
NEWS UPDATE: '87 CONFERENCE

“Organization of the 1987 Annual Conference and AGM of the Institute, in Westland in May, is proceeding well, despite the uncertainties of employment and career prospects for many of the local members,” said a spokesman, Michael Orchard.

On the bright side, local Institute Chairman Bruce Watson has been appointed to the top position of Regional Manager for the Department of Conservation on the West Coast. Although the region is so far to have no Ministry of Forestry presence, a local person well versed in indigenous forest management, Mr Dave Hilliard, has been just recently appointed as District Manager for the Forestry Corporation in Westland, which will be based in Greymouth.

Issues and opportunities for the South Westland Management Evaluation Programme Region, the last major indigenous forest resource in New Zealand, are soon to be discussed, at a forum jointly organized by the Forest Service and Department of Lands and Survey, in Hokitika. A committee headed by Secretary for the Environment, Dr Roger Blakeley, will then examine in detail resource information collected over the three years of the study, to determine conservation and management options before reporting back to the Cabinet Policy Committee by June 30, 1987.

“These topics will fit in well with the Conference theme of ‘MULTIPLE USE MANAGEMENT’,” said Mr Orchard. “A real attraction will be the chance to take part in short pre- or post-Conference tours (such a success in Tasmania), to visit the Coast’s attractive and interesting native forest areas.”



A fine stand of thinned and pruned 35-year-old red beech in the Grey Valley. The straight trunks will produce high-quality timber at about 80 years of age. Photo: NZFS.