

NZIF Policy on Forestry outlined

as adopted by NZIF AGM of 6th May, 2001

Forestry is the art and science of managing forests so as to secure a wide range of environmental and socio-economic benefits. The following statements represent the professional view of the New Zealand Institute of Forestry (NZIF) on how forestry might be practised responsibly in New Zealand for the welfare of its people and the environment.

1. Forests have ecological, cultural, productive and scientific values that contribute to the economic and social well-being of the nation. In addition to protecting and improving the quality of air, soil and water, they fulfil scenic, recreational and amenity purposes, provide habitat for various forms of wildlife, and yield timber and non-timber products.

2. The NZIF advocates the view that both society in general and regional communities in particular should have the major say in determining the extent and nature of the forests in which they hold a valid stake. Subject to satisfying their wishes in a sustainable way, forest managers should be able to choose management practices, and extend or diminish forest areas, in the pursuit of any combination of the above social and economic goals within the terms of prevailing resource constraints.

3. Forestry practices should, therefore:

(i) ensure the nation-wide sustainability of forest resources, while addressing at the same time the need to meet the desired forest outcomes of regional communities;

(ii) recognise the multiple-uses and values of forests;

(iii) satisfy the requirements set out in national legislation pertaining to forestry and in international agreements to which New Zealand is a signatory.

The NZIF also seeks recognition of the need for:

(iv) a regionally based approach to managing forest ecosystems so that their health, biodiversity, soil quality, water quality, landscape, amenity and

recreational values, productivity and other relevant benefits, such the absorption of carbon, are maintained or enhanced in the long-term;

(v) acceptable procedures for gathering multi-resource data periodically and for reporting regularly on the extent and condition of forest ecosystems at the national, regional and single forest levels;

(vi) maintenance of appropriately administered fire protection, border surveillance and hazard response systems;

(vii) adequate funding for ensuring that New Zealand's forests can be sustainably managed in the long term.

The NZIF wishes to assist in:

(viii) promoting more and better co-ordination among owners, communities, government departments, local authorities, NGOs, and other organisations involved both regionally and nationally in the management of forest resources;

(ix) raising public awareness of actual current trends in New Zealand forests, and how outcomes might be improved so as to satisfy the needs of all sectors of society;

(x) maintaining and expanding the skill base within the forestry sector through fostering and supporting relevant educational and training programmes.

Applicants for Registration

The following has applied to become a Registered Member of the NZIF, with the extension to become Registered Forestry Consultant:

Vernon Arthur Harris

Renwick

Under the NZIF constitution, any members of the Institute may send objections in writing within 20 days of Journal publication to:

The Registrar, NZIF Registration Board,
PO Box 1340, ROTORUA.



When experience counts

■ The Bell Gully Forestry Team has provided legal advice on major New Zealand forestry transactions over the last two decades.

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