

## **NZIF Indigenous Forest Management Committee**

Set up last year under the guidance of the late Peter Olsen after a number of years of his battling alone, the NZIF Indigenous Forest Management Committee has picked up on a number of issues.

The Committee operates under the following terms of reference in terms of the NZIF Indigenous Forest Policy:

1. Monitor indigenous forestry in Aotearoa New Zealand.
2. Initiate any publicity considered desirable on particular issues.
3. Initiate responses on issues or contribute to public debate.
4. Be accountable to the Council of the Institute.

The Committee is activated by a member of the Institute saying, "What about doing something about this matter?"

We have dealt with two matters. One was taking up the invitation of Jill Pettis, Labour Spokeperson on the Environment to comment on a proposed policy on indigenous forests. The other was offering the expertise of the Institute to the forestry spokespeople of the six main political parties to help them develop their indigenous forest policy. One party took up the offer and another is still in correspondence.

A submission is to be made to the Select Committee dealing with the Forests Amendment Bill 311-1.

Members of the Committee are Nora Devoe, Kit Richards, John Ruru and Peter Allan (convenor).

### **The Border Control Review**

Early this year a Border Control Review Team was set up to review the efficiency and effectiveness of New Zealand's border management system. The Institute responded via the Environmental Working Group to a public notice inviting submissions.

As a result of the submission process three documents were released late July

- An overview as the Review Team see the situation.

- A description of the current border management system and issues needing to be addressed.
- A detailed summary and analysis of stakeholder submissions.

The Institute's thrust is taken aboard in the statement (Part 3, page 12), "The views of several of the submitters (particularly the forestry interests) are influenced by their experiences of the recent merger of the Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry and the consequent perceived loss of focus on threats to forest biosecurity."

Further submissions are invited preferably by 15 August, but by 31 August at the latest. The Review Team is to report back to Ministers by 30 October 1999.

Council has appointed Don Hammond to deal with further deliberations on the Border Control Review. Please provide Don any specific examples of risks that you have encountered due to inadequacies in current border control. His contact is telephone (025) 885 940, Fax (07) 332 3464, E-mail don.h@clear.net.nz.

## **The Rotorua Section**

The Rotorua Section recently elected a new chairman, Theo Vos, and secretary, Neil Geerkens. Shaun Kilvert has also recently taken on the treasurer role. A number of other people indicated their support in organising activities for local members.

The section has held four meetings this year. The first provided members with an update on proposed changes to the RMA, by Grant King from MAF. In April an opportunity was provided to meet up with visiting North American foresters in a social atmosphere and hear about fire management in the USA and Canada.

CHHF's Millennium Forestry (and silvicultural regimes in general) was the topic for our third meeting, which attracted an audience of about 50 people. Speakers included Russell Dale from CHHF, Ian Boyd from FCF, Gerard Horgan from Forest Research and Wink Sutton. The conclusion seemed to be that any prediction of the

future was likely to be inaccurate, and what we should do is make the future. That appears to be what the forestry companies, in their own way, are doing. No one regime will be right for everyone, and a portfolio of regimes throughout NZ is a very healthy situation.

Our most recent meeting was on the topic of suppliers to the forest industry. Rob van Rossen provided an overview of CHHF's Key Supplier initiative, and Kerry Starling provided a similar overview of FCF's Business Partners initiative. Ros Brown provided a view from her experience representing suppliers. All agreed initiatives are a step in the right direction, but more professionalism is required. There will continue to be casualties amongst existing suppliers, but those who can change and meet challenges will continue to be successful.

The local section met in conjunction with APPITA, for a dinner meeting on the topic of carbon credits in the forest industry. This was held on August 18 at the Quality Inn, Rotorua.

## **NZIF Forest Valuation Working Party**

An order form for the NZIF Forest Valuation Standards is enclosed with this edition of the New Zealand Journal of Forestry. Members have the option of purchasing a copy of the Forest Valuation Standards either as a stand-alone or, as is required for Registered Members (including Registered Forestry Consultants) and recommended for all other members, as part of the NZIF Professional Handbook.

The document represents a substantial revision of the Exposure Draft released in October 1996 and takes into consideration submissions received and discussions held with a wide range of interested parties. Readers will notice a change in layout with standards grouped into (a) Physical Description Standards; (b) Financial Description Standards; and (c) Valuation Method Standards. There are also major changes in content.