

IN THIS ISSUE

**	President's comment	Go	–	Something for everyone this week
**	Member's forum	Go	–	Is the CPD requirement always necessary for consultants? Undervaluing the benefits of trees; Response to Alan Barnes
	NZIF business	Go	–	From the Registrar: Registration application; 2013 Conference – mark your diaries
	NZIF Foundation	Go		Foundation Establishment Appeal
	Submissions	Go	–	
**	Local sections	Go	–	CNI Section; Otago-Southland Section
	Pacific Forestry SIG	Go	–	
	Student's section	Go	–	
	People news	Go	–	
	Advertisements	Go	–	Forestry-related jobs; FAO Forest vacancies; Lincoln graduate seeks work
**	Publications/media/notices	Go	–	Available free to a good home – 36 years of CJFR; <i>Country Calendar</i> this week (28 July) – Girl in the Bush; Kiwis protected in the pines; IPCC Climate Change Mitigation Assessment – Expert Review of First-Order Draft; Third International Congress on Planted Forests; NZ Wood Timber Design Awards; NZ Ecological Society – Annual Conference 2012
**	Calendar	Go	–	Ongoing events
	Contacts	Go	–	
	Disclaimer	Go	–	

(** means new material in this section and new items are marked with a moss green heading)



PRESIDENT'S COMMENT

Andrew McEwen FNZIF
President, NZ Institute of Forestry
president@nzif.org.nz

Something for everyone this week

Good to see a flow of Member comments. They have been a bit thin on the ground lately, so let's hope the contributions this week stir some others to contribute next week.

Two local sections (CNI and Otago/Southland) have got meetings coming up.

Check out *Country Calendar* on TV1 at 7:00 pm on Saturday night. The programme features Stormy Merritt who was awarded Modern Apprentice of the Year (Forestry) in the FITEC National Training Awards last year.

Meanwhile, in the Coromandel, Ernslaw One has started a partnership with the Project Kiwi Trust to monitor and protect brown kiwi living in its radiata pine plantations.

[Back to Contents](#)

MEMBER'S FORUM

(Please keep Guest Comment and Member's Forum contributions to around 300 words. Send contributions as an email attachment (Word document) to newsletter@nzif.org.nz.)

Is the CPD requirement always necessary for consultants?

Wink Sutton FNZIF, Rotorua

Because advances in technology/unforeseen consequences etc can and do arise I have always been opposed to rules that are prescriptive (e.g. the minimum stockings permitted in plantations, planting must be done in June/July or August, a minimum number of contracts per year etc). I am concerned at the recent non-renewal of a forestry consultant because he/she failed to complete the required specified hours of CPD (Continuing Professional Development – a minimum of 10 hours in the last year, 60 hours in the last three years or 100 hours in the last five years). For a general forestry consultant who is young and inexperienced this requirement is probably reasonable, but seems inappropriate for someone retired after long involvement in forestry research or the forest industry.

This is particularly demanding (and may be impossible to comply with) if there are few opportunities for the consultant to advance his/her specialist expertise. He/she may be the most qualified in their field. Is there any professional benefit for a specialist in, say, establishment or tending attending a conference/field day etc primarily about logging, earthquakes or similar completely unrelated activity? If the CPD requirement is to remain, exceptions should be possible for those who are in demand because of their specialist knowledge and for which there is no way that attending CPD could increase their expertise.

Undervaluing the benefits of trees

Alan Barnes, MNZIF, Rotorua

There seems to be great difficulty in distinguishing between “ownership” and “existence” in valuing forest benefits. The panel in the UK seems to have difficulty with this one too. Put simply, a transfer of ownership does not of itself reduce “the benefits that woodlands provide for people, nature and the economy” and does not reduce “public benefit”. Given that a rational private owner will manage sustainably, the forests will continue to “create jobs, sustain skills and livelihoods, improve the health of wellbeing of people and provide better and more connected places for nature” (I have no idea what “connected places for nature” are).

Ownership change does not (generally) result in the forest being obliterated. If by some presently unknown technical process a private owner could ship the forest offshore, even there the benefits would remain on the planet. The value equation for the Crown should be:

a) *Initial sale, capital value*

BENEFITS	Value of sale	\$100 million
	Reduced annual cost \$3.3 million (assuming its 15% of the annual cost)	
	Capitalised savings at 6% $100/6 * 3.3$ (interest rate is controversial)	<u>\$198 million</u>
TOTAL		\$298 million

COSTS: there are no direct costs – all the forest benefits remain in place for the populace.

b) *Spending benefits*

The Crown could now improve its forests in respect of “create jobs ... etc” by spending some of the money raised on improving the remaining estate or expanding it. This probably is a net social benefit, but let's assume it is break-even.

This analysis leaves aside the questions of which of the Crown or private ownership is the more efficient in

delivering all those juicy forest benefits and the general economic spin-offs to other sectors. My guess (and the NZ privatisation experience seems to show this) is that it is again neutral. Yes there may be short-term pain and disruption, particularly to the labour force and from a different way of doing things, but there are corresponding benefits from a more focused management (less “political interference” according to the good Bishop).

I agree with Shireen Chambers in her general urging for society to “rethink how we value our woodlands, what they can deliver to society ...”, but I would also urge that we do it with good numbers and avoid the sort of steamy and irrational methods that blight public benefit analysis.

Response to Alan Barnes

Shireen Chambers, FICFor Executive Director, Institute of Chartered Foresters and Member of the Independent Panel on Forestry for England

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment on Alan Barnes’ letter regarding the recent report on the future of forestry in England. Alan is quite right to say that the transfer of ownership does not in itself reduce the benefits of the woodland but management, use and public feeling about woodlands in England are very different to that in NZ.

This is mainly due to our overcrowded island, particularly England, and the resulting opportunity for access that most people have. England has 395 people per km² (compared to 16/km² in NZ) and this population density coupled with a lack of right of access to private property means that people in England value their state-owned woodlands for very different reasons than that of timber production. State-owned forests in England comprise only 18% of all woodland yet provide over 40% of accessible woodland. And, of course, we have very little to start with – 10% of land area, much lower than the European average of 37%.

Alan assumes that a ‘rational private owner’ will manage their woodlands sustainably, but the fact is that over 50% of England’s woodlands are not managed at all, which means that no income is received from timber and the woodland as a habitat is declining with loss of key bird, butterfly and plant species. In addition, new pests and diseases are arriving on a regular basis into the UK threatening our woodlands, and the likelihood of detection is greatly reduced in unmanaged woodlands.

Of course the Independent Panel recognises the benefits that are provided to society in well-managed private woodlands, which is why we wish to see incentives provided to encourage this. With only 20% of our timber needs met by UK production there is a big opportunity for the private sector to deliver more and to drive a revival of a woodland culture in England.

A considerable amount of economic research went into our report (found on the government website [here](#)), including increasing evidence to show that the non-market values of ecosystem services from woodlands significantly exceed market values (for example, from timber) but go largely unrewarded at present. This, of course, makes it very difficult for private owners to benefit financially from the ecosystem services that their woodlands could provide and little incentive to manage for these services. Until this changes the government will demand these services from state-owned forests.

Our report *does* encourage the sale of state-owned woodlands that do not best meet all public benefits and to use the funds to buy new woodlands as Alan suggests. This is being carried out successfully in Scotland by the Forestry Commission there. But the level of outrage and passion at which the English people responded to the government’s proposal to sell their woodlands took many by surprise and it will be a brave forest manager who proposes any sale in the next few years.

[Back to Contents](#)

NZIF BUSINESS

From the Registrar

Registration application

An application to rejoin the Institute and reinstate his registration has been received from:

- Mr **Angus Malcolm** of Nelson.

Any member of the Institute has the right to object to an application. Any objection should be made by lodging a notice with the Registrar within 20 working days of the first appearance of the notice in this Newsletter (6 July 2012), specifying the grounds of the objection.

2013 Conference – mark your diaries

The 2013 NZIF AGM and Conference is scheduled to be held in New Plymouth from Sunday 30 June to Wednesday 3 July 2013. Make a decision to attend and block out the dates in your diary now.

[Back to Contents](#)



Foundation Establishment Appeal

The Foundation Establishment Appeal has so far raised over \$102,000, with pledges of a several thousand dollars more. The immediate target is at least \$200,000 if annual income is to be able to deliver the level of awards made this year.

To make a donation (eligible for tax credits) contact foundation@nzif.org.nz.

[Back to Contents](#)

SUBMISSIONS

Murray Parrish (murray.parrish@chh.com) is Submissions Coordinator. NZIF Members or local sections considering making submissions (even on what appear to be local issues) should advise him of their plans. Council can assist with the cost of making submissions (contact Murray for details).

[Back to Contents](#)

LOCAL SECTIONS

CNI SECTION

Joint NZIF/APPITA Technical Meeting and FFR Science Awards

Date: Tuesday 14 August 2012
Venue: Kingsgate Hotel, Fenton Street, Rotorua

The programme is as follows:

- 6:30 pm Registration and cash bar
- 7:30 pm Smorgasbord dinner
- 8:30 pm “NZ’s Forest Products Industry – First Steps Toward a High Value Future”, Jon Ryder, CE, CHH Pulp, Paper & Packaging
- 9:00 pm “Implementing the BOP Forest & Wood Processing Strategy – Current Developments”, John Galbraith, Forest Industry Consultant
- 9:20 pm FFR Science Awards to Industry and Research Recipients, Russell Dale, CEO, Future Forest Research presented by the Hon Nathan Guy, Associate Minister of Primary Industries
- 9:40 pm “Stability of the ETS for the Forest Industry” and “Review of Commitment to the Woodco Strategy”, the Hon Nathan Guy
- 10:10 pm Conclusion of evening.

The cost is members: \$35 and non-members: \$45. The following payment options are available: cash; cheques paid to “Appita NZ Section”; credit cards (Visa, Mastercard and Amex but note that Amex payments incur a 3% surcharge; direct credit to APPITA NZ Section Account, National Bank 060413 0178800 00; pre-arranged invoice).

The organisers are David Herries, Interpine Forestry Ltd; david.herries@interpine.co.nz; and Dexter Morgan, Morgan Consulting Ltd; morgand@xtra.co.nz. Please register no later than Friday 10 August 2012 by contacting Karen Clark, Appita, appita.nz@xtra.co.nz. People who register for technical meetings, but fail to attend on the night will be charged. Please advise Karen before the day of the meeting if you can no longer attend.

Local member assistance needed

We’d like to have any names of people who would like to help with our local section. Karina Bohle has retired as local secretary, and this space is available immediately. I would also be willing to move aside for some new enthusiasm to push regular meetings along. The management of the local section has been significantly simplified by the national body recently with the focus of the chairman and secretary positions concentrating only on arranging local member events, with all administration tasks now managed by the national office.

Event suggestions

Increase your professional development by suggesting topics and speakers for workshops in our local region. We welcome all feedback.

David Herries, CNI Local Section Chair, 021 435 623, Office (07) 345 7573 ext 721.

OTAGO-SOUTHLAND SECTION

Otago-Southland Forest Products Industry Meeting

- Date:** Wednesday 29 August 2012
Venue: Rosebank Lodge, Balclutha
When: 5:30 pm – drinks and/or pre-dinner presentation, 6:30 pm – dinner, 7:15 pm – after-dinner presentation

The **Southern Wood Council (SWC)**, in conjunction with the local branch of the **NZIF** and the **mid-Otago Branch of the NZ Farm Forestry Association** has planned an evening's networking – along with good food and some excellent company. It is designed for all those involved in or associated with forestry in the lower South Island and it runs in Balclutha on the evening of Wednesday 29 August.



Pre-dinner meeting: At 5:30 pm Simon Trotter, a student from the University of Canterbury, will present his results from a just completed Forest Monitoring Survey of Corporate and Small Growers in Otago-Southland. He will report on the relative costs of forest management for corporate and small growers in the region and from this work the profitability from modelling of forestry for small growers. Early arrivals can either join others in the bar for pre-dinner drinks or grab a drink and head through to this meeting.

After-dinner presentation: Recently nine New Zealander's made a trip to Austria to check out the very latest developments in forest engineering and steep slope harvesting. The group attended a European forest engineering conference attended by foresters from some 37 countries. A highlight of the trip was a field day with 50 live in-forest demonstrations of cable technologies, ground-based harvesting and chipping equipment. The group of Kiwi's also visited a number of harvesting operations in southern Austria and a large sawmill complex. Amongst the group was Guy Bonner, Forest Production Manager from City Forests. He will give a run-down through a slide show of what they saw – related to the industry anyway – on their trip and lessons learned for local forestry companies and harvesting operations.

So what do you need to do? Email: kerry.apthorp@innovatek.co.nz. Note: registrations need to be received *before* Monday 27 August. The cost for the evening is \$40 plus gst = \$46 per person.

[Back to Contents](#)

PACIFIC FORESTRY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

[Back to Contents](#)

STUDENT'S SECTION

[Back to Contents](#)

PEOPLE NEWS

[Back to Contents](#)

ADVERTISEMENTS

The NZIF has no view on the service or product sought or advertised. Follow up any item directly with the advertiser, not with the NZIF. A charge may be imposed, depending on the nature of the advertisement. If you respond to an advertiser, tell them that you saw it in the NZIF Newsletter. To advertise in the Newsletter contact the NZIF Administrator, admin@nzif.org.nz, ph (04) 974 8421.

JOB VACANCY WEBSITES

Science jobs	fusionz.rsnz.org/
MAF	careers.haines.co.nz/MAF/Pages/Vacancies.aspx
NZ conservation jobs	www.conjobs.co.nz/index.php
Department of Conservation	www.doc.govt.nz/about-doc/jobs-at-doc/current-vacancies/
Australian Government	jobsearch.gov.au/Login/Login.aspx?WHCode=0
Australia Department of Agriculture Fisheries & Forestry	www.daff.gov.au/about/jobs

FAO Forestry vacancies

Chief Technical Advisor (Integrated Land Use Assessment)
FLEGT Forestry Officer, Asia
FLEGT Forestry Officer, Latin America
Forestry Officer (Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade – FLEGT)
Forestry Officer (Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade – FLEGT)
Forestry Officer (REDD+)
System Development Officer (Web – GIS)

More details at <http://www.fao.org/employment/current-vacancies/project/en/>

Lincoln graduate seeks work

I am an ex-student of the Lincoln University who graduated with a Post Graduate Diploma in Applied Science (Seed Science and Technology) in 2006 and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Management in 2004 from the Papua New Guinea University of Technology. I am seeking employment within the field of seed science and technology, Department of Forestry in the field of nursery and plantation establishment and Department of Environment and Conservation in the field of in-situ and ex-situ conservation of tree plant species. I would also be interested in working in the general forestry, environment and conservation areas. Thanks. *Alex Agiwa* (aagiwa@bul.pngfa.gov.pg)

[Back to Contents](#)

PUBLICATIONS / MEDIA / NOTICES

COUNTRY CALENDAR THIS WEEK – GIRL IN THE BUSH

Saturday 28 July at 7:00 pm on TV One

Teenager Stormy Merritt had big reservations when her father offered her a job on a logging site inland from Gisborne – living in the bush with a group of guys an hour from the nearest café or bar didn't appeal. But there are few employment opportunities in her home area of Eastern Bay of Plenty, even if you've done well at school and you're vivacious, good-looking and willing to give anything a go. Her dad Turoa runs two logging gangs and has a big milling contract in the Mangatu Forest about 40 km from Gisborne. She agreed to help out on-site with health and safety bookwork. That was three years ago and now, at 21, Stormy Merritt is a highly skilled bush worker and the first woman to win NZ's top forestry apprenticeship award.

She says her fellow workers accepted her as “one of the boys” right from the start and there was no preferential treatment for being the boss's daughter – in fact she reckons her father was tougher on her than anyone else. She quickly graduated from paperwork to driving heavy machinery, including the massive hauler that lifts felled logs to the site where the gang processes them. It's a job that takes skill and concentration – from the cab high above the skid site the operator controls the flow of timber and supervises worker safety.

Stormy drives the hauler with youthful nonchalance but says she'd prefer to be down on the ground with the rest of the gang. She's also confident being in charge of the waratah, a machine that trims branches and most of the bark off felled logs and then cuts them into lengths. It's a job that requires care and precision because the waratah operator has to make cuts that will get the greatest amount of quality timber from each log.

But despite her ease with big machines Stormy's no tom-boy. She likes getting her hair done, paints her nails, plays netball on the weekends, and enjoys going out with her friends. She says she's lucky to have her parents backing her chosen career and to have other relatives in the industry – her grandmother works in the family business and her younger brother is also in forestry.

AVAILABLE FREE TO A GOOD HOME – 36 YEARS OF CJFR

I have a print collection of the *Canadian Journal of Forest Research* spanning the period 1974 (Vol. 4) to 2009 (Vol. 39) inclusive. I reluctantly cancelled my personal subscription in 2010, as the cost and postage had become prohibitive, and because as a Canadian citizen I have free online access to the journal. The collection is available **free** to any institution or person who wishes to take the whole thing – shipping is at your cost! Except for my personal notations, all volumes are in excellent condition. When I checked today, the collection was complete, save for two issues from 2002 that will likely turn up in my office. They are heavy – must be something over 50 kg – and span about 3.5 m of bookshelf space.

While preference will be given to educational and other institutions where the journal can be shared by more than a single person, all proposals will be considered at this point as we hope to find a good home sooner rather than later. *Dr Tim Mullin*, BioSylve Forest Science NZ Limited, 45 Korokoro Road, Lower Hutt 5012. Ph (04) 589 7676 or email tim.mullin@biosylve.com.

KIWIS PROTECTED IN THE PINES

A major forest owner has started a partnership with a conservation group, the Project Kiwi Trust, to monitor and protect Coromandel brown kiwi living in a large radiata pine plantation near Whitianga. Many native species – including birds, bats, reptiles and insects – live in planted exotic forests. Forest owners certified by the Forest Stewardship Council actively protect these species by controlling possums, stoats and other

predators.

“When we became aware that kiwi were living and migrating through our plantation, we were faced with the responsibility of looking after them while operating a working forest,” says Steve Couper of Ernslaw One, the owner of Whangapoua Forest. In 2007, with advice from environmental consultant, Dr John McLennan, Ernslaw created a safe haven within the forest for kiwi and other native species where predators would be intensively controlled. For the last five years this control work has been carried out by a local contractor.

“But while we know we have been successfully controlling predators, we still know very little about the kiwi themselves. Is their population growing? How, if at all, are they affected by forest operations?” Mr Couper asks. “Hence the decision to put kiwi monitoring into the hands of the Project Kiwi Trust and to appoint the Trust’s contractors to carry out the predator control work after a well-subscribed tender process.” The Trust was the country’s first community-led kiwi conservation project.

Established on the Kuaotunu Peninsula, near Whangapoua, the Trust pioneered predator control strategies, captive-rearing strategies including Operation Nest Egg, kiwi tracking and predator-proof fencing. Its experience is now being applied by numerous community wildlife protection initiatives around the country. Project Kiwi Trust Chairman Fraser Lampen says, “the Trust is thrilled to be appointed as the manager of the biodiversity enhancement programme in the Whangapoua forest. This new relationship with Ernslaw One helps ensure the long-term financial sustainability of our work, allowing us to achieve our primary goal of protecting and enhancing the Coromandel kiwi population.”

The new pest control contractors are Jono and Paula Williams who will work with Project Kiwi to manage the area. Dr John McLennan, the original designer of the pest and predator control programme, is a trustee of Project Kiwi. His expertise and that of other Trust professionals will be used to build understanding of the behaviour of kiwi within the forest. This information will help Ernslaw One and the Trust to mitigate negative effects, if any, that forest operations have on kiwi that inhabit the forest. Already the Trust is helping Ernslaw to locate and protect birds that are nesting in areas scheduled for harvest.

“The Trust recently carried out a kiwi call count survey in the predator control area. This provides a baseline to measure the success of Ernslaw One’s investment in pest and predator control in enhancing kiwi abundance over time,” Mr Couper says. Whangapoua Forest covers 10,500 ha and includes 175 km of riparian (streamside) strips of native bush and more than 2,000 ha in wildlife refuges and corridors. About 7,500 ha are in radiata pine production forest that is in a constant 30-year cycle of planting, growth and harvest.

Plantation forests can provide valuable habitat for some threatened and endangered species and contribute to the conservation of biodiversity in a landscape that is dominated by pastoral agriculture. As well as providing habitat in their own right, plantations play particularly important roles in buffering native forest remnants and in enhancing connectivity between areas of native ecosystems, including patches of primary forests, riparian strips, and amenity planting. The 1,430 ha area safe haven within Ernslaw One’s Whangapoua Forest includes mature pines that are being progressively harvested as well as significant areas of native bush, mainly in strips alongside waterways. These form wildlife corridors and refuges within the block.

The “safe haven” where predators are intensively controlled in Whangapoua Forest encompasses all of Otanguru catchment and the eastern side of the Owera catchment. It is bordered by forest roads on three sides and State Highway 25 on the northern boundary. The largest single area of native bush in the block is in the headwaters of Otanguru Stream.

The predator control programme comprises 800 kill traps and 370 bait stations – 750 of the killtraps are single set (Fenn) traps placed under wooden tunnels to exclude non-target animals. These traps are designed to catch mustelids (stoats, weasels and ferrets) and rats (ship rats and Norway rats). The remaining 50 traps are conibear traps set in chimney boxes that specifically target feral cats. Possum control is also carried out in conjunction with the predator trapping programme.

For more information contact Steve Couper, Southern North Island Regional Manager, Ernslaw One Limited, (06) 322 1558 or 0274 954 802, or Fraser Lampen, Chairman, Project Kiwi Trust, 021 382 900.

IPCC CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION ASSESSMENT – EXPERT REVIEW OF FIRST-ORDER DRAFT

The first-order draft of the Working Group III volume of the IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report is undergoing global expert review from 20 July to 14 September 2012.

The Working Group III report contains 16 chapters related to mitigation of climate change. These chapters fall under the following four broad headings:

- Introduction
- Framing Issues
- Pathways for Mitigating Climate Change
- Assessment of Policies, Institutions and Finance.

Interested experts are invited to submit review comments on this first-order draft. This will assist the author teams to identify and correct any errors and to make sure that the report is comprehensive and balanced in its treatment of available published scientific information and uncertainties.

Interested experts are invited to register at: www.ipcc-wg3.de/ar5review/registration/. Once registered, they will be sent details on how to access the draft and submit review comments.

Please note that the assessment is still in draft form and has not been accepted or approved by the Panel. The WGIII First Order Draft is provided for the sole purpose of review; thus reviewers must preserve confidentiality of the chapters at all times and should not distribute them. The chapter authors will produce a revised draft following the review period, taking into account the full range of comments they receive. This Second Order Draft will then undergo a further round of Government and Expert review.

THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON PLANTED FORESTS

This Congress ('Renewable Resources for the Future') is to be held on 16 -21 May 2013. The Plenary Meeting will be held in Estoril (Portugal) preceded by scientific workshops in Bordeaux (France), Dublin (Ireland), Porto (Portugal), Bilbao (Spain) and Edinburgh (UK). See http://www.efiatlantic.efi.int/portal/events/2013_icpf

The world's population continues to expand and more pressure than ever before is being placed on the forest resources. Planted forests, although only 7% of the world's forest resources, have superseded naturally regenerating forests as the principal source of industrial wood products. Demand towards the forest sector is expected to increase in the next decades not only for traditional sector but also for bio-energy, biochemical and by-products.

Lessening the pressure for wood production, tree planting has released natural forests to be managed for other purposes – carbon sinks, soil and water protection, conservation of biological diversity, recreation and amenity. Representing a complement, but not an alternative, to natural forests, planted forests have become increasingly important for reducing worldwide deforestation, loss of forest ecosystems and forest degradation.

Two international conferences on planted forests have been held previously in Chile in 1999 and New Zealand in 2003. Both highlighted the need to promote the multiple dimensions of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) in view of the social and environmental challenges of the 21st century. Since then, new research, global assessments of planted forest resources and outlook studies for wood from planted forests, best practice guidelines and many interesting cases of country applications from around the world have documented and further emphasised the global significance of planted forests.

In parallel, international processes and financing mechanisms have increasingly recognised the central role of planted forests for mitigating climate changes, conserving biodiversity and combating land degradation. In contrast to these positive developments, negative social and environmental impacts of planted forests have given rise to concern.

It is therefore timely to investigate the contribution of planted forests to sustainable development in the context of global changes and to organize a Third International Congress on Planted Forests. Central topics include the sustainability of planted forests in the context of changing climates and the future role of planted forests in environmental protection and REDD+. The aim is to address issues surrounding planted forests today, their productive, environmental and social functions and the challenges they present. The target audience includes forest scientists, policy-makers, the private forestry sector and forest managers.

NZ WOOD TIMBER DESIGN AWARDS

Differentiation and competitive edge a driver behind huge surge in entries

“NZ’s only Timber Design Awards achieved a massive jump in entries this year, reflecting the desire of professionals to differentiate themselves and their practices from the rest,” says NZ Wood CEO Jane Arnott. “Winning an NZ Wood Resene Timber Design Award provides a competitive edge that is compelling in a marketplace that values expertise. The awards cater to such expertise, and they help draw a line in the sand between mediocrity and brilliance. In these tough economic times, what better way to do this than to put your work forward to be judged alongside your peers,” says Ms Arnott.

2012 attracted 93 entries across the nine categories – more than three times the number in 2011 and a record in the more than 30-year history of the Timber Design Awards. Of these, 38 have been selected for second stage judging which requires the entrant to provide greater detail. Not every architect, architectural designer or engineer has the ability or inclination to create practical, safe, cost-effective yet dramatic homes and commercial premises in wood.

Wood as a construction material offers a level of versatility and texture that can be inherently challenging to today’s designers. Understanding the beneficial properties of wood (including its resilience in earthquakes, its acoustics, structural strength and sustainability) can be the domain of a new breed of professionals. Deciding to use indigenous timber to create dramatic and warmly special and often carved impacts is another unique consideration that only comes with wood.

“Highly skilled practitioners relish using wood because it can develop their own professional skills and meet their client’s wishes – we commend them and will promote the winners strongly once they are announced in October,” said Ms Arnott.

Finalists are expected to submit their second stage entry by Friday 7 September 2012, and winners will be announced at an awards ceremony on Tuesday 9 October 2012 at MOTAT Aviation Hall in Auckland. Minister of Building and Construction, the Hon Maurice Williamson, will be officiating. Details of the finalists, their projects, and tickets for the awards evening can be found at <http://www.nzwood.co.nz/timber-design-awards-2012/>. For more information contact Jane Arnott, CEO NZ Wood, 021 807 002, Jane.arnott@nzwood.co.nz

NZ ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY – ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2012

The conference is to be held on Sunday 25 November (student-only day) to Thursday 29 November (field trip day) at Lincoln University. The Organising Committee is now calling for papers for the 2012 NZES conference. The theme is: ‘Is New Zealand Ecology on Solid Foundations? You are invited to submit an abstract to present a spoken paper or poster around the following symposia topics:

- Restoration Ecology

- Microbial Ecology
- Plant Functional Traits
- Drylands Research
- Next Generation Sequencing
- Wildlife Management and Conservation
- Community-led Projects
- Data Archiving.

There will also be general sessions in the conference for papers that do not readily fit into these symposia. The deadline for submission of abstracts is 14 September 2012. Earlybird registration closes on 30 September 2012. Further instructions and an abstract template can be downloaded from the conference website page <http://www.nzes.org.nz/events/conference-2012>. Please contact the conference organiser James Ross (james.ross@lincoln.ac.nz) if you have problems submitting your abstract.

[Back to Contents](#)

CALENDAR

The events in this calendar have come from a range of sources and no responsibility can be taken for errors. Contact the organisers to check times, locations, costs etc. New events are marked in moss green.

July 2012

Sat 28 Check out *Country Calendar* this week (7:30 pm on TV One)

August 2012

Tue 14 CNI Section, Joint NZIF/APPITA Technical Meeting and FFR Science Awards (plus dinner)

Wed 22 – Carbon Forestry, Auckland, [website here](#). NZIF members receive a special 10% discount off the advertised conference registration rates.

Thur 23

Wed 29 Aug Otago-Southland Forest Products Industry Meeting, kerry.apthorp@innovatek.co.nz

October 2012

Tue 9 NZ Wood Timber Design Awards, <http://www.nzwood.co.nz/timber-design-awards-2012/>

Fri 19 – Sun 21 Ex-New Zealand Forest Service workers – Westland get together, keenanr@kinect.co.nz

November 2012

Sun 25 NZ Ecological Society Annual Conference, <http://www.nzes.org.nz/events/conference-2012>

May 2013

Thur 16 – Third International Congress on Planted Forests,
Tue 21 http://www.efiatlantic.efi.int/portal/events/2013_icpf

June-July 2013

Sun 30 June – NZIF AGM and Conference, New Plymouth
Wed 3 July

[Back to Contents](#)

NZIF CONTACTS

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[Back to Contents](#)

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[Back to Contents](#)