

cation by the Association's Management Committee.

Affiliate members would be companies and organizations. They would have no voting rights.

The Association was Incorporated on February 2, 1987. Several committee meetings have been held, and three sub-committees are studying standardization, training and universal charge-out rates for fire equipment. Two newsletters have been produced and nearly 100 members enrolled.

The Chairman is Neill Cooper, Chief Protection Officer of the Ministry of Forestry, the Secretary is John Marryatt (Wellington Regional Council), the Treasurer is Brian Fley (NZFP Forests Ltd) and other committee members are Murray Dudfield (Ministry of Forestry), Alan Fifield (Baigents, Nelson), Don Geddes (Tasman Forestry), Kerry Hilliard (Department of Conservation) and Geoff Blackburn (Defence).

Any further information can be obtained from Neill Cooper, C/- P.O. Box 1610, Wellington.

**Neill Cooper**

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## DOC Draft Mining Guidelines

The release of the Department of Conservation's Draft Mining Guidelines in December 1987 marks a new era in the management of mining on publicly-owned land in New Zealand.

All land administered by the Department with the exception of National Parks is covered by the new guidelines. National Parks continue to be subject to the National Parks and Reserves Authority mining policy, adopted in 1983.

The new draft guidelines outline the Department of Conservation's philosophy on mining and provide criteria for determining the type of prospecting and mining activities which will be acceptable on conservation land, and which will not.

Essentially the Department of Conservation's function is to manage all land under its control for conservation purposes. Unless it can be shown that the prime conservation values associated with an area subject to a mining privilege application will not be unduly damaged, the Minister of Conservation will not consent to the grading of a mining licence.

The draft of the mining guidelines is available for public submissions on it until March 31.

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# Lessons from Scandinavia

With roundwood production from plantation forests expected to treble shortly after the turn of the century New Zealand will be looking to sell the greater part of this burgeoning harvest offshore. It is therefore essential that we are internationally competitive. Some recent indicators suggest that New Zealand's forest industry has been failing in its attempts to keep up with the pacesetters in the international marketplace.

Andy Kirkland, Managing Director of New Zealand Forestry Corporation Limited, is one who very clearly sees that keeping up with the play in the international marketplace is the great challenge ahead for our forest industry. Last year he spent some time in Finland and Sweden, as these countries are now widely regarded as the most advanced in the world in the softwood processing and marketing business. Both are at the cutting edge of forest industry technology and as New Zealand begins to process a younger softwood crop utilization practices will be very similar to those of Scandinavia.

Collectively the Swedish and Finnish roundwood production of 110 million cubic metres per year exceeds New Zealand's present production by ten times. However, growth rates for the main Scandinavian timber species range from about 1.5 to 4.5 cubic metres per hectare per year - a poor contrast with the productivity of New Zealand's radiata pine.

"In practical terms this requires about five times the area of land to produce the same volume of wood," said Andy Kirkland. "This multiplies up all the other requirements such as roading which is certainly a substantial disadvantage compared to New Zealand."

Andy Kirkland was impressed with some of the new technology he saw. Scandinavia has developed highly automated containerized nursery techniques and planting is done using planting guns and container stock. Sweden has more mechanized harvesting equipment, with Finland retaining a large proportion of hand felling because of its importance for maintaining rural employment. The level of sophistication in sawmills is high. Productivity per man is an outstanding feature. Three years ago New Zealand's productivity per man in medium-sized sawmills was about 800 cubic metres per year. Using Scandinavian technology this could be improved to 5000 cubic metres per man year.

Andy Kirkland has given notice that the Forestry Corporation will be looking to Scandinavia, as well as to Canada, for advice on likely future investment opp-



**Andy Kirkland, Managing Director, New Zealand Forestry Corporation.**

ortunities for wood processing. "We have a limited time to consider investment in new technology in view of the imminent increase of the new crop resource," he said.

**J.C.H.**

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## Further staff changes at NZFP Forests Ltd

NZIF President Peter Thode's name appears amongst a list of recently announced new appointments from NZFP Forests Limited. Peter has been appointed superintendent, domestic wood supplies. He was formerly superintendent, forest operations, Kinleith region.

The former manager of the forestry department for the Kinleith region, Devon McLean, has been appointed manager, planning and research, at the company's Tokoroa head office.

The new manager of the forestry department, Kinleith region, is Barry Poole. He was formerly senior forester, research and development and has travelled and worked extensively overseas, playing an important role in research into eucalyptus planting.

Rens Bosman is the new export sales manager, based at Mt Maunganui. He joined the company in 1980 with the logging department and more recently was superintendent, wood purchase.