



The New Forest Industry Plan: *a fresh approach*



A quick overview of benefits and opportunities

A QUICK OVERVIEW OF BENEFITS AND OPPORTUNITIES



1. The Plan

The New Forest Industry Plan (The Plan) reflects the commitment by the industry to innovation, continuous improvement in forest practices and better environmental outcomes as it transitions to a more plantation-focused future.

It promotes safer, secure employment and career opportunities for people working in the industry and visiting our forests.

The Plan provides a catalyst for a partnership approach to developing positive government and industry programs and policy initiatives.

It provides a sound basis for delivering future planning and investment decisions which promote growth, drive investments in new value-adding technology and support profitable and competitive businesses.

2. New Forests – new opportunities

By 2020, Tasmania's extensive plantation and native forest resources are expected to provide over 8.7 million tonnes of wood products annually.

The majority will be sourced from plantations, with only around 30 percent from existing native forests.

Hardwood plantations will produce over 50 per cent of total volume which creates opportunities for existing businesses to expand, and for new industries to develop.

3. Focusing on Value-adding

The Plan identifies value-adding opportunities and new approaches to forest management, supply, processing and market development.

These opportunities include the adoption of high-tech contracting systems, restructuring existing hardwood sawmilling capacity to include greater utilisation of plantation resources and expanding our existing pulp and paper production.

4. Traditional forests – valuable products

Tasmania's natural forests produce some of the strongest and most valuable timbers in the world.

These timbers are used by 8,500 Tasmanians in such diverse fields as sawmilling, furniture design, boat building, home construction, musical instrument manufacturing, craft retailing and woodcraft hobby activities. The stable supply of native timber from State Forests has been critical in supporting these people.

Continuing sustainable timber harvesting in our native forests will also ensure these forests remain available for use by all Tasmanians to support investments in:

- ✔ Roads, bridges and other infrastructure that provides access for:
 - \$70 million craft, furniture and appearance grade producers
 - \$60 million firewood industry, and
 - \$3 million honey industry.
- ✔ Fire-fighting training and response units.
- ✔ Recreation and tourism facilities.

Ongoing use of our certified native forests will ensure Tasmanians continue to focus on high value products, support regional jobs and contribute to our cultural heritage.





5. New products – new approaches

The Plan calls for the establishment of engineered wood product manufacturing facilities and an ongoing focus on high value appearance- grade products for domestic and export markets.

It also identifies opportunities to establish carbon-friendly, renewable products such as specialized biomass energy generators, bio-pellets, activated and industrial carbon and bio-char for agricultural use.

6. Wealth and jobs in new processing

More than \$2.1 billion of private investments in new processing opportunities is identified in the Plan. These investments would benefit Tasmania by directly creating over 880 new long term, highly-technical jobs and generating an extra \$1.26 billion annually in wealth for the state.

7. New security – new investments

These new opportunities, when added to the servicing of existing processing and manufacturing businesses, will provide secure opportunities for forest contractors.

Investments in new harvesting machinery of around \$230 million and transport investments of around \$135 million will be required.

These investments will directly support over 650 jobs and generate revenues of \$240 million annually.

8. Forestry and community wealth

Maximising the value of Tasmania's forests and forest products will benefit the wider Tasmanian community.

Additional support and service investments would generate at least an additional 1000 jobs - many of which would be in rural and regional areas- and around \$1 billion in direct and indirect income within the State.

9. Our environment

The Tasmanian forest industry is committed to continuously improving its environmental performance by adopting voluntary international certification and forest management systems.

The industry will also work to improve the water quality of those rivers and streams which flow through forests, reduce chemical use wherever practicable and improve the health of communities by reducing the impacts of smoke.

10. Climate Change – doing our part

Through the Plan, the forest industry commits to increasing carbon storage in managed forests, investing in plantations for wood and carbon storage on cleared land and ensuring sustainable forestry continues to be part of the solution in tackling climate change.

As an industry, we will also invest in reducing our emissions across supply and value chains.

11. Government – an important partner

Governments have a pivotal role to play in ensuring resource security for the industry, facilitating investments and putting the right framework in place to drive innovation. Improvements across the areas of regulation, taxation, infrastructure planning and training and research, require government action.

The Plan identifies clear opportunities for Government to work in partnership with industry to deliver the social, economic and environmental outcomes that will ensure economic prosperity on a sustainable and world-class basis.

Summary

Tasmanian forestry is in transition to a re-growth and plantation-based industry. New investments are required in harvesting and wood-processing technologies and this brings with it the need for secure access to forest resources to underpin investor confidence.

The Plan represents a blueprint for the way in which the industry intends to secure the \$1.6 billion industry for the state and double its contribution to over \$4 billion by 2020.

In doing so, it will create new career opportunities for Tasmanians.

The plan should provide the wider community with confidence that the Tasmanian forest industry is innovative, progressive, responsive and worthy of their continuing support.

This overview document captures some highlights from the full New Forest Industry Plan which can be viewed in its entirety at www.newforestindustry.com





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