Groups.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Keynote Address: David Gardner Chief Investment Officer, Forestry of London, UK based Fund Manager, Gresham House Climate Change and The Role of Forestry in Global Decarbonisation
- Housing Industry Chief Economist Are the Australian Construction & Building Industries Increasingly Reliant on Timber Imports?
- Statistics & Economics Manager of Forest Wood Products Association, Kevin Peachy Future Market Dynamics & Supply Chain Implications
- **Chair of Timber Merchants Australia, Peter Alexander** *The Role of Timber Merchants Australia, it's Position and Concerns on Supply*
- Managing Director of SFM Agribusiness, Andrew Morgan Australian Historical Present & Predicted Domestic Softwood Supply
- Director of Indufor Australia, Andrew Morton Australian Historical Present & Predicted Domestic Hardwood Supply
- **CEO of Engineered Wood Products Association Australasia, Gavin Matthew** *The Need for EWP's Supporting the Supply Gap*
- Communications Director of Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA), Joe Prevedello – AFPA's role in Boosting the Forestry Estate, Timber & Wood Fibre Supply
- Global Timber Supply Experts and International Speakers from Europe, UK, New Zealand, China, & Malaysia Opportunities to supply the Australian Solidwood Sector and the Future of the Timber Supply Chain

FIELD TRIP

On day two of the conference, we invite guests to join the Timber & Truss Field Trip to Geelong to visit frame & roof truss manufacturing plant **Big River Group**, who recently won the best frame and truss operation in the country! The second stop is to the woodchip processing & export facility **Midway**, a pioneer and major woodchip exporter to North Asia from Geelong and several other Australian ports.

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Mass-laminated timber at the heart of new Vic Library

MASS-LAMINATED timber will be at the forefront in Gippsland Victoria at a new Library and Learning Centre.

Baw Baw Shire Council in Victoria's West Gippsland region has announced that Melbourne-based architect firm Croxon Ramsay have completed detailed designs for the proposed Baw Baw Library and Learning Centre.

The \$30 million project is set to become the heart of the Baw Baw Culture and Connection Precinct.

The building will be a masslaminated timber construction and prioritise local, renewable, low-maintenance and fire-



1/ The proposed Baw Baw Library and Learning Centre by Croxon Ramsay.

2/ Catherine Ramsay, one of two directors at Croxon Ramsay, who have designed the public space.

resistant materials; natural light; sun-shading; and ventilation. The building will use 100 per cent renewable energy and target a 5-star Green Star certification. The civic and community building will occupy underutilised areas of the West Gippsland Arts Centre and Civic Park and will accommodate study areas, reading, collections, video gaming, cultural spaces, meeting rooms, co-working spaces, public amenities, a library, a children's library, a gallery, a maker's space, a cafe, a public terrace, and a plaza with a pedestrian connection to the West Gippsland Arts Centre.

"Utilising innovative materials and intelligent architecture will provide

us with a magnificent, longlasting, low-maintenance community building for the future," said Baw Baw Shire mayor Annemarie McCabe.

Danny Goss, chair of the Baw Baw Culture and Connection Precinct project reference group, said the "visionary" design will allow the council to "lead the way in building sustainable, futureready public infrastructure."

<image>

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Turpentine timber; durable and resistant

Used around the world for construction in seawater, Turpentine timber is durable in exposed positions and is highly resistant to damage by fire and attack by white ants and marine borers

ANOTHER preeminent Australian tree is turpentine, renowned throughout the world for its durability, especially for use for heavy construction for jetties, wharves, and in other seawater environments.

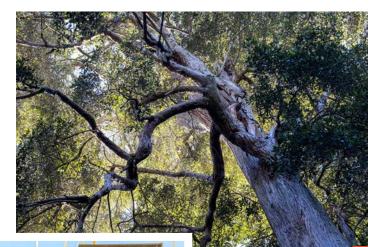
Turpentine is a large tree usually 40-45 metres in height in 1.0-1.3 metres in diameter, but not uncommonly attaining 55

metres in height in a from 2.0-2.5 metres in diameter on optimum sites. The trunk is straight and of good form with a little taper up to

two-thirds of the tree's height.

The tree extends over nearly 20 degrees of latitude in coastal eastern Australia from the Atherton Plateau in northern Queensland to near Bateman's Bay in Southern NSW with the main occurrence in northern NSW and southern Queensland.

THE TIMBER IS DURABLE AND HIGHLY RESISTANT





 1/ Turpentine extends over nearly 20 degrees of latitude in coastal eastern Australia from the Atherton Plateau in northern Queensland to near Bateman's Bay in Southern NSW.
 2/ Turpentine is the preeminent timber in Australia for saltwater pilings, and was formerly used with the bark intact. (digital image)

It rarely occurs more than 80-150 kms from the sea, whilst the altitudinal range is from near sea level to less than 300 metres in southern NSW to about 900 metres in northern Queensland.

The species extends from temperate to tropical regions, with its most common

TALKING TREES



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occurrence in subtropical areas. Near sea level frosts are absent but at higher altitudes in both the southern and northern part of its range 5-20 frosts occur a year. The annual rainfall is 800-1500 mm.

Turpentine prefers deep, fertile soils, but grows on a

wide range of sites, including moderately poor, but rather steep sandy looms.

Turpentine is most common in mixtures forming a transition between pure rainforest into eucalypt forest. Under these conditions, it may be associated with flooded gum, tallowwood and brush box as well as various typical rainforest species.

The timber is durable in exposed positions and is also highly resistant to damage by fire and attack by white ants and marine borers. it is the preeminent timber in Australia for saltwater pilings and was formerly used with the bark intact. Apart from piles, it is used for poles, heavy construction, and house building, as well as special purposes such as bearings and underwater ship planking and sheathing.

Because of the high reputation of its timber in Australia, turpentine has been planted experimentally in a number of countries. However, the results have not been particularly encouraging.

For more tree stories see: www.talkingtrees.com.au



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Canada's record-breaking wildfires expected to continue

CANADA'S record-breaking wildfire season will continue to be abnormally intense throughout July and into August, Natural Resources Canada projected Thursday, posing a greater threat to the safety and health of communities across the country.

The wildfire season has been unusually severe this year, the Westerly reports, breaking historical records on the amount of land burned and affecting communities that are unaccustomed to dealing with the flames and smoke.

"The risk of forest fires is going to remain very high," Michael Norton, director general with the Canadian Forestry Service, said at a briefing last week.

The 2023 wildfire season has already been Canada's most severe on record. Current projections indicate that this may continue to be a significantly challenging summer for wildfires in parts of the country.

Most recent projections indicate a continued potential for higher-than-normal fire activity across most of the country throughout the 2023 Wildland fire season. This is due to long-range forecasts for warm temperatures and ongoing drought, which are affecting parts of all provinces and territories and intensifying in some regions. For July, warm and dry conditions will increase wildfire risk from British

Columbia and Yukon through to western Labrador. During August, the area at risk will stretch from British Columbia through western Quebec.

The government has already taken key steps to respond to the 2023 wildfire season, such as making additional investments to train more firefighters and provide support to provinces and territories on equipment and deploying Canadian Armed Forces personnel and capabilities.

Last week, Ministers announced two new steps to strengthen Canada's response. Including,



BRITISH Columbia has lost two forestry giants this week. Longtime logger Verne Roberts died at 95, and Weldwood executive Al Coombes died at 88.

Verne Roberts passed away peacefully on June 25, 2023, in Powell River. Born in 1928, in Ocean Falls, Verne worked on the family farm as a youth, developing a work ethic that would stick with him through his career in the forest industry. Al Coombes was born and raised in Rossland, BC. He graduated from the University of Idaho in 1956 with a degree in Forestry and obtained a Master's in Engineering from Oregon State in 1958. He loved to talk all things wood.



Canada's record-breaking wildfires expected to continue.

upgrading of a National Fire Equipment Cache in Banff National Park to act as a central equipment repository for Parks Canada and augment local equipment reserves in national parks across the country.

"In the face of the worst wildfire season on record, Canadians can be certain that their government will be there to support them," Minister of Natural Resources, the Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson said.

"While current forecasts show that the remaining months of the 2023 wildfire season will continue to be challenging, the federal government is working with all our partners – provinces,

territories, Indigenous communities and our international allies — to keep Canadians safe and healthy."

"Coupled with long-term investments in wildfire fighting as well as climate mitigation and adaptation, Canada will continue to protect homes, livelihoods and communities while also addressing the root cause of these intensified fires: climate change."



Partnership will provide laminated veneer lumber for wind turbine towers

SWEDISH wood technology company, Modvion, and the Finnish wood product company, Metsä Wood, have agreed to supply laminated veneer lumber (LVL) for Modvion's wooden wind turbine towers.

Modvion builds modular wind turbine towers using laminated veneer lumber (LVL), where Metsä Wood is a key supplier

to Modvion. The material is essential for the design as its strength-to-weight ratio results in lighter towers with less need for expensive reinforcements.

"Building renewable energy with renewable materials can enable net-zero energy production from wind," said Pär Hallgren, head of procurement at Modvion.

"Metsä Wood is an important partner in our journey to become a leading supplier of the next generation of sustainable wind turbine towers, which will also make us potentially one of the largest buyers of LVL."

"Kerto[®] LVL enables high material efficiency thus making it ideal for sustainable construction. Modvion's



The companies have joined to produce laminated veneer lumber Modvion's wooden wind turbine towers.

design and application is a great example of its versatility," says Henrik Söderström, SVP, sales and marketing at Metsä Wood.

Alongside the technical benefits of LVL, it also enables for radical reductions in emissions. According to a lifecycle analysis conducted by the Swedish research institute RISE, a wooden wind turbine tower reduces emissions by 90% when compared to a steel tower of the same height and load. Considering that wood is also storing carbon, the tower becomes carbon negative, since it is binding more CO2 than it emits during manufacturing. To ensure maximum carbon storage, Modvion plans to reuse the wood material after

the wind turbine tower is decommissioned.

"The volumes of wood needed for a Modvion tower is between 300 – 1200 cubic metres depending on the height and load. That means an LVL carbon storage capacity between 240 – 950 tonnes CO²eq per tower," said Pär Hallgren.

Modvion's next milestone is building their first commercial wind turbine tower during 2023. The wooden tower will be installed with a 2-megawatt wind turbine on top and stand at 150m total height, including the blades.



Metsä Wood is the supplier of the LVL for this innovative project.

Modvion is a Swedish wood technology company Modvion develops demanding designs made of laminated wood, nature's carbon fibre, for largescale applications.

Wooden designs enable radical reductions in emissions by

replacing emission-heavy material such as steel and concrete. Thanks to their patented module system, Modvion has been able to develop wind towers at decreased manufacturing costs and more efficient transportation for installations of tall towers.

Metsä Wood is one of Europe's leading manufacturers of engineered wood products.

"We refine renewable Nordic wood into sustainable and high-quality wood products. Material-efficient wood products store carbon and play an important role in combatting climate change," Mr Söderström said.



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Open call for proposals to advance Australia's commercial forest growers

FOREST & Wood Products Australia (FWPA) invites applications for funding of RD&E that will advance research of benefit to Australia's commercial forest growing sector.

Proposals should align with FWPA's Strategic Plan 2023-2028 and Forestry RD&E Investment Plans.

FWPA's Forestry RD&E Investment Plans were developed in consultation with Australia's commercial forest growers to inform collaborative investment in RD&E activities and identify Priority Topics as the key targets for investment.

Proposals are invited for new collaborative RD&E projects that advance the science supporting commercial forestry, as summarised in the Priority Topics list and more fully articulated in the following Investment Plans:

- Damage Agents
- Resource Modelling & Remote Sensing
- Plantation Silviculture
- Nutrition
- Native Forest Silviculture
- Forest Operations and Supply Chain
- Fire

Note: The Genetics and Soil Microbiome investment plans have been excluded from this 2023 open call for proposals due to significant current investment. RD&F

PRIORITIES

Proposals must either:

1. Advance one or more Priority Topics identified in the Priority Topics list, or

2. Advance RD&E outside of the Priority Topics, where the prospective researcher can demonstrate significant support by Australia's commercial forest growers.

Successful proposals will reflect an understanding of the context and issues around the research topic as it impacts the sector and will reflect an understanding of the current status of knowledge in relation to Priority Topics. For context and background on the Priority Topics, refer to the relevant Investment Plan or Plans.

A list of relevant recent and current projects funded or supported through FWPA is available, and projects funded through the National Institute for Forest Product Innovation are listed on the NIFPI website.



FWPA is inviting applications for funding of RD&E that will advance research of benefit to Australia's commercial forest growing sector.

Please note that there is no requirement to seek financial commitment from forest growers for collaborative projects of broad industry benefit. However, in-kind commitments and letters of support that demonstrate the proposed work is of value to growers will be considered during proposal evaluation.

TERM AND COMMENCEMENT

Proposals are invited for projects of up to five years' duration and commencing in 2023/24. If it is demonstrated by the proposal that a longer duration is warranted, projects longer than five years may also be considered.

PROCESS

To facilitate engagement with growers, a two-stage process

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will be used: STAGE 1: PART A

As a first stage, submission of Part A of the proposal aims to increase the level of collaboration amongst growers and between growers and research providers.

FWPA will advise Grower

members through the Grower Research Advisory Committee of the proposals in preparation by providing access to the Part A submissions. FWPA will offer growers the opportunity to be involved in proposal development, to ensure it is aligned with industry needs.

STAGE 2: FULL PROPOSAL

Applicants may submit a full proposal that expands on the Part A submission. Proposals must use FWPA's Project Application July 2023. All fields are required to be completed.

Applicants will be notified whether their proposal has been successful following completion of the evaluation process and FWPA Board funding decision.

Timber & Forestry enews is the most authoritative and quickest deliverer of news and special features to the forest and forest products industries in Australia, New Zealand and internationally. Enews is delivered weekly, every Thursday, 48 weeks of the year. Advertising rates are competitive with any industry magazine. Timber&Forestry enews hits your target market – every week, every Thursday!

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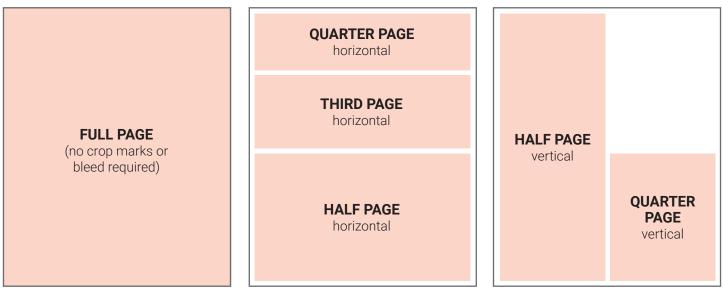
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