

Press Release:

NZ Institute of Forestry Welcomes Government's New Climate Strategy

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For Immediate Release

The New Zealand Institute of Forestry (NZIF) welcomes the Government's new climate strategy, released yesterday, and looks forward to seeing more detail within the second emissions reduction plan. This strategy aligns with NZIF's commitment to sustainable forestry and highlights the critical role all our forests play in achieving New Zealand's climate goals.

Key Pillars of the Strategy:

1. Resilient Infrastructure and Prepared Communities:

The strategy emphasises building resilient infrastructure and ensuring communities are well-prepared for climate impacts. New native forests and professionally managed plantation forests can contribute significantly to this by creating green buffers and stabilising landscapes.

2. Credible Markets for Climate Transition:

Pricing emissions fairly, letting the market be a market and providing clarity is a positive step. Sustainable forestry practices are crucial in providing NZU's and other ecosystem services, fostering a robust market and removing carbon from our atmosphere.

3. Abundant and Affordable Clean Energy:

The focus on clean energy must include promoting bioenergy from forest residues, contributing to a diversified and sustainable energy mix. NZ's plantation forests are well placed to provide the resource required produce bioenergy at scale.

4. World-Leading Climate Innovation:

The strategy aims to boost the economy through climate innovation. NZIF supports research and development particularly in sustainable forestry practices and innovative technologies to enhance carbon sequestration.

5. Nature-Based Solutions:

Utilising nature-based solutions to address climate change is at the heart of the strategy. Forests are essential in this regard, offering carbon sequestration, enhanced biodiversity, and ecosystem services.

The Government's response is focused on transitioning New Zealand to a low-emissions economy in a cost-effective way using effective and efficient policies while taking advantage of our unique landscape to remove greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. NZIF believes this holistic approach

is crucial and our forests and forestry will be instrumental in leveraging New Zealand's unique natural advantages.

President of NZIF, James Treadwell, stated, "The Government's new climate strategy outline is a good start. We are particularly encouraged by the emphasis on nature-based solutions and sustainable markets. Forestry is poised to play a pivotal role in these efforts, and NZIF is committed to supporting and advancing these initiatives."

NZIF looks forward to collaborating with the Government, industry stakeholders, and communities to implement this strategy effectively. By working together, New Zealand can lead the way in climate action and sustainable forestry.

About NZIF:

The New Zealand Institute of Forestry (NZIF) is a professional association dedicated to promoting and supporting forestry and forests of all types in New Zealand. NZIF represents the interests of forestry professionals, provides a platform for knowledge sharing and professional development, and advocates for sustainable forest management practices.

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