

# NZIF WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

25 AUGUST 2014

Number 2014/31

## NZIF introduces

### Murray Parrish NZIF Councillor



Murray received his MSc (Hons) in Zoology from Auckland University, specialising in the neural control of cardiac function in fishes.

He spent 5 years with the 'Environmental Coordinator's' office of the DSIR, providing scientific and technical advice to the Minister of Science on topical environmental issues including RMA reform, mining, forestry, Antarctic environmental protection and climate change.

23 years with CHH lead to a range of Australasian environmental management roles for the forestry, wood products and pulp, paper and packaging divisions. Murray contributed to the ERMA-lead review of CCA-treated wood which re-registered it for use as a safe and efficacious product. He was elected company representative on the Boards of PacNZ and the

Paper Forum, with an interest in maintaining, enhancing and promoting the readily recyclable attribute of paper and paper packaging.

Primary interests are

(i) External advocacy by the Institute, on a scientifically and technically robust basis and (ii) the equitable effects-based regulation of forestry relative to other land uses. As NZIF Councillor, appointed by the Minister for Primary Industries to represent NZ in an Australian-convened workshop on that country's legislation banning illegally harvested wood product imports.

Murray has been an NZIF member since 2004, a Councillor since 2006 and was elected a Fellow in 2012.

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## Notice from the Administrators



We have some lapel pins still for sale. They are \$11 including postage, please email your order and delivery address to [Jay](mailto:Jay)

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## PRESIDENT COMMENT

I have received a large amount of feedback in regards to the Presidential columns (some of which have been reproduced in members voice). Some members suggest I may not be reflecting the views of the membership and other members are supportive. I welcome all feedback as it is important members have a say, and I am not misrepresenting them. Further I take feedback as an indication the column is read and thought about!

I try to reflect what I think are the common views of the membership, however I do not for a moment suggest the comments in the President's column are anything more than my views. Based on the feedback. It seems the last few columns are not too far out of line. I am appreciative of all feedback as a way of judging where I might have things wrong, but please have the courage and the courtesy to offer reasoned criticisms. Rest assured I read all feedback and will reflect on what they are saying.

Having checked with a cross section of the membership I remain convinced many members share my frustration at the differences in approach taken by regulators to forestry compared to farming. It is not hard to find evidence of tolerant attitude taken by regulators and the Government towards agriculture. Whether similarly tolerant approach should be taken to forestry, or whether agriculture should be made to improve is a matter of opinion.

It is interesting to observe, the strength of public opinion on the management of New Zealand waterways in recent polling by The Herald is at 80% in support of improved management. However the views of the Institute have always referenced and reflected credible scientifically based sources such as the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment and the recent fully independent scientific study funded by Dr Gareth Morgan.

The National Government has told us they do not see the need for a national forest policy. This could be read as they do not value the environmental services arising from forestry, or they consider forest investors have an obligation to provide these services as a subsidy to agriculture and the tax payer. The Government has the power to take whatever approach they like to forestry. The current response by investors to the signals promoted by this Government is to invest in agriculture.

The decline in NZ forest area suggests the Government's policy is working as intended.

**James Treadwell** *RMNZIF*



## Notice from the Councillors

We still have a few copies remaining of the NZIF Forestry Handbook and CD. This is now free to all paid up members of the institute. We simply ask you to pay postage of \$6.50 (a correction to last week). To all non-members a new price of \$99.00 (including GST) including postage. Please note that rural deliveries incur an extra \$2.80 charge.

Email [Jay](mailto:Jay) to order your copy.



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## MEMBER'S VOICE

I can only agree with Owen Springford that we have a Government that is just not interested in forestry, and will not be persuaded by any environmental arguments. But foreign earnings may be something they understand. I wonder if they realise what a nice little earner forestry is for the country.

Below is a simple comparison of export earnings per hectare for a few land uses, taken from Statistics NZ (average for 2008-12)

Product Category	Area Farmed/Forested (hectares)	Export earnings (fob)	Earnings/ha
Meat (incl venison)	5.37 million*	\$5.127b	\$955
Meat and wool		\$5.8-5.9b	\$1100
Forestry	1.8 million	\$3.859b	\$2144
Dairy	2.11 million	\$10.737b	\$5089

*\*I have not included the unimproved tussock and danthonia land, (2.5 million ha.) used for grazing.*

Probably most foresters will be aware of this situation, which is not new, M. Grainger produced similar figures back in the 1960s. And the figures above are still weighted somewhat against forestry, since, as noted, they do not include the undeveloped high country, do not include the beef production from dairy land, do not include any production from plantation grazing, (a significant factor for some of us), and our 1.8 million ha. of forestry is below sustainable harvest. But I would be very surprised if any Cabinet Minister was aware that forestry has twice the earning power of sheep and beef farming. In fact I doubt that many New Zealanders of any description are aware of this.

Denis Hocking  
[abridged]

From the latest Institute of Foresters Australia (IFA) Newsletter

### Who was Doug Brodie?

As part of the IFA 80 year celebrations, members John Dargavel and Geoff Dean are working on a compilation of over 200 biographies of foresters for release next year. As the work progresses they are finding some gaps in the records so we have offered to use the Newsletter to find members who may be able to provide missing information.

The first unanswered question is *Who was Doug Brodie?* They have uncovered a very short obituary of Doug Brodie in the ANU student magazine Forestry Log in 1970. Doug died on 14 February 1970. Although the obit talks about his student life, it says nothing about his background or where he worked subsequently.

Further to this, an obituary of Gregory James Crawford in Australian Forestry, who died in Tasmania in 1986 at the age of 26 years, mentions that he held the Doug Brodie Memorial Award.

[Geoff](#) and [John](#) would be most grateful for any information about Doug Brodie or the award given in his name.

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## MEMBER'S VOICE

The recent content about primary sector “inequality” is a significant and on-going issue but I think the approach the Institute is taking is a bit too raw. I know that the newsletter is for Members but I am sure it gets passed on to MPs, Government officials as well as other forestry professionals. My concern is that this important discourse comes across cutting and too politically targeted. Without knowing the Institute’s strategy, my view is NZ’s forestry professional body should take a more constructive and professional approach where we engage directly and build up relationships. This is not about going soft on hard issues that we feel aggrieved over. It is more about how the “squeaky wheel” goes about getting the oil (our strategy), rather than stopping the squeak (going soft). It is unfortunate that in the past taking a constructive approach has had mixed results, so maybe my view point is a bit naïve. The ETS billboards at Wellington Airport did get things moving along when a different method was taken! However, I know I am much more receptive to a measured and well-reasoned argument than if I am put down especially in front of others. The latter is either “water off a duck’s back” or annoying. I typically harden on my viewpoint which may go against what is the best outcome.

The NZIF Council may have a communications policy and a broader strategy to address important Member concerns. The Institute represents forestry as a whole and is in a unique position to engage on many issues. I know the Council has put lots of focus on this recently and I see this as a tangible benefit of my membership. I appreciate the hard work taken on the broad number of submissions the Institute has made on Members behalf.

Our voice is important. We represent the voice of NZ forestry. We should be listened to. We are one of NZ’s largest industries that generates wealth for our country. I do not think we are well understood. It is unfortunate that there are 10 elections cycles in the life of a pine tree.

Brett Gilmore  
[abridged]

## ANNOUNCEMENT

NZIAHS Canterbury Forum



Wednesday 22nd October 2014 9am - 3pm  
Stewart 1, Lincoln University, Canterbury  
*Enduring Agricultural Solutions For  
Improving Water Quality*  
New Zealand Institute of Agricultural &  
Horticultural Science Inc, Canterbury  
Section

Topics schedules for presentation include

- Challenges in land use intensification
- Why Environment Canterbury is imposing nitrogen caps
- Implementing the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan
- Challenges in using Overseer for water quality management in a regulatory environment
- Having your cake and eating it too: balancing different land uses and their impacts
- Farming in Canterbury in a nitrogen capped system
- National overview of land and water issues
- Water issues in arable farming systems
- Managing land-water interfaces to enhance instream and downstream values

All enquiries and registrations to [Jenny Taylor](#), Secretariat NZIAHS

Registration form can be found [here](#)

## PRESS RELEASE

### Forest owners: the safety battle is not yet won

Point scoring in the media will not make our forests safer places to work, says the Forest Owners Association.

"The unions are claiming credit for a sudden reduction in the fatality and serious accident rate and Worksafe NZ is slamming us for a lack of safety leadership. These comments are unbalanced and unhelpful," says association president Paul Nicholls.

"Political posturing and blaming others won't save workers lives. To transform the industry's safety culture, participants will need to acknowledge their past shortcomings and to share experiences and knowledge. They are less likely to be open to this if they are being publicly pilloried."

He says this year's lower accident rate is great news, but points out that it is the long-term trend that counts – accident rates fluctuate from year to year. He also claims the Forest Owners Association (FOA) has been associated with every major safety initiative in the industry in the last 20 years.

Mr Nicholls says improved safety requires the commitment of the owner of the forest, the employer, the employee, ACC and MBIE/Worksafe.

For the full press release, click [here](#)

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## Grammar note

Thank you to everyone who emailed in with suggestions, we have now (we hope!) fixed the problem and apostrophes are back in full force. Credit to Diane Davidson for the easiest solution.

## FROM THE REGISTRAR

Application to become a Registered Member has been received from

- Mr P Auge of Rotorua

Any member of the Institute has the right to object to an application or review. Any objection should be made by lodging a notice with the Registrar within 20 working days of the first appearance (11 August) of the notice in this Newsletter, specifying the grounds of the objection.

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## LinkedIn

LinkedIn is a great place to advertise industry jobs as well as becoming a critical avenue for maintaining one's industry experience. Update your CV on LinkedIn and on our membership database.

Join the NZIF group to connect with industry professionals and keep up to date with employment opportunities.

Reach the entire membership of NZIF by advertising in this newsletter too!

[www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)

## ADVERTISING



### Harvesting Manager

#### Job Description

We are seeking a highly motivated individual to manage our harvesting operations in the Taranaki – Wanganui area. You must have a high level of integrity, good communication skills, ability to proactively manage and lead workplace health and safety, and enjoy challenging the norm to get our Clients the best results possible.

To go with those attributes the ideal candidate will have a minimum of five years harvesting and roading management experience, contract negotiation skills, be capable of harvest planning for cable operations, have a record of professionally dealing with forest owners and other parties through the harvest process.

If you do not possess all of the above experience and/or skills but are working towards this type of role as a career path, and have a positive and professional approach we would like to hear from you.

An attractive remuneration package including work vehicle and bonuses will be offered.

#### How to apply

For a copy of the Job description phone or email using contact details below. Applicants must supply a copy of their CV together with a covering letter presenting the key attributes they can bring to the position. This should be sent attached to an email headed *Harvesting Manager*.

Contact [Jeremy Waldegrave](#)

Mobile 0275060676

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## CALENDAR

NZIF takes no responsibility for errors in this calendar. Please visit the website or contact the organisers to confirm times, locations, costs.

### August 2014

Mon 25 – Fri 29 [IUFRO Forestry Tree Breeding Conference](#) Prague

### Sept 2014

Wed 17 – Thu 18 [Wood Innovations 2014](#)

### Oct 2014

Wed 22 [NZIAHS](#) 'Enduring Agricultural Solutions for Improving Water Quality' Forum, Lincoln University

### Nov 2014

Sun 16 – Wed 19 [A place to live national conference](#), Royal Society of NZ  
Sun 24 – Mon 25 New Zealand History of Science conference, [email](#)

### April 2015

Mon 13 – Wed 15 [ANZIF Conference 2015](#), 'Creating Resilient Landscapes', Novotel Forest Resort Creswick, Victoria, Australia



NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF FORESTRY

Te Pūtahi Ngāherehere o Aotearoa Inc.

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