

Forest Practices Awards 2011 – call for nominations

The Board of the Forest Practices Authority (FPA) invites nominations for the Forest Practices Awards. The board has held two award ceremonies in recent years to recognise excellence and continuous improvement in forest practices. There are six categories of awards which will be made towards the end of the year by the Chair of the Board of the FPA. The awards will be Forest Practices Certificates of Excellence.

The deadline for submitting nominations is **31 July 2011**. The award categories are:

Preparation of Forest Practices Plans

This award will be made to Planning FPOs. It will be judged on the basis of consistency, clarity, high quality, freedom from errors and innovation or excellence in dealing with complex or challenging issues for one or more plans. Awards may also be made jointly to more than one FPO, as plans are often a co-operative effort, or for a business unit for excellence in regard to plans prepared by a group of FPOs. Nominations are invited from FPOs, business units, FPA auditors and specialists.

Inspection and Supervision of Forest Operations

This award will apply to Inspecting FPOs and field supervisors. It will be judged for special diligence in the inspection and management of forest practices issues in

the forest, resulting in the achievement of excellence. To be nominated by FPA auditors and industry.

Conduct of forest operations to high operational standards

This award will apply to both contractors and business units. It will be judged on the basis of consistently good performance in regard to forest practices. Nominations are invited from industry representatives, FPOs and FPA auditors.

Innovation in forest practices

This award seeks to recognise the development of new tools or methods to improve forest practices, such as the development of planning tools, innovation in equipment design, improved silvicultural techniques or the development of operational practices that provide improved environmental outcomes. The award will not be limited to any particular occupational category and nominations will be received from industry, FPOs, auditors and specialists.

Excellence in Community Relations in regard to forest practices

This award will apply to an FPO or business unit and seeks to recognise the successful solution, from the point of view of all parties involved, of difficult forest planning or operational issues. Nominations may

include situations where consultation or partnerships with neighbours or community groups have led to the successful resolution of complex or challenging issues or public information/education programs that have led to improved public understanding and support for sustainable forest management. Nominations are sought from industry and business units but also importantly from any neighbour, community group or from the Local Government/Tourism/ Forestry Protocol Group.

Excellence in research, advice and services to forest managers

This award looks to recognise work in research, advice, services and forest management by private landowners which shows exceptional merit in regard to forest practices. Nominations will be considered from any source.

Nominations

To nominate a suitable candidate, please supply the following to the board of the FPA:

- a document of 1,000 words or less (one to two typed pages) setting out the basis of the nomination, supported by photographs or other documents where appropriate
- names and contact details of the nominee and person making the nomination
- names and contact details for two referees who are prepared to support the nomination.

Judging

Nominations will be examined and short-listed by a committee with expertise in forest practices convened by the board. The work of the short-listed nominees will be inspected in the field and listed for consideration by the board.

Contact

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The Forest Practices Awards 2008 winners with the former Chair of the board and the Chief Forest Practices Officer. Back row: Geoff Willis (FPA Chair), Bruce Hay (Gunns Ltd – Tamar), Colin Leary (FT Mersey), Tony O'Malley (forestry consultant), Vanessa Thompson (FT Derwent), Matt Webb (DPIW), Chris Ringk (Timberlands), Greg Hickey (Gunns Ltd – Triabunna), Marie Yee (FT), Sean Blake (forestry consultant), Graham Wilkinson (FPA). Front row: Tim and Pip Schmidt (landowners).

