

DELIVERED  
WEEKLY TO  
**15,200**  
GLOBAL  
READERS\*

Like and  
follow us on



ISSUE 771 // September 7, 2023

# timber & FORESTRY *e*news



## Experts worry Vic Forestry closure will doom mountain ash

COVER STORY P 6

**Victory Press Printing**  
**Log and Timber Tags**  
*for Inventory Control and Tracking*  
Timber Tags - Kiln Tags  
Bundle Tags - Bundle Books  
CCA Treatment Tags - WIP Tags  
Barcodes, Large Numbers, QR Codes  
[www.victorypress.com.au](http://www.victorypress.com.au)  
Call 1300 300 251  
Email: [info@victorypress.com.au](mailto:info@victorypress.com.au)

**TimberTrader**  
news  
**subscribe  
now**  
*for your printed magazine*

 **Wood  
Solutions**  
design and build  
[www.woodsolutions.com.au](http://www.woodsolutions.com.au)

 **Responsible  
Wood** RW/1-10-1  
Looking for  
sustainable  
forest  
products?  
**Click here**

All under  
one roof  
**BENEFIT  
FROM:**

RECRUITMENT

TRAINING

WH&S

EMPLOYMENT

IR SUPPORT

AND MORE!

 **NTHA**  
NATIONAL TIMBER &  
HARDWARE ASSOCIATION

1800 822 621



# New housing figures highlight needs

## Building has been slowing at the same time a push for action has grown stronger.

IT'S been a week of numbers around housing in Australia. The most welcome has been the Reserve Bank's decision to hold interest rates at 4.1%.

Others have been less welcome. The ABS released the Lending to Households and Businesses data for July 2023, showing further slowing. The data provides statistics on housing finance commitments.

"The number of loans issued for the purchase or construction of new homes declined by 9.7% in July 2023, to its lowest level in 15 years," said HIA Senior Economist Tom Devitt.

"This is the weakest monthly performance since the Global Financial Crisis and leaves the three months to July 31.7% below the same quarter last year," added Mr Devitt.

It was also a downward trend for the ABS's monthly building approvals data for July for detached houses and multi-units covering all states and territories. Total



A new lobby group is calling for a return to pattern-book architectural approvals, like those behind these Georgian terraces in London. Photo: Shutterstock.

building approvals decreased by 8.1%, driven by a 19.9% dip in multi-unit approvals. The decline in approvals for detached houses was only 0.1% in the month.

"The slower rate of decline for detached house approvals is a welcome

“SLOWER RATE OF DECLINE FOR DETACHED HOUSE APPROVALS IS A WELCOME DEVELOPMENT

development, as it follows a succession of material monthly declines since the interest rate tightening cycle began," said Devitt.

The HIA also released its HIA Affordability Report for the June Quarter 2023 this week with the Affordability Index falling by 8.7% nationally.

"Purchasing a home is the least affordable it has been since just before the GFC, 15 years ago," Devitt noted.

Meanwhile, in NSW, a new action group called Housing Now! made up of

leading business and university groups and two leading unions has called for an old-fashioned solution to speed up new housing approvals.

The model calls for more terraces, townhouses and small apartment blocks in areas closer to the CBD and uses

a 'pattern-book' approach, where certain designs are pre-approved for use in appropriate areas. This was the style of architecture working with development behind the Georgian terraces of London and Bath, for example.

"(The) terraces, townhouses and small apartment buildings that people love in many of our older suburbs – they need to come back," said David Borger, the group's chair and executive director of Business Western Sydney.



## THE CHOICE IS YOURS.

Following the awarding of a Global GreenRate Level A certification, MicroPro Wood Treatment Technology has recently been awarded a GoldHEALTH rating with its recently published Global GreenTag Level A Product Health Declaration™ (PHD™).

The GreenTag PhD is the first health transparency tool in the world to assess human health concerns directly, rating the health impacts of a final product – and not just the hazards of a product's ingredients.

For more information call us now on 1800 088 809.



MicroPro® is a registered trademark of Koppers Inc. or its subsidiaries. MicroPro® timber products are produced by independently owned and operated wood preserving facilities. © 2019 Koppers Performance Chemicals Australia Pty Ltd. Global GreenRate, GoldHEALTH, Global GreenTag and GreenTag PhD are registered trademarks operated under licence by Global GreenTag Pty Ltd.

# Misconceptions remain around FSC certification withdrawals

Despite all FSC management certificates being withdrawn from Russia early this year, confusion remains in parts of the industry.

FSC (the Forest Stewardship Council) was quick to respond to Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 and, on 8 March 2022, the FSC International Board of Directors suspended all trading certificates in Russia and Belarus and blocked all controlled wood from the two countries.

However, some industry experts are still asserting that there is remaining FSC certification current in Russia. This is not accurate.

Confusion seems to have arisen because throughout 2022, FSC did continue to hold forest management certificates in Russia. These certificates had previously been granted in relation to the management of forest operations and were not themselves trading certificates.

Melanie Robertson, CEO FSC Australia and New Zealand, said: "A decision was made in early 2023 to withdraw all certificates."



**While some Russian forests had previously achieved FSC certification, the war has seen those certificates withdrawn.** Photo: Shutterstock.

The decision was made in the wake of FSC's oversight partner Assurance Services International (ASI) terminating its FSC assurance activities in Russia as of 1 May 2023. ASI ceased work in Russia as it could not guarantee security for people involved in its oversight activities and there were limitations to operating in the country as a result of the restricted access and sanctions.

With the termination of ASI's oversight activities in Russia, certification bodies are no longer accredited for

**“ FSC HOPES SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES WILL BE UPHELD IN RUSSIA**

auditing against the FSC standards in the country, hence FSC's withdrawal of all certificates.

The initial suspension of certificates allowing for the trade in FSC certified materials and products in Russia and Belarus was replaced with the withdrawal of those certificates after 12 months of suspension, the last of which expired on 8 April 2023.

"FSC's reputation and integrity is critical to the work that we do," said Robertson. "FSC International deeply regrets being unable to maintain forest management certification in Russia and remains focused on upholding the protection of forests with High Conservation Values (HCV) and Intact Forest Landscapes. The pre-war state of these valuable forests will provide a critical baseline to evaluate their responsible management

Cont P 10

## Understanding Wood Science Course

**NOVEMBER 2023 – BOOK NOW!**

- Learn from experts
- Unique course program
- Wood anatomy and biological characteristics
- Processing into carbon friendly products
- Global advances in engineered wood products
- Visits to leading manufacturers

**Gottstein Trust**

**BOOK NOW**  
[www.gottsteintrust.org](http://www.gottsteintrust.org)





# Koalas in the news — again

International guests have criticised forestry in northern NSW, but the ABC tells a fuller story.

THE proposed Great Koala National Park is back in the news after a team of international scientists were toured through the area as guests of Mark Graham, an ecologist, former National Parks officer and forest activist.

Graham is among a group of activists, ecologists and environmental groups who believe that having promised to deliver a Great Koala National Park the new Labor government is overseeing a massive ramp up of logging within its boundaries before it is created.

“The tempo, the scale, the intensity of logging has all ramped up since Labor was



**Professor Helge Bruelheide at Border Ranges National Park, north of the proposed Great Koala National Park.**

elected. It is a pillage. It’s a smash-and-grab operation by a loss-making Crown corporation. They are jamming boiled lollies in their mouth as they bolt down the street,”

Graham told the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

Helge Bruelheide, professor of geobotany at the University of Helle in Germany, was one

of the visitors. He told the ABC that “We were so fascinated by the diversity of trees and plants in this region that fully justify declaring this a National Park... but we were so shocked when we arrived at the Moonpar site to see large-scale logging where bulldozers were used to remove all the trees, not only logging in a type of clear cut, but really destroying the soil [by compaction] and leaving only a few remnant trees standing like a big tallowwood tree that might be preferred by koalas, but this does not make sense if all the surrounding trees are gone.”

Bruelheide compared the

*Cont P 9*

**NTHA CAN**

**TRAIN AND UPSKILL YOUR EXISTING TEAM MEMBERS**

- ✓ Nationally recognised qualifications and training
- ✓ Specialist industry trainers

**STRENGTHEN YOUR TEAM**

RETAIL, SALES, BUSINESS, SUPPLY CHAIN OPERATION AND LEADERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

(RTO 5343)  
**1800 822 621**  
**ntha.com.au**

**The united voice for Australia's forest industries**

0408 404 764  
 enquiries@ausfpa.com.au  
 www.ausfpa.com.au

# East Gippsland calls for a rethink on bans

The local Shire council has called for an overturn of the state's logging ban at the same time as questions are raised about the rationale behind it.

ON Tuesday night, East Gippsland Shire council sat in consideration of a motion calling on the Andrews Labor government to repeal the statewide ban on sustainable native timber harvesting. After hearing an emotional public submission from FWCA Executive Officer Mick Harrington on the impacts of the early closure on the mental health of timber sector workers, alongside a plea from Councillor Sonia Buckley (a local farmer who authored the motion), council voted 5 to 2 in favour of the motion.

As well as the motion calling for the sustainable native timber industry ban to be overturned by the state government, it also called on the federal government to "support a taxpayer-funded public information campaign to explain the importance of the native hardwood timber industry and dispel the myths perpetuated by environmental activists."

The council vote was held in front of a crowd of approximately 40 locals.



*East Gippsland locals are worried about the impacts of job losses on their communities.*

Buckley said, "This is not a place for grandstanding for any of us – this is a place where we fight for community, fight for what is right, for our economy and families."

The council's action follows a similar motion passed by neighbouring Wellington Shire.

Meanwhile, a former Gippsland forestry scientist and historian has described a Labor Party environmental report that calls to end native

forest harvesting and replace the industry with a national plantation estate as "flawed".

Mark Poynter assessed a report by the Labor Environment Action Network (LEAN) that calls for all native forestry to be ended

**“ WE FIGHT FOR COMMUNITY, FOR OUR ECONOMY AND FAMILIES ”**

and replaced by plantations. Poynter noted multiple errors of fact and flaws in interpretation within the report.

"It wrongly assumes that 21.3% of Australia's native forests are suitable and available for wood production," Poynter told the Gippsland Times.

"This is a gross overstatement that relies on misinterpretation of a graph from the 2018 State of the Forests Report. For example, it assumes that all multiple use State Forest is available and suitable for long term timber supply, whereas in Victoria for example, only about 15% of the roughly three million hectares of multiple use State Forest is designated and suitable for wood production."

For the full story on Poynter's concerns, click here.

## Sustainability brands you can trust...



Globally recognised standards, developed for national operating conditions that are based on science.

[responsiblewood.org.au](http://responsiblewood.org.au)





# Victorian experts say seed shortages risk forests

Leading scientists worry a lack of seed collection will doom the future of mountain ash.

WITH the early closure of Victorian native forestry, the list of flow-on effects is still being counted. Now a risk to the very future of Victoria's ash forests has come to light.

Ecologist Owen Bassett, who has continuously monitored flowering and seed crops in Victoria's Ash forests since 1994, has reported that for the first

“REPEATED BUSHFIRES HAVE NEARLY EXHAUSTED THE SEED BANK



VicForests had been central to collecting mountain ash seeds for regeneration. Photo: Shutterstock.

Seed collection has been part of Mr Bassett's work with seeds gathered used to assist forest regeneration after fire and storm events. Forests harvested for timber are also resown using seed from the harvest sites with leftover seed contributing to a bank used to resow areas including national parks. However, with repeated bushfires over the past 25 years, the seed bank is nearly exhausted.

“The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and VicForests undertook the largest sowing event in Victoria's history following the 2019/20 bushfires resowing of 11,500 ha of ash forest,” Bassett said.

“However, despite that

Cont P 7

time in 28 years, flowering did not occur as predicted, greatly impacting the forests' natural regeneration ability and hampering seed collection efforts.

“What this means for Victoria's Ash forests is that they are at serious risk of ecosystem collapse, because they will not have the capacity to naturally regenerate themselves come the next fire season,” Bassett said.

**Develop our future workforce**

ForestWorks is an industry-owned not-for-profit organisation offering services to support the skills development of the forest, wood, paper, timber and furnishing industries.

ForestWorks works with industry, government and the education and training sectors to improve skills standards and qualifications and support the development of forestry-related industries, their people, and enterprises.

To find out more:

Email: [forestworks@forestworks.com.au](mailto:forestworks@forestworks.com.au)  
 Phone: 1800 177 001  
[www.forestworks.com.au](http://www.forestworks.com.au)

Premium quality structural framing timber

**VIGIDAS**  
P A C K

www.vigidas.com.au  
 Phone +61290984323  
 e-mail: [sales@vigidas.com.au](mailto:sales@vigidas.com.au)  
 Origin Lithuania



**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). 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](http://www.timberoffsiteconstruction.com)

**28: Wood You Like To Know Summit - ONLINE EVENT.** The event promises to ‘transform the way you approach design’. Multiple streams of panel discussions on topics shaping the future of the industry will be headed by industry experts. Topics include Digital Evolution In The Building Industry: BIM, Robots & Prefab Homes;

Unpacking the Latest NCC Changes and Designing for Bushfire Prone Areas. Online expo and networking sessions included, with exhibitors including ITI Australia, Intergrain and Weathertex. Tickets from \$49 for half day live to \$99 for full day and on demand, earn up to 10 CPD points. For more, visit [www.event.woodyouliketoknow.com.au](http://www.event.woodyouliketoknow.com.au)

**OCTOBER**

**2-6: 30th Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC) – Hyatt Regency Sydney Hotel.** Formulation of forest policy and to review and coordinate its implementation on the regional scale; to exchange information and advice on suitable practices and action in regard to technical problems. Further details [www.fao.org/events/detail/apfc-30/](http://www.fao.org/events/detail/apfc-30/)

**11-12: 71st International Softwood Conference – Hilton Vienna Park Hotel Vienna.** The conference will offer the opportunity to scrutinise trends

in the timber market focusing on facts and figures showing softwood production as well as consumption. Further more info visit <https://isc2023.com/>

**15-18: 2023 ANZIF Conference – Twin Towns Conference Centre, Tweed Heads, NSW.** The Conference is an exciting joint event from both Forestry Australia and The New Zealand Institute of Forestry. The theme of the conference, “Embracing Our Natural Capital: The Science, Technology and Art of Managing Forests For All Values”, will facilitate conversation and collaboration – highlighting the need for active and adaptive management of our natural capital using evidence-based and emerging innovation, technology, skills and knowledge to support our forests and secure our future. For full details, visit [www.forestryconference.com.au](http://www.forestryconference.com.au)

**23-25: Global Woodchip And Biomass Trade Conference And Networking Event –**

**Singapore.** Following on from the inaugural 2022 DANA-Gingko event last year, the organisers are once again bringing together international experts to discuss the issues facing the trade. The three-day event includes comprehensive networking opportunities and will be followed by a post-conference field trip. For more details and to book, visit <https://danaevents.co.nz/2023singapore/home>

**NOVEMBER**

**9-10: Sustainability summit and awards 2023 – Sydney.** The event begins with the summit, with its topics ranging from the Brisbane 2032 Olympics builds to Designing for Resilience and Sustainability Certification and Compliance, held at Allianz Stadium in Sydney and online. Then on Day 2, the prestigious awards will be held at the Sydney Cricket Ground. Tickets start at \$149. Visit [www.sustainablebuildingawards.com.au/#s-summit](http://www.sustainablebuildingawards.com.au/#s-summit)

From P 6

world-leading effort, more than 10,000 ha of ash forest was not able to be resown and is not likely to recover following those fires.”

Bassett estimates there is at least 143,000 ha of fire-killed forest now regenerating

that is extremely vulnerable to another fire event. “If it burns it will be lost forever because it doesn’t have the ability to reseed itself and we just don’t have the seed to resow it.”

Seed collection services had been provided by VicForests, however, Forestry Australia president Dr Michelle

Freeman said this service may be lost following the native timber sector shutdown in Victoria.

“With the closure of native forest harvesting and recent announcement that seed collection contractors are now considered part of that transition package, who will

save our forests when the next bushfire comes?” she asked.

Freeman and Bassett both warned the risk is imminent, with severe fire conditions forecast for this summer.

**On the cover: Regenerating forests through seeding is part of responsible forest management.**  
(Photo: Shutterstock)

**Do** you crosscut timber packs at  $\pm 1\text{mm}$  accuracy

**OR** cut structural timber, panel products (MDF & LVL), paper rolls

**OR** produce pallet dimensions or studs on fixed lengths

**HOLTEC has a solution for you**

For more information contact:

Ph: +64 9 416 8294  
 Fax: +64 9 416 8296  
 Email: [sales@holtec.org](mailto:sales@holtec.org)  
 Web: [www.holtec.org](http://www.holtec.org)

**HOLTEC**  
YOUR PARTNER FOR THE PERFECT CUT

**Our Scope of Supply:**

- Mobile and stationary chainsaws
- Timber crosscut stations
- Log cutting stations
- Circular saws
- Mechanisation
- Sorting lines
- Scanning and optimising systems
- Special systems

# Singapore conference makes sense of Pacific Rim woodchip trade

CONFERENCE promoters DANA-Gingko timed their 2022 'International Woodchip and Biomass Trade' Conference in Singapore perfectly, after rising demand and prices for woodchips all year culminated in a buying volume/pricing frenzy which peaked at exactly the same time the event was held in late October.

Inspired timing? Or good luck?

The lead-up to the 2023 Conference, to be held again in Singapore on 23–25 October has not been so kind to woodchip exporters. After the fourth quarter 2022



Plantation-grown *E. globulus* delivers high-quality woodchips. Photo: Shutterstock.

price peak, demand (in China especially) and prices have been challenging.

Hardwood woodchip imports into Japan for January to July 2023 have held up remarkably well – indeed a 3% increase over 2022. However, the malaise of Chinese pulp sector imports is very apparent,

with imports to July down a whopping 28%, or almost 3 million bone dry metric tonnes compared with 2022.

In line with these trends, imports of Australian hardwood chip to China are up 3% to Japan, but are down 26% to China.

Overall CFR (landed) prices for woodchips to Japan in July were only 5% down on January. Prices to China however have reduced by 25%.

Australian prices tend to be more stable than those of other countries such as the big shipper Vietnam and major supplier Thailand, as they are set on longer term, even annually.

In fact, in 2023 Australian prices are up in Japan and are (slightly) up in China. This signals that in 2023 Japanese buyers have been particularly

chasing high quality *Eucalyptus globulus* and *E. nitens* woodchips.

Indonesia is one market that has (re-)emerged as a significant woodchip importer in 2023, with imports up 1117% so far this year (and with imports from Vietnam up more than 1400%.)

But also so far, Australia has not benefitted, as Indonesian pulp mills have been buying mostly from cheaper priced Southeast Asian suppliers.

The pattern for softwood (pine) woodchips is similar. The expected demand explosion in China in 2023 has not occurred – in fact imports are down 36% on 2022 as the building/commissioning of new softwood pulp mills is delayed.

Normally in down price cycles, fewer delegates want to attend Woodchip Trade conferences.

However, so far registrations for the DANA-Gingko International Woodchip and Biomass Trade Conference in Singapore on 23-25 October are up on the same time for the 2022 event. Delegate registrations for the post-conference field trip to Thailand are also up on the 2022 field trip to Vietnam.

Readers interested in attending either or both these events should contact Mariela Ferrari at [marielaferri@gmail.com](mailto:marielaferri@gmail.com) or click here.

**“ AUSTRALIAN PRICES TEND TO BE MORE STABLE THAN OTHER COUNTRIES ”**

IN SUPPORT OF

**wftn**  
women in forests and timber network

SAFER LIVES SAFER COMMUNITIES  
AN ACTIVITY OF MICAH PROJECTS

Brisbane Domestic Violence Service

INVITES YOU TO  
**COCKTAILS FOR CHARITY**

SATURDAY, 9TH SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 3 PM IN THE AFTERNOON

THE ROSE ROOM, 14/20 CONSTANCE ST FORTITUDE VALLEY, QLD 4006

TICKETS \$65

SUPPORTED BY OUR ANNUAL PARTNER

**ITI Australia**  
Innovation Timber Ideas  
PLATINUM SPONSOR

**Tilling**

RSVP BY 28TH AUGUST 2023



From P 4

method of logging in Germany where single trees are removed selectively and praised China's protection of its subtropical forests over Australia's. At the same time, he noted that the forests themselves were particularly ancient and unique, calling it "world-heritage remnant vegetation we have nowhere else on Earth".

Meanwhile, the ABC's *Landline* took a wider snapshot of the issue as part of its ongoing forestry coverage (click here for the iView link). The program gave an accurate assessment of the benefits to the state's economy, as well as the limited amount of forest open to the timber sector. It talked with Andrew Hurford of Hurford's Timber, who pointed out that only 12% of NSW public native forests were available for harvesting.

Hurford described the intensive tracking of provenance for the hardwoods used by the business, with each log individually barcoded. The Hurford family has also been farm forestry for decades, with father Rob joking that instead of playing sport, their family would go to their block and cut down trees. "Remarkably, the whole place is still full of timber," Hurford commented.

Hurford explained that the farmed resource isn't enough, saying, "our resource will never replace the existing supply. We're a very constrained industry as far as volume of available quality timber; we're a growing economy, we're a growing state and as that grows, the demand of our state for more timber grows. Unfortunately, the native component of our timber



**Contract harvester Alan Green worries that his job will be lost to the Koala National Park.**

resource is pretty static."

Journalist Bronwyn Herbert noted the irony that a well-known Australian timber industry in the middle of a heavily forested region was having to import timber.

Contract harvester Alan Green isn't feeling secure. "The bears are going to put us out of a job, I think," he told *Landline*. "We do upset them at times, but we have protocols, we leave the area, we make sure he has a corridor back into a filter strip and then the ecology boys go and search and say he's moved.

"They're not stupid, they know, they move. The last thing we want to do is go to work and kill a koala!"

*Landline* also interviewed ecologist Dr Alistair Melzer, part of CQ University's koala research team, about independent work investigating how koalas respond to harvesting in state forests. Melzer, who was part of the independent panel overseeing the research, said, "The research has found that at least in the short to medium term, there's no impact on koala populations in these harvested areas. Koalas continued to maintain occupancy and continued to use the forest or plantation after harvesting."

For links to this and previous research on the topic, click here.

**Sources: Sydney Morning Herald and ABC**

# Renewable. Sustainable. Reliable.

**P: 07 3147 8790**  
**E. sales@vidawood.com**

**VIDA**  
MADE IN SWEDEN

**CANFOR**  
MADE IN CANADA



# Full house at timber supply summit

150 delegates and an outstanding lineup of international and Australian speakers.

THE *Enews*-hosted Timber Supply Summit was held in Melbourne last week. Relevant to all participants in the timber supply chain, the summit attracted 150 delegates and fielded an outstanding lineup of international and Australian speakers.

The summit addressed issues related to Australia's ballooning housing needs and associated timber supply and demand issues. Industry experts unpacked these challenges, including the building industry's growing reliance on timber imports and the future



Summit field trip delegates assemble at Geelong.

prospect of being consistently unable to meet demand for new housing. This is partly due to a persistent and growing gap between demand and supply of sawn softwood timber.

The summit also incorporated a field trip to Geelong

implications to the timber supply chain and the country's economy.

The summit was set in the framework of recent research that, on current trajectories, concludes Australia faces the

**SUMMIT ADDRESSED ISSUES RELATED TO AUSTRALIA'S BALLOONING HOUSING NEEDS**

to inspect frame and truss manufacturing and wood chip export operations.

*Timber & Forestry Enews* will be featuring more comprehensive summit reports in the next couple of editions.

From P.3

during the absence of forest management certification. FSC will not accept the conversion of forests, especially those of HCV, which must remain intact.

"Regarding other voluntary certification schemes that have emerged in Russia, FSC will not endorse such initiatives. However, FSC

will not stand in the way of any committed organisation that is mission driven and stakeholder focused and that seeks to use equally rigorous requirements to uphold sustainable forest management. FSC hopes that sustainable forest management practices will be upheld in Russia and will be supportive of such efforts."

Robertson added, "FSC

remains committed to continue engaging with FSC International members in Russia, forest owners and organisations that share its values, and hopes that maintaining dialogue with these stakeholders will facilitate the return of FSC certification to Russia.

"FSC acknowledges that the prolonged crisis affects supply chains for FSC

certificate holders around the world and will continue strategic efforts together with partners and members to address the gap."

ASI has committed to re-evaluating its activities in Russia once the conditions allow for assurance again.

For more on actions taken by FSC as a result of the war on Ukraine, click here.



**Professional Tools**  
Australia-wide delivery!

**Huge range of tree planting, pruning & measuring equipment**

**Over 1800 products**

www.forestrytools.com.au

Tel: 02 9417 7751  
Fax: 02 9417 7426

PO Box 870  
Willoughby NSW 2068

### Clinometers & Height Meters






Suunto Tandem Compass/Climo    Nikon Forestry Pro    Haglof Vertex IV    Haglof Laser Geo

### Diameter & Logging Tapes




Steel & fibreglass diameter tapes    Tough US made logging tapes

### Pro-Pruner



NZ made lopper designed for lift pruning of pine & eucalypts

### Cant & Peavey Hooks



Logrite Cant & Peavey hooks 42" & 60" models. Light but very strong  
Made in USA

### Haglof Tree Calipers



Strong, lightweight Swedish made aluminium tree calipers  
6 sizes from 40cm-127cm

### Tree Planting Equipment



Bushpro spades, genuine Pottiputki planters, kidney trays, planting belts, planting bags, fertiliser bags & Hamilton tree planters



# New head of DAFF

Adam Fennessy has been appointed to the role of Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, commencing on the 18th of this month. His appointment follows the retirement of Andrew Metcalfe AO.

Fennessy is the former Secretary of the Victorian Department of Environment and Primary Industries and then the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, as well as Victorian Public Service Commissioner from 2020–2022. He was awarded a Public Service Medal in 2018 in recognition of his outstanding public service.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said in a statement, "With his strong subject matter knowledge in primary industries, including

well-established relationships with industry, and significant experience in organisational transformation, Mr Fennessy will be able to make an immediate contribution to the strategic leadership of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and the broader Australian Public Service."

The appointment has been welcomed by the Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA). "On behalf of Australia's forests and forest products sector, I welcome Adam Fennessy as new Secretary for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and look forward to working with him



**Adam Fennessy has a solid background in regional industry issues and excellent public service credentials.**

to ensure our sector reaches its full potential," said Natasa Sikman, AFPA's acting CEO.

Sikman also thanked retiring Secretary Metcalfe for his service and strong engagement with the forest and forest products sector and went on to say: "Now is

a critical time for the forest products sector, with a range of Commonwealth initiatives being delivered. Increasing understanding about the greater role the sector will play with respect to helping Australia reach its climate change targets is still being developed. AFPA looks forward to continuing our ongoing and positive working relationship with DAFF."

Fennessy said he was "honoured and energised" to take on the role.

"My first secretary appointment at state-level in Victoria was in Environment and Primary Industries, covering agriculture, fisheries and forestry," Fennessy said.

"It is a significant part of our economy, community and landscape that I love."

**arxada**

**Always in demand**

**TRUST Ecowood®**

**TREATED TIMBER PRODUCTS**

Ecowood® is a registered trademark of Arxada or its subsidiaries. ©2022 Arxada



# Feedback sought on women in construction

## David Chandler is looking for ways to lift women's participation in NSW construction.

WOMEN make up only 13% of the current construction workforce in NSW and only about 2% of trade roles in the sector.

The NSW Government is seeking feedback to make the construction industry a better place to work for women and has launched a Women in Construction survey.

Now open on the NSW Government Have Your Say website, the survey seeks to understand the barriers women face in entering, working and staying in the construction industry.

"This 'Have Your Say Women in Construction' survey is the largest of its kind in NSW about this shortfall,"

said NSW Building Commissioner David Chandler.

"It will be key in outlining how we can address the construction skills shortage, which is impacting the ability to build new housing and infrastructure. It aims to better understand peoples' experiences and to find ways to improve the construction industry and make it more appealing to women and men, especially in small and medium businesses that make up 80% of the construction industry."

The survey will provide key insights into the experiences of women in the industry



**Women make up only 13% of the workforce and 2% of tradies in NSW construction.** Photo: Shutterstock

including job satisfaction, culture, attitudes and practices regarding recruitment and training, and reasons why they are leaving the industry.

It also seeks to understand the experience of their employers, particularly small businesses employing 20 or fewer people, and what can be done to increase participation

across all roles.

Chandler encouraged everyone to fill out the story, including people outside the construction industry, saying: "It will help identify ways to increase the participation and retention of women and men across NSW in the construction industry, delivering the benefits of a more diverse and inclusive industry which increases innovation, improves productivity and leads to stronger economic performance."

The survey is open until 26 September 2023. Its findings will be available on the NSW Government website in coming months. To visit the survey, click here.



## 2023 DANA - GINGKO

SINGAPORE CONFERENCE 23 - 25 OCTOBER 2023








International Forest Industry Advisors








65 companies from 27 countries have already registered delegates!

### GLOBAL WOODCHIP AND BIOMASS TRADE CONFERENCE & NETWORKING EVENT

**2 day conference at Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel 23-25 Oct plus optional field trip to Thailand**

**22 speakers on several themes:**

- Demand side: The Pulp and Biomass businesses
- Demand side: Pulp-grade and Biomass woodchip import trends
- Supply side: Woodchip and Pulplog export trends
- Pulp grade and Biomass woodchip shipping trends
- Woodchip pricing trends
- The Emerging Role of monetising "Natural Capital" in Native and Plantation Forests
- Predictions for the supply & demand balance, and prices for Asia Pacific woodchips: 2023-2027
- New Projects/New Products Panel

FOR WEBSITE
CLICK HERE
OR TO CONTACT ORGANISER
CLICK HERE



# Tallaganda State Forest operations halted

## Investigations into a dead southern greater glider have halted harvesting.

A 40-DAY stop work order has been issued to Forestry Corporation NSW (FCNSW) after a southern greater glider was found dead 50m from an area being harvested by the corporation. The cause of death was not known at the time of writing.

EPA acting executive director operations, Steve Orr said the discovery was extremely concerning given the species' increased reliance on unburnt areas of the forest following the 2019/20 bushfires and its proximity to active harvest operations.

"Southern Greater Gliders are an endangered species and shelter in multiple tree cavities, known as 'den trees', over large distances," Orr said.

"Den trees are critical for the food, shelter and movement of gliders and FCNSW is required to protect them and implement 50m exclusion zones around identified den trees.

"While community reports suggest around 400 Southern Greater Gliders may be living in the Tallaganda State Forest, FCNSW has identified only one den tree and we are not confident that habitat surveys have been adequately conducted to ensure all den trees are identified."

The stop work order can be extended.

In a statement, FCNSW said, "Protecting greater glider habitat is crucial, and FCNSW has spent many months



**The southern greater glider makes its nests in tree hollows.** Photo: Southern greater glider, Josh Bowell, CC BY 4.0

preparing for these operations through intensive pre-harvest surveys to identify and map sensitive habitat and ecological features.

"During the harvesting operation, [we] ensure the habitat for gliders such as

hollow bearing trees and retention clumps are protected. FCNSW is fully complying with the Stop Work Order and its compliance team is on site investigating."

FCNSW noted that it monitors Greater Glider populations in Tallaganda State Forest and has completed over 40km of spotlight transects, identifying almost 400 greater gliders.

"The Greater Gliders are occupying the range of forest landscapes across Tallaganda – areas affected by the 2019-20 bushfires and the unburnt forest, plus areas of forest which are unharvested and areas which have previously been harvested for timber," said FCNSW.

KENNEDY'S RECLAIMED AND SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURAL TIMBERS ARE AN INSPIRED CHOICE FOR UNIQUE BUILDING DESIGN.

# STRIKING AND DURABLE

A natural alternative to conventional building products, we provide the full spectrum of timber design possibilities.

Photo: Christopher Frederick Jones  
Grand Central Shopping Centre,  
Toowoomba QLD



[WWW.KENNEDYSTIMBERS.COM.AU](http://WWW.KENNEDYSTIMBERS.COM.AU)

Brisbane | Sydney | Melbourne | Perth | New Zealand

[f](#) kennedystimbers [i](#) kennedystimbers [e](mailto:sales@kennedystimbers.com.au) sales@kennedystimbers.com.au



# Spice islands tree key to 17th-century colonisers' trade

ALONG with other spices, cloves, the dried flower buds of *Syzygium aromaticum*, were part of the driving force behind the rush by the European 17th-century colonising nations, including the Dutch, British and Spaniards to find a passage around Cape Horn to 'claim' parts of Southeast Asia and exploit the spices, shipping them back to Europe where they commanded high prices.

Cloves were already prized spices, traded since Antiquity through a long chain of seafarers and merchants between the 'Spice Islands' of the East Indies and Europe, where they shifted from medical uses to being an important food and drink ingredient by the early Middle Ages. They were also heavily traded to China and India; in both countries they were considered important medicinal herbs that were also useful in food.

*Syzygium* is one of the largest tree genera of the world, with about 1000 species. Most *Syzygium* species have low concentrations of essential oils. The clove is an exception. Its powerful oil, eugenol, concentrated in the drying buds, has both antiseptic and aesthetic properties as well as penetrating flavour. Cloves



1/ Clove tree plantations are now widely grown in several parts of the wet tropics.

2/ The powerful oil of cloves, eugenol, is concentrated in the drying buds, and has both antiseptic and aesthetic properties as well as penetrating flavour.

are commonly used as a spice flavouring or fragrance in consumer products, such as toothpaste, soaps, or cosmetics. Cloves are available throughout the year owing to different harvest seasons across various countries.

Clove trees are a member of the family Myrtaceae. They are native to the Maluku Islands (or Moluccas) in eastern Indonesia and can grow up to a height of 18m.

the United States.

Clove plantations were forbidden by the 17th-century Dutch outside a few islands in the Malukus to preserve their monopoly. They were later established in several parts of the wet tropics.

Cloves are used in the cuisine of Asian, Mediterranean and Middle Eastern countries, lending flavour to meats, curries and marinades, as well as fruit. Cloves are also used to give aromatic and flavour qualities to hot beverages, often combined with other ingredients such as lemon and sugar. They also pair well with cinnamon, allspice, vanilla, star anise and peppercorns.

Clove essential oil can be used to inhibit mould growth on various types of foods, particularly baked goods, when sprayed on as a coating. It also kills mould when diluted in water and sprayed on surfaces around the home. In addition to these non-culinary uses, it can be used to protect wood in cultural heritage conservation – research has shown the efficacy of clove essential oil to be higher than a boron-based wood preservative.

Cloves can be used to make a fragrant pomander when stuck into an orange. When given (fresh or dried) as a gift in Victorian England, such a pomander indicated warmth of feeling.

## TALKING TREES



With JOHN HALKETT

Sponsored by Forestry Corporation of NSW

Cloves are still one of the best painkillers for toothache. It is also the additive that gives Indonesian kretek cigarettes their distinctive smell. These cigarettes were smoked throughout Europe, Asia, and

“PLANTATIONS WERE MONOPOLISED IN 17TH CENTURY BY DUTCH TRADERS”



The largest manager of commercial plantations and native forests in NSW  
Visit us at [forestrycorporation.com.au](http://forestrycorporation.com.au)



**GREEN TRIANGLE** TIMBER INDUSTRY AWARDS



**Gala Awards Dinner**  
27 October 2023

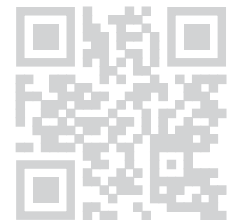
# 2023 Gala Dinner

Tickets on sale 4 September  
Oct 27, 2023 At The Barn, Mount Gambier



Thanks to our travel sponsors you will once again be able to travel safely to and from the gala using the C3 shuttle bus

Tickets on sale via [www.gtia.com](http://www.gtia.com)



Return services available from both Portland and Mount Gambier.

## Thank you to our 2023 Sponsors

### Gold Sponsors



### Silver Sponsors



### Bronze Sponsors



# WoodSolutions Resilient Timber Homes winners

The competition called for timber designs that could stand up to Australia's regular natural disasters and the two winners have delivered comfort as well as strength.

EARLIER this year, WoodSolutions called for building designers to reimagine timber buildings in a way that would increase their resilience. With floods, fires and cyclones increasing thanks to climate change, the goal was housing that would provide safe, healthy accommodation, survive better during natural disasters and be cheaper to remediate should the worst happen, both in terms of monetary costs and waste.

The goal of the competition was to show how timber structures can achieve better resilience and potentially end up with designs that could be readily built. Two briefs were prepared for the entrants, with a \$50,000 prize for the winning entry to each brief. Those winners have now been announced.

Brief A asked for a resilient timber home that would meet the conditions in Mount Gambier, SA. It was won by Chris Gilbert of Melbourne's Archier. Gilbert and his team decided to go a step further, as they put it: "Our submission aims to go beyond a basic house design and instead proposes a timber-centric ecosystem that supports designers and architects to craft durable, location-tailored homes throughout Australia's diverse regions.

"This ecosystem is Candour, which is a new system of architectural prefabrication that makes designing and constructing timber buildings

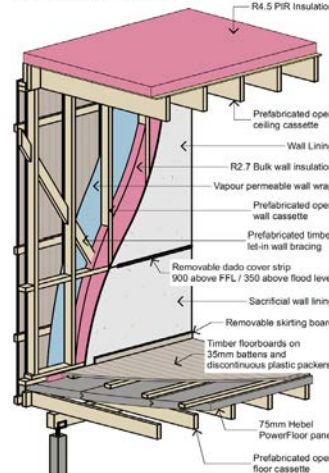


Chris Gilbert's design delivers a highly liveable home that celebrates its regional location.

straightforward. Candour aims to revolutionise construction by increasing access to advanced manufacturing and streamlining workflows for architects and builders."

Candour is a DfMA (design for manufacture and assembly) system based on ArchiCAD that has already been used by the Archier team in their projects. It uses a suite of computer-modelled customisable components that are designed with full information packages attached to each. So, regardless of which elements are used in a structure, the materials list, unit and total costs, connection requirements and details such as services paths are instantly available. As the Archier team note, this also

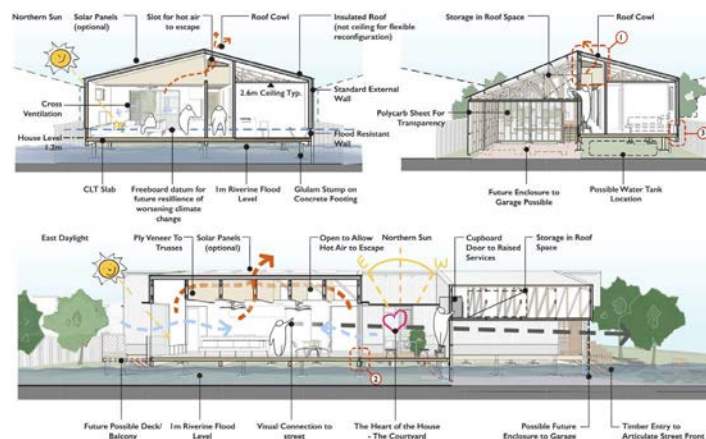
Diagram 02 - Structural Breakdown



The sacrificial elements of the design allow for quick drying and cheaper repair after a flood.

makes it faster and easier to train builders on the system.

At the heart of this design is a floodproofing solution that



Craft's design is full of passive cooling and light elements that keep the home comfortable even without power.

accepts that an increasing number of Australian homes are now built in expanding flood zones. A clever 'sacrificial' layer allows for quick drying after inundation, adding a small cost at build stage but saving a much larger cost after a disaster.

The judges called it a "Commercially grounded yet ambitious design, featuring a flood-reversible solution that integrates prefabricated open wall cassettes with drainage plugs and airtight features, within a modular DfMA scheme that will support fast-track delivery. The suggested use of blower door equipment to accelerate drying is both ingenious and reasonable."

Brief B set the home in Hervey Bay in southern Queensland and was won by Michael Croft, a Brisbane-based architect. He called his design The Floodable Queenslander and explained its goals as "good buildability, with an ambition to achieve better resilience against flooding and cyclonic influences, targeting a low carbon footprint and to be economically viable as a domestic development typology".

Built-in passive design principles for natural cooling in summer while retaining warmth and light in winter are key to the design, as well as ample room for solar panels and a layout that can be easily adapted and reconfigured as household needs change. It uses a range of wood products, from CLT and glulam stumps and floors, to prefabricated softwood



From P 9

wall frames and trusses and hardwood decking, which work with other design elements to maximise the ease of drying and repair after a flood as well as assist the insulative goals of the build and dramatically lower the embodied carbon of the structure and increase its recyclability.

In the centre of the house are two important spaces. The first is a 'flexible room' designed as a designated S4C3 Strengthened Area to provide extra protection for residents during extreme weather events. The second is a courtyard which, while acknowledged as adding to the overall footprint,

allows for a range of positive lifestyle impacts and adds to the passive cooling and light for the home year-round. As Croft said in his entry, "The social benefits of natural ventilation and daylight cannot be [overstated in their importance] for keeping occupants satisfied with their property."

Balancing the needs of flood-proofing and accessibility, there is also a 'sacrificial' lower layer of lining materials that,



**Michael Croft's design encourages a warm relationship with the street.**

along with clever floor and wall design details, allow for quick and thorough drying in the event of inundation.

According to the judges, the design "achieves robustness to cyclone impacts through a 'Flexible Room' which is well positioned and integrated with

the floorplan. Thoughtful positioning of the electrical infrastructure, alternative floor design to cater for regional adaptability, accurate costing, and rational use of Passive House criteria, all contribute to a thorough grasp of content and brief."

The judging panel was made up of nine industry experts, including designers, builders and technical timber specialists, along with a technical advisory panel made up of building and materials specialists.

For the full details on the winning entries, click here.

## New research on risk of tree death after drought

NEW research from the University of California Davis is helping to predict which forests will be able to survive increased future drought.

"If a forest is doing OK, but in the future we know it's likely to get only half the average rainfall it used to get, we can calculate the likelihood it will die," said Jessie Au, a postdoctoral scholar in the Department of Plant Sciences.

Au and her team developed a tool that looks at the tipping point beyond which trees aren't able to recover even after a drought breaks.

In their study, Au's team looked at precipitation, soil moisture and temperature in the forest, and measured

how much carbon dioxide the trees were breathing in. Using a new methodology, dubbed CARDAMOM, they linked that information to figure out how much carbon the trees were putting into their reserves, such as wood, roots and leaves, and they tracked how the reserves dwindled as the drought wore on.

"With this new methodology, we can now link drought to tree death later on, and we can assign a number to that risk," Au said. "It's helping us identify



**The new research tool helps determine if forests can recover after prolonged droughts.** Photo: Shutterstock

vulnerable spots and whether we can save them."

You can find the research, Forest productivity recovery or collapse? Model-data integration insights on drought-induced tipping points, published with open access at this link. As Au notes in the abstract, "More frequent and

severe droughts are driving increased forest mortality around the globe. We urgently need to describe and predict how drought affects forest carbon cycling and identify thresholds of environmental stress that trigger ecosystem collapse. Quantifying the effects of drought at an ecosystem level is complex because dynamic climate-plant relationships can cause rapid and/or prolonged shifts in carbon balance."

The tool developed by the team should be of use for foresters and an essential auditing mechanism for those investing in carbon storage schemes.

**Source: Science Daily**

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!

### HEAD OFFICE

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

### PUBLISHERS

**John Halkett** // +61 (0) 417 421 187  
johnh@timberandforestryenews.com  
**Dennis Neilson** // +64 (0)7 349 2764  
dana@dana.co.nz

### EDITORS

**Nicky Ainley** // +61 (0) 410 538 034  
news@timberandforestryenews.com  
**Donyale Harrison** // +61 (0) 417 487 497  
edit@timberandforestryenews.com

### ADVERTISING

**Campbell McInnes** // +61 (0) 406 223 007  
campbellm@timberandforestryenews.com  
advertising@timberandforestryenews.com

*The information contained in this publication has been obtained from sources assumed to be reliable. However, the publishers disclaim all warranties as to the accuracy, completeness, reliability or adequacy of the information displayed. Opinions expressed in Timber & Forestry e news are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or staff. We do not accept responsibility for any damage resulting from inaccuracies in editorial or advertising. The publishers are therefore indemnified against all actions, suits, claims or damages resulting from content in this enews.*

# CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

## PRODUCTS & SERVICES

### BUY & SELL:

Click this link to advertise here and online...

## EMPLOYMENT

### LATEST JOBS:

Click this link to advertise online...

## PRODUCTS & SERVICES

### BUY & SELL:

Click this link to advertise here and online...

## ADVERTISING RATES



### DISPLAY AD RATES

All pricing below is excluding GST and are based on a weekly booking. Overseas bookings are exempt from GST.

#### FULL PAGE: \$510

297mmH x 210 mmW

#### HALF PAGE: \$305

Vertical • 256mmH x 93mmW

Horizontal • 125mmH x 190mmW

#### QUARTER PAGE: \$195

Vertical • 125mmH x 93mmW

Horizontal • 63mmH x 190mmW

#### THIRD PAGE: \$225

Horizontal • 73mmH x 190mmW

#### PAGE 1 Front cover strip:

Contract booking

Horizontal • 32mmH x 200mmW

#### PAGE 1 Front cover module:

Contract booking

Horizontal • 45mmH x 50mmW

#### PAGE 2 below story: Contract booking

Horizontal • 73mmH x 190mmW

### CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

#### JOB ADS: ONLINE ONLY

#### BUY & SELL ADS: ONLINE & IN PUBLICATION

744pxH x 720pxW

### TERM DISCOUNTS

12 WEEKS: 7.5%

24 WEEKS: 10%

48 WEEKS: 15%

### ADVERTISING DEADLINES

**Display ads:** Book by 9am Tuesday prior to publication

**Supplied artwork:** Wednesday 12 noon prior to publication. Supply hi-res jpg or pdf to our specifications. **NO crop marks or bleed required.**

**Classified advertising: JOB ADS ARE COMPLETELY ONLINE.**

Go to [www.timberandforestrynews.com/post-a-job/](http://www.timberandforestrynews.com/post-a-job/) to place a job vacancy. **Book and pay online by 12noon Wednesday prior to publication.** Job ads are for individual positions. If more than one position is to be advertised, separate ads will need to be created and advertised accordingly.

**BUY & SELL ADS ARE ONLINE & IN PUBLICATION.**

Go to [www.timberandforestrynews.com/product/buy-sell-advertisement/](http://www.timberandforestrynews.com/product/buy-sell-advertisement/)

to place an ad. **Book by 5.00pm Tuesday prior to publication.**

### PAYMENT TERMS

New clients invoiced on booking. Existing clients 14 days.

### WHO TO CONTACT

#### Media releases and editorial:

Nicky Ainley e: [news@timberandforestrynews.com](mailto:news@timberandforestrynews.com) and

Donyale Harrison e: [edit@timberandforestrynews.com](mailto:edit@timberandforestrynews.com)

#### Display ad bookings:

Campbell McInnes e: [campbellm@timberandforestrynews.com](mailto:campbellm@timberandforestrynews.com)

#### Accounts:

Chris Parker e: [cparker@ttnews.com.au](mailto:cparker@ttnews.com.au)



## Are you following us on social media?

Please like and share our page so we can get the timber and forestry message out to a bigger audience. **If you like our publication, please leave us a review.**

