

NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF FORESTRY

CODE OF ETHICS

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NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF FORESTRY

CODE OF ETHICS

In your role as a forestry professional, you shall:

1. Have regard for sustainability in the practice of your profession.

Practice your profession according to sound ecological, social, economic and environmental principles to the advantage of present and future generations.

2. Treat others with respect.

Treat everyone fairly and with courtesy, politeness and respect; do not harass, bully or knowingly act with malice towards individuals or groups of people; consider cultural sensitivities and foster diversity; be open and transparent in your professional activities, making information and advice as plain and intelligible as possible.

3. Promote safe practices.

Act in such a way to avoid harm to people involved in or affected by your activities; safeguard the health, safety, wellbeing, rights and interests of people involved in or affected by your activities

4. Always provide a high standard of service.

Practice your profession with diligence and care, bringing your expertise and experience to bear upon your work.

Know and act within your limitations. Be aware of the limits of your competence and do not be tempted to work beyond these without adequate supervision and oversight. Only commit to what you can deliver. Be objective at all times. Give clear and appropriate advice.

Maintain your professional competence in areas relevant to your work. Keep yourself informed of changes affecting the profession and broader developments relevant to your work and ensure your knowledge, skills and techniques are up to date. Apply your knowledge for the benefit of society.

5. Disclose and manage conflicts of interest.

Identify and disclose, in writing, any actual or potential conflict of interest and where others might perceive a conflict of interest. Do not act in a manner where such conflict or potential conflict has been identified or should have been identified unless all interested parties have been made aware of the situation and have consented, in writing, to you continuing with the task.

6. Maintain confidentiality.

Do not use or disclose confidential information obtained in the course of your professional activities without the express and informed consent of those entitled to control that information unless required to do so by law.

7. Take responsibility

Take full responsibility and be accountable for all your actions.

Have the courage to make a stand and be prepared to act if you suspect a risk to safety or malpractice of any sort.

8. Promote trust in the profession.

Set a good example and remember your actions could affect your own reputation and that of the Institute and other Members.

Demonstrate and encourage ethical behaviour and high professional standards amongst colleagues.

Report breaches of the Code of Ethics if you have reasonable grounds to believe a breach of the Code of Ethics by another Member.

Comply with legal requirements, relevant professional standards, the rules and regulations of the Institute, and base decision making on sound evidence.

9. Respect the principles of and any obligations arising from the Treaty of Waitangi.

The Treaty of Waitangi creates a unique and valuable relationship between Māori and those who live in New Zealand as Tangata Tiriti (treaty people). Members should have particular regard for the legitimate interests of Māori communities likely to be affected by their work.