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Supporting essential timber supply key for Timber Queensland as election nears

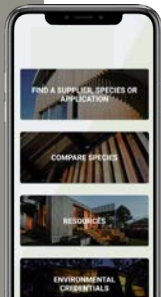
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One-year delay in implementation of EUDR welcomed by AFPA

THE Australian Forestry sector welcomes the European Union Commission's announcement of a one-year delay in the implementation of the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR).

The EUDR, designed to ensure that products sold in the EU are not linked to deforestation, was initially set to take effect on 30 December 2024. However, countries from around the world and Australian forest growers had raised concerns that neither EU countries nor international systems were prepared to meet the original deadline, putting compliant businesses at risk.

AFPA Chief Executive Officer Di Hallam praised the EU Commission's decision, highlighting the importance of this delay for Australian companies.

"We welcome the one-year extension, which will give Australian forest growers the time to begin using the tracing program without the risk of penalties, while the EU addresses technical issues," Ms Hallam said.

"The Australian forestry



The AFPA has welcomed the delay which will give Australian forest growers the time to begin using the tracing program without the risk of penalties
Image: Shutterstock

sector supports the EUDR's goal of addressing products linked to deforestation. However, the initial deadline was unrealistic. The systems required for compliance simply weren't ready, and this would have unfairly impacted Australian growers who were prepared to meet the requirements."

Ms Hallam also thanked key Australian Government ministers for their advocacy, which contributed to the extension.

"We're grateful to Australian Government Ministers, including Minister for Trade

and Tourism Senator Don Farrell, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Julie Collins MP, and Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations Senator Murray Watt, for their advocacy.

Their leadership helped ensure that Australian businesses will have the time needed to meet the new requirements," she said.

Australia's forestry sector operates under some of the strictest environmental and sustainability standards in the world, with forest management practices designed to ensure renewal




and long-term sustainability. Ms Hallam emphasised the need for further work to ensure the regulation's implementation does not create unnecessary trade barriers for responsible producers, producers from developing nations and small landholders.

AFPA represents forest growers, harvesters, and manufacturers of timber and paper products.

"It is crucial to understand that deforestation refers to the permanent removal of forest when the forest is cleared and the land used for another purpose. AFPA represents the sustainable forest producers who replace the trees that are harvested to meet the demand for fibre, regardless of whether they are sourced from plantation estates or our sustainably managed native forests.

"We look forward to working with both the EU and Australian governments over the next year to ensure a smooth transition and ultimately the delivery of a deforestation-free EU market," Ms Hallam concluded.

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Timber Queensland releases policy ahead of state election

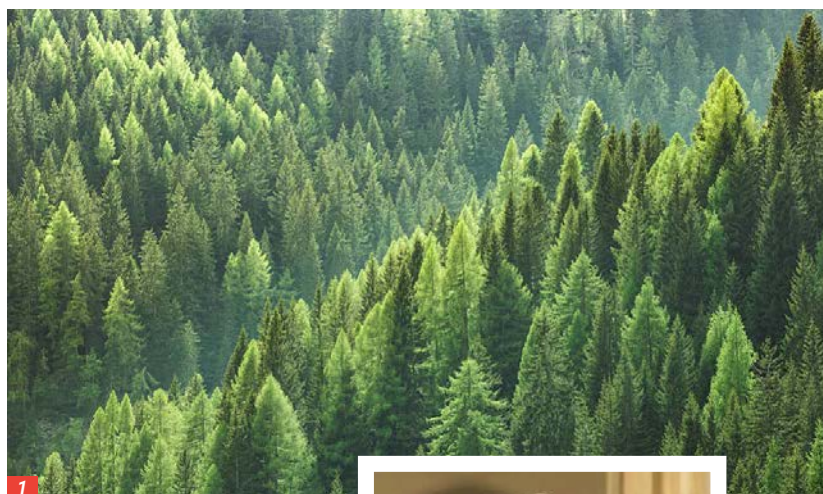
A FIVE-POINT plan has been released by the peak state body for the forest and timber industry in Queensland, its key policy recommendations in the lead-up to the state election to support essential timber supply chains to meet the state's growing housing and construction needs.

Timber Queensland CEO Mick Stephens said "Our local plantation softwood and native hardwood and cypress forest sectors already make a significant contribution to the supply of timber and engineered wood products for the state's building needs. However, Queensland's population is bursting at the seams and will need more timber to meet future housing and construction demand including for our homes, schools, hospitals, apartments and offices."

"The good news is that with the right policy settings and provision of resource security, the industry can invest in more forest resources and new plant and equipment together with skilled jobs to meet the rising demand for building materials such as timber."

"In addition, the industry is renewable and can help governments and the private sector to reduce their carbon footprint in the built environment through the use of wood products which have far lower emissions than other materials such as steel and concrete."

That is why the timber industry is advocating for a five-point plan that can address the investment needs of the industry and the role the Government can take in



1/ Timber Queensland supports and encourages the development and expansion of the forest and timber industries.

2/ Timber Queensland CEO Mick Stephens said the government can play a critical role in unlocking the industry's future. Photos: courtesy Timber Queensland

unlocking the potential for the industry to grow and provide essential timber-building materials.

"For too long the industry has simply been taken for granted and this election represents an opportunity to make a significant difference in putting the industry back in the forefront of strategic economic development," Mr Stephens said.

The five key themes of the plan are; resource security for the native hardwood sector; new investment drivers for plantations and farm forestry; wood processing innovation and supply chain efficiency; workforce development and training; and indigenous forestry opportunities.

"We urge all parties to recognise the multiple benefits from a strong local timber industry which has historically been the backbone of many regional communities and the



state's housing and public infrastructure development."

"We are passionate and committed to working with government, stakeholders and industry for sustained growth. We care about our industry, our people, our environment and our future."

The policy states the Queensland forest and timber industry makes a significant economic contribution to the State, supporting around 25,000 direct and indirect jobs, as well as contributing almost \$4 billion to the state economy. Many of these jobs are located in rural and regional areas across the State.

"Government policy can play a major role in promoting the opportunities to further grow the value of the industry and production of essential

timber materials to address future housing and building needs. This can be achieved by providing resource security to grow the available resource and facilitating investment to fully utilise this resource at an internationally competitive scale,"

it reads.

"The timber industry is renewable and is carbon friendly. Trees use the sun's energy to produce timber, rather than rely on fossil fuel inputs, and remove carbon emissions from the atmosphere in the same process. This makes timber a very environmentally friendly building material with very low carbon emissions.

"The state's diverse forests provide a unique range of species and products, sourced from high-quality plantation grown softwoods including southern pines and Australian Araucaria and from well-managed native hardwood and cypress forests."

It then goes on to expand on the growth and increased demand for timber and the need to protect and secure the future.

The full Timber Queensland election policy statement can be found by clicking here.

On the cover: The peak industry body in Queensland has released its five-point policy of recommendations ahead of the upcoming state election.
Image: Shutterstock

Remembering the late John Halkett

John Halkett, born Palmerston North, New Zealand, 19/10/1946, died Sydney, Australia, 10/10/2023

It was on this day, just a year ago that we lost a dear colleague and friend. John maybe gone but he has not been forgotten. Even a year on we still come across people who speak fondly of John and a set of his books sit with pride on the bookshelf here in the office.

John's industry reach was extensive. The number of people who travelled interstate to be at his funeral was a testament to his deep connections. The emotion expressed by so many at his sudden passing in the emails and statements we received and through the conversations we had was very moving.

People across our great



One of his last events was organising the Australian Timber Supply Summit in August 2023, where leaders from around the region came together to work out issues of supply security.
Image: supplied

industry who worked with, for, or knew John personally over many years, reflected; 'John was larger than life, had an

infectious warmth about him and enjoyed his work'. John loved his partner, daughter, grandchildren, siblings and the rest of his family. He was a true family man, who talked about them often and their importance in his life was obvious.

John was passionate about trees, renewables and his beloved magazines which provided a platform for industry members to speak the truth, cut through noise and promote their businesses and sustainable practices. John was a man of his word, and you could count on him and his unwavering support. He just didn't give up or stop and was working, doing the very things he loved, on the afternoon of the day he passed away.

John was generous and always put other people first. This was obvious in both his personal life and in business. From our years with John, working on several projects together and partnering with him in business, we

were completely astounded by his knowledge of industry people, their backgrounds, associations and where they had worked. John touched so many people and willingly shared his wealth of knowledge and gave support and assistance with completing Government applications, compliance, understanding

complex regulations, representing large groups of businesses and making representations to Federal and State Ministers. He was willing to help small and medium enterprises, without hesitation. While most people would be motivated primarily by financial consideration, John was genuine and always ready to help for the right reasons. His generous spirit was evident to all who knew him.

John, we all continue to miss you. You brought a sense of calm, polite gratitude and respect to this world, and to all who knew you, worked with you and relied on you, we are all richer for the experience.

The team at *Enews* and *Timber Trader News* continues to carry the torch and place a spotlight on the industry, and those who work so hard to maintain a sustainable approach to the work.

Rest in peace your legacy continues.

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Eight successful proponents secure project funding

AFPA has congratulated the eight research proponents who have been successful in obtaining \$5 million in funding through the inaugural Australian Forest and Wood Innovations (AFWI) National Open Call for research, Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA), Diana Hallam announced.

"The recent announcement of the initial eight research projects to receive AFWI funding is another important milestone in the delivery of the Albanese Government's \$100 million election commitment to support Australia's forest industries, Hallam said.

"News that the \$5 million in AFWI funding is unlocking a further \$8.3 million of matching investment from industry and research partners which will go a long way to support increased

research capabilities and ensure Australia's forest products sector is better able to meet the anticipated future demand for fibre.

"Projects given the green light by AFWI's Research Advisory Committee include the development of Future Lightweight Timber Framing solutions and Evaluation of Suitable Timber Species for Australian Sports Flooring Systems which will allow for Australian timber to be specified in sports floor designs and reduce the need for imported timber.

A number of projects will increase the Australian



Diana Hallam, CEO of AFPA, has welcomed the announcement of funding for the eight projects.
Photo: courtesy AFPA

forestry sector's ability to adapt and mitigate against climate change, including the projects – Enhancing Fire Resilience in Australian Plantations and Developing more productive plantation trees better adapted to

changing environments

"I congratulate the large number of AFPA members who have supported applications and will now partner with research institutions through the National Open Call to deliver projects including: Pentarch Forestry Group, Australian Sustainable Hardwoods, Sustainable Timber Tasmania, Reliance Forest Fibre, Forico, HQ Plantations, Hancock

Victorian Plantations, Australian Bluegum Plantations, Timberlands Pacific, Wespine Industries, Hyne Timber, AKD, SFM, Midway, African Mahogany Australia, WAPRES and Forestry Corporation NSW.

"I thank Minister Julie Collins for her continued support of this great Australian industry through this important initiative." Diana Hallam concluded.

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 -

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AFCA calls for submission support for industry action plan

THE Australian Forest Contractors Association (AFCA) is seeking member feedback on the NSW Government's Forestry Industry Action Plan. The Government says the plan will outline what forests and a sustainable forestry industry will look like over the next 30 years. An independent review panel has been established to consult stakeholders and has called for written submissions.

AFCA says while a number of submissions have been published so far, they feel they are pushing towards an anti-forestry position and in response are looking to collate and provide feedback from its members.

"We need to ensure there is a strong counter view provided in support of the industry," General Manager Tim Lester said in a statement shared with members.

While the AFCA will be submitting on behalf of all members, they are also encouraging individuals, businesses and supporters to make their own submissions.

Timber NSW has engaged three experienced writers and is making them available to the industry free of charge.



General Manager Tim Lester is encouraging others to make a submission to increase industry support in the policy review. Image: supplied

Those wishing to take advantage of this service please email Maree McCaskill on mccaskill@timbernsw.com.au or text on 0418 657 453.

The panel are seeking views on six topics (see below). Submissions do not have to address every topic.

Discussion points include:

1. Sustainability of current and future forestry operations in NSW
 - Drivers of business sustainability and performance
 - Current regulatory controls
 - Opportunities for improvement
2. Environmental and cultural values of forests, including threatened species and Aboriginal cultural heritage values

Cont P 7



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

MAY 30: 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

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.

From P 6

- Commitment to biodiversity protection and sustainable forest management
 - Controls for protection of threatened species and critical habitats
- 3. Demand for timber products, particularly as relates to NSW housing, construction, mining, transport and retail
 - Role in the supply chain for different forest products

- Utilisation of different parts of the tree to maximise value
- Opportunities to increase value capture
- 4. The future of softwood and hardwood plantations and the continuation of Private Native Forestry in helping meet timber supply needs
 - Role of different production systems
 - Private Native Forestry is not a substitute for managed public hardwood production forests

- 5. The role of State Forests in maximising the delivery of a range of environmental, economic and social outcomes and options for diverse management, including Aboriginal forest management models
 - Production forestry and biodiversity management are compatible and synergistic activities
 - Timber industries are critical employers in regional areas
 - The timber industry

provides high-quality, highly skilled, secure jobs

- 6. Opportunities to realise carbon and biodiversity benefits and support carbon and biodiversity markets, and mitigate and adapt to climate change risks, including the greenhouse gas emission impacts of different uses of forests and assessment of climate change risks to forests

Submissions close Sunday 13 October 2024.

Source: AFCA

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Housing approvals and lending heading in a positive direction

THERE'S some positive news for the housing market with the latest data showing market confidence in new home building has strengthened in recent months.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics has released its monthly building approvals data for August 2024 for detached houses and multi-units covering all states and territories.

"Detached house approvals rose by 0.6 per cent compared to July. House approvals in the three months to August 2024 were 11.2 per cent higher compared to the same time the previous year," HIA Chief Economist, Tim Reardon said.

"The steady increase in detached house approvals



New home approvals and loan approvals for new homes show a rise from previous periods indicating an increase in market confidence.

Image:Shutterstock

is offsetting a low volume of multi-unit approvals and total dwelling approvals in the three months to August 2024 were 5.0 per cent higher compared to same time in the previous year.

"Rising tax imposts on foreign investors and rising regulatory costs are compounding the challenges for apartment builders.

"It has been almost eleven

months since the last increase in the cash rate. Stable interest rate settings have provided the certainty needed to see a rise in home-building confidence.

"This is complemented by stabilising price growth for building materials, a return to normal build times, strong housing demand and low unemployment.

"Detached house approvals in Perth and Brisbane are faring much better than in Sydney and Melbourne. Confidence in the Melbourne new home market has been adversely impacted by two new taxes.

"The Australian Government cannot tax its way out of achieving the agreed national

Cont P 9

2024 CHINA SOFTWOOD SUPPLY AND DEMAND OUTLOOK REVIEW

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3. Some factors affecting China softwood demand
4. China softwood demand and import supply forecasts 2029 and 2034

In 2023 China imported 28 million cubic metres of softwood logs and 30 million cubic metres of softwood lumber (RWE).

What will imports be from each of 27 countries in 2029 and in 2034?

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From P 8

target of 1.2 million new homes.

“Recent discussions on negative gearing and capital gains tax arrangements for residential property will undermine confidence in new home building.

“The government’s focus should be on lowering the taxes, regulatory costs and excessive charges that make up as much as 50 per cent of the final cost of a house and land package,” concluded Mr Reardon.

Additionally, the HIA has confirmed the number of housing loans issued for the purchase and construction of a new home in the three months to August was 9.1 per cent higher than at the same time in the previous year.

The ABS has released the Lending Indicators data for the month of August 2024, which provides the latest statistics on

housing finance commitments.

“This increase in lending comes off a very low base, with lending for new home purchase and construction remaining about the lowest levels since 2002,” HIA Chief Economist, Tim Reardon said.

“Market confidence in new home building has been improving with a pause in interest rate changes for eleven months, low levels of unemployment and an acute shortage of housing.

“First home buyers are increasingly active as buying a home provides protection from the acute shortage of rental homes. The Government should be looking at removing the restrictions that prevent many first-time home buyers from getting a loan.

In its recent submission to the Senate inquiry into the financial regulatory framework and home ownership, HIA identified that a decade of

additional costs has restricted competition among banks and made it increasingly expensive for them to lend to first-home buyers.

“A decade of increased prudential restrictions has reduced competition among banks and added additional barriers to first home buyers gaining access to a loan.

“HIA has recommended that the Government should establish an RBA-style Board to oversee APRA to balance the goals of financial system stability and homeownership.

“Just as zero inflation is not the RBA’s goal, zero mortgage arrears is an unattainable and undesirable goal for APRA.

“Mortgage arrears in Australia have remained exceptionally close to zero, even though the GFC and the pandemic. Yet, APRA continues to impose additional constraints on lending, competition among banks and

thereby restricting the housing supply.

“The problem is that ongoing regulations have forced banks to eliminate much of the flexibility and competition in the mortgage market that made home ownership accessible for households with variable access to capital, such as first home buyers.

“Ensuring that homeownership remains an attainable goal for Australian households is an equally important objective that has not received adequate recognition among financial regulators.

“Banks should be making the decision on who is able to service a mortgage, not the Australian Government. Banks are well placed to make this assessment and are protected from delinquency through mortgage insurance,” concluded Mr Reardon.

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\$30 million investment in renewable power generation

ONEFORTYONE is proud to announce a significant investment of \$30 million in a renewable biomass power generation project at their Jubilee Sawmill, Mount Gambier, South Australia.

The project, which includes the installation of a new boiler and steam turbine, represents a total investment of approximately \$90 million. OneFortyOne said this initiative underscores our commitment to continuous investment, demonstrating our long-term dedication to the region, sustainability and innovation.



1/ Nigel Boyd, Clare Scriven, Minister for Primary Industries, Regional Development and Forestry, Peter Malinauskas MP, Premier of South Australia, Wendy Norris, CEO of OneFortyOne at the launch of the OneFortyOne investment of their co generation power project.
2/ SAFA CEO Nathan Paine, chatting with OneFortyOne Jubilee Sawmill GM Operations Nigel Boyd. All photos courtesy OneFortyOne



The Jubilee Sawmill started producing electricity in 1956, producing energy for Mount Gambier until the 1970s.

The new turbine will generate more than enough electricity to power the entire

Jubilee Sawmill site. The excess renewable electricity can be returned to the grid or used to enable future electrification of forklifts, trucks and other machinery.

It is expected to be

completed by 2026 and will provide the following benefits:

- This project will help them achieve over 70% of their Scope 1 and 2 emissions reduction target

Cont P 11

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Image: Shutterstock

From P 10

- Over 50% reduction in OneFortyOne's total combined Scope 1 and 2 emissions
- Over 85% reduction in OneFortyOne's total Scope 2 emissions
- Over 9,000 tCO₂e emissions avoided on 2021 levels
- Estimated total annual renewable electricity generated: 43,800 mWh

Wendy Norris, CEO said: "The Jubilee Sawmill has been part of OneFortyOne since 2018 and since that time we have proudly invested in the team and the site every year. The need to replace our current boiler, which is reaching its end of life, has presented us with a unique opportunity to rethink how we utilise steam and consume electricity at our site.

"This investment not only supports our decarbonisation goals but also positions us for future opportunities in renewable energy.

"By installing a steam turbine power generation system, we will be able to produce electricity from biomass, significantly repurposing wood fibre, preparing for our future energy needs."

Peter Malinauskas MP, Premier of South Australia, said: "This investment into one of South Australia's most significant industries is exciting for our State.

"This is a welcome announcement, which means longevity of technology, reduced carbon emissions and renewable energy going back into the grid."

"OneFortyOne's investment in renewable power generation at Jubilee Sawmill is a significant step towards reducing our carbon footprint and enhancing our energy efficiency. We are excited about the future possibilities this project will bring and remain committed to investing

in our business and valuing our fibre and emissions reduction."

OneFortyOne commits to reduce Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions by 75% from 2021 levels by 2030.

They aim to achieve net zero Scope 1, 2 and 3 greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. They will do this primarily by supporting emission reduction technologies in their operations, partnering with suppliers that are consciously taking steps to reduce their own greenhouse gas emissions, and using their forests and expertise to create incremental carbon removal in achieving their net zero goals.

ABOUT ONEFORTYONE

OneFortyOne is a forestry and sawmill business that operates throughout the Green Triangle region of Australia and the Nelson, Tasman and Marlborough regions of New Zealand (top of the South).

They manage over 160,000

(ha) of land including pine plantations and conservation areas. Throughout their plantations they plant over 4 million seedlings every year, renewably replacing the trees that they harvest.

The timber processed at the OneFortyOne Jubilee and Kaituna sawmills is turned into products that help people build and renovate their homes, construct their fences, and support the landscaping in their gardens and farms.

Their businesses are significant regional employers, The group employs more than 500 people directly and over 3,000 indirectly as contractors.

OneFortyOne is committed to the communities where its people live and strive to make a positive difference through their environmental actions and community involvement, including grants.

For more information about OneFortyOne visit www.onefortyone.com

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territories for our industry here in Enews. Our connection might be available to assist you with eligibility criteria, grant writing, application process and

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Made in Queensland Grants Program

APPLICATIONS for the latest round of the Made in Queensland grant program are now open.

The grant Helps small and medium-sized manufacturers to increase international competitiveness, productivity and innovation via the adoption of new technologies, and to generate high-skilled jobs for the future.

MIQ supports traditional manufacturers to adopt industry-leading equipment, technologies, systems and processes.

The objectives of MIQ are to support the Advanced Queensland Priorities and the Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water's Strategic Direction by:

- Increasing the productivity and international competitiveness of Queensland-based manufacturing SMEs
- Encouraging Queensland-based manufacturing SMEs to become Advanced



Is this a suitable image for this grant? I am not sure where you want to go with this as I do not know the details of the grant as it does not apply to me and I do not have time to research. Image: Shutterstock

Manufacturers by adopting industry-leading equipment, technologies, processes and systems

- Supporting traditional manufacturing jobs and creating the new high-skilled manufacturing jobs of the future.

Queensland-based manufacturers looking to adopt industry-leading equipment, technologies, systems and processes that include energy efficiency, export, reshoring, supply chain improvements, sustainability and/or advancement of decarbonisation and net zero outcomes were encouraged to apply for matched funding

grants of \$50,000 to \$2.5 million.

In Round 7, up to \$2.5 million (excluding GST) of available funding has been set aside for applications which do not involve the purchase of equipment and are seeking less than \$250,000 (excluding GST) each in funding.

To be eligible for an MIQ grant, an applicant must:

- Be a Queensland-based business whose principal activity and majority annual turnover is derived from manufacturing, as defined under Division C of the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Australian and New Zealand Standard

Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006

- Be registered for GST and hold an active Australian Business Number (ABN)

- Be an SME with between five and 200 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees. A minimum of 5 FTE employees must be located in Queensland.

GRANT DETAILS

Provider: QLD Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water

Amount: \$50,000 - \$2,500,000

Round 7 Closes: 24 Jan 2025

Location: QLD

Who Can Apply:

- Businesses

Co-Contribution Required: Yes

<https://www.rdmw.qld.gov.au/manufacturing/manufacturing-assistance-programs/made-in-queensland>

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Manheim Industrial Australia auctioning work-ready forestry and transport equipment

MANHEIM Industrial Australia has an array of Victorian and Western Australian forestry and transport equipment up for grabs across October, via a series of EOI and online-only auction campaigns.

The first auction facilitates expressions of interest (EOI) on more than 50-and-counting assets including skidders, feller bunchers, chip trailers, flails and disc chippers.

Equipment in the EOI auction is situated in Portland, Victoria and Albany, Western Australia. Registered bidders can place offers at any time during the campaign from September 23 to November 4.

Separately, more than 40 forestry service trucks, skid steer loaders, work utes and prime movers based in Portland are consigned to a timed auction between October 18 and 22.

Manheim Industrial has also locked in a further Albany transport asset auction and a Portland general goods and workshop auction, both to be held in late October/early November.

Inspections on equipment are by appointment and can be arranged by talking to business development manager Danny Amos on 0409 757 558.

View the Portland and Albany EOI auction catalogue here, and the Portland transport timed auction here. Keep returning to the catalogues as more equipment is consigned.

Manheim, part of Cox Automotive, operates wholesale auctions across all of Australia, selling passenger and commercial vehicles, heavy industrial equipment, and salvage assets.

Cox Automotive Australia is a subsidiary of Cox Automotive US, the world's largest automotive services and technology provider. Our local team of almost

600 people works with 25+ automotive OEMs, as well as an array of automotive dealers and with the private and public fleet sector.

Our brands in Australia include Manheim (passenger, industrial and salvage), Kelley Blue Book, Sell My Car, and digital retailing solutions including Radius, LeadDriver, SmartPublisher and Xtime.

For further information, please contact: Mike Costello – Corporate Affairs Manager. Mobile: +61 405 321 807; email: mike.costello@coxautoinc.com



Major forestry fleet and machinery transport equipment are up for grabs across October, via EOI and online-only auctions.

MAJOR FORESTRY FLEET MACHINERY & TRANSPORT

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST | ENDS: MONDAY 4 NOV AT 5PM AEDT



2017 Tigercat 623e Skidder
Portland, VIC



John Deere 848l Skidder
Portland, VIC



John Deere 903k Feller Buncher
Portland, VIC



2018 Tigercat 855d Feller Buncher
Portland, VIC



CBI Magnum Force DC754-C27
Disc Chipper – Portland, VIC



2015 CBI 604 Magnum
Debarber Flail – Portland, VIC



CBI 604 MAG Excavator Log Loader
Portland, VIC



2018 Barker HD Triaxle Tip Through
Chip Trailer – Portland, VIC



2015 Maxitrans ST3 Tip Through
Chip Trailer – Portland, VIC

MAJOR FORESTRY FLEET MACHINERY & TRANSPORT

ONLINE BIDNOW AUCTION

STARTS: FRI 18 OCT AT 10AM AEDT | ENDS: TUE 22 OCT AT 7PM AEDT



2010 Caterpillar 232B2 Skid Steer Loader
Portland, VIC



2019 Isuzu FSR 850 Service/fuel Truck
Portland, VIC



2017 Iveco Stralis 560E5 Prime Mover
Portland, VIC

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW CATALOGUES](#)



Contact: Danny Amos **M:** 0409 747 558
E: danny.amos@coxautoinc.com

Please check the catalogues for closing times. A buyers premium will be added to the purchase price of each lot sold. Sale is GST inclusive.

'Be prepared' firies gearing up for potentially dangerous bushfire season

THE official bushfire season has now commenced in parts of the country as firefighters gear up for another potentially dangerous season. Early warm temperatures and strong winds have been a cause for concern for crews in some states with heavy undergrowth a risk following a wet winter.

In NSW the Rural Fire Service (RFS) has held its annual 'get ready weekend' encouraging residents to dedicate this weekend to preparing themselves and their homes for the upcoming bushfire season.

More than 300 Rural Fire Brigades hosted events across the state which included firefighting equipment displays, information stands and workshops at various community venues such as shopping centres, local parks and fire stations.

Minister for Emergency Services Jihad Dib said with a return to hot and dry conditions anticipated this summer, now was the perfect time for residents to prepare for the heightened risk of bush and grass fires.

"We can't be complacent.



Fire crews battled severe blazes in Canada and parts of Europe in their summer sparking renewed concerns of a dangerous season ahead for Australia. Image: Shutterstock

After several years of rainfall and flooding the vegetation has grown quickly and that is now drying out with the warmer weather, adding to fire risk," Minister Dib said.

"Recent research shows that 70 per cent of residents living in bushfire-prone areas have some sort of plan for fire emergencies, but alarmingly, less than half have undertaken any preparatory work on their properties.

"Volunteer firefighters will be on hand this weekend to discuss simple and cost-effective measures to reduce bush fire risk, such as clearing out gutters, trimming overhanging branches, and completing a Bush Fire Survival Plan."

Commissioner of the RFS Rob Rogers said volunteers were already hard at work

across the state, having responded to more than 1,100 bush and grass fires since the beginning of July.

"While our firefighters are doing everything they can by conducting hazard reduction burns when weather conditions allow, preparation is a shared responsibility," Commissioner Rogers said.

"Our crews do a great job in very challenging situations but we can't have a fire truck at every home, so property owners must also take proactive steps to safeguard their homes and communities.

"Have a plan - know when you should leave, what to take and where you can go to. And

“THE TIME TO PREPARE IS NOW

look out for your family, friends and neighbours – make sure they, too, are ready and have a plan.

"The time to prepare is now, not when a fire is at your doorstep. That's often too late and could cost the life of a loved one or loss of property."

Once again it comes as the Northern Hemisphere starts to see the end of another bushfire season. While not

on the level of devastation seen in 2023, Canadian experts say this year's summer was still far above normal by several measures – with some experts saying what transpired holds clues for what's to come as the climate changes.

Similarly while not on the same level of damage as 2023, parts of Europe continued to see extreme bushfires this last summer, including those which devastated parts of Turkey including areas of Gallipoli.

While hazard reduction is underway in many parts of the country, Australian fire officials are reminding all that if the hotter, drier weather intensifies as summer approaches, the country may face a dangerous season.



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Florida timber industry braces for tropical storms

THE Florida timber industry remains nervous as the threat of further hurricanes raises alarms and threatens industry interrupting damage.

Less than two weeks after Hurricane Helene devastated multiple south-eastern U.S. states, the southern American state has returned to the firing line this week with Hurricane Milton causing widespread destruction.

For those in the lumber industry in the Sunshine State, it's something that is permanently in the back of their minds with many hoping the devastation is not widespread and industry-impacting.

John Alter and his wife Elizabeth who manage more than 1,000 acres in Malone, Florida, including 18 Tree Farm stands, know first hand what this feels like after experiencing the full force of Hurricane Michael in 2018. The Alters were honoured as Florida's Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year in 2015 however their properties and crops were wiped when the hurricane roared through Florida, Alabama and Georgia on October 10.

As the anniversary of the event comes at the same time as the state remains back under threat John Alter reflects that it was "a true disaster."

"My immediate focus was on determining what to do with what was left of my timber," Alter said after



Hurricane Michael caused widespread devastation to the timber industry as further hurricanes throw shade over the industry's future. Image: Georgia Forestry Commission Facebook page

the event.

The monetary estimate of timber damage in Florida alone from that event was well over \$1 billion with the hurricane also causing extensive damage in Georgia and Alabama.

Research shows that damage from individual storms and other forest threats, such as insects, fire, and disease, can create widespread wealth redistribution among timber landowners. The entire supply chain is impacted – from landowners to loggers to the mills and beyond. Southern Research Station Forest Economics and Policy researchers Thomas Holmes and Jeff Prestemon's studies show that growers with damaged stands lose wealth.

"Prices fall during the salvage period due to the spike in volume and quality degradation," said Holmes. "Plus, not all damaged timber can be salvaged."

Timber growers with damaged stands and timber consumers – mills – tend to lose out, he explained, however, timber producers with undamaged stands benefit because wood is still needed, and prices can rise to make up for the lack of

high-quality wood available after salvage operations.

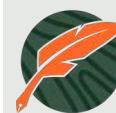
In the past, US state governments have taken steps to assist timber managers with salvage operations. Some examples include relaxing weight limits on roads; allowing logging trucks to

carry heavier loads; permitting larger than normal log storage volumes at mills; and assisting private landowners and nongovernmental organizations with salvage planning.

"It would have taken 2.4 million logging trucks to remove all of the dead trees that we have in Florida as a result of this hurricane," said Florida Forest Service State Forester/Director Jim Karels in 2018.

According to the Florida Forestry Association, the industry employs more than 124,000 Floridians and infuses \$25 billion into the state's economy.

Recent hurricanes like Michael and Idalia have caused tremendous hardship to timber producers, who lost not only their trees but in some cases also their processing plants. Matched with ongoing closures it poses the question of what's the future for the timber industry? Planting new trees won't help older farmers since they typically take about 25 years before they are of marketable size although they could help sustain the next generation of farmers if their families hold onto their land.



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