

DELIVERED
WEEKLY TO
15,200
GLOBAL
READERS*

Like and
follow us on



ISSUE 817 // August 22 2024

timber & FORESTRY *e*news

5 million plantation seedlings in WA

COVER STORY P 3



JOBS:

- Business Development
Manager

[Click to apply](#)

*Do you
have
a job
position
to fill?*

ADVERTISE TODAY



timber
& FORESTRY *e*news

Wood Solutions
BOOST YOUR CUSTOMER BASE
CREATE A FREE SUPPLIER LISTING ON THE WOODSOLUTIONS WEBSITE
[GET STARTED](#)

Responsible Wood RAW 1-10-1
Speak to us about EUDR implications.
[Click here.](#)

**ALL UNDER
ONE ROOF**

- IR SUPPORT
- TRAINING
- EMPLOYMENT
- WHS
- COMMUNITY



NTHA
NATIONAL TIMBER &
HARDWARE ASSOCIATION

1800 822 621

New illegal logging laws

A consultation period on new legislation is welcomed.

THE Albanese Government has opened its consultation process on new draft rules that complement the national illegal logging reforms, to allow for industry feedback.

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry The Hon. Julie Collins has announced the next steps for the

Government's reforms around the Illegal Logging Prohibition Amendment (Strengthening Measures to Prevent Illegal Timber Trade) Bill 2024 which includes an opportunity for stakeholders to comment on draft rules before they're finalised.

The updated illegal logging laws which are currently before the Senate, will:

- Strengthen audit, compliance and enforcement of offence penalties
- Enhance monitoring of



Illegal logging by Russian firms in the Ukrainian Carpathians. These timbers may be sold through external countries and require stringent due diligence by importers to avoid.
Image: Vom Batty/Shutterstock

compliance and streamline investigation powers

- Require notice of products being brought into Australia

The draft legislation stands includes the use of negligence as a fault element for an offence and demands an effective due diligence system for importers.

AFPA CEO Diana Hallam said that the Association supports the strengthening of illegal logging laws to ensure that importing businesses source timber harvested from legal sources using

sustainable practices. Equally important is the need for the regime to be efficient, practical and effective and the consultation process will be important to allow industry the opportunity to provide feedback.

"Australia's forest industries unequivocally support a strong and robust regime to

“THE INTEGRITY OF OUR TIMBER AND FIBRE PRODUCTS IS PARAMOUNT”

combat illegal logging, and we thank the Government for the consultation that will allow industry to provide feedback to policy makers on the new rules," Hallam said.

"These reforms are particularly timely. As a result of native forestry industry closures in Victoria and Western Australia, Australia has seen a considerable increase in the volume of imported hardwoods and it's critical the proper checks, enforcement and penalties are in place if there's any doubt as to the source.

"The integrity of our timber and fibre products is paramount. When grown, harvested and processed properly, as we do in Australia, these products represent the height of sustainability, but when corners are cut, it can be environmentally damaging and undermine Australian jobs," Diana Hallam concluded.

Comment on the draft rules can be made via this link until 13 September: <https://haveyoursay.agriculture.gov.au/illegal-logging-laws>

Preserve the Environment, Preserve Timber



Choose a timber preservative that respects our environment and make a difference today.

- Global GreenTag GreenRate™ Level A Certification
- Global GreenTag GoldHEALTH™ Healthrate™ Certification
- MicroPro® preserved timbers are suitable for use in National Parks




www.kopperspc.com.au
1800 088 809

Propagating plantations

The Forest Products Commission Western Australia will despatch over 5 million seedlings this year.

THE Forest Products Commission Western Australia (FPC) is well on the way towards its goal of establishing over 3000 hectares of new plantations. The goal was set by the WA Government as part of the State's \$350 million Softwood Plantation Investment Program to ensure a stable supply of timber for WA's construction industry and increase carbon sequestration opportunities as part of the State's response to climate change.

"The planting season will end in coming weeks, and the FPC's crews are on track to complete the targeted volume of 5 million seedlings going into the ground," said FPC director of operations John Tredinnick.

FPC manages approximately 70,000 hectares of softwood plantations in the South West of Western Australia on behalf of the State Government. The plantation estate supports a particle board plant, sawmill and LVL plant.

The new investment and increasing planting targets have required the FPC Nursery and Seed Centre at Manjimup to scale up the production of seedlings, propagating and dispatching over 5 million seedlings to 25 FPC plantations across the South West this year.

FPC Nursery and Seed Centre coordinator Kristine

Mayer said: "The centre produces superior seeds and seedlings for the FPC's plantation establishment and refill program, with year-round operations to ensure seedlings are available to meet the annual

planting requirement."

In addition to the new plantations, harvested areas have also required seedlings for replanting.

During peak work periods, casual workers bolster the permanent nursery workforce to undertake sowing or packing activities, all trained to the high level of excellence expected within the program.

"The best possible seed stock is available from the FPC's *Pinus radiata* breeding program, which builds on over 50 years of scientific research in WA, and through the FPC's membership of Tree Breeding Australia," says Mayer.

Over the past two months, the nursery team has loaded 27 semi-trailers with about

3.25 million seedlings bound for the FPC's plantations. A fully containerised production system supports the workers in moving and packing such a significant number of seedlings.

With late rains and reliance on weather conditions for optimal planting, the window for planting this year has been tight, requiring maximum efficiency and speed at every stage to ensure the seedlings are in the ground before the weather conditions impact seedling survival rates.

"Thanks to the efforts of nursery staff, as well as other FPC teams and supporting contractors, these seedlings will grow to be the homes of the future and capture carbon to assist in mitigating climate

change," said Tredinnick.

It can be a Herculean task to have plants all ready to go at the right time, especially in a year like this with a narrow planting season. But it's also rewarding.

"It's great to be involved with getting all these pine seedlings packed and out to new plantations, especially as I know they're so important for growing timber for new homes," said Mayer.

"They're so small now, but it's exciting to think what they will grow into one day."

On the cover: Assistant operations assistant Sessa, nursery and seed centre coordinator Kristine, and assistant operations officer Bree at FPC Manjimup Nursery and Seed Centre. Image: FPCWA



1/ The tubestock is hardened off at Manjimup Nursery and Seed Centre.
2/ The seedlings are carefully packed into boxes for distribution.
3/ Planting some of the 5 million seedlings for the new FPC plantations.



Infrastructure repairs continue

Forestry Corporation has been making good progress on flood rebuilding.

BACK in February (T&F Enews 791) we reported on NSW Forestry Corporation's work on the Forest Infrastructure Repair Program (FIRP).

FIRP is a \$60 million, three-year project to fix flood-damaged roads, bridges and culverts and restore access for forest management and the broader community. It's the biggest infrastructure program ever rolled out in NSW forests and its projects are a vital part of reconnecting regional communities. So far 160 have been completed and



1/ Nigel Saunders and Rob Green of Green Construction Management with the new bridge recently installed on Gearys Flat Road, near Rollands Plains in Kippara State Forest.



2/ The new bridge on Gearys Flat Road. Images: Forestry Corporation

forest infrastructure project supervisor Peter Walsh said a further 60 projects are currently operational and a further 54 are in planning stages across the state.

"Restoring and improving

vehicle access to the forest estate has been a major focus for Forestry Corporation with these major works creating regional employment and adding significantly to regional economies," Walsh said.

Laurieton-based company Green Construction Management is completing one of the latest projects on the Mid North Coast, installing a concrete bridge on

Cont P 5

NTHA CAN

TRAIN AND UPSKILL YOUR EXISTING TEAM MEMBERS

- ✓ Nationally recognised qualifications and training
- ✓ Specialist industry trainers

STRENGTHEN YOUR TEAM

RETAIL, SALES, BUSINESS, SUPPLY CHAIN OPERATION AND LEADERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

(RTO 5343)
1800 822 621
ntha.com.au

AFPA THE LEADING VOICE FOR AUSTRALIA'S FOREST PRODUCTS SECTOR

From P 4

Geary's Flat Road in Kippara State Forest, north-west of Wauchope, and undertaking road widening works.

"The great thing about the projects is they allow contractors completing the work to source all of the labour and supplies from the local area," owner operator Rob Green said.

"When you look at this project, we have replaced a damaged old timber bridge no longer fit for traffic with a new precast concrete structure that carries a life span of around 100 years," he added.

Forestry Corp just has released an update on works progressed and completed in the second quarter of 2024:

BEGA VALLEY LGA

- Construction of two bridges on Mountain Road and one bridge on Ireland Timms Road in Nadgee State Forest near Eden has been completed.
- The replacement of a bridge with a concrete culvert/ bridge structure has been completed on Timbillica Road in Timbillica State



Floods significantly damaged this timber bridge on Blue Mountain Creek Road, Bulga. Image: Forestry Corporation

Forest near Eden.

- A contract for the replacement of two bridges on Goanna Road in East Boyd State Forest near Eden has been awarded.
- The construction of a concrete culvert on Goanna Road in East Boyd State Forest near Eden was completed.

SHOALHAVEN LGA

- The replacement of a bridge on Western Distributor Road in Yadboro State Forest and a bridge on Lyons Road bridge in Currowan SF near Batemans Bay has commenced.
- A contract for the replacement of a bridge on Mares Hill Road in Yadboro State Forest near Batemans Bay has been awarded.

DUNOGG LGA

- A repair of a landslip was completed on Williams Top Road in Chichester State Forest near Dungog.

MID NORTH COAST LGA

- A contract for the construction of a bridge on Mt Allyn Road in Chichester State Forest near Dungog has been awarded.

KEMPSEY LGA

- The repair of a timber deck bridge on Tamban Road in Tamban State Forest was completed.

PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS LGA

- A repair of a large landslip on Rocky Ridge Road in Kippara State Forest near Wauchope was completed.

- A contract for winning and crushing gravel in the Razorblades quarry in Kippara State Forest near Wauchope has been awarded.
- The construction of a concrete causeway on Gearys Flat Road in Kippara State Forest near Wauchope was completed.
- The replacement of three bridges on Gearys Flat Road in Kippara State Forest near Wauchope has commenced.
- A tender to construct a bridge on Charlies Yard Road in Middle Brother State Forest near Wauchope was released.

CLARENCE VALLEY LGA

- Roadworks in Newfoundland State Forest north of Coffs Harbour commenced.

- The construction of two bridges in Southgate State Forest near Grafton has been completed.

RICHMOND VALLEY LGA

- A contract for the construction of two bridges on Glencoe Road in Doubleduke State Forest near Casino has been awarded.

To see if FIRP works in your area are nearing completion, use the search and contact functions on Forestry Corp's website, click here.

Unsure how the EUDR may affect you?

Speak with us today.



responsiblewood.org.au



Celebrating National Forestry Day

The timber sector's contribution to combating climate change was at the forefront of this year's celebrations.

ON Tuesday, National Forestry Day 2024, forestry leaders took a moment to celebrate our sector's accomplishments.

This year's theme was 'celebrating nature's carbon store', recognising the carbon that is locked into our forests as they grow and where it is stored in timber products and buildings.

Australian Forest Contractors Association general manager Tim Lester said forestry is a 'yes and' industry that promotes sustainable land management, thriving rural and regional communities and renewable resources for essential everyday items.



Australia's working forests are a well-managed resource that locks up carbon and creates jobs. Image: William Edge /Shutterstock

"This year's National Forestry Day theme is a great reminder that trees are the best, most efficient and only commercially-viable

technology at scale to take carbon from the atmosphere and sequester it into stable and useful forms," Lester said.

"Australia's working forests for softwood and hardwood are well regulated and well managed. Our forest contracting businesses and workforce are highly skilled and experienced, providing a vital link in the supply chain. We should all be rightly proud of this amazing industry that provides so many benefits and that touches the lives of every one of us every single day."

Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA) Chief Executive Officer, Diana Hallam said, "Timber and fibre products are visible in almost every facet of our lives, from hardwood flooring and kitchen benches to the desk at work or dining table and backyard deck at home, not to mention books and tissues."

AFPA points out that Australia's forest industries are responsible for 80,000 direct and another 100,000 indirect jobs nationally – many in regional areas –

equalling a \$24 billion annual contribution to the Australian economy.

"Forestry is a great Australian industry that we can all be proud of, now and into the future. Particularly because forest industries also are a critical climate change solution for Australia and vital to ensuring we reach our net zero goals," said Hallam.

Tasmanian Forest Products Association chief executive, Nick Steel, said it was a day for Tasmanians to recognise the excellent work Tasmania's forest industry does fighting climate change, supporting the state's economy and creating the essential and sustainable products Tasmanian love, need and use every day.

"With demand for timber and wood fibre expected to quadruple by 2050, the Tasmanian forest products sector plays a significant role leading the world in sustainable forest management," Steel said.

"Our careful environmental management practices are an example to other jurisdictions looking to maximise the potential of their forest sectors, through active replanting and prudent regulations.

"Whether it's the timber house-frame inside the walls of your home, the cardboard boxes your latest delivery arrived in, or the hardwood dining table in your living area, without our sustainable and renewable forest products sector, we wouldn't have these locally made products. These are climate-friendly items we cannot live without."

Stay true

While some regions have ended native forestry, our sustainably managed forests continue to thrive. Good news for discerning clients who want to stay true to their roots, quite literally.

ORIGINAL
TASMANIAN
TIMBER™

Discover more at
tasmaniantimber.com.au

AUGUST

27: Forestry Australia Webinar - Forestry comms: Communicating complexity effectively – ONLINE EVENT, 12.30am-1.30pm (AEST). For more details and to register, visit <https://www.forestry.org.au/webinar-forestry-comms-communicating-complexity-effectively/>

SEPTEMBER

4: Forestry Australia Field Trip – South Burnett, QLD. Learn about the growing production of hardwood plantations at a farm forestry scale and more. For more information and to register, visit: <https://www.forestry.org.au/qld-events/>

7: WFTN 'Cocktails for Charity' event, 2.00 - 6.00pm – Loft West End, Brisbane. Join us for an afternoon of cocktails and charity to support RizeUp, an organisation dedicated to providing life-changing practical assistance to families affected by domestic and family violence. To purchase tickets and for more information, visit: [https://www.ntha.com](https://www.ntha.com.au/eventdetails/25321/wftn-cocktails-for-charity)

[au/eventdetails/25321/wftn-cocktails-for-charity](https://www.ntha.com.au/eventdetails/25321/wftn-cocktails-for-charity).

13: NTHA NSW/ACT State Awards – Hilton, Sydney.

Join us in celebrating the New South Wales & ACT Timber and Hardware Industry. Nominations open at <https://www.ntha.com.au/events/2024-nswact-state-awards-nominations/> Contact Tahlia at events@ntha.com.au

23: Latin America Forest Investment Conference – Porto Alegre, Brazil.**24-25: International Woodchip and Biomass Trade Conference – Porto Alegre, Brazil.****25-27: Field Trip – Rio Grande do Sul State, Brazil.****OCTOBER****22-23: International Woodchip and Biomass Seminar and Networking Event – Singapore.**

29-31: Forestry Australia 2024 Symposium – Mercure Ballarat Convention Centre, Golden Point, VIC. Theme: Healthy and resilient forests for our future, will facilitate conversation and collaboration that regardless

of land tenure and ownership, healthy and resilient forests should be the objective for all forest and land managers. The Symposium is a focused three-day gathering, consisting of two days of plenary and concurrent sessions, and a day of Field Trips. The two-day program will feature a range of Keynote and Invited Speakers, who are experts and thought leaders in their field. The Symposium will also feature several social functions, facilitating networking and collaboration in an informal and relaxed environment. For more information, visit <https://www.forestry.org.au/2024-symposium/>

NOVEMBER

13-15: AFCA annual Gala dinner & conference – Launceston, Tas. For more information visit: <https://www.afca.asn.au/Events/afca-2023-conference-photo-gallery>

SAVE THE DATES 2025

MARCH 22: NTHA SA/NT/WA State Awards – National Wine Centre, Adelaide. Join us in

celebrating the SA, NT & WA Timber and Hardware Industry. Contact Tahlia at events@ntha.com.au

MAY 30: NTHA QLD State Awards – Brisbane City Hall, Brisbane. Join us in celebrating the QLD Timber and Hardware Industry. Contact Tahlia at events@ntha.com.au

MARCH 25-28: DANA Global Wood Products Supply and Demand Trends Seminar, Global Forest Investment Conference, and WWII Battle of the Bulge Battle sites tour – Europe. Contact admin@dana.co.nz

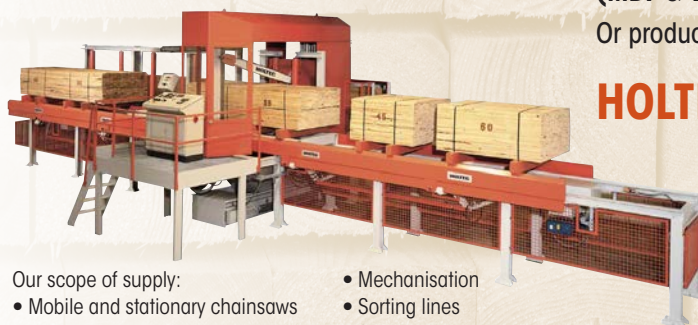
JUNE 22-26: World Conference on Timber Engineering – Brisbane. WCTE is the world's leading scientific forum for the presentation of the latest technical and architectural solutions and innovations in timber construction.

OCTOBER 20-22: International Woodchip and Biomass Seminar and Networking Event – Singapore.

OCTOBER 23-24: Field Trip – Vietnam.

**Are you following us on social media?**

Please like and share our page so we can get the timber and forestry message out to a bigger audience. If you like our publication, please leave us a review.

**A CUT ABOVE...**

Our scope of supply:

- Mobile and stationary chainsaws
- Timber crosscut stations
- Log cutting stations
- Circular saws

- Mechanisation
- Sorting lines
- Scanning and optimising systems
- Special systems

Do you crosscut timber packs at ± 1 mm accuracy?

Or cut structural timber, panel products (MDF & LVL), paper rolls?

Or produce pallet dimensions or studs on fixed lengths?

HOLTEC has a solution for you!

For more information contact:

HOLTEC
YOUR PARTNER FOR THE PERFECT CUT

Ph: +64 9 416 8294 // Fax: +64 9 416 8296
Email: sales@holtec.org // Web: www.holtec.org



Put some muscle into online security

AS online attacks surge, Danny Green, the former Olympian, World Boxing Champion and small business owner is taking up the fight against cybercrime in a collaboration with the Council of Small Business Organisations Australia (COSBOA).

Green, the co-founder of boxing and strength fitness franchise UBX, has rolled out the government-backed Cyber Wardens online course across his fast-growing global business.

A respected figure in sport and business, Green said he wanted to use his profile to help educate the small business community about the importance of ensuring a secure online environment.

"In boxing, staying one step ahead of your opponent is crucial," he said.

"The same applies to protecting your business and customers. I'm proud to be part of this initiative to help small businesses stay secure in the digital world."

Green features in a series of videos and promotional materials highlighting the parallels between physical defences in boxing and digital defences in business.

The materials will provide practical tips and strategies for small business owners to enhance their cyber security.

He said by integrating cyber security awareness training into their business practices



Danny Green is partnering with COSBOA to knock out cybercrime. Photo: Cyber Wardens

through Cyber Wardens, UBX was ensuring the protection of its franchisees, members and technology infrastructure.

COSBOA CEO Luke Achterstraat said the association was thrilled to have Green and UBX on board for the important campaign. "Danny and UBX's commitment

to cyber security sets a powerful example for small businesses everywhere," he said.

Cyber Wardens is a Council of Small Business Organisations (COSBOA) initiative to empower small business owners and their staff with the knowledge and tools needed to protect themselves from cyber threats.

The Australian government-funded program is a free, simple, and effective online course designed to help small businesses build their cyber safety capabilities.

UBX is offering graduates from the Cyber Wardens training a free 7-day premium access pass to the UBX app 'Train: On Demand'. To be eligible you must use this link: cyberwardens.com.au/danny.green.

Job position to fill?

For as little as A\$10.00 per week, you can advertise your positions vacant on our dedicated eNews jobs web page.

Job ad: A\$30.00 for 3 weeks

Prices exclude GST.

CLICK TO ADVERTISE

timber
& FORESTRY *e*news

Contact Campbell McInnes at campbellm@timberandforestrynews.com



Tasmanian forestry feedback

The Tasmanian Forest Products Association is calling on stakeholders to provide feedback on the future of the state's forestry sector.

David Bauche, media and public relations manager at the Tasmanian Forest Products Association, is calling for all interested parties to contribute to the review of the Tasmanian Regional Forestry Agreement (click here for the current agreement and supporting documents).

He writes:

The Tasmanian Regional Forestry Agreement (RFA) is currently being reviewed, and the TFPA has prepared a submission to the outcome report for the previous five years.

The Tasmanian RFA covers all forms of forestry and forest management across the state, including public and private, plantation, native, reserve and production areas.

By covering all forestry across the state, this efficiency leads to better outcomes for the environment because implementation requirements are clear – for our foresters, farmers, private landowners, and parks managers, who all adhere to the same accredited and consistently applied set of rules.

In our submission we emphasised that it is critically important that the RFA continues to deliver on economic, social and



1/ Tasmanian MP Felix Ellis with an STT forester.

2/ Consistency of forest management is vital for both sustainability and economic certainty. Images: Sustainable Timber Tasmania

environmental outcomes, particularly the maintenance of investment certainty for internationally competitive forest-based industries.

In addition, the TFPA noted that the Tasmanian RFA process undertook a scientifically rigorous assessment of Tasmania's forests, through the Comprehensive Regional Assessment (CRA), leading to the establishment of a Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative (CAR) reserve system.

We agreed that the Tasmanian RFA is the right

mechanism to balance the competing economic, environmental and social demands on Tasmania's forests into the future.

The continuance of the existing RFA is vital to the forest industry, and the regional communities that depend upon it, by providing a level of certainty of resource supply.

The comprehensive and adaptive policy approach taken in the RFA has provided a stable and solid foundation for the protection of biodiversity in Tasmania for over two decades. This should continue.

However, the TFPA argued that future periodic reviews should focus not just on environmental outcomes inside the forest area managed for wood production but should assess the performance across all land tenures.

With nearly 60% of public forests in Tasmania now held in conservation reserves that form the CAR forest reserve system and excluded from wood production, it is important that these reserved areas are actively managed and regularly monitored to ensure the values for which they were reserved are being maintained.

The economic and social health of the forest industry and communities dependent on the industry are equally important.

The exiting RFA also aimed to provide the investment certainty needed for internationally competitive timber and forest-based industry.

Therefore, the TFPA argued that future RFA reviews should maintain equal weight to economic and social objectives, such as annual investment in upgrading existing and developing new processing capacity, forest industry employment, and the economic health of communities dependent on forest industries.

Another strength is that RFAs deliver a substantial reduction in red tape by recognising one regulatory system (at the State level) rather than requiring two levels of regulation (State plus Commonwealth), each delivering on the same objectives. This is critical for the efficiency of our forest practices on public and private land.

Interested forestry partners still have an opportunity to submit to the review. Only by showing a united front in our support of the current Tasmanian RFA can we fight the dissolution and watering down of the protection for our industry we have long battled for, and the current RFA affords us.

Submissions to the review can be emailed to RFAReview@stategrowth.tas.gov.au by 30 August 2024.

More carbon may equal more wood

One upside to high atmospheric carbon may be increased wood production for some trees.

BACK in June, researchers at the University of Western Sydney published an article in *Nature* finding that elevated carbon dioxide levels may inhibit tree growth in eucalypts, rather than improve it as expected. It was suggested this happened because the phosphorus the eucalypts required for growth was taken up faster by microbes in the soil that also responded positively to the increased CO₂. In a competition for that nutrient, the microbes won every time, leaving the eucalypts with limited nutrition (click here for a synopsis and link to the full article).

However, the Western Sydney weren't the only

scientists investigating the impacts of CO₂ on tree growth and a team from the University of Birmingham has just released a paper in *Nature Climate Change* finding that oak trees in Staffordshire, England, do accumulate more wood when there is more CO₂ in the atmosphere.

The team worked with a 180-year-old *Quercus robur* woodland and artificially increased CO₂ levels to concentrations expected in the 2050s. This was done using the BIFoR FACE facility at the Birmingham Institute of Forest Research. FACE stands for Free Air Carbon Dioxide Enrichment: circles of masts were inserted into the woodland using a

'keyhole surgery' approach (groundworks were carefully done by hand and then the towers lowered from a hovering helicopter) and connected to a network of pumped CO₂ from large nearby tanks that lifts levels the trees are exposed to above even our current 800,000-year record heights. The facility is now in its eighth growing season after being switched on in early 2017.

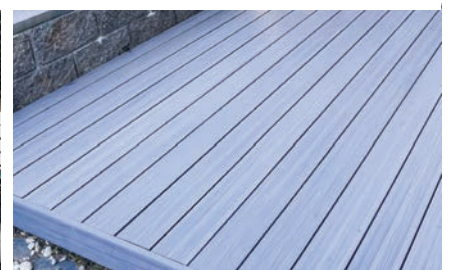
“STAFFORDSHIRE OAKS INCREASED THE PRODUCTION OF WOODY BIOMASS BY JUST OVER 10%”

The team, led by Professor Richard Norby of the University of Tennessee Knoxville and Honorary Professor, Birmingham Institute of Forest Research, University of Birmingham, included Rob MacKenzie, Professor of Atmospheric Science, University of Birmingham. They used tree-ring analysis (measured via increment cores) and canopy laser scanning, to show that Staffordshire oaks increased the production of woody biomass by just over 10% when exposed to free-air CO₂ enrichment (FACE) for 7 years and that elevated CO₂ increased exudation of carbon

Cont P 11



Premium Manufacturer and Distributor of High Quality Timber and Building Products



www.auswood.com.au
P 1800 888 986
E info@auswood.com.au

From P 10

from fine roots into the soil with likely effects on nutrient cycles.

Writing in *The Conversation*, Norby and MacKenzie posited that the difference between the two studies probably came down to soil types.

Australia's highly weathered soils are low-nutrient and although eucalypts essentially run on the smell of an oily rag, the increase in microbe growth was so significant that the limited quantities of phosphorus dipped below the levels that would allow the eucalypts to make use of the extra carbon that was being served to them.

England, on the other hand, has nutrient-rich soils, so the trees aren't out-competed and

can take advantage of the extra supply of carbon to build more wood.

They suggest that temperate deciduous broadleaf trees are likely to benefit most, whereas trees in phosphorus-limited environments such as Australia and much of the tropics are less likely to benefit. A study in Brazil is beginning later this year to replicate the experiment in the Amazon and

see how those trees respond.

As MacKenzie and Norby told *The Conversation*: "... woodier trees do not offer a silver bullet to solve climate change. While carbon is certainly better off in trees than in the atmosphere, where it causes global warming, it's not a long-term solution. Over decades or centuries, wood rots away and carbon dioxide is released back into the

atmosphere. So, as a store of carbon, trees are not remotely equivalent to it being locked away in coal seams and oil reservoirs deep underground."

In short, our best bet to beating atmospheric carbon is still to stop burning it in the first place.

Read the full paper by clicking [here](#), or the more accessible piece in *The Conversation* by clicking [here](#).



1/ **The rings of the BIFoR FACE facility create pockets where CO2 sits at estimated 2050 levels.** Image: Norbury Estate

2/ **Masts and towers were lowered into place from a helicopter to minimise disruption.** Image: Courtesy BIFoR

arxada

IS IT SAFE TO USE PRESERVATIVE - TREATED WOOD FOR MY RAISED GARDEN BED?

Yes!

TANALITH® E Copper Azole treated timber is safe to use around fruit and vegetables!



Tanalised, Tanalith, & Ecowood are registered trademarks of Arxada @ 2023

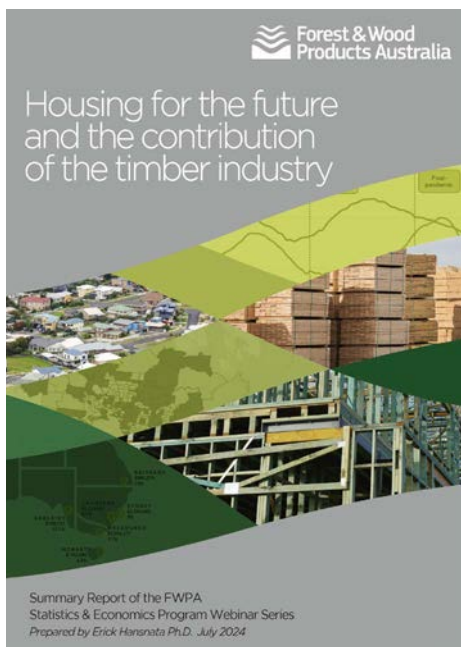
Defining timber's role in housing

The FWPA Statistics and Economics program is navigating the challenges in housing and how timber can deliver solutions.

PART of the solution to the housing challenges in Australia lies in accurate data and open discussion. In this case, that entails gathering data and insights from the multiple industries that work together to deliver housing into the Australian market then making that information accessible.

FWPA has recently made a significant contribution to this by hosting a series of webinars, out of which a new report was published: *Housing for the future and the contribution of the timber industry*. Rebalancing supply and demand requires coherent and strategic steps from all stakeholders. The webinars aimed to discuss these issues from the perspectives of the property market, demography, the timber industry and relevant associations.

"The concept of the webinar series was to facilitate meaningful conversations through insights and challenges around the future of housing and the vital role the wood products industry plays" said FWPA's Statistics



The new FWPA report *Housing for the future and the contribution of the timber industry* delivers vital data and insights into solving Australia's housing crisis.

and Economics Manager Erick Hansnata.

The first webinar, Australia's Future Housing Affordability, includes speakers Nerida Conisbee (chief economist at Ray White), Dr Liz Allen (demographer and senior lecturer at the ANU Centre for Social Research Methods) and Dr Tom Alves (head of development at AHURI).

They cover discussion on affordability – or lack thereof – and debunk myths about shifts in population while uncovering real issues, plus look at the needs around social housing and how to deliver on them.

The second, Timber

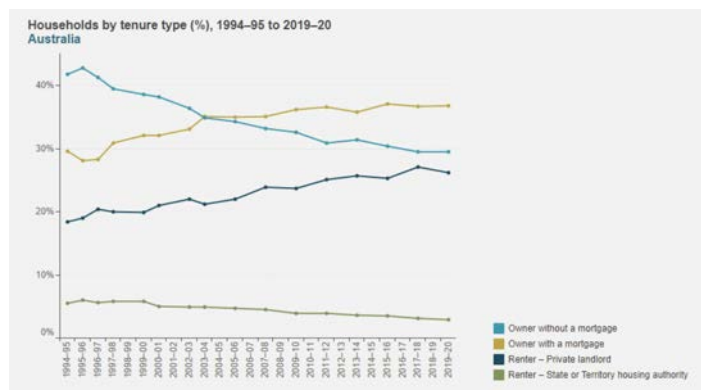


Figure 17 from the report shows the decline of outright home ownership in Australia and the rise of mortgagees and renters.

Supply Chain Challenges & Opportunities in the Future of Housing hears from Nathan Calder (QLD state sales manager, AKD Softwood), Karl-Heinz Weiss (WoodSolutions advisor and director Weiss Insights), Craig Kay (national product engineer, Tilling Timber) and Andrew Dunn (CEO, Timber Development Association).

These hands-on experts look at the inter-relationships between drivers in the timber market and housing sector, then break down how increased efficiencies across the chain – which are already being pursued with modern methods of construction and innovations in the frame and truss sectors – can significantly increase the quantity of housing stock supplied. Additionally, they look at ways new EWP products can increase that speed of delivery even further.

Finally, Bridging the Housing Issues and the Timber Industry:

A Policy Perspective sees Emeritus Professor Tony Dalton (Centre for Urban Research, RMIT), Simon Croft (chief executive of Industry policy, HIA), Richard Hyett (acting deputy CEO and director of policy, Australian Forest Products Association) investigate wide issues such as the changes in how we live in houses (with renter numbers soaring), the need for skilled worker reform and the promises of modular and prefabricated timber housing and specification to allow for faster building approvals.

The report is an invaluable addition to the webinars, both in providing an accessible summary of their findings and in being a ready educational resource for commercial, government and private partners.

To watch recordings of the three webinars, click here, and to download the report, click here.



An industry services company working to grow the forest and wood products market
Visit us at fwpa.com.au

Earlwood timber winner

A reimagined shed takes out a major gong at the 2024 Houses Awards.

Houses magazine is Australia's leading residential architecture and interiors publication, so their annual awards attract many entries and are subjected to rigorous judging. Which makes Breakspear Architects' win for New House over 200 square metres with their Shed House even more of an accomplishment.

Situated in suburban Earlwood, Shed House was designed for a couple running a furniture business and their three children. The ground floor plan is a open space that can be used as both a workshop for building, for relaxation, or for additional family needs, from housing guests to drying laundry during rainy periods. Living areas are on the upper floor arranged around a central garden, with deep connections to the leafy exteriors.

Taking its design guides from both the traditional suburban workshed and classic 1960s Sydney Beachcomber houses, the Breakspear design and builders worked within complying development controls to obtain fast-track development approval. This meant the palette of materials stayed minimal, as did external ornamentation.

The exterior is clad in Zinalume steel, but inside, timber sings. Walls of Blackbutt timber Armourpanel by Big River Group in clear oil

finish are warm and dramatic – and also tough for family living and quick to install.

The same plywood panel is used for the kitchen joinery and other details throughout

the build, not only delivering an economy when it comes to materials supply but also maintaining a consistent language of materials across both parts of the home.

Blackbutt is also used for the doors and then repeated in cladding for the internal courtyard, verandah decking and joists and pillars.

As the jury citation said: "Evocative of the Australian shed in a suburban context, Shed House achieves a lot with limited means. The jury applauded this readily customisable and replicable model for living and working."

It's not the first award Shed House has taken home since its completion last year, it also achieved the Award for Residential Architecture – Houses (New) at the 2024 NSW Architecture Awards, putting it in the running for the national gong.

The clients have said, "We love our Shed house. It has changed our lives. It's beautiful to live and work around the central courtyard, always being able see each other through the garden, being able to feel together yet separate."

Designers: Toby Breakspear, Alberto Quizon.

Built by A.M. Custom Builders. Structural Engineering by Cantilever.



- 1/ Building off the vernacular of the garden shed, this Earlwood residence combines work and living seamlessly.
- 2/ A green space at the centre of the building highlights its connections with the natural world.
- 3/ Timber repeats throughout the interiors and parts of the exterior cladding.

All images: Tom Ferguson/Breakspear Architects



Timber Construct 2024

Part two of our report on this year's conference where leading experts talked everything timber building.

By **CHRIS PARKER**

LAST week's report was so full, we only just made it out of the conference's first morning (Issue #816, [click here if you missed it](#)) The next panel undertook a review of 'Conquering low-rise challenges and future engineered wood solutions', chaired by Georgia Coutsodimitropoulos of NeXTimber.

This panel included Sam Green from DAS Studio, Jarvis Anderson from Innovis and Hannan Jamal from Sarah Constructions and placed under the microscope a substantial low rise mass timber building in South Australia. The panel reflected on the efforts made by engineering, design, suppliers, transportation and construction. The notable success of the project came down to several points: everyone was involved right from the planning stage; there was cooperation and collaboration with high levels of engagement; everyone knew their role and what had to be done; and the various teams were not overly cautious regarding their own IP.

The Sarah Construction team noted reduced lead times, excellent communication and a can-do attitude rarely experienced in large projects. Despite rain issues, the project achieved great outcomes and they would undertake a mass timber build again.

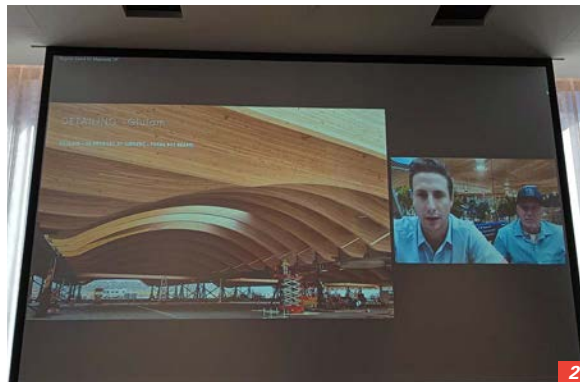
An online presentation followed: 'Innovative engineered wood solutions for the future' by Duncan Mayes from Lignutech in Finland. He opened with hard-hitting

facts: "The built environment and construction industry contribute 39% of global emissions, with 28% of this operational and 11% from embodied carbon emissions... Based on current global demand for new construction by 2050, if we continue to build at a rate of 90% with concrete and steel, 71GT of CO2 will be emitted."

This presentation emphasised the need to convert to bio-mass based construction material to reduce emissions and store carbon, then went on to ask the vital question: "Do we have sufficient biomass to make a serious impact?"

Global wood production is circa 4 billion cubic metres and wood products account for 32% of the larger diameter saw and peeling logs. Demand for roundwood was expected to increase by almost 50% by 2050. Clearly, we need more plantations and increased investment now. The only positive from current demand was a significant reduction in paper and related products that is providing some relief.

Day 1 ended with 'Exploring the cutting edge of timber construction across cultures', chaired by Phil Tondi of



1/ The exhibitors' hall at Timber Construct 2024 was also a place to find innovations and expertise in timber building.
2/ Jared Revay discussing the extended Portland international airport terminal. Images: Chris Parker

Lipan. Yuichi Shinohara of Shinohara Shoten gave an online presentation regarding their involvement in the largest timber roof span for the Tokyo Olympics. It reiterated the central importance of early involvement and collaboration between architects, design, suppliers and the builder, along with the Government representatives for the Olympics organising committee in this case.

Next, Xu Fang from American Softwoods' China office reflected on the use of timber in a timber pagoda build in China in 1056 to a height of 67.31m which still stands today. He showed how Chinese building standards began in the 11th century and worked

to keep pace with economic and urbanisation booms, now working on an international scale as part of China's positioning as a global timber powerhouse. Recent mass timber structures including a pedestrian bridge continue this evolution.

DAY 2

Rob du Toit of XLam opened the session on North American mass timber builds. Nick Milestone of Mercer Mass Timber presented online from his base in the US. He focused on European CLT and

glulam capacity, then spoke on a combination of steel and mass timber hybrids and how this combination overcomes a number of challenges in large high-rise developments, including less onerous approvals when a hybrid mix is adopted.

This was followed by Jared Revay, director of manufacturing at Timberlab, whose online appearance came less than an hour before the official opening of the extended Portland (PDX) international airport terminal, where he was also presenting. Portland is an exciting project with a mass timber roof required to span the nine-acre

Cont P 15

From P 14

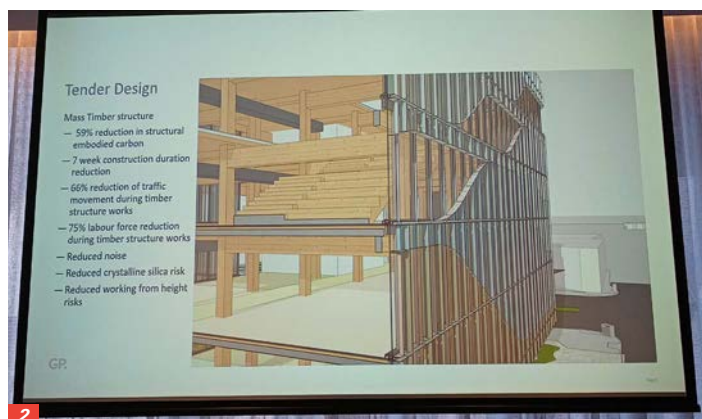
terminal. From design and engineering through detailing, sourcing, manufacturing and assembly this project represents an exceptional accomplishment.

Challenges included curved roof and skylight areas, the largest single and deepest span of glulam beams and a need for reinforced screws and rods, all of which required over 10,000 hours of mass timber detailing. Some noted inclusions were: 1684 glulam spans, 500,000 custom fabricated 3x6 timbers, 1200 rod diaphragm panels and 1.5 million fasteners.

Revy described an assembly process with almost no tolerances, like transporting the space shuttle at a slow walking pace from the nearby holding area to the airport after hours and carefully slotting one section of the roof at a time then locking it all into place. The result was equal parts stunningly beautiful and breathtakingly complex.

Perry Forsythe of UTS followed with a presentation on NCC Compliance for off-site manufactured buildings. Forsythe noted existing barriers in compliance and how current regulatory practices cause poor workflow, risk and increased cost and impact affordable housing. The NCC is currently working with industry to improve current regulations to better accommodate off-site construction and to further 'future-proof' reforms for new innovations, specifically to achieve approval of pathways that would offer increased speed, reduced risk and provide simplicity. It's hoped the project will deliver at the end of this year.

'Conquering timber's Achilles Heel: a moisture master odyssey' was chaired by Mario Savva of Savcon. Nick Hewson Director of Arboralis



1/ SMT's moisture detection and monitoring systems help manage issues before they cause problems.
 2/ The CIT Woden Campus accommodation and transport interchange project discussed issues that required resolving, and their successful solutions.
 3/ The Atlassian Sydney headquarters, a hybrid mass timber build near Central Station, was discussed in a construction update. Images: Chris Parker

spoke about managing moisture during construction and the importance of getting this right, including not leaving materials outside, unprotected. Jason Teetaert of SMT described SMT developments in the detection and monitoring of moisture in membranes, roof cavities and building floor systems. Their inbuilt systems can be installed at the time of construction to electronically detect moisture or direct leaks and the system comes with

automatic reporting.

Savva reflected on some poor building practices and how a number of perfectly installed roof membranes are later damaged by heavy construction wheels moving about on the roof without temporary flooring. His main rules were start out dry, keep it dry and allow it to dry.

Gareth Connell of Cabot's premium woodcare brands spoke next on the brand's

products available to protect, preserve and maintain timber during storage and construction, plus future maintenance.

He highlighted the importance of following the manufacturer's instructions regarding coverage and the number of coats and to be aware of pre-coated timber from overseas – you need to know what it is and what products it will work over it (oil, water or open) plus what it might react with. The then gave a wrap-up of Cabot's products that can help when people have not done any of the above.

Session 3, 'Conquering mid-to high-rise challenges' was chaired by Alastair Woodard of TPC/WPV. The first case study was the mid-rise Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) campus independent student living and transport interchange in Woden (due to open in 2025). There had been a few early setbacks in the project, but this update delivered congratulations to John Czechowski of Gray Puksand, George Andrianakos of Robert Bird Group and Nathan Benbow of ASH along with other key suppliers, as the team were working effectively and efficiently to resolve issues as they arose. Most of the early difficulties related to fire protection within the context of a mass timber structure and the timber stairs between floors, which were ultimately changed to steel.

The final structure still provided a 59% reduction in structural embodied carbon, reduced the timber construction time to just seven weeks, provided a 75% reduction in labour force requirements during this period and had a noticeable reduction in noise along with working from height risks. The

Cont P 17

NSW empowering women into construction

The NSW government is funding projects to increase women's participation in the construction industry.

A LACK of skilled labour is one of the major issues facing the construction sector. It's estimated there are 90,000 fewer tradies than required nationally, yet only 3% of tradies in construction are women and only 12% of the construction workforce overall.

The gender gap in other physically demanding fields isn't as big (even landscape gardeners – effectively construction with added mud – have 5% women), so action is being taken to redress the imbalance.

To date, the NSW Government's Women in Construction Industry Innovation Program (WIC



Carpentry Australia's Felicity Pettiford on site in November last year with two women apprentices from the Ninety-Three Building Group. The new program will help to expand mentoring. Image: Carpentry Australia

IIP) has awarded close to \$6 million in grant funding to increase the number of

women entering and staying in the industry by building more inclusive workplaces.

For National Skills Week, it has announced a program designed to assist 280 women through Carpentry Australia's 'CarpentHER Crew' program. CarpentHER Crew will help women secure and complete their apprenticeships and highlight pathways for further opportunities and development within the industry.

It champions women in the industry by prioritising upskilling, connecting them with industry networks and mentors, enabling leadership and business ownership opportunities as well as helping them gain qualifications.

Cont P 17

SPECIALTY DOORS



Australia's custom door specialists

Victoria: 03 9790 1911
4/533 Frankston Dandenong Road
Dandenong South 3175

Queensland: 07 2802 2772
5 Supply Court
Arundel 4214

www.specialtydoors.com.au

From P 16

Jake McArthur, CEO Carpentry Australia, said "At Carpentry Australia, our vision is to 'build a better Australia,' and this program perfectly aligns with our commitment to supporting every carpenter, regardless of gender, background, or experience. As we continue to advocate for our members, promote diversity and inclusion, and maintain the highest standards in the industry, this recognition is a testament to the hard work and dedication of everyone involved.

"I'm also pleased to announce that Carpentry Australia now has feet on the ground across Queensland, NSW, and Victoria. With our team expanding, we're more equipped than ever to support the needs of our community nationwide.

"Thank you to the NSW Government and all the partners involved for this

“ THIS PROGRAM PERFECTLY ALIGNS WITH OUR COMMITMENT TO SUPPORTING EVERY CARPENTER ”



The new CarpentHER program will help women secure apprenticeships and then thrive in construction. Image: Carpentry Australia

incredible opportunity. We're excited to continue working together to keep the hammer swinging for longer!"

Carpentry Australia has a solid history of promoting mentorship for women members, including site visits and actions towards safe workplaces that foster participation.

For the NSW government, the funding is a win-win. Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education Steve Whan said, "Women are heavily under-represented in the construction sector and an untapped resource for us to build our communities and infrastructure.

"The Women in Construction Industry Innovation Program projects are proposing creative and innovative ways to tackle the gender gap and I look forward to seeing the industry reap the rewards in coming years.

"By having these initiatives led by individual organisations, we are propagating a grassroots movement that encourages participation, retention and advancement of women by the industry, for the industry."

For the full list of WIC IIP grants, click here, for more on CarpentHER, click here.

From P 15

timber construction time was so fast, other parts could not keep pace and one potential consideration for future builds would be some form of pre-construction with delivery and installation on site.

Tim Allen of Taylor Thomson Whitting (TTW) provided a broad outline of the Atlassian Sydney headquarters, a high-rise hybrid mass timber structure being built next to Central Station. The primary structure has a concrete core with a steel exoskeleton and

every fourth floor is concrete, with the other three mass timber.

Andrew Dunn of TDA presented the final session, 'Your say on the next code change on fire resistant mass timber'. FWPA's Boris Iskra presented on the existing code and desired updates, saying the most critical review required now is an update to fire safety codes for exposed timber and to consider the significant developments following fire testing results in North America on mass timber.

This was expanded on

by George Konstandakos of Sumitomo Forestry Australia and Russell Kilmartin of Scientific Fire Services and finally Kevin Narango of US Forestry Services who provided results and subsequent changes to building codes and fire safety for mass timber in North America. It was also noted the US military was now building using timber and calculating its structural properties in a blast situation. Currently, Australia is many years behind. Andrew Dunn was hopeful significant changes could be adopted here by 2028.



Timber & Forestry enews an authoritative and rapid deliverer of news and special features to the timber and forest-based industries in Australia, New Zealand and internationally. *Enews* is delivered weekly, every Thursday, 48 weeks of the year. Advertising rates are competitive with other industry publications. *Timber & Forestry Enews* hits your target market – every week, every Thursday!

HEAD OFFICE

Timber Media Australasia Pty Ltd
PO Box 3001
Maraylya NSW 2765

PUBLISHER

Timber Media Australasia Pty Ltd

EDITORS

Nicky Ainley
Donyale Harrison
Jess Hockridge
editors@timberandforestryenews.com

ADVERTISING

Campbell McInnes // +61 (0) 406 223 007
campbellm@timberandforestryenews.com

ACCOUNTS

Chris Parker // +61 (0) 413 710 203
cparker@ttnews.com.au

SUBSCRIBE

www.timberandforestryenews.com



The information contained in this publication has been obtained from sources assumed to be reliable. However, the publishers disclaim all warranties as to the accuracy, completeness, reliability or adequacy of the information displayed. Opinions expressed in Timber & Forestry enews are not necessarily those of directors or the Timber & Forestry enews team. We do not accept responsibility for any damage resulting from inaccuracies in editorial or advertising. The publishers are therefore indemnified against all actions, suits, claims or damages resulting from content in this publication.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

EMPLOYMENT

LATEST JOBS:

• Business Development Manager

Click to apply

Click this link
to advertise
online...

ADVERTISING PACKAGES

PACKAGES:

Click this link
to learn about
advertising
packages...

PRODUCTS & SERVICES

BUY AND SELL -

New and Used
Machinery/Equipment

Click this link
to advertise
here & online...

ADVERTISING RATES

DISPLAY AD RATES

FULL PAGE: \$540
297mmH x 210 mmW

HALF PAGE: \$320
Vertical • 256mmH x 93mmW
Horizontal • 125mmH x 190mmW

THIRD PAGE: \$240
Horizontal • 73mmH x 190mmW

QUARTER PAGE: \$210
Vertical • 125mmH x 93mmW
Horizontal • 63mmH x 190mmW

BANNER ADVERTISING PACKAGES

• PREMIUM PACKAGE:

FRONT PAGE publication module, email and website modules

- Front page module • 68mmW x 45mmH
- Top email banner • 1200pxW x 145pxH
- Home page website banner • 1000pxW x 120pxH

• STANDARD PACKAGE:

PAGE 6 (or similar) module, email newsletter and website module

- Module • 93mmW x 63mmH
- Email module • 336pxW x 336pxH
- Website module • 720pxW x 744pxH

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

JOB / BUY & SELL ADS: ONLINE & IN PUBLICATION

720pxW x 744pxH

TERM DISCOUNTS

12 WEEKS: 7.5% 24 WEEKS: 10% 48 WEEKS: 15%

All pricing is excluding GST and based on a weekly booking. Overseas bookings are exempt from GST.

DEADLINES

Display ads: Book by 9.00am Tuesday prior to publication.

Supplied artwork: 12noon Tuesday prior to publication.

Supply hi-res jpg or pdf to our specifications. This is a digital publication, therefore **NO crop marks or bleed is required.**

Classified advertising: JOB ADS ARE COMPLETED ONLINE.

Go to www.timberandforestrynews.com/post-a-job/ to place a job vacancy. **Book by 12noon Tuesday prior to publication.** Job ads are for individual positions. If more than one position is to be advertised, separate ads will need to be created and advertised accordingly.

BUY & SELL ADS ARE COMPLETED ONLINE. Go to www.timberandforestrynews.com/product/buy-sell-advertisement/ to place an ad. **Book by 12noon Tuesday prior to publication.**

PAYMENT TERMS

New clients invoiced on booking. Existing clients 14 days. All other standard Terms & Conditions apply.

CONTACTS

Media releases and editorial:

Nicky Ainley // Donyale Harrison // Jessica Hockridge
e: editors@timberandforestrynews.com

Display ad bookings:

Campbell McInnes // e: campbellm@timberandforestrynews.com

Accounts:

Chris Parker // e: cparker@ttnews.com.au

Have some news to share?

Send media releases, news stories, events, any timber and forestry news related information with us anytime to Nicky, Donyale and Jess -

editors@timberandforestrynews.com

timber
& FORESTRY *e*NEWS

Contact Nicky,
Donyale or Jess today...